

Stretching Your Lunch Break

Downtown workers soon will have a chance to slim down instead of taking the usual lunch break.

No, they won't be jogging down the Mall. They'll be taking ballet exercise classes at the Shrine Building.

Ballet? Downtown?

The idea for the classes came from Don Hassell, the man in charge of promotions for the Shrine Building, who decided there was a need Downtown for such a program.

"At present, there's no place Downtown where men and women jointly can use exercise facilities," he explained.

Hassell went to George Latimer, artistic director of Ballet South, who immediately became interested when he saw the huge, well-lighted, vaulted ballroom on the 10th floor.

"The room is perfect for this type of activity," Latimer said. He will conduct the classes himself.

"In the next few weeks, we'll be doing some cleaning and painting," Latimer said. "We'll also install exercise bars, mirrors, and a sound system for the music (which accompanies the exercises).

The space, which has been vacant for some time, affords an excellent view of Downtown and the river from its huge windows.

Two classes daily will be held each



Cartoon by Brad McMillan

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday — one from 11 a.m. until 12 p.m., and the other from 12 p.m. until 1 p.m.

Men in ballet classes?

"Don't laugh," Latimer said. "Some of my students have included a football player from Vanderbilt and a karate expert.

center city

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"Remember, this really is not ballet. It's only exercises that are employed by ballet dancers . . . exercises specifically designed to get the body in shape."

Latimer says his students — whether they are teenagers or senior citizens — all simply are concerned with keeping fit.

"These classes are a good opportunity for people to get into shape during their lunch breaks and also learn a little about ballet," he said.

Latimer hinted that if the classes generate enough interest, Ballet South might expand use of the space for its own rehearsals. Other arts groups, specifically a theater company, have expressed interest in the vacant space.

Ballet exercise participants will be charged \$5 per week, beginning June 14. Those interested are asked to call Ballet South or the Shrine Building.

—Jim Roper

Sterick Lobby Is Scene Of Battle

Watercolor paintings with a Civil War theme will be on display in the lobby of the Sterick Building when a new exhibit by Carol Sams opens there in June.

The paintings were inspired by events surrounding Southern campaigns near Memphis, Corinth, Holly Springs, and Shiloh.

A native of Knoxville, Carol Sams received a BFA degree with a major in Communication Design from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in 1973. She moved to Memphis that same year.

The artist is a member of the Tennessee Watercolor Society, the Southern Watercolor Society, and the Memphis Watercolor Group.

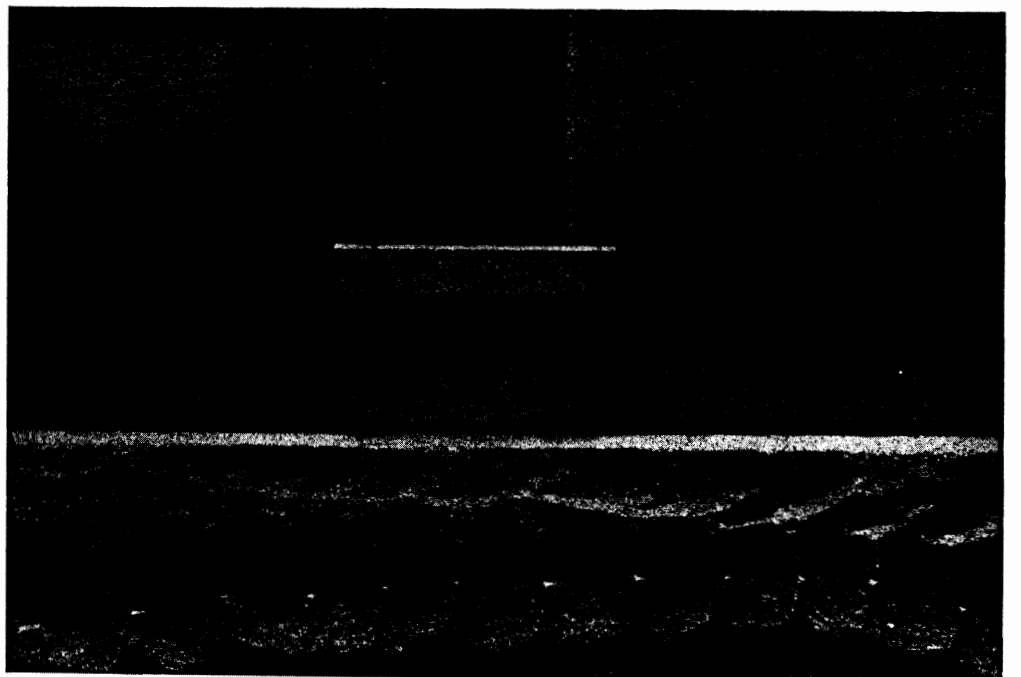
The Ethereal Repose Of Elmwood

Elmwood Cemetery is the oldest Memphis cemetery in use today. In 1852, 50 citizens contributed \$500 each to purchase 40 acres (since expanded to 80 acres) to begin a cooperative burial ground which would be dedicated to perpetual care. Operating on a non-profit basis, the cemetery has placed its

funds in trust to insure proper and continual maintenance. There are over 60,000 people within Elmwood, including two governors, twelve confederate generals and over 900 yellow fever victims. If one desires to be surrounded by Victorian elegance in perpetuity, there is yet room.

Photographs by John F. Foster

(Matted prints are available for \$25 each)



Double Parked


Preservation Hall is now traveling somewhere in Japan, but a souvenir of their visit is available. Brown and gold-toned posters can be obtained by simply phoning 523-4353.

