

Basic Skills proposal awaits hearing

Lynn O'Shaughnessy

The proposal for a Center for Academic Development (CAD) submitted in May by the ad hoc Basic Skills Committee will be resting undisturbed on the Chancellor's desk until the fall semester, when discussion on it is scheduled to begin. Therefore, no money will be appropriated for the center for the 1976-77 school year.

However, the Developmental Skills Center will be included in the university budget for the first time in its three year history. According to Chancellor Arnold Grobman, the center will receive approximately \$22,000. This figure is \$11,000 less than last year's budget, when it was funded by a handful of departments and other campus

sources.

"It is not enough," Mike Dace, director of the center, said of the five figure sum, "but it's better than nothing."

Unlike the Developmental Skills situation, the fate of CAD is presently in a holding position. Grobman is holding his decision on the basic skills committee's proposal until he can solicit campus reaction in the fall. "I think the report has a great deal of merit," Grobman said. But he added, "I do not consider the report final. I want to hear what faculty, staff and students think about it."

Therese Christiani, assistant professor of behavioral studies and research and chairperson of the basic skills committee, is not happy that CAD will not

begin this September. "The committee is disappointed that the program won't be funded this year, but that is not to say we are not willing to hang on and see this thing through," she said.

Grobman expressed the hope that the committee will accept the responsibility of organizing the open hearings on CAD, then consider the suggestions and comments which will surface.

Whether the committee will be able to continue to meet during the fall, Christiani commented, can only be speculated upon at this time.

According to the report submitted to the chancellor, CAD will coordinate and strengthen UMSL's orientation program, academic and assessment counseling. A new student's first

exposure to UMSL will be to a counselor who will evaluate his or her abilities. Students found deficient in any area will be directed to the service which can help them.

Under CAD, the Counseling Center, UNITED and Veterans Affairs will cooperate with the CAD director. The reading, writing and math labs, in addition to tutorial programs will be expanded.

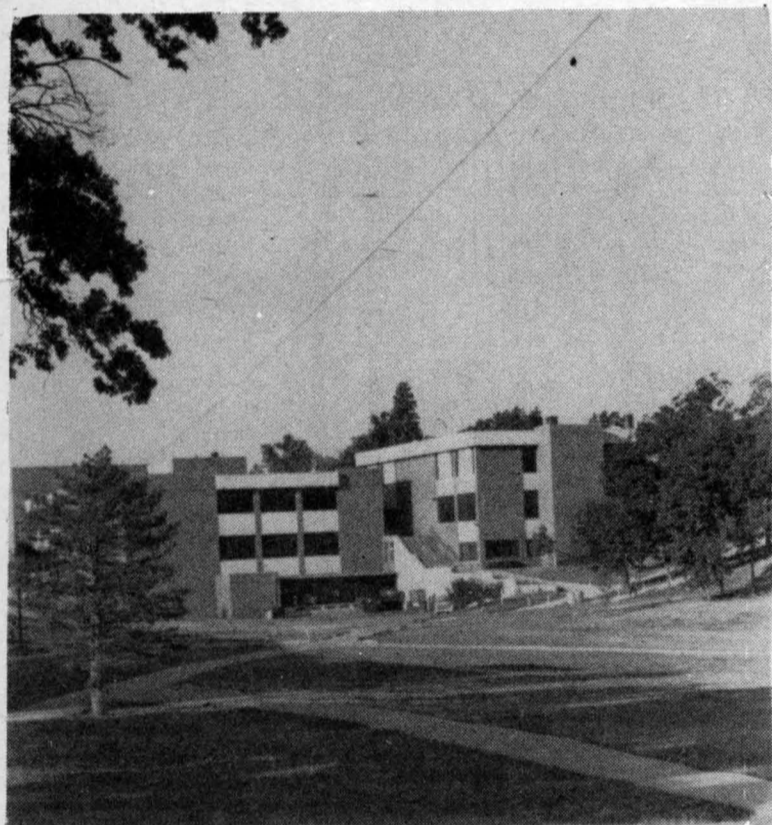
Non-credit skill development courses such as "Introduction to College Reading," "Effective Learning Skills" and "Rapid Reading" will also be initiated under the CAD proposal.

The proposed minimum operating budget for the CAD program for one academic year is \$174,750.

"The committee is excited, pleased and proud of the proposal," Christiani remarked. Committee members have worked on the plan since November.

If the proposal survives the scrutiny of C. Arthur MacKinney, Vice-Chancellor of Academic Affairs, the UMSL community, and the Chancellor, the entire plan may receive budgeting for 1977-78, according to Grobman.

"Some elements of the proposal could begin sooner on a pilot basis," Grobman added. Two basic skills courses, "Man and Technology" and "Man and Thought," proposed by Grobman earlier this year, may begin on a trial basis in September.



