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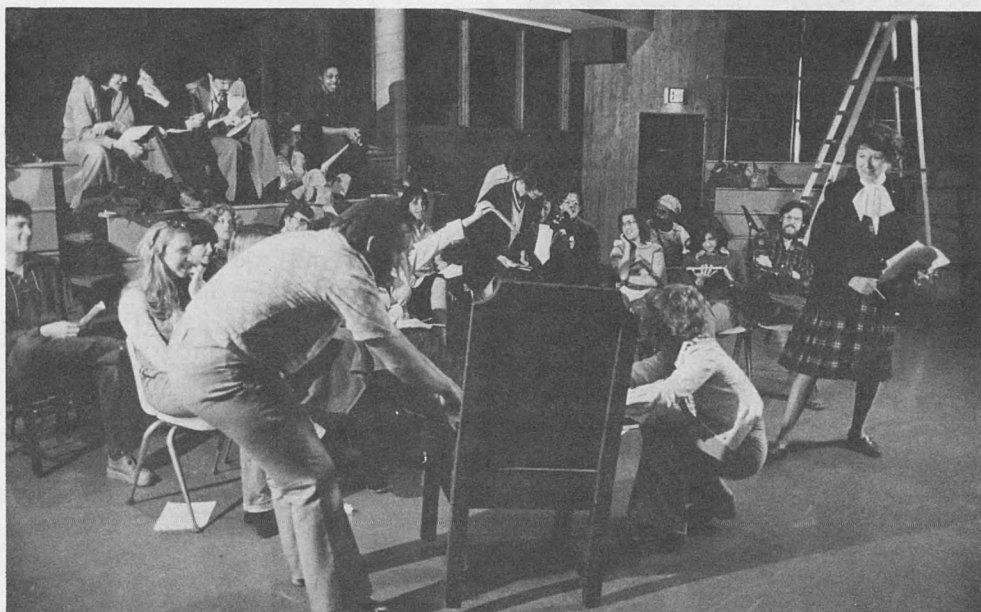
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WU Record

Published For The Washington University Community

April 7, 1977



Richard N. Levine

Actress Mary Wickes (far right), artist-in-residence, gives pointers to students in the four-week comedy acting class she is teaching at WU through mid-April.

Famed Comic Star Mary Wickes Shares Laughter and Talent With Acting Class

The students in the comedy acting class finished a scene from the play, *Mary, Mary*. The teacher, a tall, handsome woman whose face is instantly recognizable, gave a critique. "That was a good bit with the glasses, chums," she said, "but Mary's just learned that her ex-husband is about to remarry. You've got to see the reaction hit her, smack in the solar plexus. It's a moment an actress prays for."

The teacher's name is Mary Wickes, and the distinguished comic actress has known many such moments during a career that has included roles in 18 Broadway shows, 35 movies, and countless television appearances. She is on campus serving as a visiting artist, teaching a four-week course in comedy acting.

Miss Wickes is a native St. Louisan and a WU alumna, who speaks with pride about her home town and her alma mater. "I love St. Louis audiences. They're amazingly loyal," she said. Miss Wickes, who has appeared at many Municipal Opera productions, was awarded one of WU's first Alumni Citations in 1955, and cherishes an honorary Doctor of Arts degree awarded in 1969. In 1968,

she was the Performing Arts Area's first artist-in-residence, playing Amanda in *The Glass Menagerie*, and in 1973, was Mistress of Ceremonies at the dedication for Edison Theatre.

Miss Wickes did not intend to become a professional actress, but wanted to enter law school. While at the University, however, she acted in plays at the St. Louis Little Theatre. Sometimes, New York directors would work with the actors. Then came summer stock at the noted Berkshire Playhouse in Stockbridge, Mass.

Miss Wickes then went off to New York, landing a job in three days understudying Margaret Hamilton in the *Farmer Takes A Wife*. But she grew homesick, and, after ten days, came back to WU. "Then I got a wire from the director asking me if I were returning to New York and the play. With the urging of my parents and Professor W. Roy Mackenzie, then head of the English Department, I went back."

The rest is theatre history. Mary Wickes has gone on to work with some of the greatest creative talents of

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Four Departments To Be Headed By New Chairmen

Four new department chairmen have been appointed in WU's College of Arts and Sciences, Leon Gottfried, dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences announced.

