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University of Missouri-St. Louis

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CURRENT

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI/SAINT LOUIS

Doors close on optometry school



DEFEAT: UMSL Chancellor Arnold Grobman (left) appears upset as the UM Board of Curators

decide to rescind support of a regional optometry school here [photo by Wiley Price]

Rick Jackaway

The ten year roller coaster-like ride of the UMSL optometry school appears to have ended on an unhappy note.

By 6-3, the UM Board of Curators voted to cease all efforts to develop an optometry school here. The surprise action came at the request of UM President James C. Olson at the Board's February meeting held February 15.

"When I contemplate the budgetary needs to meet our existing obligations," Olson said, "I cannot in good conscience recommend that we proceed."

UMSL Chancellor Arnold B. Grobman defended the school, pointing to a score of statistical data that supported the establishment of the school.

"As of today, we have 401 applications on hand for the proposed 40 places in the 1980-81 class," Grobman said. "And this despite a disclaimer on all of our applications stating that the application is null and void if the school is not established."

Olson stated that the lack of support from other states was a primary consideration in his request. This is what Grobman has called the chicken-and-the-egg syndrome.

"Other states have been wary of entering into a contract with a school that has not been started, and the school can't start until the other states have agreed to a contract."

Board Members William Cocos and Marian Oldham submitted a resolution that would have allowed the school to be

supported without the regional aspect, contingent on legislative approval.

Olson said that a solely-state-supported-school was not feasible and the motion failed 3-6. William Doak was the other curator in favor of the amendment.

State Senator Harriett Woods said she is very disappointed with the Board's decision.

"UMSL should have the opportunity to serve the St. Louis community in this way. I think we have demonstrated the need for such a school," Woods said. "I am very upset."

In other action, the board approved final design plans for the second phase and preliminary plans for a third phase of an addition to the Animal Science Research Center on the Columbia campus. The planning for the center includes \$10.2 million for the construction of the second and third phases.

Three actions were passed for the UMC Hospital and Clinics. Over \$1 million were appropriated for hospital beds, sutures, and dressings.

The Board also awarded \$933,300 for the installation of ash handling equipment for the Rolla heating plant.

For UMSL, final plans were made for sandblasting and painting of two parking structures. One structure is located north of Lucas Hall and the other is adjacent to the J. C. Penney building. The painting will begin at the end of the semester; it is the first time the garages have been painted since they were built nine years ago.

Legislators keep doors open

James Rooney
Gary Esayian

Less than seventy-two hours after the UM Board of Curators decision to rescind support for an UMSL optometry school, the Missouri House of Representatives unanimously introduced emergency legislation to establish the school.

The bill, House bill 1868, was introduced jointly by James Russell, (D) Florissant, and Wayne Good, (d) Normandy. The bill required unanimous consent because of its emergency status.

By Tuesday, Sen. Harriett

Woods, (d) University City, had introduced a nearly identical bill in the Missouri Senate. Wood's companion legislation, Senate bill 930, differs only in the wording of the enactment clause. The house bill states that the Missouri Coordinating Board for Higher Education (CBHE) is authorized to enter into an "agreement" and the senate version says the CBHE shall enter into an agreement.

The bill states "Because immediate action is necessary in order to avoid appropriating funds for a project whose concept has been changed and which cannot be developed according to existing law, this act

is deemed necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, welfare, peace, and safety."

By Wednesday of this week, the House Committee on Public Health and Safety, is scheduled to hear arguments in favor of H. B. 1868. The speed of the bill's movement through the legislative process has surprised some of the legislature.

Wood's office said the bills have a very good chance of passage despite the action of the Board on Friday.

The bills have passed so quickly that the printing office in Jefferson City has yet to print copies of the bill.

Council makes selections, but no budget

Central Council, UMSL's student government, passed a by-laws change, a motion for more funding for the student directories and made three appointments but failed to pass a budget for the 1980-81 school year at their meeting Feb. 17.

The budget proposal was moved by Yates Sanders, vice-president of the student body. Discussion on the motion was ended when a call for a quorum showed that there was not half of the members in attendance.

Since the deadline for all budget submissions is Friday, Feb. 22, Council will meet in executive session at 2 pm today to decide on the budget.

Before the quorum call, Council selected Steve Ryals, a junior majoring in political science, to fill one of two positions on the board of the Associated Students of the University of Missouri (ASUM). The openings were made when the two UMSL board members were removed from the board because of non-attendance of meetings.

Gary Esayian, a senior in political science, was named chairperson of council. Kerwin Roach resigned the position earlier in the week citing time limitations.

Kevin Chrysler was unanimously reappointed to the position of parliamentarian. Chrysler was forced to resign as parliamentarian because of a by-law change, voted on earlier in the meeting, which required the parliamentarian to take over for the chairperson in case of resignation. Chrysler did not want

was left without a clear procedure when then student body president, Paul Free resigned.

The by-law reads that the vice-president shall succeed the office of the president in case of the president's resignation, impeachment or death. The rest of the line of succession will go from the vice-president to the

\$500 for the printing at the last meeting. The motion passed 15-4.

In the projected budget, Sanders recommended the establishment of nine new paid positions. The recommendation allocated \$1200 for three executive staff members, whose job would be to look in-depth into



the position so he resigned his post as parliamentarian opening up the election for Esayian.

The by-law change which provides for an order of executive succession was moved by Patrick Connaughton and seconded by Chrysler. The change comes a year and a half after Council

chairperson of the Administrative committee and the parliamentarian of Council shall be vice-president of council and take over for the chairperson.

Council also approved \$850 more for directories. Sanders said that he had underestimated when asking the Council for

special problems of UMSL students. Also Sanders recommended paying the five committee chairpersons and Central Council's secretary.

The budget eliminates course evaluation from the Council budget.

what's inside

Electric

Electra is electrifying...page 6

Jazzy

"All That Jazz" has people dancing their way out through boredom...page 7

White water Kayaking

White water Kayaking makes waves at UMSL. Splashing around in small boats...page 9



PORTRAIT: James W. Thomas, Toryn C. Rhone, Derrick T. D. McKinney, and Yvette

Brasfield were the representatives for Beta Epsilon Fraternity during Black Greek Week.



GOING TO J SCHOOL ?

Journalism's a crowded field these days.

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Mona, I've finally decided where I'd like to make my career: State Farm!



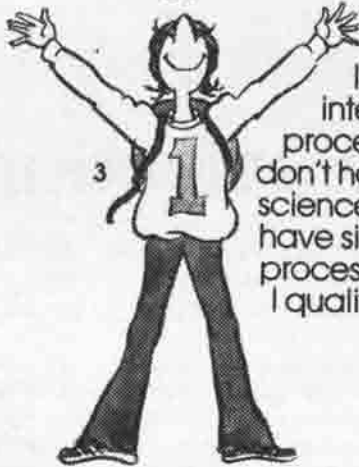
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Virgil, you're going to be a salesman? How could you? Even if they'd have you...

Mona, there's more to insurance than selling policies. Insurance is opportunity. State Farm is looking for people interested in a data processing career. I don't have a computer science degree but I do have six hours of data processing courses. So I qualify!



Virgil, you're putting me on.

No way, Mona. State Farm is looking for men and women with any degree and six to nine hours of data processing courses. Of course, you've got to be interested in a data processing career.



Good grief! They're omnivorous.

No, but they're also interested in people in mathematics, accounting, law and actuarial sciences.



Incidentally, the pay is great!



Uh, Virgil, wear a clean pair of jeans to the interview.

To get details on career opportunities for computer programmer analysts and auditors contact your Campus Placement Director or visit the State Farm Recruiter. Our representative will be on campus February 27, 1980.

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THINGS TO COME? Last year Senate elections brought out a light turn out. This year election officials are hoping for more participation [Current staff photo].

Senate elections begin

The Senate elections will be held Wednesday, March 19 and Thursday, March 20.

The deadline for turning in applications for the Senate elections is 4 pm, Friday, February 29. Applications must be turned in to the office of the Dean of Student Affairs, 301 Woods Hall.