WHICH WAY DO WE GO: The elimination of the Fun Palace has added to the need for expansion of the University Center. If the expansion proposal is approved, the student activity fee will increase five dollars. [Photo by Romondo Davis]

Students form ASL chapter

Debra Cunningham

A chapter of the honor fraternity, Alpha Sigma Lambda, has been organized at UMSL, sponsored by Donald Bowling, dean of the evening college. Now in its third month the UMSL chapter has drawn up by-laws, elected temporary officers and collected dues from 25 members. The group is now awaiting certification from the national organization.

Alpha Sigma Lambda was formed in 1946 to serve evening college students, many of whom were soldiers returning from World War II. There are presently 42 chapters of the fraternity nationwide.

As of now, 57 evening students of UMSL qualify for membership. To become a member, a student must be enrolled in the evening college, have a 3.2 GPA, and a minimum of 30 UMSL hours, 15 hours of which are in a non major.

Bowling initiated the UMSL chapter, believing "It is an opportunity to recognize those students who are doing a good job scholastically." Evening stu-

dents don't usually qualify for the dean's list since most take fewer than nine hours.

The aim of the fraternity is to further the welfare of evening students. A May graduate of UMSL and president of the fraternity, Martin Mazzi said, "We're sort of a poor man's Phi Beta Kappa. We could be accused of being exclusive as other fraternities and sororities, but Alpha Sigma Lambda isn't that type. We seek to aid all evening students at large."

To aid other students, Mazzi said the group would like to establish a peer counseling service for the evening students. The service would give aid to those who were having personal problems, trouble with the law and even needing help to fill out income tax forms.

The group also hopes to pull in professional speakers, enabling them to become more learned in fields outside of their own.

Mazzi believes the fraternity will have an active alumni. Speaking for Alpha Sigma Lambda, he said, "We believe we owe something to the school and to those who follow us."

Pool conflict surfaces

The Central Council voted unanimously to support keeping the outdoor pool in its present location in front of the library at its meeting Sunday, June 13. The outdoor pool is scheduled to be demolished when the old Administration Building is torn down.

The vote followed a meeting of the Executive Committee with Chancellor Arnold Grobman Thursday, June 10. At that meeting Grobman said the present pool would definitely be demolished and possibly replaced by a new pool which would be built by the Multi-Purpose Building.

The decision to demolish the present pool conflicted with the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Outdoor Swimming Pool in its report of March 9. The committee recommended that extensive repairs be made to the present pool in order to put it in good condition.

Jeannette Davis, who introduced the motion, said that the present location of the outdoor pool is more convenient than it would be by the Multi-Purpose Building, particularly for faculty and staff members with only an hour for lunch.

However, Grobman stated, "I haven't heard any faculty or staff members complain about the plans."

Student Body Vice-President Jim Shanahan, who seconded the motion, said that it was absolutely necessary to take some action on the outdoor pool. He said that operating expenses were drastically increased because of badly leaking pipes and other problems.

"Just as an example, take a look at the water pipe under the diving board," said Shanahan. "That pipe is kept running constantly just to replace the water leaking out of the pool."

Shanahan, who served as a member of the swimming pool committee, said that the cost of repairing the present pool would be approximately \$118,000, based on an estimate made by Brice Equipment Company.

The cost of building an outdoor pool near the Multi-Purpose was estimated to be "in the \$400,000 range," based on figures supplied by John Perry, Vice-Chancellor of Administrative Services. The exact cost

would depend on the location of the pool. Both figures are last year's estimates.

"It doesn't seem to be very logical," said Shanahan. "They're talking about spending four times as much as they need to in order to get an outdoor pool and letting the students pay for it just because they don't like the location. There's no need to waste that \$300,000."

The present pool has been criticized because of its location. In his letter to the committee of May 27, 1975, Grobman wrote, "It is in an inappropriate place on campus from the points of view of aesthetics, convenience and space utilization."

Grobman also wrote, "I am sure that most would agree that some way should be found to maintain an outdoor pool facility on campus. The charge to the Committee is to recommend one or more financially viable plans for achieving that goal."

