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Thunder and lightning

According to one witness, "a ton of people" witnessed fireworks, like the one pictured above, from the south side of Beaver Stadium last night. The half-hour display was sponsored by ARHS as part of Residence Hall Week.

Photo by Ira Joffe

No big rush expected Labor to support Carter

WASHINGTON (AP) — With their favorites all but out of the race, labor leaders are looking toward an accommodation with Democratic front-runner Jimmy Carter rather than risk sitting out another presidential election.

No rush of support is expected beyond that already given by a few liberal unions, but most union chiefs are becoming reconciled to a Carter victory at the Democratic convention.

Contrary to his position in the last election, AFL-CIO President George Meany is telling his political lieutenants that if Carter wins the nomination, the giant labor federation will throw its full support behind his presidential campaign. But, sources said, support will be keyed to an acceptable clarification of Carter's stand on labor issues.

The independent United Auto Workers, biggest of the liberal unions, is expected to work for Carter in the Michigan primary rather than back Rep. Morris K. Udall of Arizona, the so-called progressive candidate.

Labor leaders in general have been suspicious of the former Georgia governor. But some — among them UAW President Leonard Woodcock and President Jerry Wurf of the municipal

employees union — have indicated they can forgive Carter for some positions that were less than perfect from labor's standpoint.

For example, they cited Carter's slowness in endorsing the pending full employment bill in Congress and his hesitancy in his attitudes toward full-fledged national health insurance and toward repealing right-to-work laws.

In 1972, labor balked at the Democratic party's nomination of George McGovern and for the first time since the merger of the old AFL and CIO in 1955 refused to work for the Democratic presidential ticket.

This caused some painful divisions within labor's ranks and added to the landslide of Richard Nixon, whose name was an anathema to most of the big union leaders. There is a general consensus, even among the conservative building trades, that nobody wants to go through that again.

"We've got to get rid of Ford," said a union political strategist. "Carter is still the new guy on the block to labor, but where else can we go?"

Meany said last winter that the AFL-CIO would remain neutral in the primaries and decide after the con-

vention whether to support the nominee.

Until now, it is known that Meany has taken a dim view of the Carter campaign in private even though he said last year that any of the Democratic candidates except Alabama George Wallace was acceptable.

But in recent weeks, the aging labor chief has instructed his chief political strategist, Al Barkan, to return Carter phone calls. There is also wooing on the other side. Within the past week, Meany's name was added to Carter's mailing list for position papers. The Carter campaign staff has consulted union people on the jobs and national health insurance issues.

Meany and Carter have never met, but the candidate said Tuesday he was hopeful a meeting could be arranged soon.

Some labor leaders are beginning to speak for Carter. In New Jersey this week, for example, state AFL-CIO President Charles Marciano said of Carter: "Believe me, there is no other group more intent on defeating President Ford in November than organized labor. If Carter can accomplish that, then we're all for it."

Reagan predicts balloting

By United Press International

Ronald Reagan said yesterday his new calculations showed he could win the Republican presidential nomination on the first ballot. But a White House spokesman said President Ford believes he will win it on the first ballot.

California Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr., campaigning hard against Democratic front-runner Jimmy Carter in Maryland, dropped in on Capitol Hill and won praise from party stalwarts such as Hubert Humphrey and House Speaker Carl Albert.

In Michigan, the United Auto Workers handed Morris Udall's underdog campaign a major jolt by authorizing its six Michigan regional directors to open up the union's sizable campaign war chest to support Carter in the May 18 primary.

Reagan, campaigning in Louisiana, was asked about his chances of a first-ballot victory at the Kansas City convention.

After his triple primary victory

Tuesday he said he thought the convention would need more than one ballot. But yesterday he said:

"I never expected a clean sweep of 100 delegates in Texas. I never expected the margin of victory that we had in the three primaries of last Tuesday. Very frankly, now, I believe we can" (win on the first ballot).

"It suddenly dawned on me in checking up on previous projections," Reagan said. "I have leveled with every one of the media on that... that we were even with or ahead of our projections. Suddenly in the last few days, however, we have leaped far ahead."

At the White House, where a re-assessment of the President's campaign was going on, spokesman Ron Nessen said Ford "believes he can win on the first ballot in Kansas City."

UPI's count shows Reagan with 359 delegates, Ford with 318 and 295 uncommitted. It takes 1,130 to win the nomination.

Albert said "Yes" when asked if Brown is the only one who can stop Carter, apparently ignoring his House colleague, Morris Udall, who is waging an intense campaign against Carter in Michigan. Both Brown and Udall hope to derail the Carter express in the May 18 primaries in Maryland and Michigan.

Humphrey, who last week refused to mount a stop-Carter drive in New Jersey, called Brown "a fresh face" and "exciting" and said "Brown will do very well and most likely will win in Maryland." Humphrey said later, "I talk to the right people. I know what's going on."

