

Freezing teachers' salaries opposed

By GLENN O'NEAL
Staff Writer

Following an uproar from educators, Gov. Jim Martin said Thursday that he was willing to reconsider the controversial freeze on raises for teachers until April 1990.

Martin initially proposed pay increases for teachers and state employees for January 1990 and a delay in the full funding of the Basic Education Plan (BEP), said Tim Pittman, communications director for Martin.

"But the Advisory Budget Committee wanted full funding for the Basic Education Plan now. This caused an uproar from educators, and yesterday he said he was willing to consider alternatives for raising revenue for teacher salary increases," Pittman said Friday in a telephone

interview.

The major source for raising revenue would be to delay full funding of the BEP in the new budget, he said. Another revenue source would be a tax increase, but that is secondary to the issue of the BEP, he said.

Karen Garr, president of the North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE), said: "We are pleased that he is changing his mind on this. We never thought that the public or the legislature would stand for freezing teachers' pay for the second time this decade."

The NCAE would support a tax increase to raise revenue for teachers' salaries, she said. "We believe the public would support a tax increase if it was used to support education," Sen. Howard Bryan, R-Iredell,

said he agrees with Martin's reconsideration of the delayed raise for teachers and state employees.

But he added: "I don't think a tax increase is necessary. I think we can find places in the budget for the money for the pay increase."

Bryan said an additional \$115 million is going to be spent on the BEP this year. Most of that money is spent on clerical positions and a few new teachers, including dance instructors and art teachers for the first, second and third grades, he said.

"I don't feel that in a time of a budget crunch we can afford to spend money on teachers like this instead of the good teachers we have now," Bryan said.

There is still a disagreement between Martin and teachers concerning the career ladder plan.

"The governor always thought the career ladder was the way to go. He wants some form of accountability from the teachers. He wants to see if students are improving while teachers are getting raises," Pittman said.

"In the past, pay increases went across the board. The governor wants to establish a merit-based salary schedule so better teachers get better salaries," he said.

The NCAE is opposed to the career ladder, Garr said.

"For three and a half years we have approved changes to make the system work and they have been disapproved," Garr said. "The career ladder is a failure. We wouldn't accept it as part of an agreement to raise teachers' salaries."

Recently ousted leader leaves Paraguay by air

From Associated Press reports

ASUNCION, Paraguay — Former President Alfredo Stroessner, who ruled this nation 34 years until he was ousted in a coup three days ago, boarded a jetliner Sunday and flew into exile in Brazil.

Also Sunday, the new president, Gen. Andres Rodriguez, announced that elections for president and Congress will be held in 90 days.

As Stroessner led about 20 family members and aides up the steps to the jet, onlookers on the observation deck at President Stroessner International Airport jeered, clapped and chanted, "Dictator get out!" and "Adios! Adios!"

Stroessner came to power as a general in a coup in 1954 and remained commander-in-chief of Paraguay's armed forces until Friday, when Rodriguez led the coup against him. Rodriguez was sworn in as president later that day.

As he left his country for perhaps the last time, the 76-year-old Stroessner wore a blue suit and red tie. He did not acknowledge the crowd and made no final gesture.

The two black limousines that carried Stroessner's entourage to the airport were accompanied by truckloads of soldiers in combat gear.

Radio stations in the capital reported Stroessner was accompanied by his two sons, Gustavo, an air force lieutenant colonel, and Alfredo.

Rodriguez was Stroessner's top commander and longtime friend. The two remain linked by the marriage of Rodriguez's daughter Marta and Stroessner's son Alfredo.

Stroessner had been under house arrest near the capital since he was captured early Friday after a night of fighting. The death toll from the coup has been estimated at up to 300, but no official figures have been given.

Virgilio Moretzsohn, a councilor at the Brazilian Embassy, told The Associated Press earlier Sunday that Brazil had agreed to Paraguay's request that it accept Stroessner.

The Roman Catholic radio station Radio Caritas reported that Stroessner would go to the Atlantic coastal resort of Guaratuba, in the Brazilian state of Parana. Stroessner has vacationed there often.

In Brazil, a foreign ministry source who spoke on condition of anonymity said he did not know where Stroessner would land.

Other press reports said Stroessner would land in Sao Paulo and undergo medical treatment there.

Design of Kent State memorial controversial

By SANDY WALL
Staff Writer

A memorial commemorating the four students slain May 4, 1970, at Kent State University by Ohio National Guardsmen is coming closer to reality, but not all associated with the project are happy.

