



The happier moments in the news of late 1980-early 1981 included Ronald Reagan's moments at the Republican National Convention, the release of Robert Otis and 51 other former hostages from Iran, and the successful launch of the space shuttle Columbia with astronauts Robert Crippen, shown here, and John Young.



winter term

The hostages, Lennon, Barney and Crybaby . . .

By JUSTIN CATANOSO
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

"I read the news today, oh boy."
Those were his words on Dec. 9, having read the news, millions of people around the world struggled with their reaction to it. Oh boy, John Lennon had been murdered, gunned down outside his New York City apartment building. It wasn't the brightest way to begin Winter Term. But while Lennon's death didn't make for a happy Christmas, the country's spirits were lifted after the New Year by the imminent conclusion to the hostage crisis. The Carter administration, led by Deputy Secretary of State Warren S. Christopher, negotiated around the clock during its final weeks in power in hopes of freeing the 52 hostages. Still, Americans were reluctant to let their hopes — dashed so many times in the last 14 months — soar too high. With a new administration moving into the White House and Iran embattled in war with Iraq, however, the Ayatollah Khomeini and his revolutionary government no longer held the upper hand. Finally, Jan. 20, perhaps the most exciting news day in modern history, Iran released the hostages after 444 days of captivity.

And as if to humiliate Jimmy Carter one last time, the hostages were set free just as Ronald Reagan was sworn in as 40th president of the United States.

It was a day of optimism, the kind that naturally precedes each new administration. And it was a day America wrapped itself in a big yellow ribbon in anticipation of its returning citizens.

But behind the homecoming parades and Reagan's promises to revive the country's economy, there were major crises in Poland and El Salvador that dominated international news.

Solidarity's insistence on greater union rights brought the Soviet Union marching to the Polish border. And in light of the political unrest and slaughter of two American lawyers, and later, four American nuns, in El Salvador, the Reagan administration sent military advisers to the war-torn country to aid the government in San Salvador, the country's capital.

With 2 million young men born in 1962 required to register for the draft soon after New Year's Day, more than a



The nation and world were stunned March 30 by an assassination attempt on President Reagan that wounded Reagan and three others. Here, agents tend to presidential press secretary James

Bradley (right) and police officer Thomas Delahanty, moments after the shooting.

few people believed U.S. military intervention in El Salvador was inevitable. Reagan, however, denied any such intentions.

Life was more peaceful in University Park during Winter Term; the most important issue with which administrators, faculty and students had to contend was the proposed switch from terms to semesters.

Although most people thought the switch to semesters was previously de-

scribed, with the "period of input" a mere formality, University President John W. Oswald maintained that the decision had not yet been made and that he was weighing the positive and negative aspects of the switch.

The plan was met with disapproval from a majority of students and equal amounts of skepticism and optimism from the various colleges. And Oswald continued his support for an early semester calendar

Academic Assembly Vice President Chris Hopwood, during the Faculty Senate forensic session on the calendar change, said more specific information on the switch — such as the total cost — was needed before people could make up their minds. Hopwood said the University was holding back some information.

James E. Dungan, special assistant to the director of planning and budget, said there was more information the administration didn't even have — such as the

total cost of the switch — because they didn't want to invest time researching something that was not yet official.

In mid-January, it was announced that Gentle Thursday, a traditional day of blowing off classes in favor of partying on the HUB lawn, would be discontinued. Free U and Eco-Action, the organizations that had sponsored Gentle Thursday, decided that Gentle Thursday was no different than Movin' On. Along with some other student organizations, they decided to initiate Horizons — a four-day festival consisting of a variety of music, arts, sports and culture.

Also around that time, the University opened the gates to its revitalized indoor ice skating rink. With Roland Hedley Jr. announcing Iran's release of a 53rd hostage known as "the bald guy," fans rejoiced with the knowledge that the gun-toting, drug-powered Uncle Duke was returning to the strip after a year's absence.