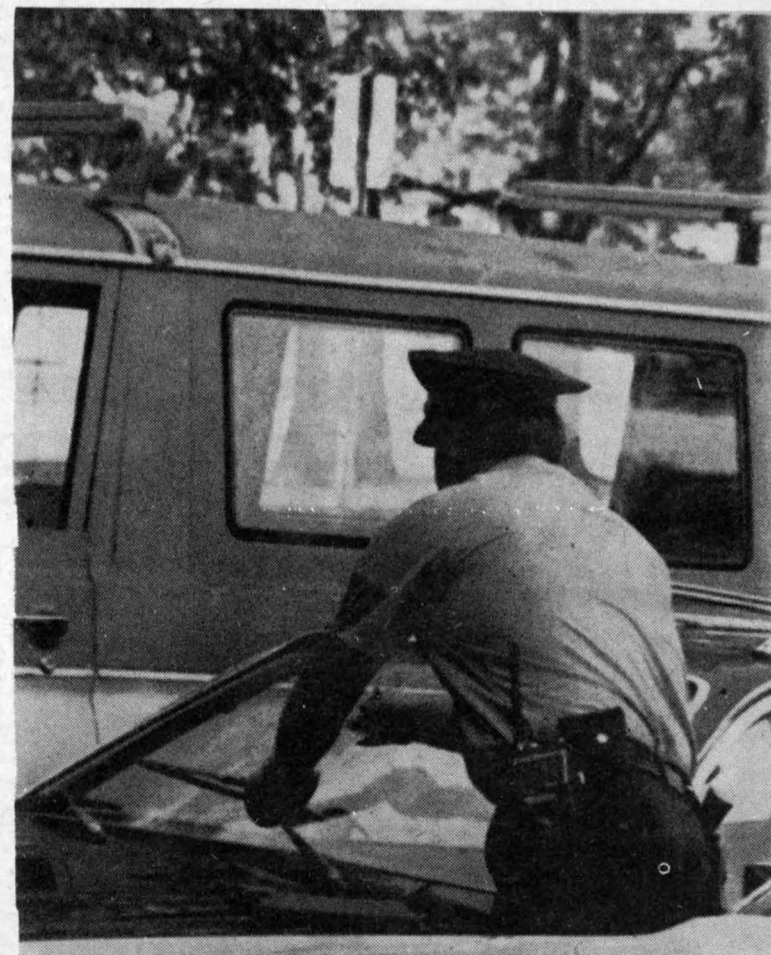
Grobman holds that "Even if

it's renovated, the present pool is still 30 years old and other problems will arise."

In his meeting with the Central Council Executive Committee June 10, Grobman said that according to the Master Plan of the campus the old Administration Building, outdoor basketball and volleyball courts, and swimming pool were to be replaced by a driveway, which would serve as the main entrance to campus, and a mall area in front of the library.

"I found a copy in Archives of the Master Plan which was drawn up in November, 1965," said Shanahan. "Since then they've put the J.C. Penney Building, the new Administration Building and the General Services Building in different places than they originally planned. The SSBE Tower isn't even shown on my copy of the plan."

"It's fairly obvious that deviations from the Master Plan [continued on page 2]



NO PARKING: UMSL police continue their daily routine ticketing any illegally parked car on campus. [Photo by Romondo Davis]



"DID YOU HEAR THE NEWS?,,, HUMPHREY'S NOT RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT,,,"

Expansion of center needed

Discussion on whether or not to expand the University Center has been going on for the past year now and it is time that the issue was presented to the Board of Curators. With the planned demolition of the old Administration Building and the Fun Palace, the need for additional office and recreational area has become clear.

While the caution expressed by Central Council representatives in tabling a motion for expansion of the center in order to receive more student input is appreciated, we ultimately believe that the \$5 increase in fees would purchase a wise investment for the future. With apparently no permanent space for student activities on the newly acquired Marillac campus, the only long-range solution is to expand the present student center.

Since its opening in 1970, the center has been unable to meet the space requirements for a growing university. Lounge and dining areas were inadequate from the start and soon became overcrowded during peak hours of usage. The bookstore, while enjoying more room than it previously held in the Administration Building, lacks the necessary space to provide more materials of student interest

beyond the basic textbooks. An expansion of the bookstore would be funded by its own operating profits and not by student activity fees.

What additional student activity fees would provide are the lounge and cafeteria areas along with recreational area and equipment comparable to the present Fun Palace operation. A much-needed typing room would be added along with larger student darkroom facilities and other creative craft areas.

According to Bill Edwards, Director of the University Center, an architectural study would have to be done in preparation of such expansion, meaning that an increase in student fees is at least a year away. But the time for approving such a venture is now and we encourage student representatives to have the vision to provide for future student needs.

For too long, students, their groups and activities have been scattered over the campus with inadequate space and no permanent home. The opportunity to at least partially correct the situation is present and it should not be delayed.

Keep organizations on campus

If the proposed expansion of the University Center is submitted to the Board of Curators and approved, office space will be available for student groups who are losing their offices in the old Administration Building. The proposed expansion, however, will take three years to complete, and the question now is where to house the organizations in the interim.

The groups without a home as yet are APO, which runs a student book-pool, the Black Culture Room, Central Council and Peer Counseling. While Chancellor Grobman has promised to give priority to finding space on campus for these groups, the possibility remains that they may be housed in Marillac.

