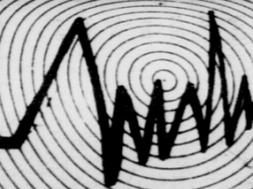


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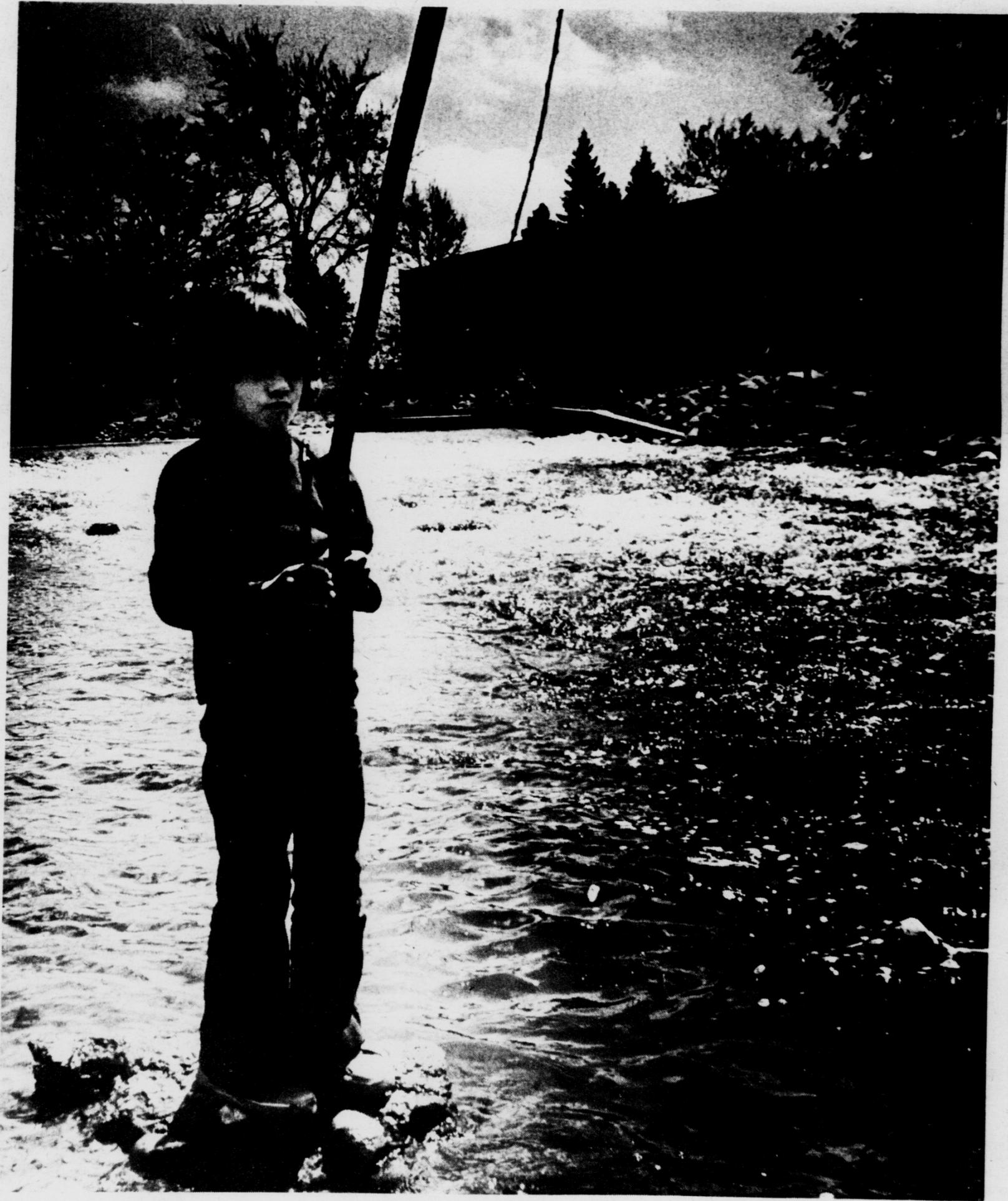
A Bi-Weekly Supplement to the State News

May 14, 1974

Fishing in the Red Cedar

How plants affect you

Black tennis stars shine at MSU and more



Two black

2

Mensa: intelligent people searching for the completely unique experience

By
DENISE CRITTENDON

The steady pace of life has a tendency to bore even the brightest of people, who sometimes get caught up in the humdrum world. That is one of the reasons for Mensa, an international social organization for individuals with high intelligence quotients.

Mensa was founded at a London university in 1945. It was established as a local group in East Lansing in August 1973, when Roy Saper, an MSU graduate student in economics, set up the chapter, one of 125 in the country.

Mensa is a Latin word for round table. It symbolizes equal stature in the group among all members.

Many of them are antique car freaks or civil war freaks. I don't mean they're strange or oddities. I simply mean they're passionately interested in what they are doing."

— Anne Garrison

It was from Saper's late summer plans that the group of Lansing - area residents in different occupations met and began investing their time in the organization, which cultivates the mind with new activities and interesting new people.

According to Saper, who is the local chapter secretary, after an eight - hour day of classes and work, Mensa is an outlet for intelligent people which "fills a void for what

they need."

