

# **Cancer center to be located in Hammond**

A regional cancer center, serving all or parts of five southeastern Louisiana parishes, as well as the southwestern portion of Mississippi, will open in Hammond in 1986, according to Dr. M.J. Rathbone, Jr., president of the Baton Rouge-based Cancer, Radiation and Research Foundation.

The 7,300 square-foot facility, which will be located on-site at Seventh Ward General Hospital, will be totally owned and operated by the Cancer, Radiation and Research Foundation. The new Hammond center will be operated as a satellite facility of the Mary Bird Perkins Radiation Treatment Center, located in Baton Rouge.

The Hammond center will serve cancer patients in Tangipahoa, eastern Livingston, western St. Tammany, Washington and St. Helen parishes.

The center has been designed to house two state-of-the-art radiation therapy machines, called linear accelerators, and a simulator—a sophisticated x-ray machine used in pre-treatment planning.