

By SUE HALE

# DORM.

## Missouri Alumni . . .

heard more than 1,000 spots on TV and radio promoting your alumni association during the first couple of months this year.

Forty stations throughout the state ran the 15-second spots without charge as public service announcements. The idea was conceived by alumnus Tom Heapes of St. Louis and the spots were prepared for the media — again without charge — by John McIntosh Jr., who is associated with an advertising firm in Memphis, Tennessee.

It was part of a general campaign to increase the visibility of the Association and to support a membership drive being conducted at the same time.

The January-February newspaper edition of the *Missouri Alumnus* was another part of the total campaign. It went to all alumni — dues payers and non-dues payers alike. The *Alumnus* magazine goes only to dues-payers.

Active alumni also should be pleased to learn that a special committee is now exploring a whole range of new benefit possibilities that soon may be offered dues-paying members.

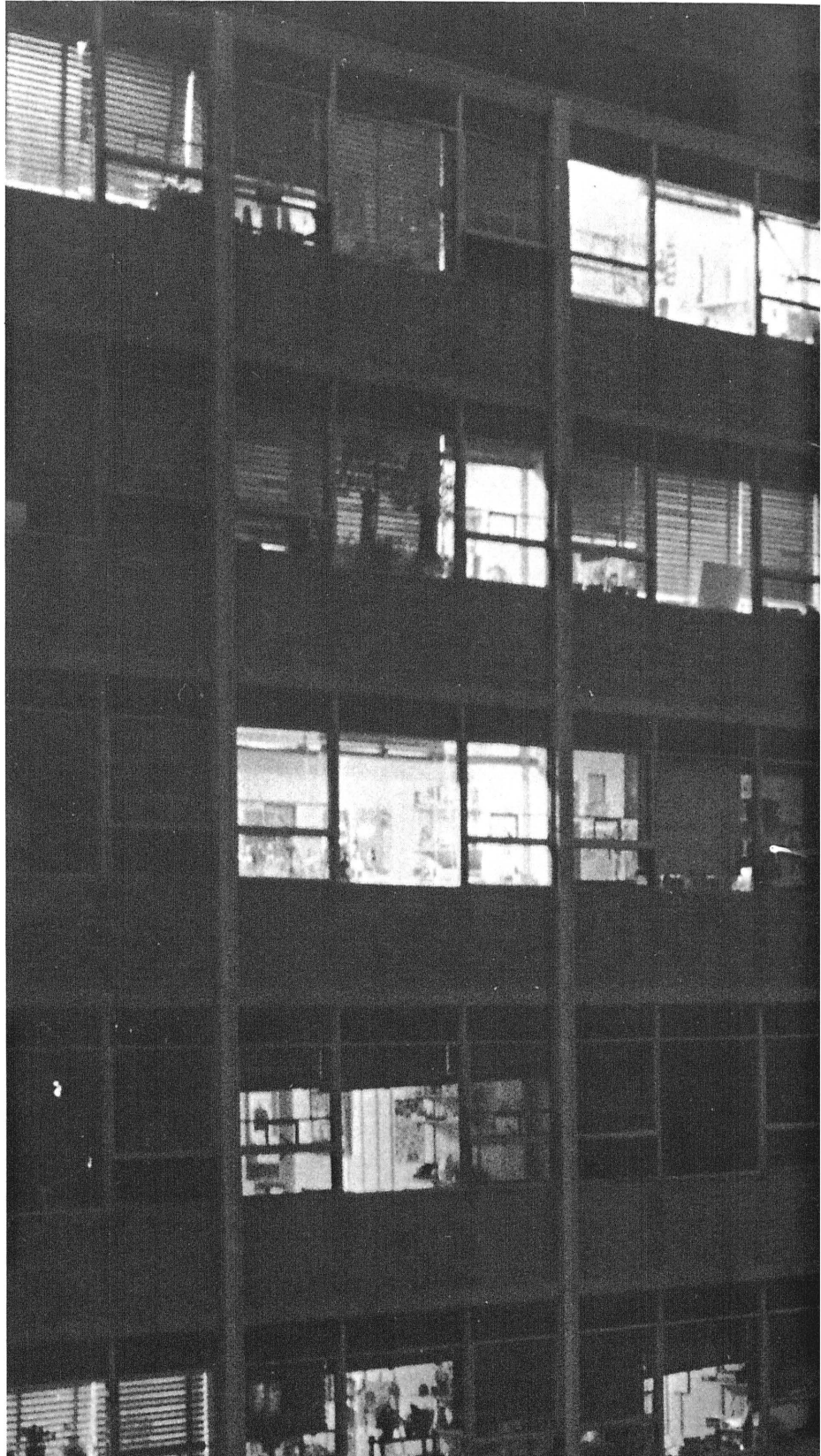
— S.S.

