

# Columbia Missourian

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Good Morning! It's Tuesday, Nov. 15, 1977

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## Downtown



Aerial view of Broadway

Missourian photo

## Downtown area faces challenge in dollar battle

By Lou Jakovac and Glen Nolte  
Missourian staff writers

Like merchants in many other communities, Columbia's downtown businessmen in recent years have faced stiff competition from shopping centers in other areas of the city.

Now the downtown merchants are fighting to reverse the trend.

In 1973, the St. Louis firm of Harland, Bartholomew and Associates studied downtown and issued a report that led the city to adopt a plan calling for the traffic loop and improved parking facilities.

In addition, North Village emerged with a variety of specialty

### Insight

shops. The Katy Station, at the end of the line as a railroad terminal, was turned into a restaurant.

The 1973 study stressed the importance of college students as potential customers for downtown businesses and also demonstrated that the University and Stephens and Columbia colleges form much of the boundary around the downtown area.

"Downtown is surrounded by a ring of public and non-public institutions," city Planning Director

Michael Bathke says.

"That wouldn't be good if they were so close there was no room to grow, but there is," he adds.

Bathke says the benefit of the colleges surrounding the downtown area is demonstrated by the lack of deterioration of the buildings.

"Downtown isn't threatened by residential areas that decline," which in turn may serve as a deterrent to people who wish to shop downtown," he says.

"We're not threatened by that... Deterioration in colleges is not going to happen, but it does in some residential areas."

Bathke says, however, that residential areas near downtown are to be encouraged.

Bob Pettin, owner of the Brown Shoe Fit Co., 919 E. Broadway, and secretary of the Central Columbia Association, said he believes the college boundaries serve the downtown area well. He adds, however, that the City Council should be aware of the existing low-rent housing in the area.

"It's going to be difficult right now to make an affluent residential area unless there is a complete remodeling," he says.

He says there are "well-kept" apartment buildings, but there are also "trashy ones."

Bathke says the city does not have

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## Sadat ready to visit Israel Begin willing to extend an invitation

N.Y. Times Service

WASHINGTON — Egyptian President Anwar Sadat said Monday he was prepared to address the Israeli parliament within the next week as soon as he receives a formal invitation from Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin.

When informed of Sadat's comments, Begin said he would ask the United States to convey a formal invitation to the Egyptian leader on his behalf.

As a result of the remarks by the Egyptian and Israeli leaders, the way seemed clear for an historic visit to Jerusalem by Sadat. It would be the first time an Arab leader had gone to Israel since its founding in 1948.

When asked whether he had attached any conditions to his acceptance of the

invitation, Sadat said:

"The only condition is that I want to discuss the whole situation with the 120 members of the Knesset and put the full picture and details of the situation from our point of view. This is the only condition."

"Israel will be astonished when it hears me saying now before you that I am ready to go to their house, to the Knesset (Israeli parliament) itself, and talk to them," Sadat said Wednesday.

Begin this weekend said he was ready to take Sadat up on his offer. Israel has consistently sought to open a direct dialogue with the Arabs.

Monday, Sadat said he was awaiting a "proper" invitation from Begin and he suggested that it come through U.S. diplomats since Egypt and Israel do not have formal relations.

When asked whether his visit could come as early as within a week, Sadat said, "You can say that, yes."

He also said he had not told any of his Arab colleagues about his plan "and I didn't ask them to agree or not to agree on this."

Begin, advised of Sadat's remarks Monday afternoon, told a group of visiting Canadians: "Tomorrow I will be in a position on behalf of the government to inform President Sadat that he will be able to address our parliament."

"If President Sadat expects an invitation through diplomatic channels, Israel will ask the United States ambassador in Tel Aviv to contact his colleague in Cairo if it is possible to transmit a letter of invitation to President Sadat," Begin said.



Anwar Sadat  
May address Israeli parliament  
UPI telephoto

## Schools enforce immunization law

By Georgina Bowden  
Missourian staff writer

Columbia students began to feel the sting of the state's immunization law Monday.

School officials finally began suspending students who had not complied with the law.

Students whose parents could be contacted were sent home. Others were allowed to remain in class for the day, but all were told not to return to school until they comply with the state's immunization law.

Lynn Marine, supervisor of the im-

munization program for the Columbia schools, said an accurate estimate of the number of students suspended cannot be made until a final count is taken of those who do not comply with the law.

