

Reagan Proposes Funding Cuts To College Students

By Susan Rogers

Since his inauguration, President Ronald Reagan and the United States Congress have been working to complete the National Budget. Some of the controversy surrounding this endeavor has centered on the allocation of funds to be used for education. A number of federally funded financial aid packages, the most well-known being the Pell Grant, are in extreme danger of being drastically reduced.

Reagan has said that he plans to place a ceiling on the amount of financial aid available to U.S. college students. It is entirely possible that in the near future any student whose family makes more than \$25,000 a year will not be able to receive any amount of financial aid from the government.

Recently appointed U.S. Secretary of Education, William Bennett, appearing on the ABC news program *Nightline*, said that the cut in federal aid would simply mean that "college students will just have to live without the luxuries of cars, stereos, and Florida vacations." This statement ignores the main point of the problem. Students that have all of those things do not depend on financial aid. But there are plenty of students without those luxuries, and whose parents make well above the cut-off point, who depend heavily on government assistance to pay their college expenses.

The government has griped for years about the increasing number of people on welfare and the high level of unemployment in this country. What Congress does not seem to realize is that by taking away financial aid they are promising that the number of non-working adults will continue to rise due to lack of qualified job applicants.

In previous generations, the percentage of people who attended college following their high school graduation was smaller than it is today. The necessity for a college education was simply not as great. However, most of this generation's students have always assumed that they would attend college. We have all heard our parents plead with us to do well in school because "your performance now determines the kind of job you will get later on." In fact, today's job market requires that almost everyone have, at the very minimum, a Bachelor's degree.

The United States has always been considered "the land of opportunity." But if the federal government insists on yanking the rug out from under its college students, only the well-to-do will be able to afford a secondary education. If this happens, those with college degrees will insist on pursuing only the highest paying jobs. Who, then, will run our nation's schools, post offices, and libraries? Without federal aid to help pay for college, America's middle-class students will be unable to compete on an equal basis in the job market.

Cutting out federal funds for education may save the government a few dollars (and make the Reagan administration look good) but it will certainly cost the American public an immeasurable loss in the unnecessary waste of countless lives and minds.

Photo by Tom Wilson



Margaret Zednik

Teacher Feature

Zednik At Home At BC

By Jill Avett

After traveling extensively in Europe and teaching in an Austrian elitist high school, Margaret Zednik has settled in Brevard. She came to Brevard College because she was "looking for a small college that emphasized good classroom teaching." Presently in her second year at BC, Zednik teaches German and philosophy.

Zednik has an extensive educational background. She received a BA in philosophy from Philipp's

University in Oklahoma, and a Master's degree in philosophy from the University of Texas. Zednik attended the University of Basel in Switzerland on a Fulbright scholarship and earned her masters for teaching English as a foreign language from the University of Salzburg in Austria.

For ten years, Zednik taught at BEA, an academic high school in Austria. A boarding school for girls only, BEA is located in the mountain lake district of Austria.

There she taught English and philosophy. After teaching both in the US and in Austria, Zednik sees several differences in the two national school systems. In the Austrian public school system, students work in a very disciplined manner. Learning a tremendous amount of factual material is essential. She sees the advantage in the American school system as the fact that American students as exposed to methods of library research and research papers in high school while Austrian students do no

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SGA Offices Filled

By Eddie Tadlock

The Brevard College Student Government Association recently held dorm elections to fill vacant offices within the S.G.A. legislature. The individual dorm elections resulted in offices being filled for the following:

Green Dorm Freshman Representative-Philip Brodsky, I replaces Greg Spanos.

Taylor Dorm President-Brian Haile replaces Bobby Lanpher.

West Jones President-Brenda Stanton replaces Annette Burghardt.

West Jones Freshman Representative-Kim Ormand replaces Martha Cedeno.

East Beam President-Phil Ireland replaces Scott Moncrief.

These individuals will be serving for the remainder of the semester in their respective offices.

Dance Company Performs On Campus

By Jill Avett

The Contemporary Ensemble, a part of the New Repertory Dance Company of University of Tennessee at Knoxville, performed at BC on Monday, Feb. 25 in

the Dunham auditorium. Emphasizing jazz and musical theatre dance, the Ensemble consists of eight members out of the twenty-five Company members.

