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House votes delay of Ford's \$3 oil fee

oted yesterday to block for 90 days President Ford's \$3 per barrel fee on mported oil.

Ford, anticipating eventual Congressional passage of the delay in his price-raising fee, began a campaign to assure enough votes to sustain a veto. The vote was 309 to 114, 27 votes more than needed to override a veto.

The delay legislation now goes to the Senate where Finance Committee Chairman Russell Long, D-La., is opposed to it and where a filibuster against it is probable. Eventual passage is likely, however.

Democrats-except for some oil-state members-supported the delay while most Republicans opposed it. House GOP leader John Rhodes, in what appeared to be a veiled threat, told his Republican colleagues, "This is a very important vote...for those of us on this side of the aisle to shape up.'

After the vote, White House press aide Ron Nessen said "the President is encouraged. He thinks he has come a long way by the size of the vote and will continue his talks with members of Congress" to win support for his

There is every indication Ford considers this issue one of the most important showdowns of his presidency.

Administration officials acknowledge that price increases brought about by the fee hikes probably will add two percentage points to the rate of inflation, now about 12 per cent. The higher petroleum costs-4 cents per gallon or

recovery at "breakneck speed."

years of losing ground.

following the recovery.

Simon says slow down

By UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

in 1976, a spokesman said yesterday. But at the same time,

Treasury Secretary William E. Simon warned against a

In the earlier projections for 1976, White House economists

A 4.8 per cent increase in the Gross National Product—the

government's measurement of total output of goods and

services—is considered by most economists to be a sluggish

rate of growth for a recessionary recovery period.
Historically, the GNP has grown by 7 or 8 per cent following

Simon told Congress' Joint Economic Committee that the

recovery must be slow to prevent skyrocketing inflation

period of years to ensure that inflation can be squeezed out

Pump priming of the economy at "breakneck speed without

But White House Press Secretary Ron Nessen, in explaining

regard to the inflationary consequences" would be the wrong

Ford's resolve to seek re-election in 1976, used terms in-

dicating Ford believes the recovery will move at a faster rate

said the nation's economy would grow 4.8 per cent after two

President Ford expects the economy to be growing rapidly

more—will ripple through the economy, Democrats charge, raising prices of many products and services such as transportation as well as price hikes at the gas pump.

But Ford feels that higher petroleum prices are necessary to force con-servation and lessen U.S. dependence on imported oil.

Rep. Al Ullman, D-Ore., chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, who tried unsuccessfully to reach a compromise with Ford, said Congress needs the 90-day delay to work out its

own energy program.
"It is our intention to move more rapidly perhaps than we have ever moved before," Ullman told the House, promising to begin work on energy taxes immediately after a pending tax

reduction bill. The first \$1 of Ford's \$3 per barrel import fee went into effect Saturday, but its effects will not be felt at the gas pump until the end of the month when fee payment become due.

Additional \$1 stepups are due March 1 and April 1, meaning that the full resulting price increase would be in effect during this summer's driving

The administration estimates the fee would cause only about a 4 cents per gallon increase in petroleum products, but Congressional staff members say the figure will be closer to 10 cents.

Rep. Al Ullman, D-Ore., chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, said Ford's fee would create a "ripple of unrelated legislation s inflation throughout the economy." The to a debt ceiling bill.

Ford: Economy to grow

high rate," Nessen said.

cent in 1976 to be slow.

In other developments:

during last winter's energy crisis.

mercial banks.

where it is now-7.5 million persons.

Ways and Means Committee earlier approved the 90-day delay with Democrats insisting they needed the extra time to develop an energy program of their own.

With Congressional passage of the delay almost certain, both sides have been marshaling votes for the upcoming veto override vote.

Ford met with 100 Republican Congressmen Tuesday night and 100 Democratic Congressmen for breakfast yesterday morning. A White House spokesman said Ford felt he had picked up a substantial number of votes, enough to override a veto.

Democrats in Congress, in an effort to avoid inevitable charges of political blackmail from Ford, decided to reverse the earlier Ways and Means Committee decision to attach the oil import fee delay to a bill increasing the national debt ceiling from \$495 billion to \$531 billion through June 30.

The original strategy was to make the bill harder for Ford to veto, but it became obvious that Ford would veto the bill anyway and then use the Congressional action as a political club.

The Rules Committee voted unanimously Tuesday to separate the two measures and send them to the floor as two different bills.

