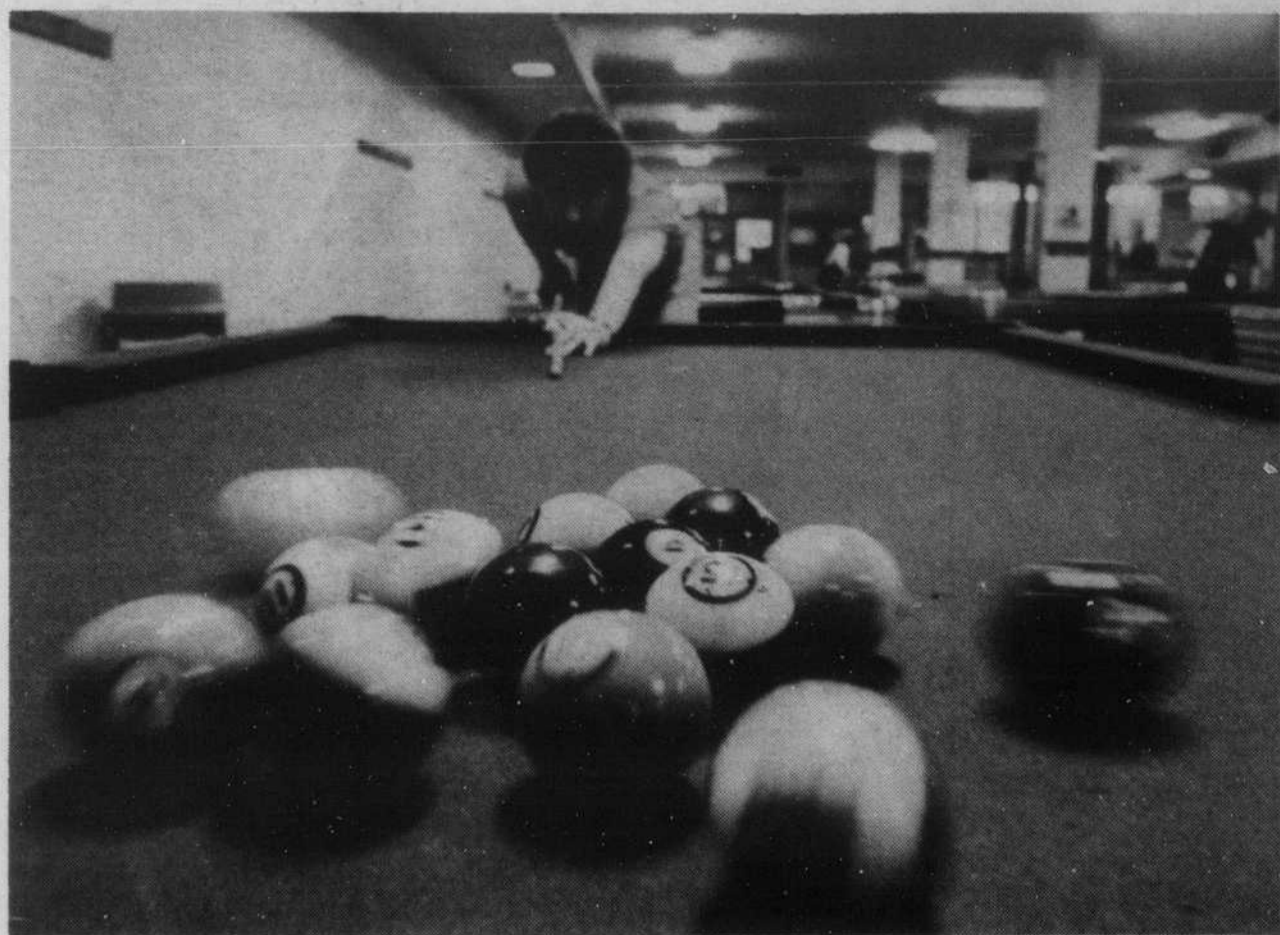


recreation center



Whether their game is billiards, bowling or Bag-Man, low-budget students can save some quarters by taking advantage of the bargains in the EMU basement. The savings are part of the latest promotional campaign by the Recreation Center.

Tournaments, discounts should attract players

University students who enjoy an occasional rack of eight ball, a few frames of bowling or the challenge of foosball can expect to save a few dollars this term — if they play at the University Rec Center located in the EMU basement.

Despite averaging more than 200 customers a week, Beverly Ficek, acting manager of the center, has several promotions on tap to draw more students to the facilities, and those promotions mean lower costs for students.

Ficek, who earned a bachelor's degree in geography from the University in 1976, has worked full-time at the center as assistant manager for five years. She worked part-time as a bowling student instructor while attending graduate school in 1977.

Ficek ignored her degree and continued to work at the center because she enjoys the campus atmosphere and the students, she says.

"I've met students from all over the world," Ficek says.

The center has traditionally made money, but not in the past year. She says its share of the EMU budget has decreased because "when the University is hurting, so is the rec center."

And she wants to boost center activity by offering savings to students.

