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Monday Morning, July 15, 1968

EDITORIAL

'Ability-to-pay': purpose and reality

To nobody's surprise, the board of trustees raised tuition last week.

At this point, three things are quite apparent: the graduated tuition plan is not the great aid to the underprivileged as is purported; tuition increases are inevitable unless the legislature re-evaluates its manner of allocating funds for higher education; and the Center for Race and Urban Affairs is the real hope for the underprivileged student.

The idea of an "ability-to-pay" tuition plan is reasonably sound in theory. If fee rates could be made attainable for lower income groups by a graduated structure based on income, the idea would be realized.

But this has not happened at MSU. Instead, the range of family income which determines the minimum tuition rate is so broad as to nullify its effect. Next year, all students whose families earn \$12,300 or less will pay identical fees. The top end of that segment of families is solidly middle class. At the bottom are families living in abject poverty.

Thus, the sliding scale tuition does not really help those it is supposed to help. Actually, it discriminates only within the

middle class. The upper middle subsidizes the lower middle and lower income students pay the same as middle class students.

It should be noted that at least the graduated tuition maintains the lowest tuition rate for the lower income groups. But this year even that minimum was increased.

The graduated tuition scale might work as a real aid to underprivileged students if it were broadened to cover more income levels, at least in the lower ranges. This, however, could not be done at MSU alone for it would cause what the Ad Hoc Committee on Tuition Policy termed in 1967, "adverse selection."

Simply, this means that were MSU alone in using an expanded graduated tuition plan, it would lose many talented students who happen to be in the higher income levels, and attract low-ability students from the lower levels. Overall, adverse selection would result in a lowering of the University's standards.

Such a coordinated effort as would be needed to institute a broad graduated tuition plan in several of Michigan's colleges seems unlikely, at least in the near future. And the present graduated scale is definitely

not the answer for the poor student.

Fees, it seems, are doomed to the general trend of increase after increase unless the Michigan legislature and other contributors to the University's budget re-evaluate their traditional form of allocating monies to higher education. Such a re-evaluation should be based on a more comprehensive examination of the University's needs and social responsibilities.

It usually appears that the legislature is working against the University, instead of with it, to accomplish needed reforms in higher education. Now a more coordinated effort, for the improvement of all involved, is needed.

In addition to tuition, students are faced with other increasing costs. Room and board fees continue to rise and the general cost of living spirals upward. In the end, the less affluent student is ever faster forced out of higher education. And the remedy must lie outside of tuition rates alone.

It seems then that the real hope for the lower income student is the now official Center for Race and Urban Affairs, the All-University Committee on Equal Opportunity, and other agencies not yet developed.

By stepping up scholarship and recruiting programs and concurrently establishing projects to better integrate the underprivileged student into the University community, the center can provide what has been claimed but hardly fulfilled in the last few years—true aid for the disadvantaged but talented student.

In this total area of aiding the underprivileged student, the Center for Race and Urban Affairs and the equal opportunity committee can, should and must take the lead. It is from there that hope may grow.

--The Editors



CHRIS MEAD

The gun buffs get up-tight

It's an age of specialization, and you can find a magazine that caters to just about any hobby or profession you can name. And if you happen to be a gun buff you've got going for you not only a slick monthly magazine but also one of the most powerful political lobbies in Washington—all wrapped up for only 50 cents an issue.

"The American Rifleman," the official journal of the National Rifle Association (does that name strike terror in your heart? No? It should.) is in its 84th year of publication and has a circulation of one million.

Its editorial office is conveniently located in Washington, D.C., by the way. "The American Rifleman" is getting a little worried about its future lately. Threatened for the first time in its history with gun control legislation by the federal government, the NRA's official mag is putting its all into convincing its readers (and itself) that the United States is not really as violent as everybody tries to make it seem and that the gun (name your model, and you'll probably find it mentioned in either a story or an advertisement) is the sport of a man's man and a sure defense for law-abiding citizens against evil criminals.

