The All State

- 18 No 10 Clarkwills Tenn 27010 Wednesday Dec 7 1977

The Party's Over...

FINAL DAYS—Cindi Carpenter, a senior art major from Nashville, begins a perplexing week of study as finals week brings an end, or at least a curtailment, to extracurricular actvities.

Homosexuality SurveyPage 13 Floyd Ford FeaturedPage 6

Bible, Donnelly Honored Page 14

ACT Scores Low

Is APSU's freshman class the dumbest in history?

If so, does APSU President Robert O. Riggs plan to continue to seek high numbers of developmentally weak students?

Many faculty and students have been pondering these questions, following the release of this fall's statistical reports on 1977's freshmen.

Over 30 percent of the incoming freshmen made 15 or below out of a possible 36 points on the American College Test (ACT), regarded by some quarters as a marker of future college success—a new low.

ACT scores, according to it Iowa firm, are accurate measure ments of college success it mathematics, social sciences English and biological sciences.

English and biological sciences.

But Dr. Albert Bekus, associat
professor of English an
coordinator of the APS
developmental studies program

says not necessarily.

"If we accept the view of thos
who feel our academic standard
are going down, because of th
ACT score decline, we are ignorin
the fact that today's colleges ar
admitting more students than

their predecessors," Bekus says.

Many educational authorities urge the public to take a proper perspective of the uses of AC

Dr. Donald Kern, assistant professor of mathematics, and a developmental studies professor, has stated that the math scores may be a valid measurement of student skills. However, Bekus and many professors have concluded that predicting English composition scores is a very different story.

"English scores are a total different ball game," Bekus sa Friday afternoon. "I hav personally found that given the right amount of encouragement many below average students or improve their composition skills

Some authorities are ever debunking the validity of the ACT Enid V. Blaylock, professor o educational psychology a California State University a California State University a Long Beach noted last week ir "The Los Angeles Times." "The drop (in ACT sores) reflects the failure of test makers to recognize significant changes in the way schools now function."

Blaylock suggested the tegenerally were sifting devices-a shouldn't be taken too serious Statistic revealed that many le achievers on the ACT tended succeed anyway. Perhaps th college entrance exams, because they fail to measure social achievement-a recent goal of our secondary schools-are not worth

We have been told by APSU authorities that requiring the ACT is merely a "registering" activity. Analysis of the scores will be used in the new developmental studies program, termed by Riggs as "a necessary service to our students."

1980's followed an open-doos admissions policy. "Open-door programs" allow students, after taking the ACT, plus a high school diploma or its equivalent to enter college. Weeding out nonachievers accelerates by the end of the freshman year. For example, records show 25 percent of last year's freshman left APSU after the third quarter.

American ethic," said Riggs. However, is this easy in-not so easy out policy worth it? The Riggs administration faces

The Riggs administration face a dilemma, it seems.

Once admission levels reach 5,000 full-time students, an increasingly large number of disadvantaged freshmen will full our classrooms, assuming continued ACT declines.

Meanwhile, what kind of an image does this give our prospective students? A mecca of learning or a diploma factory?

Luckily, the "Power Tower" has implemented a developmental studies program for the increasing number of low-achievers this fall from federal grants.

Next quarter, these students, as well as any others, can take classes in writing, mathematics, reading and study improvement, plus

Even high-achievers may b deficient in these skills. For thos students seeking a professions career, these classes are necessar

TE AD

in Ardo's program succeeds an minimizing the number of turnoffs and dropouts, Bekus and the administration will deserve praise. Realistically, Bekus is hoping for a drop of five percent in the 25 percent attrition rate.

With such success, th Tennessee legislature migh consider granting more funds of expanding developmental studiprograms. Presently, federe grants fund Tennessee's program Our legislators ought to examin that ordin



The All State

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News in Brief

olarship grades and three letters of Teacher Fee

recomendate

Juniors and seniors are eligible for the Richard M. Hawkins Memorial Scholarship, an annual scholarship of \$500 established in memory of Hawkins by his wife, Sarah Elizabeth

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awarded to a person wit
academic achievemen
citizenship and financi
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the determining factor.
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commitment to a co
tinuing career in nursing

3.0.

