Senate passes new tuition aid program

by Phil West

Despite problems in finding money for programs, the State Senate Monday unanimously passed a bill designed to bypass a Federal District Court ruling declaring Tennessee’s present tuition aid grant law unconstitutional.

More than 300 MTSU students received money, which had been committed before the Nov. 8 ruling, for the spring semester after an extension of the program had been granted.

A federal court declared the program unconstitutional and ruled that state money could not be used to supplement students attending private religious institutions.

The senate bill (SB 165) and its companion house bill (HB 140) add a paragraph to the law stating: “Colleges and universities enrolling tuition grant recipients and receiving tuition grant funds shall use those funds solely for secular purposes, and shall maintain such records as are necessary to allow verification that funds received through the tuition grant program are used for secular purposes.”

However, Gov. Ray Blanton’s proposed budget does not include funds for tuition grants due to the federal court ruling, according to a legislative newsletter.

The newsletter points out that the 1974-75 tuition grant appropriation was $3.4 million with the Tennessee Higher Education Commission asking for $6.4 million for 1975-76.

A legislative spokesman said yesterday that the house bill was recommended for passage by the house Education Committee Tuesday and is now in the Calendar and Rules Committee awaiting scheduling for a vote.

sidelines
middle tennessee state university

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ASB seeks committee hopefuls

by Lisa Marchesoni

Applications for 17 vacancies on standing committees and seven court positions are currently being accepted by an ASB screening committee, Ted Helberg, president-elect, said this week.

Expanding the process of appointment to include a greater number of students will bring out the best qualified students, Helberg said, thereby achieving better representation of student views.

“Students have a definite influence and voice on university policies and as such must be willing to put forth the time and effort involved in these decision making roles,” Helberg added.

“Once appointed, if the student does not perform effectively, recommendations will be made for his removal,” he explained.

The screening committee will base their selections on interest, anticipated degree of involvement and past experience, Helberg said.

Applications must be submitted to Helberg at box 1 by April 11. Applicants should include their name, age, classification, major and other qualifications they deem pertinent to the position.

Committee positions are as follows: Athletic Committee (2 posts), Campus-Grounds Committee (2 posts), Co-Curricular Committee (2 posts), Curriculum Committee (1 post), Graduate Council Committee (1 post), Honors Council Committee (1 post), Library Committee (2 posts), Loan and Scholarship Committee (1 post), Residency Classification Committee (1 post), University Appeals Committee (1 post), University Discipline Committee (1 post), Food Committee (2 posts).

The Supreme Court will have positions open for one senior, one junior and one sophomore.

Two vacancies will be filled for the general sessions court and three posts will be open on the traffic court.

Sen. Brock to talk here

U.S. Sen. Bill Brock (R.-Tenn.) will speak to the Alpha Kappa Psi professional business fraternity at 8 p.m. Wednesday in room 322 ABC of the University Center.

Brock, Tennessee’s junior senator, will survey flood damage to the Stones River National Battlefield, present a flag to American Legion Post 16 and hold a news conference over WMOT-FM before speaking here.

A member of the Senate Finance Committee, Brock has become a major spokesman for revenue sharing and has introduced legislation to make it permanent. The senator also successfully fought for passage of the Congressional Budget Reform Act in 1974.

The fraternity meeting will be open to the public.

Mark your choice -- or forget visitors

Students writing their dorm preference on 1975-76 housing applications rather than the type of visitation they desire will automatically be placed in Type A housing, Housing Director Sam McLean said yesterday.

Speaking to ASB senators-elect, McLean said students have until Tuesday to place their visitation preference on their applications.

Dorm directors will forward the forms to the housing office Tuesday morning.

Type A housing offers no visitation or open house.
Court suspends students for excess tickets

Students who collect "an excess" of parking citations are subject to disciplinary action as well as the normal fines, according to Ivan Shewmake, assistant dean of students.