One saving will be at the billiards tables. On Thursdays, tables cost \$1 per hour from 4

p.m. to closing. The center boasts 15 tables, including three cushion slates and one snooker table.

For those who delight in combining a game of pool with the thrill of risking a couple of bucks, the center is sponsoring a pool tournament every Thursday at 7 p.m., Ficek says. Entry is \$2 and all the entry money will be paid out in cash prizes.

Bowlers also can benefit from Ficek's promotions. From 2-4 p.m., Monday through Friday, bowling will cost \$2 an hour, regardless of the number of games bowled.

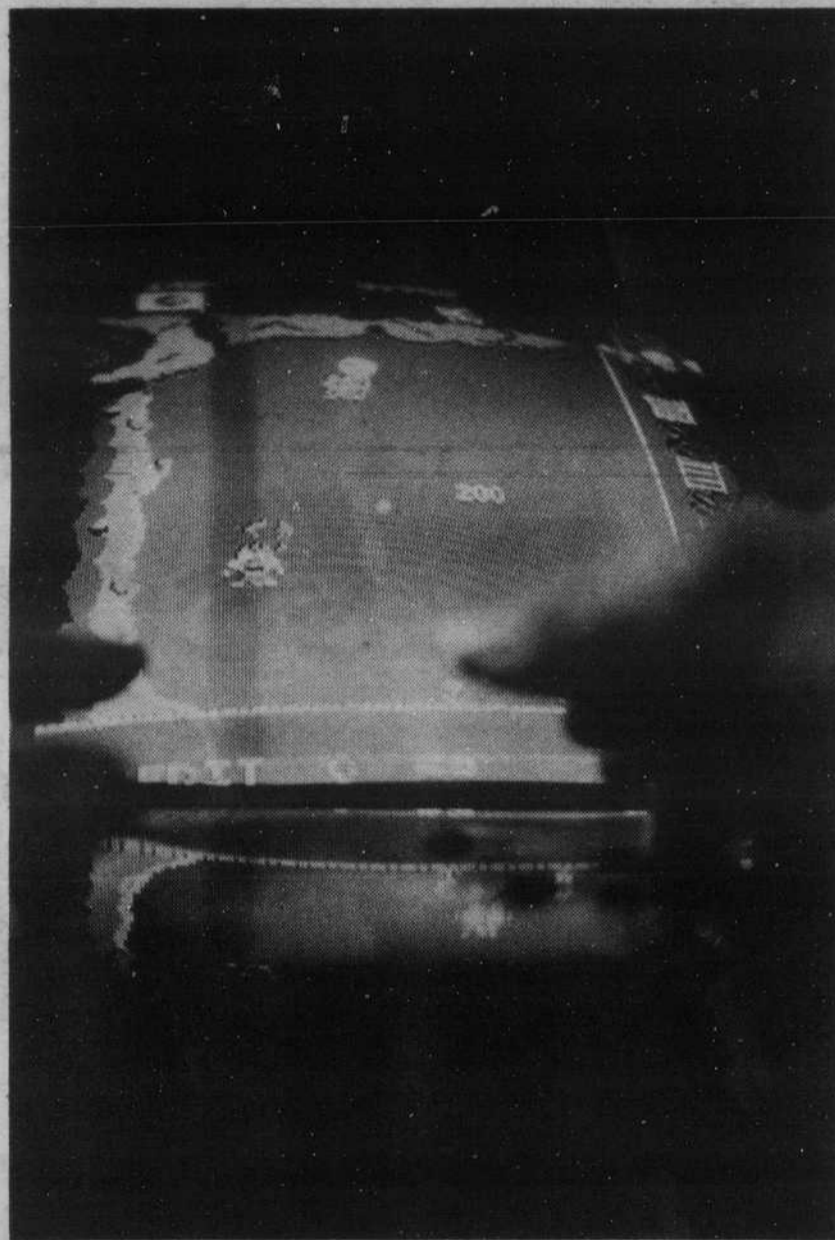
The more serious-minded bowlers can play in leagues that are offered four nights a week.

And free action nights even appeal to the thriftiest of students.

Different nights of the week will feature different tournaments such as backgammon or card games. The center also has two dart boards, chess, checkers and cribbage games available. Students need only to show their fee cards to use the games.

As video addicts know, the rec center's arcade room needs no promotion because it currently supports the rest of the area, Ficek says. The video game craze keeps the arcade full and the quarters rolling in.

Another popular feature of the center is canoe rental. The rec center controls the Waterworks Canoe Co., which has canoes and kayaks and is open April through October — weather permitting.



Photos by Dave Kao
Story by Jim Moore



LUTHER

by John Osborne

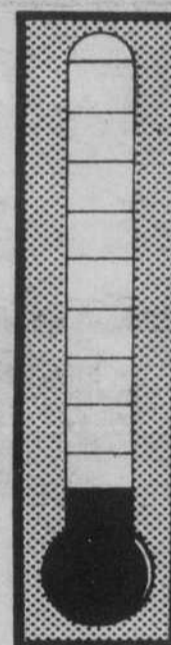
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