

It's a tricky question . . .

and the answer will have implications quite apart from those raised in the "Students in Politics" story that begins on the next page.

Will the constitutional amendment giving 18-year-olds the right to vote also result in nonresident tuition fees at state colleges and universities being declared inapplicable? If the answer turns out to be "yes," then the Columbia Campus stands to lose almost \$4 million a year, based on this fall's out-of-state enrollment.

This semester 3,914 students at UMC are listed from out of state. Undoubtedly, all of them are not full-time, but the difference in yearly fees for resident and non-resident students at the University—\$1,000 a year—makes the concern obvious.

Courts generally have held that students can register in the communities in which they attend college. Certainly, it's easy for a student to register in Columbia. He's asked whether he's old enough and whether he's been a resident of the county for 29 days.

Does this make him a resident as far as the University is concerned? University officials say no, but no one is really sure.—S.S.

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Mizzou students became a potentially powerful political force on June 30, 1971, with the ratification of the 26th Amendment. The amendment extended a voting voice in American politics to the 18-21 age group.

The 1971 Missouri Students Association President, Chip Casteel, and Legislative Vice President Mark Pope had been actively lobbying for the amendment. But it was a relatively small group who had worked for ratification. Most students were away from Campus on vacation. "I was aware that I could vote, but politics wasn't very important right then," one student remembers.

The 1971-72 school year began. Some of the young voters began to flex their political muscles. Many students wanted to register in Columbia. The law was unclear. In February, two coeds whose registration had been refused appealed and were supported by the American Civil Liberties Union. State Attorney General John Danforth clarified the law, and students who declared Columbia or any other Missouri college town their place of residence were allowed to register.

"Columbia used to say, in effect, to students, 'Be polite, spend money, and keep your mouth shut.' But that has all changed now," Rory Ellinger says. Ellinger has been on Campus since 1966. His own political career is almost an historical account of the student political movement.

Ellinger grew up in Webster Groves, Missouri, and graduated from Kansas City University (now University of Missouri-Kansas City). For three years he worked full-time in the civil right movement: he managed the tent crews in Selma, Alabama, was Martin Luther King's bodyguard for four days in Boston, and worked in the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE).

When he came on Campus, Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), was "about the only or-



STUDENTS IN POLITICS

By Anne Baber



ganization that was doing anything," he remembers. He became its leader, and this involvement has haunted him.

"We used non-violent demonstrations because no one would listen to us. They say that *now* students can and are using the system. We used the system then too. It's legal to demonstrate. Now we can use the *electoral* system."

Casteel and Ellinger served last year on the Columbia city charter revision commission. "They really listened to us," Ellinger says.

He was instrumental in changing the residency requirement for serving on the city council from four years to two years. "That means," he says, "that conceivably a sophomore at the University could be elected to city council."

Students have been active participants on other city committees. David Grimes is on the planning and zoning committee and Dan Viets, current MSA president, is on a committee to study city owned cable television.

Currently a PhD candidate on Campus and history instructor, Ellinger ran this fall for representative from the 111th District. Other Democratic politicians sought Ellinger's views before the election asking "What do the students think?"

But there are many spokesmen for the students. At 31, Ellinger is perhaps the oldest. Marty Tudor, 18, is undoubtedly the youngest.

Tudor, now a freshman, is the youngest person ever to be elected to the Boone County Democratic Central Committee.

"The best way I could get involved in politics as a young person," Tudor said, "was to go out and become a candidate myself."

Tudor's opponent was Stanley E. Kravit, 39, a labor education specialist at the University.

Though Ellinger is an old timer in student politics and Tudor's interest goes back to his high school days, many students trace their involvement in the recent election to the Mock Political Convention, "Who in '72?," held in late February 1971.

Organized as an educational program for stu-

Left: Students Pat McDonnel (l) and Mark Pope lobby at the Capitol in Jefferson City. Above: Mock convention airs issues.