Student Body President Curt Watts opposes a move to Marillac for the organizations and we could hardly agree more that such a plan is totally unacceptable. When the new Administration Building was planned,

the need for housing these groups was totally ignored and put off to be decided on later. As of yet a decision has not been made.

The space being vacated by the School of Education in the SSBE Tower complex has been suggested as a temporary site for these groups by Student Body Vice-president Jim Shanahan. If that proposal is unworkable, then the old Administration Building should be left standing until facilities are found on the main campus.

Education of students goes beyond the classroom, to more social and practical aspects of university life. If the job of university administrators is to service the educational needs of students, then it would be a disservice to discourage participation in student government and other activities by placing them away from the main body of the campus.

• Tom Wolf

Letters

Puzzlement over English 13

Dear Editor:

I'm writing in response to the students who have asked me about the course in Detective Fiction, which will be offered as English 13 in the post-session for four weeks starting Monday, July, 19.

Student puzzlement seems to come from two sources: the newness of the post session and the apparent lack of registration machinery. On the latter score, I can set some hearts to rest. Somebody from the Admission office will come to class the first day for the purpose of registering students right in the classroom. Students taking English 13 won't have to take their registration packets from build-

ing to building or stand on long lines.

The course itself? The reading is brisk, captivating, and timely. The four-week course begins with E.A. Poe, father of detective fiction, and moves on to the classic English mystery associated with the Sherlock Holmes tales and Agatha Christie. Next comes the police story, the hardboiled Americans (Hammett, Chandler, and Ross Mac Donald), and the special agent novel ("Day of the Jackal"). All considered, it's a fine way to organize, and get three college credits for, a summer's light reading.

Peter Wolfe

UMSL not 'isolated fortress'

Dear Editor:

I would like to respond to a letter in the May issue of the Current, which criticized UMSL as an "isolated fortress." I feel that this school is exactly the opposite of isolated, simply by being a commuter campus. I see UMSL as an ideal school because students are not secluded in a resident campus where they spend four years stranded in blissful academia, with no worries about reality and survival.

Here, the majority of our fellow students are employed, making their own lives, living away from home, married, etc., etc. This means that we are dealing with the world, before and after class, as well as bringing it into the classroom to share our experiences.

Rather than being isolated, we are a part of the "real world," whether it be good or bad,

smooth or rough; our education is the more valid because it is relevant to our daily routine. At the same time, the physical aspects of the campus are pleasantly un-citified and relaxing.

I see the commuter campus as the most practical educational format available, since it is not only cheaper than a resident campus, but far more exciting because of the variety in the students' lifestyles. We all have our reasons for attending UMSL rather than Washington U. or St. Louis U. — let's start being more positive about UMSL and ourselves for being here.

When we put down the school — which admittedly does have faults — we are really putting ourselves down. We may be the "wave of the future" which will outlast the big-shot, big-money colleges!

Ruth Thaler

Signs serve a purpose

Dear Editor:

Mr. Rohnn Kostecky's recent letter to you held both my interest and support until its second column. I do not agree that "anyone and everyone" should remove unapproved signs until the Chancellor's office decides to enforce the no handbill law. These signs serve useful purposes and offer a means of communication between campus organizations and students. Our campus lacks any adequate outdoor sign boards which might serve the same purpose.

What Mr. Kostecky proposes is quite unfair to those organizations which are unfamiliar with this rule and use their signs

as tradition on this campus has given acceptance. Mr. Kostecky has shown himself to be a rather boorish individual by justifying his position not with the law, but with his contention that he has no choice but be exposed to communication he personally finds superfluous or distasteful.

I think Mr. Kostecky's arguments and prejudices are respectively superfluous and distasteful.

Since I doubt he can be turned off, must I also be exposed to his thoughts whether I want to or not?

Michael Segalla

Vote supports present pool

[continued from page 1]

have been made in the past when it was necessary. There may even be a new plan by now, but no matter what plan is used it is obvious that changes can be made and it isn't necessary to waste \$300,000 just to stick to the Master Plan."

According to Grobman, changes cannot be made. He said, "I'm obligated to follow the Master Plan of the Board of Curators." Counter arguments are not sufficiently persuasive for him to request the Board of Curators to reconsider plans, Grobman feels.

Dr. Lawrence Barton, who handled the correspondence for the swimming pool committee, said that he hadn't received any response from the Chancellor

other than to thank him for his participation. Barton said he had heard rumors that the Chancellor wasn't pleased with the committee report.

"If someone told me the Chancellor didn't accept the recommendations of the committee, all I could say is why the heck did he set it up in the first place," said Barton.

Barton said he supported the recommendations of the committee.

