

# Conversion easier if divided up, USG candidate says

Editor's note: This is the fourth in a series of interviews with the candidates for president of the Undergraduate Student Government. The interviews are running in alphabetical order with each candidate being allocated about 35 columns of space.

Daily Collegian Staff Writer Marcy Harnet recently interviewed candidate Emil Parvensky, and the following has been edited for length and clarity.

**COLLEGIAN:** University President John W. Oswald has made it clear the University will be changing to a semester calendar in 1983. What do you plan to do to help the students adjust to that changeover and make the transition smoother? What problems do you see with the semester calendar?

**PARVENSKY:** The basic problem in dealing with the calendar conversion is realizing the scope of the change. Every course is going to be affected. So what we're doing with the issue of financing an education has basically two areas of concern.

First of all, financial aid. We've done a lot of lobbying against financial aid reductions, but we can't stop here. There's still a lot that needs to be done. Writing letters has been proven effective in the past and we plan on continuing that now. No program can be rolled out, however, different strategies are appropriate at different times. We hope with President John W. Oswald's Task Force on Federal Cuts in Higher Education and Student Aid and with the various student associations across the country, we'll have formed with them the effective student strategies on Capitol Hill.

Tuition. We have a built-in five percent increase every year. So the question isn't will tuition increase, it's by how much. Being considered as the non-preferred section of the Pennsylvania state budget, we tend to be hit harder in the funding cuts.

We have no mechanism which with what the grading policy will be in the newly structured courses, or how many students will be required in 13 terms as a direct result of the change—these are all valid concerns that we have just begun to evaluate.

But when we really don't have enough time, we have to systematically attack these concerns as if our education depended on it—because it actually does.

What we're working on is what we're

calling a Super Summer. What this entails is any course that more than 20 students would like to take; we can offer that course during the summer directly before the switch, thus enabling them to still graduate without being affected by the new system.

**COLLEGIAN:** If Reagan's proposed financial aid cuts are approved, 80 percent of Penn State students would be affected. Again, what would you do to help students? What do you think the University should do to help them?

**PARVENSKY:** Student funded: you really have to look at the total scope. What we're doing with the issue of financing an education has basically two areas of concern.

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equally important, discuss funding possibilities. We are not in this boat alone. Each University is dealing with the cuts in its own way. It will give us some insight on how to soften the blows of these cuts by discussing these issues with the other state-related schools.

**COLLEGIAN:** USG President Bill Click has made improving communications between the administration and the

in itself will raise our relations with the University.

**PARVENSKY:** The senate has a lot of potential. There's basically three types of people in the senate: the ones who can perceive the needs and concerns of the students, who get up and fulfill those commitments without pretty much any direction from anybody.

**COLLEGIAN:** What qualities do you think the new University president should have and why?

**PARVENSKY:** Basically, I think there are three qualities that are vital for our new president.

First, he or she must recognize the progressive nature of culture and education. Society today is not like it was 20

years ago. We need somebody who can realize this and work with the students towards changing appropriately as society has changed.

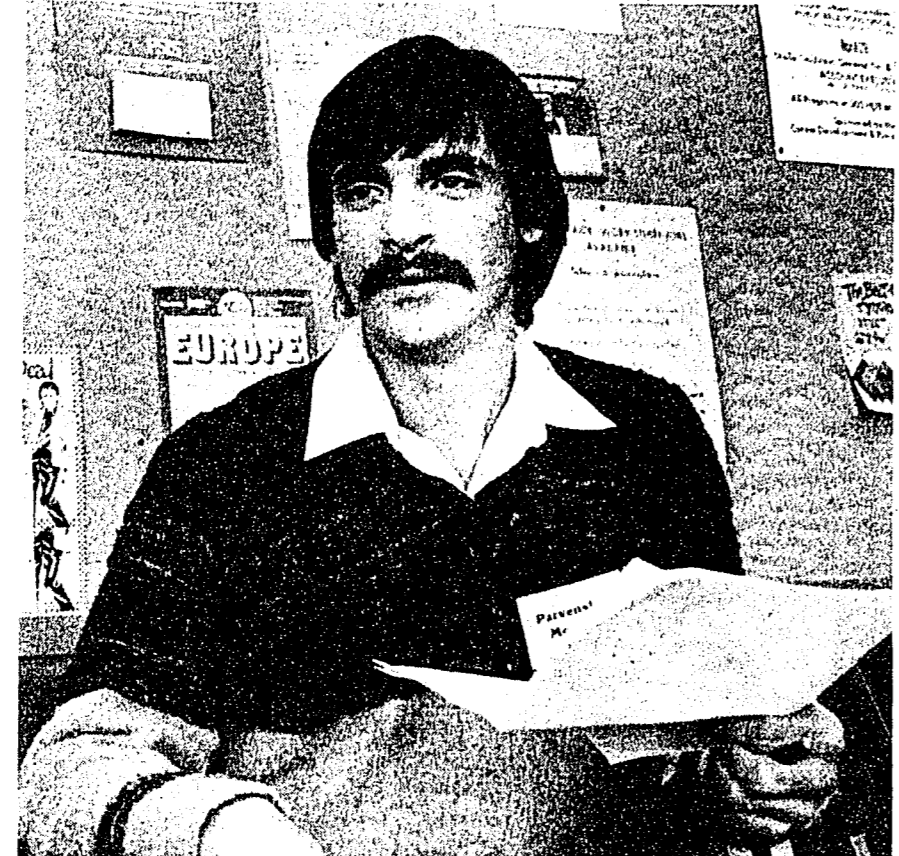
Secondly, we feel that he or she must have the ability to relate to student concerns and by showing this, in the past. And thirdly, he or she must pledge to bridge the gap in communication between the students and the administration. This gap tends to, at first, not exist.