• Need will be considered but not a determining factor.

factor.

As soon as application are received, one studen will be accepted. If thi student maintains the above requirements durin, the scholarship period, the scholarship will again be awarded to that person for the following year.

'Messio Handel's "Me

be presented by the University Choir at 3 p.m at the First Baptist Church in Clarksville on Sunday Dec. 11.

The APSU Alumni asociation will appear a hristmas open dance at ne Emerald Hills Alumni enter on North 2nd Street on Sunday, Dec. 11 from 1-4 m. Refreshments will be erred.

Education 100, taught Dr. Allan S. Williams, be offered winter qua-

be offered winter quarte from 8 a.m. to 2:15 a.m. o Tuesdays and Thursdays. The class is designed t induce students to teachin as a career.

"Marathon Man" will shown today at 6:30 p. and 9:30 p.m. in t Clement Auditorius Admission is \$1.

The last psychology clul meeting for this quarte will be Friday, Dec. 9, a moon in Claxton 113 Discussion will center of the activities planned for ext quarter and suggestions for additiona directions to take. Al students and faculty are

Summer

terms of 1978 will be as follows:

A seven-week with classes meeting or Monday, Tuesday, Wed needay and Thursday with registration on Wednesday

on Thursday, August 3.

• For triple-accelerate courses only, a 10-wee term with registration of Wednesday, June 14, and the term ending on Friday

varying dates gistration.

Bookstore

Books for courses no taken winter quarter ar due in the bookstore by Dec 15; however, books may b

completed.

Bookstore hours are 7:3
a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday
through Friday. Winte
quarter deposit cap.



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Fall Quarter Activities Evaluated

By JOHN BUNNELL

Winter is a special time of year...parties, friends and memories of the past year, bad news and good news.

1977 was productive. Despite our new staff, we feel the quarter has been an education in how APSU operates, for better or worse. The good news was well-known

operates, for better or worse.

The good news was well-known and well-publicized, for the most part, from the improvements in the Student Government Association (SGA) under Bill Bowd's leadership.

grant received this summer.

Both of these achievements mean better progress-for SGA and

Instead of the wrangled finance of the Martin Abraham adminis tration, Boyd's treasurer Dear Daniel and bookstore manage Robert Martin saved SGA fron losing control of its finances-area

possibility earlier this summer.
Academically weak student covered in this issue, will be help with part of this summer Advanced Institutional Develoment Program (AIDP) mone covered in this issue and segments earlier this quarter.

more physical improvement fur were channeled into improvi our physical plant buildings. hope that Governor Ray Blant and the Tennessee legislature ts a careful look before axing APSI proposed capital improvem budget. Both the State Board Regents and the Tennessee High Education Commission has

Analysis

We surveyed several building quarter and found nee approvements.

ruture venovanos panas, we rechonoid include dorm improve should include dorm improve that is the control of the control Hall, fire code modernization an more care in new construction Structural defects found at the Dunn Center and the Trabern ar and drama building should be injeped in the bud by a new contracting system, which would provide a final blueprint instead of the present shuffling of fundi furing construction.

It is commendable that APS

assistant Dr. Fred Williams have noticed these situations—and plan to improve present buildings and watch for future problems.

Unfortunately, the SGA misses a chance to be progressive durin the homecoming season, in opproviding a three-woman courinstead of a queen. Racial strifwould have been avoided for the future. Nevertheless, SGA senators remain confident that the court, as proposed by Junior Class President Michie Honeycutt, will he implemented next west.

Despite the SGA's arguments

homecoming parade and a stead growing football team. Thou beaten by Middle Tennessee att festivities, APSU's Govs beat odds to become the OVC channe

festivities, APSU's Govs beat t odds to become the OVC champ the first win ever. Victory did not confine itself

the gridiron, though. SGA Vicrough and the Mason became AFSU's strongest bid in two yeas owin a statewide SGA offic Fennessee Intercollegiate Stat Legislature (TISL) lieutenar overnor. Many of the delegation bills look like prime candidates for the organization's packet-sernext year to the Tennesse excislature.



Classifieds

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