

sidelines

middle tennessee state university

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Wednesday, June 18, 1975

Regents to set guide for rate hike request

by Gina Jeter

Guidelines on MTSU's request for an additional \$5 dorm rent hike each semester and other budgetary matters should be handed down Friday by the Board of Regents.

Morris Bass, vice president for financial affairs, said Monday the regents will discuss internal budgetary guidelines Thursday and Friday at Shelby State Community College in Memphis.

Austin Peay State, Memphis State and Tennessee State universities also are asking regent approval of a \$5 increase each semester in residence hall rents to cover a recent hike in phone rates from South Central Bell, Bass said.

If approved, the \$5 increase will be added to a \$10 hike already passed by the regents to be effective fall semester. Rent in J and K apartments has been increased \$12.50.

"Bell increased the cost of each dorm phone \$1.60 a month," Bass pointed out, "raising the monthly rate from \$5.80 to \$7.40."

The guidelines, which will include a salary schedule, probably will call for a 10 per cent increase in tuition, Bass said.

"There also is a good indication the food plan for boarders may go up," he said. "We have received a request from Saga to

review food prices and other costs."

In addition to budgetary matters, the regents are scheduled to discuss a method for increasing student and faculty participation in board considerations.

Regents are expected to vote on a plan calling for two full-time students and faculty members to serve as "ex-officio, non-voting members" on the Academic Policies and Programs, Financial and Business Operations, Personnel and Student Life committees.

If the plan is passed, each president in the 16-school regent system will recommend either a student or faculty member to represent his institution for the 1975-76 academic year. Thereafter, the recommendation would alternate between faculty and student body.

Cantrell nets dean nomination

Paul Cantrell, associate dean of students, was recommended Friday to President M.G. Scarlett for appointment as dean of students.

In announcing his recommendation, Robert LaLance, vice president for student affairs, said Cantrell was one of two of the 15 applicants who "fulfilled all criteria" for the position.

Cantrell's "edge," LaLance said, was his familiarity with MTSU requiring no transition or adjustment period and his support from colleagues.

The appointment will not become official until the Board of Regents approves the recommendation.

The now vacant associate dean of students office will be filled through applications "in compliance with affirmative action guidelines," LaLance said.

Applications will be sent to every school in the state, he explained.

Ivan Shewmake, assistant dean of students, contacted yesterday, said he "probably" would apply for the post.



Paul Cantrell

Panel foresees process change

by Bill Mason

Federal law provisions outlining the privacy rights of parents and students may produce several school procedural changes, according to a university committee studying the act.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 forces any university receiving federal funds to provide a student access to his records, obtain his permission before releasing them and allow him to challenge record accuracy.

Committee chairman Cliff Gillespie said the act may have far-reaching implications.

These implications, he said, may include the termination of

(Continued on P. 2)

Grant loss cuts student aid by \$200,000

by Gina Jeter

Since the General Assembly last week did not fund the Tennessee Tuition Grant Program, MTSU's ability to financially aid students has been reduced by about \$200,000.

Financial Aid Director Winston Wrenn said Friday about 500 MTSU students would have received about \$200,000 from Tennessee Tuition Grant monies had the program been funded.

The tuition program was declared unconstitutional by the Federal District Court under the First and Fourteenth amendments last year because tax dollars were aiding "the establishment of religion" through grants to religious schools. Although the legislature rewrote the program to return it within legal bounds, neither the governor nor legislators appropriated the funds necessary for its operation.

Wrenn said he "feels good"

about MTSU's being able to help the 900-950 students who met his office's May deadline for financial aid applications. But without the state tuition grant program, he said, "it will be real difficult to help anyone coming in between now and fall."

The financial aid director said students who have already made application will exhaust funds in the university's work study program and allocation from the National Direct Student Loan Program.

However, students may apply through March 15 for federal aid under the Basic Educational Opportunity Grant Program (BEOG), Wrenn said.

About 538 MTSU students already will receive BEOG funds, he pointed out, with the average grant totaling near \$700.

"Last year's average BEOG grant was about \$500 so we're hoping that by pushing this prog-

ram we can maybe take up the slack left by the state tuition program," Wrenn said.

"People shouldn't just write or call," Wrenn said. "Sometimes by talking with each individual we can come up with a suitable alternative — helping a student gain a loan through the local banks or obtaining a private sponsor."

Computer upsets registration

A computer foul-up caused the confusion during registration for some students attending summer school, Director of Records Cliff Gillespie said last week.

"We're not exactly sure where the foul up occurred," he said.

Students with the most hours are supposed to register first, Gillespie explained.

However, during registration

several students with more than eighty hours complained that they were not scheduled to register until late afternoon.

Every student who attended intersession was probably a computer victim because he had to be issued new summer registration materials, the director said.

The complaining students had attended intersession, he added.

Privacy act may prompt procedural changes

(Continued from P. 1)

posting a student's grades and social security number on classroom doors and the release of discipline records, faculty evaluations and academic files to a student upon request.

Gillespie said another possible change is limiting faculty members' files on individual students. Also, a complete record of individual requests for information and how the information is dispersed may be established, he added.

Gillespie indicated the committee may recommend follow-

ing enforcement procedures recently instituted by Tennessee Tech.