In sports, Joe Paterno's football squad lost the Lambert Trophy to Pitt when the Panthers edged the Nittany Lions 14-9 in last game of the regular season. The Lions, who finished at 10-2 and ranked eighth in the country, redeemed themselves in the Fiesta Bowl by thrashing Ohio State 31-19.

Over term break in November, Gillian Rattray's Lady Lion field hockey team avenged its second place finish of the year before by defeating California Berkeley for its first national championship.

In the Super Bowl, the Philadelphia Eagles, enjoying their finest season since 1960, folded, embarrassed by the Oakland Raiders, 27-10.

the daily collegian a look back

Monday, May 18 '81

fall term

Reagan, semester plan, bongos, tuition . . .

By IRIS NAAR
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

Fall Term was a time of beginnings for Penn State, its community and the nation, as a new president was elected to lead the United States, a new calendar system of student government were suggested for the University, and a controversial drug paraphernalia ban was proposed by the State College Municipal Council.

Probably fall's biggest news item near the end of the term, as Ronald Reagan and his fellow Republicans swept victories Nov. 4 in the presidency, much of Congress and many state legislatures. Reagan's landslide victory over incumbent Jimmy Carter followed poll predictions the day before that termed the race too close to call.

While state and county voters favored Reagan, University students leaned toward Carter, with independent John B. Anderson also faring well among students.

Republicans also did well nationwide, as that party scored enough victories to control the Senate for the first time since 1964 with a six-person majority over the Democrats, and to make the Democratically controlled House of Representatives more conservative.

In the race for U.S. Senate from Pennsylvania, Republican Arlen Specter defeated Democrat Pete Flaherty, while Republican William F. Clinger retained his 23rd District congressional seat by beating Democratic candidate Peter Atigan and Consumer Party candidate Doug Mass.

Locally, state Rep. Gregg L. Cunningham, R-Centre County, defeated Democratic candidate Robert C. Brazil and independent Michael G. Day in the 77th District race, amid Brazil's

accusation that State College Democratic officials had engaged in election fraud because they allegedly distributed leaflets which stated Brazil was ineligible to run.

On campus, the possibility that the University would revert to a semester calendar after 20 years on a 10-week term system became realized as University President John W. Oswald announced Sept. 10 that he favored a semester system.

"Conversion to a semester system by 1984 seems probable, although not certain," said Oswald, who asked interested parties to submit recommendations to him. "I believe the semester system provides a preferable learning environment."

University Provost Edward D. Eddy also expressed his approval of a semester plan.

"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."

Forums were held to elicit opinions from students, faculty and administrators, with members of the University government listing pros and cons.

A new calendar was not the only change contemplated Fall Term, as members of the Undergraduate Student Government Executive Council dated Peter Atigan and Consumer Party candidate Doug Mass.

Locally, state Rep. Gregg L. Cunningham, R-Centre County, defeated Democratic candidate Robert C. Brazil and independent Michael G. Day in the 77th District race, amid Brazil's

was favorable, with Eddy saying that

USG "better do something fast. They're losing the confidence of everybody — administration and students."

Coeed housing joined in the limelight when a survey by the Association of Residence Halls Students showed 97.7 percent of 6,785 residence hall students favoring the idea of a coed housing option on campus. And in a preliminary report prepared by ARHS, 85 percent of 317 parents of past, present and future University students surveyed said they would allow their children to live in a coed house.

While many things changed on campus Fall Term, others remained the same. In another housing matter, Oswald announced in a letter to Raymond O. Murphy, vice president for student affairs, that dorm contracts would be accepted this year on the same first-come first-served system used last year, and not by a lottery system.

And the reality of the annual tuition increase was faced again when the University Board of Trustees decided to include a 5 percent tuition increase built into its 1981-82 \$147 million appropriation request from the state Legislature.

The state House of Representatives later voted to appropriate \$127 million to the University for 1981-82 — and Robert A. Patterson, senior vice president for finance and operations, said "the question of a second tuition increase becomes completely academic with the final passage and signing of this appropriation."

Soon after, Gov. Dick Thornburgh assured the University of its \$127 million state appropriation after he signed legislation fully funding state-related institutions.

