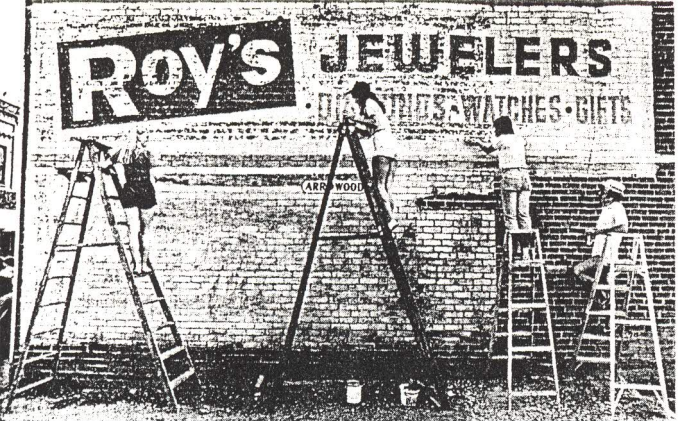
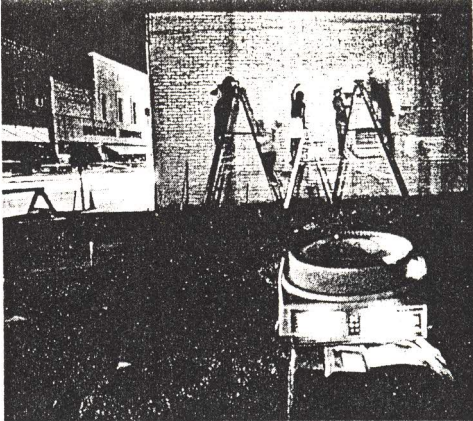




As the work began, there were advertisements on the old brick wall.



A slide projector was used to insure accuracy.

How a mural comes to be

By STEPHEN HARRIS
News Herald Staff Writer

Sitting on the lawn, heading for tennis, getting some sun and other scenes of a lazy Burke County Sunday afternoon are now frozen in time on the wall mural for the new downtown Morganton mini-park.

Work on the three-week project by Western Piedmont Community College art students and former students will conclude Saturday with the final orders being applied.

The 14-by-25-foot mural is located at the west side of the Dale Building at the corner of West Union and King streets in Morganton, site of a former taxi business.

The students, headed by WPCOC art instructor Raymond Goodfellow, used adders, lifts, and even a projected image through a slide projector to produce their first-ever outdoor mural.

ral.

"The idea of public art is an important function of the project," Goodfellow said. "The fact that we were making something that is not hidden behind a door — it is something the public will have to deal with. In a museum, you have to go to it. On a wall, you will have to see (the mural)."

Artists spoke with passersby while working on the project, and the initial reaction from the public has been good, Goodfellow said. "We had a ball having people come by," he said.

After their idea was accepted by a Service League panel, students selected a work by French impressionist Georges Seurat, "A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte," for their rendition.

Then, students changed the Victorian age characters in the original work to modern dress and activities through mural-size sketches drawn at

the college.

Downtown, the artists covered old advertisements in the mini-park with their creation.

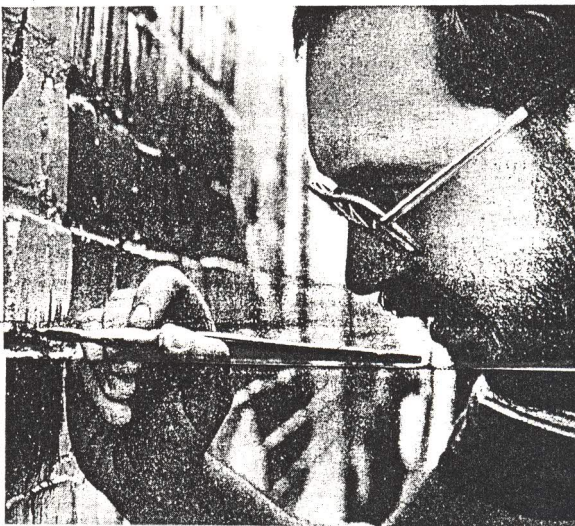
Goodfellow said the mural will draw attention to the artist, will act as a parity to the original artistic work and will act as a time capsule of our time.

"Mainly, the mural is an extension of the park," Goodfellow said. "It will visibly increase the size of the park. When you see the mural, you will see a continuation of the park."

The park will also include a food booth, now under construction, and a landscaped area for relaxing.

Among those who contributed to work on the mural were Todd Propst, Donna Clark, David McGee, Annett Clontz, Diane Olsen, Raymond Goodfellow, Huntie Jokinen, Robin Childers, Joette Poteet, Jodi Ross, Helen Katz, Wendell Hildebrand, Debbie Cramer and Becky Phifer.

Photos by
Mark Phillips



David McGee concentrates on some of the closer work.

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A happy group gathered as the work was nearly finished:

...Diane Olsen, David McGee, Raymond Goodfellow, Joette Poteet, Todd Propst and Robin Childers

City lifts were used to reach the high spots.