"Two students were suspended from MTSU after meeting of the ASB traffic court Tuesday. Another court meeting is planned for next week. According to the campus rules, students who receive six or more tickets are "subject to disciplinary action." Shewmake pointed out that one student who had 27 citations was suspended in the court session.

Shewmake said the traffic court's purpose is to help avoid mistakes in the traffic citation disciplinary procedure. He said one student who sold his car to another student violated several regulations. The original owner of the car could have been disciplined rather than the actual violator, had the court not been in existence to review the case, Shewmake explained.

"Issuing citations is intended to regulate traffic, not generate revenue," Shewmake said. He added that the six citation rules are not being followed to the letter, but that students "showing a complete disregard for traffic regulations" would be cited to the court.

"We've got a traffic system the traffic people say will work, if the laws are enforced properly," Shewmake said.

Ford declares area a disaster

Rutherford County has been declared a disaster area by President Ford, making local residents eligible for relief from damages caused by the recent heavy rains, County Court Judge Ben Hall McFarlin, said.

Anybody that has any damages at all should come by the Central Middle School on East Main today or tomorrow to see if they qualify for relief, McFarlin said. Nearly 20 federal and state workers will be present to help process claims.

Types of aid available through federal programs will include housing (up to one year), loans, unemployment compensation and damage relief payments.

The temporary office in the school will be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days, McFarlin added.

Get to know your adviser

A "Meet Your Adviser" period will be held Monday through Friday to allow students early approval of classes for intersession and summer session, Robert MacLean, dean of student services, announced Tuesday.

Class schedules for intersession, summer session and course listings for fall semester will be distributed "soon," he added.

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Heritage expert to speak

Students and faculty members interested in American culture will have an opportunity to meet and talk with John Hague, a nationally known authority in that field, Monday and Tuesday.

Hague will be available at 2:30 p.m. Monday in NCB room 343. He will speak on the nature of American Studies and current opportunities in the field at 10:50 a.m. Tuesday in NCB 103.

Sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities, both events will be open to the public.

Hague, a native of Pittsburgh, Pa., is a graduate of Princeton and Yale universities. Currently a professor at Stetson University, Hague teaches a course called the "Heritage of American Culture, the Progressive Era."

He is associated with the Smithsonian Institution, the American Studies Association, the American Association of Museums, the President's Seminar on the Future of the Church-related Colleges and the National Collegiate Honors Council.

Minor offered in U.S. culture

A minor in American culture is now being offered at MTSU to help each student "find his place in the American present as well as plan his place in the American future."

Two American culture courses, Epochs in American Culture and Themes in American Culture, are required in addition to six hours of approved courses in art, English, history, mass communications, philosophy, political science or sociology and anthropology.

Epochs in American Culture will focus on a selected epoch, such as the Gilded Age, in intensive study to perceive the interaction of new social patterns. Major themes, such as Puritanism or symbolism, will be traced to show their impact on political institutions, the humanities and mass culture.

Interested students should contact Sarab Howell in the history department or Michael Dunne in the English department.

Bicentennial group organizing

"And that's the way it was."

Does it make your blood boil to watch these expensive, historic minutes brought to television viewers each night by the Shell Oil Co. while you pay ever higher gasoline prices?

If so, you may wish to attend an organizational meeting of the Peoples Bicentennial Commission (PBC) at 7 p.m. Monday in the Midlander office on the third floor of the Student Union Building.

The PBC, with affiliated groups operating in 21 states, believes "special interests, muscle-bound monopolies and selfish politicians" have eroded the democratic principles the United States was founded on, according to literature from its Washington, D.C., headquarters.

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Gabolas
Capitalist reality outshines socialist dream

by Bill Mason

"The interests of the nation are best served by permitting each person to make his own decisions and follow his own self-interest in economic life." — Adam Smith, The Wealth of Nations (1776).

The appearance of Young Socialist Alliance representatives on campus during the last month has caused much hubbub, and it seems only fair that the other side of the economic and political story be told.