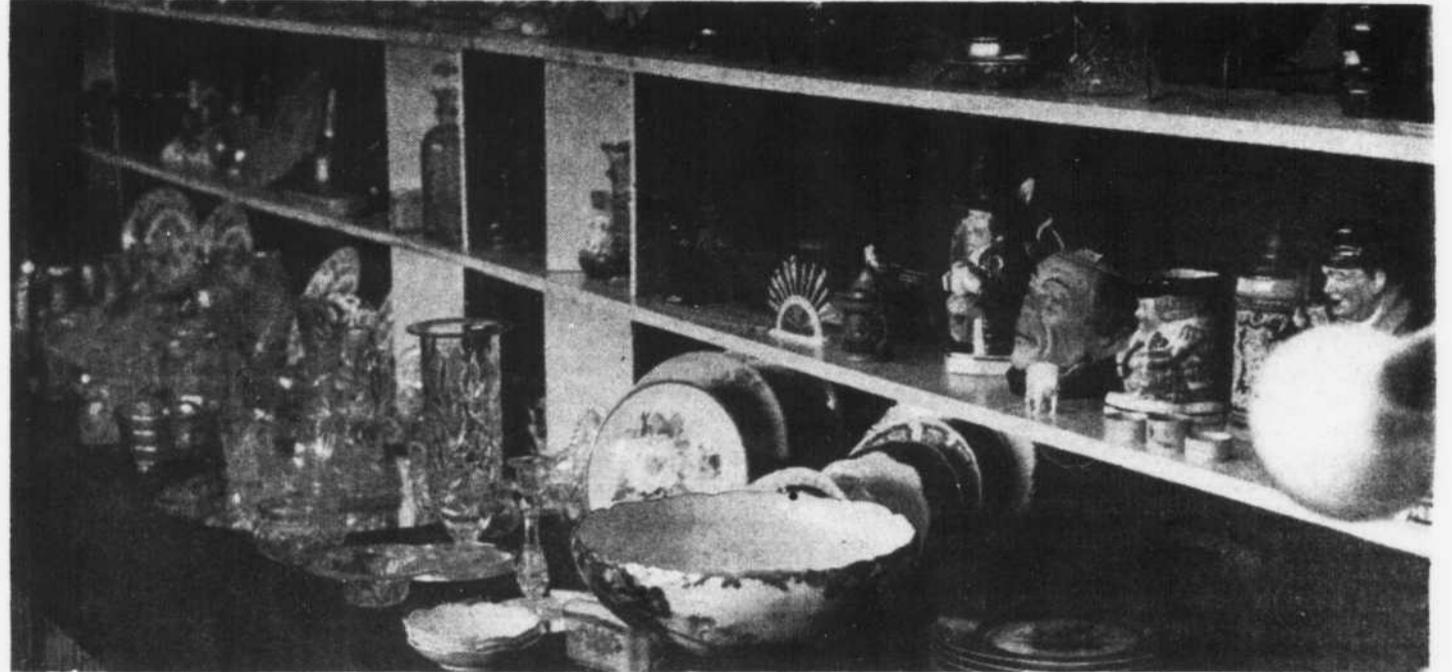
Tech officials compiled a complete list of records kept on individual students ranging from discipline files to music course

evaluations and made the list available to students.

Information listed as "directory information," which includes a student's name, address, classification, telephone number, major and dates of at-

tendance, may be released without permission unless a student requests otherwise.

Other information cannot be released without a signed waiver, Gillespie pointed out.



Phil West photo

Antique displays by 46 dealers will be exhibited at Hobgood Elementary School through Friday. This display, owned by Horace and Sara Mitchell

of Montgomery, Ala. features antique china, crystal and ceramics. Once a hobby, the antique business has developed into a full-time enterprise.

Jam tickets to be free

Tickets to the Sept. 12 Volunteer Jam '75 will be free to MTSU students.

More than half the tickets to the jam in Murphy Center, featuring the Charlie Daniels Band and other guests, are being held by the Special Events Committee for distribution and sale on campus, according to Harold Smith, director of student programming.

Students can get one free ticket with the option to buy one "in case they have a non-student date," Smith said. Tickets will cost \$4.

Student tickets will be available the first day of fall semester classes (Sept. 3) through Sept. 10, Smith said.

Dealers open antique show

Dealers from 12 states will sell their wares at the 20th annual Antique Show at Hobgood Elementary School this week.

The show, which opened last night, will run from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday. Admission is \$1.50. Proceeds will benefit Oakland's Mansion.

AAUP censures SASC head

The American Association of University Professors (AAUP) recently censured the president-elect of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SASC) for actions related to faculty tenure.

David Grubbs, president of the MTSU AAUP chapter and delegate to its 61st annual meeting in Washington, D. C., said the censure was voted "for not involving faculty in the question of removing the concept of tenure."

Directed against the Virginia Community College System, the censure placed an entire school system on the AAUP "blacklist" for the first time, he said.

Dana B. Hamel, Virginia System chancellor, is president-elect of the SASC. As president of the accrediting agency for the schools in 11 southern states, Hamel also will serve as chairman of the SASC Board of Trustees.

The vote of censure "puts him (Hamel) in a conflict of interest position," Grubbs said. "The AAUP has initiated a move to get him to resign or to get university presidents in the association to ask him not to take office."

Hamel cancelled the tenure concept for all professors who did not already possess it in over 20 Virginia community colleges, Grubbs said.

"He (Hamel) had all the presidents in the system to assemble the faculties at the same hour and read the announcement to them," Grubbs said. "Later it was revealed he had secretly been planning the move for two years."

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ASB president seeks executive secretary

ASB President Ted Helberg is accepting applications for executive secretary.

Helberg said he has contacted the business department three times but has not received any names of persons interested in the position.

Applicants must be able to take shorthand and type.

For further information, contact the ASB office, 898-2464 or box 1.

Dorm system may cause problems, dean says

Orienting dorm residents this fall to the new differentiated housing plan may be a problem, Associate Dean of Students Judy Smith said Friday.

"We're concerned about getting the program where we have the guidelines equally enforced and have the same kind of supervision in every differentiated dorm," she explained.

Residents are being assigned to halls with no visitation (Type A), open house only (Type B),

visitation two nights weekly (Type C) or visitation four nights weekly in J and K apartments (Type D).

Housing Director Sam McLean said most residents requested either Type C or Type D. Six per cent of the women and 13 per cent of the men selected Type A or Type B.

Differentiated and corresponding halls for women are: Type A — Rutledge; Type B — Monahan, Schardt, Reynolds and Lyon;

Type C — Felder, Wood, Smith, High Rise West, Cummings, Miss Mary and McHenry; and Type D — J apartments.

Differentiated and corresponding halls for men are: Type A and B — H hall; Type C — Beasley, Sims, Judd, Gracy, Gore and Clement; and Type D — K apartments.

Smith said three residence hall programming directors will be

responsible for coordinating visitation programs, dorm governments and other activities.

Although the housing plan does not provide traditional freshman dorms, MTSU will still employ two women dorm programming directors, Smith said.

The directors will be Emily Ruffner, David Bragg and Ansley Hobbs.

Students may get VA loans

Veterans using the GI Bill are eligible for loans to meet necessary education expenses, Robert Bielak, director of VA regional office, said recently.

"The loans are not automatic to all students," Bielak pointed out, "but applicants who demonstrate a clear need can qualify for loans up to \$600 per academic school year under a recent law."