## MISSOURI alumnus

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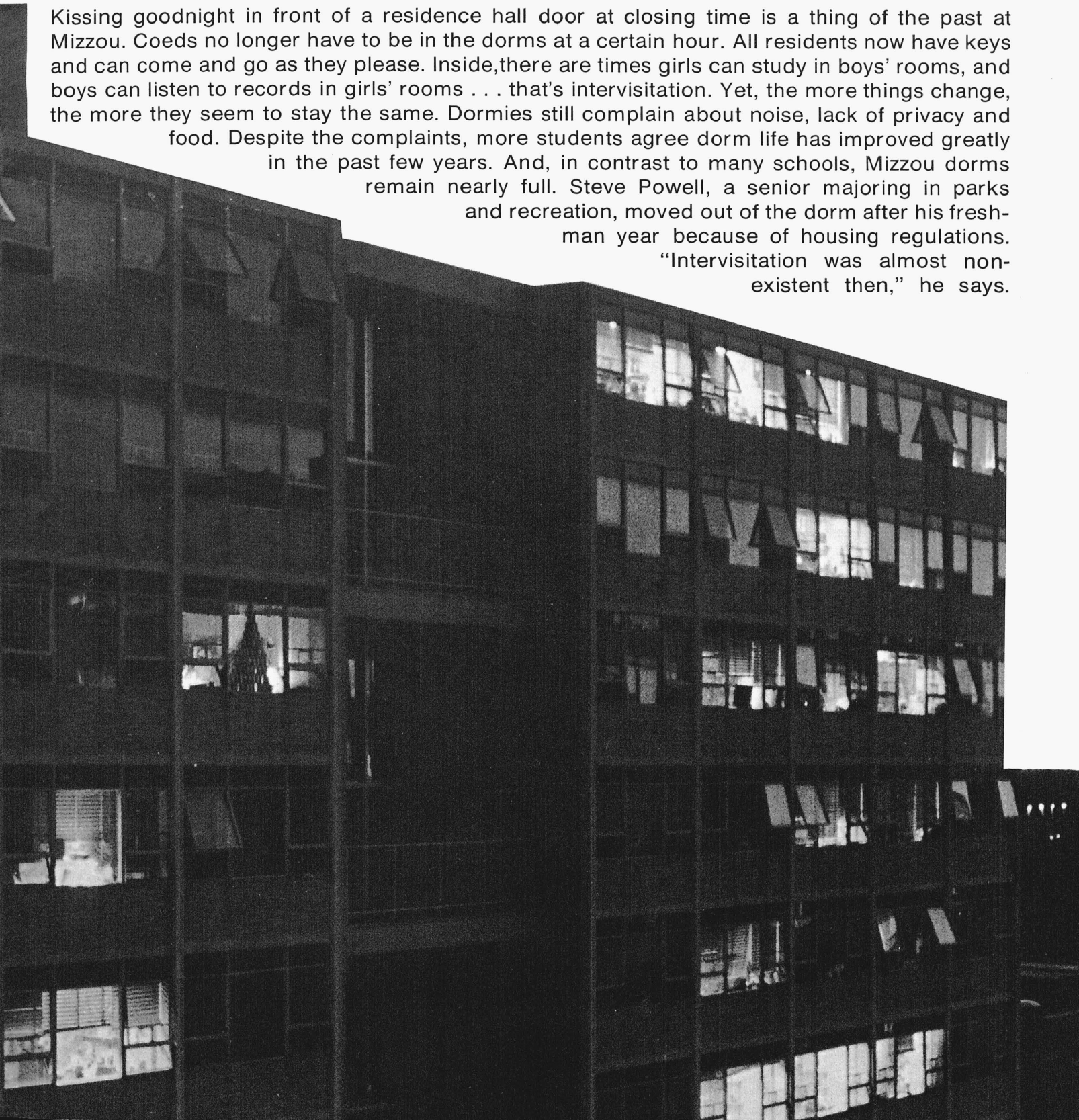
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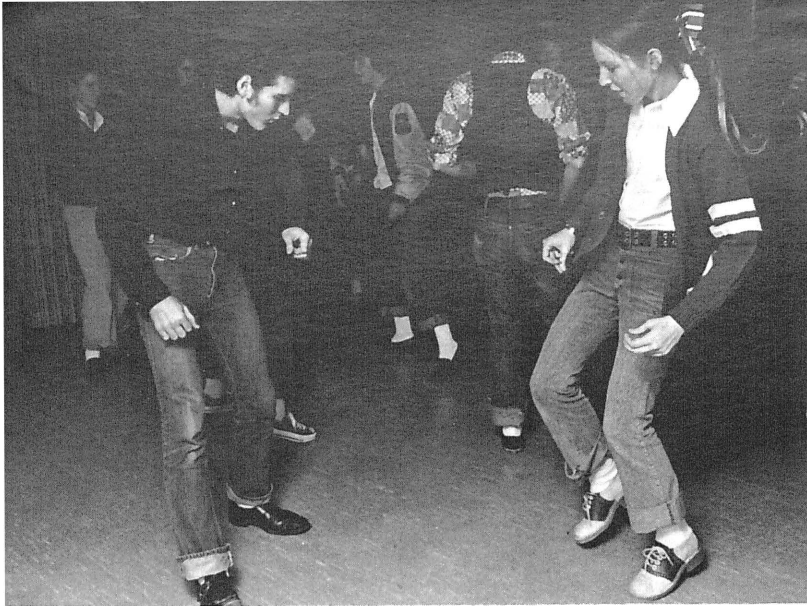
# SWEET DORM