They are: Sidney J. Friedman, Performing Arts Area; James Poag, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures; Norris K. Smith, Department of Art and Archaeology; Richard J. Walter, Department of History. The appointments are effective July 1, 1977, with the exception of Professor Smith's. Smith, who had been acting chairman of the Department of Art and Archaeology since last semester, has already begun to serve as chairman.

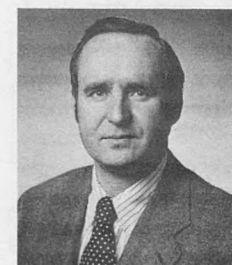
Sidney J. Friedman, associate professor of performing arts, has been in charge of programs in acting and directing since he joined the Performing Arts faculty in 1966. He has also taught play-writing courses and drama-related literature courses through the English Department.

Friedman has directed over 20 productions at WU ranging from Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure* to Albee's *Zoo Story*. This March he directed the world premiere of David Kranes's *HORAY* at Edison Theatre.

He was appointed to the Theatre Advisory Committee of the Missouri Council on the Arts in 1976. In 1975,



Sidney J. Friedman

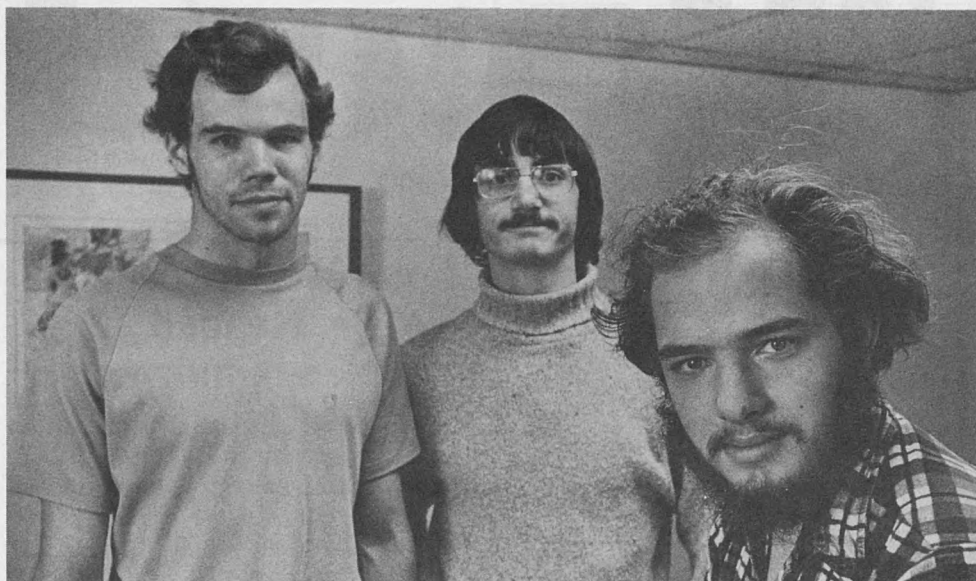


James Poag

he served as a judge for the regional American College Theatre Festival. He has been a board member of Theatre Alliance and served as its president for two years. Friedman

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2 WU Math Wizards Tally 2nd Place Score Over 262 Teams In Putnam Competition



Herb Weitman

WU sophomores Philip Strenski (left), Tim Steger (center), and Philip Harrington out-scored 262 other university teams to take 2nd place in the Putnam Math Competition.

There's a classical photograph of WU's second Chancellor, William Chauvenet, which shows him in profile, bearded and beautifully coifed, peering into the distance with his hand clutching his forehead—looking either melancholy or as if he has a terrific hangover.

Whatever the cause of his gloom, he, undoubtedly, would have been cheered had he been around a few weeks ago when WU learned that its student math team had placed second in the prestigious Putnam Mathematical Competition. For Chauvenet was big on and in mathematics. A child prodigy, he so impressed his peers that they named a prestigious mathematics prize after him.

WU's Professor Guido Weiss won this coveted award a few years ago, but neither he nor the trio of students here on campus who just bested Harvard and MIT's brightest in the Putnam were interviewed by television reporters, nor trailed by admiring throngs as is the lot of other heroes.

For, somehow, coming out on top in a competition which is to mathematics what the Wimbledon is to tennis—just doesn't move people to cheers as does a sizzling backhand by Connors. Collectively and individually, the trio of sophomores, Tim Steger and the two Philips—Harrington and Strenski—seem resigned to stroll around campus unrecognized.

