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Financial Aid Office Musters Support as Tuition Increases 11%

By Joyce Downs

Arise in the cost of tuition for next year forces many individuals to abandon M-AC and to transfer to a more affordable institution.

The announced '94-'95 tuition and fees charge will be \$8,438. This is approximately an 11% increase of the '93-'94 school year tuition, \$7600. The amount of \$1,686 for room and board will remain the same.

However, because of the increase, the student's bill will read a total of \$11,810 for resident students.

Director of Financial Aid Lisa Lankford explained that one reason for the increase of tuition is that certain fees such as auto registration and lab fees have been rolled into the tuition charge. In having done this, the student's hassle

of having to pay extra fees when they arrive to school will be diminished.

Aside from the other fees such as graduation or private room, the other additional fees will consist of the Discovery Program, horseback riding, skiing, and applied music.

Sophomore resident Kathryn Letterman who is unable to return to M-AC commented angrily, "I wasn't awarded enough money to come back next year, but I'm more upset with the government than I am with the school. Because my parents make \$50,000 a year, the government expects them to fork out money for me to go to college. My parents can't help me financially, but no one in the white house considers that."

However, some students are an-

gry with the school for raising tuition prices. One anonymous student expressed that she will be transferring to another college and this will lessen the financial burden on herself and her parents.

Tuition increases do not effect this institution alone. The March 17, 1993 edition of *The Chronicle of Higher Education* reported that various private colleges are struggling with decisions to increase their tuition.

The article stated that increases for the following year seemed to stay around the 6% mark. However, the article further stated that the percentage is "double the rise in the consumer price index for 1992, which was 2.9%."

The chronicle revealed that though

some private colleges are raising their tuition about 5% to 6%, other colleges like the University of Chicago, Dartmouth, Mills, and the University of Hartford have announced a year to two year "freeze" of tuition in order to attract prospective students and retain the current ones.

As far as financial aid is concerned, Lankford claimed that more money has been raised for next year, however an increase in financial aid applicants is expected.

Lankford accentuated that the financial aid office is doing its best to keep up with the college's rising cost. She encouraged those who think they may not be able to come back next year for financial reasons to talk to her. She promised to do the best she can to help.

Business V.-P. Wilmoth Delivers Free Cable & Phone Hook-Ups

By Jeff Lang

In response to years of student requests, a free local phone service and basic cable channels will be provided beginning next year at no charge to each dorm room.

Business Office Head, Dirk Wilmoth has been the mover and shaker in obtaining these benefits. Wilmoth has insured that room and board fees will not be raised to mask service charges.

Phone service will be provided by Raleigh-based, BTL. At present, students must pay hook-up fees for phone installations. Next year these costs will be eliminated. Students will be responsible only for long-distance calls. These calls will be billed to either box numbers or to home addresses.

At present there is some confusion as to the channels and services

basic cable will provide to dorm rooms. At a minimum, they will cover the networks Fox, PBS, and perhaps Disney. Wilmoth is working to see if premium channels such as HBO will be included in the basic rate. One cable channel some students want access to is MTV. One student, who asked for their name to be withheld, lamented, "I really think we should be able to get MTV if we could pay for it or have some kind of rules about it - parent's permission under 21." At present the lobby televisions do receive the Country Music Channel.

The implementation of these new services will occur this summer. Dorm rooms will be furnished with a live phone jack and cable service. Next year when students arrive all they need to do to receive the new services will be to

bring a television set and a phone.

Student reaction concerning the announcement has been positive. Howerton resident Chris Cauley excitedly commented, "I think it's a great idea and long overdue." An incoming freshman Greg Beaman of Mauldin, South Carolina, declared, "I'm glad M-AC is offering the TV and phone benefits. None of the other schools I've looked at offered the free aspect of the deal." Former

dorm resident and senior Randy Olsen reminisced, "I would have liked to have had phone and cable service in the dorm rooms when I lived there. It would have made life a lot easier. No hours of waiting for the hall phone." Bearded senior and English Education major Eric Bush exclaimed with enthusiasm, "I believe it will be an information revolution at Montreat-Anderson College!"

"...room and board fees will not be raised to mask charges."

Lassiter Successfully Defends Dissertation

By Danell Hartness

Biology professor Mark Lassiter became Dr. Lassiter after six years of hard work and perseverance.

Lassiter began his journey attending William and Mary College in Williamsburg, Virginia. He received his degree as a bachelor of Science - Biology. He also received a degree as a Doctor of Philosophy in Entomology and a minor in Toxicology in 1985.

He married his wife in 1985. "It was the best decision I ever made," he proudly commented. His wife is an ordained pastor in the Baptist church and has an interest in campus and drama ministry. "We felt a joint call to this place. It was an exciting opportunity to combine an academic position with ministry," emphasized Lassiter as he explained that he and his spouse had originally planned to start a camp in environmental studies.

He worked and received his last year of official education at North Carolina State. He taught biological sciences and organic chemistry.

Lassiter worked on his dissertation in the NC State laboratory part-time getting his degree research on weekends "and many long nights," stressed Lassiter.

He finally received his Ph.D. in Science after approximately 15,000 hours of research and 1,000 hours of actual writing on mosquito development.

Lassiter had to go in front of defence, which is a community that decides whether or not a dissertation is credible. "Things went well. It was great," Lassiter commented with a sigh of relief. He continued, "A lot of people had us in their prayers. We are reminded of God's grace extended to us, this [could not have been] possible without it."

Sink a Hole-in-One Tomorrow Night

By Chad Smith

Tomorrow night student activities will be sponsoring a night of putt-putt mini golf. The school van will leave Howerton parking lot at 7pm. Anyone who needs a ride or who is planning on going needs to be there a few minutes early so that a fun night of excitement and competition can begin.

The games will be played at the putt-putt course near Sam's Wholesale Club on Patton Avenue located in Asheville.

The cost of each person will be \$3. The price includes two games of putt-putt and then a tournament game. The winner of the tournament will then be presented with a trophy.

Director of Student Activities Cary Willcox expressed that it will be a night to get away and enjoy some good clean fun.

Willcox also shared that since many students will be going home because of Easter Break, he plans to schedule another putt-putt night after the break.

Snipes, Smith Volunteer as Social Workers

By Sean Anderson

The social work internship class has students volunteering up to 15 hours of their time in different places throughout Montreat and the Black Mountain area. Interns can volunteer as social workers in such places as the Princess Pearl Nursing Home or the women's prison in Black Mountain.

The class has been offered for six years and is currently taught by Wilma Gray, wife of English professor Rich Gray in conjunction with the curriculum of the Family Science major.

Senior Shon Snipes admitted, "It is a great experience for us to get involved in an area of our interests and [prepare us] for the future. I love

working with people ... it brings me joy to know that I have made an impact on the lives of the young and old."

Howerton resident Jay Smith volunteers at the Juvenile Evaluation Center in Swannanoa, which is one of the six evaluation centers in North Carolina. The center is for kids under the age of 18 who have had trouble with the law. Most of the kids were placed there for property crimes such as vandalism or breaking and entering. Smith expressed, "I enjoy very much working with people. That job gives me the opportunity to work with youth and that is what I would like to do with the rest of my life."