

Six-day final exams to begin fall 1976

By BRENDA TURNER
Collegian Staff Writer

Despite student protests, the six-day final examination period will definitely go into effect Fall Term 1976, according to Academic Assembly acting President Bob Kelso.

Kelso and three other student representatives presented their own opinions and the results of an Academic Assembly survey to University President John W. Oswald and other administrators in an attempt to shorten the exam period.

The 197 students in the survey were unanimously against the implementation of the longer exam period. Kelso said 84 per cent of these students will be enrolled when the six-day examination period goes into effect.

Comments about the examination period were bitter, he said. Students called it ridiculous, ill-timed, and "term system sabotage." Others said it presents an unnecessary cost, damages students on the summer job market or is

unjustifiable academically.

Kelso said he, Undergraduate Student Government President Joe Seuffer, USG Vice President Leo Lachcik and Student Trustee Dion Stewart "were very pleased with the meeting and discussion. It was the first time faculty, President Oswald and student representatives sat down together."

"The problem we're running into is that the only way we can test the feasibility of the six-day exam period is to actually do it," Kelso said.

The six-day examination period will be reviewed by Oswald before he decides upon the 1977 calendar, Kelso said. But, he added, if a semester system is chosen, the six-day final exam period will undoubtedly be attached.

"The proper place for discussion is on the floor of the Faculty Senate," Kelso said. The six-day final examination period began as a Faculty Senate recommendation requiring most courses to give exams during the final period. He said that since the recommendation was

passed, on March 4, during a term break, only one of the ten student members were present.

The repeal of the recommendation by the Faculty Senate is the only avenue for revision of the exam period, Kelso said. This is impossible to accomplish in time to stop the six-day period in 1976, he added.

Oswald's only responsibility in the matter, Kelso said, was to schedule the time needed by the additional exams. Faculty Senate has final word upon the academic policy of the University, he said.

The Faculty Senate's reason for requiring most courses to give examinations during the examination was "improved integration in the courses," Kelso said.



Little Niagara YESTERDAY'S HEAVY RAINS swelled even small streams, like this mini-waterfall near Boalsburg.

Foreign aid bill offered by Ford

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Ford asked Congress yesterday to authorize \$1.35 billion for basic foreign aid programs in the fiscal year beginning July 1. He said additional funding would be sought for the Middle East and for most military aid programs.

"This proposal reflects both current realities and continuing uncertainties," Ford said, specifically referring to Indochina and the Middle East.

In a letter accompanying the proposal, Ford told Congressional leaders he was holding off on specific requests for the Middle East until completion of his policy review of "an area which has been wracked by war and even now knows only an uneasy peace."

Ford also asked for "speedy action" on a separate \$507 million bill for assistance for Indochinese refugees, a bill that Congress has almost completed. He referred to the Communist takeovers in Indochina by saying "recent events have had a profound impact on the assumptions" underlying the fiscal 1976 budget submitted in February.

Ford's letter made no mention of any plans to seek more aid for Indochina.

He said that "because of the uncertainties caused by changing events" his proposal did not include specific amounts for most military aid. He said he would make such proposals as soon as possible.

An administration official said Ford hoped to fill in the gaps within a month.

The new budget law required the administration to submit its foreign aid spending plans by May 15.

The bill provided \$1.35 for fiscal 1976 and \$1.30 billion for fiscal 1977.

The biggest single item was \$534.5 million for next year and \$635 million for the following fiscal year to alleviate worldwide hunger and malnutrition.

In the current fiscal year which ends June 30, Congress authorized a total of \$2.8 billion in foreign aid. Of this amount, \$1 billion was earmarked for South Vietnam alone, with \$250 million for Egypt and \$339 million for Israel.

Ford's new proposal included such basic programs as family planning, \$180.5 million for fiscal 1976; illiteracy, \$71 million; economic and social development \$45.3 million and voluntary contributions to international development organizations, \$189.5 million.