The team of Steger, Strenski, and Harrington deserves better, for what they did is something nobody else at WU has ever done—indeed, it is something that the 262 teams from colleges and universities in Canada and the U.S.—who trailed behind

them in the standings did not do as well. California Institute of Technology topped the WU squad.

The Steger-Strenski-Harrington trio received \$400, and \$75 each for their individual efforts. And their individual efforts are impressive.

In a field of 2131 contestants from 344 institutions of higher learning, Harrington scored a stunning triumph—placing among the top six. (Contenders at this level are not ranked in the order they finished, but alphabetically.) Harrington collected \$225 and the distinction of now being known as a Putnam Fellow.

Steger finished 13th, and Strenski tied for 36th place, which put them in the Honorable Mention Class—also an impressive achievement, according to Edward N. Wilson, assistant professor of mathematics and the team's coach. Two other WU students excelled. George Gilbert, placed 83rd, and Richard Mattione, 61st.

In Mary Brooks Holmes Lounge the other day, Steger and Harrington discussed their triumph. Strenski was en route to Duncan, Oklahoma, for reasons of his own. Steger spices his conversation with irony and wit. Asked what he wanted to be after graduation, he looked the interviewer straight in the eye and said with mock seriousness, "Well, until I discover the secret of the universe, I guess I'll just be a mathematics professor."

Harrington, who blows the trombone in the WU Band and is active in a kind of King Arthur Society that sponsors the Sword and Shield Tournaments, is a medieval buff. Of a more placid nature, which, apparently, is

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Chairmen

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received his Ph.D. from the University of Iowa in 1966.

Language pedagogy and medieval German literature are the specialties of James Poag, professor of German. Poag, who joined the WU faculty in 1969, served as acting chairman of the German Department during the 1974-75 academic year.

He has written numerous articles and a book on medieval literature. His book, *Wolfram von Eschenbach*, published in 1970, is a critical study of the writings of 13th century author von Eschenbach, one of the most important medieval German writers.

Poag received grants from the Fulbright and Alexander von Humboldt Foundations to study in both Germany and Austria. In 1968-69, he was director of a program for the training of German teachers in Germany, funded by the Volkswagen Foundation. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois, Urbana, in 1961.

A highly respected teacher, scholar and administrator, Norris K. Smith, professor of art and archaeology, has been a member of the WU faculty for more than 20 years and served as acting chairman of the Department of Art and Archaeology in the 1960's.

He has written many books and articles on subjects ranging from medieval art to modern architecture.

His work *Frank Lloyd Wright: A Study in Architectural Content*, published in 1966, is regarded as a classic in its field.

Smith earned all his degrees (A.B., M.A. and Ph.D.) from Columbia University in New York. Before coming to WU, he was an instructor at Columbia and Hunter Colleges.

Professor of History Richard J. Walter joined the WU faculty in 1965 as an assistant professor. He was promoted to associate professor in 1968 and to professor this year.

Since 1965, he has participated in various university programs and committees. From 1965 to 1968, he was a Faculty Fellow in the Forsyth House Program and was involved in the Freshman Advising Program in 1967 and 1968. He is currently chairman of the Undergraduate Studies Committee in the Department of History. He is also a member of the University Affir-

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Norris K. Smith

Mary Wickes

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the theatre, and her achievements could fill a volume. She created leading roles on Broadway in five plays written and directed by the famed George S. Kaufman. Her creation of Miss Preen, the harassed nurse in *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, is still remembered. "You are my favorite comedienne," Kaufman once said.

Her television credits include the *Make Room For Daddy* series with Danny Thomas, *Mrs. G. Goes to College*, with Gertrude Berg and Sir Cedric Hardwicke, which won her an Emmy nomination, and most recently, she starred as Tully, the nurse on the *Doc* show, for CBS-TV, a Mary Tyler Moore production.

On tap when she leaves WU are appearances on the Matchgame TV show, and a possible new series produced by Grant Tinker, of Mary Tyler Moore Productions. And, her caricature just went up at Sardi's, the famed New York theatre district restaurant.

Wherever Mary Wickes is, laughter is not far behind. In class, she radiates vitality, enjoying her students as much as they're enjoying her. "They're so bright-eyed and eager. And some of them are good enough to earn their living in the theatre."