The drawing to determine ballot order will be held Wednesday, March 5, in the office of the Dean of Student Affairs, 301 Woods Hall. Candidates and other interested parties are welcome to attend.

All students who have nine or more credit hours and with good academic standards, at UMSL, are eligible to run in the Senate elections.

Candidates may have campaign flyers reproduced through the Student Activities office at relatively low cost in comparison with off campus prices. Candidates who desire to use this service should contact the Stu-

dent Activities office, 262 University Center.

All posters and other literature to be placed on bulletin boards on campus must be approved by the Student Activities office. All campaign materials must be removed within one week after the election.

There will be no campaigning inside those buildings where the polls are located during the hours when the polls are open.

Candidates may not attach, fasten or fix any campaign materials to any buildings, lights, walls, outdoor bulletin boards, or other manmade fixtures on campus or to any trees or bushes on campus.

The polls will be open in the lobby of Mark Twain, University Center and Social Science Buildings on the main campus from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm and from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm.

Counting will begin at 9:00 am Friday, March 21, at a location to be posted at the Central

Council office and on the outdoor bulletin board in front of the University Center. Candidates and other interested parties are welcome to watch the ballots being counted.

Results of the election will be posted at the Central Council office and on the bulletin board outside the University Center, and will be given to the **Current** and the Information Desk.

An student at UMSL may contest the result of an election by submitting a written complaint to the chief justice of the Student Court. An election may be contested at any time during or following the election prior to 4 pm Friday, March 28. In the event of a contested election, the results will be held unofficial until a decision has been reached by the Student Court.

Failure to comply with the campaign regulations for senate elections may be grounds for contesting an election.

newsbriefs

Nominations for new 'UMSL Award' now open

Chancellor Arnold B. Grobman has announced the creation of a new award designated the "UMSL Award" to be presented to key UMSL volunteers, students, alumni, faculty and staff. The award will recognize special commitment and unusual willingness to serve UMSL through voluntary effort on projects that are related to the mission of the University.

The award consists of a framed certificate signed by the Chancellor. The awards will be presented at meetings of the organizations through which the recipients have rendered the volunteer service.

Nominations for this award are being solicited from students, alumni, faculty and staff. A letter giving supporting reasons for each nomination should be sent to University Relations, 426 Woods. Deadline for nominations is March 7. For further information, call 553-5663.

Video workshop here

A video production workshop will be held at UMSL, Monday, March 3-May 5, from 6:30-9:30 pm. The program is designed for beginners who wish to develop TV production awareness and skills, as well as for professionals who wish to improve their present skills.

Don Greer will direct the workshop.

Registration for the workshop is \$135. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be awarded to participants. For information, or to register, contact Joe Williams of UMSL Continuing Education at 553-5961.

Workshops to be here

UMSL will offer thirteen short courses and workshops in management, administration, transportation, communications and personal enrichment at UMSL Downtown, beginning March 3. Several programs are scheduled during the noon hour, or in the early evening, making it convenient for persons working downtown to attend. The downtown facility is located at 522 Olive.

New programs this semester include a noontime Modern Dance Exercise class on Mondays, March 3-April 21; a seminar on Traffic and Physical Distribution Management, Mondays, 6:30 to 8:30 pm, March 24-June 2; a script writing workshop, Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 9, April 24-June 12; and a class in 35 mm Photographic Techniques, Wednesday evenings from 6 to 8, April 2-May 7. Courses in assertive training, time management, brochure production, and Interstate Commerce Law will return this semester.

Other workshops will be offered, including "Using Good Communication Skills in the Work Environment," Grant Proposal Writing, "Women Moving Up in the Work Environment," Management for Women Managers, and Transactional Analysis (TA) for Bosses.

Credit courses leading toward an MBA (Master of Business Administration) and MPPA (Master of Public Policy Administration) are also offered at the site.

For a complete schedule of classes or detailed course descriptions, contact Dorothy Bacon at UMSL Downtown, 621-2102.

Academy meeting slated

The Political Science Academy will meet at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, Feb. 27, at the home of Professor Ruth Jones, 514 Midvale, University City. Professor Elizabeth Clayton, UMSL Economics Department, will show slides of her recent trip to the Soviet Union. Maps to the meeting are available in the Political Science Department, 807 Tower. All interested students are encouraged to attend.

Wash.U. draft teach-in

A teach-in on the draft will be held at Washington University Monday, Feb. 25 at 7:30pm. There will be a variety of distinguished speakers. This will be held at Rebstock Building, room 215, and is sponsored by the St. Louis Coalition Against the Draft.

Amoco

Outstanding Teaching Award



**Nominations for the \$1000 award
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**Nomination forms are due : March 7,
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Send to : Prof. Charles Kuehl .

**Forms available at the Information
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at the Marillac Campus.**

NEWS

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viewpoints

editorial

Optometry school: it's not dead

A staff member aptly explained, "It's like a friend had died."

Indeed as word spread Friday that the Board of Curators had for all intensive purposes stifled the optometry school here, people shook their heads in remorse or shouted in anger. To the UMSL community the school was more than a line on a budget.

But for the optometry school, whose history of defeats and comebacks spans almost a decade, the weekend would bring new hope. State legislators, feeling much of the same anger as people here, started an all-out campaign to force the Board into establishing the school.

When Harriet Woods, (D) University City, was informed by the *Current* of the Board's decision she said she would do what she could to keep the school going. Woods has been the sponsor of the optometry bill in the Missouri Senate.

And so Senate bill 930 and House bill 1868 were introduced as emergency legislation. No matter the outcome of the legislation, the *Current* applauds the initiative by the legislators. In a time when the governing body of the University has turned their back on UMSL it is nice to know that there is still some officials, besides those here, looking out for our interests.

In trying to understand why an optometry school would cause such an uproar on a campus which is usually as apathetic as possible, one has to look back at what the school represents.

The optometry school

would be UMSL's first professional school. When the Board took it away, it was like a teenager losing his driver's license. Ironically the action took place in UMSL's sixteenth year.

For others, the optometry school means an opportunity

for dormitories on campus. Because of the regional aspect to the school, some housing would have to be found for the students.

But primarily the most anger comes from just how quickly it all happened.

Wile UM president James Olson notes in his recommendation that the fight for the optometry school has been one of the longest in UM history and states that the problem blocking its establishment has lingered too

long. Board members were notified only 16 hours before the meeting that the subject was going to be on the agenda. One would think that after years of work spanning almost a decade the school would have deserved more of a funeral than that.

Olson's force feeding of his recommendation is reminiscent of a motion on tuition that passed two years ago. Board members were not even informed that UMSL and UMKC were vehemently opposed to the structure of the fees and that alternatives were approved at both of those schools. Instead, President Olson's recommendation, as approved by the Columbia campus, was the only one submitted for consideration.

When St. Louis area curator Marian Oldham questioned the motion, she was told that there wasn't time to wait a meeting and look over the facts.

Friday, the curators were told again that there was no time to wait.

Also the amount of money involved was small enough, and obviously the legislative support large enough, that a state run school could be started and then expanded into a regional school. The cost of the additions to the Animal Research Center in Columbia would be enough to finance the school for the next 10 years.

The school of optometry might have been eliminated by the Board's action, but it won't die without a fight. The *Current* thanks all those involved to keep our optometry school.

PRESTIGE 2



CURRENT

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI/SAINT LOUIS

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letters

Dear Editor:

My following statement is one of human interest and would appreciate your publishing it.

What is this place called UMSL? Some tell me it's a college, others say it's a commuter college, but all I can see is a collection of buildings. Oh, there is your Social Science Building and your Benton Hall, your Clark Hall and your J. C. Penney Building, but what purposes do they have? We can obtain our education from them, acquire shelter in times of bad weather, and they can serve as a remembrance of our wonderful collegiate career.

From earning our degree, we have obtained a job, and move quickly to fade away from this place called UMSL. So why do

we allow extra curricular organizations to exist? There are just a couple of organizations trying to make something out of UMSL, and from the looks of things it seems as though their efforts are fruitless. So let's cut their financial appropriations and use the money for educational purposes. That's what we're here for, right? Let's get our education as quickly as possible, and rid ourselves of this so called "campus."