Kissing goodnight in front of a residence hall door at closing time is a thing of the past at Mizzou. Coeds no longer have to be in the dorms at a certain hour. All residents now have keys and can come and go as they please. Inside, there are times girls can study in boys' rooms, and boys can listen to records in girls' rooms . . . that's intervisitation. Yet, the more things change, the more they seem to stay the same. Dormies still complain about noise, lack of privacy and food. Despite the complaints, more students agree dorm life has improved greatly in the past few years. And, in contrast to many schools, Mizzou dorms remain nearly full. Steve Powell, a senior majoring in parks and recreation, moved out of the dorm after his freshman year because of housing regulations.

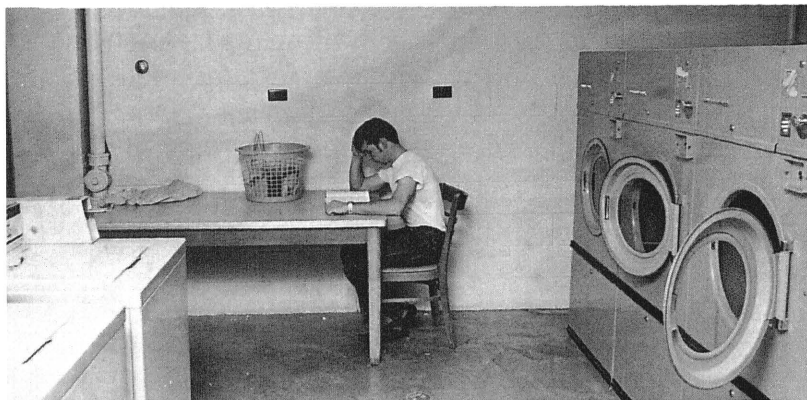
"Intervisitation was almost non-existent then," he says.