During the first week, Miss Wickes discussed the ground rules of comedy. "Good health comes first. Comedy demands being constantly on one's toes. There's no let down. It's as tiring mentally and physically as athletics."

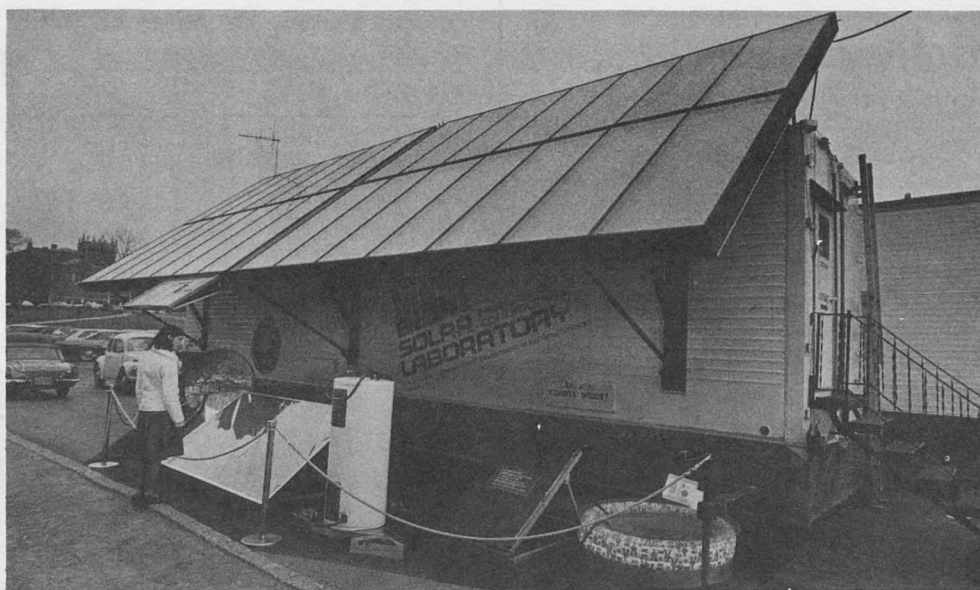
Her students call her Mary. They're relaxed with the star, but their respect is obvious. "She's unreal. She'll work with us anytime outside of class," said one student. "She has a remarkable instinct for comedy," said another. And, it doesn't take long for someone with her experience to impart her knowledge. Students working on comedy classics, were already quite adept at provoking laughter.

"What an improvement! But that speech was a bit too slow," she might say. Or, "Don't move unless you have a reason for moving," Or, "A true English butler is immobile. When you make it to the movies, remember that! Don't move!"

The class laughs. But it is evident that they are learning a great deal from Mary Wickes. "Even if these stu-

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The **WU Record** is published weekly during the academic year by the Information Office. Editor, Janet Kelley; calendar editor, Charlotte Boman. Address communications to Box 1142.



Herb Weitman

The transportable solar laboratory pictured above is currently parked in the Givens Hall lot. It will be on campus until April 9 and is open to the public from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. The lab is being used to collect data from different climatic regions on the effectiveness of heating and cooling buildings with solar energy.

Career Planning Office Is Dedicated to Millstone

The newly reorganized and renovated Office of Career Planning and Placement was dedicated last Friday to I. E. Millstone, a 1927 WU engineering alumnus and trustee. A plaque paying tribute to Millstone for his "leadership and generosity" to his alma mater has been inscribed in his honor.

A lounge and plaza on the north side of the campus between Bryan and McMillen Halls was dedicated in 1973 to Millstone.

Millstone, president of Millstone Construction, Inc., received an Alumni Citation in 1961 for his professional and civic achievements. Devoted to this University, he is chairman of the buildings and grounds committee of WU's Board of Trustees and is also a member of the executive, real estate and educational policy committees.

THE DEADLINE for registration in the "Non-Sexist Auto Maintenance Workshop" is Fri., April 8. The course begins Sat. April 9, and continues on the following three Saturdays, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Women's Building parking lot. Cost of the workshop is \$20. Interested persons may register at the Resource Desk in Mallinckrodt Center or at the Cage in Wohl Center.

A SOLAR HOME DESIGN SEMINAR will be given April 13 to June 1 and April 14 to June 2 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Thursdays in the January Hall Conference Room. The fee is \$150. For further information, call ext. 4261.