"The law, which raised monthly education payments by 22.7 per cent, stipulated loans could be extended only to those students who were found to be in need after the 'actual cost of attendance' was compared to the student's total financial resources," Bielak explained.

Loan eligibility is limited to students eligible for VA education assistance for attendance at an educational institution on at least a half-time basis, he added.

Another provision requires qualifying students to have sought assistance under the guaranteed student loan program of the Higher Education Act of 1965, he said.

Dropping a class?

Students wishing to drop a first-term summer course with a W-P or W-F must do so by next Wednesday.

Tuesday is the last day to drop a whole-session course without a grade, and July 10 is the last day to drop a whole-session class with a W-P or a W-F.

Second term deadlines are: Last day to register or add — July 15, Last day to drop without a grade — July 21.

Don't pack that suitcase!

Today

GED test: 8-midnight; UC 314

Boy's Basketball Clinic: all day; Auxiliary Gym 2, Murphy Center; and AM gym.

Church of God in Christ Youth Congress: 10-midnight; UC 310, 311, 312, 313 and 316; UC theatre; 4-5 p.m. and 7-11 p.m.

Karate Club: 4-6 p.m.; dance studio B, Murphy Center

Tomorrow

Boy's Basketball Clinic

Church of God in Christ Youth Congress
Tennessee & National Association of Secondary School Principals: 3-10 p.m.; SUB

Upward Bound Progress: 7-9 p.m.; AM pool

Friday, June 20

Boy's Basketball Clinic

Church of God in Christ Youth Congress
Tennessee & National Association of Secondary School Principals

Exchange Club - Youth of the Year Banquet: 6-10 p.m.; Tennessee Room, SUB

Saturday, June 21

Church of God in Christ Youth Congress
Tennessee & National Association of Secondary School Principals

Girl's Basketball Clinic: registration 1-5 p.m.; Wood and Felder halls

Monday, June 23

Girl's Basketball Clinic

Karate Club: 4-6 p.m.; dance studio B, Murphy Center

Fencing Club: 7-9 p.m.; dance studio B, Murphy Center

Free Film: "Lion and the Horse"; 8:30 p.m.; baseball field

Lions' Club Banquet: 6:30 p.m.; Tennessee Room, SUB

Tuesday, June 24

Girl's Basketball Clinic

Graduate test: 1 p.m.; UC 314

Fencing Club: 7-9 p.m.; dance studio B, Murphy Center

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Civil War laundress relives local history

by Gina Jeter

When MTSU graduate Charlene Ellard accepted a summer job at Stones River National Battlefield, she had no idea she would be living the life of a Civil War laundress.

"But it suits me fine," she claims, "I enjoy it so much I could do it all summer."

Charlene, who was graduated in May with an education major, is among about 20 National Park Service employees participating in a two-week military arts course for Civil War soldiers that continues through Saturday.

"We're interpreting history by basically living like Civil War persons would have lived," Charlene said.

Wearing a period dress of blue and white floral print and a matching bonnet, Charlene is playing the wife of Corp. Dougherty, a federal soldier.

Corp. Dougherty would have had to bribe his lieutenant to gain her admittance in to camp, Charlene pointed out, because it was usually open only to wives of higher-ranking officers.

"I would have washed the soldiers' clothes for 65 to 70 cents a month from each man," Charlene explained, "but the laundress was given only one ration a day so I would have traded services for meals with the men who could not pay."

However, Charlene is not actually washing others' clothing.

"I don't even have to march," she said, "but I am learning how to fire a cannon and load, shoot and take apart a musket."

As a laundress, though, Charlene spends about one-fourth of her time helping prepare meals that range from corn-meal mush for breakfast to jambalaya for supper.

Charlene said she and the other "campers" created their "war stories" to fight boredom during last week's heavy rain.

"Really the rain helped camp morale by bringing us together," she claimed. "We played poker with 19th century cards that don't have numbers, told stories and read copies of magazines and newspapers from that period."

Sometimes acting out the roles has neared reality. Charlene explained that Corp. Dougherty entered her tent one day to find her and the lieutenant talking.

"It erupted into a brawl," she said, "with the two squaring off with guns to fight it out. The other men were shouting them on and making bets. It was like it was real."

Visitors to the camp at Stones River Battlefield are welcome from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., but it is after gawking eyes are gone that the soldiers relax around their campfires.

And Charlene, after a hard day as a laundress, joins in the polkas and buckdancing to period tunes from a fiddle and guitar.



Photos
by
Charles Steed



Courts cheat girls -- professor

by Trina Jones

Court systems discriminate against female juvenile offenders because judges use traditional morality in handling girls, Roy Campbell, assistant professor of criminal justice administration, said last week.

Speaking to the local National Organization of Women, Campbell said female juvenile offenders receive differential treatment because of the traditional

religious and community values of judges and parents.

Parents bring "sexually active" girls into court and ask that they be sent to reform institutions, but boys are rarely, if ever, similarly charged, Campbell said.

Discrimination also is evident in reform institutions where males are offered a variety of training programs in carpentry, welding, mechanics and dairy

work while females study food services, laundry or cosmetology, he said.

Males also can be discriminated against, as in shoplifting cases, when they may be required to pay for stolen merchandise in addition to a fine, while females are required to write "I will not shoplift" 1,000 times before being sent home, the former Metro juvenile defender said.

Saga to issue 'durable' tickets

Students buying meal tickets next year will possess a "more durable and washable" card, according to Saga director Dick Deheck.

"The new ticket will be hard to tear and hard to duplicate," Deheck said.

The new cards will utilize the same cloth-type, fibrous paper now used for the 3-2-1 meal tickets, Deheck explained.

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Legislative snub may cause statewide teacher's strike

Congratulations to the General Assembly!

Once again Tennessee will rank in the lower 10 per cent in the nation on money spent per student on education.

A few weeks ago, the executive director of the Fiscal Review Committee (an intra-house-senate panel) pointed out that colleges and universities in the Board of Regents system would receive about \$66 million under Gov. Blanton's proposed budget, with an average increase of about two per cent at each institution. The University of Tennessee system would have received about \$85 million.

The director added that the General Assembly "wouldn't want to cut teacher pay raises," which were proposed to be \$400 per teacher.

Since that time, more than \$40 million has been cut from the appropriations bill.