Basically, the "American Rifleman," through the auspices of the NRA, proposes to "educate public-spirited citizens in the safe and efficient use of small arms for pleasure and protection."

And furthermore, now get this and get this good, "The NRA takes the bedrock stand that law-abiding Americans are constitutionally entitled to the ownership and legal use of firearms. Therefore, the NRA asks the support of all loyal citizens who believe in the right to 'keep and bear arms!'"

Uh-oh—that smells like trouble with a capital G.

Let's look through a couple of recent issues and see how the NRA is meeting its adversaries:

From the Feb. 1968 we find "Educating the Educators": This is a short treatise on how to meet a college professor

"The American Rifleman" is getting a little worried about its future lately. Threatened for the first time in its history with gun control legislation by the federal government, it is putting its all into convincing its readers (and itself?) that the United States is not really as violent as everybody tries to make it seem...

with enough facts to convince him of the insensibility of gun legislation.

"The Armed Citizen": This is a monthly feature which reports several incidents around the country in which "law-abiding" gunowners have killed or wounded robbers.

Following these is an editorial which states that the United States is by no means a violent country and those who say it is are obviously misinformed.

Another monthly feature is a column titled "What the Lawmakers are Doing" which deplorably reports what gun control actions have been taken by federal and state authorities.

After this is a special section on "George Washington's Favorite Guns." Apparently the father of our country was a regular Joe who got his kicks out of hunting like the rest of us.

In the May 1968 issue we're treated to an editorial which somehow connects "firearms" with "freedom." The constitution says you can have a gun and if you can't then you're not free, so the argument goes.

(Incidentally, Article II of the Bill of Rights says, "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." Proponents of gun control legislation interpret the second half of the sentence as dependent on the first half about a "well regulated militia." The NRA people obviously have a different interpretation.

In all fairness to the NRA it must be pointed out that they are not a sinister

group of fiends who are deliberately trying to arm the nation to the teeth. Many of their programs on gun safety and their articles on conservation of wildlife are clearly in the public interest.

But the NRA, through its voice, "The American Rifleman," is cheating its members and the American people by its savage fight to kill an idea that has come of age. This idea is that the United States has indeed fallen victim to a cancer of violence and consequently, everything must be done in both the private and government sectors to treat this disease. One of these approaches is through a sensible gun registration program. Obviously this is not a cure, but it's a good start.

To the editors of "The American Rifleman" I say this: In your antagonistic pressure against gun control legislation, you are only postponing a wave of the future that just might (I don't say it will) lessen this disease of violence that has the nation in its throes.

Letter policy

The State News welcomes all letters. They should be typed and signed with the home town, student, faculty or staff standing, and local phone number included. No unsigned letter will be accepted for publication, and no letter will be printed without a signature except in extreme circumstances. All letters must be less than 300 words long for publication without editing.

OUR READERS' MINDS

Guns not the cause of violence

To the Editor:

Your editorial of July 11, contains errors which must be corrected. First, the National Rifle Association (NRA) does not oppose every piece of gun legislation. The NRA has tried for years to get laws that put mandatory punishments on those who misuse guns. It has supported 19 gun control bills in the present Congress (H.R. 360, 542, 6137, 1007, 1554, 6067, 11299, 13753, 2839, 7174, 16159, 7457, 7467, 7173, 8645, 9745, 11887, and S. 1853, 1854). I believe the ones who misuse guns should be the subject of gun legislation, not the law-abiding citizen.

I am distressed about the violence in our country, like you are, but I do not see the cause of it being privately owned guns. I submit that leniency of the courts and lack of support for the police are two major causes.

In regard to your list of crimes, who are committing them? Here are some facts you should know.

- 1. The average killer, if convicted at all, goes free in 5 to 15 years.
- 2. In only 6 per cent of all crimes committed is there a conviction.
- 3. In New York City (where there is

strict gun control) murders have increased 14 per cent over the previous year.

