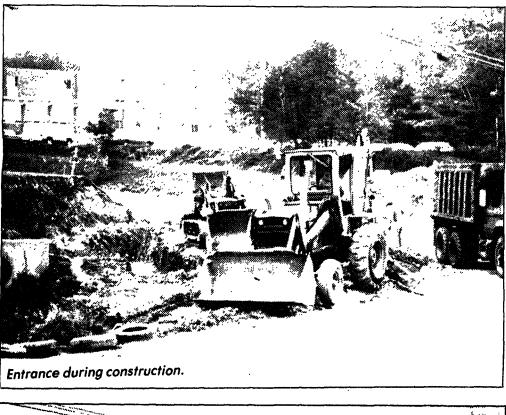
## News

## **Campus** entrance gets facelift



Entrance before construction began.





"VETS" continued from pg. 1

these funding cuts because of the serious and detrimental affect they will have on our future education." At press time, the petition has been signed by over 360 people including students, faculty members, and administrators.

"Our goal is to get at least 700 signatures — 70 percent of the campus population," said Sharpe. "I will then see that the petition gets to the proper authorities, including Senators Arlen Specter and John Heinz, and Congressman James Nelligan."

Most recently, the joint resolution to fund the government, signed by President

"We are doing our hardest here at the Hazleton Campus to fight for our student aid." Kevin Sharpe

Reagan over the Christmas holidays, eliminated the Basic Grant (Pell) for veterans. Under the new 1982-83 regulations, those receiving G.I. Bill and War Orphans benefits will have those benefits counted in a way that will leave them ineligible for the Pell grant no matter what their income.

It should also be noted that the annual G.I. Bill benefits amount to less than half of the estimated average yearly cost for veterans to attend Penn State.'

Beginning last March, 1981, the Reagan Administration and the Congress embarked upon the most severe cutback in financial aid programs for higher education in

the past decade. Hundreds of thousands of lower and moderate income students have been directly affected by these cut-backs. Ultimately, one out of three will have their financial aid reduced asa result of these cuts.

Student Social Security Benefits are being completely phased out over a four-year period. Some 250,000 students nationwide will be dropped from the Pell program (BEOG); and, 500,000 to 1 million students will be dropped from the GSL program.

In 1983, GSL could become totally needs based, eliminating moderate income students totally from the program. The Administration has proposed doubling the origination fee, requiring that students pay market interest rates while paying back their loans, and cutting graduate students out of the program entirely.

Brian Clark, Coordinator of Veterans' Affairs at Penn State, University Park, has made the following observations about the educational budget cuts and the veteran: "On October 1, 1981, the Omnibus Reconciliation Act went into effect, cutting funds for several student aid pro-grams. It also stipulated that the G.I. Bill, Contributory and War Orphans entitlement benefits (formerly considered income) are now looked upon as financial aid for purposes of establishing eligibility for Guaranteed Student Loans (GSL), a lowinterest federal program.

"We are doing our hardest here at the Hazleton Campus to fight for our student aid," commented Sharpe. "Your signature is your voice - so everyone who feels he is being cheated or short changed on loans, grants, etc. definitely must sign our petition."



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