Poetic inspiration is just another way of saying someone has an idea, according to poet Howard Nemerov, as quoted in the Nov. 24, 1970, issue of The Current.

"Have you ever reflected that when you have an idea it could be anywhere from a 'good idea to lose me in a dream,' or "An angel is a man who spits' ?" Nemerov remarked during a recent interview. "How do ideas come?" "Sometimes, of course, you have them by thinking real hard about a problem, but very often, that's not what happens at all. You get an idea and you write a poem," Nemerov said.

"I'm not sure what it means about that, you don't stop to ask 'How did that idea get here?' You just take it as the parano that's given, which is like a clue— you keep following it until it leads you in just as far as it's necessary," Nemerov said. He then went on to write poems about drug addiction in the United States.

A university-wide committee of students is presently studying possible nominees for the four seats on the Board of Curators, which will be vacant Jan. 1.

In a similar effort, students are continuing to demand direct voice in the selection of a new university president. The student committee, which calls itself the Student Commission on President Selection, is composed of five university-wide student government leaders and two staff members. It hopes to submit its recommendations to Governor Warren E. Hearnes by Dec. 18.

The committee will coordinate five search committees composed of students from all four campuses of the university. Each search committee will select nominees from a particular congressional district. The four new Curators must come from four of the five congressional districts in which the committees are working.

The five districts to be searched are the 1st, 3rd, 4th, 9th, and 10th Congressional Districts.

The Curators whose terms will expire include: William Billings, Pleasant Smith, Curators president, and Doyle Patterson. The remaining two years of the term of Oliver Ferguson, who resigned earlier this month, must also be filled.

There is speculation Hearnes will reappoint Billings, his former college roommate, to the board. Ferguson and Billings both reside in the 10th district due to a re- alignment of congressional districts after their appointments were made.

Two UMSL students are serving on the search committees. Pete Mackerman is on the first district committee, and Gerry Brown is on the second district committee.

A spokesman for Hearnes said that he will take any recommendations from the groups into consideration. Meanwhile, the drive to secure direct student voice in the selection of the new university president has continued.

It has been learned that, on at least one campus, student leaders are planning to approach the faculty governing body with a request that it not cooperate with the 10-man commission charged with screening nominees for president due to the lack of students on that committee.

The student presidents of the four university campuses will ask the 16-man selection committees, at a minimum, invite them to all meetings of the committee. It is hoped that the students will be allowed to participate in the committee's activities.
Nemerov on Poetry: "...a Series of Peaks..."

"Continued from Page 1.

"Otherwise, there's a matter of one sequence, one grunt, and nothing in between."

"But if you look at what is called avant-garde--modern, I suppose, is a better term, silly as it is, you find the shoe doesn't divide up that easy. You have something like E. E. Cummings, you look at those intricate typographical arrangements on the page, and it takes you ten minutes to realize you're reading a sonnet."

"Similarly, Yeats and Frost rhymed a great deal of the time, almost always in the case of the former, while Eliot, who started so much of the tradition of what is called free verse, did not himself believe he was writing free verse at all, but an English heroic line based on a kind of variation on the Elizabethan. But it's more mixed up than that."

"Poetry as such never gets better or worse, Nemerov asserted, "it never gets.""

"I think this is an age of amazingly fine, multifarious and varied talents in this country, with a lot of energy and work being done," he said, "but there is no such thing as poetry. There are certain poets who have got steadily worse since Shakespeare, since nobody has ever been able to do anything like that. But you can see that would be true in general."

"You do not think of Wordsworth as inferior to Shakespeare because he couldn't do Shakespeare better."

"He described poetry as "a series of peaks, not progression. Some body arises and says something, and, by God, that's it for a century. Yet even in that you characterize a half-century as the Age of So-and-so, you know there were a lot of other quite fine people writing at the same time."

"Nemerov denied having any special poetic mission."

"When you're young," he explained, "it's natural to think you do something by having an opinion about it, so you decide first that you're going to do this and then you do it; whereas so many things happen by accident, not as the result of some overall decision. It's only after many years that you start building up a myth about how you were divinely ordained to be a poet. I've tried not to build up such myths."

"Maybe it's a good confidence game in the sense that that sells the poet with confidence—that is, if he can believe it--and in the sense that he can fool himself. You can see it, for example, when Wordsworth writes his Prelude, which is a poem about becoming a poet. It's a beautiful poem, but that he became a poet by writing such a poem seems to me a bit mythological, a little bit after the fact. It may have happened that way—I have no way of knowing—but I rather suspect it was a little more accidental and made up of the holler-skelter of life than it sounds."

"But if you're going to write history at all, even your own, you have to tell it as if it were a story. We feel that tomorrow is free, but as soon as it's happened, we feel that it is determined. So all history has a necessary predestination quality somewhere in the background. You always have an object, taking pains to show that history goes in the direction your myth about it says it ought to."

"Minimizing the political influence of poetry, he admitted that "very often poets think they have" such influence."

Library Internships

Interviews for the internship program of the Missouri State Library will be held Dec. 8, for interested sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Ten internships for next summer will be awarded on a competitive basis to those planning a career in the public libraries. Interns are paid $257 a month. Appointments for the interviews may be made in the Placement Office, room 211 Administration building, before Nov. 25.

The deadline for applications is Feb. 15.

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3 Faculty Nominated For Search Committee

The Faculty Senate has selected Dr. Wallace Ramsey (Education), Dr. Fred Themin (Business), and Assistant Dean David Allen of the College of Arts and Sciences as the three nominees to represent UMSL on the 19-man university presidential search and screening committee.

