



Moving in

Dollies were at a premium, but Bambi Gates and her father managed to find one to make her moving day easier during arrival day yesterday. More pictures, page 15.

Photo by Julie Cipolla

USG attempts student voter registration

The Undergraduate Student Government (USG) is carrying out its biggest campaign drive ever to register student voters, according to Stevenson, director of USG's Department of Political Affairs.

The drive, which will last until the October 4 registration deadline, began shortly after the register-by-mail bill was passed by the Pennsylvania State Legislature in June.

Stevenson said a table will be set up at registration in the Intramural Building where anyone wishing to register to vote can do so by filling out a postcard and sending it to the state Bureau of Elections. USG officials will be on hand to instruct people in filling out the cards properly. Another postcard registration will be held September 27-October 1 in the basement of the HUB.

Regular voter's registration will be held on campus for the first time ever September 15-17 on the HUB lawn. Registration will also be held September 22-24 in the Glennland Building downtown. Stevenson said he is urging other

groups and organizations to take part in the drive.

One organization actively involved in the registration drive is Frontlash. Frontlash is a non-partisan voter registration organization that mainly registers young people.

Donna Lurie, Central Pennsylvania Frontlash coordinator, said that ample opportunities are being provided for people to register, but she recommended that prospective voters register at the I.M. Building Wednesday through Friday. "It only takes two or three minutes and it's right there," she said. "As long as you're there to register for classes you might as well register to vote."

Stevenson said one of his biggest concerns is getting enough cards from the state Bureau of Elections. Originally, he had hoped for at least 10,000 cards but he said only about 5,200 cards will be available for registration this week.

A controversy arose this summer when USG received none of the 13,700

voter's registration cards allocated to Centre County even though a study by the Centre County Planning Commission revealed that 57.3 per cent of all unregistered voters in Centre County are in State College.

Chairman of the Board of County

Commissioners John Saylor had said there would be a second printing of cards in late August and USG would receive a portion of these.

To date, USG has received about 1,000 cards from the county.

Mediation starts for University, Teamsters local

By MARTY SMITH and DAVE SKIDMORE
Collegian Staff Writers

Negotiations between the University and Teamsters Local 8, representing more than 2,000 University employees, will go to mediation before a state mediator tomorrow morning.

Last Thursday, union members voted 1,168 to 196 to reject the University's final contract offer and authorize a strike.

According to state law, if no agreement is reached within 21 days of the beginning of mediation, then the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board may appoint a fact-finding panel. By law, the union may not strike during mediation and fact-finding.

C. Rodney Knepp, secretary-treasurer of Local 8, said that whether a strike is eventually called depends on the progress made during mediation.

Ralph F. Spearly, director of physical plant and maintenance, said all University maintenance employees are Teamsters except supervisory personnel. He said if the Teamsters strike, his department would provide emergency service. Other Teamster employees are lab technicians and those who perform skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled manual labor.

A Teamsters strike would not affect food services and dining halls, according to Otto E. Mueller, assistant vice president for housing and food services. He said that emergency procedures can deal with employee walkouts.

Local 8 president Jane Pikovsky said the union's negotiating committee unanimously recommended the rejection of the University's final contract offer because it was "totally inadequate and unrealistic."

"The University's offer failed to

match the increases in the cost of living and did not include some of the benefits we are asking for," she said.

Knepp said he expects all union members to participate if a strike is called. He added that he expects other Teamster locals to honor the picket lines at the main and branch campuses.

Knepp added that the union's executive board, and not its officers, have the authority to call a strike and added that the international union must sanction the strike.

University President John W. Oswald expressed disappointment at the outcome of last week's vote.

"We are prepared, through the mediation process to work together to try and find an acceptable solution," he said. In the event of a strike, operations will continue as normal, Oswald said.

The Teamsters present contract with the University expired June 30 but was extended until this Friday, according to Arthur Ciervo, director of public information and relations. When an agreement is reached, it will be retroactive to June 30, he said.

Commenting on the possibility of the University obtaining a court injunction to block a strike, Knepp said, "I would expect the University to use all legal means at its disposal."

The major point of disagreement in the contract is the salary increase. The union demanded a 10 per cent increase, exceeding the 6.6 per cent raise offered by the University.

Some other benefits demanded by the union include an increased University payment plan to include insurance coverage of dependents as well as employee, vacation schedules to match those of other University employees and a re-evaluation of job grades of employees at branch campuses.

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Utter relaxation

A cattle barn attendant takes a snooze on his locker during the Grange Fair continuing through tomorrow in Centre Hall.