4. Over two thirds of the gunmen who kill police are convicts who have received leniency and a third are on parole at the time. (J. Edgar Hoover's 1966 Uniform Crime Report)

You agree that confiscation is not needed, but just three years ago, Sen. Dodd was opposed to registration. Now he is pushing for it. In 1970, he may well be proposing confiscation if he gets registration this year.

To the Editor:

To the faculty:

We, as interested students, believe that help given to the faculty with their academic apparel on commencement day is meant as a courteous gesture. The faculty's apparel is by far the most outstanding and colorful addition to commencement and should be worn properly.

In view of the fact that at least one out

of three professors noticeably wore their academic apparel incorrectly, and that this created an undignified atmosphere, we suggest that the faculty accept the assistance offered them, or learn how to wear the apparel appropriately!

Donald E. Meyers
Lansing Senior

Poorly garbed

Pamela Tompkins
Lansing, graduate and six others



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NEWS summary

A capsule summary of the day's events from our wire services.



"It's really irrelevant which one of these guys becomes President. Black people should refuse once and for all to accept the lesser of two evils."

Floyd McKissick, director of CORE

De Gaulle watches Bastille Day march

PARIS (AP) — In his brigadier general's uniform, Charles de Gaulle turned out in heavy rain along with thousands of Parisians Sunday for the Bastille Day parade down the Champs Elysees. The towering president, ignoring the downpour, stood in an open car at the head of the parade, then watched in the covered reviewing stand as the rest of it passed. When it was all over, the weather brightened as it favored the equally traditional street dancing and fireworks that followed later.

The merrymaking was marred in the Latin Quarter Sunday night when police threw tear gas grenades to break up groups of young people who jeered them. The groups, small and unorganized, were mixed in with crowds of tourists.

Paving stones flew and there were a few attempts to build barricades. Police charges and tear gas put an end to the disorder in the early hours of Sunday morning. Police efforts were hampered by many Frenchmen and foreigners just out for a good time on the eve of the national holiday. About 20 people were hurt, including seven policemen, and 50 were arrested.

Russian-Viet trade hits record high

UNITED NATIONS (AP) The Soviet Union's trade with Red China hit a new low last year while its trade with North Vietnam hit a new high, United Nations figures showed Sunday. Supplied by the Soviet government, the figures were presented without comment in the U.N. Monthly Bulletin of Statistics for July.

bottom on the list of the Soviet Union's Asian Communist trading partners. North Korea replaced China as the leading source of Soviet imports in that group, Mongolia as the leading recipient of Soviet exports.

The trends evidently reflected deepening Soviet estrangement from Peking in an ideological dispute, industrial disruption from China's "cultural revolution" and growing military aid to Hanoi.

In the last two years, Soviet imports rose from 83 million to 97 million rubles from North Korea and were steady at 56 million rubles a year from Mongolia. Soviet exports to North Korea increased from 77 million to 99 million rubles and those to Mongolia from 142 million to 168 million rubles.

There were similar parades everywhere in France. Cold wind and rain, however, forced cancellation of the ceremony at Brest, on the Breton coast.

East Germany remained the Russians' biggest trading partner anywhere, shipping in 1,271 billion rubles in Soviet imports and taking 1,274 billion rubles in Soviet exports last year.

With De Gaulle were his new premier, Maurice Couve de Murville, and other Cabinet members.

West Germany was far down the list, accounting for 159 million rubles in Soviet imports and 176 million rubles in Soviet exports.

He reviewed troops at the Arch of Triumph, then rode down the broad avenue in the open car to the cheers of his admirers. He walked the last few yards to the covered stand from which he watched units from all branches of the French armed forces march past.

But the Soviet Union's trade with both parts of Germany rose in the last two years, while its already relatively insignificant trade with the United States fell.