Due to Central Council's vote in support of repairing the present pool, Grobman has reconsidered his position. He said, "I've thought it through again because of Central Council's actions, and I've come out where I stood before."

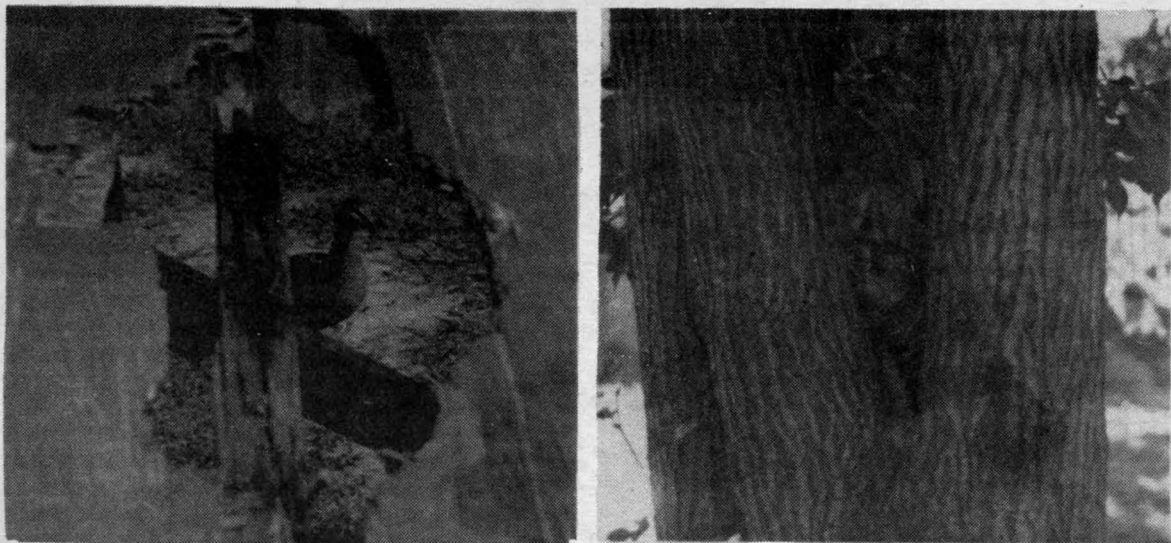
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Editorials are the opinions of the editor unless otherwise designated.



TALK TO THE ANIMALS: Two of UMSL's animal residents are captured in interesting poses as they enjoy a warm summer day. The animal population,

unlike UMSL students, spend a carefree summer unhampered by concerns about homework or classes. [Photo by Romondo Davis and Douglas Dieckman]

Around UMSL

July 13 - July 26

Tuesday

REHEARSAL: The Alumni Association will hold a rehearsal at 7 pm in room 212 Multi-Purpose Building.

Wednesday

MEETING: The School of Education Faculty will hold a meeting at 10:15 in room 224 SSBE.

Thursday

THEATRE: The University Players will present "Alice In Wonderland" at 2 pm in room 105 Benton Hall. Admission is free.

REHEARSAL: The Alumni Association will hold a rehearsal at 7 pm in room 212 Multi-Purpose Building.

Friday

FILM: "American Graffiti" will be shown at 8 pm in room 101 Stadler Hall. Admission is free with an UMSL ID. IDs are accepted from UMSL students, faculty, staff and alumni. Each ID permits one guest and one member of the immediate family to attend the film.

THEATER: The University Players will present "Alice In Wonderland" at 2 pm in room 105 Benton Hall. Admission is free.

KWMU: The Student Staff brings you "Midnight till Morning" from 11 pm Friday to 7 am Saturday.

Saturday

THEATER: The University Players will present "Alice In Wonderland" at 2 pm in room 105 Benton Hall. Admission is free.

Sunday

THEATER: The University Players will present "Alice In Wonderland" at 2 pm in room 105 Benton Hall. Admission is free.

MEETING: Beta Sigma Gamma will hold a meeting at 6:30 pm in room 78 J.C. Penney Building.

MEETING: Alpha Xi Delta will hold a meeting at 6 pm in room 222 J.C. Penney Building.

MEETING: Tau Kappa Epsilon will hold a meeting at 6 pm in room 229 J.C. Penney Building.

KWMU: The Student Staff brings you "Midnight till Morning" from 1 am to 6 am Sunday.

Monday

COMMUNIVERSITY: Classical Chinese Philosophy will be discussed at 6 pm in room 403 Benton Hall.

KWMU: The Student Staff brings you "Midnight till Morning" from 12 midnight to 6 am Monday.

Friday

FILM: "Chinatown" will be shown at 8 pm in room 101 Stadler Hall. Admission is free with an UMSL ID. IDs are accepted from UMSL students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Each ID permits one guest and one member of the immediate family to attend the film.