The posters measure 18" x 27" and are free! They make great gifts (especially if the giver says they came from a rare, limited edition). Our sources (a couple whose walls are notably devoid of anything except freebies) say once the poster is framed it makes an attractive addition to any home, apartment, or office.

Applause goes to Memphis City Beautiful: they have solved that age-old problem: what is the highest and best use of the Memphis dailies?

Memphis City Beautiful has placed bins at 17 Exxon stations for the purpose of collecting paper for recycling. The bins are for *newsprint* only (justifiably): magazines cannot be used.

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 3109 Poplar 4880 Summer
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 2462 Central 4650 Millbranch
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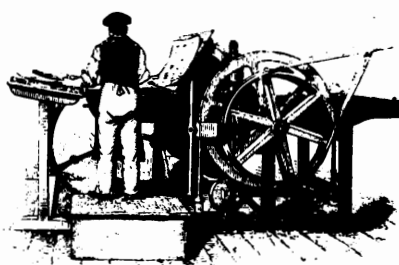
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DOWNTOWN EXHIBITS
FIRST NATIONAL BANK*
 June - 'Local Color' - photo-silkscreens by Carl Awsumb - lobby
STERICK BUILDING (lobby)*
 June - watercolors by Carol Sams

DOWNTOWN ACTIVITIES
WOOLF BROS. FASHION SHOW*
 June 10 - WB Shop - 12:15 p.m.
SHOWTIME ON THE MALL - noon
 - Commerce Square*
 June 3 - Con Funk Shun
 June 10 - Baffling Mr. Baker

FILM
BROOKS GALLERY (2:30 p.m.)*
 June 6 - 'The Man'
FRIDAY FLICS*
 Peabody Library at 4 & 7:15 p.m.

THEATRE
PLAYHOUSE ON THE SQUARE
 Through June 13 - 'Once Upon A Mattress' - Wednesday, Thursday & Friday at 8 p.m. - Saturday at 6:30 and 10 p.m. - Sunday at 2 p.m.

CIRCUIT PLAYHOUSE
 Through June 6 - 'The Hostage'
 - Friday thru Sunday at 8:30 p.m.
BEALE STREET REPERTORY CO.
 Through June 13 - 'Medea' - Friday thru Sunday at 8:30 p.m.

REVIEW
TRINITY CHURCH BOOK REVIEWS*
 June 2 - 'Reflections in a Blood Shot Eye' by Metz - reviewed by Norman Brewer
 June 9 - 'Crime and Punishment' - reviewed by Don Owens, III

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This space is yours for \$4.50 per issue.
 Call 523-1542 for more information.

NEW SERVICE FOR WIDOWED

There's a new service designed to aid widowed men and women in this area. The Widowed Persons Service will make personal visits, telephone calls, and hold group sessions. The project is sponsored by the National Retired Teachers' Association and the American Association of Retired Persons. Volunteers of all ages who have been widowed at least one year are needed. Interested persons should call 327-7391 for application and further information.

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Limited Edition Prints by BRAD McMILLAN
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 12 1/2" x 19 1/2" sepia prints of Breakfast at Burkle's are now on sale at Burkle's & Sunshine.

Medea Stands Alone

- Pat Waters

Beale Street Repertory Company's current production is the Robinson Jeffers' free translation of Euripides' *Medea*. Medea presents unrestrained emotions, self-sacrificing and absolute, juxtaposed to Jason's calculated desertion of his wife and children for material gain. Medea is a woman who sinned to gain a man's life and love, and who will now sin against him in order to destroy him.

Andrea Thompson is a stunning Medea. She has a smoldering beauty which underscores the impetuosity of the barbarian witch. Her control of the language makes it clear this is no "he done her wrong" situation but the clash of two opposing cultures.

Unfortunately the rest of the cast is so much detritus. There is no grasp of Jeffers' epigrammatic style, hence a plodding, jerky pace. The heedless rush to inevitable events breaks down amongst an overwrought chorus and a stunned-looking Jason.

I did enjoy the use of the chorus as props; their movements were well choreographed. However, Thompson is forced to carry the burden of the play alone - that and four murders are a bit much.

Catalogue

In keeping with our purpose, *Center City* is initiating a new arts service entitled *Catalogue*. We will display the works of various Memphis artists on a consignment basis. If someone purchases these works through Front Street Arts, a percentage of the purchase price will go to *Center City*.



Ziegfeld's Katherine by Kay Robinson
 Blended tones of burnt sienna and warm sepia form the background. The drape, a powerful combination of turquoise and coral flowers on black, creates the main color scheme. (24" x 36") Priced \$300. Call 523-1542 for inquiries.

Jazz Blues - Don Donati

All has not gone well on the Memphis jazz scene. On Sunday, May 16, jazz was dealt an unfortunate backhand. For weeks the media extolled the merits of Southwestern's Rite of Spring Jazz Festival (e.g. *Center City*, April 29). Community expectations ran high. When rain threatened, however, the festival was cancelled. The public was informed Sunday morning.

This action by the Southwestern Social Commission, sponsor of the event, has left a lingering bad taste in the mouths of many jazz fans, and a few questions too: Was an indoor alternative ever considered in case of rain; if not, why not? And was the concert really cancelled because of rain, or abandoned because its student promoters got cold feet?

But it must be said, that in spite of the cancellation, a crowd of some 350 persons were greatly pleased with a generous performance by Dave Liebman. Liebman and his group chose to play on the campus for but the price of the students' cancellation payment.

Front Street Arts

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