Born during the term was the State

College Municipal Council's ordinance to ban the sale of drug paraphernalia in State College. The ordinance spurred controversy over questions of constitutionality.

A hearing was held in the U.S. District Court in Scranton, and two State College businesses, Lazy J Ltd. and Quickdraw Accessories, Inc., filed for temporary restraining orders against the paraphernalia law, claiming it was vague and indefinite, and did not clearly define what paraphernalia items were prohibited.

After numerous conflicts during his 1½ years in the position, Centre Area Transportation Authority Manager Vernon Light announced he was resigning the job to move on to "newer challenges."

In his letter of resignation, the CATTA board, Light said, "I have just completed a review of my personal career accomplishments and objectives within the field of urban mass transit and have reluctantly concluded that it is now time to move into opportunities and responsibilities broader than Centre Line can afford."

On the entertainment side, viewers of the hit television series "Dallas" finally learned that Kristin Shepard had shot the dastardly J.R. Ewing. The revelation climaxed months of waiting lengthened by the summer and an action-packed season.

Fall Term was a time of celebration for local Phillies fans, who saw their baseball team win its first world championship in its 98-year history, downing the Kansas City Royals 4-1 in the final game of a six-game series.

The victory spurred a mob to converge on downtown State College, with jubilant fans blocking traffic and causing several arrests in the process.

Scoring victories for the University was the Nittany Lion football team, which posted an 8-1 record by the end of Fall Term. The team's only loss, to Nebraska, came despite the crowd's consistent chant of "Nebraska bites the dust."

Reby tampons did bite the dust Fall Term, as women who received samples of them through ARHS' Goodstuff program were warned that their use could increase the risk of Toxic Shock Syndrome.