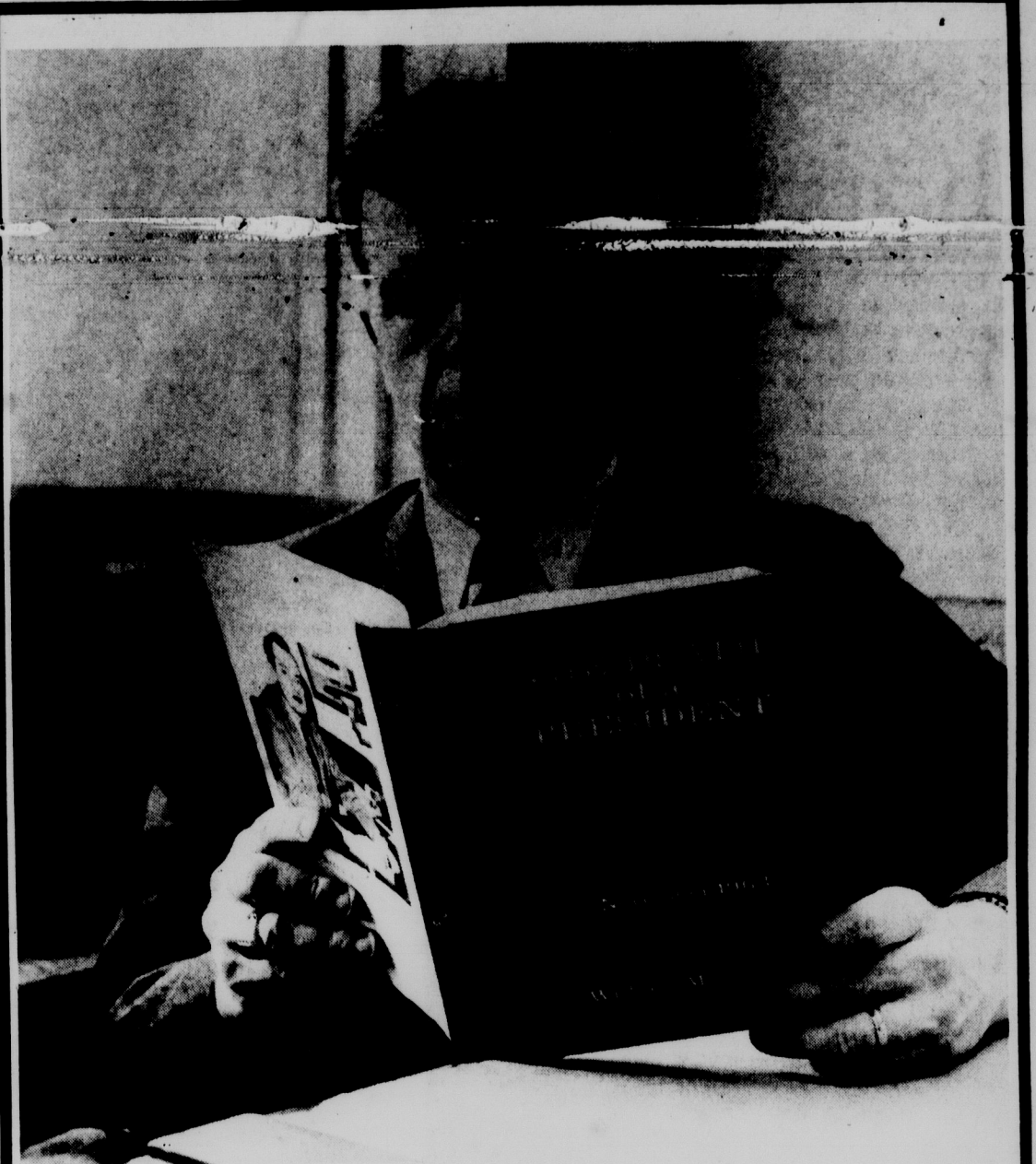
The red, white and blue of the French tricolor were everywhere—in the smoke trails of planes swooping low over the

Soviet imports from Communist China fell from 129 million rubles in 1966 to 51 million rubles in 1967, after reaching 763 million rubles in 1960. At the official Soviet exchange rate, the ruble is valued at \$1.11.

