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Harry Chapin struck a responsive chord last night at Rec Hall by singing the songs of life and love for which he is renowned. See related story on page 13.

Student leaders study lobby

By MARK GRIFFITH
Collegian Staff Writer

The possibility of a student lobby for the state-related universities was the most important item to be developed during Saturday's Student Leaders' Conference, according to Paul Stevenson, Undergraduate Student Government director of political affairs.

Stevenson plans to work together with Benita Marcus, the University of Pittsburgh's student government representative, for the formation of a student lobby which would represent in Harrisburg the interests of students attending state-related schools.

The state-related schools are the University of Pittsburgh, Temple and Lincoln Universities, and Penn State.

Stevenson said that the first problem to overcome in the formation of a student lobby is to obtain funds for it. Currently, he said, the University does not allow student funds to be allocated to "outside" activities such as a student lobby.

Marcus said that the current student government at Pitt has "been looking forward to it (the creation of a student lobby) for a long time, and hopes to pass on this support for the lobby to the new student government executives who will take office in February."

Another Pennsylvania student lobbying group in the formative stages is the Pennsylvania Independent Student Association (PISA), which is being started by Steve Biddle of the University of Pennsylvania's Student Lobbying Committee and Frank Viggiano, chairman of the National Student Association.

Biddle, who was representing Penn at the conference, said that it is best that each sector of post-secondary education — state-owned, state-related, private, community and vocational — organize its own state-wide lobby. He pointed out that attempting to represent all of these sectors was a major cause of the demise of the Pennsylvania Student Lobby (PSL).

Biddle, a former PSL director, said PISA is being organized for the private schools sector in Pennsylvania. PISA currently is trying to obtain the membership of 25 to 30 of the larger private schools in the state so that the initial costs of starting a student lobby are not assessed unfairly on the smaller private schools, he said.

Biddle said PISA hopes to have an office with full-time staff members in Harrisburg by February and is planning to have a monthly newsletter started by the time the office is opened.

Convinced that there is a basic common ground for all students, Biddle said there are many issues where lobbies representing both public and private educational sectors can work together. He pointed out that the lowering of the drinking age is one issue on which most students agree.

The only functioning Pennsylvania student lobbying organization is the Commonwealth Association of Students (CAS), which represents the 80,000 students attending the state-owned colleges and universities. According to CAS executive director Eugene Carroll, CAS was founded in the summer of 1973 as a result of the restructuring of the Pennsylvania State Association of

Student Governments, an organization of little power which was started in the 30's.

Instrumental in the establishment of CAS, Carroll said, was state Department of Education Secretary John Pittenger, who philosophically agrees with the policies of CAS and with what the organization can do for students. CAS's existence, Carroll added, is due to the broad institutional support the organization has received from faculty, administration and students of the state-owned schools. Carroll said that the faculty and administration can see that a viable student lobby can help strengthen the state-owned school system politically and can provide for direct student participation in their environment and therefore a better learning atmosphere.

CAS Associate Director Micheal Sommers said in a recent interview that the association joined the AFL-CIO, Department of Transportation and other interested parties in lobbying for House Bill No. 1833, which would have appropriated \$27 million for the state-owned schools and \$1.7 million for Penn State. The bill passed the House 183-7 but was "officially lost" when the Senate adjourned in November.

Sommers added that the association helped to organize various citizens groups so they could lobby for the passage of the Appalachian Trail Bill.

CAS's objectives for the spring, Carroll said, include re-introducing House Bill 1833, obtaining a 12 per cent budget increase for the state-owned schools, lowering the drinking age to 19, decriminalizing marijuana, and increasing CAS membership. CAS currently has 25,000 dues-paying members throughout the state.

Money, alcohol conference topics

By DOROTHY HINCHCLIFF
and MARK GRIFFITH
Collegian Staff Writers

Student officials from 25 different Pennsylvania schools examined and proposed possible solutions to contemporary student issues at the Student Leaders' Conference sponsored by the Undergraduate Student Government on Saturday.

Finance and budget, the alcohol laws, student lobbying, and student apathy were some of the issues discussed as being problems to most schools.

Rick Glazier, former director of the USG Department of Budget and Finance, used the instance of the University's own budget problems as an example why student leaders should be familiar with their school's budget. This year, he explained, the State Board of Education's recommendation to the legislature and Gov. Shapp that the University receive only \$114 million of the 126 million requested for the 1977-78 school year could lead to a \$100 per student tuition increase if appropriate actions are not taken.

At the alcohol policies workshop, many student government officials agreed that few students have actively supported efforts to cope with related problems. USG Vice President Dave Hickton said about 150 people attended the alcohol hearings held here during Fall Term in response to the student out cry against the new alcohol enforcement policy. "It was not a good showing for a school this size," he added.