Albert, in addition to his one-word assessment, called Brown "an attractive and an astute young man."

Frank Church, campaigning in Utah before heading back to his prime target, Nebraska, labeled both Ford and Reagan "bullies" for their debate on the Panama Canal. He called it "a disgraceful exercise in machismo" that "could incite bloodshed."

Soviets lead in arms race

LONDON (UPI) — The Soviet Union now has more weapons than the United States and the Kremlin's continuing arms buildup threatens detente, the Institute for Strategic Studies said today.

The Institute's "Strategic Survey, 1975" said both the Soviet Union and the United States had suffered setbacks in the past year and were losing influence in the world. It said "recent events have increased the possibility of new conflicts and wars in the world," especially in southern Africa.

The report said the Soviets enjoy a numerical advantage in most military fields, but the technological advantage of the United States and its European allies would deter a Soviet attack for the time being.

"But the institute sounds a note of caution," a spokesman said. "The numerical balance has moved against

the West over the years and the West's qualitative edge could be eroded if present trends in Soviet weapons procurement continue. "The momentum of the Soviet arms buildup presents a major risk for detente and a cause for the growing skepticism, additionally generated by the American presidential campaign, over Soviet longer-term intentions."

Even so, the Institute defended the detente concept of Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger against what it called "fashionable" election year criticism.

The institute, founded in 1958 as a center for information and research on the problems of international security, defense and arms control, said that as the limits of detente became clearer, it became easier to criticize and more difficult to defend.

The Institute said that to judge the effect of detente one had to ask "What difference had detente made to the Middle East, to the emergence of strong Communist parties in southern Europe or to arms control?"

"The answer lay largely in comparing the actual state of affairs with what might have been in the absence of detente: more tension, more Soviet interference, more uninhibited support for Portuguese Communist party, no concessions on arms control."

Senate bill holds PennPIRG fate

By JEFF HAWKES
 and MIKE MENTREK
 Collegian Staff Writers

The U.S. Senate subcommittee on education is conducting hearings in Washington, D.C., today on an amendment to the Higher Education Act which, if passed, would help Students for PennPIRG in their drive for a Pennsylvania Public Interest Research Group at the University.

The amendment, Senate Bill 2657, sponsored by Allen Cranston, D-R.I., and Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., would give student organizations at institutions receiving federal funds nondiscriminatory access to student activity fees.

Testifying today are consumer advocates Ralph Nader and Donald Ross as well as two University students. Jim Scarantino (6th-political science) is an Undergraduate Student Government senator and an active member of Students for PennPIRG. Jeannette Morris (10th-human development) is chairman of the Associated Students Activities (ASA) budget committee.

The Cranston Amendment states that an institution of higher education receiving federal funds must provide "substantially equal treatment" to all student organizations seeking student activity funds.

Also, the bill permits student organizations to devise a funding mechanism of their own to avoid dependency upon student activity funding. For example, student groups here could obtain funds without going through

ASA.

Under the amendment, a university must give student organizations the right to use the university collection system, such as the tuition bill at Penn State to raise funds for the organization, providing a majority of students have demonstrated support for the organization.

To determine student support, the organization must obtain signatures from 50 per cent of the student body in a petition drive. The petition must describe the funding mechanism the student organization proposes to use to collect fees.

Any funding mechanism proposed must give students the right to request a refund after having paid the organization's fee.

The bill, if passed, would significantly aid in establishing PIRG. Last spring, PIRG obtained 24,120 signatures in a petition drive. The University Board of Trustees refused to establish PIRG because it disagreed with PIRG's proposed funding mechanism.

This spring, PIRG revised its funding mechanism to a "refusable-refundable" system. The new funding proposal provides for refunds to students requesting them. University president John W. Oswald last month refused to recommend the new funding proposal to the Board.

If the Cranston bill passed, PIRG could bring civil action against the University for denying them the right to student self-assessment of fees.

"I think the (University) administration is very

worried that this bill might pass," Scarantino said. "They may take every effort to see that the bill doesn't pass."

Scarantino said passage of the Cranston amendment could be the first step to a student rights bill. He said it would be the first time legislation provides for student decision-making power in university affairs.

Scarantino's testimony today will consist of his account of Students for PennPIRG's efforts in trying to establish a PIRG.

Morris' testimony will concern four sections of the amendment she described as "very general guidelines on how the (student activity fee) funds are distributed." The amendment outlines four provisions to insure fairness in the distribution of activity fee funding. According to Morris, the University's student activity funding system already complies with the amendment's policy rules.

Morris said she was undecided on what the body of her testimony will include.

Morris said she questioned the appropriateness of the federal government passing legislation to control universities' funding policies, but said her greater concern lay with insuring the rights of students in receiving activity fee funding.

She said she hoped the committee would allow universities to make interpretations of the bill under their individual systems of funding.

"They're in Washington; we're right here. We know what's going on in the community."