Chairmen

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mative Action Advisory Committee for the Arts and Sciences and of the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee.

A specialist in Latin American political history, with an emphasis on 20th century Argentine politics, Walter has written two books to date—*Student Politics in Argentina*, published in 1968, and the forthcoming *The Socialist Party of Argentina, 1890-1930*. He received his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Stanford University.



Richard J. Walter

Richard Palmer, who has served as chairman of the Performing Arts Area since 1967, will continue as director of Edison Theatre. Palmer is responsible for the development of the University's current undergraduate theatre program, which draws between 350 to 400 students into drama courses and an equal number into dance courses.

Professor Richard Davis, chairman of the History Department since 1974, will take a semester's sabbatical in the fall of 1977 to do research at Christ College, Cambridge University, for a three-volume history on the House of Lords from 1660 to 1911.

Professor Peter Hohendahl, chairman of the Department of Germanic Literatures and Languages since 1972, will leave the University to become professor of German and comparative literature at Cornell University.

Calendar

April 8-14

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

8 p.m. COSMO International Students Party, Stix International House, 6470 Forsyth. Refreshments will be served.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

1:30 p.m. Women's Society Easter Egg Hunt, for children of international students. Stix International House, 6470 Forsyth. Call Diane Hasty, 863-0100, ext. 4236 to assure a reservation.

MONDAY, APRIL 11

12 noon. Five-Day Computing Facilities Seminar. "Using the CALCOMP Plotter," David Weible, computer education specialist, WU Computing Facilities, 509C Bryan. Call ext. 3138 to register.

4 p.m. Department of Psychology Colloquium, "Research on the Transcendental Meditation Program and Higher States of Consciousness," Art Aron, assoc. prof. of psychology, Maharishi International U., Fairfield, Iowa. Women's Bldg. Lounge.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

2:30 p.m. Center for the Study of American Business, Center for the Study of Public Affairs Seminar, "The Role of the Lobbyist in Washington," Richard Murphy, director of government relations, Merck and Company, Inc. 300 Eliot.

4 p.m. Department of Anthropology Colloquium, "Correlates Between the Anatomy and Behavior of Two Closely Related Species of *Lemur*," Robert Sussman, WU asst. prof. of anthropology, and Steven Ward, asst. prof. of anatomy, WU School of Dental Medicine; "Developmental Aspects of Dental Wear in Cercopithecinae," David Gantt, research assistant in anthropology. McMillan Cafeteria.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

11 a.m. Assembly Series Lecture, "The Acceptance of Modernity," J. H. Plumb, Lewin Visiting Professor in History, Christ's College, Cambridge U. Graham Chapel.

4 p.m. Department of Physics Colloquium, "Search for Parity Violation in Nucleon-Nucleon Scattering," Earl C. Swallow, prof. of physics, Elmhurst Col., Elmhurst, Ill. 201 Crow.

8 p.m. Department of Romance Languages Lecture, "How to Teach a Successful First Year Spanish Course," Matilde Castells, prof. of Spanish, Calif. State U. at Los Angeles, author of *La lengua espanola*. Hurst Lounge, Duncker.

THURSDAY, APRIL 14

12 noon. Very Interesting Women Series, Sally Bixby Defty, exec. city editor, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. Women's Bldg. Lounge.

2:30 p.m. Department of Mechanical Engineering Seminar, "Energy Conservation and Utilization in Building Design," William Tao, Richard Lampe, and Richard Janis, of William Tao and Associates, Inc., consulting engineers. 100 Cupples II.

4 p.m. Department of Chemistry Seminar, "Laser Spectroscopy of Negative Ions and Free Radicals," W. Carl Lineberger, prof. of

chemistry, U. of Colorado, Boulder. 311 McMillen Lab.

FILMS

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

7:30 and 9:45 p.m. WU Filmboard Series, "The Four Musketeers." Brown Hall Theatre. Admission \$1.25. (Also Sat., April 9, same times, Brown; and Sun., April 10, 8 p.m., Wohl.)

8 p.m. St. Louis Film Art Society, "Viva Zapata!" with Marlon Brando and Anthony Quinn. 213 Rebstock. Admission \$1.50, \$1 for WU students. (Also Sun., April 10, 2 p.m., Rebstock.)

12 midnight. WU Filmboard Series, "West Side Story." Brown Hall Theatre. Admission \$1. (Also Sat., April 9, midnight, Brown.)