"If you're exasperated or bored with what you've been doing all day, you look for some alternative, and Mensa is the alternative," he said.

Prior to forming the East Lansing chapter, Saper said, the closest Mensa chapter was located in Detroit and international Mensa members in Lansing were unable to fully participate. Saper, who joined Mensa during high school in Louisville, Ky., said he enjoyed

the Mensa activities there and wanted to join a nearby chapter.

"The good times I had with their group is what prompted me to form a group up here," he said.

To become a member of Mensa, Saper said, an interested person has to meet certain admission requirements and "place in a certain percentage or reach a certain percentile on an IQ test." Depending on the test, a certain score must be reached and the person must be above the 98 percentile rank, he said.

For the Stanford Binet, the standard IQ test most familiar to students, a score of 133 is needed. Some of the other tests are the Weschsler Adult, score 130, the College Entrance Examination Board Aptitude Test, combined score of 1300, and the Graduate Record Exam, combined score 1250. About 30 tests are accepted, allowing for individual preferences.

"Mensa people, locally, give two tests," Saper said, "so if you don't score high enough on one you may score high enough on the other."

Mensa members, who rank in the top 2 per cent of

intelligence ratings of the general population, come from all professions and majors. Saper mentioned Jill St. John, H. R. Haldeman, Theodore Bikel and Isaac Asimov as a few of the international members.

Saper described Mensa activities as a series of game nights, literary sessions and new idea discussions.

The discussions are an important part of the group, Saper said, because they help initiate the sharing of ideas, one of the purposes of Mensa.

"The reason you become a member is to share your common interests with other people, and often they want to share common interests with you," he said.

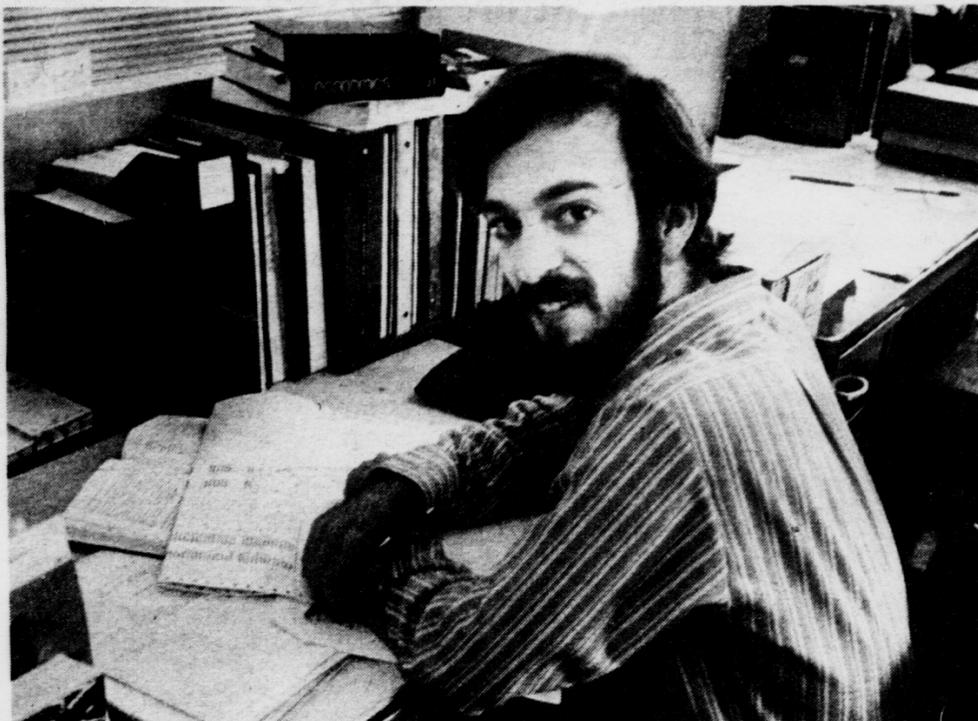
Mark Hoover, an MSU chemical engineering graduate and Mensa member, said the group gives him the opportunity to associate with others and exchange ideas.

One idea, in particular, is his remote control robot which is designed to salvage objects from abandoned, underwater ships. Hoover is a self-employed inventor and says most people seem frightened by his ideas.

"They think I'm going to take over the world, which is true, or that my inventions won't leave people anything to do, which is not true," he said.

Anne Garrison, professor of business law and office administration, said she was a member of Mensa for 10 years

(continued on page 7)



Roy Saper, Mensa member, goes over computer printouts. Saper helped start the chapter of high IQ students at MSU.

Photo by Dave Olds

Two black tennis players slice their way in Big Ten

By
JOE KIRBY

Tennis has traditionally been a game associated with the color white, but in recent years other colors have entered the game.

Tennis balls come in colors like green and pink and some of the players are now black. Currently MSU has two black players on its tennis teams, Dave Williams and Allison Scruggs.

Williams, a senior, competing in his third and final year on the tennis team, has spent the past 14 years playing tennis.

While the Chris Everts of the tennis world were taking private lessons on a backyard court, Williams was learning how to play at a summer recreation center in Newport News, Va., with a \$1.98 tennis racket.