Have you ever looked around the "campus" at 3:30? There's nobody! The entire student body agrees with me, let's get out of this place and go home. And to you so called organizations take note, give up, everyone else has.

Name withheld upon request.

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around umsl

U. Players perform 'Electra' to updated surroundings

Susan Gantner

The last three weeks have been busy for the University Players, who are diligently rehearsing for their upcoming play, *Electra*.

Denny Bettisworth, director of the University Players and chairman of the Speech Department, is adding a new twist to the play—a Greek tragedy in a futuristic setting. Instead of utilizing the traditional Grecian scenery, he will incorporate a futuristic approach. This will include costumes made of glittering, shiny thread, a single set with simple sculptures, colored lights, and projections and images all throughout the show.

"I think it's going to be interesting, a new flavor. It should be quite a visual experience," said Bettisworth. "It is not the traditional setting you would see a Greek tragedy in," he added.

It should be noted that the dialogue will remain the same; the scenery is the only aspect of the play being changed.

Electra, a Greek tragedy, takes place during the Trojan War. The play centers around Electra, a young woman,

Clytaemnestra, her mother, and Orestes, her brother.

Electra's father, guilty of a wrongdoing against Artemis, Goddess of wild animals and hunting, sacrifices his youngest daughter in retribution for his sin. This deed incurs the wrath of his wife, Clytaemnestra, who plots with her lover, the murder of her husband. Electra and Orestes are determined that she should pay for this someday. Electra sends her brother away to be brought up by another family and he is not seen for twenty years. In order to test Electra's faith in him, he returns in the guise of a messenger to inform his mother and sister off the death of Orestes. Clytaemnestra is triumphant but Electra desolate, because she has no ally left in the world. Orestes, convinced of Electra's faith, reveals his true identity to her and together they deal with Clytaemnestra.

Why was *Electra* chosen as this year's play? Bettisworth likes to include as broad a range of plays as possible in each year's format. "Try to look at things we haven't done and Greek tragedy was one," said Bettisworth. "We try to balance

the season."

He pointed out the fact that Greek tragedy is very important in Western literature and chose Sophocles' version of *Electra* (there are several) because as he put it, "it jumped out of the hat at me."

He said the University Players like to include some of the currently popular "crowd pleasers" and also plays from various literary periods in history.

Along with the scenery change, Bettisworth is doing something else a little different this year. Because many local high schools have expressed an interest in seeing the play, he will be running a special performance for high school students at 9:30 am on the Monday following the weekend performances. "If it works we'll try to keep on doing it in the future," said Bettisworth of the project.

Bettisworth and the University Players are enthusiastic about their production and invite everyone to come see *Electra* for a literary and visual experience. The play dates are Feb. 29, Mar. 1 and 2 in the Benton Hall Theatre at 8 pm. Admission is \$1 to students with an UMSL ID and \$2 to the general public.



CONFRONTATION: Elizabeth Peterson and Annette Barcellotti go at it face to face in the rehearsal of *Electra*. (Photo by Wiley Price)

Awards become 'ludicrous'

Eric Poole

As I lay comatose last night, staring at yet another ludicrous awards show on CBS, I began to attempt to list in my mind (no mean feat) the various awards programs which annually plague the airwaves: the Tony's for Broadway, the Oscars for cinema, the Emmys for television, the Grammys for music, the People's Choice for God-knows-what, the Entertainer of the Year for the dirtiest Vegas nightclub act—in short, few they are not.

iously sore losers), or who feel that—win or lose—they are above making asses of themselves without benefit of a rehearsed acceptance speech.

Now and then I believe that an evil sense of impropriety besets the technical crew, for on occasion the home viewer will catch a full-face close-up of some irate actor busily muttering easily distinguishable profanities regarding the actor to whom he has just lost. I feel this to be a natural part of any awards presentation, for it adds a degree of humanity to the

inevitably someone is on the sidelines drawing his finger across his neck as a signal to this jerk to finish and get the hell off the stage. When the winner continues to drone on, injecting multiple plugs for his latest artistic (only to him) venture, the sideline finger is replaced by a butcher knife, and finally by a hari-kari sword. Eventually the overcome victor is hauled off the stage, still drooling on his statuette, as orders are issued to "speed it up." From this point on, the winners—whether voluntarily or by force—charge

Lunacy Prevails

Last night's program was the People's Choice Awards, for achievement in television, film, vulgarity, and acting-surprised-when-you-knew-all-the-time.

Now I personally feel that telling the stars ahead of time destroys the basic concept of the awards show. Let's face it: The only reason we watch those ridiculous displays of narcissism, pomposity, and feigned humility is to watch the shocked reaction of the winner, and to see the only slightly masked indignation of the losers. There is nothing more satisfying than seeing one's favorite entertainer staggering up to the stage, overcome by martinis, joy, and more martinis, to accept their award "on behalf of all the little people"—that is, their co-star, the director, and the producer, none of whom will ever speak to this person again. Therefore, not only does informing the winners prior to the show destroy the spontaneity, it nearly guarantees the absence of any celebrity who has lost (performers are notor-

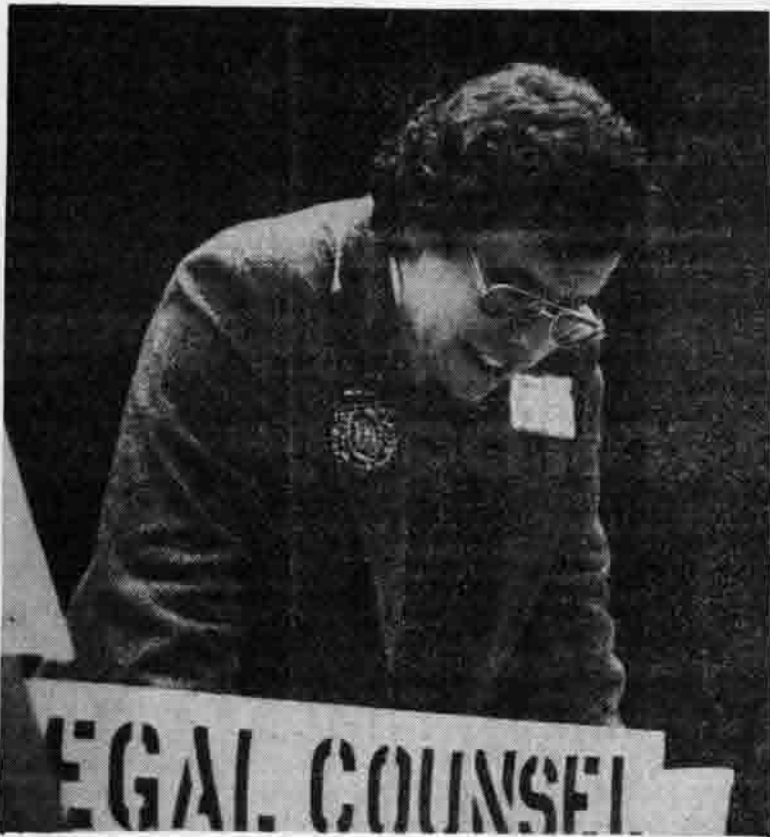
contrast of smiling mannequins for whom a loss is something to be thrilled about. Just once I would like to see an actor or musician get visibly upset at the very moment that he realizes he has lost. Wouldn't that seem more natural than Jack Nicholson smiling away four feet to the yard, all the while muttering "—dammit" under his breath?

I have the feeling that whoever determines the length and timing of the show must have taken basic math from Elmer Fudd. Never, I repeat, NEVER, do these shows end at the time they are scheduled to end. Of course, part of the credit for this feat goes to actors who feel the need to name everyone—including all thirty members of their third grade class—who could possibly have had an inspirational effect on this award-winning performance. When the show begins to run behind, and some fool is busy thanking the food service workers at the NBC commissary,

up to the stage, snatch their trophy, and bolt for the wings with nary a backward glance, as the theme music comes up and the spotlights flash off.

