

USG Senate to keep election committee

By PAMELA WEIERS
Collegian Staff Writer

The Undergraduate Student Government Senate narrowly defeated a proposal to terminate the newly formed USG endorsement committee during last night's meeting. In another matter, the senate upheld the USG Election Code's guidelines for determining town and fraternity senatorial representation.

The Senate voted 12-11, with five senators abstaining, against the resolution to end the endorsement committee. The endorsement committee is composed of seven USG members who will make official USG endorsements of political candidates.

The validity of the committee is also being challenged by one of the resolution's sponsors, Town Senator Kendall Houk, in another forum, the USG Supreme Court.

The complaint filed by Houk asked the court to review the legality of the endorsement committee on the premise that an endorsement constitutes law and thus violates the USG Constitution. The constitution states that USG law may not be established by a joint committee.

The USG endorsement committee meets the definition of a joint committee because it was established by both legislative houses, the Senate and Academic Assembly, and signed into law by USG President Todd Sloan.

Mike Sosnowski, chief justice of the court, said, "The issue is whether or not an endorsement constitutes law in the sense that USG propogates law."

"Considering the high visibility of an endorsement in relation to most Senate business, I think it is undoubtedly law since . . . the endorsement act says the endorsement is final and official," said Town Senator Kendall Houk in his appeal to the court.

The endorsement committee is slated to announce its endorsements for the State College Borough Council and county commissioner races Nov. 1, two days prior to Election Day.

East Halls Senator Steve Pugliese said he thought the purpose of having a seven-member endorsement committee was because a small group is better able to thoroughly research candidates and make a decision than a large, more cumbersome group.

"Given the small amount of time (the committee has) I now wonder whether this is possible," he said.

Town Senator Betsie Polo said if the endorsement committee is declared unconstitutional after endorsements are made it would make USG look bad.

The endorsement committee has a week to submit a statement to the court responding to Houk's complaint and may choose not to submit a statement until after Election Day.

A public hearing deciding the issue cannot be held until the court receives statements from both sides.

"If a decision is not rendered in time to be effective this year, the legislation would be a guiding precedent in future years for this type of committee," said Sosnowski.

In other business, the senate defeated by a two-thirds majority, a resolution to redefine residency requirements for town and fraternity senators.

The resolution would have changed the code to require fraternity senators to be fraternity members living in fraternity housing and allowed non-fraternity members residing in a fraternity house to represent town constituents.

Currently the code states that USG senators must reside in the areas they represent.

Town Senator Bruce Fox, a non-fraternity member who boards at Zeta Psi Fraternity, 225

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E. Foster Ave., sponsored the legislation with four other senators.

The Supreme Court is currently reviewing the legality of Fox representing town constituents while living in a fraternity after receiving a formal complaint from Senate President Joe Scoboria last week.

Scoboria said in his complaint, "Senate representation is currently based on an area or precinct system, and I think that an exception to this would weaken the process for our student government representation."

Fox said during floor discussion on the proposal that he would resign if the resolution passed. The legality of Fox's position is currently under review by the USG Supreme Court. The court must receive statements from both sides of the Fox case before deciding the constitutionality of Fox's senatorial term at a public hearing.

The court has not yet received statements from either party.

After the senate meeting Fox said he was surprised the resolution failed.

"I think (Fox) is a wonderful senator," said Pugliese. "He puts a lot of time in, but we can't just change the elections code or not follow it when it is comfortable for us."

Stock market crash takes emotional toll

By LISA LEVITT RYCKMAN
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — Reeling from sudden financial losses, some investors have begun placing blame and struggling with the question of how they are going to pay the emotional price of their roller coaster ride on Wall Street.

"People develop a guilty hindsight, saying 'I should have known,'" said David Spiegel, director of the Stanford University Medical Center adult psychiatric outpatient clinic. "People are much more likely to blame themselves when they've lost money than they are to pat themselves on the back for making it in the first place."

Vernon K. Lamberg blamed himself. The 58-year-old retired businessman of Appleton, Wis., was found in a motel room Friday, dead of asphyxiation. Lamberg, who apparently broke a fuel line leading to a heater, reportedly was despondent over \$500,000 lost in last week's crash.

Arthur Kane apparently blamed his broker. The 53-year-old federal bureaucrat, who reportedly lost millions in the market last week, walked into a Merrill Lynch office on Monday in Miami, pulled a handgun out of a briefcase and wounded his broker and killed the brokerage manager before turning the gun on himself.

It was revealed yesterday that Kane was disbarred Missouri lawyer Arthur H. Katz, who had relocated to Florida through the federal witness protection program. He became a

government witness after being convicted in Kansas of insurance fraud in 1978.

"Right now, we have a crisis of future expectations," said George Sternlieb, the former director of the Rutgers University Center for Urban Policy Research.

"Everybody wants it to be like (the television show) 'Dallas,' where you wake up the next season and Bobby Ewing is still alive," said Keith Vass, a broker at E.F. Hutton & Co. in Cherry Hill, N.J.

While there are no statistics to show that the market's plunge has caused a surge in violence or pleas for professional help, the few extreme reactions appear to be tied to extreme loss, specialists agree. The little guys often invest for the long haul, and the market's daily or weekly fluctuations, regardless of how wild, have little impact on them.

"The truth of the matter is, more people felt bad that the Cardinals lost the World Series than felt hurt because of the stock market," said Richard Ross, executive director of the Chicago-based Center for the Study of Investor Behavior.

"People seem to be taking this in stride," said psychologist Harry Levinson of the Levinson Institute in Belmont, Mass., a management consultancy. "Some very few specific people . . . will be pushed over the edge."


For others, the market's ups and downs might spark a subtle reassessment of their life's priorities.

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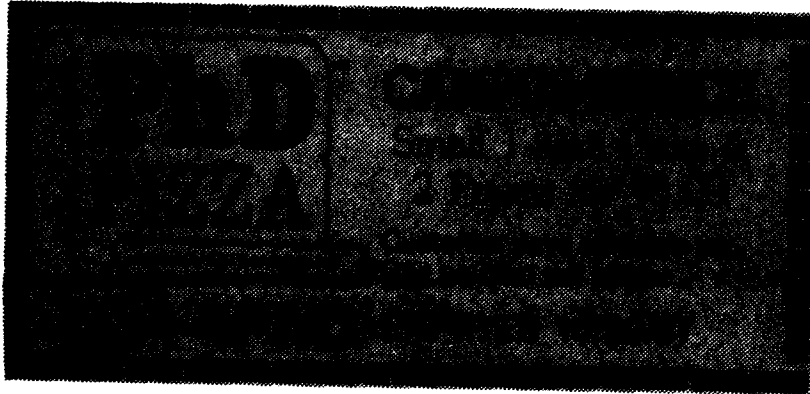
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