



Stephen Depue

Photo by Bruce Knott

Candidate takes aim at inflation

By STEVE OSTROSKY
Collegian Managing Editor
Tax reform and state government spending cutbacks are two "musts" to curb inflation. Constitutional party gubernatorial candidate Stephen Depue said yesterday.

In an interview with The Daily Collegian, Depue said his first act as governor would be to impose a constitutional limit on the power to tax. Since 1946, Depue said, the state gross product has increased by about 475 per cent and personal income 350 per cent. But, he said, during the same time, taxes have gone up 2,362 per cent.

"It is all out of proportion," Depue said. "Taxes should be related to ability to produce."

"Almost every gubernatorial candidate in the past 30 years has campaigned for tax reform. Once in office they don't even lift their little finger to reform. The only reforms initiated in the past 30 years are relentless increases." Depue said the tax limitations should be set at the present levels for the income and sales taxes — two and six per cent respectively.

Depue's second taxation proposal would provide a personal exemption on income state taxes. Under this proposal, a single taxpayer would receive a \$5,000 exemption, while a joint tax return would be allowed a \$10,000 exemption.

"I don't see any reason why the

working man or woman should take bread off the table, shoes off his children's feet or gas out of his car to pay for the extravagance of Harrisburg."

He said that he does not favor the progressive income tax.

Depue said that he would cut education spending by the state government as well as all other state spending. He proposed a 10 per cent cut across the board of all state spending.

"All of the state's departments have been pretty well padded, especially through the last administration," Depue said. "Even though we don't like to tackle education, we've got to put on the brakes."

Depue said the first step in improving Pennsylvania's economy is to encourage industry to locate in the state. He said the corporate tax should be lowered and other "attractive offers" should be used, such as giving used-up coal mining land to industries to locate on.

The second major step, Depue said, would be the lowering of state taxes. Criticizing President Ford's announcement that he would ask Congress to raise taxes for this year, Depue said Ford "was putting a little more gasoline on the fire."

Depue said he disagreed with Ford's economic philosophy. "The main cause of inflation is deficit spending and inflating the money supply," he said. He proposed cutbacks in all federal spending. He said the money should be

used instead to pay off the national debt. Depue said such action would stop inflation "just like that" though there would probably be severe consequences at first.

On the "college issues" — drinking age, marijuana and abortion — Depue's position is conservative.

"I favor keeping the drinking age where it is and the prohibition of marijuana," Depue said. "I feel that underlying all good government is a strong moral basis. I feel these things (lowering the drinking age and legalizing marijuana) violate God's moral rules."

"I oppose abortion very strongly. Again on the principal that it violates the moral basis of God, God gave life, it is God's responsibility to end it, not man's."

He said he favors abortion if it is absolutely necessary to save a mother's life. However, he said that in rape cases

the victim should use other protective measures before conception can occur. He said he does not favor allowing abortion in those cases.

Depue said he favors capital punishment because it "is a strong deterrent to crime." "If you execute a murderer, he won't be around to kill someone else."

"I think we would not have had the rash of kidnappings if capital punishment had been maintained for kidnapping."

He said that when Gov. Shapp said that no one would be executed while he was in office, Shapp was really saying, "Innocent victims will continue to be raped, kidnapped and slaughtered."

On the issue of corruption in state government, Depue's opinion went along with almost every candidate for any office.

"There is no reason to have payoffs," he said. "There is no room for corruption in any branch of government."

Socialist Scherr raps capitalism, abortion statute

By JOHN McDERMOTT
Collegian Staff Writer

Pennsylvania's new abortion bill, part of which goes into effect today, is a tremendous step backwards for the women's liberation movement, according to Roberta Scherr, the Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor.

Scherr, speaking to an audience of 15 in Sackett last night, said the law is a blatant attack on the rights of women and must be defeated.

The law would require women seeking abortions to have the consent of their husbands or their parents if under 18 years of age. It also calls for the end of state subsidization of abortions.