A point-by-point evaluation of the charges and promises of the advocates of socialism reveals just how unrealistic, unworkable, and undemocratic a socialist system would be, at least the system outlined by the YSA.

1) The YSA contends that the present political system is a failure and should be completely done away with. Two prime examples of this are the Watergate scandal and involvement in the Vietnam War.

A close look at both situations shows the socialists contradicting themselves. The Vietnam War went on for ten years, and it was brought to a close, not because of any revolution, but because a majority of the people opposed it and pressured the popularly elected government to end it.

Watergate revealed corruption in high places, and this same majority applied enough pressure to force the resignation of the President.

Far from showing the American system a failure, Vietnam and Watergate showed that the system really works — that the majority, whom the socialists say have no control over the nation, are actually in full control.

2) The present system of decision-making should be replaced by collective evaluation — government by referendum — in both business and the political system, according to the YSA.

What this would amount to would be a purely democratic system: absolute control by the majority. On the surface, this sounds pretty good, but a closer look is needed.

In Webster County, Miss., the majority (which is white) decides that blacks should be janitors and whites should be salesmen and teachers. Since the majority makes the decisions, the minority is oppressed.

The majority of the nation decides that Brown vs. the Board of Education, providing for school integration, is wrong. Again, the tyranny of the majority.

Government controlled by majorities in an absolute manner will not result in more freedom and cooperation, but in oppression of minorities, mass confusion and a decline in the standard of living.

3) A cornerstone of socialist thought is the concept of collective ownership and the elimination of competition. After all, say the YSA members, what is the point in making more than one type of product?

Private ownership and competition means the consumer has the option of either buying or not buying a particular product. If there is only one type of automobile, or flashlight battery, or soft drink or restaurant, where is the freedom of choice?

If there is only one type of automobile being manufactured, what do you do with the hundreds of thousands of employees presently working for the competitive industries?

Collective ownership and the elimination of competition would deprive the people of their freedom of choice, downgrade the quality of products and drive up prices and unemployment.

4) Socialists advocate the redistribution of income. All the property of the upper economic class will be taken and distributed among the poor.

Under a free-enterprise system, the size of each person's income depends on how productive his resources are. Under the socialist system, the abilities of an individual will not matter.

There will be no incentive for exceptional performance.

5) The YSA promises an end to poverty under a socialist system. To achieve this, there will be a guaranteed minimum income and wage and price controls.

The United States already has an elaborate system of welfare. Social Security, pensions, food stamps, unemployment, and other social benefits, so the concept of a livable income for every American is nothing new.

What the Socialists advocate that is different is jacking up benefits to the point that not working is profitable. Wage and price controls have a long history of stifling the economy.

6) The defense budget should be eliminated to increase social benefits and end war, the YSA says. If the United States disarm, all the other nations will, too.

It's hard to believe anyone is this naive. Our defense budget could definitely stand some cutting, but if every penny was devoted to the war on poverty, there would still be many Americans who are economically disadvantaged.

In addition, what makes the Socialists think that other nations are going to drop their military just because the United States does? History is full of Hitlers, Napoleons and Caesars overrunning defenseless and weak nations.

7) Finally, the YSA believes a revolution of labor and minorities will eventually take place.

They shouldn't hold their breath. Among the leading advocates of capitalism are the members of the AFL-CIO and the Teamsters Union. Minorities historically have not tried to destroy the system, but they have tried to rise within it.

No one who is employed is going to join a revolution. More than 92 percent of the work force is employed. No one who is unemployed is going to revolt as long as unemployment, welfare and food stamps are available.

The number of votes gathered by the socialists in the past 50 years indicates how weak they really are.

Free enterprise works. It brought us out of a world-wide depression in the thirties. It will bring us out of our present problems, too. Socialism might work — if the people are brainwashed to the point that they have absolutely no self interests, but the American people will never submit to that sort of system — and America will never live under the system advocated by the YSA.
Letters to the Editor

General ed courses judged too harshly

In response to the letter "Crown of Thorns" by Mike Wesson, we feel that Mr. Wesson stopped too soon in clearing the university's welfare rolls. Obviously, the meat of the problem is at the NCB.

