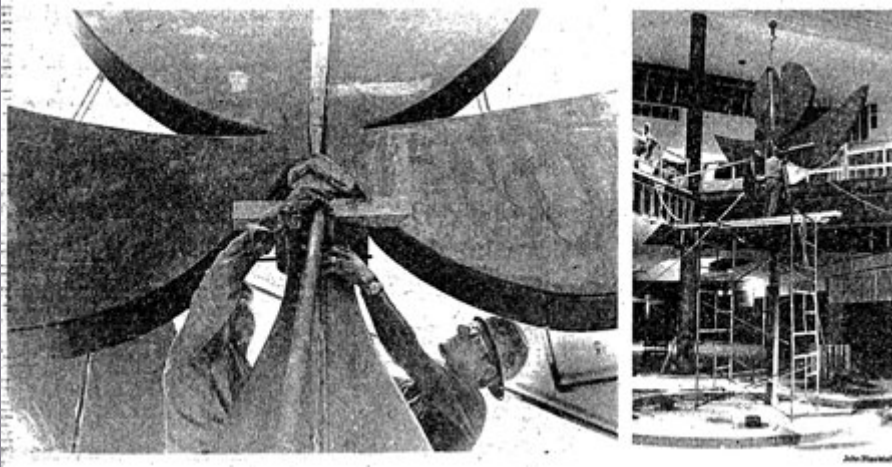


Steel flowers blossom in a concrete garden

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Three giant metal tulips bloomed Tuesday at Bannister mall at Interstate 435 and Bannister Road. Construction workers John Gossage (left) and Lester Green of Tom Martin Construction Co. attach a support to a section of a steel sculpture entitled "Trio." The three-piece artwork, which weighs more than 5 tons and stands 26 feet tall, was designed by artist Rita Blitt. It will be the centerpiece for the mall, which is scheduled to open Aug. 7.
(photo by John Bias)