On occasion though, the opposite will happen. Only once have I myself ever witnessed an early conclusion to an awards program. In a case such as this, whoever is unlucky enough to be last on stage is given the signal to "stretch"—that is, do anything to kill time. This generally provides an element of comic suspense to any live show, as this poor shnook stands twitching nervously at the podium, giggling in a shrill, unnatural voice. This same activity is common among those who introduce "pre-taped" or "remote camera" segments, for they are often afflicted with technical difficulties. As crew members rush to correct the problem, the person on stage stands looking into the camera with the same silly, fixed smile generally reserved for the night's losers.

page 7



Pat Connaughton chairs a meeting of the Model United Nations Saturday, Feb. 16. (Photo by Rick Jackoway)

Students practice for Model U-N session

UMSL students took part in a mock session of the United Nations held here Saturday, Feb. 16. The event was sponsored by the UMSL Model United Nations Club and included area college and high school students.

The session was practice for a regional conference that will be held at Stouffer's Riverfront Towers, Feb. 29 and March 1, 2.

The session will simulate all

of the committees and general assembly of the United Nations. Colleges from throughout the Midwest will take the part of country ambassadors to the U.N.

UMSL will have China and Bangladesh at this year's session.

Those wishing to participate or observe the proceedings are urged to contact the Model U.N. club through Central Council.

Lunacy

from page 6

Again the devil within the director takes over, as he leaves the camera fixed on this wilting actor for a full minute. During this minute, the longest of the actor's life, he is mentally stringing together a large number of profanities which will subsequently grace his post-program conversation with the director.

Have you ever wondered who makes up all those vacuous excuses for the absences of a winning star? I hope that one day some forthright winner will send along a note to be read upon the announcement of his victory. Something like this:

"I am truly sorry that I could not be present to accept this award, whatever it is, but I deigned it unnecessary for a star

of my magnitude to be present on an awards show which will garner less than a forty share in the Neilsens. Besides, I have a hangover.

"I don't know who these people are that are presenting this award to me, and to be honest I don't care. If you must know, it's just one more statuette to polish; and between these trite, self-placating awards shows, and all the plaques from every two-bit Kiwanis Club between here and Minneola, I've just about had it! I'm gonna have to hire another maid just to keep these damn things clean!

"Look. You all know I'm a superstar. I know I'm a superstar. So what are you trying to prove?"

Well, that's telling 'em.

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A FILM BY ANNE BANCROFT

Fatso

Starring **DOM DeLUISE** in "FATSO"
ANNE BANCROFT · RON CAREY · CANDICE AZZARA
Written and Directed by **ANNE BANCROFT** Produced by **STUART CORNFELD**
Associate Producer **JONATHAN SANGER** Music by **JOE RENZETTI**

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cinema

'All That Jazz' misleading

Approximately fifteen minutes into "All That Jazz," I noticed certain members of the audience beginning to head for the exits. This must have been when they realized they weren't in for an evening of "Singin' In The Rain" and Gene Kelly wasn't going to come out and dance their cares away. This illustrates the possibility that there is something quite dishonest about "All That Jazz." The publicity, even the title itself, would have you believe that this is one of those spectacular, rollicking musicals in the style of "Bubblin' Brown Sugar," for example. Well, I've got news for you (are you sitting down?): "All That Jazz" is just no fun at all.

That fact would not matter if the result were a good, meaningful film. But Director and Co-writer Bob Fosse has created a banal, pretentious bit of self-indulgence under the guise of "musical comedy." "All That Jazz" is not about death or show business, though it deals with both. It is about Bob Fosse.

Roy Scheider plays Joe Gideon (read "Bob Fosse"), a choreographer who is presently directing a Broadway show and cutting a film about a nightclub comic called "The Standup" (read "Lenny"). Like Fosse, Gideon is hooked

on pills and cigarettes and like Fosse, Gideon has a severe heart attack. Throughout the film he brags about his female conquests, is rotten to most everyone, and has surrealistic conversations with a beautiful "Angel of Death" who is possibly under the impression that this is a Fellini film. And as a bonus, we get to see graphic close-ups of open-heart surgery. That's entertainment, folks.

The script, which was originally and more appropriately titled "Ending," was written by Fosse and Robert Alan Arthur. It is packed with contrivance and remarkably trite observations. The "inside Broadway" angle might have been interesting, but Fosse doesn't show us anything we haven't already seen, including show people who are shallow and dull. And—though this is easily debatable—I felt that even the dance numbers lacked excitement.

On the plus side (yes, there is a plus side) there are good performances by Scheider, and Ann Reinking, a simply incredible opening sequence depicting a musical audition, and some good work by Ben Vereen late in the film. Cliff Gorman (who starred in "Lenny" on Broadway) is also good as the star of "The Standup."

It is saddening that "All That Jazz" is not a better film, because Fosse intended it to be his masterpiece and his epitaph. I hope he will try again, remembering to control his narcissism. Musical-comedy can successfully make a serious statement, as was proved in Fosse's own "Cabaret" and in "Hair," possibly the two best movie musicals of the 1970s. But I am reminded of a scene in "All That Jazz," in which Roy Scheider looks heavenward, directly into the camera, and asks, "Whatsa matter? Don't you like musical-comedy?"

Sure we do. Just point one out to us.



'Cruising' does not go too far

Last summer, pressure groups disrupted the set of "Cruising" because they felt the movie's subject matter was anti-gay. A couple of weeks ago, the General Cinema Corporation cancelled all of their bookings of the film because they felt it deserved an "X," rather than "R," rating. (I am inclined to agree with them. It's hard to accept "Cruising" in the same rating category as, say, "Manhattan" or "Starting Over"). And many theaters were picketed by angry citizens upon the film's release. The resulting publicity is a PR man's dream, and the best thing that could have happened to United Artists, who released the film. This is ironic in view of the simple, perhaps irrelevant, consideration that "Cruising" is not a very good film.

The story begins sans credits by detailing some brutal murders which have been occurring among the heavy-leather clique of New York homosexuals. Officer Al Pacino is called in to go undercover to catch the killer, with the promise of a detective-shield if he takes the assignment. Why is a low-rung like Pacino given such a seemingly important assignment? Well, it seems he leans a resemblance to the previous victims. Evidently, New York City employs no short, dark-haired detectives. Perhaps I'm nitpicking, but these kind of details add up to some big credibility gaps.

So Pacino goes undercover, hangs out in some tough bars, and catches homosexuality as one would catch a cold.

As a mystery I have seen worse, and there is some outstanding photography and great use of

New York locations, but in the hands of William Friedkin, "Cruising" is dull and disgraceful.

Director Friedkin, who insulted gays once with "The Boys in the Band," directs "Cruising" with an astounding lack of taste and sensitivity. His camer dwells endlessly on the sleazy nightspots of the S & M crowd. He sacrifices what could have been a thoughtful character-study or a compelling social drama in order to satisfy his own inordinate fascination with a bizarre and sordid corner of society. And don't worry about solving the mystery prematurely, because Friedkin doesn't bother with producing any clues. He just tacks two plot twists on at the end both of which are ambiguous and unbelievable. Every time I see a Friedkin film, I am more convinced his "French Connection" was a fluke. In the case of "Cruising," if he had limited his childish indulgences to one or two montages, he could have spent more time developing Pacino's character, or setting up the denouement, or something. As it is, Pacino is just a good barker for Friedkin's carnival sideshow.

As for the controversy surrounding the film, I just had a disturbing thought: "Cruising" would not be a bad film if it had shown restraint. Had it shown restraint, the gays would not be so enraged and the film would not have received nearly so much free publicity and, consequently, would make less money.

Please don't tell the movie studios. If they find out they can make more money by deliberately making bad movies, we've had it.

Alright, I know what you're thinking, and I tried to like these movies, really I did. It's just that I have all this common sense.



cinema is a monthly review column by C. Jason Wells.

