

the daily Collegian

Wednesday, Sept. 10, 1980
Vol. 81, No. 33 24 pages
University Park, Pa. 16802
Published by Students of The Pennsylvania State University

Citizens react to anti-abortion bill

By TOM BOYER

Daily Collegian Staff Writer
Centre County citizens and politicians have reacted with widely different opinions to an anti-abortion bill sponsored in the state House of Representatives by Rep. Gregg L. Cunningham, R-Centre Region.

Cunningham's proposal would cut off state funding for Medicaid-sponsored abortions except in cases of rape and incest, or when the mother's life is in danger.

Robert C. Brazill (8th-political science), the Democratic nominee for Cunningham's House seat, said he supports Cunningham's stand on abortion.

"On this issue I am behind Gregg 100 percent," he said. "I'm in favor of human rights, which include the rights of the unborn."

Brazill said he supports legislation cutting off state funding of Medicaid abortions.

"I'm in favor of avoiding imposing taxes on people for things they don't want to pay for," he said.

Brazill said he favors alternatives to abortion, including increased services for the pregnant woman.

"The most important thing is to try to change society's attitudes toward pregnant women who are not married," he said.

Michael G. Day, independent candidate for the state House, said Cunningham's bill discriminates against the poor.

"If it (abortion) is a constitutional right, the states should be in a position to provide that right for everyone, not just those who can afford it," he said.

Vandlia Wayland, president of the Centre County chapter of the National Organization for Women, said her organization strongly opposes Cunningham's bill and anti-abortion legislation in general.

"Such a bill that restricts Medicaid funding discriminates against the poor women. It does not allow them the same choice as the rest of the women in the country who can afford abortions," she said.

"I feel that he's acting in a very fanatical way, trying to force his morality on the women of Pennsylvania," Wayland said. "This issue has no place in the legislature."

Karin Evans, president of the local chapter of the League of Women Voters,

said her organization takes no stand on abortion, but favors state funding of abortions if abortion is legal.

"It's not a pro-abortion stand. It's a stand that favors equal access to a service that is legal," she said.

Evans said her organization would lobby against the bill on local and state levels, but that it did not make any endorsements of political candidates.

Suzanne Glasgow, president of Centre County Citizens Concerned for Human Life, said her organization supports Cunningham's bill and predicted the bill will help Cunningham in his bid for re-election.

"Pro-lifers are willing to go out and work for the candidates who support their pro-life views," she said. "The majority of Centre Countians are pro-life."

She said of Cunningham: "He let the people know before he ran where he stood on this and he's been consistent and he's been honest."

Brazill said he believes many people in the 77th Legislative District support anti-abortion legislation.

However, Day said Cunningham's anti-abortion stand could hurt him in the Nov. 4 general election.

"I can't imagine that the constituents of this district favor a right-to-life amendment," he said. "I don't think he has any kind of constituent support for this bill."

Day said his mail supports his pro-choice stand by a ratio of 99-to-1.

Joan Dawson, president of Penn State Students for Life, said that on the basis of her experience at Fall Term registration, student opinion on abortion is shifting toward a pro-life stance.

"The influence of the pro-life groups across the country has grown tremendously," she said.

The Centre County chapter of the National Organization for Women last night expressed its opposition to Cunningham's proposed legislation. See related story on Page 5.

A cool breeze

Some morning sunshine will yield to cloudiness today while a cool breeze keeps the afternoon temperature near 69. Clearing skies and diminishing winds tonight with the mercury dropping to a chilly low of 46. Some sunshine and cool tomorrow with afternoon temperatures rebounding to a high of 68.

Dec. 1 deadline set for proposals

Oswald favors change to semester system

By JOHN ALLISON

Daily Collegian Staff Writer

A change from the present term system to a semester system was favored by University President John W. Oswald at yesterday's Faculty Senate meeting, and he urged appropriate student and faculty groups to discuss the possible switch.

"At this point, I am inclined to conclude that Penn State should return to a semester calendar," he said. The University switched from a semester calendar to four-term calendar in 1961.

