

Students To Cover Campus With Murals

By Bonnie Clark

If you should have happened to go into the Fine Arts building during the past weeks and the strong odor of paint hit your nostrils, don't think that it was the local painters at work.

The painters hard at work were some of Joe Robertson's art students. You could find these art fiends in the hall of the second floor in the Fine Arts Building. These 18 students made up Mr. Robertson's art class for the mini-semester. Their efforts were part of an experimental idea, one that has never been done before. The idea was that of producing wall murals and portable murals. The murals were the results of a letter that was sent from the administration to all of the department chairmen. The letter explained the idea of the murals and asked that

all interested departments get in touch with Joe Robertson. All the work that was done was based primarily on the interest expressed by those departments.

All the murals could not be on walls as planned. Some departmental offices were to move to new locations. Poor wall conditions and the disruption of class operations were other factors.

All but one of the murals were painted on a heavy portable board (masonite) and painted with Latex house paints which are of a water base. The use of these materials was to help enhance the beauty of the wall. The library basement was the only location with a mural painted on the wall.

The English department in the basement of McConnell will have three murals bearing the themes of Perseus, Animal Farm and De-

mian. Another mural will be hung on the right of the entrance to the administrator's office and one dealing with sports in David Matthews office. The registrar's office will be adorned with one also. A mural with a music theme will be hung in the basement of Fine Arts, across from Spainhour Hall. Dean Richard Hoffman's Conference room will bear a mural depicting the Mars Hill emblem and certain campus buildings.

The students were art majors and any other students who had a flair with a brush or a desire to be creative. A creative mood clearly showed in each mural since the students originated and produced their own ideas.

Be looking for these masterpieces when you enter those buildings.



ART PROFESSOR Joe Robertson instructs Renee Whitaker on her mural. (Staff photo by Steve Walker)

Hall Councils Slowed

Due to fewer residents in the dormitories, the hall councils in the women's area were not active but were prepared to deal with any problems that might come up, ac-

cording to Mrs. Mary Anne Joyce, associate dean of student development. George Edwards, men's area coordinator, did encourage the hall councils in the men's dorms to organize activities. Myers arranged for a faculty speaker, Larry Huls, for Monday, Jan. 22, but this engagement was postponed until Feb. 5. The Department of Student Development and Department of Intramurals also organized what is hoped will become an annual miniterm basketball tournament between the halls.

Magic, Myths Studied

By Steve Morris

A study of man's use of magic to control his environment was conducted by Katherine McCoy and Agnes Whitman during the January minimester. The course was divided into three basic sections: background, lecturers,

which included some unnerving speakers, and student reports which could be taken from a list including such diverse topics as acupuncture, Amish, Buddhism, creation myths, demons, dreams, Druids, exorcism, Holy Grail, hypnotism, Mennon-

ites, Rosicrucians, science fiction, werewolves.

Class topics ranged very broadly including quimbanda and umbanda, the symbol of fire, air, earth, and water.

The interest in this course was so great many students

did not get in before it was closed. The 48 students who did get in were divided into two classes. A visit in these classes made it clear that the initial interest had been heightened rather than decreased, as was the case in some classes.

Constitution Questioned

by Mark Grimes

In several interviews with major student body officers during mini-semester, the present SGA constitution was described as being "inadequate" and needed revising.

According to President Duane Cook, the present constitution was in "sad shape, it restricts student government and needs to be revised."

The problem seemed to be one of power. The officers all spoke of confusion

among the three branches of government as what they can and cannot do. Jan Sparks, a senior class senator said, "there's no clear separation of power between any of the government" which, she believed caused much confusion. Larry Pike, SGA vice president said that "the powers of the executive, judicial, and legislative branches of the SGA needed to be redefined."

According to Cook, the "constitution doesn't make clear the relationships be-

tween the three branches of government." For example, he asked:

- Is the Senate supposed to initiate change or the President?

- Is the Senate supposed to work with the President or check the power of the President?

- Is the President supposed to watch the Judicial Branch or is the Chief Justice?

- The SGA officers interviewed said it was not so much that the SGA doesn't get anything done under the present constitution, but that when

something is accomplished, it is not always done by laws of the Constitution.

There seems to be particular problems with committees. The housing committee was responsible for getting color television sets for some of the dorms, but didn't know if the constitution gave them power to do so. There also seem to be some problems as how committees are to be formed.

Cook believed that if the constitution were revised the SGA could better "work as a part of the com-

munity." Pike said that "very early second semester the SGA will begin work on the constitutional revision proposals. According to him, after it is revised, a "two-thirds majority of the senate" and "the student body" must approve the revised constitution before it is acceptable. When Pike was asked if he thinks that the SGA will be more efficient with a revised constitution, he replied, "a revision, in the long run, will be a great help to the students."

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