

# Old radicals never die, they just fade away . . .

By JACQUELINE LEAR  
Collegian Staff Writer

"Bob Dylan's 'For the Times They Are A Changin'' might be considered descriptive of a time when social unrest was burgeoning on campus.

Well, the times are a changin' back.

"I remember passing by Old Main lawn — there always seemed to be a rally taking place," said Steve Wright, administrative head of General Arts and Sciences.

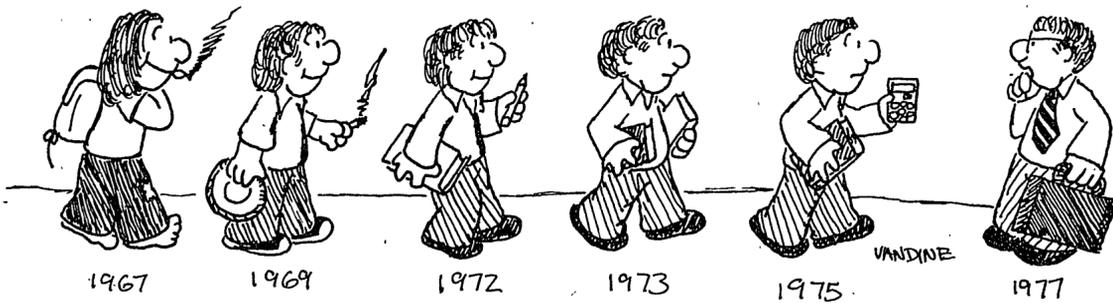
Old Main protests seem few and far between today.

Wright also recalled the march of about 5,000 students down Pollock Road to the Garfield Water Tunnel and the blocking off of N. Atherton Street. The defense department hired Penn State to do research.

The rally, Wright said, symbolized the students' negative feelings towards the University's involvement with the military and the perpetuation of war.

"Students were also concerned with the plight of the blacks, eskimos and other groups. One of my advisees came in one day and said she felt she wanted to contribute to society. She left Penn State and went to work in Mississippi as a volunteer in a campaign for a black gubernatorial candidate," Wright said.

A researcher on student activism, Kenneth Kenniston of Yale University, said in 1969 that it was actually a



minority of students who were activists. Yet, they were some of the most affluent, intelligent and influential at each university.

A Penn State student during the protests reflected and said, "I was non-conformist in some ways. In dress and in some of my ideas. But usually, I didn't join in the marches. I couldn't act on impulse. . . I saw both sides of an issue," Wright said.

Wright said drug use hurt many student's potential to influence political change.

"Everybody wanted to yell the slogans at a rally, but fewer students turned out for the everyday political organizing,"

he said.

Joe Marinucci, member of the Young Socialists on campus and Penn State graduate, said, "There were more dabblers than committed students among those who called themselves activists."

"It was extremely strange to come back to Penn State. After Vietnam ended and Nixon resigned, activism at Penn State quieted," said Mick Wolk (secondary education and earth sciences). Wolk returned after a two-year leave from Penn State.

Wright said, "If the Wells Keddie case came up today, a showing of 100 students would be doing well."

Marc Levy, coordinator of counseling for the Equal Opportunity Program, said today's students "are much less militant and more concerned with traditional values such as getting a job or earning good grades. Marijuana and cohabitation, then on the fringes of society are now in the mainstream," he added.

USG President Grant Ackerman said it is necessary to distinguish between the alienated and the apathetic student.

"The apathetic student is here solely for a specific education and is satisfied with his present life-style. Alienated students are concerned with issues such as tuition and academic decisions, but

become alienated because they haven't seen progress made in the past," he said.

There is a general consensus among those interviewed that the economic "crunch" and lack of major issues around which to rally are factors in what seems to be a curbing of political concern among students.

Marinucci said that those who do become involved in leftist movements despite economic insecurity do so because they are politically serious.

John E. Rideout has the unique experience of seeing student-police relations, first as a student when he attended Penn State from 1968-1971 and

now as public relations officer in the Department of University Safety.

In the '60s, Rideout said, "campus patrol made a minimal attempt to bridge the gap or to change the patrol's image as the adversary of the student."

"Today officers actively go out and try to develop a rapport with the student community," Rideout said.

"My overall impression is that students of the sixties were working outside the system, while those of the seventies are trying to change things within its boundaries," he said.

Students are not apathetic but the method of achieving change is different, Rideout said.

Ackerman said he sees change as resulting from more sophisticated political work.

"Rallies are no longer effective by themselves in causing change, but they are constructive for focusing attention on issues," Ackerman said.

Marinucci said lobbying is Harrisburg on issues such as tuition hike is ineffective.

Wolk complained of University hiring procedures where the ability to research takes precedence over the ability to teach.

"The only way students could change hiring practices or tuition hikes today would be through organizing mass student movements," Wolk said.

## Fewer hitchhikers on streets

The number of hitchhikers sighted by night patrolmen in and around State College has decreased since the recent slaying of a Boalsburg woman hitchhiker, state police at Rockview reported.

However, police added that the number tends to increase to normal size after the initial drop following a local murder. They said this may be, in part, because some individuals consider hitchhiking a necessity.

Linnea Seely of State College, who worked until recently at the Nittany Mall (as did the slain woman, Devera Elaine Frink, found June 27 beneath a Route 322 overpass in Juniata County) said she often hitchhiked home from work because she had no other way of getting home.

She said it was difficult for her to find employment in State College, so she took a job at the mall.

She said she could not afford to buy a car, and the Centre Line bus to the mall is only subsidized by the mall merchants to run until 6:30 p.m.

Most mall employees leave between 9:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Thus, Seely said, she could either walk back to State College or hitchhike, exposing herself to the same dangers as Devera Frink on the evening of June 25.

"The bus is for the convenience of the shoppers, not the mall employees," Seely said.

Rockview state police said some of their patrolmen do stop to warn hitchhikers of the danger involved, but most of those warned go right back to hitchhiking.

State College police said they do not stop to discourage hitchhiking because there is no state law prohibiting hitchhiking in Pennsylvania, as long as the person does not stand in the road. The police added that they feel hitchhikers are aware of the danger involved.

Some people, then, do continue to hitchhike, fully aware of the danger factor. They consider "thumbing" a hazardous but necessary last resort.

## Drinking bill gets local support

The State College Area Chamber of Commerce Friday gained an opportunity for more clout in state government with help from the University.

The chance could help push through a bill, which passed in the state Senate, to lower the drinking age to 19.

Russell P. Brooks, chairman of the chamber's governmental affairs committee, said the committee's general consensus favors the bill, though it has not taken a formal position on it yet.

The new opportunity was learned when Kenneth E. Hershberger, manager of University relations, told the committee he will give it advance notice whenever government dignitaries visit the campus.

This would allow the chamber enough time to arrange for some "light, informal lobbying," Brooks said.

Hershberger said he knows about two weeks in advance when dignitaries will arrive, and added, "I'll do everything I can to plug you folks into the pipeline."

Brooks said the committee opposes a federal bill to raise the minimum wage to \$3 an hour.

"You can't legislate fair pay," he said, because the number of low-paying jobs tends to decrease when the minimum wage goes up.

In other business, the committee discussed having businessmen lecture on market economics to area junior and senior high school students.

## Parent program enrollment set

Enrollment for "Parenting: To Be or Not To Be," a five-part decision-making program about parenthood, begins tomorrow in the Consultation Center of the College of Human Development, 865-1751.

FSHA 330 will hold a dinner and silent films 5:15-6:15 tonight in the Maple Room.

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