At the Activities Mart, Ellinger signs up campaign workers. He has been a press aide for Sen. Eagleton, was state chairman of the New Democratic Coalition, and has worked for open meetings.



April Stella and Julie Jenkins are two of about 3,000 Young Voters for the Re-Election of the President who acted as pages, heard speeches and met Republican VIP's at the Miami convention.

dents by MSA, the convention was Democratic. The previous convention in 1968 was Republican.

About 2,000 students from the University, Hickman High School and Stephens College participated. Senator Fred Harris of Oklahoma spoke.

"There was a different tempo, a new mood, at the convention this year," Georgia Lakaytis, administrative assistant in the student life office, says. "In the past, a Greek house would volunteer to be the Texas delegation. This year, the kids who participated were really interested in politics. They were very serious. Sessions ran until the wee hours of the morning.

George McGovern was selected as the Democratic candidate for president; Shirley Chisholm was the vice presidential candidate.

Delegates left the floor with the challenge from a fellow student to take their power as voters to their ward meetings and become actual national convention delegates.

Some students took this challenge seriously.

Debbie Barber had joined Students for McGovern in January. She spent about 20 hours a week "doing little jobs" in addition to going to school full-time and holding a part-time job. She spent her spring vacation canvassing in Illinois, walking from door to door eight hours a day and "living on stale sandwiches. After that, I became more interested in playing a larger role," she said.

She was elected a delegate on the ward and township levels, attended the Eighth Congressional District caucus in Rolla and went to Miami Beach as an alternate. At the convention she was the youngest person ever to speak from the podium. She had been selected by McGovern aides to give one of the seconding speeches for the vice presidential nomination of Missouri's Senator Thomas Eagleton. In September she was named state coordinator for the McGovern campus groups.

Miss Barber plans to continue working after the November elections to help set up a National Youth Coalition to replace the College Young Democrats.



**Columbia's 25,000
college-age voters
put Mizzou's Campus
on the campaign trail.**



"Help beat Nixon," state campus coordinator Debbie Barber urges at a McGovern meeting.

"We need to reach out to the millions of young people who are not in college," she says.

Two coeds attended the Republican National Convention. Julie Jenkins, and April Stella were co-chairmen of the Boone County Young Voters for the Re-election of the President, a national organization of youthful Nixon supporters, when they were selected to go to Miami.

Miss Stella remembers Mrs. Nixon's appearances. "I know how hot and tired we were, but she kept her freshness and exuberance. I thought she was a lady at all times."

Earlier, Miss Jenkins and Miss Stella had spent part of the summer campaigning for "Kit" Bond for governor.

"We rode the 'Bondwagon', a big white bus, from Monday through Saturday. We covered 2,300 miles in Missouri. At night we slept in sleeping bags on the floors of church halls. We wrote skits and campaign songs," they said.

"I think young people have an enthusiasm that

older people have lost. Once an old man came up to me and said, 'We'd like to be able to yell and cheer like you do, but we'd feel funny. You keep doing it!'"

"It was a very educational experience, campaigning for Bond. We got to see the inside workings of the campaign and how a political candidate feels and thinks."

Miss Jenkins says she would like to set up a political school to teach other young people how to campaign. She is majoring in kindergarten education. Miss Stella is majoring in music.

At least one other Mizzou student went to Miami. Gary Belis, who was steering committee chairman for the Mock Political Convention, went as a reporter to *both* conventions. He is a junior majoring in journalism and political science. He has been writing a multi-part series for the *Mancater*, the campus newspaper.

The conventions were over and school began. Political groups supporting a variety of candidates



Eagleton introduces Shriver to about 5,000 people who gathered at the Hillel Foundation near Campus. They honored dead Israeli Olympic stars with silence.



quickly were organized or reactivated—Young Republicans, Young Democrats, Students for McGovern, Students for Bond (for governor), Students for Parker (for state treasurer), Students for Spain (for attorney general), Students for Vanlandingham (for the Missouri Senate from District 19), and Students for Ellinger.