"I did it because I was too small for football and too short for basketball," Williams said.

Williams stuck with tennis and as a sophomore in high school was asked by Walter Johnson to play on the American Tennis Assn. (ATA) junior development team during the summer.

The ATA is a national program for black tennis players and it was Johnson who helped develop black tennis star Arthur Ashe in his Virginia program.

Williams spent two summers playing for Johnson and says, "It made me a sharp tennis player."

Being a black tennis player in Virginia did present some problems since for many years blacks were not allowed to compete in the same high school championships with whites. Blacks were also not allowed to play in tournaments at some country clubs.

Finally, in his senior year the white and black schools were merged.



In his first opportunity to play against white students in a state high school championship Williams placed fourth and thus became the first black in Virginia to place in a high school championship.

Following graduation from high school Williams won a scholarship to Hampton Institute, a predominantly black college in Virginia only a few miles from his home.

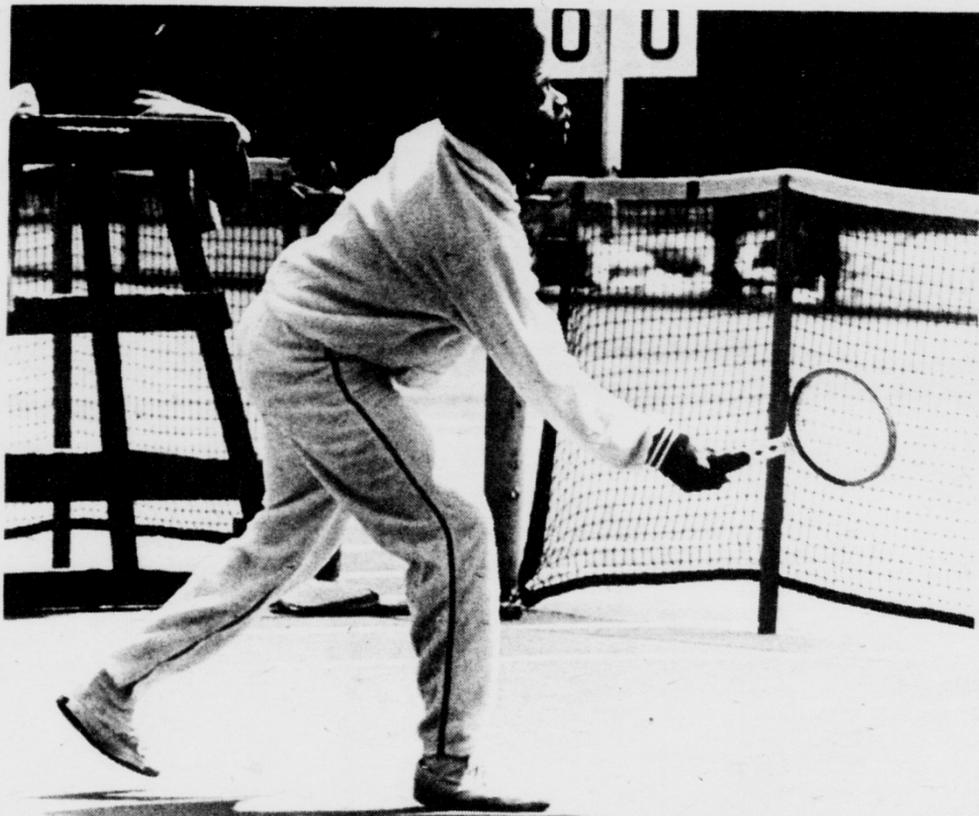
But, after playing a year at Hampton Williams was dissatisfied and wanted to transfer to a school where the competition was stiffer.

"At Hampton, the best players in the conference were on Hampton's team," he said.

After transferring to MSU, Williams had to sit out his first year on the team, but the following year he became the No. 2 player, a position he held until this year when he dropped to third.

"I improved my total game just by being here," Williams said. "The competition really helped my game."

(continued on page 7)



Above, Dave Williams waits before warming up on the courts. Left, Williams returns his opponent's shot. Right, Allison Scruggs executes a

precision backhand.

Photos by John Martell



Spring has sprung; So have MSU plants

By
JOHN TINGWELL

The bone-chilling April showers have come and gone — May has finally arrived. Rather than standing under an umbrella and watching buds and shoots pop out of the ground, the time has arrived to deliberately “forget” your 1:50 p.m. class in Berkey Hall to catch an eyeful of nature and plenty of sun in the horticulture gardens.

And why not? What better place is there to enjoy botanical beauty than at MSU, one of the few places left where people do not outnumber plants.

Fall term, horticulture students planted 5,000 tulip bulbs in the gardens located next to the Student Services Building. Imported from Holland, the bulbs cost between 10 and 15

cents each. Besides tulips, almost 3,000 petunias, 2,000 to 3,000 chrysanthemums and 500 geraniums will adorn the grounds.

On other parts of campus, employees of the park and planning department will transplant some 25,000 plants from Beaumont Nursery to the grounds near the Administration Building, the Library and Kellogg Center before the end of May. This figure includes 12,000 petunias, 2,900 begonias, 2,800 impatiens and 92 varieties of annuals. In all, 422 species and varieties of herbaceous (stemmed) plants will enhance the campus this summer. In addition, 9,000 woody plants, like English ivy and honeysuckle, will be planted during May.