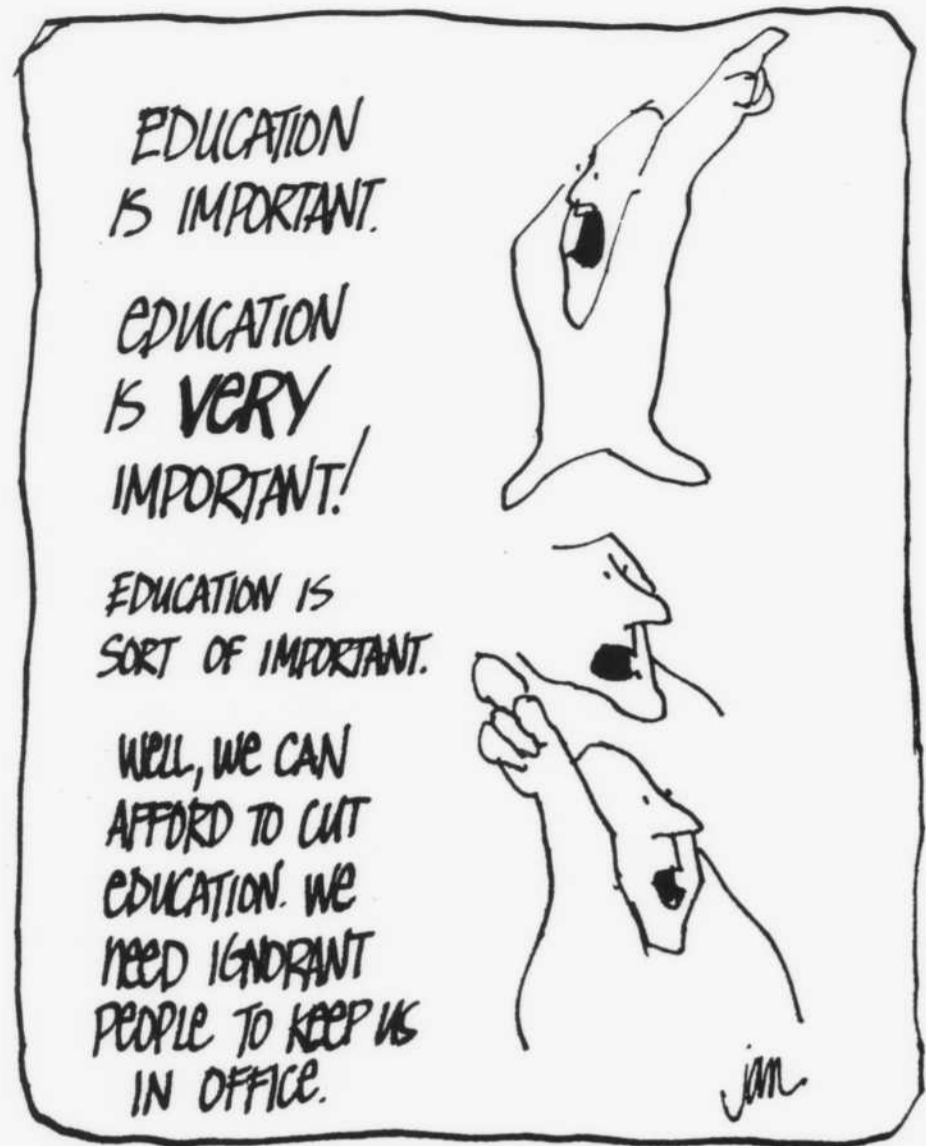
To its credit, the General Assembly has slashed little from higher education budgets.

However, Tennessee's public school teachers were not so lucky. Their state pay raises were cut to \$150. With 3,400 public school teachers, the legislators were able to trim \$850,000 off the budget.

Meanwhile, special interest groups were able to exercise their influence over our state lawmakers. Cook Industries effectively lobbied for a \$616,000 tax exemption from the General Assembly, which Gov. Blanton rightly vetoed.

Again, however, the private corporation influenced the legislators to override the governor's veto. That tax exemption would have nearly covered the teachers' pay increase.

Perhaps the state's teachers, who admittedly have a powerful lobbying group, should do more than lobby. Teachers strikes have occurred in this country before. Maybe it's time for one in Tennessee.



Comment

Master Ned leashes servile General Assembly

by Rick Edmondson

Terrified that Tennessee's very own worldwide wheeler-dealer and favorite son, Ned Cook, might pack his mink-lined suitcases and leave the state, the General Assembly voted last week to override Gov. Ray Blanton's veto of a special interest bill granting Cook Industries of Memphis a tax break.

After his "tax package" oozed through the assembly, Cook packed up his marionette strings, wiped the saliva off his shoes and went back to Memphis, leaving the state with a "bare bones" budget that is now even barer.

Now that Cook has discovered his amazing influence over an obnoxious group like the General Assembly, what organizations will he try to manipulate next? The CIA? The FBI? Or, even worse, SAE fraternity?

What will lawmakers do when tax time rolls around again, and Big Ned wants another break? Of course there is only speculation at this point, but it will probably go something like this:

Big Ned flies to Nashville in his private jet and immediately rents 10 floors of the Sheraton Hotel for a big party.

"Just a small intimate little get-together," he says.

All of Cook's devoted followers in the legislature are invited. The

social affair is a success, and everybody comments about what a swell guy Ned Cook is to throw such a nice party.

The next day on Capitol Hill, Big Ned, swamped by hordes of admirers, strolls calmly into the senate chamber. Senate Speaker John Wilder pounds his gavel and then jumps back into the hip pocket of Cook's seersucker pants. The legislature, now thankfully "independent" of all executive coercion, comes to order.

Sen. Bill Baird, a proud product of baseball, hot dogs, apple pie and Chevrolet who maintains he is "not a disgrace," takes the floor.

"Three cheers for Ned Cook. All in favor of giving this fine out-

standing Tennessean a tax break, say aye. Yes indeed, and the ayes have it!"

Obviously pleased with the senate proceedings, Big Ned struts confidently across the hall to the house chamber where little Ned (McWherter) is presiding over business. Immediately all the representatives snap to attention, ignoring little Ned who goes right on talking.

"Sit down and shut up, McWherter," Big Ned commands.

"Uh, b-b-b-but . . ."

"I said shut up."

"Yes, Mr. Cook."

"Now as you are probably all aware, I'm here for a tax break,

and if I don't get it I'm going to leave the state."