Scherr, 21, said this will mean that only those women who are rich enough will be able to get legal abortions.

"This will put abortions back in the hands of sexist, butchers and quacks," Scherr said. "In the past decade there have been more deaths from illegal abortions than American men killed in Vietnam."

Scherr said until recent years abortion has been shrouded in secrecy and guilt. She added that the liberal federal abortion law of a year and a half ago brought it out in the open, but the turning point, she said, has been the organized women's liberation movement.

"The movement posed the whole question in an entirely new way," she

said. "They shifted the emphasis from population control to the rights of a woman."

Scherr said the preservation of the family was at the heart of the opposition to women's rights, including abortion.

Scherr said this represses the sexual freedom of women to keep them at home. She added that the family is a financial institution under the capitalist system, which can't exist without the oppression of women and the working class.

Scherr said the Republican candidate for governor, Drew Lewis, is in favor of the new law. She said though Governor Shapp vetoed the bill, he did so because it was an election year and there is strong sentiment over the issue. The legislature passed the bill over Shapp's veto.

Although her talk was mainly about the abortion law and oppression of women, Scherr said her party's platform calls for civil and human rights for gay people and prisoners, the end of racist oppression and the end of a capitalist America in favor of a socialist system.

Because she is under 30, Scherr does not meet the legal requirements to be governor, and her name won't be on the ballot for the upcoming election.

However, if elected by write-in votes, she said, it will mean the people are ready for socialism and the state constitution will be amended.

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Senate charges malfeasance

By JIM KUHNHENN
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The Undergraduate Student Government Senate last night voted on the two remaining articles of impeachment against USG President George Cernusca.

The Senate voted 20-5 with one abstention in favor of Article III charging Cernusca with malfeasance in office. However, it amended the last article of impeachment to a resolution of censure. Malfeasance is defined as wrongdoing or misconduct, especially in handling public affairs.

The article states Cernusca is guilty of malfeasance for signing a letter of endorsement with Frank B. Hall insurance company. This was after Cernusca, by his own testimony, was offered a bribe by an agent of that company. The article adds Cernusca is guilty of not reporting the bribe attempt to the proper

authorities within a reasonable amount of time.

The article also charges Cernusca with malfeasance for not condemning his former aide, Eric Richardson, for making a tape recording of USG office secretary Claire Brown.

The last proposed article charged Cernusca with abuse of power for carrying on activities within the executive branch without consulting the Senate on an equal basis.

The Senate, however, voted to change the article to a resolution of censure. A resolution of censure cannot be introduced in an impeachment trial.

During debate, Senator Jim Maza urged the Senate to "put ourselves in his (Cernusca) shoes and bring a sense of proportion to this matter."

"I think George did some pretty poor blunders, but so have we here (impeachment proceedings)," he added.

In other related action, Dave Perlman, Senate parliamentarian, announced his resignation as parliamentarian of the special Senate meetings on impeachment.

Perlman said he had been threatened several times because of some of his rulings during the special Senate sessions. He said he will report these threats to University Safety.

Perlman's also said he was dissatisfied with the attitudes of some senators. He said he resents the "vendetta" he claimed many senators have carried out against Cernusca.

He said if Cernusca is guilty beyond a shadow of a doubt then he should be removed from office and lose all the privileges of that executive office, "but don't prejudice him as some Senators have been doing."

Perlman also asked the Senate to "stop the goddamn circus act." He advised the senators that the object

of USG is for the benefit of the students. He pointed out that in the last two Senate meetings no new legislature was passed or considered.

Perlman also asked the Senate to "get rid of the technical bullshit." He said the Senate has lost grip of the entire impeachment issue because of parliamentary technicalities.

USG Senators must make a "show of unity" or else become the laughing stock of the student body and the University administration, Perlman said.

Jaworski fears pardon effect

Trial jury prejudice hinted

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The deliberate search for a jury to hear the Watergate cover-up case yesterday produced the first hint that some prospects are biased not against the defendants but against the prosecution.