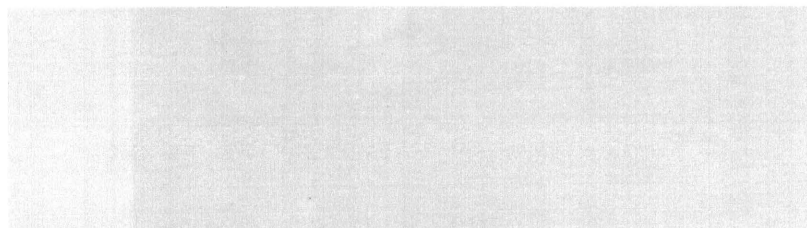




Nostalgia is in. And '50s parties, complete with bobby sox and ponytails, are the current fad. The costumes are almost half the fun.



If you're down to your last shirt, this place is unavoidable. But students sometimes wind up with shrunken jeans or pink undies.



KACK radio is one of the benefits of dorm life. The station is sponsored by IRHA, and broadcasts to the dormitories on Campus.

"There were a lot of petty rules, too, like requiring men to wear suits to Sunday dinner." This past fall, Steve moved back. "Restrictions have eased up a lot. Also I missed the social activities and intramural sports available in the house." (Residence halls are divided by floors or sections into "houses.") "I even missed the food. When you live on TV dinners nine months out of the year, you learn to appreciate dorm food. I lost ten pounds when I lived in an apartment."

Barb Neuner, a junior and a personnel assistant in Russell House, says the main advantage of living in a dorm is people. "It's a great place to make friends." As a PA, Barb helps students with personal problems, encourages participation in house activities and is responsible for interpreting policies and rules in the house. In return, she receives room and board. The University employs a personnel assistant for each house in a dorm. "The job as PA had a lot to do with my remaining in the dorm," Barb says. "But, if it hadn't been for the expansion of open house policies, I probably would have moved into an apartment, anyway."

Open house programs are presently determined a semester at a time by a majority vote of 70 percent of the members of each house, Harold Condra, director of housing says. The students decide the number of days and hours they want their house open for visits by members of the opposite sex. Maximum hours allowed are from 1 p.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and from 1 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights. All dorms have voted for some periods of intervisitation.

The Independent Residence Hall Association, the student governing body for dormitories, is working to liberalize open-house policies. "Many students disagree with the rule requiring a supervisor on the floor during open house," Rick Althaus, IRHA president, says. "Some of the students also feel it is unnecessary to sign guests in and out. It is handy to be able to check the sign-in sheet to find out if your roommate has a girl in the room, however."

IRHA would especially like to initiate a program where hall lounges would remain open on a 24-hour basis, Althaus says. "Then when open house hours are over, students would have a place to go to study or just talk to friends." Althaus hopes that if restrictions continue to ease, more

upperclass students will choose to live in the dorms.

University rules now require most freshmen to live in dormitories or other University supervised housing, such as fraternities and sororities, cooperatives or Mark Twain, a privately owned residence hall under the general purview of the housing office. About 50 percent of dorm residents are freshmen. Twenty-five percent are sophomores; 13 percent, juniors; 8 percent seniors; and 4 percent, graduate students. Following the freshmen year, students are free to live wherever they wish.

Janice Howard is one student who wants to move off-campus next fall. "Mizzou dorms are just too restrictive and conservative," she says. "A friend of mine goes to KU. The dorms are much more liberal there." KU has coed dorms available, and others have a 24-hour intervisitation option.

