Mock Presidential Election Planned

Student Association is planning to involve the UMSL student body in a national mock election this spring, sometime after the campus elections have taken place. This project is one of the National Collegiate Presidential Primary, sponsored by the Time-Life Corporation and set for April 24.

Under the direction of a board of 11 student leaders from 11 universities representing all the geographical areas of the U.S. and Canada, UMSL President John Leet is chairman. He was selected by the Board of Directors, to create increased interest and participation in national politics among students, and to promote discussion and debate.

This project is Choice '68, National Student Association Western Region's "create a student court which has the authority to make a political decision in a student court which has already been established in a number of other campuses. This campus responsibility will be held, and the will of the majority of those voting will determine the fate of the senator. Should the vote be against retention, the senator will be removed from office immediately, with the resignations of all the other senators. The amendment was not adopted, after which a formal appeal to the Student Court was submitted.

Group Recognition

With only 11 of its 23 members present at its January 4 meeting, the UMSL Student Senate voted on and passed guidelines for recognizing student organizations. The Senate had adopted the guidelines presented last Thursday by the Senate committee on recognition. Although Hughes did not agree with either the student body vote or the Senate vote, he told the Current that the student body vote was more representative of campus opinion. This reiterates Hughes' dissatisfaction with the Senate's actions and the risks to the students. The Senate's votes were sent in by December 31, 1967, in order to be valid in the national referendum.

Chess Tourney

The University Chess Club will have a Chess Tournament for all its members at the Chess Tourney, which was glad to see the minority proposal. A dance will follow the Hoote.

UMSSA Wants More State Support

On Wednesday, December 27, the Executive Board of the Missouri system schools met at UMSL to discuss various resolutions of importance to the system. UMC President John Leet, Rolla's Bill Wolff and U-McCann's Rafe Seckel, in addition to UMSL President Michael Hughes, attended. Concerning state support of Missouri Universities, health services and disciplinary procedures were discussed at the all day session.

UMSL's Hughes

UMSL's Student Senate passed a resolution in opposition to a proposed constitutional amendment by 11 votes. The amendment would allow the Senate to establish a student court which has already been established in a number of other campuses. This campus responsibility will be held, and the will of the majority of those voting will determine the fate of the senator. Should the vote be against retention, the senator will be removed from office immediately. The amendment was not adopted, after which a formal appeal to the Student Court was submitted.

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Dear Editor,

mention was made of the possibility of Negroes only being allowed to sit in the Benton Hall lobby. In Missouri, a Negro “ghetto” in the county and at no time has there been an indication that this could be construed as a segregation. The tutors are both Negro and white and I believe all have been equally accepted by all tutors.

To assist the tutors in understanding the children, we have requested that a Negro nurse be employed to work with special problems of the children. We were told our jobs are not encumbered. We are to provide a contract for the nurses that will cost us nothing. We are to become friends with the children and thereby offer a better understanding of their needs. And most important, in the situation of a white tutor and a Negro child, we cannot overlook the fact that Negroes and whites can live and work together without conflict. If only Negroes tutor in Negro areas, that fact will demonstrate the failure of integration and prejudice will be perpetuated.

Sincerely,
Robert Fredericks

To the Editor,

I would like to make a few comments concerning Mr. Onuska’s recent and highly criticized opinion piece in the Current.

As a staff member for the white-page edition of the UMSL Student Association, I was able to witness firsthand Mr. Onuska’s strong implication that we are all “inocent, uncaring, and lacking in insight.” However, this is a matter of personal opinion, and I fear I’m not the only one who feels this way.

Negroes have been the subject of numerous attacks, both verbal and physical. Unfortunately, these attacks have been made in the name of “white supremacy.” We are constantly being reminded of the atrocities that have been committed against Negroes. It is the responsibility of all citizens to condemn these acts and to work towards achieving a more just and democratic society.

I would like to see the Senate take action immediately to insure the productive society and the quality of life for all citizens.

Sincerely,
Mike McGrath

UMSL Student Association

Editor

Dear Editor,

In the last issue of the Current, mention was made of the possibility of students from UMSL tutoring children in underprivileged areas. This project would indeed benefit the tutors as well as the students. However, there was also the statement that only Negroes would tutor in predominantly Negro areas. The organizer of this program evidently believes that the presence of white tutors may be a racial conflict or perhaps he feels that Negro tutors are more capable of understanding the Negro children’s problems and therefore more effective. In either case, allowing only Negroes to tutor Negroes would be a weakness of the program.