The hint came in a legal brief filed by Special Prosecutor Leon Jaworski, who suggested, in carefully veiled language, that some prospective jurors still in the running think it is unfair to prosecute Richard Nixon's former aides when the former President himself has been pardoned.

Worse, he said, the fact that U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica will grant the defense 15 peremptory challenges while giving the government only six could give the defendants "complete control" in selecting the jury.

Jaworski asked Sirica to erase this

"unwarranted advantage" given the defense by employing special procedures when the jury selection reaches the final stage of peremptory challenges.

Peremptory rounds, during which prospective jurors may be kept off the panel for no stated reason, are expected to begin later this week.

"This is an extraordinary case in which extraordinary measures to ensure fairness to all parties are fully justified," Jaworski said. "Such extraordinary considerations of fairness have already resulted in a grant of additional peremptory challenges to the defense."

The government contends that because the additional grant of challenges to the defense when coupled with the pattern of responses to

questions about the Nixon pardon during voirdire (juror screening) together raise a possibility of unfairness to the government...

Until now, it has been the defense that has complained of possible bias among prospective jurors in Washington. The five defendants — John N. Mitchell, H. R. Haldeman, John D. Ehrlichman, Robert C. Mardian and Kenneth W. Parkinson — are accused of plotting to cover up the Watergate bugging scandal.

A spokesman for Sirica said the judge was "still hopeful" of picking and sequestering a jury by Friday. The jury search began Oct. 1.

Slowness in finding a jury forced a House Judiciary Subcommittee to postpone for a week President Ford's scheduled appearance today to testify about the Nixon pardon.

Unemployment program blasted

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Labor Secretary Peter Brennan, who outlined President Ford's unemployment program to Congress yesterday, ran into a buzz saw from Democrats who called it too little and too slow. Republicans who called it unrealistic and labor leaders who called it "far short of what's needed."

Brennan testified in a hastily called joint meeting of House and Senate Labor committees and explained that the proposals would go into effect only if unemployment reaches 6 per cent for three consecutive months. Unem-

ployment now stands at 5.8 per cent. It would provide increased unemployment insurance benefits in several stages, and create temporary public service jobs in a Community Improvement Program.

Rep. Dominick Daniels, D-N.J., said the 6 per cent trigger means to "wait too long" to help the neediest, and Sen. Gaylord Nelson, D-Wis., said that Milwaukee, which has 7 per cent unemployment, would not qualify for the extra benefits under the formula because the metropolitan labor market area has a rate below 6.5 per cent.

William Kolberg, assistant labor secretary for manpower, argued that the trigger was designed to "focus on places where the problems are worst."

But Rep. Marvin Esch, R-Mich., called the proposal "artificial, contrived and inequitable."

Leonard Woodcock, president of the United Auto Workers, issued a

statement saying any program tied to a 6 per cent jobless rate "appears to be far short of what's needed to relieve suffering," and added that the return for business and the wealthy from a 5 per cent tax surcharge would be greater.

Jerry Wurf, president of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Workers, complained that Ford is "telling us if unemployment goes up another 200,000 he'll provide a maximum of 70,000 jobs at poverty wages."

Under terms of Ford's job proposal, when unemployment has been at 6 per cent for three consecutive months, \$2.1 billion would be available for additional cash benefits to some 1.9 million workers previously ineligible, and another \$30,000 whose benefits had expired.

Another \$750 million would be provided when unemployment reaches 6.5 per cent, and still another \$1 billion if it reaches 7 per cent.

President defends surcharge proposal

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Ford defended his proposed income tax surcharge yesterday as costing middle-income Americans only pennies a day, and predicted it would help bring a "meaningful reduction" in the rate of inflation by early next year.

Responding to criticism from both Democrats and Republicans in Congress that his request for a one-year, 5 per cent surtax was too harsh and inequitable, Ford told a news conference the carefully considered proposal would affect only 28 per cent of all individual taxpayers and would not cut significantly into their buying power.