Revised plans for a granite plaza structure near the site of the 1970 shootings have been met with mixed reviews, said Craig Webb, a reporter with The Daily Kent Stater, the campus student newspaper.

An original design, conceived by Chicago architect Bruno Ast, was to cost \$500,000, Webb said. But when fund-raising efforts by the Kent State University Foundation and the University Development Department, the fund-raising arms of the administration, yielded only \$42,000 after two years, the original design was scaled back to a \$100,000 project, he said.

Many students, including the May 4th Task Force, oppose the scaled-down memorial and have fought to

prevent the construction, Webb said Thursday in a telephone interview.

"The new design is a piece of the old one," said Carl DeVaughn, a spokesman for the May 4th Task Force. His group has lobbied the university to restore the original design and has blamed the administration for the small amount of money raised, he said.

The campaign for a memorial began in 1980, and the Kent State administration approved the idea in 1985, DeVaughn said. In 1986, the administration approved the Ast design and its proposed cost of \$500,000, he said.

But inflation and the rising cost of granite pushed the cost of the project to \$1.3 million, DeVaughn said. The Board of Trustees then decided in November 1988 to scrap the old design and to pursue a new and less expensive design, he said.

This decision angered his group, DeVaughn said, which questioned the administration's commitment to the project.

The task force and its lawyer

unsuccessfully sought a court injunction to prevent groundbreaking for the revised project, he said.

Groundbreaking did take place Jan. 25, Webb said, but construction on the project is delayed until contributors to the project are notified by mail that the design has been changed.

People who contributed to the original project can demand their money back because the design was changed, DeVaughn said.

"The letters are supposed to go out today," said Robert Beck, director of legal services for Kent State, in a telephone interview Thursday. The project can proceed even if some contributors demand their money back, he added, because the university has enough money to build the revised memorial.

Not all students side with the May 4th Task Force, and overall student support for a memorial is shaky at best, Webb said.

"It's not there. The campus has turned conservative," he said, adding

that many students feel any memorial is better than none at all.

But DeVaughn and his group are starting their own fund-raising drive to build the original design. "We're starting a national campaign," he said.

If the task force is able to raise the money, the Kent State Board of Trustees will have the ultimate decision whether the memorial can be altered, Beck said, but the university will not try to raise any more money.

"The trustees have said that as far as they're concerned, this is a closed memorial," he said.

But DeVaughn plans to proceed with his fund-raising efforts and said he has the support of Ohio Sen. Howard Metzenbaum and comedian Robin Williams.

"We are raising money to finish their goal," he said.

programs, she said.

"Pell Grants are limited now so that not everyone who is qualified receives one. With this program, you are guaranteed a tax-free voucher for your service," Abbot said.

Students would not be able to apply for a Guaranteed Student Loan from the government unless they serve for a year or two, she said.

Rep. Dave McCurdy, D-Okla., co-wrote the bill with Nunn and introduced the same bill in the House. McCurdy expects the bill to create a lot of controversy, said Lee Ann Alexander, McCurdy's legislative assistant.

"There will be a lot of questions," she said. "But we think the program will allow the participants to gain maturity and a sense of pride as well as a chance to help solve some social problems."

"Another benefit is that anyone can do this," Alexander said. "It's not discriminatory. It won't make any difference if you come from the poorest or wealthiest family — you'll be able to participate."

North Carolina had a similar program when it required teachers who received state grants to teach in the state for two years, said Douglass Hunt, special assistant to UNC

Chancellor Paul Hardin.

"I think it's a little early to tell how the program would work," he said. "But if it would help a substantial number of people, maybe it's worth doing."

The service program will cost the government more than its current program, Abbot said.

But much of that cost would be offset by the elimination of federal grants and the reduction of federal loans and costs for services like providing nursing home care to the elderly, which would be handled by young workers.