At the time of the ARHS warning, the national Center for Disease Control

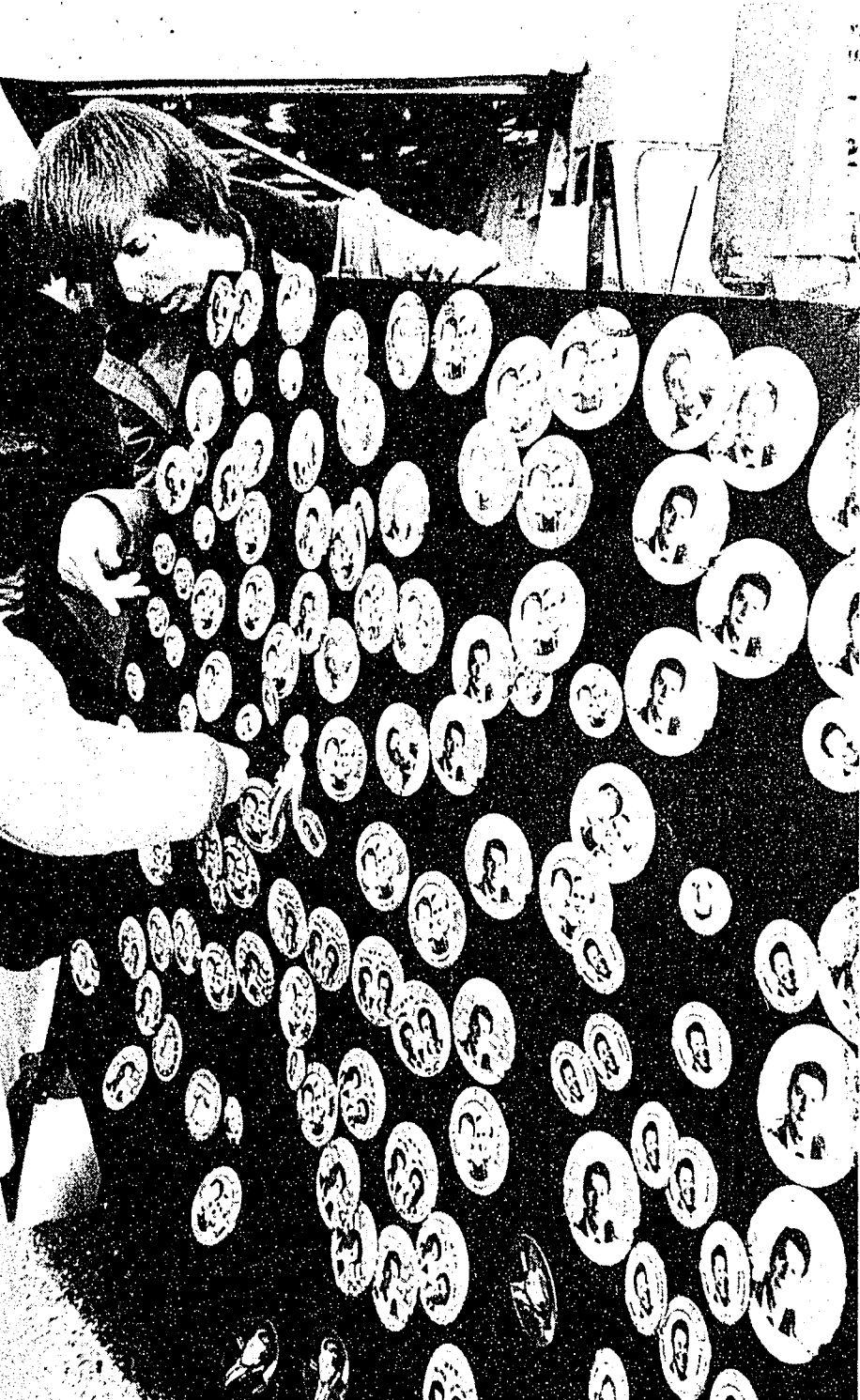
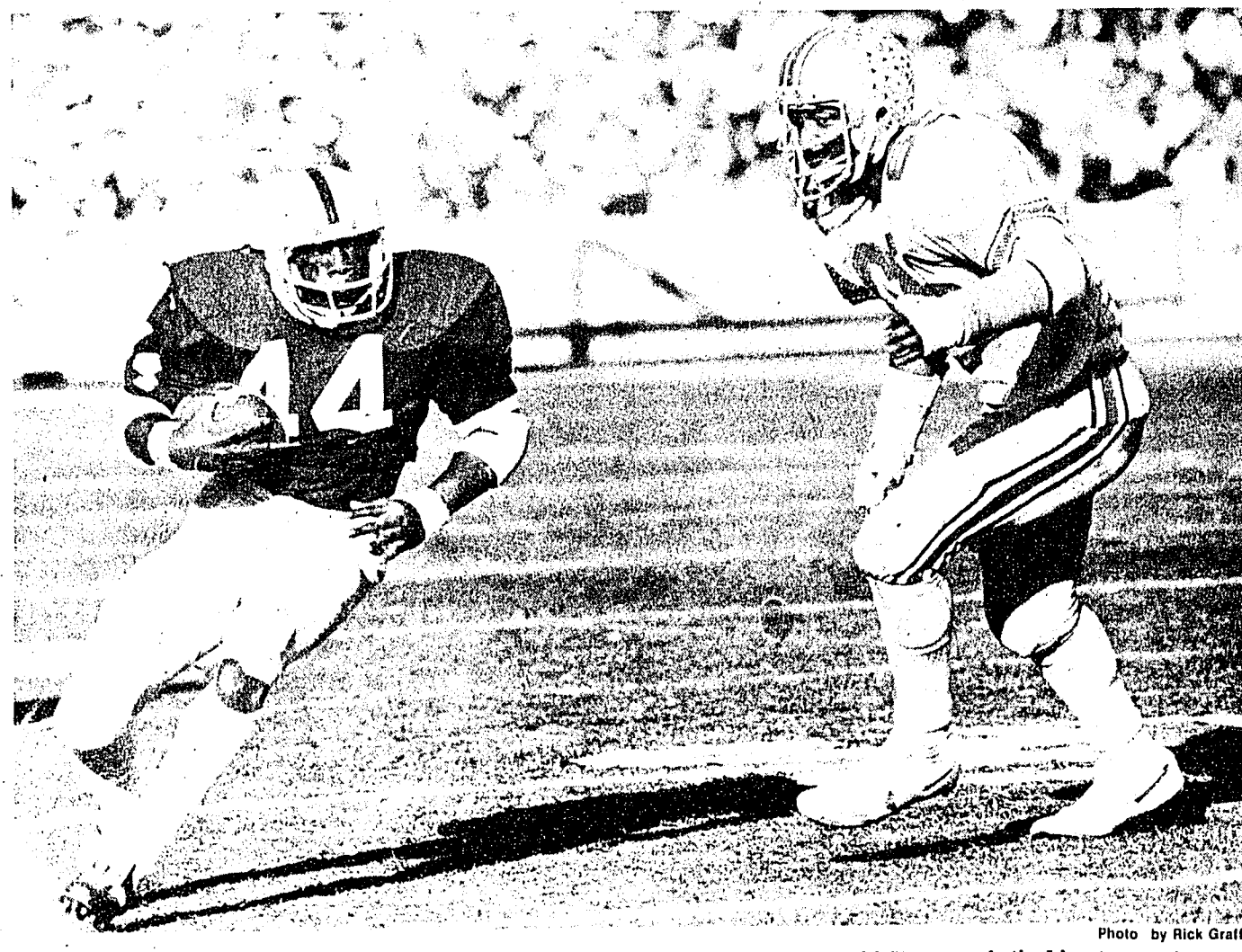


