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Faculty union considered

Since January 5, the Penna. Labor Relations Board has been holding hearings on faculty unionization at Penn State. The PLRB is seeking to determine whether 30 per cent of the faculty will unionize, and who would belong in the resulting collective bargaining unit.

The issue of faculty unionization is a source of concern not only to the administration but also to the students. Unionization may have good or bad effects on students. Tuitions may be increased, student participation in governance and academic decisions may be decreased, and the quality

of education may be reduced. Strikes could delay graduation for students, and a seniority system could replace the present evaluation system for faculty promotions.

Conversely, a powerful faculty lobby could exert more pressure on the state legislature for aid to Penn State. A faculty union could also limit class size and aid student grievance procedures by formalizing administrative/faculty relationships, making it easier for students to know who to go to if they have a problem.

The ultimate effect of faculty unionization on student interests may be determined by the role students play in contract negotiations. "The student body must look out for itself," said Donna Lurie, head of Undergraduate Student Government's Department of Labor, "because no one is going to look out for us. Therefore we must have some voice in the collective bargaining process."

The Graduate Student Association is opposed to faculty unionization "until such time that it can be demonstrated that it will not adversely affect graduate students' welfare."

USG is sponsoring a student referendum on the unionization issue, and is continuing to lobby in the Pennsylvania Legislature for a law that will guarantee students the right to sit in on all negotiation sessions.

Da Vinci in Library

There is presently an exhibit of the inventions of Leonardo da Vinci downstairs in the Library. The display was constructed by IBM, and is touring the university through the Office of Student Affairs.

Cerula speaks

Mr. Paul Cerula, business manager at the Hazleton PSU campus, spoke at a Student Government meeting last month concerning Security and fire hazards.

On Security, Cerula said that there was no reason for officers to carry firearms and there is no intention of arming them. As far as there being 24-hour radio coverage of this campus, he said that permission to hook up with the police has not been approved. Insufficient funds prevent the setting up of some sort of radio communication system just for the campus.

Concerning the fire hazard report, Cerula said that the campus has passed the standards of an insurance and inspection agency.

Since this SGA meeting, Cerula has been unavailable for comment to this newspaper regarding the fire hazard issue.

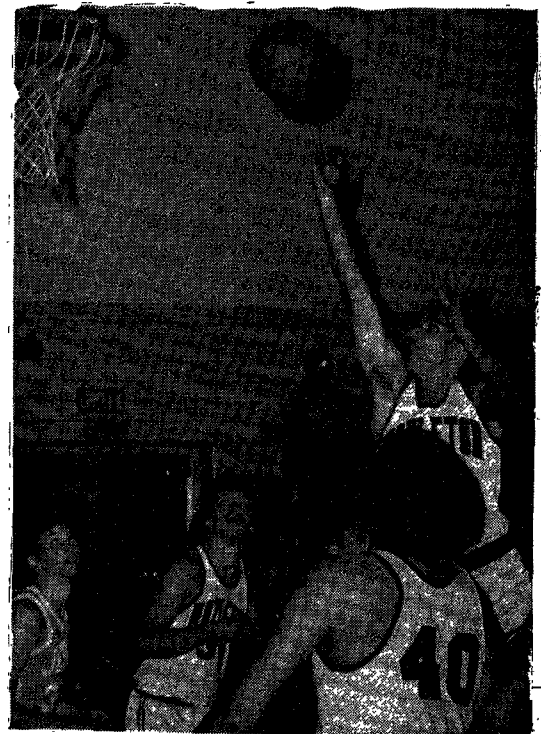
Fire on campus

A fire broke out in the Library electrical service equipment on February 3. According to Pennsylvania Power and Light Co. spokesmen, the power company is still not certain as to what the cause of the fire was.

The fire occurred in a steel box containing a lighting arrester system. Lightning has been listed as a possible cause of the fire, along with component failure.

All power to the campus was shut off at 12:30 p.m., so that any potential cause could be isolated and repaired. A new arrester unit was on hand in Hazleton, avoiding a trip to Allentown. PP&L service crews had the replacement in service and campus power restored by 5:30 that afternoon.

While the electricity was off, the campus was powered by emergency generators. However, these generators could not supply electricity to the Library heating system. At approximately 3:00 p.m., the building was closed and evacuated.



Greg Slusser goes for two pts. as teammates Rick Worman (30) and Bob Gabriel (40) look on. Story on page 6.