"I'd have to know the number that didn't show up at the clinics before I could even guess," he said. The latest count, taken Nov. 7, showed that 450 students had not complied.

Special clinics were set up at the junior and senior high schools to help the students comply with the law, which requires them to be immunized against measles, diphtheria, polio and rubella, or to have their parents sign a

statement exempting them from the shots.

The students received three previous deadline extensions so the school system could file reports with the state. During the extension periods, school officials tried to notify parents of their child's noncompliance through telephone calls and letters.

The number declined from a high of about 2,000 at the first deadline, Oct. 1. The latest effort was radio advertising at the end of last week. But after the school board's action Nov. 7, Friday's deadline held fast.

Although the state law has been on

the books for years, enforcement began only this year.

Marine said any suspended student who wishes to be readmitted to classes will have to show his school principal either an exemption signed by a parent or a card provided by a local doctor or the city health clinic showing that he is in the process of receiving the immunizations.

"I'm glad to see this thing get along as far as it is," Marine said.

He said he will talk to the principals today to get a final count of the students not complying with the law.

## Drinkers barred from drug panel

By Thomas Hargrove  
Missourian staff writer

CENTRALIA — Northern Boone County's new drug council Monday night began its struggle against narcotics abuse with disagreement over how much purity should be required of council members themselves.

The Rev. Edwin Burris, organizer of the council and pastor of the First Baptist Church, where the meeting of 40 volunteers was held, appointed 17 persons to a central steering committee and predicted, "It'll take two or three years to turn this thing around."

When he announced that because the council will "set an image in the community," membership on the central committee would be limited to "nonparticipants in alcohol," some of the volunteers objected.

In a show of hands, about twice as many persons supported his position as

opposed it, but about one-half the group's members didn't raise their hands at all.

"My object is not to embarrass anybody, but I want the council to be as effective an organization as possible," Burris said. Abstinence from other drugs is also required.

At the end of the meeting, five young women approached Burris to protest his ban on alcohol.

"If you only allow people who never take a drink on the council — well, I think that is totally closed-minded," one said.

"Sure, they are not giving the best example. But is that really important? Should you kick them off the committee and tell them they can't be on the committee because they drink?" she asked.

Burris said he had spent "many hours in prayer with my wife over this"

and is convinced that he is acting correctly.

Jed Angell, a senior at the high school and one of three students named to the council, said he approved of the requirement. "I think young people follow examples more than they just listen to what their parents say," he said.

At the 90-minute session, Burris called for the creation of eight subcommittees to handle a variety of functions, including research into existing drug-information programs, adult and youth drug education, publicity for the council's efforts and fund raising.

He said it might take "two or three years" but he thinks the council can offer youths in northern Boone County enough information that they will "weigh the facts" and choose not to take drugs.

"We've got to get the young people

prepared to meet the future, and they are not prepared if they don't know about drugs," he said.

William Ray, a sociology teacher at Centralia High School, presented the findings of a drug survey he conducted among 450 of his school's 500 students.

According to the survey, the most-used drug at the high school is alcohol. About three-quarters of the students have used alcohol, and about 10 percent drink at least twice a week, according to the survey.

Marijuana was used less often than alcohol. About 43 percent of the students had tried it, Ray said. Only about 9 percent said they smoke pot more than once a week.

Amphetamines, barbiturates and LSD all were used by less than one-tenth of the students surveyed. Many of the students who had tried these "harder"

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## City staff burdened by task forces

By Lynn O'Shaughnessy  
Missourian staff writer

One, two, three, four, five.

In just its first eight months, the City Council has created five new task forces and commissions.

The Bicycle Commission and the coal gasification, historic preservation, growth guidance and the downtown beautification task forces have been added to the city's existing 31 commissions and boards.

A lot of the advisory groups are born of just plain politics, Sixth Ward Councilman Clyde Wilson said. "You get into a hot spot and you try to appease people by forming a commission."

"I've done it, and I'll probably do it again," he admitted.

Two of the task forces formed because of political maneuvering, Wilson said, were the coal gasification advisory group and the now dead Downtown Task Force. "The Coal Gasification Task Force was a way to

get the heat off the City Council and I was part of that."

While the gasification group turned out to be beneficial, he said, the Downtown Task Force dealing with the traffic loop was mainly "disruptive."