Photo by Betty Givary

"To maintain peace requires strength. America has never gotten into a war because we were too strong. We can get into a war by letting events get out of hand as they have in the last 3 1/2 years."

— Ronald Reagan



Penn State running back Jon Williams (44) turns the corner on Ohio State linebacker Keith Ferguson in the Lions' 31-19 Fiesta Bowl victory over the Buckeyes.

spring term

Shootings, shuttle, PSUSA, Wimpy, Cluck . . .



Photo by Rene Jacobs

An on-campus rally protesting U.S. involvement in El Salvador had about 75 participants on April 16. Sponsored by the Friends of Central American Liberty and the Third World Coalition, the march was held to increase student awareness of the El Salvador issue, said Brian McNeil, a University graduate.

By ELLYN HARLEY
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

Spring Term was the beginning of the space shuttle program and the Columbia's maiden mission, which was completed with "flying colors." It was a time of frightful violence — assassination attempts on President Reagan and Pope John Paul II shocked the world. It was time for a new calendar at Penn State.

On the afternoon of March 30, all activities and concerns at the University took a back seat to the scene outside the Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C. as Pope John Paul II was shot May 13 as he appeared before 150,000 people at St. Peter's Square in Vatican City. The pontiff survived and received the prayers of millions worldwide.

Nehel Ali Aaga, 23, a convicted murderer and exile from Turkey, was accused of attempting to take the life of the popular Polish-born pope, who turns 61 today.

A second Irish Republican Army bomber struck, Francis Hughes, died, and Northern Ireland erupted violently as it

had earlier when Bobby Sands died on May 5 in the 60th day of his hunger strike. Both men vowed themselves to try to gain political status for IRA inmates at Long Kesh. As many as 100 IRA prisoners pledged to join the strike one by one as their comrades did.

And the death toll of black children dead or missing in Atlanta continued to rise during Spring Term, as it had all year, with the latest count at 27 dead and one missing.

The Columbia had had its share of problems including a 48-hour delay in take-off and the loss of several heat-shield tiles during the launch — in addition to being two years behind schedule.

When astronauts John Young and Robert Crippen glided into Edwards Air Force Base in California, American knew how it felt to be proud again. For the first time, an aircraft had returned from space and landed like an airplane.

At University Park, students returning to campus for Spring Term were greeted with University President John W. Oswald's announcement on March 12 that the University would be on a semester calendar in Fall Term 1983. Oswald said the semester system would provide a better learning environment for students, offer more flexibility in summer scheduling and bring the University's calendar in line with other university calendars around the country.