Letters To the Editor

For the first time they told me to fast for freedom and for being an eager plus overweight good citizen of this intellectual community, I complied with great passion to solve these inequalities. Last week, I again was forced to swallow the bitter pill of defeat. Although this experience was painful, I am again in search of inner honor and reality. This week they told me to vote in the NSA Referendum and with hope of achieving a voice to be heard in these troubled times I tried to comply.

However, theSA Referendum. During the campaign, I became aware of numerous errors. I searched the address list of Mr. Natural Bridge in hopes of finding my vehicle or a voice in government. The 1st floor, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th were the SA Referendum on the 5th floor. Drawing a complete negative, I plunged back down into the bowsels of Benton Hall to the infamous monstrous environment of the Student Senate. Now feeling to myself that it would be quite silly for me to realize that an election booth in the SA Referendum would disrupt the solitude of study. Now remember all this time I am obeying the boycott and not once did I set foot into that detestable eats-not to even mention the realization that I had failed as a person, unable to release my creativity.

Well, I ought to say that Wednesday finally appeared—the second day of the NSA Referendum Vote. A search began 1st floor, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and finally the unlikely penthouse. Again a chasm of communication was revealed to me and I sunk into the despair of unfulfilled passions. I sat in the SA Referendum from the 1st floor of the building and I heard students, and finally, I heard the word CAFETERIA mentioned in the same sentence with REFERENDUM. I shuttered—perhaps I would have to violate one principle to accept the other. But then I thought if the election committee could violate their principles I could do the same. Bravely I walked into the cafeteria with my usual malaise.

After wandering in the well structured cafeteria existence, I found no sign of referendum nor vote. Finally to the point of manie-depression, I disrupted a card game and I said, “Hey man, where’s that vote?” “Sorry,” he said, “it broke down.”—A DECISION. I would like to make a few comments concerning Mr. Onuska’s recent and highly criticized opinion piece in the Current.

As a staff member for the white-page edition of the UMSL Student Association, I was able to witness firsthand Mr. Onuska’s strong implication that we are all “inocent, uncaring, and lacking in insight.” However, this is a matter of personal opinion, and I fear I’m not the only one who feels this way.

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Mike McGrath

UMSL Student Association

Editor

Editor...
At American Theatre, the story of two very different men thrown together by their marital difficulties. Felix Unger, a brash slob who lives alone in the eight-room apartment formerly occupied by his family. Oscar Madison, a divorced man, is a paralyzing hypochondriac who is obsessed with cleanliness and loves to cook. When Felix is thrown out by his wife of twelve years, Oscar asks him to stay in his apartment to keep him from suicide and to threaten and to provide himself with some company.

The obvious incompatibility of these two is the impetus for most of the comedy. The dominance of the two central characters provides The Odd Couple with the unity that was lacking in Simon's earlier efforts (Come Blow Your Horn and Barefoot in the Park). Any fun in the play does not come from the conflict between Oscar and Felix is supplied by their poker-playing cronies and by the two British girls who live in the same building.

The play has two major flaws—a lack of seriousness of purpose and shallowness of characterization. Simon's only apparent interest in a play which deals with the basically serious subject of broken marriage is to be funny. Most of the laughs come from the characters, but they are merely broad stereotypes who are funniest when they do something surprising within their too familiar frameworks. These criticisms are probably unfair, however, because The Odd Couple succeeds in being one of the most consistently funny plays in the peculiarly American dramatic genre—the commercial situation comedy.

The production I saw at the American opening night featured Dana Andrews as Oscar and Robert Q. Lewis as Felix. Andrews, whose background was a romantic lead in films, was surprisingly funny and remarkably believable. He was also ailing, as noticeable in his voice; and he has since been replaced by character actor Lyle Talbot, who is probably best remembered as Ozzie Nelson's next-door neighbor and best friend in the last ten years of the long-running Ozzie and Harriet television series. Talbot is a competent actor and can be a funny man. He is not likely to weaken this production.