"Aw, Ned," they all tearfully exclaim in unison.

"Now don't be hasty, Mr. Cook. I'm sure we can get you a tax break."

"Yes, yes," they all agree.

"Good, because if I don't get it I'll revoke everybody's membership in the Ned Cook Fan Club."

The measure is passed by a four to one margin. Some of the younger members complain about the elderly not getting a tax break on prescription drugs. However, they are largely ignored by the wiser, more experienced legislators.

As the newly independent Ned Cook State Legislature recesses for the day, the members file out of the building and across the street to the Ned Cook Bar and Grill, which observes Ned Cook Happy Hour every day between five and six by running \$3 specials on Ned Cook Wallbangers.

Wilder and Big Ned are the last ones out of the building. Wilder strains at his nylon leash with the three gold stars on it, which is grasped firmly in Big Ned's pudgy hands. Wilder pauses briefly next to a fire hydrant, but Big Ned tugs impatiently at the leash and obediently Wilder follows.

Sidelines

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Musician Charlie Daniels and his band will highlight the Volunteer Jam '75 here Sept. 12. At right, bassman Charlie Howard, Daniels and guitarist Tom Crane warm-up before a performance in a Nashville night club.



Charlie Daniels plays 'the natural thing'

by Jerry Manley

Country-southern rock musician Charlie Daniels, whose band will headline Volunteer Jam '75 at Murphy Center Sept. 12, said Friday he had "invited everybody from Lynyrd Skynyrd to Willie Nelson."

However, Daniels said the final slate of performers "just de-

pends on who's available."

"We won't know until the night of the Jam who's coming, but it's gonna be the best show we've ever had," he promised.

An imposing figure, Daniels and his five-man band were practicing in a Nashville night club readying for a recording session in Macon, Ga.

Shifting his wad of chewing tobacco from one side of his mouth to the other, Daniels called Southern rock "the natural thing to do. It's a combination of blues, country, jazz and a little bit of everything mixed together."

Pausing to spit into a Colonel Sanders bucket filled with sand, Daniels traced the evolution of

his music.

"I'm originally from North Carolina and I started out down there playing square dances and stuff. Then when rock got real popular I started playing rock and got me an electric guitar and amp. I played clubs for a lot of years," Daniels recalled.

The "down home country boy," wearing jeans and cowboy shirt, hugging his fiddle, said, "I like to ride horses, do light cowboying, hunt, fish, do outdoor things."

As the band moves in, ready to start the set, it's hard to believe such a diversified group can produce such a tight sound.

Drummers Freddy Edwards and Don Murray, who hail from opposite sides of the country, are very close when the music starts. Keyboard man Joel DeGregorio isn't your typical southerner; he's from Boston. Guitarist Tom Crane of Nashville and bassman Charlie Hayward, an Alabama native, round out the group.

The CDB is together from wild fiddle tunes to rocking blues, and on Sept. 12 they'll bring it all to Murphy Center.

Elton John album clearly not 'commercial'

by Margie Barnett

Listeners have come to expect a lot from Elton John because of the superior quality of his music, and he doesn't let anyone down with his latest album, "Captain Fantastic and the Brown Dirt Cowboy."

This album does not come up to the masterful perfection achieved on his 1973 double album, "Goodbye Yellow Brick Road," but it is a definite step up from last year's "Caribou."

"Captain Fantastic" is autobiographical. It tells of the problems and hard times experi-

enced by Elton and his lyricist-partner, Bernie Taupin, during their climb to fame. It is not a 'commercial' type of album. Instead it contains good, honest music that appeals to every type of listener.

The songs border on most all realms of music ranging from soul to pop to country and even classical. Some of the best cuts are "Captain Fantastic and the Brown Dirt Cowboy," "Bitter Fingers," "Tell Me When the Whistle Blows," "Someone Saved My Life Tonight" and "(Gotta Get a) Meal Ticket."

You get exceptionally fine music in a magnificently designed album package. It includes a poster of the outside cover and two 16 page booklets containing the lyrics and pictures from Elton's personal scrapbook.

"Captain Fantastic" is the first album in the history of the recording industry to be declared 'platinum' (one million copies sold) before shipment. Upon release, it grabbed the number one position of Billboard magazine's Top 100 chart.

Letters

Reader supports Cook veto, hits legislature

I wish to thank Sidelines for last week's editorial approving Gov. Ray Blanton's veto of the special interest legislation passed to pay a ransom to Ned Cook Industries of Memphis.

Mr. Cook, who said he would pick up his marbles and leave if he didn't get his special interest legislation, is typical of unpatriotic businessmen who have no feeling for the great majority of the people. If he indeed does leave, then goodbye and good riddance.

The veto is an example of Blanton's populist administration. He has shown himself to be interested in the welfare of the working class, the poor and every other citizen who has been neglected by the arrogance of power.

The legislature has shown itself to be nothing but a plaything for the wealthy and powerful. Although there are many decent men and women in the assembly, they have been out-manuevered by the coalition of Republicans and reactionary Democrats led by Sen. Bill Baird. Baird has

shown considerable skill in representing the selfish, which is certainly a dubious honor.

The attitude of these legislators has been to cut a "bare bones" budget rather than tax the rich. This of course does not mean cutting their pet projects. The best place to start cutting is

their own salaries and expenses.

Although I voted for Blanton in the general election, I opposed his nomination and voted against him in the 1972 and 1974 Democratic primaries. That will certainly never happen again!

Bob Pickard
box 6565

Pipeline hoax seeks to rip-off students

I would like to give you and the student body a little advice on a classified listing in the spring Sidelines concerning the "Alaskan Pipeline."

The ad can be nothing more than a first class "rip-off" of students. Note that the wording only says they are to "examine" job opportunities, etc. and weather

"information" along with a list of contractors.

News reports are that several hundred people are now lined up for jobs, and only a few jobs are available. They have long been taken by the people who are already there. Living conditions and costs are unheard of and almost impossible to obtain.

I feel certain the local employment offices and TV newsmen will verify these facts.

Do your fellow students a favor and take my advice or else look into this money-making scheme that some individual very likely thought up on his own. It's a hoax!

Lloyd Knowles Sparta, Tenn.

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Hey, everybody! Get off Coach Hurt's back

By Bill Mason
Sidelines Sports Editor

It's about time people got off the back of MTSU head football coach Ben Hurt.