Italian quake kills, injures many

ROME (UPI) — Central Europe's strongest earthquake in 13 years rumbled through five countries yesterday, leaving scores dead and injured near its center in northeast Italy. Shocks were felt as far away as Brussels and Berlin.

The Italian Interior Ministry said 95 persons were confirmed dead and 208 were injured. Unofficial reports said dozens of persons were still trapped in rubble and authorities feared the casualty toll would climb much higher.

National police in Rome said more than 1,000 were injured.

At least six northeast Italian towns were shattered by the quake, which measured 6.9 on an open-ended Richter scale. It

had previously been reported at 6.5.

Sweden's Uppsala Seismological Institute called it the strongest quake in Central Europe since the 1963 Skopje, Yugoslavia disaster that took 1,100 lives.

The deaths and damage appeared confined to Italy's Friuli region bordering on Austria and Yugoslavia. Police reports said between 15 and 40 per cent of the homes in several towns were destroyed.

Officials feared many dead would be found in Forgaria, a town of 3,000 inhabitants reported almost leveled by the shocks.

The quake also rocked Southern Germany, parts of Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Austria.

Officials said more than 100,000 residents in the hardest-hit area of Italy were without water supplies.

Severely hit by the quake were the towns of Majano, Vitobono di Pinzano, Vagogna and Buia which form a fan-shape at the head of a valley funneling 14 miles south to Udine, the Friuli region's capital.

Emergency radio reports reaching Rome indicated more than 40 persons died in Majano, more than 10 in Vitobono and at least seven in Buia, a town of

about 8,000 persons.

The reports said more than 25 per cent of the houses in Buia and another town, Osoppo, had collapsed and more than 20 persons were believed trapped in their rubble.

Structural damage to at least one hospital was so severe that the injured had to be treated by doctors in the streets outside, they said.

Officials said emergency supplies were being rushed by military transport from Rome and Foggia.

Authorities had to battle traffic chaos caused by thousands of survivors leaving their towns and villages to spend the night in the open. At least 15 army helicopters landed soccer fields to take some of the most seriously hurt to major hospitals.

Normal communications with the region were knocked out but amateur radio operators pitched in to supplement police and military communications systems.

The quake shook Italy all the way from the northern city of Milan to Naples in the south and sent thousands of Italians fleeing into the streets in panic.

An earthquake specialist at Sweden's Uppsala Institute said Thursday's quake

was "one of the largest to hit Central Europe." But he said it was relatively deep — between 6 and 14 miles beneath the earth's surface — a factor which could reduce the casualty rate.

The quake apparently caused no damage or injuries in Italy beyond the Friuli region. Police in the disaster area closed key roads to keep them clear for emergency vehicles and dozens of persons went to hospitals in Udine to donate blood.

A Milan resident watching television said, "I suddenly felt like I was on a fast-moving train."

In other Italian cities dishes rattled, street lamps swayed and streets quickly filled with worried residents dashing from in front of their television sets and dinner tables.

In Venice, thousands choked the piazzas, but no damage or casualties were reported in the lagoon city.

In Trieste, an Adriatic port city south of Udine, a 72-year-old woman with a heart condition died from shock when the tremor hit, police said.

In Munich, houses swayed and persons rushed into the streets in fright. Many clocks stopped at 9:02 p.m.

Committee proposes additional-job budget

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A House-Senate conference committee yesterday approved a \$413.3 billion target federal budget for 1977, \$17.5 billion more than President Ford proposed.

Congressional staff officials said that if the budget proposal is followed there will be a million more jobs at the end of 1977 than under Ford's proposed budget.

They said the unemployment rate at the end of that year would be around six per cent, compared with seven per cent under Ford's budget. Unemployment in March was 7.5 per cent.

The administration says the extra spending will add to inflation and could cause a new recession. Congressional officials claim the inflation rate would be lower under their budget than Ford's.

The budget proposal, which now goes to the House and Senate floors for final action, would raise \$362.5

billion in taxes and create a federal deficit of \$50.8 billion, compared to \$43 billion initially proposed by Ford.

It calls for \$454.2 in new budget authority, some of which would be spent in future years.

The bill was a compromise between a \$412.6 billion approved by the Senate and \$415.4 billion approved by the House.

The target budget resolution will be used to guide Congress as it passes individual spending bills during the year. A final budget resolution will be approved by Congress in September. Budget resolutions cannot be vetoed by the President.

The conference approved \$100.8 billion in 1977 defense spending, an increase of more than \$8 billion over 1976 and only \$300 million less than Ford requested. It approved \$112.5 billion in defense budget authority, including future year spending.

Weather

After today's showers move on, clearing skies should move in for the weekend, along with cooler temperatures. Mostly cloudy and cooler with morning showers today, skies will gradually clear in the late afternoon. High 60. Clearing and quite cold tonight. Low 40. Partly sunny and pleasantly cool tomorrow. High 61. The forecast for Sunday calls for mostly sunny and milder conditions. High 65.