The President asked for quick consideration and approval of his proposals

Choppers lift marines from island

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. helicopters whirred through darkness pierced by a torrent of small-arms fire yesterday and plucked nearly 200 Marines from Tang island to end an assault which freed an American merchant ship and crew from Cambodian captors.

Pentagon officials said preliminary reports showed 2 American dead and 14 missing. Precise figures were unavailable on the wounded, but sources said several were seriously hurt and being treated aboard Navy ships.

One Marine and one Air Force man were killed, the sources said. Those unaccounted for were eight Marines and six Air Force helicopter crewmen.

No update on the casualty report was likely before today the Pentagon said.

The Marines were lifted from Koh Tang to the aircraft carrier Coral Sea, which then stood 10 miles away from the tiny, rocky island in the Gulf of Thailand off Cambodia.

The disengagement under fire ended a three-day confrontation in which the fledgling Khmer Rouge government lost its challenge to the will of the United States, humbled so recently by defeats of its Southeast Asian allies.

Military officials said that "intermittent and heavy" fire of Communist troops kept the U.S. rescue force pinned for hours after the recovery of the container ship Mayaguez and its 39-man crew. Finally, under cover of dark and a protective barrage from U.S. planes and two destroyers, the choppers lifted out the Leathernecks.

The Mayaguez, meanwhile, steamed toward Singapore where, according to its owners, its cargo will be opened "to the world" as a gesture to dispel Cambodia's charges that it was a military spy ship. Shortly after the Marines had charged onto Koh Tang and

boarded the Mayaguez—only to find it empty—the entire crew was spotted, waving white flags, aboard a Thai fishing vessel. The U.S. destroyer Wilson took the 39 Americans aboard and returned them to their ship.

Just where they had been held before the attack was not clear. Their Cambodian captors apparently had forced the five Thais on the fishing boat to take them aboard, then put out to sea.

Once the Mayaguez was well under way, her captain radioed President Ford: "Dear Mr. President, the captain and officers and crew of the SS Mayaguez thank you and all the brave military forces who are fighting and dying to save our lives."

Details of the final maneuvers of the 13-hour assault, remained sketchy yesterday, hours after the 9:10 a.m. EDT takeoff of the last helicopter from the island. No aircraft were reported lost in the evacuation, though a Pentagon spokesman said three Air Force helicopters were shot down and two others damaged in the landing Wednesday.

The operation was hailed as a success from both administration and congressional quarters, though it had taken several bizarre—and yet unexplained—turns, and strained already troubled U.S. relations with Thailand, from which the landing was staged.

"The nation was faced with a challenge and it met that challenge," said Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman John Sparkman, D-Ala. "We can all be grateful that the crew of the Mayaguez has been returned to safety, that the ship is now back on course, and that the right of free and peaceful passage of vessels on the high seas has been asserted."

"At the same time, we grieve at the pain, the suffering and the loss of life of

those brave Americans who fought to secure the Mayaguez."

As the nation still awaited official word on the fate of the 14 servicemen reported missing, the State Department announced that some 800 Marines who stayed behind at a U.S. base in Thailand would be flown out of that country "as soon as possible."

The Thai government had demanded that the entire Marine force, including those who actually participated in the assault, be removed by yesterday.

State Department press officer Robert Funseth reasserted the administration's position that the seizure of the unarmed Mayaguez had been patently illegal.

The 39 crewmen of the Mayaguez were yielded by the Cambodians on Koh Tang during a reported lull in the fighting after Marines stormed aboard the empty ship and established positions on the island.

On the Cambodian mainland, meanwhile, a Khmer Rouge radio broadcast said the ship and crew would be freed, but did not acknowledge that Marines were already on Koh Tang.

Just why the shooting resumed after the crew had been freed was still a riddle yesterday. President Ford had made it clear when the landing was announced publicly Wednesday night that the Marines would disengage upon recovery of the crew.

Before the assault, U.S. warplanes sank three Cambodian patrol boats and damaged four others when the craft attempted to sail toward the island.

Pre-emptive bombing struck a mainland airfield, where, according to presidential press secretary Ron Nessen, 14 aircraft, amphibious equipment and about 2,400 Cambodian troops were stationed.