On campus

FRIDAY 22

Workshop: Six one half-hour math anxiety workshops will be sponsored by CAD. The sessions are arranged according to participant's schedules. For more information call 553-5194 or 5711. The workshop is free of charge. Applications are available in 424 SSB or 427 SSB.

Gallery 210: Woven Portraits and Drawings by Muriel Nezhnie in 210 Lucas Hall from 9-9 Monday through Thursday and 9-5 on Fridays. The exhibit will be at the gallery until March 26.

KWMU: Freddie Hubbard, who won a Grammy in 1972 for his album *First Light*, will be featured on Fusion 91 from 11pm-7am.

Saturday 23

SATURDAY 23

Concert: Missouri Bluegrass Festival concert in J. C. Penney at 7pm. Admission is \$2 for college students and \$4 for the public.

Sports: UMKC will play UMSL Rivermen in Kansas City.

Sports: MAIAW State Tournament in Joplin, Mo.

KWMU: Jazz East #1 All Stars with Gale Belle on piano will be featured on Gateway Jazz from midnight-6am.

KWMU: Kenny Burrell, known for his laid-back, after hours style of blues, will be featured on Miles Beyond from midnight-6am.

SUNDAY 24

KWMU Sunday Magazine: St. Louisans will be able to phone for emergency fire, police and ambulance by dialing 911. How did this emergency system come about and how will St. Louisans react to it will be discussed from 11pm-midnight.

KWMU: Metropolitan Opera Midwest Regional Auditions (recorded Feb. 23, 1980 at the St. Louis Art Museum) will be featured at 1pm.

MONDAY 25

Intramural: Coed basketball Tournament at 2:00 in Mark Twain.



Snowy days

An UMSL student braves the cold during the recent snows.

Sports: Wright State will play UMSL Rivermen here at 7:30.

sports: Wright State will play UMSL Rivermen here at 7:30.

Workshop: "Essential Writing Skills" sponsored by CAD in 409 SSB from 9-10am.

Course: Assertive Training for Men and Women sponsored by Continuing Education Feb. 25-Mar. 31 at 5pm. Registration fee is \$43. For more information call 553-5961.

Concert: Betty Scott, a trumpeter from UMC, will be featured in a brass concert at 8pm in J.C. Penney. Admission is free. For more information call 553-5901.

TUESDAY 26

Course: "The Psychology of Weight Control" is sponsored by Continuing Education Feb. 26-Mar. 25. Registration is \$28. For more information call 553-5961.

Meeting: UMSL Senate meeting at 3pm in J.C. Penney.

Koffee Klotch: The Evening College is sponsoring a Koffee Klotch from 5:30-8:30 in the Lucas Hall lobby.

WEDNESDAY 27

Workshop: A writing workshop sponsored by Continuing Education Feb. 18-Mar. 24 at 7:30pm. Registration is \$60. For more information call 553-5961.

Intramural: Last day to sign up for Open Doubles Racquetball Tournament.

Intramural: Wrist Wrestling at 2:00 in Mark Twain.

Sports: SIU-Edwardsville will play UMSL Rivermen at Edwardsville, Ill.

THURSDAY 28

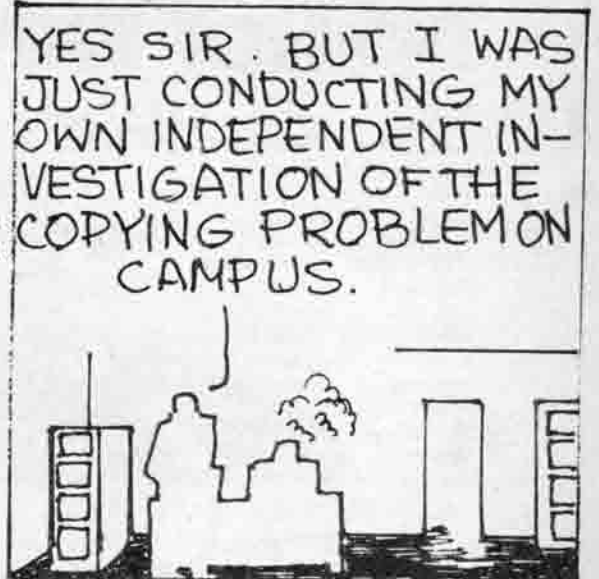
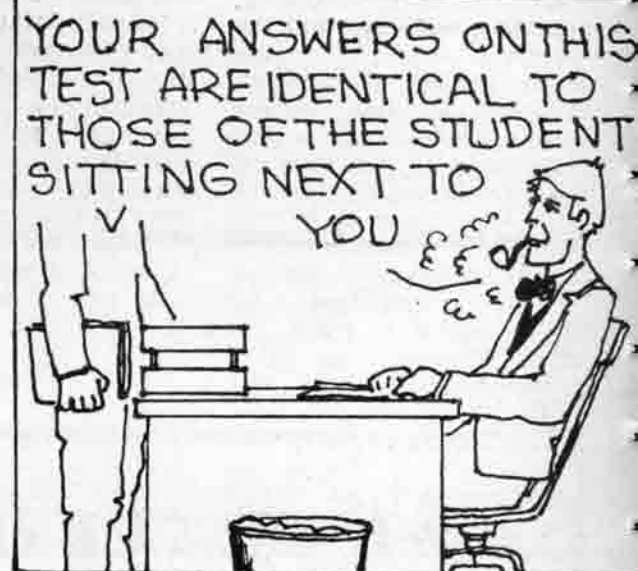
Workshop: "How to do a Term Paper" sponsored by CAD from 12-1. For more information call 553-5194.

Electra sponsored by University Players at 8pm Benton Hall. Admission is \$1 with an UMSL ID and \$2 for the public.

News Brief: In honor of Missouri Women's History Month, the Women's Center and the UMSL Archives will present: "Noble Women in St. Louis History," a slide show of St. Louis women and their activities on Tues. March 4 and Wed. March 5 at 11:30pm in the Women's Center.

COLLEGIALITY

LeLoup & Hutchison



CHESTER



by C.J. Wells



Rivermen cagers upset Eastern Illinois, 67-59

Jeff Kuchno

Although it has been a long year for the UMSL Rivermen cagers, they have turned some heads with their recent emergence as giant-killers. Eastern Illinois, one of those giants, can attest to that.

The Panthers, who entered last Monday night's game with a 19-5 record and a ranking of tenth nationally in Division II, expected a cakewalk with the Rivermen. After all, Eastern Illinois defeated the Rivermen by 16 points earlier in the season and had not lost to UMSL since January of 1977. Until last Monday, that is.

The Rivermen entered the Panther's den with a record of 7-15, which proved to be deceiving as UMSL outrebounded, outshot and outlasted EIU in a stunning 67-59 upset victory at Eastern Illinois.

"For this team, it was the most satisfying win of the year," said UMSL coach Tom Bartow. "I was pleased that we played with composure, especially in the last six minutes."

Indeed, UMSL fought back from a nine point deficit midway through the second half to tie EIU, 56-56, on a 30-foot jumper by William Harris with 2:37 remaining. Then, UMSL's Gary Rucks took over.

Rucks, a 6-foot-5 junior from Urbana, Illinois, hit six consecutive free throws in the last 1:15 to ice the victory for the Rivermen. Ironically, Rucks entered the game as UMSL's poorest free throw shooter (only 47 percent from the charity stripe). But when it counted, Rucks came through.

"The problem with my free throw shooting is that I haven't been comfortable," said Rucks. "Tonight, I was comfortable and I knew I could make them."

Rucks enjoyed his best performance of the year as he connected on eight of ten shots from the field and seven of nine from the line for a season-high

23 points. His previous high was 20 points in a 72-71 victory over Northern Kentucky in UMSL's home opener.

The game also marked the reappearance of leading scorer Rick Kirby in the UMSL lineup. Out for over two weeks with an ankle injury, Kirby scored only six points, but nevertheless made a contribution to the victory.

"He was a steadying influence out there tonight," said Bartow. "It's good to have him back."

While Rucks led UMSL in scoring, William Harris and Tom Houston contributed well, scoring 14 and nine points, respectively.

