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Candidates urge organizing USG

By LORRAINE CAPRA
Daily Collegian Staff Writer
Most of the Undergraduate Student Government presidential candidates said at last night's debate that their single-most important goal would be to organize USG and its interactions with other student organizations.

The candidates responded to a question by panelist Melvyn S. Klein, University director of Student Activities. Presidential candidate Joe Kreta said cooperation within USG is needed to "put USG back on its feet."

Presidential candidate Stephen Reeves said his goal is to bring student organizations together to do more than was accomplished this year.

Presidential candidate Joe Healey said he would organize USG by educating USG members and students on the various services that USG and student organizations offer.

Presidential candidate Dave Pritchard said the USG Executive Council could unify USG and act as a link between student organizations.

However, presidential candidate Charles P. Kennedy's main goal was different from that of the other candidates. He said he wants to increase voter registration and educate students in political matters.

USG President Hal Shaffer asked the candidates if they would bring their own views to University administrators or represent the student opinion. All of the candidates said they would represent the students.

Shaffer also asked the candidates their opinions on reinstatement of the peacetime draft.

Reeves and Kennedy said they are opposed to the draft but will represent the students' opinion.

Healey and Pritchard said their views are irrelevant and they will represent the students.

Kreta said he did not have enough information on the subject.

"I've done a lot of reading, but personally I'm confused on what is a peacetime draft."

Student trustee liaison Mindy Morrison gave the candidates a quiz concerning University matters. Some questions were: "Who is the provost and what does he do?" "Who is our state representative and what is the number of his district?" "What is University Council and who sits on it?" and "How many people sit on Borough Council and the Board of Trustees?"

Of the 10 questions, Healey-Weintraub answered 8 correctly; Kreta-Cobb, 6; Reeves-Calkins, 5.5; Pritchard-Nesky, 4.5 and Kennedy-Leach, 3.5.

Daily Collegian Editor Betsy Long asked the candidates how much control the USG Senate should have over USG's money and what decisions will not include the senate.

Kreta proposed a board of directors composed of USG executives and senators be created to monitor the funds.

"The senate will be involved in all decisions," he said.

Reeves said he will form a business department separate from programs and services to be monitored by the executives and senate.

"All financial statements will be open to the senate and public, but the nature and details of contracts I believe should be left private," he said.

Healey said he would not make a financial decision until he consults a business expert.

"The senate will have open access to

all records," he said. "No decision should be made privately."

Pritchard and Kennedy said they would not comment on the senate's control until the senate decides its pay structure.

Daily Collegian Editorial Editor Maryann Hakowski asked the candidates how they would find a responsible student to run for the State College Municipal Council and how many seats are open this year.

Healey and Reeves said student organizations would review candidates and choose the best one.

Kreta said he would look for a student from the political science department and possibly make the seat an internship.

Kennedy said he would interview applicants.

"The main key to increasing student

interest is to emphasize voter registration," he said.

Pritchard said the USG department of political affairs could choose the council candidate. Voter interest could increase by "competition between fraternities and dorms and giving away prizes," he said.

Reeves and Pritchard were the only candidates who knew that no council seats are open this year.

The candidates were asked who they would vote for if they were not running.

Kreta, Reeves and Healey said they would vote for Kennedy. Healey said he based his decision on "the lack of backstabbing in his campaign."

Pritchard said he would vote for Reeves, and Kennedy said he would vote for Kreta because of "the amount of homework he has done."

Election survey conducted

By MIKE SILLUP
Daily Collegian Staff Writer
An informal survey conducted by The Daily Collegian shows about 56 percent of those responding don't care who wins this week's Undergraduate Student Government election.

The telephone survey was conducted Sunday with a random sampling of 225 undergraduate students.

"They (USG) make a big fuss over it, but nothing is ever accomplished. USG has never done anything major in the four years I've been here," Joe Wall (9th-vocational education), who was surveyed, said.

About 34 percent said they cared who won the election and about 10 percent were undecided.

If the survey is any indication of University-wide feeling, this year's voter turnout should be record-setting with 40 percent of those surveyed saying they planned to vote.

Rob Fallon, USG election commissioner said he has no idea of how strong voter turnout will be this week.

"The USG Elections Commission expects students to come out and vote, but we just don't know how many," Fallon said.