Service

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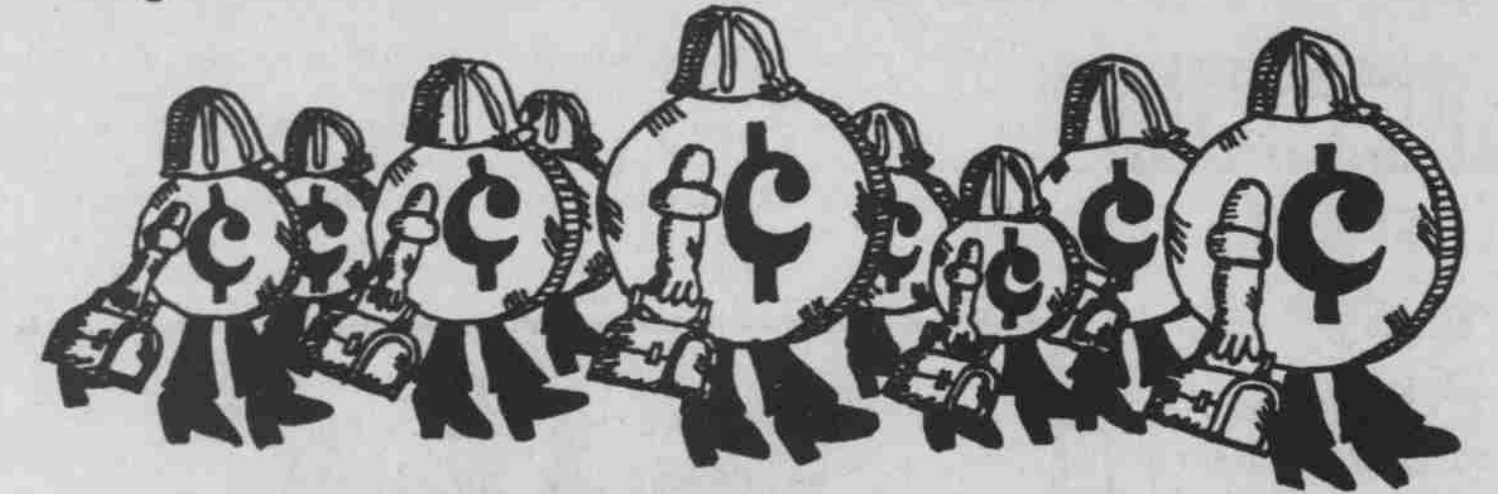
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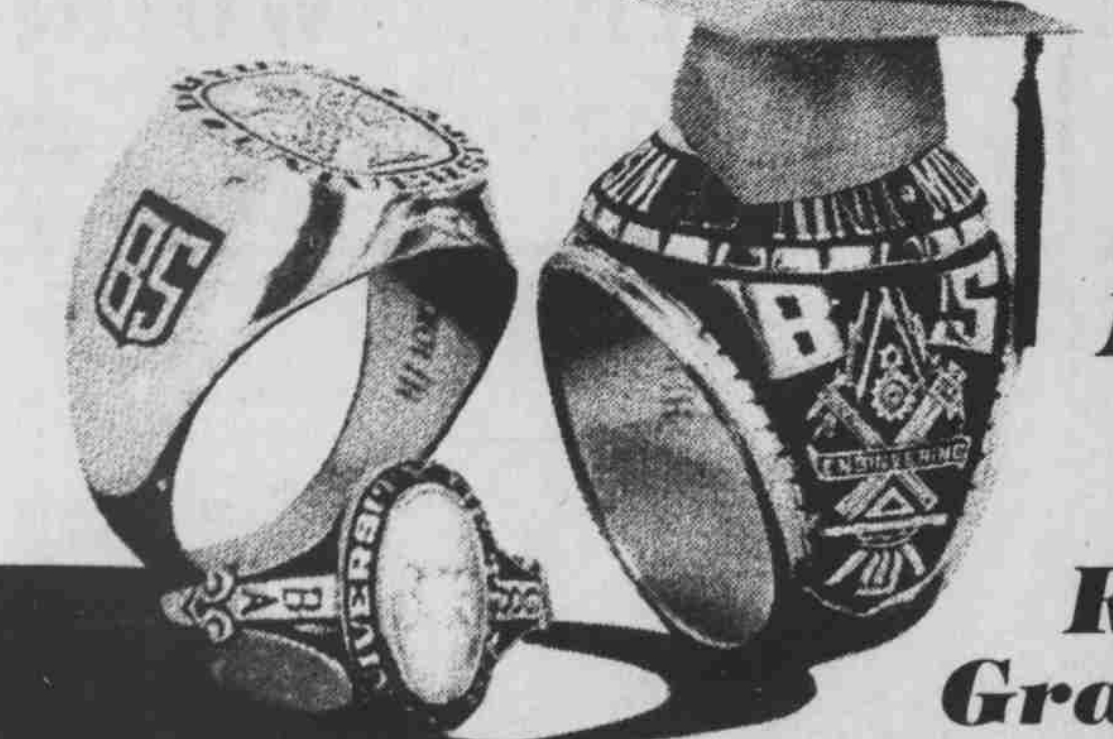
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