The announcement, which followed two terms of debate on the relative merits of the term and semester systems, was generally accepted by the University community, which faced the massive task of converting many of its functions to conform to a semester calendar.

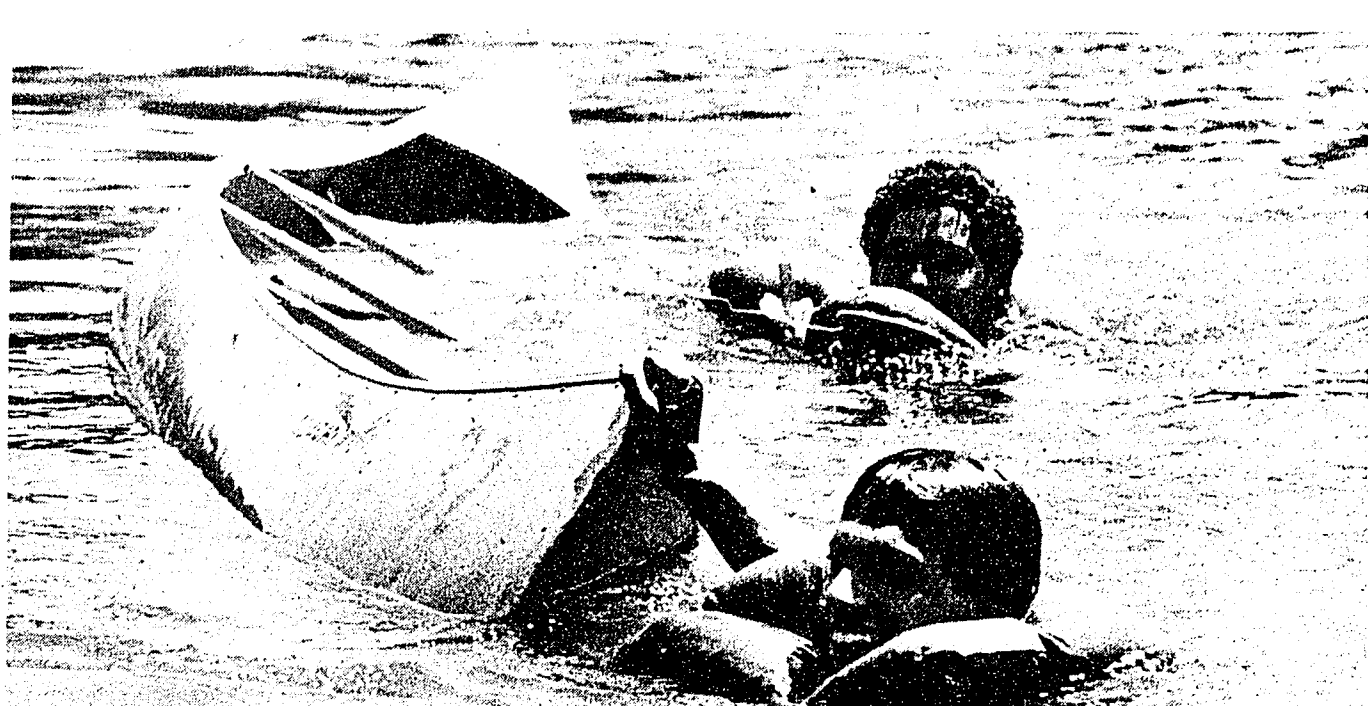
Another plan of change did not fare as well as the semester proposal, however, when a referendum to reorganize student government fell short of the voter turnout needed to be valid.

The proposal, which called for the unification of 40 student groups into one centralized Pennsylvania State University Student Association, needed 25 percent voter turnout but received only 20 percent.

Less than a month-and-a-half after the presidential assassination attempt, the world was shocked again when Pope John Paul II was shot May 13 as he appeared before 150,000 people at St. Peter's Square in Vatican City. The pontiff survived and received the prayers of millions worldwide.

