



Penn State quarterback Chuck Fusina, who fell short in the quest for No. 1 and for the Heisman.

# Faces '78

Director of University Safety David E. Stormer and Undergraduate Student Government Vice President Tony Cortese during USG hearings on Stormer's proposal to arm the Campus Police.



Photo by Ed Glantz



Photo by Andy Gumberg

Up and down the political ladder: Gregg Cunningham, far right, used door-to-door campaigning, some conservative viewpoints and Dick Thornburgh's coattails to become state representative from the Centre Region. Joseph Ammerman, right, however, failed in his bid for reelection. He ran an uphill campaign after suffering a serious hip injury in an automobile accident last summer.



Photo by Lynn Dudinsky



Left, former USG President Grant Ackerman and Mike Stinson, USG liaison, picket A.W. Sons rental offices. Above, former OTIS president Jeremy Abrams.



Photo by David March

## the daily Collegian year-in-review

## Union workers strike 40 days

### Student apathy:

### Task Force fails, USG structure still unchanged

**By BRUCE BECKER**  
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

A referendum that would have changed the structure of student government was defeated Spring Term because it failed to receive the 40 percent turnout needed to amend the constitution of the Undergraduate Student Government.

The results of the University Task Force on Student Representation's referendum caused the Executive Council of USG to amend the constitution so that only a 25 percent turnout would be needed in future referendums.

The referendum, which was approved by 63 percent of the undergraduate students who voted, marked the end of almost two years of work by the body which was charged by Vice President for Student Affairs Raymond O. Murphy with investigating new avenues and approaches to student government.

A central council consisting of

representatives from all major student government organizations was the major proposal of the group. Task force members felt that organizing everybody into one centralized body would both streamline student government and make it easier for the administration to gather student input.

The referendum was held during registration and the first two days of classes Spring Term.

Opponents of the proposal encouraged students not to vote in the referendum so that it would not receive the necessary 40 percent turnout.

Their plan succeeded as voter turnout was high during registration, but fell off dramatically when it was held in the HUB during classes. About 5,900 students voted at registration, but only a total of 6,075, or 23 percent of the undergraduate student body, voted in all.

Of those who did vote, 3,367 voted for

the proposal while only 1,972 voted against it. The simple majority needed to make the change in the constitution was exceeded but not enough students voted.

USG Supreme Court Chief Justice Harry Leider said he was "very disappointed" in the turnout.

"We made it as easy as possible for the students to vote," Leider said. "We gave them every chance to exercise their option as to what kind of student government they wanted. But most of them chose not to."

Reaction among task force members varied. Co-chairman Steve DiOrto, who was president of the Interfraternity Council, said that while he was disappointed about the turnout, he was "pleasantly surprised by the results."

"I think it's a strong indication that the students feel there is a need for change," DiOrto said.

The other co-chairman, director of the

Associated Student Activities office, Melvyn S. Klein expressed no disappointment in the results.

"Our primary goal was to develop a set of recommendations and submit them. And we've done that," Klein said.

The task force then had the option of trying to get the proposal passed by the Executive Council, but chose not to. During Fall Term, the council discussed lowering the required turnout for a referendum to 20 percent, but the two-thirds of council organizations which would be needed to lower the percentage could not be obtained.

Subsequently, the council was able to gain approval to lower the percentage to 25 percent.

While there is not now any plan to form a new group to try to change student government, the council and Murphy are still discussing what possible action may be taken.

**By JIM ZARROLI**  
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

The strike that had been threatened on more than one previous occasion finally hit the University last year. At one minute past midnight on July 1, Teamsters Local 8, representing the University's 2,600 technical service employees, went on strike.

That strike, which made the Teamsters headline news all summer, was not concluded until 40 days later. In the meantime, the University community had to do without many of the basic services it had taken for granted. Buildings closed promptly at 5 p.m. Routine maintenance services were suspended. University employees even had to take out trash themselves.

Probably, the effect felt most strongly by students, faculty and townspeople was the moving of the annual Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts off campus and onto Allen Street.

If the strike was a test of the University's mettle, it received something in the neighborhood of a B-plus. For the community did survive a long period of doing-without, whatever the individual hardships. Granted, many had seen the strike coming, and had prepared for it. But the strike did not bring chaos, and when it was finished, workers returned to their jobs and construction work had not been seriously held up. In the activity-filled days before Fall Term began, the strike quickly became a memory.