Some students “dropped out” to work for their candidates.

Casteel, who had been admitted to law school on Campus, decided to delay entering for a year so he could work full time for Bond. Dick Ward, a 27-year-old sophomore who plans to major in accounting and journalism, became George Parker’s state campaign director.

Tim Coughlin, president of Students for McGovern, estimated that 5 percent of the total student body was working for candidates (about 1100). The fringe groups, the philosophical political discussion groups, almost disappeared, he said.

MSA took on many non-partisan activities before the election. Intensive voter registration drives aided by mobile registration booths provided by the County Clerk’s office netted 2,500 new registered voters in three days on Campus.

A two-day forum, in October, sponsored by MSA featured all major state candidates debating and

engaging in question and answer sessions with the students. In a mock election on October 11-12, McGovern received 1561 votes and Nixon 1211. Upperclassmen tended to vote for McGovern; underclassmen for Nixon. Voters split their ballots on state candidates, choosing Bond (R.) for governor, Schramm (D.) for lieutenant governor, Danforth (R.) for attorney general and Spainhower (D.) for treasurer.

Now that the election is over will the students lose interest for the next four years? Some will, of course, but many will continue to work not for candidates, but for issues.

Sally MacNamara, president of the Association of Women Students, says AWS plans programs on women in politics. A committee was at work in the early fall to survey candidates at all levels on their attitudes towards women’s issues as well as issues affecting young people. Miss MacNamara submitted several proposals to hearings of the Republican and Democratic State Platform Committees in September.

“Information concerning birth control, abortion and venereal disease should be made available to any person, regardless of age, sex or marital status,” she said. “Abortion is of sole concern to the woman and her physician,” and the law should be changed



"Kit" Bond draws a crowd at the Student Union Lounge where he fields hard questions on the issues. Earlier his wife made a campaign stop on Campus, visiting some sororities.

After November 7,

young voters

will continue

to work for issues.



to respect that issue. "The fault basis for divorce should be eliminated." The state should operate child care centers. State government departments should "actively recruit and hire" women at all levels. The Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution should be passed.

The Democratic platform committee accepted one of Miss MacNamara's proposals, the one dealing with hiring of women.

Also testifying at the platform hearings were Pat McDonnell, associate director, and Mark Pope, executive director, of the Missouri Student Lobby.

The MSL is a statewide student lobbying group which involves all four University student governments and hopes to expand to other state campuses next year. Missouri is one of several states in the nation to have such an organization.

MSL began as the Legislative Seminars Committee of MSA. The committee was formed in spring 1971 to introduce legislators to a student viewpoint.

At the recent platform hearings McDonnell urged reduced penalties for the possession of marijuana; asked that physicians be permitted to treat minors without parental consent in several cases, including venereal diseases, pregnancy and drug abuse; asked for an end to property taxes being used to

support public schools; proposed that majority citizenship rights be conferred on 18-year-olds; and said that environmental protection laws should be toughened. He also proposed additional jobs for youth and setting up a Missouri Youth Advisory Committee that would involve student body leaders from the University system, junior and private colleges, the other state colleges and high schools.

McDonnell and Pope testified before the emergency appropriations committee in September in favor of funds for the University.

"Legislators have been a little surprised to find us civil," McDonnell said. "We aren't wild-eyed idealists screaming 'pig.'" McDonnell is writing a booklet on how to set up a student lobby. He worked for the National Student Lobby in Washington during the summer of 1972.

"Our big push will be the majority rights bill to give 18-21 year-olds full citizenship rights when the state legislature reconvenes in January," he says. We will hope to hire a professional lobbyist with an office in Jefferson City for the MSL."

After the intense partisan activity, the voter registration drives, the election, many issues of concern to students still remain. And Mizzou students, who are still just realizing their power as voters, are likely to grow as a political force. □