Oswald asked all interested parties to submit recommendations by Dec. 1, so he can make a final decision sometime in February 1981. However, changing the calendar would be so complicated that "no change could take place in any case for two, or likely, three years," Oswald said.

The Board of Trustees gives the University president the power to set the calendar, but requires he consult with the University Faculty Senate, the University Council and appropriate student groups.

Oswald said he has talked to faculty members, and believes they agree with him in favoring the switch to a semester system.

"Conversion to a semester system by 1984 seems probable, although not certain," Oswald said. "I believe the semester system provides a preferable learning environment."

University Provost Edward D. Eddy said he also favored the change.

"If it weren't for the academic problems created by the present term system, I don't think we would be talking about going to a semester system," Eddy said. "It seems to me, from my vantage point as provost, that a change in the calendar might result in a significant change in the intellectual climate of the University."

Both Oswald and Eddy are in favor of an early semester plan, designed to keep classes from being split by Christmas

vacation. Under the semester plan used at the University in the past, classes started in the middle of September and first semester final examinations took place after Christmas break.

Eddy named a few problems with the present 10-week term system: long classes, crowded examinations, registration and orientation schedules, and the shortness of the term. He said one of the problems with the short terms is that they "cut into the ability to assign term papers and expect really important results."

President of the Academic Assembly Ted Szklenski said he generally favors keeping the present system, since changing it would cause a lot of difficulty and expense. But he said, "I can see points on both sides. If I hear good arguments for both systems, I could go either way."

Ernest L. Bergman, professor of plant science and member of the Faculty Senate, said he thinks the University would be better off with the semester system.

"As a teacher, I prefer the semesters," he said. "As a researcher I prefer the terms. Terms give us more time to do research, between the terms."

Bergman thinks faculty members are split as to which system they prefer.

Ted Zellman (7th-sociology) said he would not mind keeping the present system.

"We're used to it, we can take a lot more courses, and 15-week courses could get monotonous — especially if the teacher isn't that great," Zellman said. "Also, it's a good alternative to other colleges."

Very few other colleges have a four-term system, Eddy said.

"Penn State was one of the first to introduce it," he said. "It was basically designed to provide year-round operation in a time when there was a shortage of space on college campuses."



Collegian photo

"Conversion to a semester system by 1984 seems probable, although not certain. I believe the semester system provides a preferable learning environment."

—University President John W. Oswald

Senate rejects \$50 billion educational aid increase

By LYNDA ROBINSON

Daily Collegian Staff Writer

The U.S. Senate has rejected a proposed bill that would have authorized a \$50 billion increase in federal aid to higher education over the next five years.

The House passed the bill last week by a 373-16 margin, Tom Wolanin, staff director for the Congressional Subcommittee on Post-Secondary Education, said. But the Senate defeated the measure last Thursday because only half of the senators present voted for the bill when it reached the Senate floor.

The bill was rejected because some senators considered it too costly in a time of fiscal austerity, Wolanin said.

Wolanin said he refused to accept that line of reasoning.

"We are not willing to sacrifice spending on education to pump up the defense budget or increase agricultural subsidies," he said. "We said the best investment for the future of our country is in the minds of its people."

The bill called for an increase in the Basic Educational Opportunity Grant program to cover up to 70 percent of college costs by 1985, U.S. Rep. William F. Clinger, R-central Pa., said in a statement. BEOG now covers less than 50 percent of college costs.

Clinger voted for the bill in the House. Funds would also increase for the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants,

Supplemental State Incentive Grants and Work-Study program, he said.

The bill would also raise the Guaranteed Student Loan to a maximum of \$12,500 from the current limit of \$2,500. The National Direct Student Loan would increase from its current four-year limit of \$7,500 to a four-year maximum of \$12,000, Clinger said.

However, the bill would raise interest rates in both loan programs by 1 percent and reduce the grace period to six months for fiscal austerity. The grace period is repayment time allotted to students after graduation. Students now have a nine-month grace period for NDSLs and a 12-month grace period for GSLs.

"No one needs to be told that the increasing

costs of higher education are more and more difficult for the inflation-strapped family to bear," Clinger said.