Of those who said they were going to vote in Wednesday's and Thursday's election, 76 percent were undecided.

However, of those committing themselves, the Stephen Reeves/Chris Calkins ticket has a slight margin over the rest of the candidates.

USG Senate postpones decision on board

By KAREN McMANIMAN
Daily Collegian Staff Writer
The Undergraduate Student Government Senate last night postponed a decision to form a board of directors, which would include students, faculty and senate members, to oversee USG's money.

The senate has debated two months over how USG can better control its money. Most of last night's discussion concerned which USG branch — executive or senate — should have final say in financial matters.

The board would be composed of the USG president, vice president, treasurer, senate president, senate appropriations committee chairman, a faculty member, two senators elected at large and the manager of the business department.

Fraternity senator Jim France said, "This is our clear-cut best choice. The board of directors is going to work with and be headed by a group of people who really know what they're doing."

If the bill to form the board is approved, USG's business aspect will be removed from the department of programs and services.

Centre Halls senator Steve Cummins, one of the co-sponsors of the bill, said, "With just one person in charge of the business aspect, there is not enough accountability. On the other hand, to make all 36 members of the senate in charge is too much."

"I envision this board to be responsible for what happens in the department and accountable to the senate," Cummins said. Another benefit of this board would be that it would have the input of the entire senate, he said.

The most important money that the board would oversee would be profits from USG's movies. Association of Residence Hall Students Steve Osborn said many factors are involved in running movies.

"By creating a board, this formalized group could handle these problems," he said.

All members of the board would vote except the business manager, the faculty adviser, the USG

treasurer and the chairman of the board.

The bill states that the chairman will be a student, but some senators said the position should be held by a senator.

West Halls senator Ron Goodman said the chairman should be a senator because the board will be responsible to the senate.

"The person dealing the most often with the senate should be a senator and someone who knows what's going on," he said.

However, Cummins said the chairman should only chair the board and not influence any decisions. USG members should carry the responsibility of the board, he said.

If the chairman position is to be filled by a person not in USG, it will be open to any registered student. The senate appointments review board will interview applicants and refer the most qualified applicant to the senate for approval.



Oom pa pa!
Tubas boom out from the back row of the Music Building practice room during a recent White Band rehearsal.

Peace prize nominee killed in El Salvador

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (UPI) — Archbishop Oscar A. Romero, an outspoken champion of human rights and 1979 Nobel Peace Prize nominee, was assassinated yesterday by four gunmen who walked up to him at a funeral mass and shot him point blank, witnesses said.

Romero, 63, whose life had been threatened several times, was hit "in the chest and face and died almost immediately," said Ana Maria Riva, who was at the mass at the Divine Providence Hospital's chapel in northwestern San Salvador.

Newspaper publisher Jorge Pinto said four middle-aged men dressed in civilian clothes walked down the chapel's center aisle as Romero said mass, edged up to the altar and shot at him several times with pistols at close range.

"There were several shots and monsignor fell dead at that moment. They took him to the (private) Salvadoran Polyclinic but he was dead by the time he arrived there," Pinto said.

There was no immediate indication if leftist or rightist extremists killed the

archbishop. Both factions are waging a bloody war for control of the Central American nation that has taken some 1,500 lives since Jan. 1, 1979.

Traffic ground to a halt and a profound silence dropped over San Salvador as the news of the slaying of the popular archbishop spread throughout the violence-torn nation of 4.8 million.

Eulalio Perez, a photographer for the Diario de Hoy and a UPI stringer, was arrested by police at the chapel, a Diario editor said. He said Perez, who was being held incommunicado, may have taken pictures of the assassins.

Riva said the four men fled through one of the chapel's side doors and escaped in a red Volkswagen after the shooting, which occurred in the early evening.

Pinto, publisher of the Independiente newspaper, said Romero was saying a mass for his mother, who died Friday. The family placed newspaper advertisements announcing the archbishop would say mass for her.

Romero, nominated for the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize for his outspoken defense of

Sewage plant remains unfunded

Waste water in violation for decade

By DON KUSHTO
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

The University waste water treatment plant has remained in violation of state and federal pollution control regulations for over a decade despite efforts by University officials to obtain funding for renovations.