Meanwhile, Soviet exports to North Vietnam rose from 61 million to 133 million rubles as the Russians poured in more aid for the North Vietnamese.

The Soviet Union's imports from Cuba, meanwhile, increased from 237 million to 336 million rubles.

From 1966 to 1967, Communist China plummeted from top to



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NEARLY RUNNING

Reagan breaks into a trot

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—California Gov. Ronald Reagan has changed his tune, and there are signs a drive is building to win him the Republican presidential nomination at the national convention.

No longer does Reagan say "I am not a candidate," or even, "I am not a declared candidate." Instead, he says, "My name will be placed in nomination. Obviously at that time I can be considered a candidate by delegates so inclined."

No longer does Reagan attempt to publicly discourage efforts on his behalf by groups such as the National Citizens for Reagan organization based in Topeka, Kan.

He has given his permission for the Topeka group to show a film of his June 13 address in Indianapolis, Ind., during a half hour of prime national television network

time Sunday evening. The cost is estimated at up to \$100,000.

The film is expected to be accompanied by a pitch for delegates to vote for Reagan at the GOP convention opening Aug. 5 in Miami Beach, Fla.

"I've given up some time ago" trying to stop the unofficial campaign conducted by citizens for Reagan, the governor told a news conference last week. "The movement kept springing up. There were well-intentioned people that insisted on their right to make this effort and told me they were. And I've tried to level with them."

Reagan vigorously denied as a "total fabrication" this past week a Boston newspaper report that he would announce his formal candidacy on the Sunday telecast.

This is consistent with the strategy of some men close to Reagan who have dreamed of the chance to win him the nomination. Their strategy:

1. Have him go to Miami Beach unsullied by preconvention campaigning against fellow Republicans and as a party hero for his fund-raising efforts.

2. Put him up as the only man who can unify the party and defeat the Democratic nominee.

Meanwhile, Reagan continues to insist his role as a favorite son candidate from California is designed to assure party unity and to give California its proper voice in the convention.

Reagan has been careful not to personally cast doubts on former Vice President Richard M. Nixon's ability to win. But from time to time he has taken note of other politician's references to Nixon's "loser image."

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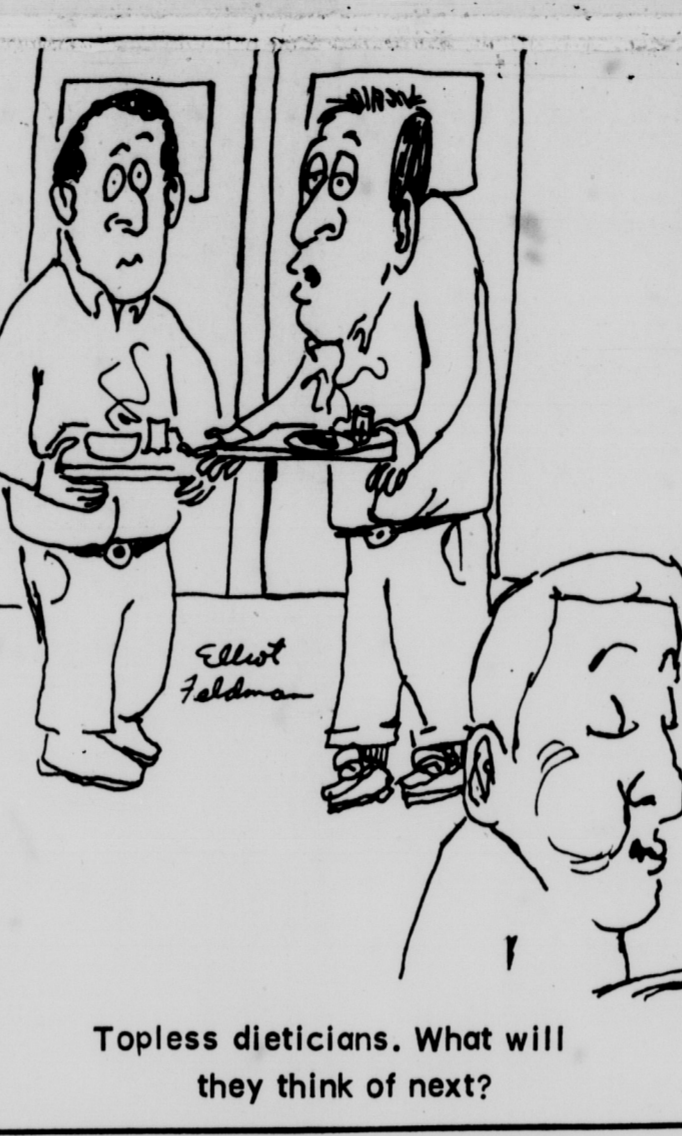
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32. Possess
33. Arrow poison
34. Assault with missiles
36. Inscrutability
38. And not