Harris, UMSL's leading scorer during Kirby's absence, was ecstatic about the win. "It's the best feeling I've ever had since I've been here," he said. "Winning on their home court makes it even better."

"We'll take them one game at a time now," he added, "but we're looking forward to playing Wright State (the nation's second ranked team) next week."

One thing is for sure. If the Rivermen are in their giant-killing mood when they play Wright St., another upset might be on the way.

sports

SIU-E spoils homecoming

Mike Hempen

It was supposed to be a big evening at UMSL Friday night. After all, it was the homecoming game. The UMSL Rivermen were going to play the Southern Illinois University—Edwardsville Cougars. There were special ceremonies planned for halftime and for after the game.

Well, everything came off well except the game. The Cougars built a 43-34 lead at halftime and went on to a 74-64 victory over the Rivermen at the Mark Twain Building.

The victory raised the Cougars record to 12-11 while the Rivermen dropped to 7-15. The win was the fourth straight for the Cougars over UMSL, but the Rivermen hold the series edge, 14-10.

The Cougars burned the nets at a .627 clip from the field (32 for 51), but UMSL coach Tom

SPOILED

UMSL 64

SIU-E 74

UMSL: Jenkins 2, Klander 2, D. Brown 5, Rucks 11, Schalter 6, Harris 10, DeGeare 14, Benne 3, Houston 11

SIU-E: Payne 9, Schmidt 15, Nelson 18, Kabbes 12, Smith 6, Branz 14

Bartow didn't think that was the only reason for the loss.

"This was the worse game a team of mine has ever played," he said. "They didn't play with much of anything. We played horrible defense. Anytime you play horrible defense and the other team shoots 60 percent you are going to lose."

Jerome Nelson led the Cougars in scoring with 18 points. He was followed by Tom Schmidt with 15, Bill Branz with 14, and Scott Kabbes with 12. In addition to scoring, Branz also pulled down a game high nine

rebounds. He entered the game third in NCAA Division II rebounding with 13.8 per game average.

The Rivermen were led by Alan DeGeare who scored 14 points. After him came Gary Rucks and Tom Houston, each with 11, and Will Harris with 10.

UMSL has only one home game left on the schedule, and that will be played on Monday night, Feb. 25, at the Mark Twain Building against Wright State.



A STICK UP?: Gary Rucks watches right after releasing a jump shot in UMSL's 74-64 loss to SIU-Edwardsville last Friday at UMSL [photo by Wiley Price].

UMSL women cagers draw big gathering, but lose, 58-53

Terri Moore

The UMSL women cagers made believers of the 1700 spectators who came to see them play William Woods last Saturday night at UMSL. The crowd, the largest in UMSL women's basketball history, saw an exciting game from beginning to end.

William Woods rallied to an early 14-6 lead, but UMSL fought back, tying the score at 20. From that point on it was a see-saw battle with William Woods holding a 27-24 halftime lead.

With five minutes left in the game, UMSL had taken the lead by four points. Shortened to a narrow 55-53 lead with only seconds remaining, UMSL had Myra Bailey at the free throw line. Bailey made the shot but was called for having her foot on the line. William Woods then tied the game and took the lead with 16 seconds left on the clock before holding on to defeat UMSL, 58-53.

"It was probably the most

emotional game of the year," said UMSL coach Joe Sanchez. "We played with a lot of intensity and a lot of desire."

William Woods played a zone defense the entire game, forcing the women to shoot from outside most of the time. Myra Bailey had the hot hand in the first half and Lori Smith took over in the second.

Sanchez felt Chris Meier, Smith and Karen Lauth played exceptional roles in the game. Smith led the women in scoring with 17 points and Bailey added 14. Connie Lisch had a good night from the free throw line, hitting six for six.

"Chris Meier really showed leadership capabilities," said Sanchez. "She probably ran the offense better than anyone has for us all year."

Meier played a strong game at guard in UMSL's 69-44 victory over SIU-Edwardsville on Wednesday. "We're getting real good production out of Kim Ayers and Chris Meier at the point," said Sanchez. "Those two combined helped us."

Sanchez felt UMSL was beat in the half, leading by only five. However, UMSL came out firing in the second half and won by 25. Pat Conley led the team in scoring with 17.

The women now have a record of 13-18 and are 1-5 in district.

The Region VI championships will be held at UMSL on March 6-8. The tournament will feature champions from the states of Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska and North Dakota. UMSL played four of the top teams in the state this year, Lincoln, William Woods, Missouri Southern and Northeast Missouri St. Two of the four are in its district.

"I'd like to thank everyone who came out and supported our team this year," said Sanchez. "Especially, to the people that came out and supported and made Saturday night such a big success. Women's basketball is here to stay."

"People who were here Saturday can see what UMSL basketball will be like next year."

Toben and Jansen score in wrestling

Rick Capelli

When you are unable to field a full team in wrestling against quality competition, coming away with a victory is a pretty tall order.

This is exactly the situation that confronted the UMSL grapplers last Thursday night when they traveled to Springfield for a dual meet with the Southwest Mo. State University Bears. Because of illnesses and injury, only six Rivermen participated in the meet which ended up 44-9 in favor of the Bears.

The three grapplers unable to make the trip were Brad Benoist at 126 and Lenard Washington at 134, both of whom were ill, and Henry Petty at 158 with a knee injury.

Of the six matches which the Rivermen wrestled, the results

were two wins, one tie, and three losses. Notching victories for the Rivermen were stalwarts Roger Toben at 142 and Steve Jansen at 158. Toben easily handled the competition, winning 14-5. Jansen, in probably his biggest win of the year, defeated defending conference champion Mike Oldham 7-3. Jansen pretty well dominated his opponent, keeping Oldham on his back for the final minute and nearly pinning him.

The surprise performance of the meet was provided by Tony Rogers at 118. Rogers came away with a tie in a match with Jim Kattleman, who is one of SMS's top performers and expected to take at least second place in the MIAA.

Whitewater kayaking makes waves at UMSL

Mary Dempster

You've seen it before on Television. The roaring water cascading over jagged boulders with razor-like edges which slice through the white crested waves. And in the background you probably saw a ferocious looking person fighting heroically against the angry turbulence, all the while sitting in a small, pointy-ended boat.

Dangerous? Definitely. But that's the part of the challenge of White Water Kayaking.

Now, for the third year in a row, UMSL students have the opportunity to meet these challenges in the White Water Kayaking class. The class meets every Wednesday night for two hours under the guidance of UMSL sociology professor, Herm Smith.

Professor Smith knows all about the sport. A white water kayak fanatic for ten years, Smith has competed in kayak championships every March and won the open canoe championships a few years ago.

White Water Kayaking is listed as an intramural activity, but no real competition is involved until later. Beginners are taught the various aspects of the sport by Smith in the UMSL pool for eight weeks. Only after that, if the students can prove themselves capable enough, are they allowed out on larger waters such as nearby St. Francis River.

Each week, with Smith's class of ten, new basic skills are added. The techniques of paddling, turning and rolling up are practiced. Rolling up?

"It's a strange feeling when you roll under the water for the first time," said Smith. "But, it's surprisingly easy to do after a little coaching and pool practice."

In addition, chances of danger are very slim. Each kayak fits like a glove and takes on inner tube-like qualities.

The Kayaks are made of fiberglass and are four meters long. It is possible to make one in two days. However, the UMSL kayakers rent their kayaks from local sport shops.

The students enrolled in the class are obviously the water-loving type. Two of them, Sue Notorangelo and Tony Rogers, are both certified scuba divers and Tony periodically goes diving off the Keys.

Notorangelo finds the sport very exciting even though she is just a beginner. "I never sat in a kayak before," she said, "but, I enjoy it very much."

With spring rains just weeks away, the class is busy preparing for river levels to rise so that the novices will be prepared for all situations. Earlier classes stressed basic river safety such as proper clothing (wet-suit) and "reading" the river for signs of danger.