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

12 noon. Tuesday Noon Film Series, "Joyce at 34," about mixing family life and a career; and "Yudie," a portrait of a woman recalling her experience as an immigrant. Mallinckrodt Gallery.

7:30 and 9:30 p.m. WU Filmboard Series, "Public Enemy." Brown. Admission \$1.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13

7:30 and 10 p.m. WU Filmboard Series, "Lacombe, Lucien." French with subtitles. Brown Hall Theatre. Admission \$1.25. (Also Thurs., April 14, same times, Brown.)

THURSDAY, APRIL 14

7:30 p.m. Hillel Foundation Film, "The 81st Blow," a documentary about the Nazi holocaust, made by survivors living in Israel. Hillel House, 6300 Forsyth.

EXHIBITIONS

"School of Fine Arts Undergraduate and First Year Graduate Student Exhibit," including undergraduate sculpture, printmaking, metal-smithing, fashion, drawing and design; graduate sculpture, printmaking and metalsmithing. Steinberg Gallery. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat.; 1-5 p.m. Sun. April 10-20.

"School of Fine Arts First Year Graduate Student Exhibit: Painting," Shoenberg Gallery, Mallinckrodt Center. 9 a.m.-12 midnight, Mon.-Sat.; 12 noon-12 midnight, Sun. Through May 20.

"First Books," a chronological selection of literary debuts by important figures in British and American literature, 1782-1960. Among authors represented are Thoreau, Melville, Hawthorne, Burns, Hardy, DeLaMare, Byron and Joyce. From the Rare Book Department Collection. Olin Library, level 5. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Mon.-Fri. Through June 30.

"Fashion Design of the 19th Century," an exhibit of hand colored fashion plates, selected from 19th century books and periodicals, showing European fashion design of that century. Also on display will be costume books illustrating 19th century folk and nationalistic dress from all over the world. From the Fashion Design Collection, Art and Architecture Library. Olin Library, level 3. 8 a.m.-12 midnight, daily. April 11-30.

MUSIC

SUNDAY, APRIL 10

3:30 p.m. "Evensong" traditional Anglican Church service. Dr. Johnstone Patrick, pastor, 1st Presbyterian Church, will deliver readings. Edmund LeRoy, baritone, WU instructor in voice, will act as preceptor with a choir of WU students and church members. David Bartlett, organist, 1st Unitarian Church, and Michael Chibbett, visiting artist-in-residence, organ soloists. 1st Presbyterian Church, 7200 Delmar.

TUESDAY, APRIL 12

8:30 p.m. Department of Music Organ Recital, Michael Chibbett, visiting artist-in-residence, soloist. St. Louis Priory, 500 Mason Road.

PERFORMING ARTS

FRIDAY, APRIL 8

8 p.m. Thyrsus Production, Hay Fever, by Noel Coward, directed by Candy Rhea, WU undergraduate. Mallinckrodt Drama Studio. Co-sponsored by Student Union and Congress of the South-40. (Also Sat., April 9, 8 p.m., Mallinckrodt; and Sun., April 10, 2:30 p.m., Mallinckrodt. A special performance for residents of the South-40 will be given Sun., April 10, at 8 p.m. in Mallinckrodt. Meal cards must be presented at the door.)

Mary Wickes

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dents never go near another acting class, they'll make good audiences. I can't bear it if people miss the thrill of seeing good theatre."

To help insure that good theatre and good actors and actresses will be available in the future, Miss Wickes has established the Mary Wickes Drama Prize for an incoming performing arts freshman. The first prize will be awarded in September, 1977.

"I'm having a good time. I love teaching," Miss Wickes says of her new experience here. For the audiences she has delighted through the years, and for the city and University that have shared her stardom, one can only say, "thank you, Mary Wickes, for all the good times you've brought to us."

(Karen Kleyman)

Wizards

(Continued from page 2)

inherited, Harrington, when asked what his family's reaction was to his dazzling feat, replied, "They said 'that's nice.'"

Tracked down by the Watts Line, Strenski jested that he was a "genius" with a six-year-old brother who is similarly blessed.

In short, all three young men have the grace and wit to take their latest accomplishments in stride. All of them are old hands at winning honors. Strenski and Steger are Compton Scholars; Harrington and Strenski both have National Merit Scholarships.

(Dorothy Brockhoff)