No one should ever be subjected to criticism because he does the job he is supposed to do, but that is just what has happened to the Raiders' new coach. A look at the facts surrounding the recent controversy over the non-renewal of scholarships for eight of last year's players might be helpful:

1) Former Head Coach Bill Peck, whose teams usually lost and were a bore even when they won, got fired. That was a good decision if you believe the school should have a winning football program — and who doesn't believe that?

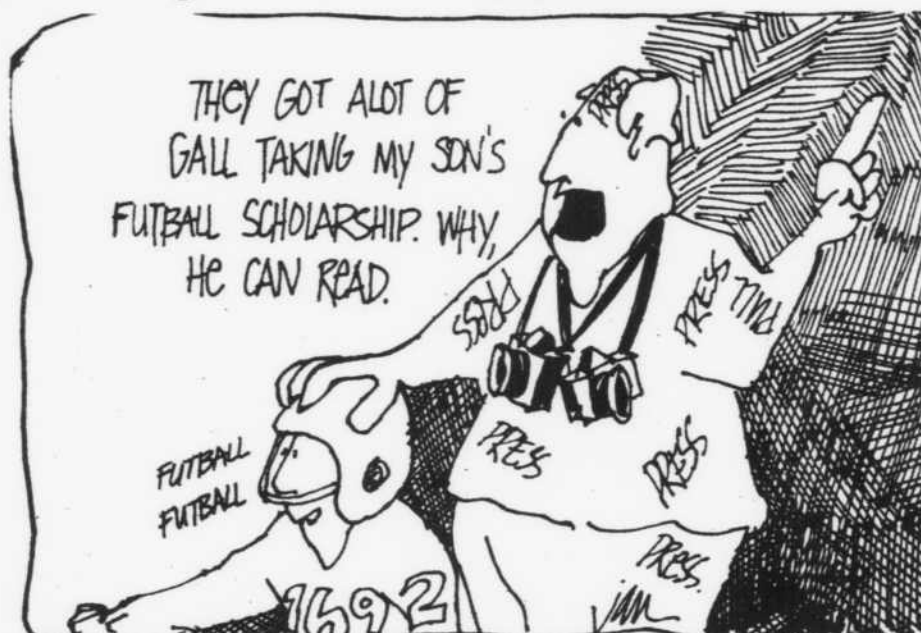
2) Ben Hurt, with an impressive history of experience and equally impressive overall credentials, was hired to help MTSU have a winning football program.

3) Coach Hurt came to town, took a look at the team, decided who was good at football and who was not-so-good and then decided to let the not-so-good players go.

4) The coach, in perfect accord with NCAA rules and in a reasonably fair manner, wrote each player a letter and told him about the decision that had been made.

5) A prominent Nashville newspaper which publishes every morning and which shall remain nameless got hacked off at Coach Hurt because one of the players cut is the son of a hot-shot staff member and wrote a series of articles, creating a controversy that never should have existed.

6) A television sports commentator at WLAC-TV (not Hope Hines), obviously without any idea of what he was talking about



(as usual) joined in the harangue with the aforementioned newspaper and several high school coaches.

Now look, Ben Hurt did nothing wrong. He was brought to MTSU

to do a job — establish a solid, winning football program. His decision regarding the eight or so players was more than appropriate; it was necessary; it was his responsibility.

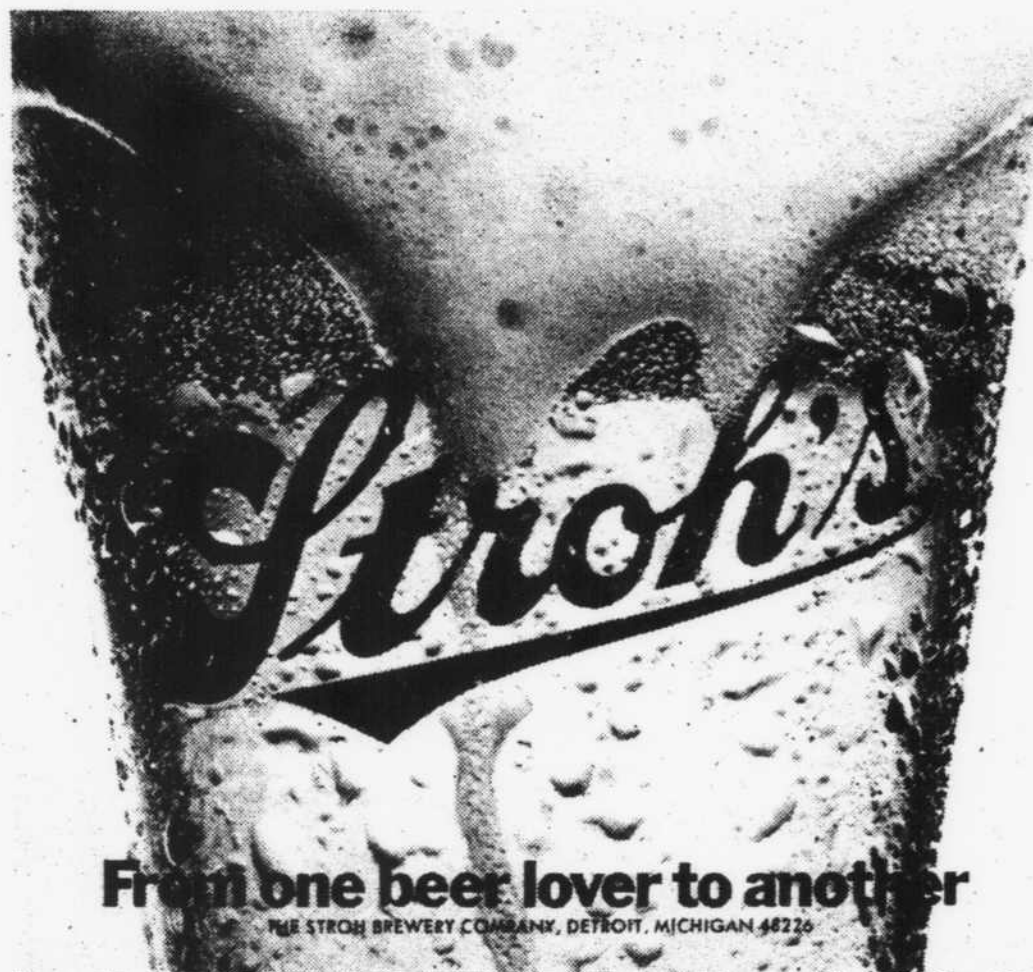
Obviously, one of the faults of former Coach Peck was his inability to recruit good new players. Coach Hurt had the duty to right former wrongs, and he did it. He shouldn't have to apologize to anyone for his actions.

