

# Perspectives Page

## EDITORIAL

### Into The Aftermath

Well, the rally's over, and it came off like a professional job. In fact, people from the legislators on down have been telling us how well organized it was.

And the organization seems to have paid off. Not an hour after the Capitol steps were cleared, the Senate Democrats introduced a compromise tax bill, more palatable to the Republicans. And Senator Hager, one of the main Senate opponents to the tax bill, said that he may even be able to support the compromise.

We did it. The legislators have a healthy respect for us, measly students though we are. And the possibility exists that the university appropriations may pass in the foreseeable future, now, instead of the unforeseeable future.

One thing this points out is that rallies are not useless [something that we heard often enough before Tuesday]. If organized properly, they can and do scare the pants off the people in power. That's why Governor Shapp and Representatives Manderino and Butera made it a point to speak to us. We didn't invite them. But they saw our political power, and decided it was better for them, politically, to try to be our friends than to be our enemies.

Now we are into Stage 2 of our plan. We don't just stop here. For all the gains we made in just a few hours on Tuesday, the problem remains. The budget still is not passed. And next year's budget goes to the Appropriations Committee in February. There's a lot more work to do.

The four rally coordinators are meeting again, soon, with the student leaders of Pitt, Temple and University Park, to plan our next moves. Intensive lobbying with those legislators who oppose us will continue. The possibility of setting up a 24-hour a day vigil in the Capitol, to continue until the budget is finally passed, will be discussed. And plans will be put into effect to start a permanent, state-wide organization of students from the state-related universities.

I'd like to personally thank everyone who helped out on this action, and also say please, don't go away.

The work isn't over, it's only just beginning.

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The Capitol Campus Reader is the school newspaper of Penn State's Capitol Campus. It is published by the students who attend this school. We of the Reader Staff try to accurately represent the voice of the students, and keep them informed as to current events and relevant issues. We are published on a weekly basis.

## Student Government Notebook

By Dave Nikoloff  
SGA Senator

Those of us who went to the State Capitol on Tuesday left Harrisburg with mixed feelings. I felt that our student demonstration was a success and that the planners, organizers and staff can be proud of what they did. However our success was limited since the Legislature and Governor gave us the same old lines and promises that we have heard since last August.

Does that mean we failed? No, you would have to be uninformed or an idiot to believe that. In fact the Democratic and Republican leaders were forced to acknowledge our problem and answer questions; the Governor had to make a rambling speech that was received like a loaf of stale bread; and House and Senate aides had to get out of their political cocoons and explain how their employers could allow the Commonwealth to get into this fix in the first place.

### TASK

Notice: To all JUNIORS who took the Stanford Task Test, Fall Term, 1977.

The Stanford Task test of Reading, English and Math skills was administered to juniors at the beginning of the Fall Term, 1977. The test results are being analyzed as part of the Committee on Remediation's study of the need for a remediation program at The Capitol Campus. Individual test scores have been kept and will remain confidential.

Having obtained the Faculty Council's approval, the Committee will inform interested students of their scores. Students who obtain their scores will be asked if they desire remedial help. The number of students who desire such help will be reported to the Faculty Council.

Scores may be obtained from Mr. John Joseph in Room W-205 between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon, Monday - Friday. Mr. Joseph will discuss the results with students who wish to do so. The student identification card must be presented to obtain the scores.



It should now be clear to them that the slogans and phrases that they have been using to support their positions are wearing thin. We let them know that we feel the time for playing games has passed and that they should do their job and find a solution to the mess they have caused.

I want to congratulate those of you who attended the rally. Your effort should be an example to our fellow students who sit on their backsides, complain and criticize, without paying their dues.

I'm sure that all of us who attended the rally would like to thank the leaders of the student effort, Ed Perrone, Carol Andress, Gary Reneker, Linda Weaver, Randy Goshert, Pat

Clifford, Larry Ranieri, Peggy Hartzell, and Joy Edmondson. Those of us who watched them work can admire the great deal of preparation, planning and time they put into this event. There were many others who gave this effort their time and labor, I would like to thank them, too. Please forgive me for not listing your names. Without the petition volunteers, letter writers, rally marshalls, and resident student coordinators, the demonstration would not have been successful.

Finally, those of you who bought raffle tickets, made donations, and attended the rally kegger help to supply the funds needed to pay the expenses from demonstration. THANK YOU for your contributions.

## NOW Bulletin

By Anniken Howell

"Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

The heart of the Equal Rights Amendment is a simple statement of equal standing for all, regardless of sex. But as simple as the above statement of human rights may seem, it has yet to become part of the Constitution of the United States. Equality for both sexes has yet to become a Constitutional guarantee. Rather, it is left to the whims of the state and national legislatures. True, Federal law states that no rights are to be denied on account of race, religion, national origin or sex, but what Congress hath giveth, Congress can taketh away. (Students in Pennsylvania know a lot about that through the current budget crisis.) A nation which clamors for human rights abroad should surely accord half of their own population those same rights.

The ERA was first intro-

duced as a possible addition to the Constitution in 1923. Not until 1972 did it pass in Congress and go to the states for ratification. Much furor has arisen over the simple wording of the Amendment. Anti-ERA forces are protesting that the ERA will legalize homosexual marriages, end protective legislation for women, end alimony and child support payments, and force men and women to share the same public restrooms. Such statements, while colorful and emotional, have little to do with reality. In truth, all the ERA will do is provide a Constitutional statement of equal rights for all, to which legislators drafting laws and judges writing decisions may turn for guidance. Traditionally, it has been up to the court system to interpret the scope of Constitutional rights. It is they, along with legislators, who will determine exactly what the ERA will not suddenly turn American society upside down; but it will give women a Constitutional statement of equality to lean on when those rights are denied.

## Thank You

The State Rally Coordinators would like to thank the immense number of people who helped make our rally on Tuesday the success it was. It's impossible to name everybody, but thanks and appreciation go to all of the students who collected petitions and letters, who ran with all our paperwork, who sat on the phone for hours on end, and who in whatever way gave their time and classwork to attend to each phase of the rally. We'd also like to thank those faculty, staff and administrators who gave us advice and encouragement and, some-

thing especially needed, donations.

In addition, thanks to Fox's Market and McDonald's for helping out, and to any other groups or individuals in the community who donated anything at all.

And finally, to all you people who helped fill the Capitol steps, and especially anyone else we may have forgotten to name, we extend our sincerest thanks.

Thank you all.

Ed Perrone  
Carol Andress  
Linda Weaver  
Gary Reneker