Dorm plan not so hot

I was quite happy to see that others shared my viewpoint in the new differentiated housing plan. As far as I'm concerned, where I live is much more important than how many days a week I can have visitors of the opposite sex. My experience with dorm visitation (open house) has left me with the distinct impression that there isn't much to it anyway. During the last open house, it was obvious that my boyfriend was only anxious to get out of the "girl's dorm." I confess I felt the same way.

I don't know who started all this in the first place. However, I do know that whoever it was was not representing the majority of the resident students on this campus. I have heard more than one person say that this might cause them to move off campus.

Since next year's housing applications have already been printed up, I suppose it's too late to change anything for next year, but it's not too late for the year after next. So keep those cards and letters coming in. This page is one of the few ways we have to make our opinions known.

Cynthia Fulton
box 3485

Scientific education needed

After reading Mike Wesson's letter to the editor in the March 25 issue of Sidelines, I was amused to find a student on this campus who would prefer to remain ignorant in a world that bases most everything it does on Mr. Wesson's "crown of thorns," that is to say, science.

Why then does Mr. Wesson so despise a general education requirement in science? He says, "it's politics." Politics my eye! Science teachers are not toys to "it's politics". Politics my eye!

Why then does Mr. Wesson so despise a general education requirement in science? He says, "it's politics." Politics my eye! Science teachers are not toys to "it's politics". Politics my eye!

The anonymous Sidelines staffer who filed last Tuesday's lead article is apparently as ignorant of the current ASB Constitution and the rights of students as Rep. Bill Mason, Sen. Langford and the majority of the ASB house.

Article two, section one of the ASB Constitution now in effect states that "As citizens, students enjoy the same freedoms as are guaranteed by the constitutions of the United States and the State of Tennessee."

Section six of the same article states that "In the administration of disciplinary measures, the accused student shall be accorded procedural fairness. In such situations, whether formal or informal, the fundamental principles of due process shall be recognized."

It is unfortunate that the ASB senate, in demonstrating sufficient intelligence to realize that further amendments of an already strong Constitution is not useful, (while enforcement of that document might benefit all members of the MTSU community) has been made to appear vain and tyrannical through reportorial stupidity.

An apology, a publication of some parts of this constitution, an awareness of the lapses of our officials in their "enforcement" of laws already on the books and a willingness to bring these officials to task publicly for their lapses are a few of the steps I might suggest for Sidelines to consider for correcting this unfortunate error.

Copies of the ASB Constitution are available on request to any student in the ASB offices on the third floor of the UC.

Several xerox copies of this letter have been made for forwarding to appropriate persons in the event space cannot be found in Friday's Sidelines.

C. William Lewis
box 4449

News reporting comes first

I wish that one time Sidelines would quit emphasizing sensationalism and simply report the news. The ASB Legislature passed two bills and defeated one and the one defeat, which was nothing more than a repetition of the ASB Constitution, was given all the headlines and presented in a misleading manner designed to discredit the ASB.

One of those bills passed, to upgrade the quality of the MTSU security department through inducements for trained personnel to stay instead of seeking better paying jobs elsewhere, was given adequate space.

The other was an area in which the Sidelines made headlines for two weeks, but now that something has been done, no longer deserves anything but passing mention.

The administration refused to provide a service for the students, a controlled access position for off campus groups to expose students to views and opinions inaccessible to them through means other than direct inquiry.

The ASB stepped in, fulfilling for once its purpose of protecting student interest where it had been trampled on, and it was bylined in an article designed to reflect discredit upon the ASB.

The Sidelines does not get $40,000 a year to distort news. Its motto appears to be "All the news we can twist to say what we, through our ignorance, want people to believe."