MSU maintenance workers will plant 2,000 pounds of grass seed and dump 72 tons of fertilizer on campus to spruce up for spring.

Terrariums: How to keep your mini-garden mighty

By
PAT NARDI

Do-it-yourself terrariums are rapidly becoming a common sight in residence hall rooms and apartments. Many students choose uniquely shaped jars and aquariums to house their mini-gardens, which are self-maintaining if built correctly.

“Terrariums are popular with students because you can ignore them,” commented a salesgirl at Stanger’s greenery, 230 MAC Ave. “They take care of themselves.”

Terrariums can be likened to incubators. They provide a protective environment in which temperature and humidity are carefully controlled.

It’s not hard to establish the self-maintaining terrarium, if do-it-yourselfers follow basic steps to insure proper humidity, temperature and lighting.

A layer of gravel and crushed charcoal is the first ingredient on the bottom of the container to insure proper drainage. This drainage prevents soil from getting “sour,” a condition in which water turns stagnant after sitting too long in the soil.

A layer of potting soil should go on top of the charcoal and be at least as thick as the dirt in the pot from which the plant is transferred. The plant should be watered in the pot its bought in before transplanting, so that the soil doesn’t fall apart.

After arranging the plants to satisfaction, one can achieve imaginative finishing touches by adding stones, pieces of wood, colored gravel and ceramic insects or frogs.

Overwatering is the major cause of terrarium failure. If the soil is slightly moist when first planted, only one-fourth cup of water is needed to last for several months in a covered terrarium. Occasional condensation on the sides of the container is evidence of the natural rain cycle occurring.

Fred Flassig, assistant manager of Barnes Floral, 215 Ann St., warned against overwatering: “If you see water condensed on the side for three or four days and the plants start looking a little soggy, you’d better uncover them.”

Light and temperature should also be regulated in terrariums. Extremes in temperature should be avoided. An indirect light is needed, and terrariums should be rotated often so that tropism (leaning towards the light) is not evident.

According to the greenery department of Stanger’s, appropriate low-growing plants for terrariums include: pothos, fittonia, English ivy, prayer plant, fernoshia fern, palms, baby’s tears and artillery plants.

Taller centerpiece plants include: Chinese evergreen, maidenhair fern, dracaena florida beauty, nephthytis, dracaena sanderiana and peperomia.



Photo by Bob Kaye

A mini-garden in a mayonnaise jar is only one of inexhaustible ideas for unique and beautiful greenery. This one is in a Wonders Hall room.

COUNTERPOINT

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Jane Seaberry is Counterpoint director. Persons wishing to contribute to future issues should contact the State News.

\$17.1 million said spent on Nixon's homes

WASHINGTON (AP) — A House committee approved 36-0 Tuesday a report saying that \$17.1 million in federal money has been spent in connection with President Nixon's private homes.

The report said action should be taken to recover any improper expenditures — without alleging any specific improper spending on the Nixon homes — and recommended that permanent security systems in the future be limited to only one of a president's private residences.

The report blames the \$17.1 million in expenditures largely on what it calls inadequate spending management by federal agencies.

"As a result," it says, "government expenditures for all purposes at privately owned property have risen from practically nothing during the Roosevelt - Truman era to over \$5 million in the Johnson administration and over \$17 million during the first

five years of the Nixon administration."

All but two Republicans on the House Operations Committee joined Democrats in approving the report. It attributed the high cost primarily to loose spending by the Secret Service and other agencies and the fact that Nixon has three properties.

The report also recommends that the government be reimbursed for any spending to improve a president's home.

It concludes that some of the spending on Nixon homes was "far in excess" of security requests.

Chairman Jack Brooks, D - Tex., of the subcommittee that drafted the report, said one of the primary reasons the cost is so high is that Nixon has three properties to protect.

"These are \$17.1 million costs that would not have occurred," Brooks said, "if the President had not had those homes."

The report says the \$17.1 million — \$9 million for San

Clemente, Calif., \$8 million for Key Biscayne, Fla. and \$176,000 for the Grand Cay retreat in the Bahamas — includes all personnel, communications and other protection costs.

Rep. John Buchanan of Alabama joined fellow Republicans in saying that the report accurately concludes that excessive security spending — some of it for home items procured by Nixon's aides rather than proper agencies — should be controlled.

Buchanan later told newsmen that the overwhelming Republican vote for the findings of excessive spending should not damage Nixon.

"But in view of the way things have been going," he said, "Yes, I think it may do him some damage."

The report's harshest recommendation affecting President Nixon says "appropriate government agencies should seek restitution or take other appropriate action with respect to any

improper expenditure of federal funds."

The report alleges no specific improper spending on Nixon's homes and that no effort was made by any Republican to knock that recommendation out of the report.

The report elsewhere includes, under "unauthorized expenditures," a \$388.78 fireplace exhaust fan and \$4,815 in property survey secured for San Clemente under the direction of the President's then personal lawyer, Herbert Kalmbach, and paid after the fact by federal agencies.

It says Nixon aides also contracted or bought \$5,000 worth of brass lanterns, a beach cabana, paving and a sewer line at San Clemente for which the government later paid.