Although Hickton said the change has been "like night and day" in the social atmosphere at Penn State, University of Pittsburgh representative Benita Marcus said they still have a number of parties on Pitt's campus.

"We were told that there would be no alcohol in the

dorms, but most of the RA's won't report you unless the parties get out of hand. Most try to look the other way," she said.

Hickton pointed out that the "hallways are private as far as canvassing goes here, but not for the alcohol policy." He added that the number of RA's reporting students for drinking in the dorms has increased significantly since last year.

However, even though many schools are enforcing strictly the drinking age, Eugene Carroll, executive director of the Commonwealth Association of Students, said he thinks the bill to lower the drinking age to 19 has a good chance of getting passed when it is re-introduced to the legislature in January.

"There is very little support for the 18 year old bill," Carroll said. "I see that as having little chance of getting passed. A lot of people are afraid of alcohol getting into the high schools."

One group that lobbied strongly against a lower drinking age was the American Automobile Association because they were afraid it would increase traffic fatalities, Carroll said.

"In January of 1975, the law was changed so that 18 year olds can own a bar, serve liquor, or be a bartender, but they can't drink it," said USG Senator Colleen DeCourcy. "It's really rather absurd."

"The way this bill will be won," Carroll said, "is with a very effective letter writing campaign when the time is right."

According to Lycoming College (Williamsport) representatives, their student government is making a list of legislators to send to other schools so that students will know who to write to in their area to express their feelings.

In addition, student government officials said they

hope to unite Pennsylvania schools in a lobbying effort to lower the drinking age. However, because of inherent differences among state-owned, state-related, and private schools, Carroll said the development of several lobbies should better represent students.

Student apathy, another issue which has been plaguing schools across the state, is being transformed to antagonism against student governments, many of the leaders said.

Also, a number of student representatives said that only a handful of people get involved in their governments every year which is not enough to adequately represent the students.

"The fault lies in the times," Penn State representative Tony Gaertner said. "People are more interested in competing for grades. There hasn't been anything for the students to lobby around."

Many of the representatives said they thought the conference was successful. Scott Kronenwetter, representing New Kensington Commonwealth Campus, said, "It's been pretty good. I think I can take back a lot of information. It's the first time I've really seen students involved."

USG President W. T. Williams said he thought the conference was the first step in the right direction. He added that students "do have the resources to exert power."

In closing, Student Leaders' Conference Committee Chairman Jim Hoffman said he would like to see all the schools get together on planning, leading, and funding the workshops. "I think we had a good conference today," Hoffman said, "but it's important that we see more meetings like this in the future."

Hoffman added that he believes the group should meet again before this spring.

No decision reached on state senate seat

By PETE BARNES
Collegian Staff Writer

No decision has yet been reached concerning the possibility of a special election to fill the seat of State Senator Joseph S. Ammerman after he resigns to represent the 23rd District in the U.S. House of Representatives, according to John Plubani, an aide to Lt. Gov. Ernest Kline.

In a telephone interview, Plubani said that the decision on the matter would be made according to the Lt. Governor's agenda and added that in the meantime, Senator Ammerman "will probably maintain contact with his constituency until the last possible moment."

When asked when a decision could be expected, another official, Jim Pianco, the Centre County coordinator in Harrisburg, said Friday that the Lt. Governor, who is responsible for the decision, "is probably more concerned about Christmas now than about the special election."

At the local level, County Democratic Chairman C. Guy Rudy said yesterday that nothing official could be done in regard to the special election until Ammerman, who must vacate his seat by Jan. 4, resigns. Rudy said he had discussed the matter with other county chairmen in the party, but did not indicate if any decisions had been made.

He added that there had not yet been a meeting of the Democratic County

Committee, indicating that one would take place after Ammerman's resignation, and that there was a reluctance among some committee members to call for a special election because high expenses and the possibility of a low turnout wouldn't justify such an election.

Virginia Eisenstein, Democratic state committeewoman from Centre County said yesterday that if a special election were to be approved by Lt. Gov. Kline, it would be held "in April, at the earliest." She added that the cost would be \$80,000.

Eisenstein, who is one of 50 members of the State Democratic Executive Committee, indicated that the committee would be meeting after the 34th District seat is vacated to make recommendations to Kline over whether to hold a special election or to wait until the primary elections to fill the post. One of the committee's functions is to decide who the Democratic candidates will be for primary elections.

Eisenstein explained that a special election would have to take place within 60 days of Ammerman's resignation. If no election is held, then the District's next state senator would be chosen by the voters in the primary on May 17, she said. The district, then, would be unrepresented for that length of time. She also said that the new Senator would hold his position until the 1978 elections.

Dorm contract procedure same

By HARRY GLENN
Collegian Staff Writer

The University has made no major changes in the dorm contract allocations procedure for next year. If the demand for residence hall space is as great as it was this year, small doubles and triples will be used again next year, William Mulberger, assignment office manager said.