Nessen characterized the U.S. actions as having employed the minimum force necessary. He said President Ford believed they were directly responsible for the Cambodians' decision to release the Mayaguez crew.

But "obviously, we have no way of knowing the motives of the Cambodians," he added at a midday briefing.

Nessen disclosed that an earlier diplomatic communication demanding the release had been returned without acknowledgement through the Chinese liaison office in Washington. The press secretary quoted Ford as telling congressional leaders Wednesday: "I would have never forgiven myself" had

the Marines dispatched to Koh Tang been attacked by Cambodian troops from the mainland, thus, his decision to bomb.

At the Capitol, few voices, expressed even the slightest criticism of the operation. Sen. George S. McGovern, D-S.D., said he thought it "precipitous," but added: "It worked and I'm glad it did."

Senate Democratic Whip Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia said "The President's stock has certainly gone up."

The Mayaguez, owned by Sea-Land Services, Inc., of Menlo Park, N.J., was captured by Cambodian gunboats Monday night. Though the precise position of the ship has not been definitely established, a company spokesman said its course did not bring it within 70 miles of Cambodian territory.

Cambodia has claimed it entered her territorial waters on a spying mission with military equipment aboard.

Sea-Land board director Michael McEvoy said Thursday that "when the ship gets to Singapore in about two days, the world will see this ship, its cargo and its men. They will see that Sea-Land and none of its employees were involved in spying activities."

Along with commercial cargo, he said, the ship is carrying a number of military replacement parts, military mail and food and liquor for military commissaries and GI clubs.

The State Department has sidestepped the question of whether the Mayaguez was in waters claimed by Cambodia at the time of the seizure.

But a spokesman reiterated yesterday: "The question is not what waters are claimed by others. By international law the vessel was using a shipping channel and should not have been seized."

Air Force Secretary John L. McLucas echoed that stance at an Armed Forces Day luncheon, but added he thought American ships should be more careful about where they go in the future. "I think I'd make a slight detour," he said.

Weather

Occasional showers into tonight. High today 65. Low 52. Variably cloudy, scattered showers possible Saturday and Sunday. Highs 68 to 74.



Photo by Randy J. Woodbury

Press conference

ABOUT 20 STUDENT LEADERS last night held a press conference about a letter demanding the resignation of University President John W. Oswald. In the picture left to right are: Sue Douglass, Hetzel Union Board president; Sam Malizia, Association of Residence Hall Students president; Joe Seuffer, Undergraduate Student Government president; Al Leard, USG Senate president pro tempore; Leslie Evans, Academic Assembly; Joanie McCarthy, Pennsylvania Student Lobby secretary; Pete Hladish, Students for PennPIRG; Leo Lachcik, USG vice president; Joe Harteis, USG senator; and Mary Gitschier, Panhellenic Council president.

Students alter resignation request

By LAURIE PEACHER
Collegian Staff Writer

Thirty-two student leaders who signed the Oswald resignation letter this week have slightly modified their request, now asking "a change in attitude" from the administration, with resignation as an "ultimate" resort.

The letter "was a very dramatic action," Undergraduate Student Government President Joe Seuffer said at a press conference last night. "It was the ultimate thing we could have called for."

"Our action represents a real concern—a concern that must be met," student spokesman Joanie McCarthy said. "The priorities and issues must not be hidden by what is considered to be a rash act."

"We realize how difficult it is to communicate and work with the administration," McCarthy said. "We discussed the options. This (letter) is the individual and personal opinion, mindful of its impact, that we freely chose to express."

McCarthy said the group acted in a responsible manner and would work for positive change and a "period of growth and end of the stagnation" of the University.

The average student does not deal with Oswald and Murphy, she said. "We can't represent the students well unless we have communication."

Seuffer said students would be willing to cooperate with the administration in solving the communications problem as long as the administration also is willing. "It's a two-way street," he said.

"We hope it can be done without resignation," he said.