It accuses the federal agencies involved of having "abused the discretion given them" by the fact that Congress has not put restraints on spending for protecting presidents and other officials.

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Judiciary panel ends first full day of hearings; finds evidence gaps

FROM WIRE SERVICES

WASHINGTON — The House Judiciary Committee, digging deeper into the Watergate coverup as part of its impeachment hearings, found more gaps in the evidence Tuesday as a result of the White House refusal to supply more tapes.

At the close of the first full day of hearings, chief counsel John Doar recommended the committee consider issuing subpoenas Wednesday for as many as 10 of the 76 presidential conversations it has requested.

Chairman Peter Rodino, D - N.J., said the request will be considered at a 9 a.m. meeting Wednesday before the committee resumes hearing evidence gathered by the impeachment inquiry staff.

A legal brief opposing Doar's request, prepared by President Nixon's chief Watergate lawyer, James St. Clair, was rejected by the committee on the grounds it contained confidential material.

St. Clair's brief had been distributed when objections were raised that it dealt with secret grand jury evidence covered in a closed - door session last week.

The committee is conducting this phase of the inquiry in secret to protect individuals mentioned in that evidence.

For that reason Rodino ruled St. Clair's memo as unacceptable.

One member said St. Clair's brief also concluded that the committee had no need to subpoena an April 4, 1972, tape in an effort to discover whether Nixon had prior knowledge of the Watergate break - in because evidence furnished by the White House makes it clear he did not.

The April 4 conversation took place four days after the plan for the Watergate break - in had been approved by Nixon's re - election committee, according to testimony by committee official Jeb Stuart Magruder. In addition to that conversation, Doar cited nine other gaps in the evidence he is presenting to the committee.

Six deal with meetings and telephone conversations on June 20, 1972, between Nixon and his former aides H. R. Haldeman and Charles Colson. Also, tapes of three meetings between Nixon and Haldeman on June 23, 1972, were not supplied to the committee, Doar said.

In material justifying a request for a subpoena, Doar noted that the June 20 meetings and conversations took place after Nixon had conferred by telephone with former Atty. Gen. John Mitchell.

The White House has said this conversation, the first between Nixon and

Mitchell after the break - in, took place on a telephone not included in the White House recording system.

House members describe the material as interesting and illuminating. Rep. Jerome Waldie, D - Calif., asked whether what he had heard tended toward impeachment rather than away from it answered, "Yes. I wish I could say more."

During the first day's hearings last Thursday, Doar recommended the April 4 tape be subpoenaed. The talk took place between Nixon, Haldeman and Mitchell.

The Judiciary Committee also obtained public documents on the inquest into the death of Mary Jo Kopechne, but its chairman said Tuesday the papers were wanted solely for procedural guidance — and proved useless.

Rodino said the panel's interest in the legal briefs had no connection with the Chappaquiddick incident itself or upon Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D - Mass., in whose car Miss Kopechne died.

In another Watergate - related matter, the New York Times disclosed Monday that Nixon has sent a letter to a federal judge saying that the White House plumbers unit was operating under a general delegation of his authority when it broke into the office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist.

The Times quoted highly reliable sources as saying the letter went from Nixon to U.S. District Judge Gerhard A. Gesell in Washington.

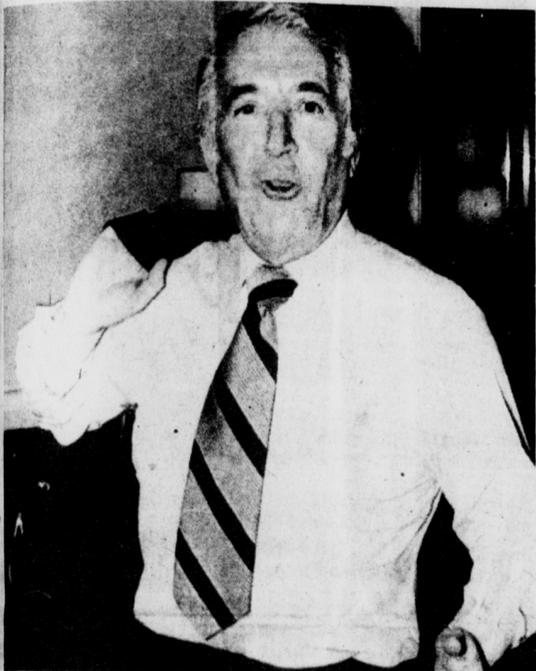
With the submission of Nixon's letter, some lawyers said, the defendants have greatly improved their chances of successfully arguing that their intent was to follow the President's instructions on a matter of national security.

Democratic leaders said Tuesday that Republicans were trying to save their political necks by calling for Nixon's resignation and made clear they want his fate to be decided by the constitutional process of impeachment.

Key Senate Republicans, meanwhile, agreed that a presidential resignation would be a mistake, but they declined to go along with a White House suggestion they organize an effort to oppose it.

Tom Korologos, the White House's chief Senate liaison man, suggested an organized effort to several senators while GOP senators were holding their weekly policy luncheon.

At least one of those approached by Korologos, Sen. Norris Cotton, R - N.H., said he didn't see any value in an organized effort, even though he strongly opposes Nixon's resignation.