"I supported the higher education assistance bill as a reasonable and necessary boost to students, while also adding a degree of fiscal austerity to reduce the budgetary impact of the increases," he said.

Both Pa. Senators H. John Heinz and Richard Schweiker supported the bill in the Senate, Wolanin said.

The bill will be reworked next week by a joint congressional conference committee and then sent back first to the House and then to the Senate for another vote, Wolanin said.

He said he is optimistic that the bill will be up

for another vote before Oct. 4 when Congress adjourns for the elections.

Clinger said the joint conference would probably attempt to revise the proposed increases in GSL — the issue that the senators opposed the most.

"Their objection was that the GSL theoretically permitted millionaires to borrow money at low interest," Clinger said. "That seemed to really stick in their craw."

"I would certainly resist doing away with the GSL; that would be disastrous," he said.

Clinger yesterday called House support for the bill broadbased and predicted that the House would pass the legislation again unless unacceptable changes were made.

Anderson files to get Lucey on Pa. ballot

By LYNDA ROBINSON

Daily Collegian Staff Writer

and The Associated Press

Independent presidential candidate John B. Anderson has filed suit with the state Commonwealth Court in an attempt to get his vice presidential candidate, Patrick Lucey, on the ballot in Pennsylvania.

Originally, John Ames Ballard appeared on the state ballot as Anderson's vice presidential candidate. However, Ballard resigned after Anderson named Lucey, the former governor of Wisconsin and a Democrat, as his permanent running mate in August, Anderson press spokesman Bob Levenson said.

Although Ballard's resignation was within the state Bureau of Elections withdrawal deadline, Anderson did not submit Lucey's name in time to get him on the ballot, Levenson said. As a result, Anderson is without a vice presidential candidate in Pennsylvania.

"We filed suit with the Commonwealth Court in Harrisburg roughly a week ago, requesting that Lucey's name be placed on the ballot," he said.

Anderson is suing state Secretary William R. Davis and a hearing has been scheduled for Sept. 18, a Commonwealth Court spokesman said.

Lucey also did not make the deadline in 11 other states where Anderson is already on the ballot, Levenson said.

However, Anderson has not filed suit in 10 of the states. Instead, his legal staff is negotiating with each state secretary's office to get Lucey on the ballot, he said.

"We've only had to file suit in Pennsylvania and Indiana," Levenson said. "The other states

have indicated that they are willing to put Lucey on the ballot."

Anderson is officially on the ballot in 30 states and qualified to run pending certification in a total of 42, he said. Negotiations are continuing in the remaining eight states and more suits may be filed in the future.

costs we incur to get on the ballot are worth it."

The addition of Lucey on the ticket may help Anderson, a Republican congressman from Illinois, because many Democratic voters are dissatisfied with President Carter.

"I would think that having a

If Anderson does not win his suit in Commonwealth Court, state voters will not see Lucey's name on the ballot. Legally, Anderson is permitted to run without a vice presidential candidate, said David Phifer, an attorney for the Pennsylvania Bureau of Elections.

If Anderson should win the state without a vice presidential candidate, the Electoral College, which votes separately for the president and vice president, would in theory choose Anderson's vice president, Phifer said.

But he said he expected the college would accept Anderson's choice of vice presidential candidate.

In Washington, the League of Women Voters voted yesterday to invite Anderson to its debates, but President Carter said he would not take part because he wants a one-to-one confrontation with Ronald Reagan.

Reagan, in contrast, said, "The ladies decided Anderson is a viable candidate. . . he certainly should be included and I'll be there."

Anderson, speaking before Carter issued his refusal, said he is "pleased to accept the invitation."

"I eagerly look forward to the opportunity to meet my two opponents face-to-face and discuss the major issues of the election before the American people," he said.

The decision to include Anderson was made by the league's board of directors and was a significant victory for his independent candidacy.

A league spokeswoman said the Sept. 21 debate it has scheduled in Baltimore will be held even if Carter does not show up, as long as two candidates appear for the session.



John B. Anderson

UPI wirephoto

"We expect to be on the ballot in all 50 states with both candidates on the ticket," Levenson said. "Any legal

prominent Democrat on our ticket would help draw Democratic votes," Levenson said.