A particular sore point with upperclass students is the University regulation forbidding alcoholic beverages in the dorms. Stephens College has lately allowed students age 21 and over to drink in their rooms. But Condra says it would be difficult if not impossible to enforce an age 21 drinking privilege in the dormitories because of the large number of students under age. Yet, the no-liquor rule always has been difficult to enforce, especially since students have been allowed small refrigerators.

#### **Texas Students Can Drink in Dorms**

If the state legislature votes to give majority rights to 18-year olds, liquor in dorms probably is inevitable. This has happened at both the University of Texas and North Texas State University. Dr. Mervyn Stelter, director of housing at NSTU, says that discipline problems have decreased since students have been allowed alcohol in their rooms. "Now students don't feel the need to go away from campus and come back smashed."

But students would still move off-campus. "Some people just like the feeling of independence associated with living in an apartment," Lewis Diuguid, a freshman living in Donnelly Hall, points out, "just like other students like the conveniences of living in a dorm."

And there are many conveniences. Pattie Quinn moved back her senior year to beat the

parking problems. "I really liked living in an apartment, but driving into Campus was always a hassle. You have to be here by 7:15 to find a parking place." Jeff Organ, a junior from California, stays in a residence hall because he doesn't want to cook. "Dorm food isn't mom's home cooking, but it beats what I could do."

#### **Senior Likes Convenience, Atmosphere**

Debra Hoopes is a senior who has lived in the dorm for four years. "I guess I'm spoiled by having three meals a day prepared for me," she says. "But, I also enjoy the atmosphere. I'm a people person, and I enjoy living on a floor with 72 other girls."

Freshman Donna Gannoway also likes the atmosphere. "I come from a large family and I like having so many people around. Of course, personality conflicts do develop, but they always get worked out. You learn to live with people. And if studying begins to get to you, there is always someone to go shopping with, play tennis with or just talk to. The house activities are fun too. I played on our floor's football team. We also have parties, and at Christmas some of the girls went carolling at the Medical Center."

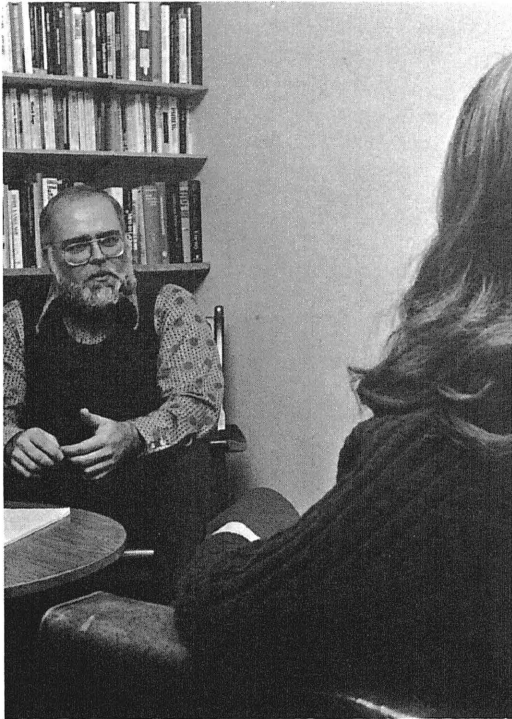
Activities and atmosphere vary considerably, however, and most of the 21 halls seem to develop distinct personalities. Because of their proximity to Greek Town, Jones, Laws and Lathrop halls tend to attract a large number of sorority girls; while Baker-Park and Gardner-Hyde house primarily graduate students.

McReynolds, with 16 persons to a floor, has a small-town atmosphere compared to the larger dormitories. Valerie Haddock, a junior in McReynolds, says there is such a friendly atmosphere that even students who move out come back to visit.

Shields House in Hatch Hall is one of the more active floors on Campus. The residents have organized such activities as picnics, backpacking trips, horseback riding, float trips and parties. This spring, they are planning a trip to Florida and an excursion to Kansas City to visit Crown Center and the River Quay area.

