

# Democrats develop new party harmony

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (UPI) — Newly united, jubilant Democrats concluded America's first mid-term political convention yesterday, confident they are on the road back to the White House.

The three-day convention, which many had feared would rekindle the bitter feuds that have savaged the party, ended with a fragile, newly-forged harmony that party leaders pray will endure through the presidential elections of 1976.

The 2,500 delegates and alternates adopted the party's first charter — filled with many of the reforms advocated by George S. McGovern and his troops two years ago — and approved a resolution demanding the toughest economic controls since World War II.

The convention also turned into a round-the-clock search for support by announced and unannounced presidential candidates, who mined delegate caucuses in mini-campaigns that served as a stage-setter to the 1976 nominating convention.

But the biggest ovations were reserved for some of the party titans of the past, including McGovern, who led Democrats to their most disastrous defeat in 1972 and who announced at the convention that he would not seek or accept the nomination again.

The smooth-running convention was orchestrated by National Chairman Robert S. Strauss, who came to the convention determined to deal with a unified party and engineered a back-room deal at the last moment which averted a walkout by blacks and their allies.

Strauss, speaking to an almost empty auditorium at the start of the final session, declared "we have brought the National Democratic Party back to political life and we have united factions behind principles of common decency."

The final day's session was anti-climactic after Saturday's bitter behind-the-scenes bickering that almost resulted in reformers bolting the convention before the charter was approved on a roaring voice vote.

There were no impassioned speeches yesterday, no efforts by delegates to be recognized. The mood was relaxed and informal, and it was clear many of the delegates had not shaken the effects of "unity and harmony" parties the night before. Many others did not show up at all.

Yesterday's session ended so quickly that Rabbi Maurice Weisenberg did not make it to the rostrum in time to give the final benediction.

A series of speakers outlined Democratic programs to deal with the nation's most pressing issues — ranging from the economy to foreign affairs — which are expected to serve as a basis for the party platform on which the 1976 presidential candidate will run.

Highlights of the charter adopted at the convention: —Provides that states must institute affirmative action programs to open party affairs to minority groups, but specifically prohibits "mandatory" quotas.

—Declares that all convention delegations and party caucus, if challenged, must provide the burden of proof that they opened their affairs to minority representation under affirmative action.

—Leaves to the discretion of the national committee whether future mid-term national conventions should be held.

—Creates a Judicial Council to settle party disputes.

—Bans unit rule vote and winner-take-all primaries in choosing delegates to national nominating conventions, and provides proportional representation to reflect the support a candidate receives in state primaries or state nominating conventions.

—All party meetings must be open to the public, and secret voting is prohibited.

The charter will go into effect for the 1980 national convention. Rules for the 1976 convention were adopted two years ago.



United again?

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CHAIRMAN Robert Strauss and former New York Governor W. Averell Harriman open the final session of the Democratic Party's mid-term convention.

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## Greek voters reject monarchy

ATHENS (UPI) — Greek voters yesterday overwhelmingly rejected the monarchy and chose a republican form of government, spoiling former King Constantine's bid for a return to the throne.

With 92 per cent of the ballots counted, the republic had 2,899,282 votes to 1,318,827 for the monarchy, a lead of 68.8 to 31.2 per cent. Turnout was about 75 per cent.

The final count was expected to go even more against the monarchy as ballots not yet tabulated came from Athens and suburbs where Constantine was polling only between 10 and 20 per cent.

In a televised address, Premier Constantine Caramanlis said the people had decided "and their decision must be respected without any reservation by all Greeks."

Caramanlis said Greeks must forget "old and recent points of difference" spread over 60 years of coups d'etat and violence.

"In order to put a final end to this regrettable tradition, I created the conditions for a free and uninfluenced referendum. No one is entitled to present the result of the referendum as his own achievement," Caramanlis said.

Jubilant crowds gathered at downtown Constitution Square and outside Athens

University, carrying blue and white Greek flags and shouting slogans like, "Let's turn the palace into a school" and "The German dies today."

The latter was a reference to Constantine's German-born mother, controversial Queen Frederika, who became a target of the republicans in the campaign because of her autocratic behavior during Constantine's 1964-1967 reign.

No violence was reported during the voting, which was favored by sunny but cold weather throughout Greece.

A government source said President Gen. Phaedon Gizikis, the last survivor of the military regime which collapsed in July, would soon resign, paving the way for the appointment of a temporary president of the republic.

The source said a full-term president will be elected after a new constitution is drafted, which may take several months.

Constantine, 34, who has indicated that he wants to return to Greece even as a private citizen, had no immediate comment from his home near London. A spokesman for him said earlier he would have nothing to say until today, win or lose.

Constantine left the country in December, 1967, after an abortive counter-coup against a military regime which had seized power six months earlier.

The ill-fated Greek monarchy, one of the youngest in Europe, had been junked in a 1973 referendum called by the former military regime.

## Weather

Cloudy, windy, and much colder today with occasional snow flurries. High 27. Clearing and quite cold tonight. Low 16. Partly cloudy, less windy, and very cold tomorrow. High 26.

## County per capita tax bills due

By STEVE SHIKOFF  
Collegian Staff Writer

Students must pay or file for exoneration from the \$5 Centre County per capita tax bill by Dec. 31, according to Paul Bender, State College tax collector.

Centre County commissioners voted Nov. 19 to allow persons under 65 years of age to petition for exoneration on the grounds of non-residency or financial inability. Persons petitioning for financial inability must earn less than \$1,800 annually.

Bender said that since students

are now eligible to exonerate the tax, all bills received by students last February must be accounted for by the end of the month.