Mayor Les Proctor said the rash of new task forces, in part, is the natural consequence of council members' campaign promises. With the election far behind the council, he said, "I don't anticipate any more commissions." Proctor said he thinks consolidation

of commissions is necessary. One of the council's issue review sessions will deal partly with this idea.

By establishing commissions and study groups piecemeal, the council sometimes loses sight of their growing numbers, Proctor said. "We should have considered consolidation all along the way."

For instance, he said, the Arts Commission probably could have handled the proposals for historic preservation and downtown beauti-

fication.

There might be a price to pay for the council's free-wheeling creation of task forces.

The city planning department, which provides technical assistance for the task forces, is in danger of being overworked because of the demands of the study groups, City Manager Terry Novak said.

"Right now we are only on the verge

(See TASK, Page 11)

### In town today

9 a.m. Boone County Court meeting, County-City Building.

Noon Lunchbag seminar: "Activism by Mail: Writing Effective Complaint Letters," Gentry Hall University.

5:30 p.m. City Council meeting to discuss fire protection rating system, County-City Building.

7 p.m. Columbia Youth Advisory Commission meeting, Ann Hawkins Gentry Building.

Movie listings on Page 13

## Hotel to have quiet birthday

By Jenell Wallace  
Missourian staff writer

Like a woman approaching the mid-century mark, the Tiger Hotel is getting fewer and fewer second glances these days.

Solid and comforting in its presence, the hotel often is taken for granted by the hundreds of persons who traverse Eighth Street daily.

The Tiger today begins its 50th year with much less hoopla than it was accorded the day it opened 49 years ago.

Columbia businessmen lauded the new hotel in a newspaper ad that proclaimed the Tiger as proof that Columbia was becoming an "up-to-date little city."

"People around here had never seen anything like this before," recalls James Garth, 65, a hotel resident.

"They never dreamed of having a nine-

story building.

The elite turned out in large numbers that night to attend an opening celebration.

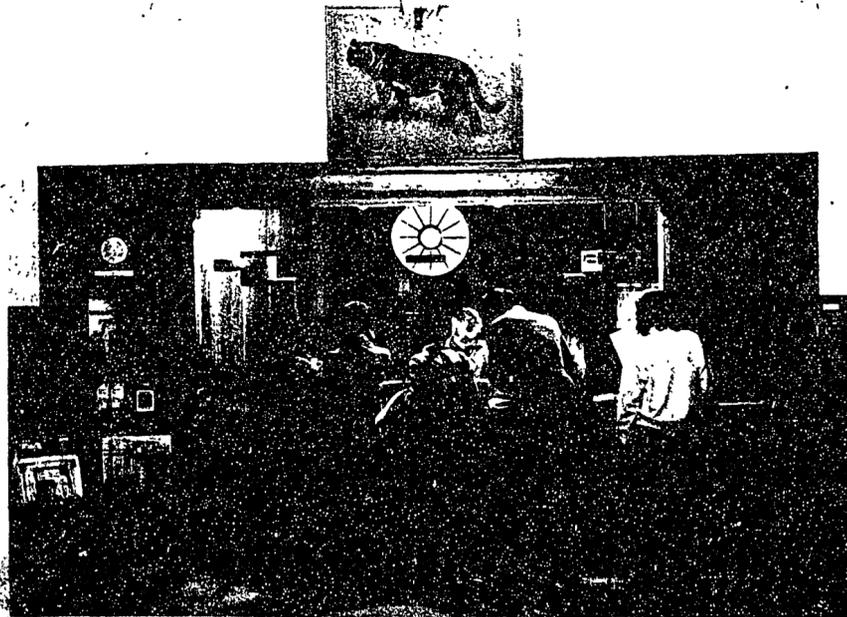
"It was quite a party they had," Garth says. "That was after Prohibition (started), so there wasn't so much to drink — except everybody had bootleg whiskey."

Garth was among the spectators when a certain Mr. Sweet, head of the hotel chain that managed the Tiger, arrived for the banquet.

"Sweet drove up in a car right to the steps and everybody gathered around and cheered him," he says.

The next day, the Columbia Missourian reported: "Columbia society turned its eyes to the Tiger Hotel, newest in the city, when it opened formally last night with a dinner dance. The lobbies were filled

(See HOTEL, Page 14)



Lawrence Bush

### Almost 50

No pomp and circumstance here, as the Tiger Hotel enters its 50th year. Birthday cakes and celebrations are a far cry from the everyday shuffle of customers checking in and out.