Dorm rates are scheduled to increase \$120 next fall to cover rising costs and the installation of a telephone in each individual room. The rate will be \$1,060 for a nine-month school year, based





Above, a resident counselor talks with a girl at Jones Hall. Below, students share a "care" package.



A dorm lounge is a good place for friends to get together to sing and play folk songs. This group was practicing for their first public appearance at the Chez, a coffeehouse on Hitt Street.

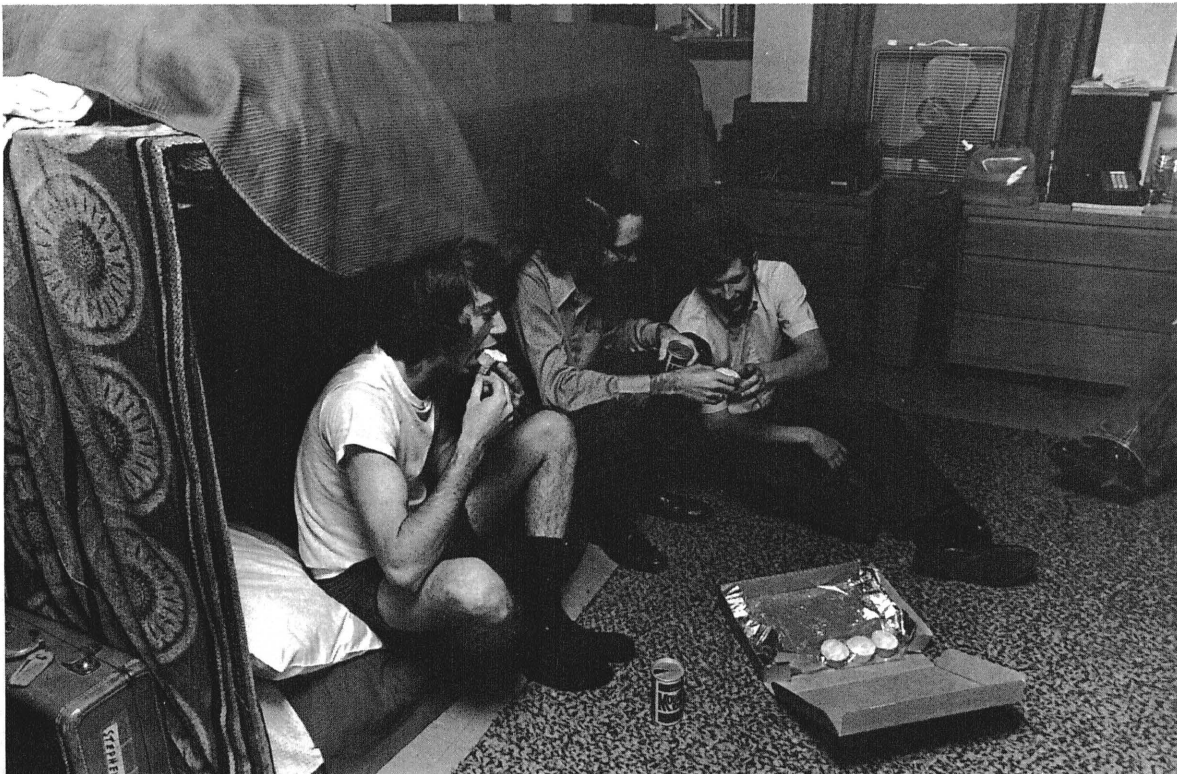
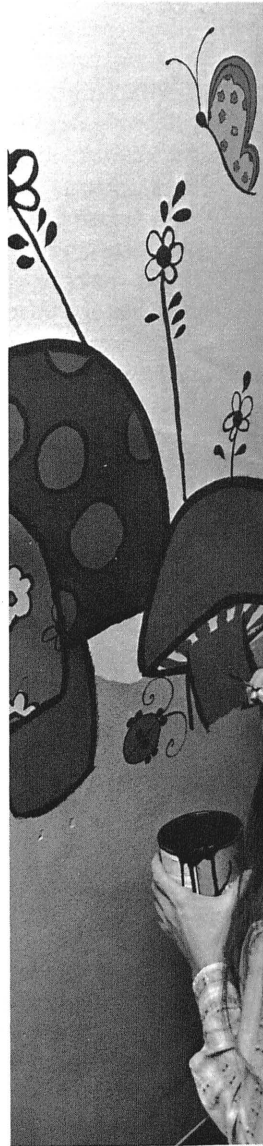
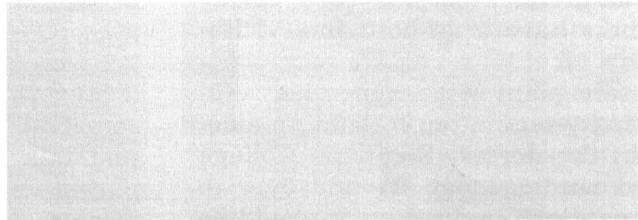