The procedure for choosing the campus faculty representative for this committee specified that each nominee belong to a different school or division.

The selection of one nominee as campus faculty representative will be made by the Inter campus Faculty Advisory Council at its meeting today.

One nominee will be selected from each university campus, the only guideline for selection guaranteeing representation from four different faculty groups in the presidential search.

Re-elections Slated

Continued from Page 1

quorum at its meetings.

Council meetings for the remainder of the year will be divided into groups of four consecutive meetings. Any representative missing two or more meetings in any group will be removed from the roll call for quorum counts.

The council meeting Sunday was the first this semester that was neither cancelled nor prematurely adjourned due to the lack of a quorum.

To another business, the council elected Pam Schnebelen to chair the Grievance Committee. She replaces Mike O'Hare, who resigned.

Five proposals adopted earlier by the Executive Committee were approved with no debate and were assigned to committees. They include studies of: course evaluation; the future role of the council; the bookstore; placing students on departmental committees; and the removal of D and F grades from a student's record if he takes a course a second time and receives a higher grade.

Also approved was a motion for an unstructured meeting of the council Dec. 6 to discuss measures to improve itself.

Adell Smith and Peter Heithaus were appointed as temporary members of the Athletic Committee of the Faculty Senate. The positions had been left vacant by the council due to the small number of applicants.

Smith and Heithaus will serve on the committee until permanent members can be appointed. Applications for the positions are being accepted by the Appointments and Elections Committee.

Applications are also being accepted for a position on the Urban Affairs Committee of the senate. Martha Amsheb has resigned from the committee.

An ad hoc committee chaired by council secretary Jean Fleithaus reported that little progress can be made to reduce noise in the library until funds are available for improvements including carpeting the fourth level.

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On Campus

Wednesday, November 25

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

BAKE SALES sponsored by Sigma Pi (Cafe, Admin. Bldg.) and United Students Party (Cafe-Lounge Bldg.)

PUMPKIN PIE EATING CONTEST sponsored by Pi Kappa Alpha, on the Volleyball Courts behind the Admin. Bldg.

THANKSGIVING MIXER sponsored by Pi Kappa Alpha, in the Cafe-Lounge Bldg. Music by the Touch.

Monday, November 30

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

BAKE SALE sponsored by Alpha Xi Delta, in the Cafe, Admin. Bldg.

Tuesday, December 1

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

BAKE SALE sponsored by Beta Sigma Gamma, in the Cafe, Admin. Bldg.

Wednesday, December 2

8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

BAKE SALE sponsored by Alpha Xi Delta, in the Cafe, Admin. Bldg.

FREE FILM: EARLY SHORTS (UN CHEN ANDALOU) (THE CABINET OF DR. CALIGARID Room 101, Life-Science Bldg.

LECTURE: HOWARD NEMEROV, poet-in-residence at Washington University. Room 165, Benton Hall.

Thursday, December 3

8 p.m.

RIVERMEN BASKETBALL. The Rivermen vs Southeast Mo. State at the Arena.

Debaters Bag Another First

Debaters Mike Kruger and Bob Hausladen, picking up where they left off last year, captured first place in the Carnation Classic debate tournament at Mount Union College in Alliance, Ohio, over the weekend.

After compiling a 4-1 record in the preliminary rounds, the team beat undefeated Wooster College in the semifinal round and defending champion Central Michigan University in the finals.

Hausladen and Kruger, Missouri state champions last year, also won the fourth and fifth place individual speaker awards.

The debate team has won six awards this year and is exceeding the record it established last year, according to George Coulton, speech instructor and team coach.

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Rivermen Sharpen Up On Salukis

By MIKE OLDS
Current Sports Editor

Ten o'clock on Saturday morning is hardly the ideal time for a basketball scrimmage, especially with a powerful NCAA university division team.

But desirable or not, that's the time the UMSL Rivermen took the court at Carbondale, Illinois, last Saturday in a pre-season scrimmage with the Salukis of Southern Illinois University.

The 11agers and 3 coaches left UMSL at 7 a.m. in three university station wagons for the 110 mile, two hour trip. "We got'em join' early," chirped assistant varsity coach Larry Berres.

"The team has come a long way since the Meet the Rivermen Night game," head coach Chuck Smith said, referring to quality improvement rather than miles traveled, "but they still have a ways to go.

Berres also was impressed with the team's progress, pointing out that the first line Riverman played shoulder to shoulder with the respected Salukis. "There was a difference, perhaps, of eight points."

No official scores or statistics are kept in pre-season scrimmages. Nothing about the game is standard, including the periods. The SIU game, for instance, went three 20 minute halves.

"That's good conditioning for the boys," Smith noted.

He went on to single out Clarence Slaughter and Mark Bernsen for fine offensive performances. "They had a little trouble on defense, though," he added.

Final Harrier Clash Cancelled

On November 11, the Rivermen harriers were to have closed out a something less than sensational season with a dual meet with Greenville College.

However, the Rivermen were spared the final effort due to the last minute cancellation of the meet. Bobby Hudson, UMSL's leading runner the past two seasons, was unable to run due to his back cramps and when Joe Tuthill, late of Florissant Valley Junior College, took ill the Rivermen were forced to seek the cancellation. The meet does not count as a loss. UMSL finished the season with a dual meet record of 1-10.

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