

Pa. board to stop illegal athletic recruiters proposed

By **CYNDI BURK**
Collegian Staff Writer

A proposal introduced by state Rep. Nicholas Colafella, D-Beaver, would create a state board to protect Pennsylvania's collegiate athletes from illegal recruiters.

The two House-approved bills would require athletic agents to earn credentials from a state board established to regulate agents and issue licenses, Colafella said.

"I think the system is unfair the way it is now," Colafella said. "If the agents that deal illegally are caught, there's no penalty. But if the athlete is caught accepting illegal payments, both he and the university he represents are punished."

Penalties athletes face for accepting illegal payments include lost collegiate athletic eligibility and repayment of scholarship dollars to the university, Colafella said.

The team on which the athlete played loses the games it won during the player's illegality and the university loses its respectability, he said.

The proposed bills, Colafella continued, would prosecute any agent found violating

the bill with a one-year jail term and a maximum fine of \$10,000.

The bills are presently before the Senate's Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee, and Colafella said he hopes they will be brought up before the General Assembly adjourns in November.

Susan Shaniman, legal counselor for the Senate, said the bill may pass before adjournment, but could not say for sure. If the bill passes, it could go into effect as early as January of next year, she added.

Although Head Coach Joe Paterno agreed such a bill was necessary, he said it needs to be implemented in more states to be 100 percent effective.

"It certainly would be nice to have a bill that would protect our athletes from agents," Paterno said. "But the problem lies within all the states. It will have to go national for any real justice to be done."

Colafella said other states like Alabama and California require agents to be licensed, and he said he foresees the law's enactment nation-wide within a few years.

Athletic departments should, as a regular

practice, inform athletes of the dangers associated with illegal agents, Paterno said.

"Any time you're dealing with athletes who are considering going pro, it's the athletic department's duty to boost the confidence of the athletes and make them understand that some agents are dealing dishonestly," Paterno said. "If the kid's really frustrated though, he might jump at an offer to deal with one."

John Bove, administrative assistant and recruiting coordinator for the University's athletic department, said although he agrees some controls on agents are necessary, he is not sure of the best answer.

"We've discussed a proposal that would place an educational requirement on the agents," Bove said. "This would require the agent to take a test before receiving a license."

All agents should be required to register with the National Collegiate Athletic Association, he said. Some of the best and most widely known agents are not registered, he added.

The University's athletic department has established a three-person committee to advise athletes who are considering employing

agents, Bove said. The panel is composed of a lawyer and two business professionals, Bove said.

"The athletes are presented with an awful lot of money right away and they need experts to advise them on tax shelters and possible investments to protect their money," Bove said. He added that the lawyer is needed to handle technicalities.

"Committee members are there to help the athletes make decisions that are not important to the free agent," Bove said.

He said the committee's job is not to select the athletes' agents for them, but to provide guidance so they can make an educated choice.

The program was established for football players first and foremost, but all athletes can obtain help if approached by an agent.

Football players become aware of the committees services through a mandatory seminar held at the beginning of each year and one other time during the year, Bove said. Further communication with the committee may be arranged by individual athletes.

"If an athlete receives a letter from an agent he should contact us before he does

anything," Bove said. "We then research the agents to see if they are registered and to get background information on the kinds of success they've had in the past."

Tom Hovasse (senior-marketing), a member of the Lions basketball team, said he thinks the bill is needed because so many athletes have lost their eligibility.

"Athletes will be more aware of the problem if the bill is passed," Hovasse said, adding that he learned of illegal agents through the media.

Hovasse said he sees Pennsylvania as a starting spot for the bill.

"If it works here, other states can point to us and possibly propose the bill nationwide," Hovasse said. "I see us as a test trial."

Although Bruce Blake (senior-marketing), member of the Lion's basketball team, agrees that a bill to regulate agents is needed, he said he did not think legislation could effectively prevent under-the-table dealings.

"There's no foolproof way to stop illegal deals," Blake said. "It's impossible to stop everything that goes on."

Borough waste collection fees to rise

By **COLIN BARR**
Collegian Staff Writer

Apartment dwellers may face a rent increase next year because of the climbing cost of solid waste disposal, a State College borough official said yesterday.