The new Mercedes-Benz 280SL: so "over-engineered" it maneuvers in traffic like a whippet in a herd of buffalo.



A pair of 280SLs (Roadster and Coupe) cavort on the famous "walled-in" turn at the Mercedes-Benz test track in Stuttgart-Untertürkheim.



"Handling," says the *London Sunday Times* in a road test of the new Mercedes-Benz sports car, "was the main requirement for the 280SL design. Thanks to the sophisticated suspension, it is possible to throw the car around at speeds which could never be attempted outside a test track without losing control."

Or, in the words of an enthusiast who just took delivery of one: "It maneuvers in traffic like a whippet in a herd of buffalo."

Get an end-view of the 280SL and you'll quickly see why. Although the car stands a mere yard and a half high, it straddles the road with a track over 5 feet wide. Its special, radial-ply tires seem to bulge out from the sides. It squats on the road, in the *Sunday Times*' words, "like a bulldog."

"Over-engineered" suspension

The same ingenious suspension that gives the 280SL such uncanny road-holding is also responsible for its astonishingly smooth ride. The reason: the 280SL's fully independent suspension lets one wheel absorb a jolt without transmitting the shock to the other wheels, or to the car's occupants.

Is this too much of a good thing? Some critics say it's a wasteful extravagance to build a sports car with both race-track handling and a boulevard ride. "Over-engineered" is what the critics call it.

They're right. By conventional standards, the 280SL is "over-engineered." Mercedes-Benz engineers look at it this

way: What fun would it be to drive a small, agile car if it rode like an ox-cart?

The *Sunday Times* answers the question by saying, "This is a sports car, of course, and a powerful one. What is astonishing about it is the thrust and speed it offers without disturbing at all the feeling of comfort and safety evoked in the driver or passenger."

That's just one good example of what "over-engineering" means to a 280SL owner.

A functional design

The *Sunday Times* write-up goes on to say that the 280SL accommodations are, "superb, with an admirable attention to detail which makes the Mercedes-Benz one of the most comfortable sporting cars available anywhere."

"Compared with the overloaded look of many quality car interiors—all wood and plush and carpet, like a 19th-century drawing room—this Mercedes-Benz is almost sparse. But it is the sparseness of elegance and brilliant functional design, the almost architectural principle of 'less is more!'"

"Fatigue-proof" seats

Heady praise, indeed. But no detail is ever too small to catch the eye of the Mercedes-Benz engineers. The shape of the seats, for example, is anatomically correct. Orthopedic physicians were called in to help contour the seats so you'll have proper support all the

way from your shoulders to your knees.

You'll notice how much more room there is inside a 280SL. More shoulder room than a Mercury Cougar. More forward legroom than a certain Rolls-Royce. You don't punch your passenger in the knee, or skin your knuckles on the dash when you change gears. You don't massage your head on the roof, or "bottom-out" the seat when you go over a "thank-you-ma'am." A shrewdly designed little car.