Photo by Chris Newkumet

Days of wine and roses disappear from dorm life

By MARTY SMITH
Collegian Staff Writer

Students returning to the residence halls with hopes for another year of casual drinking and study lounge parties are in for a bit of a surprise.

Changes made in the University's enforcement policy regarding alcohol have tightened the restrictions on drinking in the residence halls, and the residence hall staffs say they intend to carry out the policy to the letter.

"We are prepared to enforce this policy, even if it means 500 referrals the very first weekend," according to M. Lee Upcraft, director of residential life. "We are dead serious about what we are saying here," he said.

Upcraft said that since 1972, enforcement of the University alcohol policy has been getting weaker and weaker. Violations of the policy have slowly but surely become more frequent in the last few years, he said.

The only change in the actual policy, however, is the abandonment of the warning card system of discipline, where a violator is warned before receiving a referral to the Office of Conduct Standards. Now, any violation will most likely result in a referral.

The policy, in accordance with state law, forbids the purchase, possession, or consumption of alcoholic beverages by anyone under

21 years of age. The University policy does permit to possession and use of alcoholic beverages by persons 21 years of age or older, but only in the individual residence hall rooms of those who are 21.

Resident Assistants have been instructed to check the identification of students where drinking is taking place, and confiscate the alcohol from those who are not of legal age. If a staff member enters a party where a violation has occurred, they must confiscate and dispose of all alcohol found in the possession of minors, inform the students that they will be reported, terminate the party and instruct all those except the residents to leave, and notify the area coordinator and/or the Campus Police if the students return.

"We have allowed the RAs to overlook some things in the past, but no longer," Upcraft said. "What we are clearly saying is that we won't allow the RA to look the other way anymore."

Upcraft said an incident this summer involving alcohol abuse, which resulted in the dismissal of a resident assistant, was only partly responsible for the re-evaluation of University policy.

"The incident itself was not the only factor, but because of it, there was a recognition on the part of the University of its liabilities in this area," Upcraft said. "If you don't

live up to your responsibilities, then you get in trouble."

Upcraft said after the incident, the resident assistants demanded more specific guidelines for the enforcement of the alcohol policy, and this latest enforcement change is designed to tell the RA how to react in a given situation.

Many resident assistants refused to comment on the policy, even anonymously, for fear they would be risking their positions, and a Collegian reporter was barred by the Pollock area coordinator from a "discussion and revision" meeting on the policy in Pollock Halls. However, some RAs freely gave their position, and many said they felt most of the responsibility for enforcing the policy has fallen into their hands. Others felt that their jobs had been made unreasonable difficult.

"It is a step that the University had to take, but it will really hinder our role in dealing with the students," one RA said. "It's our job and we can't turn our back on it. The policy is very clearcut and enforceable, but as far as dealing with human beings, it is a bit of a setback."

Others said the policy will only serve to alienate the RAs from the students on the floors.

"The counseling courses we took taught us how to counsel. How do they expect us to counsel when we have no rapport with the students?"

an RA said.

Upcraft said he does not feel the policy will alienate the RAs from the students on their floors.

Initially there will be some resentment, but if they (the resident assistants) make it clear at the beginning and are consistent with the policy throughout, there should be no problem with the students," he said.

Several years ago the University issued a policy of "In Loco Parentis," whereby the university assumes the role of the parents in the guidance and development of the students. Upcraft said he does not feel the stricter enforcement is a step in the same direction.

"The steps we have taken are intended more to assume the responsibility of the state rather than that of the parents," he said. "The University is a public institution enforcing the laws of the state."

He also said trying to change the University policy would be useless. The only thing that will ultimately work is to change the state law because "playing around with the University regulations is not the answer."

"If the state law is changed, I would be more than happy to stand in any given spot and, with a great deal of glee, burn this policy," he said.

One RA pointed out that there is "no grey area anymore, just black and white. A tuition rise is one thing,

but when you take away someone's booze, that really hits home. If anything, I hope the new policy makes the students mad enough to flood the legislators with letters so some action will be taken at the state level."

All RAs who responded gave the general impression that although they may personally disagree with the policy, they do intend to carry it out.

"We have no choice but to enforce it," one said. "The new policy covers and protects the University from libel suits."

"It is my job to enforce it, but personally I don't feel this policy will be around long," another said.

Upcraft said the residence hall staffs will be expected to carry out the policy without exception.

"If an RA subverts or neglects the policy, termination is a possibility. But if a member of the staff makes a mistake in good faith while trying to enforce the policy, we will be more tolerant," he said.

Weather

Fairly cool today with a high of 74 and a low in the mid 50s. The chance of rain is 20 per cent today and 40 per cent tonight.