AP Wirephoto

Chairman Peter W. Rodino, D - N.J., of the House Judiciary Committee leaves his office for the Tuesday afternoon impeachment probe session. The committee found more gaps in White House evidence.

Rising drug robberies worry MSU police

First of a two part series

By PETE DALY
State News Staff Writer

Before 1967 the most common criminal activity in MSU residence halls often resulted in a bad hangover the day after.

Today alcohol use by students on campus is no longer illegal, but the widespread dealing of illegal drugs has far increased the hazard of a student suffering an armed assault during one of the ever - increasing drug ripoffs.

Campus police records show that for several years (beginning and ending in July) 1964 through 1967 there were no armed robberies on campus. However, for 1967-68 there was one, and three were recorded for the year after that. By 1969-70 the number had increased to six.

"I think that's when we started having drug problems on campus," said William A. Badgley, head of the campus police investigations division.

During 1971-72 the number of armed robberies on campus leaped to 12. For 1972-73 the number was nine, all of which

took place in residence halls and were definitely attempts to secure drugs or the money collected from the sale of drugs, Badgley said.

So far this year the campus police have investigated eight armed robberies.

But Richard O. Bernitt, campus police director, said he could think of only one conviction in the last two years for an on - campus robbery. He blamed that low figure on the reluctance of many victims to report the crime and testify in court.

Campus police said that probably most of the robberies go unreported because the victim thinks he will be prosecuted for possession of drugs.

"We can't charge a person with possession who had his drugs stolen because we have to have the drugs as evidence," Badgley said.

The increasing number of on - campus armed robberies of drug dealers has fueled the recent controversy concerning the role of residence hall assistants (RAs). In September Gary North, coordinator of residence halls, issued a new policy aimed

at cutting down the increasing number of armed robberies in residence halls. Under that policy resident assistants are required to turn in drug dealers.

Following the armed robbery in April of an Akers Hall pot dealer, an Akers Hall RA, Jerome Jacobs, was asked to resign because he had not reported the pot dealer. A group of resident advisers has since asked North to reconsider his action against Jacobs.

The primary concern of police and administration officials on campus is that someone will be seriously wounded or killed during a drug - related holdup.

"Last year two arrests were made

following the armed robbery of a pot dealer in a residence hall. One of those arrested was a parole violator and the other was an escapee from Jackson prison who had been convicted of murder," Badgley said.

"These are the kinds of people we are dealing with," he said.

Badgley said in one incident in June 1973, a student in Armstrong Hall surprised a prowler in the room of another student, who allegedly sold marijuana. As the student pursued the stranger down a stairwell, the fugitive suddenly turned and fired a pistol, missing the student by about six inches. Campus police later

removed a .45 slug from the wall.

"Now that is a case where a person totally uninvolved with drug dealing just happened to walk into a robbery and was almost killed," Badgley said.

Campus police said they are sure that probably none of the armed robbers are students, but are probably the typical drifters that often hang around drug - use areas.

"We often find out that these suspects have been hanging around that dorm for a while before the robbery, but that nobody paid any attention to them," Badgley said.

The most typical victim of a robbery is the student who sells a pound or two of

marijuana a week. He makes a modest profit selling the pot by the lid, and also gets his own stash free. Successful small - scale dealers of this type are often well known in residence halls, making them visible to prospective robbers.

"If we can eliminate the selling in residence halls, then we will also eliminate those armed robberies," Badgley said.

But, he added, the great number of small - time pot dealers on campus are not of prime interest to campus police.

"We know we have a few pretty big dealers of all kinds of drugs on this campus, and that is who we are watching," Badgley said.



Taken from the top of Owen Graduate Center, this time lapse photograph of 2 1/2 minutes shows the intricate patterns left by

automobile headlights of MSU night traffic on the Farm Lane - Bogue Street traffic circle.

SN photo/Dale Atkins

Hall students surprised by arrest in pot incident

It didn't seem right to one Snyder Hall student.

It didn't seem right to him that campus police should bust Chris Barnes, 371 Snyder Hall.

But they did.

As the result of an investigation by the County Metro Squad, Barnes was arrested Monday night and charged with possession of marijuana.

What didn't seem right about the bust was that residents did not consider Barnes a drug time dealer.

The student who didn't want to be identified said he had seen people who didn't live in Snyder Hall going around asking people where they could buy drugs and he suspected they were undercover agents.

"You think he would be smart enough not to sell to people he didn't know," he said.

Geoffrey Howes, 368 Snyder, said the police being in the building made him nervous and must have put a lot of pressure on the RA.

comment on the arrest.

Students living on the third floor in Snyder Hall were surprised by the arrest.

"I didn't like it, I thought it was kind of scary, like a police state," Bill McDowell, 369 Snyder Hall, said.

McDowell's roommate, Steve Hughey, said he was shocked by the idea of police coming into the residence halls.

"It didn't seem right having those guys in here," Hughey said.

Another student who did not want to be identified said he had seen people who didn't live in Snyder Hall going around asking people where they could buy drugs and he suspected they were undercover agents.

"You think he would be smart enough not to sell to people he didn't know," he said.

