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## Monitor Newsletter May 09, 1983

Bowling Green State University

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# Monitor

Vol. VI, No. 43

Bowling Green State University

May 9, 1983

## Huffman to direct journalism school

Dr. John Huffman, an associate professor of journalism, has been appointed director of that school for a five-year term beginning July 1.

Huffman succeeds Dr. Harold Fisher who has been on leave since September 1981 developing a broadcasting system in the African nation of Liberia. In his absence Huffman has served as acting director of the school.

Huffman, who will lead a school with approximately 500 majors, received his bachelor's degree from Black Hills College in South Dakota and a doctoral degree from the University of Iowa. He joined the Bowling Green faculty in 1978.

Prior to his Bowling Green appointment he taught at Pepperdine University and the University of Tulsa. He also held several posts, including publisher, with the *Daily Iowan*, an independent daily newspaper, and several writing and editing positions.

The School of Journalism currently is preparing to kick-off a private fund-raising campaign which will help equip West Hall when it has been remodeled to house both the journalism and radio-television-film programs. Huffman said the school is now planning to move to West Hall in August 1984.

## Staff among victims of Weston tornado

Several University employees were among those whose homes and property were destroyed when the tornado touched down in Weston last Monday.

To aid those employees, and the nearly 50 other families who suffered losses as a result of the tornado, Derek Dickinson, standards and procedures, Charles Rath, plant operations and maintenance, and Larry Smith of Bowling Green have established a Weston Relief Fund which will be the receiving point for clothing, food and monetary donations to be distributed to those affected by the tornado.

University employees who wish to contribute to the fund can take clothing, canned foods or checks, made payable to the Weston Relief Fund, to Dickinson in 305 Student Services Building. Dickinson said there is a particular need for clothing for children, boys and girls, ages five through 12.

Donations will be collected through this week, Dickinson said, adding that he is hoping to collect \$5,000 in cash to distribute among the families.

## Faculty approve charter revisions

Faculty have approved the revisions to the Academic Charter which were adopted by the Faculty Senate at its last meeting of the year on April 19.

The Faculty Senate office has reported that 248 faculty voted in favor of adopting the revised charter; 44 faculty were opposed in a ratification vote requested by the charter revision committee.

Final approval of the document now rests with the Board of Trustees.

## Honorary degree to recognize Mott's literary achievements

Michael Mott never met Thomas Merton, the 20th century Trappist monk who, until his death 15 years ago, was a social activist, mystic, monastic reformer, literary critic, poet, artist and photographer. But during the past four years, Mott, a professor in the English department's creative writing program, has come to know Merton perhaps better than anyone had ever known him.

Mott was commissioned in 1979 by the Thomas Merton Legacy Trust and the Houghton-Mifflin Publishing Co. to write the official biography of the controversial monk who was in the forefront of civil rights and nuclear weapons debate during the late 1960s.

In recognition of his scholarship on Merton and his other literary achievements, Mott will receive the honorary doctor of letters degree from St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Ind., on May 14. St. Mary's is the oldest, chartered Catholic college for women in the United States, and Merton was a long-time friend of the school.

Mott surmizes that it was his reputation as a writer that led the publisher and subsequently the Merton trustees to choose him as the official Merton biographer. He had written several novels and books of poetry for major publishers prior to accepting the Merton task, but he had only a general knowledge of the monk's work. In some ways, Mott said, this may have been an advantage, because he could approach the biography from a fresh perspective.

Noting that holding the title "official biographer" carries with it both privileges and responsibilities, Mott said he is the only person who has been allowed access to Merton's confidential materials, including the private journals of his last few years. Most of that material is housed in the Thomas Merton Studies Center at Bellarmine College in Louisville, Ky., which Merton himself helped establish as a library for his papers.

It has been at that center that Mott has spent much of the past four summers.

Mott describes Merton as far from being "most people's idea of a monk." In fact, it is surprising that he became a monk at all, Mott recalls. "He seemed to all his college friends the least likely to become a monk — he was very funny and gregarious; a great guy at parties, and by no means an obvious recluse."

But nonetheless he entered the monastery in 1941 after earning both bachelor's and master's degrees from Columbia University. And during his years as a monk he helped organize the leaders of several social movements for nonviolent action and wrote 50 books, essays, poetry and book reviews. Among his books was the best-selling autobiography, *The Seven Storey Mountain*, written in 1948.

