

Parvensky, McJunkin announce USG candidacy

By MARCY MERMEL
Collegian Staff Writer

Emil Parvensky (9th-finance) and Jim McJunkin (9th-administration of justice) have announced their candidacy for Undergraduate Student Government president and vice president.

Because issues such as the calendar conversion and the selection of a new University president will affect future and current students at the University, during the next year, USG must "put in our input so what goes on now is what students really need," Parvensky said.

Parvensky, a USG town senator and member of the Calendar Conversion Council communications committee, said one student on the Calendar Conversion Council is not enough input to the calendar conversion.

If elected, Parvensky said he would work to have members of each college student council involved in the conversion processes of that council's college. These representatives would "make sure the changes that are made are ones that do not hurt the students," he said.

Parvensky said USG has to make sure the student representative on the University Presidential Search and Screen Committee knows what students want in a University president. Students want a president who is progressive on issues including co-ed housing and one who is willing to talk with all students, not just student leaders, he said.

USG must also be involved with University money matters including tuition increases and financial aid, he said.

Because the University is on the state budget's unpreferred list whose money concerns tend to get cut, tuition increases too much, Parvensky said.

"Until we get a (student) lobby, all we can do is say, 'Please don't raise our tuition' and then cross our fingers," he said.

Therefore, Parvensky said he supports efforts to organize with Pennsylvania's other state-related universities: the University of Pittsburgh, Temple University and Lincoln University, and lobby for student concerns.

Student government must also continue its efforts to fight reductions in financial aid, he said.

In addition to being a USG town senator, Parvensky is also USG senate liaison to the Association of Residence Hall Students and a member of the USG department of minority affairs. Parvensky also served as chairman of the USG senate Ad-Hoc Committee on Reapportionment.

On the University level, Parvensky said he would work to "return student government back to the students."

"Student government has been neglecting the largest portion of our campus" by not working with smaller student organizations like the Outing Club and the Management Club, he said.

To learn about their concerns, Parvensky said he would group the smaller organizations by common interests and hold discussion meetings.

McJunkin, a USG town senator and former chairman of the senate's Police Services Committee, said student

organizations are willing to work with USG. McJunkin said when he needed people to work with police services projects, members of a related student organizations got involved.

"Organizations that have been ignored in the past have worked, can work and will work with USG," said McJunkin, a member of the USG senate Ad-Hoc Committee on Reapportionment.

Parvensky said that the minority recruitment and retention system at the University is a "farce" because minority students make up 2.3 percent of the total University student population.

"The University has an obligation to students to get them up here and make them feel at home when they get here," he said.

Because minority students feel "alienated" at the University, Parvensky proposed developing a buddy system for minority students in which freshmen would be introduced to juniors who would help them adapt to University life.

A 1975 task force on the problem recommended policies to increase minority enrollment and minority recruitment increased until 1978 before decreasing again, he said.

Parvensky said he would consult the task force's report for ideas and would also try to start a pilot project for University students to go to Philadelphia and Pittsburgh to "promote Penn State by a student angle."

Parvensky said he would not attempt major restructuring of USG because it would take too much time.



Jim McJunkin and Emil Parvensky

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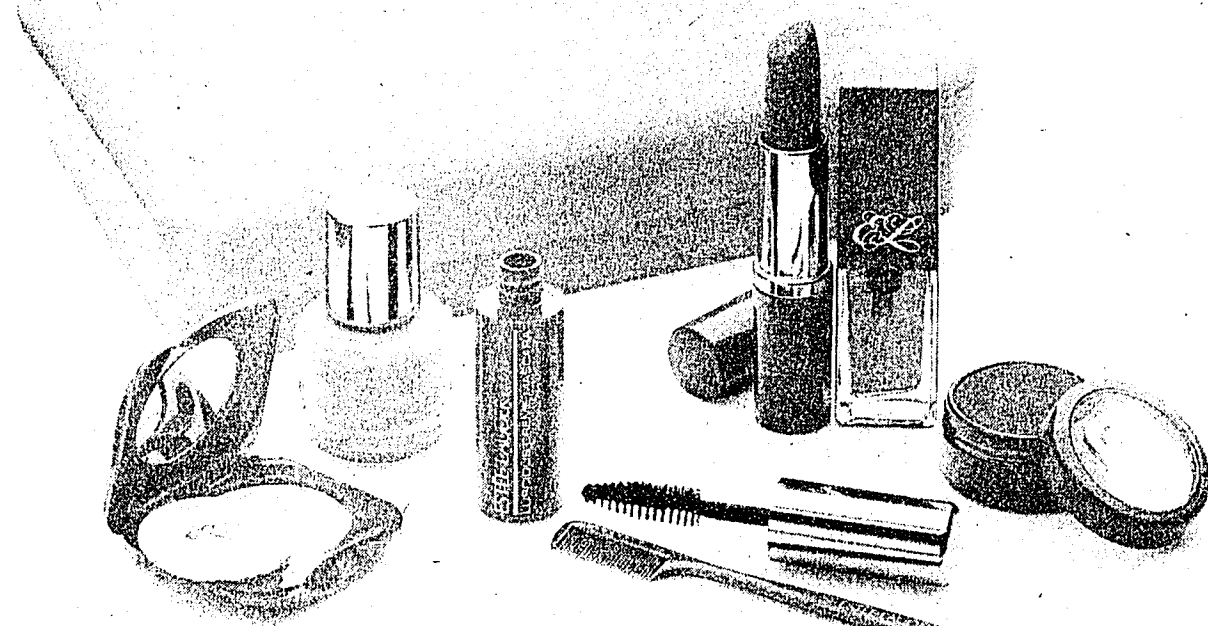
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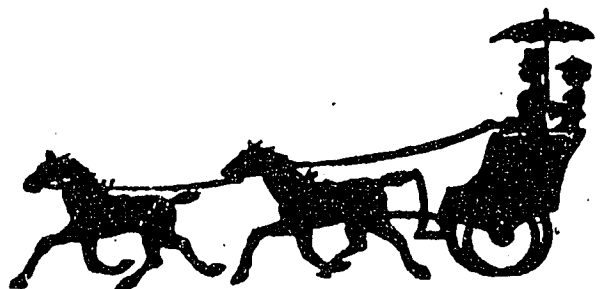
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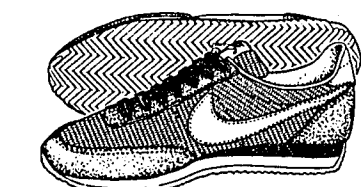
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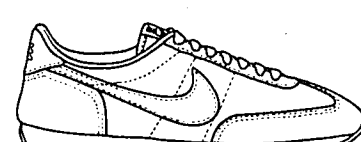
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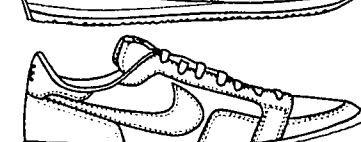
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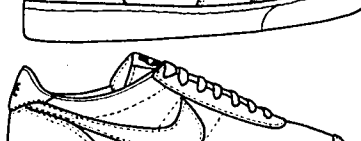
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