The county tax books close Dec. 31 and all persons who have not paid or petitioned the tax will be referred to the Centre County delinquent tax collector, he said.

Delinquent bills will mean additional costs. Bender said, adding that minimum delinquent charges would be \$5.

These charges are assessed to pay the delinquent tax collector, he said.

Bender said students paying the bill must bring the forms they received last Feb. 1.

Only students that received tax bills are liable to pay it, he added.

Centre County tax commissioners said Thursday the per capita tax may be abolished for the 1975 fiscal year. However, Bender said revenues may be derived from other sources, such as real estate taxes, to meet county budget expenditures.

The per capita tax money is used for financing Centre County's home for aged, maintaining county voting

records, county wills, courts and other important business, Bender said.

Students can bring in or mail the \$5 to the State College Tax Office, 250 East Beaver Ave., or to the Centre County Tax Commissioner's Office in Bellefonte.

Students who prefer to file a petition for exoneration should pick up a form available in the HUB or State College Tax Office, he said.

The students that have misplaced the tax form received last Feb. can call the State College Tax Office (238-8013) or the Centre County Assessment Office in Bellefonte (355-5411).

## Commission chooses second alternative

# Modified term system supported

By JANICE SELINGER  
Collegian Staff Writer

The University Calendar Commission voted Saturday to recommend a "modified" term system as a second alternative to the present term system.

The commission, which chose the early semester system as its first alternative by an eight-to-two margin at a previous meeting, voted seven in favor of the early semester and five in favor of a "modified" term system.

The "modified" term system would consist of three 10-week terms, with an eight-week summer session, Commission Chairman Asa Berlin said.

The "modified" term system could start after Labor Day and end before Thanksgiving with a month off for Christmas. Winter Term would start after New Year and Spring Term would end in June, Berlin said.

According to Berlin this vote is a vindication of the earlier vote for the early semester and would give University President John W. Oswald an alternative plan.

Berlin said he found the vote surprising. However, the difference in the two votes was probably because the "modified" term system wasn't con-

sidered the last time the commission voted, Berlin said.

"The only similarity between the two is that Christmas break does not interrupt classes," Berlin said.

The modified system would be useful in case the University has to shut down due to a fuel emergency, Berlin said. The month off for Christmas would fit this purpose well, he said.

The commission members said they thought there should be a built-in awareness of an energy crisis in any calendar.

The "modified" term system could also be set up like the term system used

before 1973, starting at the end of September and going right up to Christmas, with the second term starting after New Year and classes ending in June. The only difference between this set-up and the former term system is the eight-week summer session, Berlin said.

The commission is now studying a preliminary report of the pros and cons of the early semester system. The commission's support of the "modified" term system will be added to the report, which will be presented to Oswald in early January, Berlin said.

The commission's next meeting will be 1 to 5 p.m. Thursday in 404 Old Main.



Hey, diddle, diddle, the cat and the fiddle...

THE COW, HOWEVER, HAD GOOD REASON to jump over the moon in delight if he heard Vassar Clements fine fiddle playing at last night's University Auditorium concert. See story on page 14 for details.

## Mine shutdown possible

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Stalled contract talks between mine construction workers and the coal industry threatened last night to keep many of the nation's soft-coal mines shut down, despite last week's settlement of a 24-day strike.

Without a contract by midnight, the 6,000 mine construction workers said they would start picketing work sites.

Because coal miners traditionally refuse to cross other workers' picket lines, the 120,000 miners may remain idled.

Negotiators resumed recessed talks four hours before the deadline last night, after chief federal mediator W.J. Usery spoke with both sides separately.

The United Mine Workers and Bituminous Coal Operators Association signed a new contract Thursday, and miners were to be back at work no later than today. But a separate contract agreement between the construction workers, also UMW members, and the Association of Bituminous Contractors, was never reached and talks bogged Saturday over what an industry spokesman said were "three or four major stumbling block areas."

The construction workers' contract expired along with the main UMW pact Nov. 12, but there was no picketing

before because the mines were shut down during the miners' strike.

"We're hoping they don't picket the mines," said a UMW spokesman as negotiations resumed.

Industry spokesman Francis T. Coleman said he was optimistic about a settlement by "the wee hours" of today.

"We've still got a lot of noneconomic language we're trying to work our way through but we're hopeful that we're within, as I like to say, shouting distance of an agreement," he said. "I think there's a chance we can work out an agreement by the wee hours if we're lucky."

He said the main issues were wage structure classifications and seniority, which Coleman said was a "ticklish" issue.

There was a possibility the government might intervene by seeking an injunction against picketing, but Coleman said the industry has "no grounds for going to court. This is an economic strike."

The strike has already cost the nation \$5 billion in total production losses. Hardest hit were the steel and railroad industries, which laid off a total of 25,000 men because of a lack of coal.

The impact of picketing by the construction workers would be felt

primarily in the nation's deep mines in the East, where most of them work.

Usery talked with representatives of both sides yesterday in person and by telephone. A spokesman said the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service was playing an informal role in trying to get both sides back to the bargaining table.

"We are in touch with the parties and are trying to assist in solving the problems," the spokesman said.

The threat of picketing by the construction workers left coal miners, who approved their own new contract by a 56 per cent margin last week, torn between the call of union loyalty and personal economic realities.

After a month without pay and with the approach of the Christmas season, many miners were anxious to return.

Tom O'Brochta, president of local 6330 near Marianna, Pa., said his men were "ready to go to work. It's Christmas and the men need money for their families."

"Why couldn't they have settled this construction workers contract when they settled our contract?" he asked. The construction workers and the miners are covered by separate contracts which expired simultaneously but had to be negotiated with separate groups of industry representatives.