Mott noted that Merton was a man who lived amid internal and external conflict. "He was a contemplative person given to silence, but he was very outgoing and liked talking, which often put him in difficult situations."

In 1965 he became a recluse, moving into "The Hermitage," a cottage on the grounds of Our Lady of Gethsemani, a



Michael Mott

Trappist monastery in Kentucky.

"He wanted to be a solitary, explore contemplation and silence, and take time to be alone with God," Mott said.

But even that solitary life did not stop his social involvement. He continued to coordinate meetings between leaders of social rights movements, inviting them to gather at Gethsemani, and he wrote essays and letters to the leaders of those movements.

Merton died in 1968, and controversy still surrounds his untimely death. Mott said, noting that while he was attending a conference of Asian monastic superiors in Thailand, Merton was electrocuted when a standing fan supposedly fell on top of him. His death occurred exactly 27 years to the day of his entrance into the monastery.

Publication of the biography, to occur simultaneously in England and the United States, will bring to a close research which has taken Mott back to his native England and to France, where Merton was born in 1915. In addition to pouring over written materials both in the United States and abroad, Mott conducted some 80 interviews with people who had known Merton, and he also drew upon material gathered by John Howard Griffin, an author who was appointed in 1968 to write Merton's official biography but who could not finish the task because of illness.

One year of Mott's research was funded by a Guggenheim Fellowship, and a subsequent summer's work was supported by the University's Faculty Research Grant program.

Mott joined the Bowling Green faculty in 1980 as a professor in the creative writing program. He previously had taught at Kenyon College where he was poetry editor of the *Kenyon Review* and at the State University of New York at Buffalo and Concordia University. He also was a writer-in-residence at Emory University in Atlanta and at the College of William and Mary.

# In Brief

## SUMMER HOURS BEGIN

Summer hours officially begin at the University today (May 9). Offices will be open 7:30 a.m. to noon and 12:30-5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7:30-11:30 a.m. on Fridays, through Aug. 12.

Several areas have announced deviations to that schedule. Those listings follow:

— **University Post Office:** 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7:30-11:30 a.m. on Fridays. The customer service window will be open 9 a.m. to 4:25 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9-11 a.m. on Fridays.

— **Maintenance, grounds and dorm custodial:** 6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 6:30-10:30 a.m. on Fridays;

— **Day academic custodial:** 5 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 5-9 a.m. on Fridays;

— **Night academic custodial:** 4:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Monday through Thursday and 4:30-9:30 p.m. on Fridays;

— **Heating Plant:** No change from winter hours;

— **Plant Operations and Maintenance office:** 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 6:30-11:30 a.m. on Fridays.

## NO STEAM MAY 20-31

The University's Central Heating Plant will be closed from 5 p.m. Friday, May 20, through 8 a.m. Tuesday, May 31, for repair to the 250-foot smokestack.

During this period there will be no steam available from any source for heating water, heating buildings, tempering air conditioning, autoclaving or making distilled water.

## Employment Opportunities

### CLASSIFIED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

\*Indicates that an internal candidate from the department is bidding and being considered for the position.

### NEW VACANCIES

Posting Expiration Date: 5 p.m. Monday, May 16, 1983

5-16-1 **Account Clerk 1**  
Pay Range 4  
Bursar's Office

5-16-2 **Cashier 1**  
Pay Range 3  
Bursar's Office

5-16-3 **Data Entry Operator 2**  
Pay Range 4  
Computer Services

### CONTINUING VACANCIES

Posting Expiration Date: 5 p.m. Monday, May 9, 1983

5-09-1 **Plumber 1**  
Pay Range 7  
Plant Operations & Maintenance

5-09-2 **Typist 2**  
Pay Range 4  
Library and Educational Media  
Temporary full-time to November 1983

## Faculty/Staff Positions

The following faculty position has been authorized:

**Firelands:** Instructor/assistant professor, health and physical education/humanities. Contact Algalee Adams (93-229). Deadline: May 26, 1983

The following contract positions have been approved:

**Athletics:** Assistant director for operations and facilities. Contact Jack Gregory (2-2401). Deadline: May 13, 1983

**Financial Aid and Student Employment:** Assistant director. Contact Donald Ragusa (2-2147). Deadline: May 27, 1983

**Firelands:** Director/coordinator for community services. Contact Algalee Adams (93-229). Deadline: June 8, 1983

**Writing Laboratory:** Director. Contact Jack Taylor (2-0357). Deadline: May 18, 1983

There will be no air conditioning in the Business Administration or Technology buildings or in Offenhauer Towers.