"In the beginning we were shooting for resignation," said Doug Ford who wrote the letter. "If they (the administration) are willing to cooperate, we're willing to do the same."

"We've made a lot of people think," he continued. One of the major problems, Ford said, like that of very poor student relationships with Vice President for Student Affairs Raymond O. Murphy, may have been solved by the students' action.

"Murphy has lost total touch with the students," he said.

Ford said they asked for Oswald's and not Murphy's resignation because Oswald is "responsible for the actions of all his subordinates."

McCarthy discussed many points in the original letter, explaining why their positions on PennPIRG, the cancellation of a USG meeting with Oswald, and specifically detailing their charges of University lavish spending.

Unfortunately, she said, the problem is "the unwillingness of knowledgeable people to testify." Too

many fear losing their jobs, she said, making it difficult to get the accurate story of University spending.

But to many students, the action taken by the 32 does not represent them. W.T. Williams, presidential candidate in the recent USG elections, said many students felt they should have been consulted beforehand on a "subject of such great importance."

"This was the most crucial thing that could have happened to student welfare, and it occurred without any (student) consultation," he said.

"How can they (the student leaders) work for Dr. Oswald when they call for his resignation?" he asked. "How can Joe Seuffer stand on both sides of the fence?"

Larry Meigs, one of the organizers of last week's tuition rally, said he considered the letter a "very thoughtless approach" and wondered why they chose to use the "ultimate weapon" so soon. "It's our duty to back those guys out," he said in referring to helping those who had signed the letter.

USG Senator Dale Ginsberg said he spoke with Oswald after the letter was made public. Ginsberg said Oswald told him he was very disappointed that Seuffer did not come to him before the letter was written to personally discuss the problem.

Ginsberg said he spoke with Board of Trustees Chairman Michael Baker and Oswald, and believed they were both willing to work with the students.

Reminder

This is the last issue of The Daily Collegian for this term. We will resume publishing June 9.

New U.S. relations offered by S. Viets

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The new South Vietnamese government offered yesterday to open diplomatic relations with the United States. In neighboring Laos, three Americans were held under the threat of death by anti-American students.

In Saigon, the Provisional Revolutionary Government opened a three-day victory celebration with an offer to establish relations with all countries—including the United States—"provided those countries respect the sovereignty of our country and will not interfere in our internal affairs."

South Vietnam also said it sent a diplomatic note to the United States saying that Algeria will take over the South Vietnamese embassy in Washington and will represent Saigon.

In Washington, State Department officials acknowledged receipt of the note and said it was under study. But there was no immediate U.S. comment on the offer to reopen diplomatic ties.

The U.S. Embassy in Saigon was closed April 29, the day before Communist troops entered the city. The United States has never recognized the Provisional Revolutionary Government.

Thailand, meanwhile, protested anew the U.S. use of its territory to launch a military operation earlier in the day to free the American cargo ship Mayaguez and her crew, held captive since Monday

by Cambodians. The last of nearly 200 U.S. Marines involved in the recovery action were lifted by helicopter to an aircraft carrier after weathering more than 14 hours of heavy, intermittent Khmer Rouge fire on a heavily jungled Cambodian island in the Gulf of Thailand.

Thailand protested what it called unauthorized use of its bases by the United States for the Mayaguez rescue and Peking and Hanoi called the U.S. actions piracy.

In Laos, student demonstrators threatened to kill their hostages unless the Laotian coalition government, increasingly dominated by the Communists, removes alleged corrupt officials and right-wing reactionaries from power, diplomatic sources said.

Government officials flew from Vientiane, the capital, to Savannakhet, in southern Laos, to try to negotiate the release of the Americans, who were seized there Wednesday.

The U.S. Embassy identified the Americans as Sanford J. Stone, 58, of Cleveland, Ohio, area coordinator of the Agency for International Development, Daniel P. Steer, 28, of Columbus, Ind., an economic affairs officer, and Charles R. Peary, 63, of Salem, W. Va., a property officer.

In Thailand, the United States began flying out the last of an 1,100-man U.S. Marine contingent, sources said.