Geoffrey Howes, 368 Snyder, said the police being in the building made him nervous and must have put a lot of pressure on the RA.

Plants and humans

Black aid, Greek conflict may come to an end

By
IRENE EVANS

When Teresa Combs, 275 Phillips Hall, sophomore, and Barbara Simmons, B210 Rather Hall, sophomore, lost their jobs as black aides in their respective residence halls because they were pledging a sorority, their first reaction was to protest.

"On the spot, it didn't seem fair that we should be fired," Simmons said. "But if you think about it, especially the time elements that were involved, you can tell it's fair."

A number of black aides have lost their jobs in the last two years because they pledged a sorority or fraternity. However, almost all chose pledging over their black aide positions.

Many fired aides complained about the inconveniences of the matter — that their rooms would have to be changed, financial aid programs altered and about other problems because of their firing.

Carl Taylor, head of the black aide program, explained the rationale behind the termination of many black aides that pledge sororities or fraternities.

"I'm not anti - Greek," Taylor said. "But for the past two years, I have emphasized in workshops and before contracts were signed that aides should not pledge."

"The job is too demanding for someone who's pledging. An aide's first function is responsibility,

and this job is for the whole black student body," he said.

Both Combs and Simmons agreed that pledging could affect an aide's performance.

"Pledging affects the activities you can initiate, but it does not affect your personal contact with students," Combs said.

"People still come and talk to me because I have established a working relationship with the people in the hall," Simmons said. "I think I will miss being a black aide because it's something you really take a lot of pride in."

"I think students will still see me and Teresa as black aides no matter who replaces us," Simmons added.

Though termination of aides that pledge is not written in the 1973-74 contracts, the rule has been used with only two exceptions in the past two years.

"It was an unwritten rule that I inherited when I first got the job," Taylor said. "But, for this fall and thereafter, it will be in the contracts."

"Whenever someone is hired as an aide, they are told before they sign that pledging is out."

"I really didn't think I would be fired," Simmons said. "Though I knew I wasn't supposed to pledge, I always had this ray of hope, especially since the first part of the year had been so good, that I could keep my job. I really felt my performance as black aide and complex coordinator had been faultless."

Taylor explained that only the pledging



Carl Taylor, director of minority affairs, has come under fire by many black students for firing black aides who choose to pledge sororities or fraternities.

Photo by Mark Wiedelman

influenced the termination of Simmons and Combs as black aides.

"If a person is qualified, he or she is qualified," he said. "But no one is an octopus, and they don't have eight arms enabling them to do eight things at once."

"If students complain because they can't get in touch with their aide, what can I say to them? 'Your aide is pledging' just doesn't take care of it," he said.

Taylor wrote letters to all black sororities and fraternities stating that he would meet with them to discuss the policy.

"I feel that pledging is an extracurricular activity, and it's not a must for any student," Taylor said.

Both Combs and Simmons said if they could do it over again, they would pledge and sacrifice their jobs.



Barbara Simmons, left, and Teresa Combs, right, were black aides in Rather and Phillips halls, respectively, before their firing by Carl Taylor, director of minority affairs, for pledging Delta Sigma Theta sorority.

Photos by Dale Atkins



Smart people don't just read dictionaries. They have a good time, too.

(continued from page 2)

before joining what she called the lively chapter here. She said she joined originally out of curiosity and finds the people in the East Lansing chapter intriguing, though most are younger than she.

"They're likely to take their hobbies seriously and that's the way hobbies should be taken," Garrison said.

"Many of them are antique car freaks or Civil War freaks." "I don't mean they're strange or odd; I simply mean they are passionately interested in what they are doing," she said.

Garrison said a few people seem to think of the smart individual as one with an "enormous head who sits in the corner reading dictionaries," but who, in reality, has a good time.

"You can have more fun using your mind if you enjoy using your mind, just like you can have fun eating steak if you enjoy eating steak," she said.

The only husband and wife members of the chapter, Pat and Peg Wolfe, agreed that Mensa was excellent for conversation and interaction.

"It gives us someone else to bounce ideas off instead of each other all the time," Peg Wolfe said.

"We wanted a group that we could relate with mostly. We thought it would be interesting to see other people who are supposedly intelligent interact."



(continued from page 3)

Williams has been team captain the last two years and has become involved in the recently organized tennis club.

His future plans are to win the Big Ten championship, attend graduate school at MSU and then coach tennis on a college level.

"It's been tennis that's given me everything — travel, academics," Williams said. "Fourteen years ago I never knew this would happen."

Allison Scruggs learned to play tennis at a summer recreation program in Detroit when she was 13 - years - old. She said she became interested in tennis when Arthur Ashe was beginning to make headlines on sports pages.



Allison Scruggs stands beside Diane Suterko, another women's team member. The duo, doubles partners, won this year's Big Ten doubles championship. Photo by John Martell

Tennis

To say that her instruction was not quite professional would be an understatement. Her instructor at the recreation center taught her to hold the racket wrong and it wasn't until the past few years that she began smoothing her strokes.

Scruggs also became involved with the ATA, playing on the Detroit junior development team and the Motor City Tennis Club, headed by Eddie Frazier.

Scruggs plays for personal satisfaction and came to MSU because people she played against in high school, like Sue Sulke, the current No. 1 player on the women's team, were coming to MSU.