If Peck promised these boys more than one year's scholarship, then he was breaking the rules of the NCAA, and he should be held accountable for it.

As for that Nashville newspaper and its columns and columns of bull on this subject, suffice it to say that no paper which bases its material on the personal grudges of its staff members deserves respect as a medium designed to disseminate factual information.

In short the whole controversy has its roots in the sand. Everybody on coach Hurt's back should get off.

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PICKUPS

Fencers seeking support for club

by Bill Mason

One of MTSU's fledgling amateur athletic organizations, the Fencing Club, is attempting to drum up some support and some interest in one of the oldest forms of competition.

Meeting together at 7-9 p.m. each Monday and Tuesday in dance studio B of Murphy Athletic Center, a small group of fencing enthusiasts spar with each other and develop, through experience, their skills in the sport.

Although the club is relatively small with only 15 members, not all of which are active, the group has some definite and ambitious goals for the future.

One of the first priorities is to get more people interested in the organization, explained Marlon Bell, a Woodbury freshman who is one of the more active members of the club.

"All of our members are novices," Bell said. "We welcome anyone into the club."

Bell said the club is also trying to get the HPERS department to offer an activity course in fencing, but the realization of this goal is probably about two years away.

"We are trying also to get a team together to fight with other schools," Bell said. An MTSU



Graduate student Mike Barnett (left) and junior Sam Boyd, both of Murfreesboro, spar with each other during one of the bi-weekly meetings of the MTSU Fencing Club Monday night.

Charles Steed photo

group has already fought a match with the University of the South, and the team "did pretty well" against the Sewanee fencers, he said.

The Vanderbilt fencing club has been very helpful in estab-

lishing the new organization, and a Vanderbilt club member has been coaching at MTSU for the past year, according to Bell.

After becoming interested in fencing, most club members will buy their own equipment, Bell pointed out. A person can outfit himself for about \$26, he said.

Bell invited anyone who might be interested in the club to stop by during one of the regular meetings to watch or participate or both.

Jock Shorts

Intramural games scheduled for 2 p.m. have been rescheduled for 4 p.m. for the entire season. Games scheduled for 3 p.m. will still be played at that time.

This week's schedule:

Today — Sigma Nu vs. Ho-Dogs and Benny and the Jets vs. Over the Hill Gang, 3 p.m.; Sidelines Stars vs. H.C. Rednecks and Good Timers vs. K-Kats, 4 p.m.

Monday — U.T. Turkeys vs. Good Timers and H.C. Rednecks vs. Sigma Nu, 3 p.m.; K-Dorm Elks vs. Bongadeers and Sisyphus vs. All-Star Sluggers, 4 p.m.

The MTSU Karate Club will meet at 4-6 p.m. each Monday and Wednesday in dance studio B of Murphy Athletic Center. Anyone interested in the club is invited to attend.

The HPERS department is conducting an adult fitness program for all interested faculty and staff members 7-8 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Murphy Athletic Center.

Anyone interested in the program should contact Guy Penny, program director, at 898-2141.

A former pitcher for the Blue Raider baseball team, Gary Melson of Clarksville, Ind., has signed a contract to play for a Cleveland Indians farm club.

The former MTSU standout will play for San Jose of the California League.

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Raiders recruit baseball standouts for '76

by John Pitts

With his eyes on improving this season's 24-16 record, baseball coach John Stanford has already signed three standout prospects and has a telephone agreement from a fourth.

"I think we're going to score more runs next season," Stanford commented, adding "we're not through recruiting yet."

A lack of left-hitting players

and an early season injury to catcher Rod Amburn hurt the Raiders' season record, Stanford said. Amburn had three hits in five at-bats before he broke his hand. His replacement batted under .200 for the entire year.

Stanford's first signee was strikeout artist Joe Harold Wilson of Holly Springs, Miss. Wilson posted a 9-1 record while leading his high school team to a fourth

place finish in the state championships.

A 6-1, 180 lb. right-hander, Wilson struck out 131 batters in 72 innings, walked only 13 and gave up only three earned runs for a tiny ERA of 0.38.

Ben Lankster, a team most valuable player at Motlow State Community College last year, "will fill a big gap" at shortstop, Stanford said.

Sought by both Memphis State and Kentucky, Lankster "knew about our program and had some good friends at MTSU," said Stanford, who described Lankster as "not a very big boy, but with good range, a good arm, and he swings a good bat."

Randy Chesire, a left-hitting catcher also from Motlow, will help the team by adding another left hander to the lineup, the coach said.

"We only had one left-hander in the lineup last year," Stanford said. Chesire played in high school for a successful Tullahoma High School team.

A fourth player, Danny Moore from Lexington, Ky., has told Stanford he will sign with MTSU.

Moore is also a left-hander and played last season for Columbia State. A probable leadoff man for the Raiders next season, Moore is a "real good defensive outfielder" who had also been sought by several Southeastern Conference schools including Vanderbilt, Stanford said.



John Stanford

The baseball coach said he thinks the OVC decision to eliminate fall baseball for next year as a cost-cutting measure is "lovely." Coaches found it hard to give walk-ons a fair chance to make the team when they had to be bothered with a handful of conference games, he said.

The elimination of the fall schedule means more conference games in the spring in which "the team with more pitching depth" will be the champion, Stanford said.

Stanford is entering his third-season as Raider baseball coach with an over-all 41-29 record. Before coming to MTSU, he coached at Motlow where he was named Tennessee Junior College Coach of the Year three times.

OVC head visits campus

Newly appointed Ohio Valley Conference commissioner Paul Dietzel, finishing a tour of member schools before taking office July 1, will leave MTSU this afternoon after a three-day visit.

Dietzel has spent his time here talking to all head coaches, assistant coaches and other athletic personnel, MTSU athletic director Charles M. (Bubba) Murphy said. In addition, the new commissioner has addressed several local civic organizations.

Dietzel spent an hour with each head coach, 30 minutes with each assistant coach and over three hours with Murphy.