An oil import bill standing alone also was considered more likely to weather a veto override vote. Many members of Congress would have voted against a combined bill on the principle that no unrelated legislation should be attached

unemployment to be down and employment to be going up.

The gross national product is expected to be rising at a very

Nessen did not explain what growth rate the White House considers "a very high rate," but most economists consider

the administration's earlier projected GNP growth of 4.8 per

An increase in the GNP would add about 2 million jobs to the

economy but the increase almost would be canceled out by an

increase in the labor force, leaving unemployment at about

Prices on the New York Stock Exchange rose in early trading yesterday in reaction to the Federal Reserve Bank's

lowering of the interest rate it charges for loans to com-

make more credit available at cheaper prices to help

The lower rate was viewed as a sign the FED intends to

-General Motors' open-ended layoffs climbed to 121,000

workers by the end of January, 28,000 more than previously

announced. The new GM figure pushed indefinite layoffs in the

auto industry to 206,750 workers—one-third of the industry's

blue collars and almost 100,000 more than were off the job

-American Motors, the smallest auto company, said it will

not pay a dividend to stockholders because of the slump. AMC

said Monday it lost \$5.6 million in the last three months of 1974.

for his signature.

the food stamp program.

the case. Wible said.

Ford to veto the bill when it reaches him

At the White House, press secretary

Ron Nessen declined to predict whether

Ford would veto the measure but said

the President is still firmly committed to

reducing federal expenditures such as







You can be sure . . .

BETTY FURNESS told a Schwab audience last night that she has come a long way from doing Westinghouse commercials. Furness, now a consumer advocate, spoke of the problems facing today's

Furness urges consumers to work for more change

By LEAH ROZEN

Collegian Staff Writer
Eight years ago, when Betty Furness
was appointed by President Lyndon
Johnson to head his division on consumer affairs, "People didn't even realize they were consumers, much less having affairs.

All of this changed, she told an audience of about 350 at her discussion last night in Schwab of the problems facing today's consumers.

Furness, whose talk was sponsored by Colloquy and the Organization of Town Independent Students, said that eight years ago consumers were concerned with "appliances that didn't run and

pantyhose that did." Worries like those now have been replaced by a larger one—inflation, Furness said. "Inflation has cost us a lot of money," she said.

She said that besides the actual money consumers have lost to inflation, there have been "hidden costs" such as "freedom in the market place, freedom of movement and the freedom to

people's dreams are now limited to hopes of just holding on," she

"Inflation and recession are a very unhappy combination," Furness said, labeling President Ford's economic

Furness talked about saving energy, the right thing." both for the individual consumer and for industry. She said it was necessary to save energy so that "we are not dependent on foreign oil and to cut ex-

Furness said the individual consumer could turn a light bulb off. But if after turning off his lightbulb the consumer realizes that New York City's World Trade Center has only one light switch for every floor and that Consolidated Edison has special low rates for the building, "then I gotta tell you, you're tempted to turn your light back on," she

But you can't afford to." There is no way, as I see it, that the

consumer can individually turn around the energy problem," Furness said. "To do our part, we want full insurance that government and industry will turn off their light bulbs too.

her last television commercials for

American public to convert to "total electric living." She said her message had moved from that slogan to "watch

Besides the idea of saving money and

energy by cutting down on electrical use,

Furness discussed the possibilities for recycling and mass transit. "Recycling is, by large, not as suc-cessful as it could and should be," Furness said. "And the reason for that is

that industry doesn't want it. "Tax laws favor producers of raw

supplies, and shipping rates also cost more for recycled materials." Furness said the government would have to interfere to get recycling moving. "If government and industry do

their part, we'll certainly do ours," she "Mass transit is a fine idea," she said.
'Why isn't there more and why isn't

what we've got better? "Because of the Highway Trust Fund," she replied. "We've got all these highways, so we get all these beautiful cars so we get more highways.

"The consumer cannot build mass transit. Industry can with prodding from the government.'

Furness said she had always been taught in school that "business is in business to serve the consumer."

She no longer believes that, she said. 'Business is in business to stay in "He's telling you that you can buy a car but not to drive it," she said.

"He's telling you that you can buy a business and they must be competitive. Competition means they don't always do always do

> "Business can pay people to protect them at every government level" with lawyers, lobbyists and trade associations, she said. "Consumer advocates can't afford these lawyers so it is harder to get his or her voice heard.