State College Borough Finance Assistant John Marchek said waste collection fees in the borough will increase "substantially" during the next two years.

"There's going to be a rate increase," he said. "I know our fees will not be doubled this year, but there will be an increase."

Sherri Rutulo, president of the Organization for Town Independent Students, said renters could face higher costs because of the situation, but was unable to estimate the actual cost increase.

"Rent increases happen for a number of reasons," she said.

Rutulo said the garbage collection fee might cost individuals anywhere

from a few cents to a few dollars, but the fee would not be the sole reason for a rent increase.

A spokeswoman for A.W.&Sons Enterprises, 309 E. Beaver Ave., refused to comment on the grounds that the collection fee increase is only hypothetical at this point.

Marchek would not estimate any percentage increase in the collection fee because the figures his office has are only tentative. However, he had no problem explaining why the rates have increased recently.

"The transfer station costs have been going through the roof," he said.

Transfer station fees are the charges municipalities and private dumpers pay to the landfill operator for use of the landfill, Marchek said. He said State College hauls its own garbage, so the increase in garbage collection fees will be passed on to residential and commercial businesses equally according to the borough's cost.

Centre County Solid Waste Authori-

"The transfer station costs have been going through the roof."

—**JOHN MARCHEK**,
borough finance assistant

ty Executive Director Don Bachman said the transfer station fees have increased lately because of the state's new solid waste legislation, which is much more stringent than the old law.

Bachman said the new legislation is known as Act 101 and was passed on April 9, 1988. He said the act requires landfills to be safer as well as calling for a mandatory recycling fee to be added to the charge for each ton of garbage deposited in the landfill.

Marchek said the transfer station fees for State College have increased from \$19 per ton in 1987 to \$24.50 per ton this year.

Report: Centre County economy healthy

By **TIM O'SULLIVAN**
Collegian Staff Writer

The economies of Centre County and Pennsylvania continue to remain healthy and future growth is expected, recent economic reports indicate.

The Pennsylvania Business Survey's August report said Centre County "will remain one of the strongest (counties), in economic terms, throughout the entire commonwealth."

The survey attributes the stability to an increase in employment by 2,600 and a drop in the unemployment rate from 5.6 percent during the first half of 1987 to 5.4 percent for the same period this year.

The Pennsylvania economy as a whole is "encouraging," the survey said. While employment and job levels approach record levels, factory activity has been growing and spending on retail goods has been advancing. However, the survey claims that "building activity is not growing by any considerable degree."

William Anderson, the survey's editor, predicts that it is "very likely that the economy will remain relatively healthy." But, he added, the Centre County economy is heavily dependent upon national economic performance.

Anderson said while economists generally believe inflation will soon raise between one-half and 1 percent, it will not be enough to derail the economy. While Anderson said he is "a bit concerned" about the possibility of recession, he said, "Through the end of 1989 we should see some fairly positive growth, but beyond 1989 it is a fairly risky guess."

Ed Coulson, a University economics professor, said he sees the current state of the local economy as positive and not at all negative. He said recent signs indicate the economy is moving "sideways, not forward."

Coulson said he believes the State College economy will be less affected than other communities if the national economy worsens. He attributed this to the stability of the region's major employer — the University.

Anderson agreed, and said during the next downturn, Centre County, although dependent on national trends, will not be affected to the degree of the rest of the nation.

Brent Pasquinelli, Downtown Business Association president, said State College businesspeople have "a lot of faith in the economy." He describes the current economy as "good, but not extraordinary."

* PRE-LAW * PRE-LAW * PRE-LAW * PRE-LAW * PRE-LAW

PRE-LAW GRAM

10/20: SPEAKER • PAT LYNCH
Speaking On Education
And The Law
7:00p.m. 319 HUB

10/30 & 11/36
LSAT WORKSHOP

- sign-ups at above listed meeting.

0157

* PRE-LAW * PRE-LAW * PRE-LAW * PRE-LAW * PRE-LAW

The Society of Women Engineers

Will Be Holding A
General Meeting And
Time Management Workshop
On Thursday, October 20
At 8:00pm In 111 Boucke Bldg.