The new commissioner asked the coaches their opinions on ways the conference can be helped through the commissioner's office, discussed OVC rules and regulations with Murphy and also conferred with Frank Glass, dean of admissions and records, about keeping his office up to date on eligibility requirements.

"He's getting a start on the right foot by coming around and getting to know the coaches and their problems," Murphy said.

Dietzel will succeed the OVC commissioner of 12 years, Art Guepe. He was formerly the head football coach at Army, Louisiana State and South Carolina.



OVC commissioner Paul Dietzel returns the serve of MTSU vice president Robert LaLance during the new conference head's visit to the campus Monday.

Ace shot putter signs MTSU grant

An outstanding junior college shot putter, Ted Housauer, has signed a track and field grant-in-aid with MTSU, athletic department officials announced this week.

A native of Bismarck, N.D., Housauer will join the Blue Raider track team in the fall semester.

Housauer comes to MTSU from Bismarck Junior College where he finished in third place in the national junior college shot put competition, both in indoor and outdoor competition.

The new Blue Raider has a top toss of 53 feet 9 inches, and head track coach Dean Hayes says he fully expects the recruit to improve considerably on that record.

In addition to shot put competition, Housauer has also competed in the discus throw. He has a toss of 144 feet 4 inches in that event and could become a standout in discus competition.

Hayes described the 6-3, 260 lb. Housauer as "big, strong and agile." He put the high school shot over 60 feet two years ago.

"We are putting most of our recruiting efforts into field event performers, and we feel that Housauer is the best potential shot putter we have had since Brian Oldfield," Hayes said.

Oldfield currently holds the longest shot put on record, a toss of 75 feet in a recent professional meet in El Paso, Texas.

Housauer is the second track and field star signed by MTSU this spring. Chattanooga standout David Robinson signed with the Blue Raiders earlier this month.



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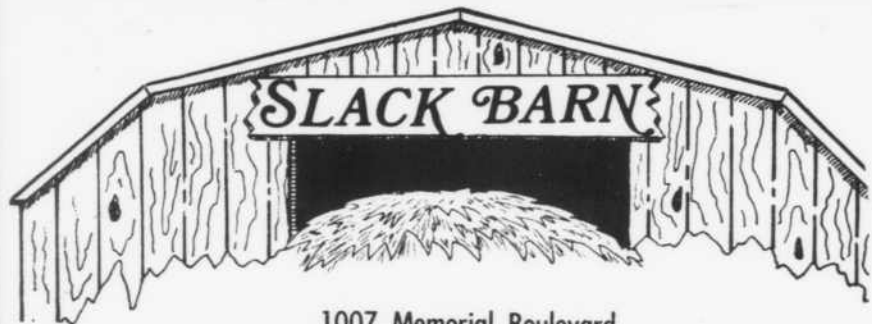
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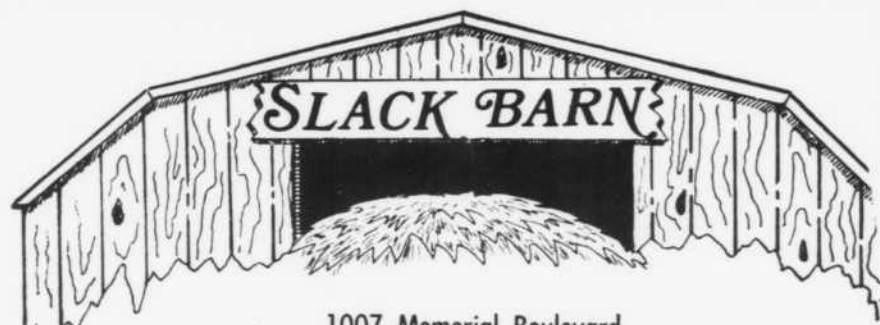
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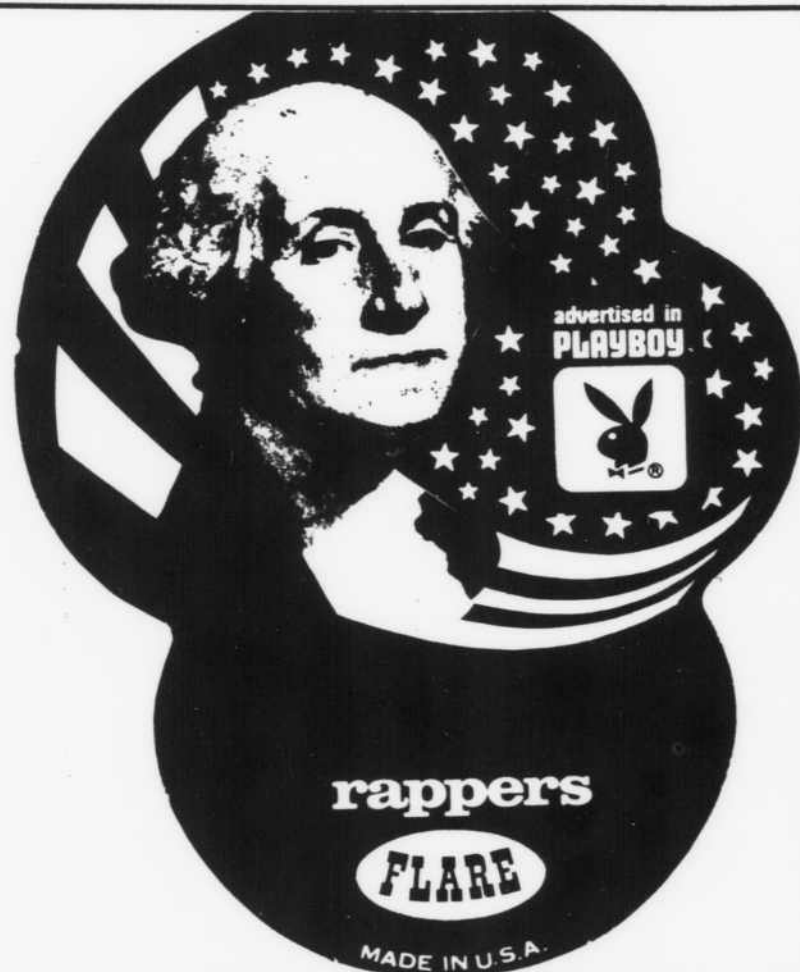
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