Tom Wells
box 8449
Candy and goodies make a sweet Easter

Does your honey like jelly beans? Or maybe it’s sugar chickens, ducks, or any one of a number of confectionary creatures. Well, Easter week is the time to buy, and everyone seems to be doing just that.

Most Murfreesboro candy merchants surveyed agree that the individually wrapped candy used as "basket stuffers" is the best selling item.

"The molded eggs, jelly beans, and novelty items are our best sellers," Ruth Taylor, of Old Taylor’s Candy Kitchen said.

Despite a price increase in sugar and cocoa, Taylor said business is heavy. "Would you believe that chocolate prices went up worse than sugar?" she asked.

Business is also booming at other stores in town. "Yes, business is very good," according to Jess Beasley, assistant manager of Clark’s Discount Department Store.

"Our prices haven't gone up. I'm selling baskets for the same price as last year, while my regular candy has doubled in price."

A spokesman for Super X Drugstore said his best seller is the pre-wrapped baskets, but Beasley explained the baskets "rip off the consumer because they get only about two or three ounces of candy with a lot of paper and junk."

As always specialty items make the occasion stand out. At Old Taylor’s a 75-pound solid chocolate bunny watches customers come and go from his perch in the window. Taylor admitted that she has never sold one of these bunnies. "A solid bunny of 75 pounds, at $3 a pound..." she remarked.

Easter is for everyone, and candy can present a problem for diabetics — but not at Old Taylor’s. The store always carries sugar-free candy, but at Easter, special baskets are made up and labeled for diabetics. "All of our candy, including the diabetic, is made with no preservatives." Taylor added.

Stockpiles of the sweet stuff fill store shelves all over town, but what happens to the surplus?

"We mark all of it down on Saturday night and let a group of underprivileged children come in and take their pick," Beasley said. Can you think of a better way to convey the meaning of Easter?
Steer wrestling highlights spring rodeo

by Tom Wood

A special “College Open Steer Wrestling” event and a rodeo queen contest are two highlights of this year’s spring rodeo scheduled for 7:30 p.m., April 11 and 12 in the Rutherford County Agricultural Center.

In the steer wrestling competition, three men’s greek teams will attempt to carry a 400-pound steer across the finish line and wrestle it to the ground. The winner will receive “a keg of beer and about $150 worth of prizes,” Billy Yarbrough, rodeo organizer, said Tuesday.

“Trophies will be awarded to the first and second place teams. Girls wishing to enter the rodeo queen competition must be sponsored by a university organization. Entrants should contact Yarbrough. Trophies and $50, $25 and $15 gift certificates will be awarded to the top three finishers, Yarbrough said.

“A panel of judges will score girls on charm, sincerity, and how well they promote the rodeo,” he pointed out.

The $4,000 rodeo also includes bareback riding, team roping, cowgirl’s barrel racing, steer wrestling and bull riding.

There will be a $15 registration fee for each event, Yarbrough said.

“Out of this registration money, however, 50 per cent will be awarded to the winner,” he said.

The second place finisher will get 30 per cent, and 20 per cent goes to the number three man. Last year, we gave over $1,200 in paybacks.”

“Bareback riding is an eight-second ride in which the contestant is judged on how well he rides the horse,” Yarbrough said.

Team roping is just what the doctor ordered, said Yarbrough. “Team roping is a contest where two men attempt to rope the steer’s head and tail in the least amount of time.”

“In the cowgirl’s barrel racing, contestants will ride horses in a figure eight around three barrels,” Yarbrough explained.

In the bull riding event, cowboys will attempt to ride a brahma bull for eight seconds.

“Steer wrestling, exactly what its name implies, was originated by a black cowboy,” Yarbrough said. “In earlier days, however,cowboys used to bite the steer on the nose to drive them to the ground. ‘Today, we use leverage and momentum.’”

Registration for the events begins April 9 and is open to anyone.

In addition, an All-Around Cowboy award will be awarded. The winner will receive a $30 trophy buckle and “Tony Lama” boots from Sue’s Corral.

Admission to the two-day affair is $3 for students and children 12 and under and $2 for adults.