ATTENTION:

Graduating Seniors in Finance or Accounting...

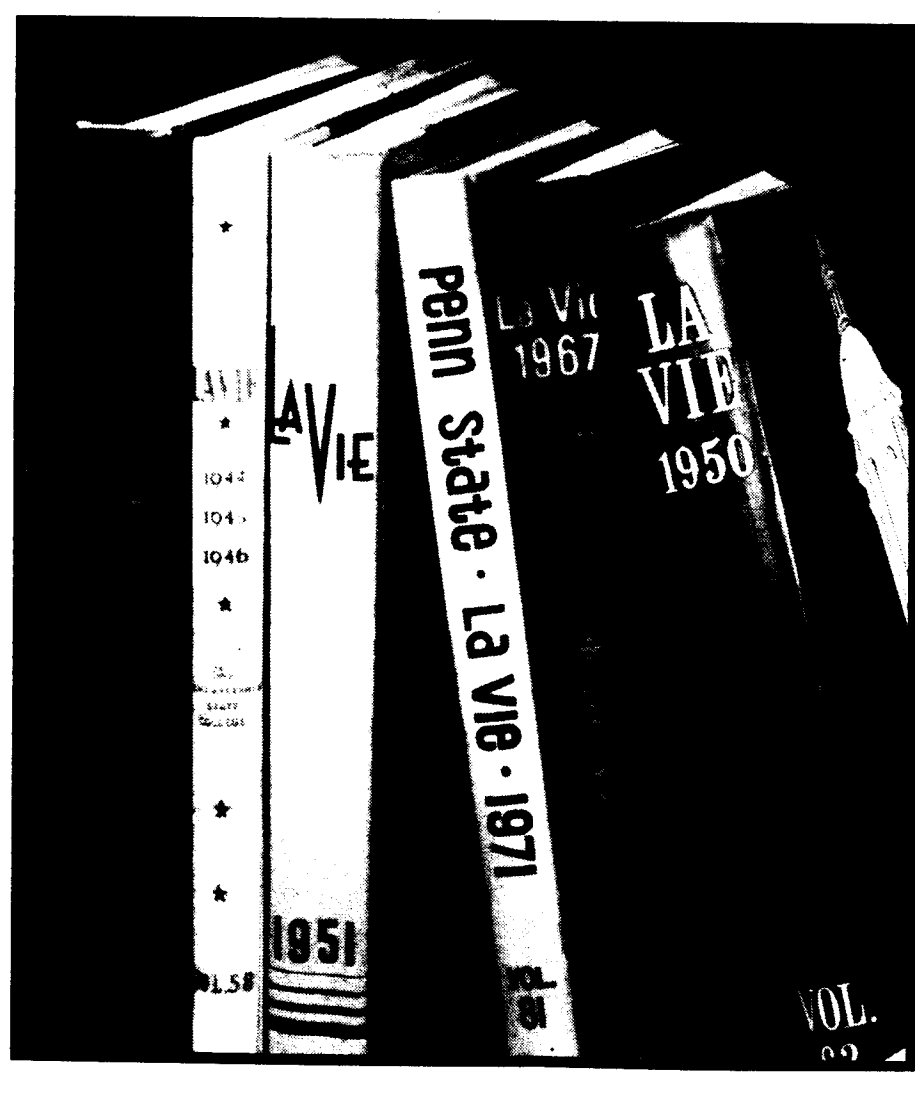
Financial Training Program Presentation

Thursday, October 20, 1988
Room #305 HUB
7:00 — 9:00 pm

One opportunity you won't want to miss

Drexel Burnham Lambert

SENIORS



Be a part of history with

LA VIE 89
189 • LANDMARKS IN EXCELLENCE • 189

La Vie 89-Your Penn State Yearbook-is celebrating 100 years of covering the Penn State Tradition. Get your Senior Portrait taken now and be a part of this historical centennial edition. Time is running out! Get your picture taken Today and go down in the books with La Vie 89!

This Friday is the FINAL DEADLINE to have your Senior Portrait taken!

Schedule your appointment NOW - There will be NO extensions
Call 865-2602 to stop in the La Vie office 209 HUB

GET THE PICTURE