**COLLEGIAN:** In the past, the problem with communicating with the administration has been the lack of credibility of USG.

**PARVENSKY:** In the past, the problem with communicating with the administration has been the lack of credibility

of USG. This is a direct result from the communication with the students, which I think we have to enhance if we are going to get credible communication with the administration.

We're stuck in a time when we have a transition into a new president. A transition between presidents where Oswald is dealing a lot with the calendar conversion and pretty much the communication



Emil Parvensky. Photo by Suzanne Tyrrell

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—USG candidate Emil Parvensky

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**COLLEGIAN:** What is the USG Senate's role? Do you think it should become more service-oriented or remain a pas-

sive body that appropriates funds for projects?

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# State installs toll-free 'Waste Line' to cut spending

By FRANK A. DOOLEY  
Collegian Staff Writer

State spending has been under attack in the past, but citizens in Pennsylvania can now participate directly in the state's crackdown on wasteful, improper and illegal spending of Commonwealth funds.

By using the "Waste Line," a toll-free phone number installed by state Treasurer R. Budd Dwyer on Feb. 12, any citizen can cooperate with the state Treasury Department's Bureau of Pre-Audits to eliminate mispending within the government.

In a promotional message to Pennsylvania citizens, Dwyer said the Waste Line will also enable citizens to help the Treasury Department.

"The Pennsylvania Treasurer is regarded as the watchdog of the state Treasury," Dwyer said. "By

installing our Waste Line, we want the people of Pennsylvania to be the watchdogs for the State Treasury."

The toll-free number for the Waste Line is (800) 932-6669.

Dwyer is confident the Waste Line will be able to stop the misuse and waste of state funds.

"If we get the cooperation of Pennsylvania citizens that we anticipate, I am convinced we can help save the taxpayers of this state millions of dollars in state funds which currently may be wasted or spent improperly or illegally," Dwyer said.

All information will be investigated and funds, if necessary, will be suspended immediately for the department in question until the reported situation is corrected, Dwyer said.

All calls will remain anonymous on request.

The wasteful expenditure of funds was more prevalent than most people realize, Dwyer said.

"I believe very sincerely that there is a sufficient amount of waste out there and we want to assist the efforts already underway in other branches of state government to reduce it substantially," he said.

Greg Penny, assistant press secretary for the state Treasury, said this prevalence in wasteful spending is evident in the number of calls received.

"We've received quite an influx of calls," Penny said. "We average a dozen or so a day, but the first few days netted about 30 calls. So far, we've had referred about 300 complaints to other departments."

Most of the calls deal with individual welfare offenders and Department of Transportation maintenance repairs, he said.

# Day promises fun for elderly, mentally retarded

The "Saturday Special," an annual program for area senior citizens and mentally retarded people, will be held from 12:30 to 3:30 tomorrow afternoon in the HUB.

This year, 130 people volunteered to help, while about 70 senior citizens and mentally retarded people are expected to attend, said Marti Pennay, membership chairman for Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity.

The program, sponsored by Alpha Phi Omega, involves students who volunteer to escort a senior citizen or mentally retarded person to activities of his preference, said Barb Gawronski, publications chairman.

Activities scheduled include presentations by the Nittany Knights, a 16-member singing group; the Penn State International Dancers; clowns from the Newman Student Association; jugglers

from the Juggling Club; and the Centre County Historical Society, Pennay said.

Also scheduled are: an aerobic dance class taught by Deb Kerstetter, formerly with the Centre County Area Agency on Aging; silent movies starring Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton and Laurel and Hardy; and a variety of table games, she said.

Many people will attend the event, including people from Centre Crest (a

Bellefonte nursing home) and Laurelton Center, a facility for the mentally retarded. Representatives from the State College Senior Citizens Center and Phillipsburg Area Retarded Citizens will also attend, Pennay said.

The Saturday Special has been sponsored in the past by the Volunteer Service Center, volunteer Kathy Egan said.

—Jeffery Bosserman

# Registration listed for Push-up-a-thon

By the end of a long weekend the last thing on some people's minds may be to do push-ups—but when doing them benefits the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, many people can find the strength.

The third annual Push-up-a-thon, to be held at 1 p.m. Sunday in the Pollock recreation room, is being sponsored by Alpha Chi Omega sorority and the Nittany Lion mascot.

Last year the event raised \$1,700 for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Chairman Susan Dore said.

Registration will be held until 4 p.m. today on the HUB ground floor, and on Sunday prior to the event, Dore said.

The registration fee is \$3 for individuals and \$15 for a five-person team, she said. Each participant in the contest will receive a T-shirt and a 50 cents donation from each spectator will be collected at the event, she said.

Eight divisions will be competing for trophies, medals and ribbons in categories including: fraternity individuals and team, sorority individuals and team, men's independent individ-

uals and team and women's independent individuals and team.

The event has become more organized than it was in the past, Dore said.

The push-up-a-thon was started three years ago by Norm Constantine, former Nittany Lion mascot, she said.

However, when Constantine graduated the people running the push-up-a-thon had nothing to go on, she said.

This year's lion mascot, Roy Scott, and the event's chairwoman were both new to the push-up-a-thon last year, Dore said, "but this year the event will go a lot more smoothly."

Judges will monitor the participants by counting the push-ups and rests. Four rests are allowed in the locked arm position for 10 seconds each, Dore said.

The judges also make sure the feet and hands of the participants do not move and that the chest of the individual touches the judge's feet on the downward motion of the push-up, she said.

—Patricia Hungerford

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**the daily Collegian**

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