Student health plan approved

A new student hospital and accident insurance plan that would substantially raise rates was approved to go into effect next year. The Medical Advisory Board voted on May 5 to approve a new plan offered by The Equitable Life Assurance Society, the current insurer, that would raise rates from $71 to $95 for students, and from $60 to $84 for children. The plan also includes a $50 deductible.

The new plan does contain some increase in service, since it includes coverage for out-patient psychiatric care.

The increase in premiums is much less than the 70 per cent increase, that Equitable originally proposed based on its claims experience during the past year, the Board pointed out. Equitable expects to pay out substantially more in claims this year than it received in premiums.

This is at least partially due to rapidly increasing medical costs, the Board said, that room and board costs at local hospitals have increased 40 per cent this to-about $300 a day. The Board felt, however, that Equitable's losses this year were at least partially due to a statistical fluke, and the Board rejected Equitable's 79 per cent increase. The smaller increase with the $50

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Ex-AWOL Marine calls amnesty program a sham

By Thomas J. Spinak

President Ford's amnesty program was a sham, according to Austin Hodge, the longest AWOL Marine in history. Hodge, who deserted from Camp Pendleton, CA, in 1968, eight days before he was scheduled to go to Vietnam, surrendered to Federal authorities last February, Tuesday, he was discharged from the Marine Corps without being court-martialed. Had he been tried, Hodge could have spent five years in prison for desertion.

"Ford's program asked us to admit that we were wrong," Hodge said during a press conference Wednesday at the Arlington St. Church in Boston. "I don't think I did anything wrong. I think it was my constitutional duty not to take part in the crimes the government was committing.

Hodge added that deserting was "the hardest thing I ever had to do."

"I was the victim of a good recruiter," he stated. "The focus in 1966 was not on Vietnam; it was supposedly peacekeeping. After growing up with John Wayne movies and TV series like "Combat," according to Hodge, "the war did not involve real people until I carried the coffins of guys who died there."

He said he surrendered finally "to bring life back to the amnesty issue."

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The purchase price of our featured system this week is paid back to you in years of enjoyment. And since shrewd people know a good deal when they see one, you'll appreciate the fact that the price of these components, together in a system is substantially below what you'd have to pay for them separately.

You'll get two JBL "Studio Monitor" loudspeakers (included in the $1999 price of the Technics SL-1300 turntable). JBL L100 speakers put out more ear-pleasing sound than any other bookshelf-size speakers we know. Their 12-inch longthrow woofers are combined with front-mounted ducts for toe-tingling bass response. Separate midrange drivers provide plenty of midrange "presence." And two level controls located beneath the acoustically-transparent sculptured foam grillework allow you to adjust the midrange presence and high frequency brilliance, just the way you like to hear them.

Amplification in this system is amply provided by the SAE Mark XXXB stereo power amplifier. It delivers 50 watts minimum RMS per channel into the 8 ohm JBL loudspeakers across the entire 20 to 20,000 Hz. range of audible sounds, with no more than 0.1% total harmonic distortion.

The SAE Mark XXX stereo preamplifier serves as an extremely flexible control center for this system. Markitionally important, it adds virtually no distortion to the audio signal passing through it (total harmonic and intermodulation distortion never exceeds 0.03%).

With its digital readout (LED) tuning mechanism, the SAE Mark VIII stereo FM tuner provides absolutely flawless tuning accuracy. A dual meter system assures both maximum signal strength and center-of-channel tuning.

No other turntable than the Technics SL-1300 would do justice to the other components. It has a slow speed direct-drive servo controlled motor that permits reproduction of the musical material stored in records without adding distortion. The convenience features of the SL-1300 include automatic set-down and return, as well as a "Memo-Repeat" function that allows a record to be repeated up to five times before shut-off.

We know of no finer cartridge to complete this system than the Micro-Acoustics QDC-le. It has been proven capable of producing audio signals from a record that compare identically with the master tape of that record."

*Tech Hifi sells stereo systems starting at $199.

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