THEATER: The Alumni Association will present "UMSL Salute to St. Louis" a musical at 8:30 pm in the J.C. Penney Auditorium. Admission prices are \$1.50 for adults, \$1 for children.

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Saturday

THEATER: The Alumni Association will present "UMSL Salute to St. Louis" a musical at 8:30 pm in the J.C. Penney Auditorium. Admission prices are \$1.50 for adults, \$1 for children.

Sunday

MEETING: Beta Sigma Gamma will hold a meeting at 6:30 pm in room 78 J.C. Penney Building.

MEETING: The UMSL Comic and Science Fiction Society will hold a trading conference at noon in room 126 J.C. Penney Building. Cost is 50 cents per person.

MEETING: Tau Kappa Epsilon will hold a meeting at 6 pm in room 229 J.C. Penney Building.

KWMU: The Student Staff brings you "Midnight till Morning" from 1 am to 6 am Sunday.

Monday

COMMUNIVERSITY: Classical Chinese Philosophy will be discussed at 6 pm in room 403 Benton Hall.

More in Watts' life than government

Bev Pfeifer

Many UMSL students only think of Curt Watts in the role of student body president, but there is another side to him that breaks away from the seriousness of university government.

"Pete", as Watts is called by friends, is a business major graduating in May, 1977. Turning 21 the end of July, he is the third of four children.

"My younger brother and I are the only two still at home. I originally thought of going away to school, but then my brother would have been like an only child. He's going to be a sophomore in high school, so I'm not worried about him when I go to graduate school."

Graduating from Ritenour in 1973, Watts had little to do with student government before coming to UMSL. He was a junior class officer, a member of the band, playing the clarinet and saxophone, treasurer and member of the Ritenour branch of the National Honor Society, and an alternate of the Scholar Quiz team.

"I got the Curator's Award to come here, but in high school, UMSL didn't have a good reputation. Once I came here though, I knew I hadn't made a mistake," Watts stated.

Being student body president has its drawbacks. He has little time for hobbies. "I go swimming when I get the chance and I belong to Phi Kappa Alpha."

The first two years Watts was on campus, he was not involved in the Greek society. "Things changed my junior year when Randy Klock, past student body president, got me interested in PIKE. In that respect, I've seen what UMSL is like from both inside and outside a fraternity."

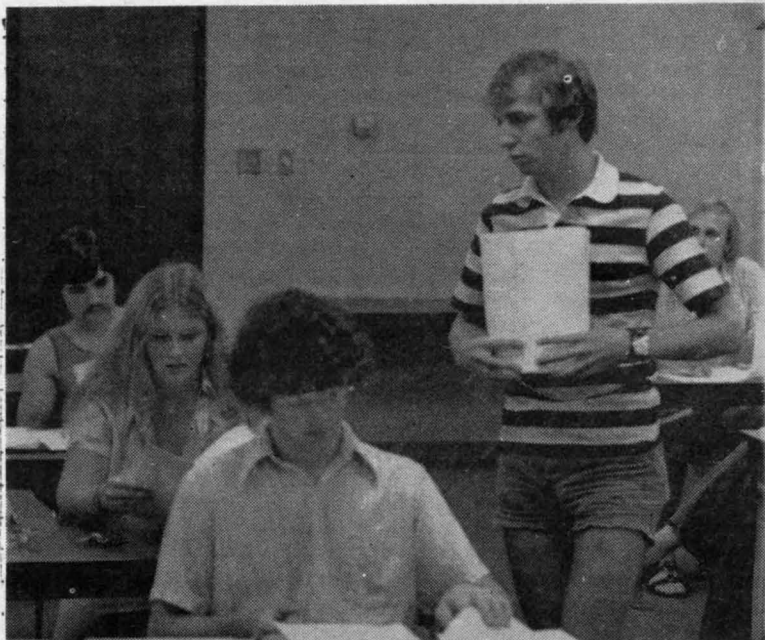
A lot of people in Greek societies don't know where those who don't belong are coming from and the people who have never been in a fraternity don't see how people could have an interest in it. I think I can relate to both those views."

Since the guideline for the Central Council officers is to not have a job during the regular school year, Watts has had a variety of jobs during the summer.

"I got a Federal Grant to learn about office personnel, but I quit after one and a half weeks because it was boring. During July I'm advising freshmen. I really like it because it's always challenging. In August, I'm planning to take a class in post session. Then I'll settle into the regular school schedule for the fall."

After his graduation, Watts has plans to go to graduate school, although he hasn't chosen a specific place. "I would like to stay here in St. Louis, if possible."

Watts is not just the student body president, then, but a multi-faceted person who keeps busy in many ways, and is very involved in UMSL society.