Only buildings south of Wooster Street, east of Mercer Road or north of Poe Road — specifically the Art Annex, R-dorms, Park Avenue Warehouse, Central Services Building, Biology Greenhouse and Maintenance Greenhouse — will not be affected.

All other areas should expect to operate on those days without functions which normally rely on the production of steam.

Questions about the heating plant shut-down should be addressed to Chuck Codding, director of the physical plant.

## WATCH FOR POWER OUTAGES

This week, May 10, 11 and 12, an electrical contractor will be working in most academic buildings which will mean that electricity will be turned off in those buildings for anywhere from three minutes to one and a-half hours as repairs are made.

Frank Finch, energy management supervisor, said every attempt will be made to provide advance notice of the time and predicted duration of the outages to offices in the buildings which will be affected by the power shut-downs. No advance schedule of the outages can be provided, however, and it will be left to offices within the buildings to communicate with one another once a central area has been notified of the upcoming power shut-off.

## INSURANCE REPORT

The University Insurance Committee has decided against recommending that the University add the cost of an annual physical examination for each employee to its fringe benefit package for the 1983-84 academic year.

Although a recent survey of employees conducted by the insurance committee indicated that faculty and staff overwhelmingly favor the addition of the physical examination benefit, the committee has decided that because of the current budget situation, the recommendation to add that benefit will be made for the 1984-85 year.

Dr. Barbara Moses, mathematics and statistics, chair of the insurance committee, said the committee will spend next year revising the original recommendation for a physical examination benefit and will also consider some of the many other recommendations that employees suggested on the recent survey.

## BENEFITS CLARIFIED

All employees recently received via campus mail a new Health Care Benefit Booklet.

Because this booklet includes all benefit plans for classified employees, administrative staff and faculty, it contains a paragraph on orthodontic services under the section on dental benefits. **This paragraph pertains only to classified (civil service) employees. Family dental and vision coverage for administrative staff and faculty is not available.**

Questions about this coverage should be addressed to the insurance office, 372-2112.

## Reams Fellowships awarded May 10

Four University juniors were named May 2 as the 1983 recipients of \$1,500 Frazier Reams Public Affairs Fellowships.

The awards are presented annually to rising seniors majoring in the public service areas of journalism, broadcasting, political science, health and community services, or some other public affairs area.

The fellowships were established in 1973 in memory of the late Frazier Reams Sr., a Toledo attorney, broadcasting executive, civic leader and congressman. Reams, who died in 1971, was a member of the University's Board of Trustees from 1950-57 and received an honorary doctor of laws degree from the University in 1959. His son, Frazier Jr., is the current president of the trustees.

During the past decade Reams Fellowships have been presented to 40 Bowling Green students. To mark the 10th anniversary of the fellowship program, Mrs. Frazier Reams Sr. announced at the May 2 awards ceremony that she has donated an additional \$20,000 to the program, increasing the amount of the scholarship from \$1,000 to \$1,500.

Recipients of the 1983 awards were Melissa Jo Manny of Toledo; Monica Orosz of Painesville; Doug Lillibridge of Newark, and Diane Grinstead of North Canton.

## Computers available to rent, lease

University Computer Services will have available for rent for \$75 per month an APPLE IIe microcomputer system equipped for word processing applications.

The system includes a basic 64K system unit, APPLE III monitor, single disk drive, 80-column board, DOS operating system, BASIC programming language and the APPLEWRITER IIe word processing package.

An EPSON dot matrix printer can be rented for an additional \$24 per month.

Computer services also will have available for loan to University departments three APPLE II+ computer systems during the period May 16 through July 20.

These systems include an APPLE II+ 48K microcomputer with one disk drive, a black and white monitor, DOS operating system and BASIC programming language. Software packages which might be used on these systems will be the responsibility of the user department to obtain.

For additional information about either the rental or loaner systems, contact Charles Shultz in computer services, 372-2911.

## Post office needs large envelopes

The University Post Office has issued an urgent request that all offices return surplus large campus mail envelopes.

Despite an earlier plea for return of those envelopes, the post office is still experiencing a shortage.

Any envelopes available should be routed to the post office immediately through campus mail.

### Monitor

Monitor is published weekly for faculty and staff of Bowling Green State University. The deadline to submit copy for the next issue, Monday, May 16 is 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 10.

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