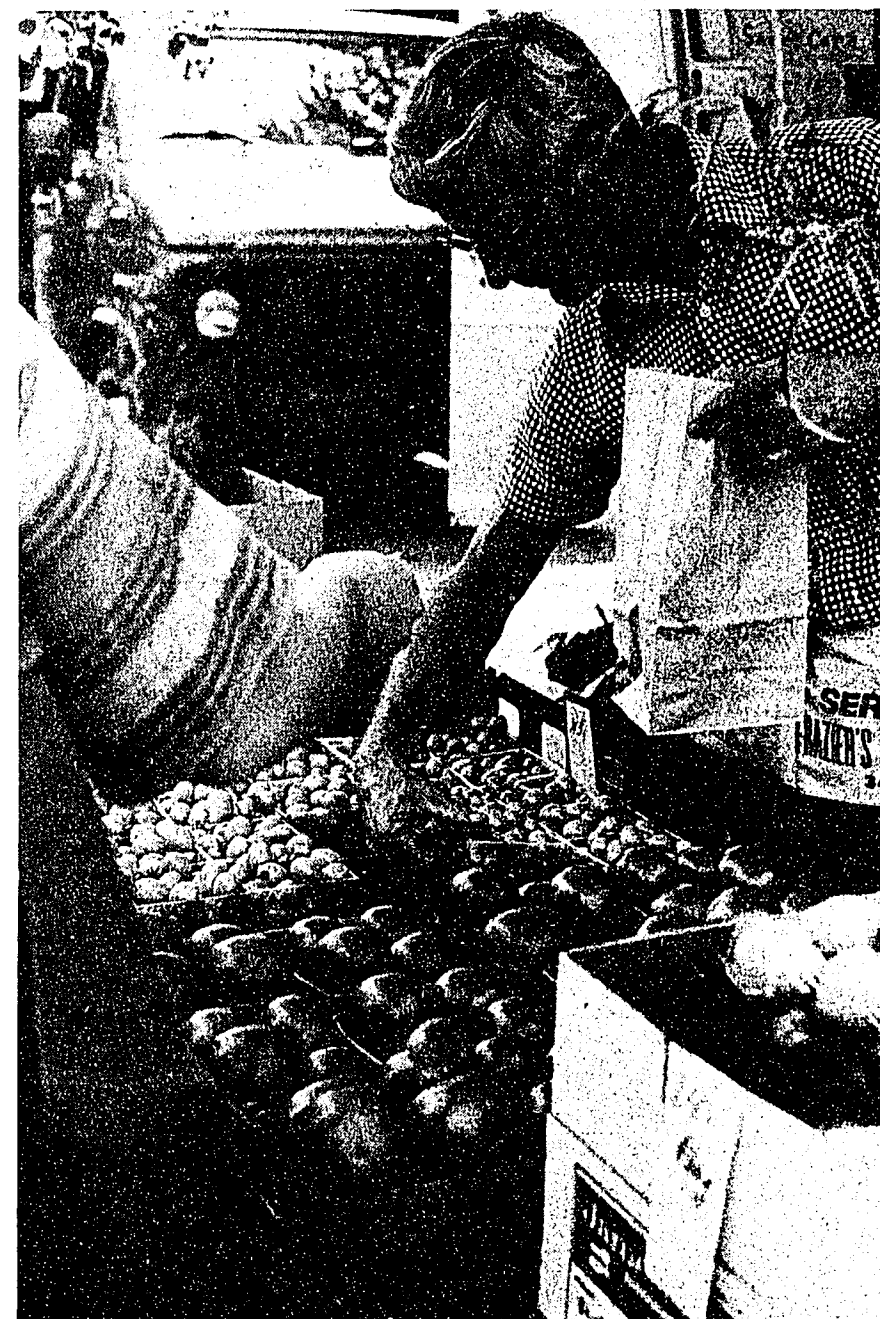


Photo by Stei Varas

Yes, we have no bananas

Fresh fruits and vegetables are frequently subject to close inspection before any sale is made and these tomatoes at yesterday's farmer's market are no exception. The market was held on Allen Street between College and Beaver Avenues.