THE OTHER SIDE: Curt Watts [standing] is shown in his capacity as a leader in student government at UMSL but beyond politics there is a lighter side to the student body president.

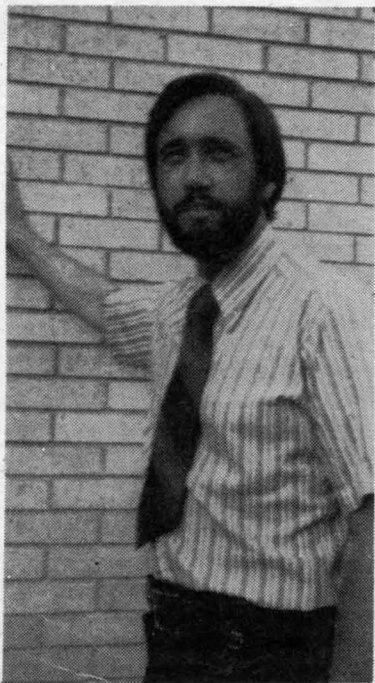
Minister comes to UMSL

Rev. Dr. Donald DeNoon, a Methodist minister, has been appointed as the campus minister for UMSL.

DeNoon is a native of Indiana. He has spent the past two years completing his Doctor of Ministry Degree at Eden Theological Seminary in Webster Groves. Since entering the ministry a dozen years ago, he has served churches both in Indiana and Missouri. His most recent pastoral assignment was at the Union United Methodist Church in St. Louis.

The new campus minister is residing with his wife, Leigh, and their two children, David and Leigh Ann, in the parsonage provided for them in University City.

DeNoon is in the process of getting acquainted on campus. If any person desires to contact him, they may do so by calling Normandy Church, 385-3000 or they can stop in to see him in the campus ministry office at the Normandy United Methodist Church located directly across from the UMSL campus on Natural Bridge Road.



FROM THE GARDEN OF EDEN: Rev. Dr. Donald DeNoon expands the scope of religious services available to UMSL students.

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The Pedal in Cyclery

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Next to Grant's Cabin Restaurant

Soccer hopefuls signed

Lucy Zapf

A total of five promising soccer players have signed letters of intent to enroll at UMSL. The players, all from the St. Louis area, will lend strength to the already strong Rivermen.

Two of the players will be coming from the 1975 Florissant Valley National Junior College Championship team. James Roth, a striker, scored 10 goals despite missing several early

starting lineup for the Rivermen this year.

Richard Bozado is a graduate of McCluer North where he was a two-year starter as a back for coach Al Trost. He made the suburban all conference team his senior year and was a starter on McCluer North's 1975 state high school championship team.

Mark Buehler is a product of St. Louis University High School where he was coached by Ebbie

Sports

season games because of an injury, and Gary LeGrand, who recorded 10 shutouts in goal for the Florissant Valley Norsemen are expected to bolster a Rivermen squad that compiled a 8-4-3 record last year.

Roth was one of the top forwards in the area last season, according to Don Dallas, head coach for UMSL. He should provide some needed scoring punch on the forward line. LeGrand, whose brother Mark played four years for the Rivermen, has "good hands and is extremely quick." Dallas said.

Roth is a graduate of CBC High School, while LeGrand graduated from Rosary High School. Both players are products of the CYC Pepsi program.

Along with Roth and LeGrand, Dallas announced the signing of three recent high school starters. Dallas said that the three, all defenders, would have an excellent chance of cracking the

Dunn. He was a starter at back on last year's squad which finished second in the state high school tournament. Buehler also played for the Busch Gardens Gold team, St. Louis League champions this past season.

Gerry DeRousse is from Mehlville High School where he was coached by former UMSL assistant Chris Werstein. He is a tall and lanky link who exercises excellent ball control and has an accurate shot, according to Werstein. DeRousse was also a starter for the Imos team which captured the Missouri Junior Cup this past season.

With the five new prospects the Rivermen have hopes of recapturing the NCAA Division II championship title which they held in 1973. And they will need all the help they can get when they start the 1976 season facing such strong opponents as St. Louis University, Benedictine, Rockhurst, SIU-Edwardsville and Quincy College.

Cheshire Cat smiles on U. Players

When a certain Alice follows a certain White-Rabbit down a certain rabbit hole this week, she will arrive in a Wonderland that suspiciously resembles the theatre in 105 Benton Hall.

The trip is not so curious: the

University Players' production of "Alice in Wonderland" opens Thursday and runs through Sunday.

The children's show is free and performances are at 2 pm each day.

This is the Players' second attempt at doing children's theatre. The first, "Cinderella," last summer, brought enormous response and packed the aisles with children and adults.