For the duration of the strike, however, tensions seemed to run high. Many people quickly lost sympathy for the picketers, who they claimed obstructed traffic and even sprinkled picketing road sites with nails. As negotiations dragged on without resolution, accusations got more and more frequent and bad feelings continued to intensify.

One factor that had an effect on the frustrating negotiating process, at least by some estimates, was a challenge by Council 83 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees over which union would represent the technical service employees. An election to decide the issue was scheduled for mid-July.

Several days before the expiration of the worker's contract, University Provost Edward D. Eddy even claimed the two unions were using the University and the threat of a strike to further their own causes: "One obviously doesn't want to bargain before an election, and the other is anxious to gain control," he said. "As a result, Penn State is the victim of a contest in which it is not a contestant."

But the Teamsters' defeat of the

AFSCME challenge — they beat their opponents by receiving more than 58 percent of the votes cast — didn't end the strike. Negotiations reopened several days later for the first time since June 22, but ended after only eight hours of talks.

More accusations were made. On July 26, the University learned that Local 8 president Jane Pikovsky had written to U.S. Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Joseph Califano charging that the University was illegally using work study students to do union work. The University and three contractors — one of which was working on additions to Beaver Stadium that many feared would not be completed by football season — had already filed unfair labor practices with the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board charging that the picketers were interrupting work at construction sites.

Despite those claims that the election had produced the strike, Teamster officials maintained all along that wages were the key issue. A contract rejected by union members several days before the strike began offered the workers pay increase of 20 to 34 cents per hour. These figures, which represented an average increase of 4.87 percent, were considerably less. Teamster officials noted that the 6 percent increase offered by the University the year before.

The strike was particularly hard on many of the picketers. "It throws your life into an uproar," one worker noted, "because you're never sure what you're going to do from day to day."

Even country and western singer Loretta Lynn was affected by the strike. Lynn, who arrived in her tour bus July 28 for a concert in Eisenhower Auditorium, found herself confronted by Pikovsky, who attempted to get the singer to call off her concert in support of the strikers. Waiting for Lynn, whose autobiography was entitled "Coal Miner's Daughter," to arrive, Pikovsky wore a t-shirt upon which she had written "I am a coal miner's daughter too." Lynn performed as scheduled.

But it was the rallies that showed the University community what the Teamsters were made of. One long march across campus by the picketers ended up in a rally on the steps of Old Main, with 400 workers chanting, "We want (University President John W.) Oswald, we want a contract."

As the strike dragged into August, many supposed that it wouldn't end before fall, when more students, and even football-season revenues, could be made to see the effects of the strike. But a tentative contract was finally reached on Aug. 5, and a final contract was agreed upon several days later.

### Costs, overcrowding plagued dorm dwellers

**By AMY SMITH**  
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

Living in residence halls during the 1977-78 academic year proved difficult for many students who were faced with overcrowding, contract cancellations and tuition and room and board increases.

The housing situation on campus looked dim last spring when 15,000 contract requests were received by March 17. Only 12,800 spaces were available.

The overabundance of housing requests during Spring Term resulted in the University's cancellation of 1,200 contracts. Only 40 of those students were assigned to doubles in Nittany Halls or triples in other halls on campus.

To accommodate as many students as possible, dorm rooms became cramped for space. Housing added bunk beds and extra desks to many dorms.

In the spring of 1978, three students filed a class action suit on behalf of 11,000 students for partial refund of room and board due to a shortened Winter Term.

The University awarded students an \$8.40 refund for the five days classes were interrupted, but the refund did not go far when room and board charges were increased Fall Term.

The Board of Trustees approved a \$19 per term in-

crease in room and board charges, to change the total fee from \$1,509 to \$1,566.

Tuition went up, too, but a term early. The board approved a tuition increase of \$35 per term and raised tuition from \$1,263 to \$1,318 per year in January.

For 700 students assigned to temporary housing, Fall Term began on the wrong foot.

By Sept. 20, 200 of those students had been placed in permanent spaces.

Students found they had to take responsibility for cleaning their own rooms beginning in September. In order to prevent an increase in room and board charges, the housekeeping staff discontinued cleaning student rooms twice a term and limited housekeeping to holiday breaks.

Housing proved to be a problem for many students when the University refused to open the dorms for students returning from Thanksgiving break early to attend the Pitt-Penn State game.