> "We have been fighting for a national consumer protection agency for five years now. Not a vast office, just a very simple plan," Furness said.

"People in this office would represent the consumer when decisions are being made that affect them by federal regulatory agencies," she said.

Such an agency would have been useful when the Coca-Cola manufacturers got the government to agree that they did not have to list all of their ingredients on their labels, including caffeine, she said.

"Cola is a code word for caffeine," heir light bulbs too."

Furness said, "because they knew damned well that a mother who wouldn't give her kid a cup of coffee wouldn't give Westinghouse had her urging the him Coke if it said it had caffeine.

Furness is working for WNBC-TV in New York City as a consumer-affairs reporter. During the two-hour daily broadcasts, she does two five-minute segments. In one, she answers letters sent to her with consumer complaints (she gets 1,000 a week). In the second segment, she goes out into the city to investigate complaints.

"I am allowed, within the context of the news program, to say whatever I want to," she said. "I'll start out with 'Bank Americard has done it again,' and then I explain what they've done again."

Boycotting products can be an effective method for consumers. Furness said. She urged the audience, if it intended to boycott a product, to "write and say goodbye. I urge you to write to its maker. If enough people do that, he'll understand."

The best thing about the 1973 meat boycott was "the women who came out of it. They were marvelous," Furness said.

The most valuable lesson learned in the meat boycott was that, "If you want to affect the price of an industry, you've got to learn about the industry," she

About the recent rise in sugar prices. Furness said, "People have stopped buying sugar. The prices won't go down, but at least people aren't spending their money on it."

Consumers must organize, Furness said. "I urge you, as strongly as I can urge you to do anything, to get that PIRG (Public Interest Research Group)

group started here. Nothing could be more powerful," she said. Consumer affairs has a start with required ingredient labels, clothing

labels and unit pricing, Furness said. Furness said consumers should begin tocusing on issues like antitrust suits and

price fixing. "We must not abandon consumer protection under the guise of saving money," she said. "The rich are spend-

ing money as if there's no tomorrow The middle class is tast becoming the lower class and families are slippiig

under the poverty line quickly. She said she expects prices will continue to rise and people will be "working

for necessities. "I can't tell you what's going to

happen," Furness said. During the question-and-answer

period, Furness was asked what kind of car she drives "A Mercedes because I'm rich and I'm

a snob," she shot back quickly.

Ross appeals to Oswald

Collegian Staff Writer

Undergraduate Student Government Senator Bob year's suspension Ross Tuesday appealed to University President John W. Oswald for review of Ross's four-term suspension. The written appeal was submitted to the Office of Conduct Standards Tuesday, according to secretary

will have an unlimited amount of time in which to review the case, Wible said. The written appeal was submitted to the Office of Conduct Standards Tuesday, according to secretary Sue Wible, delivery to Oswald yesterday. Oswald will have an unlimited amount of time in which to review

Sue Wible, for delivery to Oswald yesterday. Oswald

The five-page appeal charged the University disciplinary system with 14 violations of Ross's rights. The appeal said Ross was unjustly summarily suspended after a Jan. 9 incident at Shields with Col. (ret.) Elwood Wagner, records officer. Ross was not an immediate threat to the University community, the appeal said, although the University later charged him with simple assault, damage to University property

and disorderly conduct. The appeal also said Ross's civil rights were violated when Thelma Price, assistant vice president for student affairs, dismissed him from his position as a Community Awareness aide before a hearing.

The defense was denied access to a copy of the University Disciplinary Systems Manual, the appeal said, and Ross was unable to present a complete defense at his Jan. 16 hearing before a Student Conduct Standards Board

The board found him guilty of physical abuse and damage to University property, and recommended the The appeal said a graduate student shown to be

biased was allowed to continue to sit on an Appeals Board which reviewed Ross's case Jan. 29. The Appeals Board upheld the decisions of the Standards

The appeal said Ross's constitutional rights were infringed upon by his being forced to testify at two University hearings before his criminal hearing on

It said Wagner was given partial treatment by the University when Ross filed assault charges against

No University action was taken against Wagner. Charges against Wagner were dismissed Friday in a preliminary hearing before District Magistrate Clifford Yorks. Ross was bound over on \$1,000 bail already posted in a separate hearing.