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The annual Barry Regatta at Stone Valley netted \$8,600 for the Centre County chapter of the American Cancer Society, and made for more than its share of wet canoe races and general frolics.

Although Wimpy's candidacy was sponsored by Froth and the Monty Python Society, Fred Schiller, Wimpy's running mate, insisted that they were serious about their candidacy despite the satirical nature of the two organizations.

Only 22 percent of undergraduates voted, a slight increase from last year's 20 percent turnout. Following Cluck/Reeves with 2,229 votes and Wimpy/Schiller with 1,432 votes were the team of Doug Kahn/Cindy Dutt with 1,378 and Kevin Leondi/David DeGrose with 329.

Write-in candidates received a total of 382 votes. As the winner, Cluck promised to "light a spark in student government" and said the US Senate needs to be "an active and dedicated senate that is willing to be more than a body that allocates money."

Gentle Thursday became history this spring. Except for a weak attempt to revive it one soggy Thursday, the traditional spring event was abandoned and replaced with Horizons — a four-day festival of music, art, speakers and exhibitions co-sponsored by USG, the Graduate Student Association, Colloquy, Eco-Action and Free University.

Another new event, Brotherhood Day, featuring Atlanta legislator Julian Bond as the keynote speaker, was the kickoff for Horizons.

The cancellation of Santana — the third major concert to be called off this year — was a disappointment for Horizons, but with more than 200 organizations involved with the planning and presentation, the festival went well.

Despite some changes at the University during Spring Term, many things remained the same. Students still waited outside in the cold for dorm contracts,

but this year they were granted an overnight reprieve from the freezing temperatures.

And students learned that the coed housing proposal made by ARHS would not become a reality, when Oswald rejected the plan and said he saw no evidence that coed housing would be academically beneficial or would improve security.

Other traditions were kept alive, including events that raised more money this year than ever before. This year's 18th edition of the Phi Psi 500 took in \$20,000 for the Second Mile, a boys' rehabilitation home. And the seventh annual SY Barash Regatta contributed \$8,600 to the Centre County chapter of the American Cancer Society.

Movin' On, sponsored by ARHS, was blessed with a perfect weekend, and students basked in the sun while listening to bands and weaving through a maze of Frisbees. Musician John Hanrahan and Steve Setzer, "coach Rich Lorenzo said of his four national qualifiers.

While some students were running races or paddling canoes, others were marching in Harrisburg and Washington.

About 200 people from the University and State College joined the 15,000 who went to Harrisburg on March 28 to demonstrate to keep Unit I of the Three Mile Island nuclear facility shut down.

On May 3, 43 students and area residents joined in a protest at the Pentagon against United States involvement in El Salvador.

On the other side of the nuclear issue, Nunzio J. Palladino, dean of the College of Engineering, was nominated by President Reagan to become head of the

Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

In sports, the Lady Lion gymnastics team, with all-arounders Heidi Anderson, Karen Polak, Marcy Levine and Lisa Ingebretsen leading the team, finished the regular season undefeated.

But the Lady Lions suffered a down meet and finished fourth in their bid for a second straight national championship. Freshman Heidi Anderson sparkled in the floor exercise event, capturing top individual honors for her daring double backs and delightful dancing.

The men's gymnastics team finished sixth at nationals held in Lincoln, Neb., and Bill Stanley came out an All-American on pommel horse.

The wrestling team took a giant leap as it placed third at the 15,000 who went to Harrisburg on March 28 to demonstrate to keep Unit I of the Three Mile Island nuclear facility shut down.

Talkback Jon Williams was the star of the Blue-White spring football game, gaining 172 yards rushing.

The Lady Lion lacrosse team found that things come in threes, even national championships, when Maryland ended the Lady Lions' bid for a fourth consecutive national championship by a score of 12-3.

Lacrosse coach Chuck Medlar retired after 19 years as a head coach and 14 years as an assistant coach of the Lion squad. The Lions finished 16-11 on the season.

And the men's volleyball team did both Penn State and coach Tom Tali proud as it placed third at the NCAA championships held in California.