If you, like myself, have always thought of Robert Q. Lewis as a rather bland television M.C., you will be as surprised as I was to find that he is a fine comic actor. He is especially good at broad physical comedy, and his facial dexterity is reminiscent of Dick Van Dyke. The most impressive of the poker players were Bob Basso and Don McArt. Basso has also left the cast since opening night, Bill Browder and Page Johnson lend able supporting performances at the card table. The girls are played by Carol Lawson and Gita Breslin. Miss Lawson is marvelous for both her beauty and her perky performance, but Miss Breslin seems mechanically exaggerated. Richard Yaita's recreation of Mike Nichols' original direction on Oliver Smith's fine setting makes this funny play funnier. The Odd Couple, which will be at the American Theatre thru January 25, may not stimulate but it certainly does amuse.
Cagers Lose to John Brown, Take on Concordia Saturday

By Marty Hedin, Associate Sports Editor

Coach Smith’s Rivermen will cap a busy week Saturday night when they take on the Concordia Preachers at Concordia Field house at 7:30 p.m. UMSL played Kenyon College on Monday night and Harris Teachers College Wednesday night, but the current week is one that will press before the results of those games were known.

The team lost to John Brown U. last Friday, 84-66, earning a winning spree that started December 16, when they lost 84-66 to John Brown University of Siloam Springs, Arkansas. The loss marked the end of UMSL’s five game winning streak.

UMSL led throughout the first half until Brown took the lead for good with 3:49 remaining in the half. The Eagles led only 42-39 at halftime, but played aggressively in the second half and won easily as UMSL shot only 23% from the field.

The main ingredient in the JBU victory was the outstanding performance of Jack Stenner who scored a career high of 38 points.

University of Illinois

Kiel Auditorium again proved to be a good home for the Rivermen on Saturday December 22 when UMSL closed out 1967 by rolling up their second largest point total of the season, when they defeated the University of Illinois at Chicago Circle 105-80. The Rivermen are now 5-0 at Kiel after completing their second season of play there.

In individual statistics, the Caldwell brothers combined to score 50 points; Bill led all scorers and rebounds with 26 points and 21 rebounds, and Chuck scored 24 points. Jack Stenner kept up his average by scoring 21 points. Sophomore Ron Armbruster played the best game of his college career as he scored 20 points. Denver Wieland scored 10 points and grabbed 13 rebounds and Bill Davis and Bill McBride each scored 2.

William Jewell College

"We killed them inside." That was the way Jack Stenner summed up UMSL’s game on Saturday, December 16, when the Rivermen defeated William Jewell College of Liberty, Mo. 88-72 at Kiel Auditorium.

Jewell took an early 4-0 lead, but starting with 17:06 left in the first half, UMSL scored eight straight points to take the lead for good. Jack Stenner’s 16 points in the first half paced the Rivermen to a 40-30 halftime lead. Jack Stenner was the game’s high scorer for the fifth game in a row as he scored 29 points. The Caldwell brothers scored 37 points between them. Chuck scored 19 and Bill 18. Terry Reiter established a new career high of 17 rebounds and Bill Caldwell collected 12.

Harris Teacher’s College

Due to their ability to overcome a poor start, the Rivermen defeated Harris Teacher’s College of St. Louis 90-60 on Friday, December 15.

UMSL started off slowly and did not get untracked until near the end of the first half. With 1:39 to go in the half, Harris led 33-20, but UMSL outscored the Hornets 8-3, and Harris led only 35-34 at halftime.

Stenner was the game’s high scorer for the fourth consecutive game, as he set a new college career high point mark, scoring 35 points, two away from Ron Woods’ UMSL record of 37. Clarence Slaughter finished the evening with 18 points. Chuck Caldwell also scored in double figures with 11.

Graduating Soon?

If so I hope you will allow me to suggest to you a graduation gift which is as practical as it is appropriate. The 1967 MGB or MG-B GT, cars which will make you stand out in the crowd.


TE 1-5164 or see me at Newman House.

Chess Club Wins

In a rematch with the Forest Park Community College Chess Club Sunday, December 17, UMSL crushed their opponents by a team score of 10 to 1. One notable win for the FPCC team was their upset victory in round three on board five, but he was decisively defeated by Keefe Rayfield in the final round. Outstanding UMSL team players were Don Pace and Keefe Rayfield.

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