A part of the Life and Culture series, the Ensemble's performance included *Studio Mirrors*, *Variations*, and *Eartha*. Richard Croskey is director and choreographer.

Studio Mirrors introduced the dancers to the audience through psychological profiles. *Variations* is a lively piece that included all three facets of dance; ballet, modern dance, and jazz. *Eartha* presented music by singer Eartha Kitt and the dancers' utilization of mood and music.

Croskey, associate professor of dance at UTK, has choreographed and taught jazz and musical theatre classes and workshops at the University of Nebraska, Southern Methodist University, and the State University of New York.

The New Repertory Dance Company is an important part of the Dance Major program at UTK as all dance majors must participate in the Company for at least three years. The newly established Contemporary Ensemble performs in many of

campus productions and provides members with dance experience as well as technical experience.

Like all Company members, these dancers not only perform on stage but, also work with costume construction, lighting,

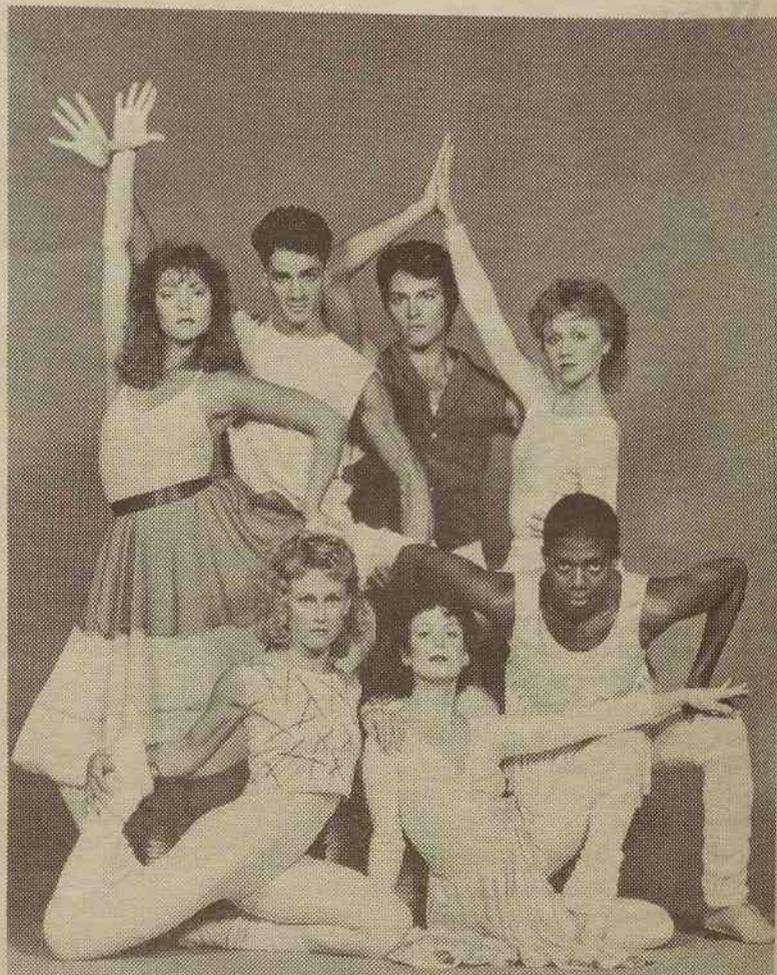
technical crews, promotion, and publicity.

Members of the Ensemble are: Mick Coutta, Mindy Chesney,

Julie Chester, Larry Elmore, Charis Kirkpatrick, and Robin

Marable. Understudies are Paul Ard, Jamie Ballon, Fred Burris,

Amy Dilworth, and Louise Phillips.



Members of the Contemporary Ensemble, part of a dance company from UT-Knoxville, performed at Dunham Auditorium on Feb. 25.

The Clarion welcomes contributions from the administration, staff, and student body of Brevard College. Anyone interested can submit feature articles, letters to the editor, editorials, etc. at any time. Please submit all material with a box or office number in case of questions concerning the material. All submissions must be signed. Send material to Susan Rogers, Clarion Editor, Campus P.O. Box 554.