But the University considered student appeal and decided to open the dorms and charge students \$2.25 per day.

Student protest helped reverse the University decision and the dorms were opened at the kickoff of the game, free of charge.

About 3,000 students took advantage of the open dorm situation, which cost the University about \$2,000.

In December, the University changed the dorm assignment policy to a first come, first served basis. Now students who request the same room they presently are assigned to will not be guaranteed space.

The year was not without provisions made by the University to make dorm living a little more like home.

The beginning of 1978 brought with it 6,800 new telephones in dorm rooms. Students are now able to take advantage of less costly direct dialing rates.

The University is now considering installing refrigerators in dorm rooms as permanent fixtures. Installation would begin no earlier than the Fall Term 1979 and would increase room and board by \$30 for three terms.

The future dorm situation may continue in the same vein.

Tuition and room and board may follow precedent and rise. The Board of Trustees has raised room and board every year for the past 10 years.

Crowding will always be a problem, but depending on next year's admission, there may be fewer converted double and triple dorm rooms.

## Scandal almost led to resignations of ARHS heads

**By SHARON RUPERT**  
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

The Association of Residence Hall Students asked for the resignations of President Jeff Glazier and Vice President Steve Matt on Oct. 3 in the wake of accusations of various abuses of funds and privileges in residence hall government. However, both Glazier and Matt have thus far remained in office.

ARHS asked for the resignations a few weeks after an investigation by Daily Collegian reporters examined alleged indiscretions by ARHS officials. These included alleged abuses of movie co-op funds and proceeds from a projector sale, the Student Travel Organization's financial woes, a floating meal ticket and alleged misuse of funds for a

summer Arts Festival party.

Glazier was cleared Summer Term of charges that he misused ARHS funds by the University Office of Conduct Standards. Former movie co-op co-chairman Bill Buerschinger, who also was called before the board, was disciplined by the University. Buerschinger refused to comment on the charges brought against him, although Glazier said, "I assume they were essentially the same."

On Feb. 16, Buerschinger was asked to resign as co-chairman at a closed ARHS meeting because he failed to promptly deposit movie receipts in the Associated Student Activities office, the organization which keeps the books of most student organizations. ASA policy requires that movie receipts be

deposited by 5 p.m. the working day following the movie.

In the Collegian's series of articles, Buerschinger was also accused of misusing a floating meal ticket which enabled him to eat in any dining hall area even though he was no longer a member of ARHS. Only ARHS Council and Executive Council members, RHB members and the movie chairman are entitled to that privilege. Lignelli issued the meal ticket at the request of Glazier and Matt.

Another student leader accused of wrongdoing in the Collegian series was movie co-op chairman John J. Osswald, who allegedly deposited \$400 worth of movie profits into his personal bank account, a violation of ASA policy.

Buerschinger and Osswald also allegedly gave about \$300 to former ARHS Publicity Director Mary Anne Eves to pay her rent. Eves did not return the phone calls from Daily Collegian reporters, but a source said all the money was returned after it was discovered missing.

In addition, two former area presidents, Centre Halls' Kelly Hause and South Halls' Mary Spyridakis, failed to turn in budgets for the 1978-79 academic year, leaving their areas without money. Both areas have since been allotted money from ASA. Spyridakis is presently ARHS secretary.

Also in the Collegian series, Hause was accused of violating Centre Halls' constitution by selling two movie

projectors and a switch-over system to Buerschinger, then-STO president, without the consent of Centre Halls' council.

Hause said the equipment was not working properly and was of no further value to Centre Halls, but Centre Halls Movie Chairman Tom Hartman said the equipment was still operable.

STO had its charter revoked in November by the Undergraduate Student Government Supreme Court because it did not have a minimum of 12 members and did not make an attempt to fulfill the purpose stated in the organization's charter. The organization had sponsored just one trip, which was a financial disaster.

ARHS also was accused of over-

spending for a summer Arts Festival party that ended up costing \$608.32 instead of \$425, as originally planned by ARHS Summer President Marina Murphy, Glazier and Michael Leeper, vice president of the Organization for Town Independent Students. The cost was to be split between Leeper and ARIHS.

Leeper said he paid \$212.50 from his personal money to pay for the party and that no money was taken from OTIS funds. Funds for the party were handled by Summer Treasurer Tom Andress, who is presently serving in the U.S. Navy. Matt has contacted Andress concerning the party, but so far Matt has not released the information he has received from Andress.