Cheerleaders to hold tryouts

All students interested in joining the MTSU cheerleading squad should meet at 4 p.m. April 7 in UC room 918.

Varsity cheerleaders will begin practicing with the applicants at 4 p.m. April 8, 9, 10 and 14 in the track area of Murphy Center. Tryouts for the squad will be held on April 15.
Baseball: Vanderbilt University evened MTSU's record at 7-7 Wednesday, with a 6-3 win over the Raiders.

Wally Mathis picked up three hits and one RBI, while teammate Chuck Smith earned one RBI and a pair of hits. Gary Melson absorbed the loss for the Blue. Vandy never trailed in the game, and the win upped the Commodores' record at 13-14.

"They just took charge early, and we couldn't come back," coach John Stanford reflected.

MTSU will host Wisconsin-Superior at 1 p.m. today in a pair of games, while Western Kentucky will come in for the start of the OVC schedule row for a doubleheader at 1 p.m.

Football: Stating that the winter conditioning program and attitudes have been excellent, new head coach Ben Hurt and his coaching staff are busy installing the "Houston Veer" offense and a 4-3 defense in preparation for the 1975 football season.

Several football players from Texas University, which recently dropped its program, have been up to visit the campus in recent weeks, Hurt said.

Spring training will wind up with the spring game, set for April 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Golf: Coming off a 12-place finish in the Palmetto Invitational, the MTSU golf team will travel to Richmond, Ky., this weekend to play in the Eastern Kentucky Invitational.

MTSU will be competing against 21 other teams in this event. MTSU golf coach E.K. Patty cited Ohio State, Kentucky and Eastern Kentucky as the teams to beat in the tournament.

The Raiders will be looking for another good round out of senior Jan McClain, who fired the only par round for MTSU at the Palmetto tourney and was the low man with rounds of 76, 72 and 76 for a 224 total.

Track: MTSU will have a dozen throwers running in today and tomorrow's Florida Relays in Gainesville, Fla.

"One good thing about the Florida Relays is that there are several divisions, including one for college freshmen," head coach Dean Hayes noted. "We have several good freshmen this season, and this will be a chance for them to compete on their own level."

The Raiders carry a 2-0 outdoor record, with a dual meet win over Miami-Ohio and a victory in last weekend's quadrangular at home.

Basketball: George Sorrell, Jimmy Martin and Steve Peeler, along with coach Jimmy Earle, will represent MTSU in the annual Kentucky-Tennessee charity basketball game April 7 at Vanderbilt's Memorial Gymnasium.

Proceeds will go to the Kidney Foundation.

Earle will coach the Tennessee team, while University of Kentucky mentor Joe Hall will guide the Kentucky seniors.

Also representing the Tennessee squad will be Rodney Woods of the University of Tennessee, Percy Howard and Joe Johnson of Austin Peay, and others.

Tennis: MTSU's Blue Raider tennis team scored a decisive 6-0 victory over the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Tuesday afternoon.

Doubles matches were cancelled because of gusty winds. UT-C managed to win just one set against the MTSU squad, in singles play.

Bob Butterfield dropped the only set of the day but won his match, however, with scores of 6-3, 3-6 and 6-2. Top-seeded Lasse Darchman, Geoff Gilchrist and freshmen sensation Doug Baxter swept their matches as did Peetri Pihko and Clyde Smithwick.

MTSU will defend its undefeated record against Southern Illinois University tomorrow at 2 p.m.

Wrestling: Jackie Fargo and George Gulas vs. Crazy Lake Graham and Don Duffey will be the main event in an Alpha Tau Omega sponsored wrestling match April 3 at 8:30 p.m. in the Rutherford County Agricultural Center.

In other matches, Joey Rossi will go up against the Masked Hornet, and lady midgets Honey "Girt" Paige and Diamond Lil will tangle.

Admission is $3 for ringside seats and $2 for general admission. For advanced tickets and further information, call 896-9939.