However, he said that there would be a different assignment sequence. They plan to assign more temporary space next year. After the cancellation deadline, the assignment office will compare the number of contracts given out to the amount of space available.

If the demand exceeds the space, Mulberger said they plan to assign additional temporary space instead of forcing small doubles and triples.

However, there will still be some small doubles and triples.

Concerning this year, Mulberger said those students currently in the small doubles and triples who wish a change, can be reassigned if they apply before the end of the term's seventh week.

He also said that all students currently residing in temporary housing should be moved out this week. At the end of last week there were 37 students in temporary quarters, but there were 53 students who failed to show up for Winter Term, so those in temporary housing will be reassigned to those spaces.

In reference to questions concerning the stricter alcohol policy, Mulberger said that the housing office is unable to determine if the policy has effected the demand for residence hall rooms.

However, he did point out that the number of contract exchanges for Winter Term 1976 decreased from the number in the winter of 1975.

According to University regulations, all freshmen must reside in University residence halls. Under the current plan initiated last year, the remaining undergraduate students requesting residence hall space will be classified into four groups.

Group A consists of continuing students currently residing in residence halls. Group B is composed of students transferring from the Commonwealth Campuses. Students on practicums, student teaching, or studying abroad winter or spring terms will be classified into Group C, while transfer students from other colleges, returning students, students desiring residence hall spaces who are currently living off campus, and readmitted students will be classified in Group D.

The number of contracts received from each of these groups will be divided into the total number of contracts the four groups have filed. A resulting percentage figure will be multiplied times the available space to calculate the space to be allocated to each group.

Contract cards will be distributed through the mail to continuing students currently residing in the University residence halls on or before Feb. 25, 1977.

Contract cards for Fall Term 1977 will not be accepted prior to March 10, 1977, and must be submitted by March 25, 1977.

Also according to the policy, roommate requests can best be honored if both students submit their contracts together as early as possible.

Geneva from 1963 to 1967.

He was one of 16 bankers, businessmen and economists who met with Carter Dec. 1. Carter said then that members of that group were likely choices for top jobs in his administration.

Blumenthal came to the United States in 1947 and became a U.S. citizen five years later. He holds a doctorate in economics from Princeton University. In 1961, he joined the John F. Kennedy administration as deputy assistant secretary of state for economic affairs.

Two years later, Kennedy appointed Blumenthal deputy special representative for trade negotiations with the rank of ambassador. He held that post under Johnson.

Carter's office in Plains, Ga., announced earlier yesterday that he would announce two and maybe three cabinet-level nominees this week.

That announcement was made after Carter attended services and sang Christmas hymns at the Plains Baptist Church.

Carter flew to Atlanta yesterday to meet with Vice President-elect Walter F. Mondale and Hamilton Jordan, who is directing his talent search, and then today with advisers and potential Cabinet members.

Carter had said last week he expected to name his entire cabinet by Christmas, but the statement yesterday said that he plans to have his cabinet-level appointments "substantially filled by Christmas."

Carter said he was "very happy with the response I've had from the people I've asked to advise me on the possible appointees."

Tomorrow, Carter meets representatives of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. Yesterday was the second anniversary of Carter's announcement that he planned to run for president.

As the church services began, the Rev. Clennon King, a black who has attempted to integrate the all white congregation, refused two invitations to worship there until he becomes a church member.

The Rev. Mr. King is a non-

denominational minister from Albany, Ga., about 50 miles away, whose efforts to join the congregation prompted the formation of a "watch care" committee to judge membership applications. The committee has not yet acted on his application.



Taking part in this weekend's bowling victory over Edinboro, a Lady Lion Kegler proves that bowling and ballet are of comperable grace. See related story on page nine.

Police examine noise

A loud sound described as an explosion sent State College police to the 100-block of S. Fraser Street last night.

The noise reported at 9:57 p.m. also was heard by a campus policeman on College Avenue at Fraser. A caller told police the noise sounded like an eight-inch gun of a Navy ship being fired. A man in the Penn State Diner said he thought it was an earthquake at first.

Police searched the area around Keystone TV & Appliance on Fraser and found no evidence of an explosion or any type of disturbance.

The cashier at the diner said he

heard the noise at the same time last Thursday but he could not determine where it had come from.

Police said they thought the sound might have come from Hammond Building. However, there was no sign of damage there either.

One police officer said he thought the sound might have been a sonic boom.

An officer at police headquarters said the explosion report was unfounded. He added that something falling down in an apartment or a heating system coming on could possibly have made such a noise.

Weather

Partly sunny, blustery, and cold today. Chance of a few snow flurries this morning. High only 22. Clear and continued cold tonight with diminishing winds. The temperature will fall to 10 by midnight, then start to rise before dawn. Becoming windy and noticeably warmer tomorrow. High 40.