This attempt at "Alice" is headed by director Michele Armstrong, an UMSL Speech Communication major.

"We're doing a straight Carroll version here," Armstrong said. "Our play is following the book quite closely."

Like the Lewis Carroll classic, the Players' "Alice" comes complete with a tea party, a caterpillar on mushroom, a king and queen of hearts, the smiling Cheshire Cat, and other inhabitants.

Much of Carroll's enchanting dialogue is retained, along with complete segments of the poems contained within the story.

The script is given life by the large cast of actors, who will fill the roles of characters like the March Hare and the White Knight.

But the Players' hope that when the performance begins Thursday afternoon, the stage will instead be Wonderland.



STEPHEN HORNBOSTEL, new sports information director for UMSL, is already hard at work in his

office. [Photo by Romondo Davis.]

Hornbostel named new SID

Steven T. Hornbostel, sports editor of the St. Charles Banner-News, has been appointed sports information director at UMSL. The announcement came on July 7 from UMSL athletic director Chuck Smith.

Hornbostel replaces Joe Yates, who left UMSL three months ago to accept a similar position with Wichita State University in Kansas. Smith stated that he hated to see Yates leave, but was happy that he got such

a good position. Wichita State is a very prestigious school, and definitely a step up for Joe, Smith said.

Smith is very pleased with the new appointment. Hornbostel, 25, has been with the Banner-News for more than three years. He became sports editor a few months after joining the paper as a general assignment reporter. For the past two years he has written the paper's "Press Box" column. He earned his

bachelor of science degree in journalism at Northwestern University in 1973.

As sports information director Hornbostel will utilize his journalistic skills in preparing press releases; one of the functions of an information director. Other duties of the job includes keeping statistics for all athletic events, taking care of visiting press who are covering Rivermen games, and general promoting of the athletic program at UMSL.

'Murder by Death' well titled

Terry Mahoney

Mystery fans who feel anger when writers withhold important clues or introduce the guilty party into the story five pages before the end, might feel some sympathy towards an undertaking of Lionel Twain, the central character of "Murder by Death". Out to prove that even the greatest of the fictional detectives could not solve a mystery of his devising, he invites them over for "dinner and a murder".

Twain is played by Truman Capote. While his role is pivotal, Capote's appearance in the film is mercifully limited. He speaks most of his lines from a moosehead.

Neil Simon's script is strangely uneven. There is even less of a story than one has come to expect from him, and he is more prone than usual to the really cheap joke.

For instance, a not unreasonable explanation is suggested for why the hero of "The Maltese Falcon" was forever mistreating women and posturing about his manhood, Sam Diamond (Peter Falk), justifies himself by saying "I never did nothing to a man I wouldn't do to a woman."

Falk seems to bring the film its best moments, as when he confronts a corpse with an enormous knife imbedded in it.

"Is he dead?" asks Maggie Smith.

One heavy contributor is David Niven, playing Dick Charleston to Maggie Smith's Dora. Unlike the rest of the cast, they do not parody so much as emulate. One imagines they would be nearly as much fun in a real "Thin Man" movie as were William Powell and Myrna Loy.

Just who did it and how, and to whom, is not really clear at the end. But since the murder victim was apparently a man who went to Paris each year to hunt poodles, who really cares?

Fine Arts

"With a thing like that in his back," Falk answers, "he's better off in the long run."

Well... it's funny on film. That is it suggests just how heavily the movie depends on the skill of its players for success.

In conclusion, "Murder by Death" causes mixed feelings. It is not as good as we hoped, and one feels at times a little guilty laughing at it. But it is well played and, usually, hysterically funny.

UMSL salutes St. Louis

Seven UMSL students will perform a musical program, "A Salute to St. Louis" on Friday and Saturday, July 23 and 24 in the J.C. Penney Auditorium at 8:30 pm.

"It's a group that will try to bring the people of St. Louis to a better awareness of the UMSL community. The metropolitan community of St. Louis cannot understand the needs and goals of UMSL until they know that

we are here," said Bob Richardson, a spokesman for the madrigal group.

The director, Mike Dace, who also directed "That's Entertainment" last semester, has had much theatrical experience. The UMSL Alumni Association is sponsoring the endeavor to bring the public nearer to UMSL.

They will sing and dance songs that are based on the history and lifestyle of St. Louis. The dancing that will accompany many of the songs is choreographed by Terry Freeman. The accompaniment will be by Jerry Leyschock on the piano,

and Jim Hanness on the guitar.

The UMSL community needs a program that will involve the community with meeting its goals, and making it aware of our existence is the first important step. The madrigal group is an exciting and imaginative idea that should have the support of more than the Alumni Association.

The group hopes to become independent and self supporting after its trial run is judged successful by the Alumni Association, then later move out into the rest of the country.

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