Nor, he said, would it be extended beyond the calendar year 1975. If Congress approves his legislative program, unveiled Tuesday at a joint session of the House and Senate, and if Americans cooperate voluntarily, his anti-inflation proposals "will work," he said.

Ford's nationally broadcast news conference — his third since taking office two months ago — was held in the White House Rose Garden in cool, sunny weather.

The President denied the country was suffering a recession, but said "we do have an economic problem" which began a decade ago.

There is no "quick fix" or "immediate panacea" for an end to the spiraling cost of living, Ford said.

But, he added, "I'm convinced, if the Congress responds, if the American people respond in a voluntary way, that we can have hopefully early in 1975 some meaningful reduction in the rate of inflation."

Clearly mindful of congressional unrest over the surtax proposal less than a month before the Nov. 5 elections, Ford rattled off figures intended to assure taxpayers that the surtax bite would be minimal.

For a family of four with annual gross income of \$20,000, he said, the extra cost of the proposed tax-on-income-tax would be \$42, or 12 cents a day.

The same family with a \$15,000 income would pay no surtax, he said, and it would cost only \$3 for the entire year — less than a penny a day — for those earning \$16,000 a year.

Ford's figures differed from those issued Tuesday by the Treasury Department, which estimated the one-year cost for a \$20,000 family would be \$128 rather than the \$42 mentioned by Ford.

However, Ford was using "adjusted gross income." In his example, the family of four would have four exemptions of \$750 each totalling \$3,000 plus deductions worth \$3,400. This leaves taxable income of \$13,600 on which a 5 per cent surcharge of \$42 would be paid.

The government's earlier example assumed a taxable income of \$20,000.

On other subjects, the President: — Deplored the violence in Boston over court-ordered busing, said he disagreed with the court's decision, but

added it was of "maximum importance" for Boston citizens to obey the law. He said he had received no request for federal intervention.

— Indicated he would not ask Congress to restore drastically reduced funds in his request for \$850,000 in transition expenses for former President Richard M. Nixon. He said he would not agree that the House reduction to \$200,000 was "stingy and punitive," but would reserve judgment until the final bill reaches his desk.

— Disagreed with Treasury Secretary William E. Simon's testimony earlier yesterday opposing eventual elimination of the oil depletion allowance as contained in a tax reform bill before the House Ways and Means Committee. Ford said he favored a phase-out of the controversial tax write-off for oil companies.

— Said the adverse reaction to his pardon of Nixon and the illness of his wife, Betty, had not changed his mind about the possibility of running for election in 1976. He noted he had said earlier he "probably" would seek election and said: "I have seen nothing to change that decision."

— Had no comment on the Nixon pardon, saying he would await his personal testimony next week before a House Judiciary subcommittee.

— Sidestepped comment on reports in Washington and London that he and Soviet Communist Party leader Leonid I. Brezhnev were considering a get-acquainted summit meeting in November, possibly in the Pacific after Ford's late November visit to Japan and South Korea.

— Said he had been assured there was nothing illegal or improper about vice presidential nominee Nelson A. Rockefeller's \$50,000 cash gift to Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, then a foreign policy adviser to the former New York governor.

— Said he had "tremendous admiration and respect" for Kissinger and his diplomatic peace efforts, and saw no undermining of Kissinger's authority as a result of recent criticism.

— Announced he will meet Mexican chief of state Luis Echeverria Alvarez at the Mexican border Oct. 21 for a review of mutual concerns "to seek to strengthen our traditionally good relations."

The President, wearing a "Win" button on his lapel as he stood before reporters in the crisp autumn chill of the Rose Garden just outside his West Wing office, said he had to be "very, very careful" not to "tighten the screws" too hard on the economy and thus risk a recession.

He said he was confident his anti-inflation proposals were fair to all Americans without putting an undue burden on any segment of society.

Weather

Partly to mostly sunny today and tomorrow. Mostly clear tonight. High today and tomorrow, 65-69. Low tonight, 43.

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