The appeal also said some prosecution witnesses' statements were fabricated and conflicting. It said the atmospheres of both University hearings were not conducive to objectivity and frustrated the defense when it challenged the credibility of witness

The appeal cited Donald Suit, director of the Office of Conduct Standards, as having "utter contempt for 'fair play' justice," and at times acting as an unappointed member of both hearing boards.

The appeal said both boards desired to punish Ross for striking a white individual, regardless of whether Wagner had provoked Ross.

"In essence, I believe that perhaps both Mr. Wagner and myself were guilty of blatant errors in judgment. However, my error has endangered my future, while the proven errors of Mr. Wagner have cost him only some temporary physical discomfort," Ross said in the

The appeal said Ross was forced to withdraw his three-year-old son from school because of financial difficulty due to legal expenses and loss of his job and educational aid. The appeal said the financial burden on Ross's wife may be severely trying upon their marriage in the long run.

The appeal said Ross would like to meet with Oswald to discuss Ross's side of the story. Oswald has the

option of calling Ross to testify. Ross said he and four of his friends composed the

appeal. "I feel that the appeal is well-written," he said. "A lot of time and research went into it." A Religious Studies 5 class delivered a class letter,

along with 15 personal letters, to Oswald yesterday to express their concern for Ross's situation. 'We are asking for a re-evaluation of the

proceedings and judgment against Ross and implore you to exercise your prerogative in seeing that justice is tempered with mercy," the class letter read.

The entire class delivered the letters to Oswald's

office and copies of the class letter were mailed to Ross, Suit and Wagner. Roslyn Glazerman, assistant professor of religious

studies, said her students are studying the nature of man. She said the Ross case seemed relevant to class material.

"He expects the inflation rate to come down considerably, Senate approves, 76 to 8

path to follow and would not work. Simon said

Food stamp price hike blocked yesterday gave final Congressional approval to a bill blocking President Ford's attempt to raise food stamp

The vote was 76 to 8. The Senate vote indicated ('ongressional sentiment was running strongly against attempts to economize by cutting welfare services, and any presidential veto seemed sure to be overridden. The House approved the

prices at least until the end of the year.

same bill Tuesday by a vote of 374 to 39. Even such conservative senators as James B. Allen, D-Ala., and Milton R. Young, R-N.D., supported the bill after it was disclosed that Alabama's Gov. George C. Wallace had appealed for quick passage. Allen said Ford's attempt to save money by slashing the stamp benefits would "gouge more than \$600 million out of needy food stamp recipients.'

Moving swiftly to head off Ford's food stamp order before it could take effect, the Senate passed the measure and sent it to the White House hours after it was approved 11 to 2 in the Agriculture Committee

Administration sources said Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz would likely advise Ford to sign the bill—thus giving up one of his first attempts to reduce federal spending—but White House spokesman declined to predict what Ford would do.

A White House aide said later yesterday that Ford was likely to sign the bill in view of the overwhelming majorities by which it cleared both houses. The aide cautioned however that Ford had not personally given any "firm signal" of his plans for the bill.

This was the first bill to clear the newly convened 94th Congress and it seemed to set the tone for confrontation between the Congress and the White House on key economic issues.

The bill blocks Ford's order increasing

food stamp prices, effective March 1, to 30 per cent of each participating family's adjusted net income

It forbids any such increase through Dec. 31, meaning families will continue to pay an average of 23 per cent of income for their stamp allotments. On the current sliding scale, some families pay only 5 per cent and none pay more than 30 per cent.

An estimated 17 million Americans-8 per cent of the population-now use the stamps to help offset the impact of the

By ordering the freeze, the bill gives Congress time to consider long-term changes in the program as part of a pending omnibus farm-food bill. The Senate adopted a separate resolution ordering Butz to present by June 30 his recommendations for legislation to tighten loopholes and prevent abuses in

the stamp program. Ford justified the price hike as a costcutting measure to help stem inflation, saying it could save the government an

estimated \$650 million a year.
In addition to approving the House bill, the Agriculture Committee also unanimously approved a resolution calling for study of abuses in the stamp program and possible later legislation to

crack down on chiselers. Senator George S. McGovern, D-S.D., said speedy action on the main bill was vital because state agencies which administer the stamp program are nearing their deadlines for making administrative changes necessary to carry out Ford's order.

McGovern indicated he did not expect

Weather

Periods of light snow today. High 28. Occasional snow flurries, colder tonight and tomorrow. Low 21. High 24.