The plant, located on University Drive, empties approximately 3.5 million gallons a day of treated waste water into Thompson Run, a tributary of Spring Creek.

The plant processes waste for all the University and for a portion of the borough.

Phosphate levels in Thompson Run are being exceeded by a factor of 30 times more than is allowed by law, said Dan Alters of the Department of Environmental Resources in Williamsport, Pa.

Alters, who is operations chief for the Water Quality Management department of the DER, said excessive phosphate levels cause an excess growth of aquatic vegetation and creates an environment that is detrimental to fish.

The University sewage plant, he said, is violating the federal Water Pollution Control Act and the state's similar clean stream laws. However, the federal Environmental Protection Agency is allowing the DER to administer the federal laws concerning the University.

The University's "number one request" on the Capital Budget Bill,

which may be voted on in the next few weeks, is for \$4,132,000 for the completion of sewage plant improvements that would bring the University into compliance with state and federal regulations, Arthur V. Ciervo, University director of public information, said.

The bill is included in the Gov. Dick Thornburgh's executive budget recommendations for capital projects.

The University has had a plan to deal with the treated waste problems since 1962 but has had difficulty in obtaining funds for the project.

A University research team developed a system of disposing of treated waste by spraying them on the earth, Robert A. Patterson, University senior vice president for finance and operations, said.

This method of dealing with sewage waste is known as the "living filter system" and it won international acclaim among environmentalists when it was first developed here, he said.

The "living filter system" not only provides a way of disposing of treated waste but it also improves the quality of the area it is sprayed on, Patterson said. The treatment of areas results in an increased growth of vegetation that is especially suitable for small animal cover and food.

"About a half million gallons per day has been being sprayed on state game lands for the last 13 or 14 years," said John Nesbitt, professor of civil engineering and chairman of the State College Sewage Authority.

"The project has proved to be successful," he said.

In 1967, a Capital Program was started to fund the development of a spray dispensing system to handle all the treated waste from the plant, Ciervo said.

In September of 1968, the state provided \$2,262,500 for the project, he said.

"The project was designed to comply with the state's Sanitary Water Board's — the predecessor to the DER — implementation plan for intra-state waters," he said. "The University was to be brought into compliance by October 1968."

Because of the time required to receive the permits to spray, the General State Authority separated the project into two phases, Ciervo said.

"Phase one provided for the construction of a holding area pump, a pump house and a distribution line to the spray area," he said. The project was completed in 1976 at a cost of \$1,128,500.

"The University required a number of extensions because of the time needed to complete the project," he said.

The University then discovered that more money was needed for the completion of the second part of the project than was originally estimated, Ciervo said.

The completion of the project requires the construction of a receiving base and additional pipelines in the spray area, he said.

"The University has kept the EPA and the DER informed, and told them that the University would be in compliance with the pollution control regulations within 24 months of funding," Ciervo said.

Alters said, "The University officials are proceeding as well as they can. The problem is not because of reluctance on the part of the University officials but because of funding."

"They are moving ahead now, unlike a year or two ago."

"There are no actions or fines planned against the University at this time. We are hoping the funding comes through and the project goes through as planned," Alters said.

Ciervo said, "If the Capital Budget Bill falls through, we will have to find other ways to fund the project."

Edwin Cooper, professor of zoology,

said the main concern is the pollution of Spring Creek.

"We want to see if we can clean up Thompson Run and the section of Spring Creek down to the Houserville sewage plant," he said.

"It has never been shown that a stream could be brought back (to its original condition), this will make a great research project," he said.

Phosphates kill some types of fish, mainly trout, in an indirect way, Cooper said. The phosphates cause the underwater plants to grow faster. During the day the plants photosynthesize and the oxygen levels in the water go way up, but at night the plants use oxygen and levels get very low.

In warm weather the plants use more oxygen, so three or four hot days a year wipe out the trout population, Cooper said.