Presently, the class is learning the Eskimo roll and soon will learn how to paddle between the one meter wide English gate to be hung across the pool. Hopefully by then, the class should be skilled enough to enter the novice division of the eleventh annual Missouri Whitewater Races to be held March 15-16 at the Silver Mines campground on the St. Francis river, five miles west of Fredericktown, Missouri.

Until then, Smith and the Kayakers will continue to learn how it's done. And one of the things kayaking teaches them is the buddy system. "There are just so many different situations that can occur," said Smith. "You just have to recognize and calculate the dangers and risks."

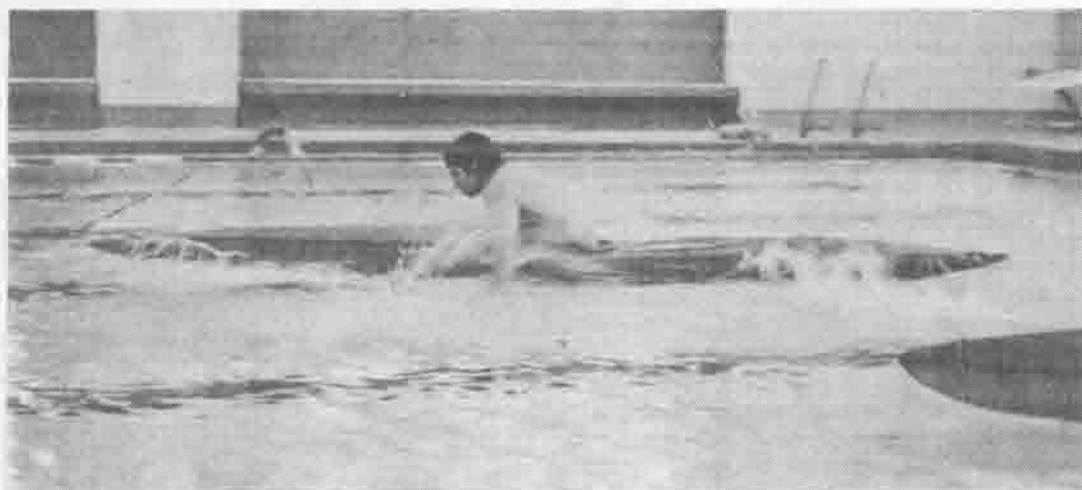
And that's the truth. Looking at the white angry water gushing over the rocks is one thing. Going over those rocks is another. It's a challenge.

SPLASH!



photos by

Paul Kilian



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Athlete of the week



Steve Jansen

Junior
wrestling

Steve Jansen, a junior at UMSL and a member of the wrestling team has been named the UMSL athlete of the week. Jansen won his match in the 158 pound weight class against MIAA defending champion Mike Oldham of Southwest Missouri St., 7-3. Jansen, who upped his record to 15-11, will represent UMSL, along with Roger Toben, at the NCAA Division II regional tournament tomorrow at St. Cloud, Minnesota.

Will UMSL ever establish a football program? No way

When I first arrived on the UMSL campus last year, the first question I asked someone (being the sports buff that I am) was why doesn't UMSL have a football team. The answer I got was money. UMSL has barely enough of it to fund the athletic programs it does have, much less football.

Well, that answer was sufficient for me. Especially after I found out in the past year and a half that the primary fault with the UMSL athletic program is lack of money, and the topic of football at UMSL seldom comes up.

Just recently, however, a few students came up to me and asked the same question: "Why doesn't UMSL have a football team?" I gave them the same answer, but then they offered several favorable arguments for football at

article pointed out that a college football program needs to draw at least 40 to 50 thousand fans per game in order to competing. Of course, many major colleges, Missouri included, average more than this figure, but smaller colleges play in stadiums that have a capacity nearly one-fourth of the 40 thousand norm.

KUCHNO'S KORNER



UMSL that were quite intriguing.

The first argument is based on UMSL's recent admittance into the Missouri Intercollegiate Athletic Association, which is primarily a football conference. UMSL was admitted to the MIAA on a non-probationary basis, meaning it is not required to start an intercollegiate football program at any time in the future. But, the MIAA sure wouldn't mind if UMSL did.

The second is the feeling that UMSL students and the general public will support football here because it would be the only college football program, with the exception of Washington University, operating in the St. Louis area. After all, many St. Louisans support the University of Missouri Tigers and that's a two hour drive.

These are both seemingly valid arguments, but there are points to be considered before UMSL goes ahead and concocts a gridiron program.

First of all, a recent NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) newsletter reported that because of the tremendous expenses involved in operating a football program, most Division II colleges will have to discontinue football by the year 1990. The

For example, the MIAA schools play in small stadiums. At Southwest Missouri St., the Bears play in Briggs Stadium (capacity, 10,000). Northeast Missouri State's Stokes Stadium seats 5,000 and Southeast's Houck Stadium holds 10,000.

In addition, these schools don't sell out every game like they do at Mizzou. A case in point is the home finale at Southwest Missouri St. against Northeast Missouri St., November 11, 1978. The game was a pivotal one in determining the MIAA conference championship, but only 4,600 fans attended.

An argument could be made against this, though, by having UMSL play at Busch Stadium. But the rental costs would be astronomical. Anyway, unless UMSL goes Division I, Missouri-Columbia will always be top dog when it comes to college football. And as long as UMSL fails to allocate enough money for its athletic program, it will never move up to the top division.

So, it seems obvious that the chances of UMSL beginning a football program in the future are two-fold: slim and none.

Wrestling

from page 9

"This is the best we've seen from Tony this year," said UMSL coach Tom Loughery. "He was also the victim of some questionable refereeing in this match."

What the coach meant was that all the points in Rogers' 1-1 tie with Kattleman were penalty points. Both were penalty points for stalling. The only problem was that the point called against Rogers for stalling was called when he was trying to pin his opponent.

"We felt he should have had a victory," said Loughery.

The other wrestlers, Mike Linham, John Vahey and Len Debert all turned in credible performances but in Loughery's words "made that one mistake and got caught on their backs."

With their victories in this meet, Steve Jansen and Roger Toben qualified for regional playoff competition to be held this weekend at St. Cloud State in Minnesota.

The Rivermen had their final home meet Monday in a rescheduled meet with Missouri-Rolla and Lincoln.

classifieds

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Applications for Student Senate are available Feb. 21-Feb. 28, at the Information Desk in the University Center. Applications are due Friday, Feb. 29 and are to be turned into the Dean of Student Affairs. Elections will be held on March 12 & 13.

Lenten program at Newman House 7 Thursdays of Lent beginning Feb. 21, 7-9 pm. Speakers, Sharing, Prayer. All Welcome.

In honor of Missouri Women's History Month the Women's Center and the UMSL Archives present "Notable Women in St. Louis History," a slide show of St. Louis women and their activities on Tuesday, March 4 and Wednesday, March 5 at 11:30 am in the Women's Center. Everyone Welcome.

General Meeting of the Student Organization for Sisterhood Friday, Feb. 22, 1 pm in the Women's Center, 107A Benton Hall.

UMSL Skating party sponsored by UMSL Biology Club Fri., Feb. 22, 7:30-9:30 pm, Steinberg Skating Rink, Forest Park. Anyone welcome.

Tune in to KWMU's Midnight Till Morning program. Our featured artists will be Shawn Phillips. Phillips is one of the last Protest Rockers of the 60's. This show is aired every Sunday from 12 midnight to 6 am. following Sunday Mag.

ATTENTION STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED RED ROSE DANCE LAST SATURDAY. Two Grecian urns (large paper vases) and four topiary trees (a large heart and two little ones on sticks) were "souveniered" from the dance. They were very expensive, and have already been promised to the Greek Fraternities for upcoming events. We urgently request that they be returned (they may be placed on the blue desk in U. Center 2nd floor hall or brought to Student Activities Office) as soon as possible—for which we will be most grateful!!!

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UMSL wrestlers aim for All-America plateau

Roger Toben

As a 97-pound offensive guard on the Pacific High freshman football team, Roger Toben looked a bit out of place. Then one day Pacific's wrestling coach, Rick Sandobal, entered the picture and put Toben in his proper place.