Overhead-cam, fuel-injection Six

The 280SL's engine is an overhead-camshaft, fuel-injection Six—about the most exotic power plant this side of a racetrack. But you don't need an exotic mechanic to keep it running. All of its components are already well-proved in Mercedes-Benz passenger cars.

The overhead-cam layout (borrowed from World Champion Mercedes-Benz racing cars) permits high engine speeds without the fuss and clatter of conventional pushrods. Seven main bearings and fuel injection give it smooth pick-

up from low engine speeds, without pitching, bucking, coughing or stalling.

4-wheel disc brakes

No matter how good an engine is, Mercedes-Benz engineers insist that the brakes be better. So they equipped the 280SL with 4-wheel disc brakes—the same kind used on 180-mph Grand Prix racing cars. With 421.1 square inches of braking area, it's almost impossible to outrun the 280SL's brakes.

Built to last

The 280SL is built not only to prevail but also to endure. The body is carefully built up from nearly 100 steel panels selected from a dozen different gauges. They're welded into a single structure of immense strength and rigidity. There are over 10,000 separate welds in its "unitized" body/chassis construction. Squeaks and rattles from loose body bolts just can't happen.

Send today for free brochure

For further details on the new Mercedes-Benz models, send today for your copy of the free, 24-page, full-color brochure (clip coupon at right).

Take a test drive

Better yet, visit our showroom. See and drive the "over-engineered" Mercedes-Benz 280SL on display now. Get to know what it feels like to be a "whippet in a herd of buffalo."

Mercedes-Benz motor cars from \$25,582* to \$4,360*

You may find you're able to afford a Mercedes-Benz without realizing it. Here are suggested retail prices for 3 versions of the 280SL, plus 8 more of the 15 Mercedes-Benz models:

600 Grand Mercedes	\$22,299*
300SEL Limousine	9,400*
280SE Coupe	9,174*
280SL Coupe/Roadster	6,897*
280SL Coupe	6,647*
280SL Roadster	6,485*
280SE Sedan	6,222*
250 Sedan	5,060*
230 Sedan	4,544*
220 Diesel	4,494*
220 Sedan	4,360*



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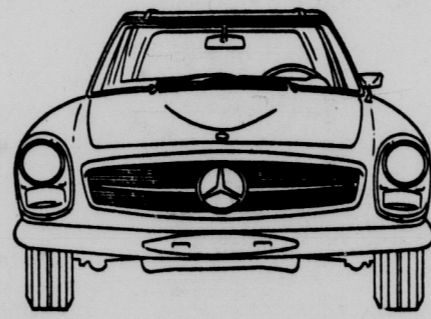
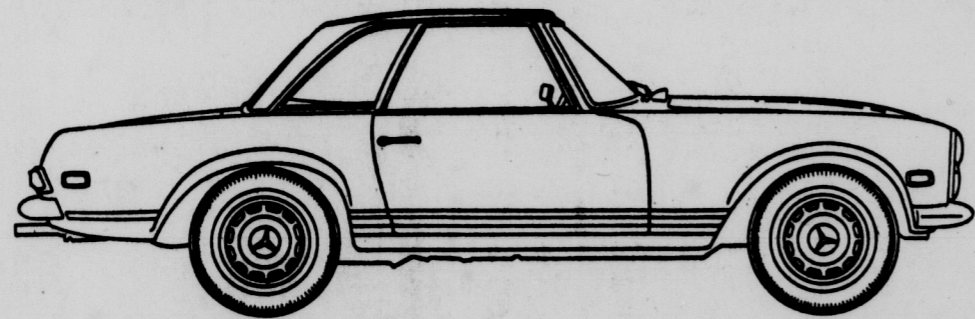
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The 280SL: 52 inches high. Track: 58 1/4 inches. Tires: 185HR-14 radials on 6-inch rims. Performance: "Astonishing" (*London Sunday Times*).

*East and Gulf Coast ports of entry, exclusive of options, state and local taxes, if any.

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