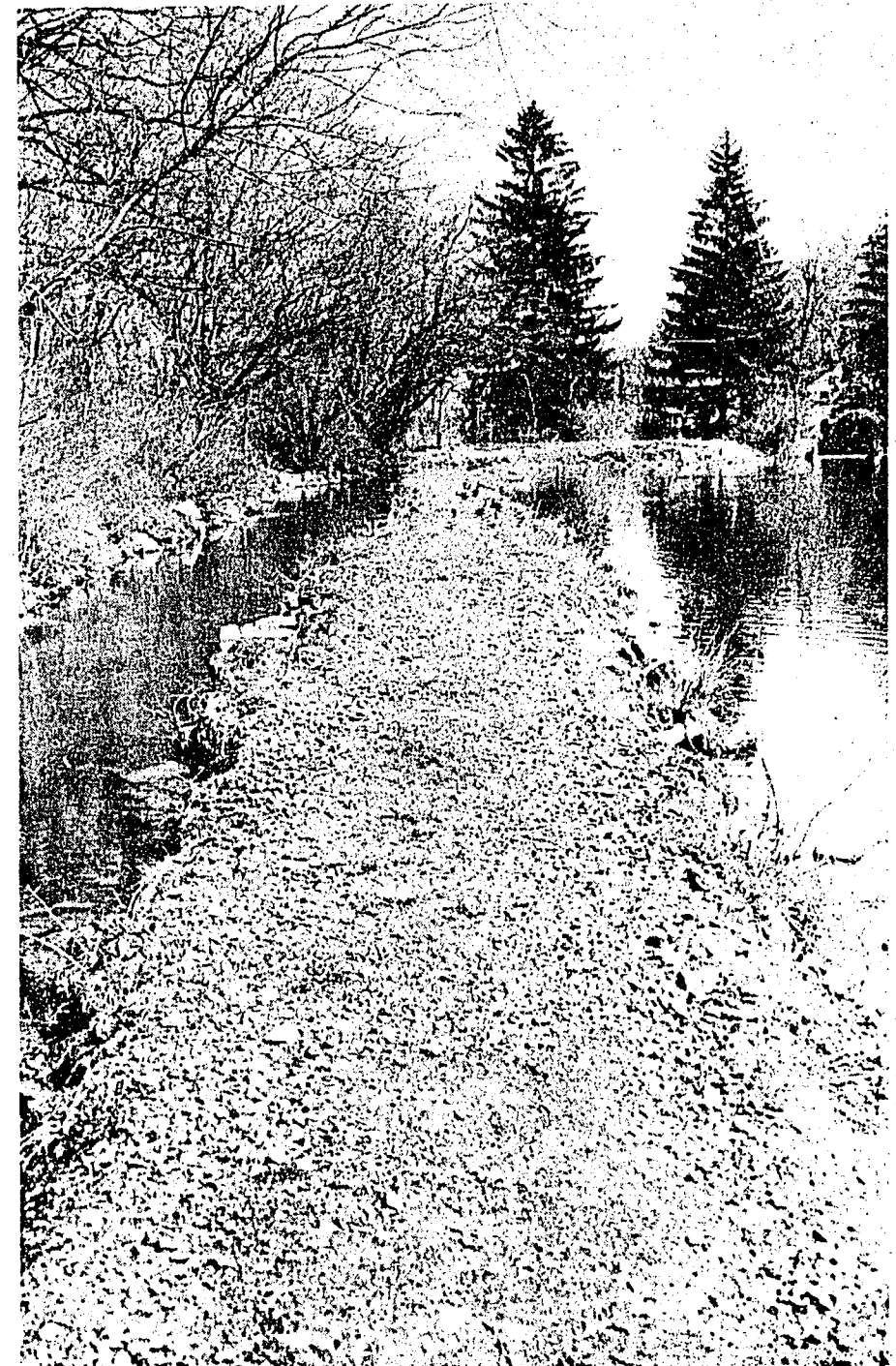
Other treatment plants in the area are also in violation of phosphate regulations, Nesbitt said, but the University plant is the largest violator.

"Phosphate regulations are tough to meet and violations are common," he said.

University compliance would put greater pressure on the other violators in the area, Cooper said.

"When the system is complete, effluent will be sprayed over two areas — either a 200- or a 400-acre plot — in the state game lands on a rotating basis," Ciervo said.

There will then be no discharge of treated water into Thompson Run, he said.



Although there appears to be little difference, the water on the left runs clear while the water on the right flows from the University sewage treatment plant. Pollution levels of the sewage-treated water have exceeded state and federal regulations for a decade.