

USG

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be seen with these issues within a year. "Let's take the hands-on-not-letting-up approach," Entenberg said.

Henry Ines (junior-finance and international business) and Brent Lapp (junior-speech communications and sociology) said they hope to restructure USG so that it does what it "has the potential to do."

Ines said their platform contains a detailed plan to redefine USG and attack realistic issues.

"If the students don't believe in USG," Ines said, "we will never get anything accomplished."

Their platform also addresses issues, such as the development of better communications between senators and representatives and their constituents and a lobbying task force to present student concerns to legislators.

Ines is the training director for USG Legal Affairs and served before on a USG Elections Court.

Josh Pechter (junior-American studies) and Aaron Matusick (junior-American studies) said the primary concern of their platform is the improving of student parking.

Pechter said his experience on the park-

"By definition, USG is dysfunctional."

— Michelle Thaxton
junior-speech communications

Matusick and Pechter are both members of the USG Senate.

Pechter's eligibility for candidacy, is questioned, however. He was one of the senators ruled ineligible to run for president or vice president because he violated the elections code.

Michelle Thaxton (junior-speech communications) and Paul Danczyk (junior-elementary and kindergarten education) said they will focus on redefining USG along with working for more open administrator-student relations and lobbying for more funds for computer labs.

Thaxton said their platform is con-

cerned with clearly defining the positions and responsibilities within USG's infrastructure.

"By definition, USG is dysfunctional," she said.

Thaxton said improving administrator-student relations will be a creative effort.

"It's a two-way street," Thaxton said. "Sometimes the student reaches out and there's no one reaching back."

Thaxton is the director of women's affairs within USG and the Panhellenic Council vice president of programming. Danczyk is a USG Supreme Court associate justice.

TAX

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Rudy said there is support for the increase in the state Senate but it might meet with opposition in the House.

While the hike is being debated in Harrisburg, it is doubtful the extra 6½ cents per gallon will change driving habits.

Brian Balonick (freshman-forestry) said he will continue to purchase about the same amount of gas even if the tax passes through the legislature.

"You always hate to pay more but it probably will not affect me," he said. "I don't think it will make that big of a difference for most people."

Balonick's reaction is fairly typical when gas taxes go up, said

"I don't think (the tax) will make that big of a difference for most people."
— Brian Balonick
freshman-forestry

Robert Crum, associate professor of accounting.

"Most people see driving as a necessity or the expense will not be large enough to change their habits," he said.

Gas stations may take a hit from the tax even if consumers do not start thumbing it, Crum said. Peo-

ple may just cross state borders to gas up, he said.

"If all of a sudden we raise our gas taxes and ours are higher than our surrounding states, then all the gas stations on our borders will go out of business," he said.

Gas stations along the Ohio border with West Virginia now face this problem, Crum said.

"I've noticed the new stations tend to be built in whatever state happens to have the lower tax at the moment," he said.

Reeves said such a phenomenon is unlikely.

"When I travel to other states I am struck by how much more expensive gas is," he said. "I was on Long Island last week and spent a buck thirty-five on regular."

TOMMY

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teacher in the Bronx and fan of The Who since 1975, said the story of Tommy parallels the life of Baba, who was believed by his followers to be the latest of many "God incarnations" among others such as Jesus, Zarathustra and Moses.

Selk said that in 1925 Baba took a vow of silence and spent the rest of his life in silence communicating by means of an alphabet board and later by hand signals.

"You will notice that Tommy, like Baba, spends most of his life silent," Selk said. "Once he regains his faculties, he becomes a spiritual master, leading a religious cult. His downfall comes when his

followers realize that cutting themselves off from the real world merely adds to their problems, rather than solving them."

Ron Crandall, a research programmer at the University's Population Research Institute and longtime fan of The Who, agreed that Tommy is related to religion, citing Townshend's devotion to Baba.

"The religious message behind Tommy is about following false idols and religious leaders, which is what Tommy becomes as the story progresses," Crandall said.

He added that young Tommy was so shocked by witnessing the murder of his mother's lover by his father, that he becomes deaf, dumb and blind.

"His parents try taking him to various psychiatrists, faith healers and even a prostitute (the Acid Queen) to no avail. He becomes even more traumatized after being abused by his Uncle Ernie."

Although Tommy seems to be oblivious to the world around him, he excels in playing pinball and soon becomes a pop icon with a large following of fans, including what are known as groupies, Crandall added.

"Tommy is released from his catatonic state when he sees himself in a mirror and smashes it.

"Realizing that he is now a star, Tommy, in fine capitalist fashion, proceeds to exploit his fame," he said.

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