"My freshman year was the first year for wrestling at Pacific," explained Toben. "Coach Sandobal talked to me and tried to convince my parents that wrestling was the sport for me. My parents were really against the idea, but they finally consented to let me wrestle."

Since that day, Toben has grown from a 97-pound right guard to a 142 pound wrestling All-American candidate. He will represent UMSL, along with Steve Jansen, at the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) Division II regional tournament, which starts tomorrow at St. Cloud, Minnesota.

Toben, who will enter regional competition with a 22-6 record, hopes to do better the second time around. Last year, he advanced to regionals and finished fourth in the 142 pound weight class. Only the top two finishers in each weight class and any other seven third place finishers advance to the national tournament where most competitors become All-America.

Since Toben finished fourth last year, though, all he could do was pack his bags and go home. His immediate hopes of becoming an All-American vanished. Toben vowed he would return. And now he has.

"I began working hard for this year," he said. "I've been waiting for this for quite some time."

Ironically, the beginning of his wrestling career was not a case of love at first sight. In fact, he didn't even like it.

"I wasn't too thrilled with the idea of wrestling back then," he said. "I didn't like cutting weight."

Toben wasn't alone in his feelings. His parents didn't like to see him wrestle and couldn't figure out why he was doing it. Then, Toben recalled a conversation he had with his mom that sent him on his way to stardom.

"It was right before my junior season and my mom asked me why I was going to wrestle because she didn't think I was that good," he said. "From that point on, I was determined to prove her wrong."

And, that's exactly what he did.

Toben compiled a 30-4 record his junior year, went 28-2 his senior season, and capped off his high school career with a state championship. As a result, he was recruited by many major colleges and decided to cast his lot with Missouri.

However, Toben ran into a few difficulties at Mizzou. He couldn't break the starting lineup and just when he appeared to be coming around, he broke his leg. Tired and discouraged, Toben transferred to UMSL with the intention of giving up wrestling for good.

"I was fed up with wrest-

ling," he said. "I didn't even want to look at a mat."

But Toben heard a little voice from within that made him reconsider. "For some reason, I wanted to try again. My goal was always to be an All-American, so I gave it another shot."

Judging by the way things have gone for Toben the last two years at UMSL, he has no regrets. Toben was 14-2 last year and UMSL's lone representative at the regional tournament.

Although it was a banner season for Toben, it was not a good one for UMSL wrestling, in general. In fact, the UMSL athletic committee recommended that the wrestling program be discontinued. That recommendation was overruled by Chancellor Arnold B. Grobman, though, and with the hiring of Tom Loughrey as head coach and Terril Williams as assistant, the grapplers have soared to new heights.

"We're coming," said Toben. "If people give us a little time to get it together, we'll be awesome."

Part of the reason for such optimism is the potential of

some of next season's recruits, including Toben's younger brother, Bob.

The younger Toben has some impressive credentials. He has a 25-0 record in the 167 pound weight class at Pacific, and 21 of his victories have come on pins.



"He's really tough. We're going to be wrestling together on the same team for the first time next year. He's really going to help us."

Toben will be a senior at UMSL next season and he would like nothing better than to close

out his college career on a winning team.

But first, Toben has some business to take care of this year. The opportunity to become an All-American has arrived once again. Can he do it?

"There's no doubt about it," he said. "I'm going to do it."

Steve Jansen

Last year was not a very good one for either UMSL wrestling or for Steve Jansen.

Jansen, a native Ohioan, was one of the better wrestlers at UMSL last year, but because of personal reasons, he quit the team midway through the season.

This year, however, things have changed. UMSL wrestling is on its way up and Jansen has been a part of the transition.

Wrestling many matches in weight classes higher than his normal 150, Jansen has earned the right to compete in the Division II regionals this week at St. Cloud, Minnesota even though his record is only 14-11.

Jansen's wrestling career resembles a roller coaster ride. It has had its ups and downs.

Jansen began wrestling when he was a sophomore at Ready High School in Ohio. In his

senior year, he won 28 matches and lost only three before missing the state championships due to an injury.

He then moved on to Ohio State of the Big Ten conference and did fairly well until he injured his shoulder. Sitting out a year, he decided to transfer to UMSL.

After sitting out another year because of transfer requirements, Jansen became eligible to wrestle last year at UMSL. He probably wishes last year never happened.

"I was really disappointed with last year's team," he said. "In fact, it really wasn't much of a team."

This year, however, Jansen is singing a different tune. "This year has been tough because we didn't have much of a chance to recruit last season with the future of the program in doubt. But, next year, it won't be like that. We're going to get some good recruits."

"The UMSL wrestling team has been a patsy in the past, but in the future we will be tough."

The current season has been a trying one for Jansen since he has wrestled so many opponents out of his weight class. Amazingly, Jansen has lost four matches in the 180 pound weight class, which is at least 20 pounds heavier than his normal weight, by only one point.

"I don't mind wrestling the heavier guys," said Jansen. "I usually had to wrestle some tough wrestlers, and that makes me better."

"The only problem is getting down to 150. Right now, I am

about 158, so it's going to be tough to get down to weight. Cutting weight and conditioning are the two toughest things about wrestling."

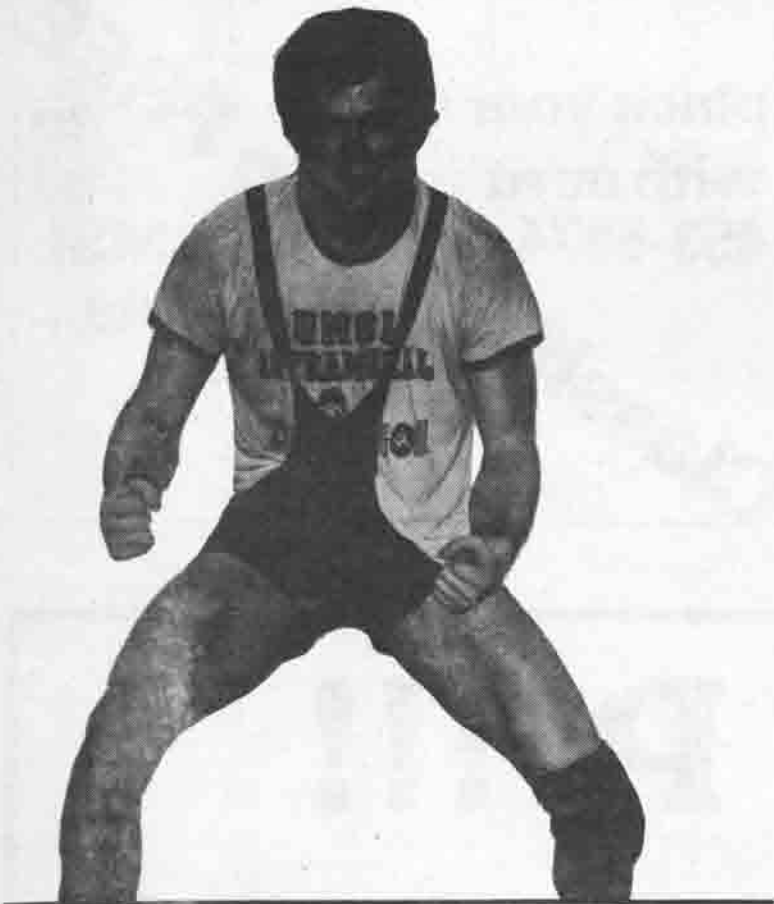
All of this is quite an accomplishment, especially for someone who has to overcome a handicap. A few years ago, Jansen was working in a printing shop when a piece of machinery came down on his fingers, dismembering two of his fingertips.

But, Jansen has overcome obstacles before and now he is

rapidly approaching the All-America status as his college career nears its end.

This may not be the last year of wrestling for Jansen though. He has petitioned the NCAA for another year of eligibility. But, just in case he doesn't receive an extra year, he'll try to become an All-American this year.

"I think I have a good chance of winning it," he said. "In fact, in a couple weeks, I will be an All-American."



stories by Jeff Kuchno



photos by Wiley Price