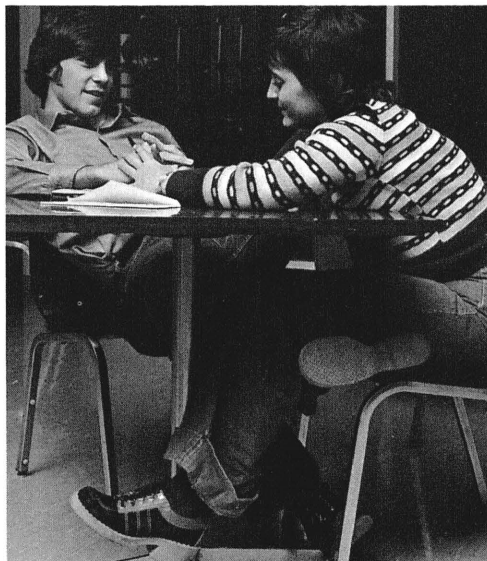


Photo by Larry Kasperak

Outside, a game of flag football. Inside a drab wall is transformed into mushrooms and flowers.



Intervisitation — a crowded dorm room, or two people holding hands in the empty lounge area.



on a student living in a double room with 20 meals per week. Despite the rate increase, the dorms are still competitive with the cost of living in an apartment in Columbia, according to Don Graham, associate director of housing.

And the housing office is attempting to make the environment less impersonal. The telephones are just one example. Staffing has also changed. Today most head residents are between the ages of 22 and 26, and relate well with students. Professional counselors are also available in the dorms to help students with problems ranging from sexuality to choosing a career.

Dorm walls that were once as visually interesting as a bowl of mush, now are being covered with paintings purchased by the housing office and IRHA from the annual student art show on Campus.

#### Residents Can Individualize Their Rooms

Individuality of students' rooms is also important, Graham says. If they want to change the color of their rooms, the housing office furnishes the paint. Some residents have even begun to carry their decorating over into the housing lounges with murals designed and painted by members of the house. There are ten colors available: aqua green, blue, fleece, light coffee, anemone, avocado, bone white, ivory, mistletoe berry and yellow. But, if students request them, additional colors may be allowed.

Waterbeds aren't allowed in the dorms, but just about anything else goes. Posters depicting everything from Budweiser to Beethoven cover the walls; shags, woven and oriental rugs are on the floors. One student even has an Indian print bedspread draped on his ceiling. There are also many small personal touches, like potted plants, a favorite stuffed animal, or a rocking chair.

Whether students have their beds pushed together, separated or bunked, the dorm room is more than just a place to sleep to the 5,795 students who live there. It is where a student studies, relaxes with friends and discusses dates and world problems over a bowl of popcorn. The dorm is 30 girls playing flag football or 20 guys planning a '50s party. It's panty raids, quiet hours and meeting people. It's being considerate of a roommate or sharing a care package from mom with the guys down the hall. It's home. □