For the past two years the MSU women's tennis team has won the Big Ten championship and Scruggs credits coach Elaine Hatten for much of their success.

Scruggs, a junior in urban development, has won her number four position in each of the two Big Ten championships, which is a record.

Scruggs said she was disappointed because of poor publicity the women's team received after they won the championship, adding that the men's team probably would have received better play.

She also said she hasn't encountered any problems by being the only black on the team and one of the few in the Big Ten. "At first it took a little getting used to," she said.

Her immediate goal is to win the ATA nationals in Washington, D.C., this summer and hopefully help revive a sagging black women's tennis program because "There aren't any black girls coming up in tennis," she said.

Scruggs feels that if a younger player like herself or Williams could win the nationals and get on the pro tour they could help black tennis players the way Ashe did.

Scruggs would also like to see scholarships for women athletes, something she thinks may be in the near future.

By that time Scruggs maybe on her way to bigger and better things in the tennis world.

"I'd like to go as far as I can," she said, flashing a smile that makes people hope she makes it all the way to the top.

Red Cedar fishing: for fun, sport and lower food costs

By
PETE DALY

According to various MSU legends — some accurate and some not — the Red Cedar River is full of assorted junk, sewage and nasty organisms.

As a matter of fact, the Red Cedar also thrives with more than 23 species of fish, including 10 - pound northern pike.

The river has become much cleaner since a massive campaign began in 1965 to stop the sewage flow into it. Fish population in the river has risen steadily since then, but public unawareness of that fact has left it largely unfished.

However, the major snag stopping people from fishing the campus stretch of the Red Cedar is an MSU ordinance prohibiting hunting and fishing.

As a declared Michigan wildlife refuge, the MSU campus is off - limits to hunters. However, that Michigan law does not include a prohibition on fishing.

Because the Red Cedar is considered state property under the jurisdiction of the state Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) Tom Doyle, a habitat protection specialist in the Fisheries Division of the DNR, thinks the MSU ordinance may be illegal.

"If a person was prosecuted under that ordinance for fishing on campus, and they asked the DNR to appear in court for them as a friendly witness, the DNR might do it," Doyle said.

Peter I. Tack, an MSU professor of fisheries and wildlife with a doctorate in ichthyology, has recently caught as many as 23 species of fish on the campus stretch of the Red Cedar. Many of those are of the minnow variety, but game fish caught by Tack include smallmouth bass, northern pike, rock bass, bluegills, bullheads and crappies.

Tack said the river was good for fishing up to 1950, when the amount of raw sewage began to reach levels intolerable for the fish.

In the early 1960s Tack and some of his graduate students counted 68 sewers emptying into the Red Cedar on the campus alone.

"We started quite a ruckus to clean up the Red Cedar through the campus. John Hannah (MSU



president at that time) saw our report and he saw to it that something was done about it," Tack said.

Tack said many of those sewers were storm drains from streets in East Lansing and the campus, which washed a lot of silt into the river, covering many beds of pebbles which supplied the fish with food in the form of insects. Tack said the fish population was lowered by the loss of two - thirds of its food supply.

A few of the sewers located by Tack and his group were more dangerous than storm drains.

"There was an 18 - inch sewer emptying into the river behind the Women's IM. It was spewing out toilet paper, feces, diced carrots from the dorm kitchens, all kinds of raw sewage. Ugh!" Tack said.

After the word leaked out, a big interceptor sewer system was built to safely reroute the known sewers away from the river.

"There might still be a couple of sewers emptying into the campus stretch of the river, but I don't know of any," Tack said.

At the same time, the city of Williamston stopped dumping its raw sewage into the Red Cedar and other upstream areas began cracking down on the river's polluters.

Tack said fish caught in the Red Cedar are perfectly safe to eat if they are cooked. He explained that fish caught anywhere in Michigan are liable to carry the broad tapeworm, which comes from dog droppings contaminating their water. Raw consumption of fish carrying the

worm can introduce it in the human body, where serious harm may result.

"But the way people normally fry fish is more than adequate to kill any broad tapeworms in it," Tack said.

Tack said he occasionally fishes the Red Cedar, using a fly rod or an ultra - light spinning rod. He reports that the best fishing is usually upstream from the Hagadorn Road bridge, but that fruitful but illegal angling could be accomplished right on campus.

What would Tack recommend to people who wanted to catch fish in the Red Cedar?

"Just scoop up a can of worms and go to work," he said.

One person who has been doing just that for a few years is Randy Cain, a 24 - year - old self - employed salesman who lives at Park Trace apartments in Okemos. Randy fishes the Red Cedar from the campus up to Williamston, often practically in his own backyard.

In August Cain landed a 36 - inch northern pike weighing 10 pounds. He caught the lunger behind Collingwood apartments, using light spinning gear with a Mepps spinner. It was his first cast of the day.

"He didn't fight too much. I think he was pretty old and tired," Cain said.

He said the best thing about fishing the Red Cedar is that it is never crowded with other fishermen.

"People just aren't aware of the fish that are in that river," he said.



Two students enjoy the refreshing ripples of the Red Cedar river behind the Administration Building on one of East Lansing's better days.

Photo by Dave Olds