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Seventeen

Janis Ian (far right) proved herself a queen of music, if not a beauty, at last night's concert in Eisenhower Auditorium. At left, is Claire Bay. Tom Chapin (above) pours emotion into a song. See story, page 10.



Student tenants often 'ripped off,' says Yorks

By JAY SCHONHALER
Collegian Staff Writer

Charging that "a lot of people are getting ripped off" by apartment owners, District Magistrate Clifford H. Yorks last night told the Organization for Town Independent Students they need to do more for tenants.

"Everything's not rosy on the other side of College Avenue," he said, adding that tenant-landlord conflicts are numerous. "The majority of the times the tenant is the one being taken advantage of."

OTIS generally does an outstanding job of aiding students with landlord problems, Yorks said, but it is weak in helping students present their cases in court.

"Somewhere between the time students come to see you for help and then appear before me, something goes wrong," Yorks said.

"They seem to be afraid to talk," he said, "or afraid to give the evidence that they have. And most of them have good cases."

Yorks said an OTIS representative should go to court with a student to make sure the evidence is presented effectively.

If the landlord's attorney does not object to a tenant being represented by an OTIS member, Yorks said he will allow such a practice.

Most students, Yorks said, are at a great disadvantage because they cannot afford a lawyer and have little legal background themselves.

Apartment owners have it much better, he said.

"Most of them have attorneys on retainer and it's not costing them a cent. They (attorneys) are just doing work they'd be paid for, anyway."

"You are probably the only people the student can turn to," he told OTIS, "but you're not doing enough."

A number of OTIS members objected to Yorks' criticism, saying that they, too, lack legal knowledge and that OTIS was intended to play an advisor's role in landlord-tenant conflicts, and not a representative's role.

OTIS functions too often overlap those of USG Legal Affairs, said OTIS President Steve Kufrovich. He said the two organizations need to define their responsibilities in landlord-tenant cases.

Even when he knows a landlord is treating a student unfairly in presenting a case, Yorks said, he must rule in the landlord's favor if the student is unable to present his case convincingly.

"I can't run a sympathy court," he said.

"If a person doesn't present the evidence, there's not a thing I can do."

"If a student can rip a manager off, more power to him," Yorks said, noting complex leases give owners an unfair advantage over students.

Not all owners can be counted on giving honest testimony, Yorks said. Of one owner, whose name he refused to reveal, Yorks said, "When he raises his hand to tell the truth, that's a joke. He has made more false statements on the stand than any 20 people I know of."

But too many students end up in court because they don't take the time to submit a list of damages after moving in, he said. In apartments where the landlord provides tenants with a standardized checklist, Yorks said fewer than 25 per cent of the tenants fill them out.

Landlords then are free to extract widely varying sums of money from security deposits, he said.

Yorks said he knows of one apartment charging \$65 for a complete paint job, while another, smaller apartment has a \$140 painting fee.

"The landlord must prove damages," Yorks said. A tenant can beat such fees, he said, "if you have proof that apartment x charges \$65 and apartment y charges \$140."

OTIS should try to compile a comparative list of fees levied by apartments for such services, he said.

However, a list of service charges would be hard to draw up, OTIS members said, because owners could not be counted on to give accurate prices.

Yorks also criticized the local media for a lack of response to the tenants' plight.

He said he has offered to have students serving practicums under him write columns for local papers on tenants' rights, but the papers have not shown interest in the project.

The recent coverage by The Daily Collegian of court cases involving students, he said, has been long overdue. The articles are making people aware that students are often the target of unfair business practices.

In other action at the meeting:

— Members voted to sponsor a "candidates night" for local office-seekers.

— Copies of the new checking and savings account policies of local banks have been completed and will be on file in the OTIS office.

— Information on life insurance policies has been compiled and is now on file in the OTIS office.

Second ship controlled at sea Seized trawler held in Boston

BOSTON (AP) — The Coast Guard brought a Russian fishing trawler into Boston Harbor yesterday and controlled a second Russian vessel at sea as the United States warned that continued violation of its new 200-mile fishing limit could hurt relations with the Soviet Union.

The rusty, gray and white trawler Taras Shevchenko arrived under escort and flying the American flag at the Coast Guard base yesterday morning.

It was the first seizure under the law which took effect March 1, despite numerous reports of other Soviet violations.

The U.S. attorney's office took possession of the boat as soon as the armed Coast Guard cutter escorted it into the harbor. Lawyers from the U.S. attorney's office immediately began checking the ship's catch and records.

Meanwhile, the Antanas Sneeckus, a refrigerated transport ship, was ordered to go to Boston after a Coast Guard inspection team said

it found seven species of prohibited fish in the holds.

Later in the day in Washington, Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher called in Soviet embassy minister Vladilen Vasev to complain about recurring Russian violations of U.S. fishery regulations within a 200-mile zone off the New England coast.

The State Department said in a statement that Christopher expressed the United States' "deep concern" over the violations and "urged that extraordinary measures be taken by the Soviets to ensure that the violations cease so that this situation will not contribute to a worsening of our bilateral relations."

It was the first link by the Carter administration of the alleged fishing violations and the general state of relations between the United States and the Soviet Union.

A U.S. official said President Carter would meet today with Soviet Ambassador Anatoly

Dobrynin to discuss U.S.-Soviet relations. The official said he didn't know whether the fishing regulations would come up.

By late yesterday, no charges had been filed against the Russian vessels. Civil charges could result in confiscation of the ships and their cargoes. If criminal charges also were filed, the captains could face fines of up to \$50,000 and six months in jail.

The trawler's 93 crew members, including five women, will be confined to the ship while it is in Boston.

Fifteen Coast Guardsmen from the cutter Decisive operated the ship on the journey after its seizure on the fishing grounds 130 miles southeast of Nantucket Island.

"It was a thrill and honor to be the first Coast Guard unit to seize a fishing vessel after the start of the 200-mile limit," said Cmdr. Alan Smith, captain of the Decisive.

Bomber opponents set demonstration

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Opponents of the B1 bomber said yesterday they will demonstrate on "tax day" (April 15) in an effort to dissuade President Carter from going ahead with the new generation of strategic planes.

The demonstrations, planned for about 100 U.S. cities and including a two-hour candlelight vigil at the White House, are being organized by the American Friends Service Committee, a Quaker organization, and Clergy and Laity Concerned, an interfaith group that grew out of the religious community's opposition to the Vietnam war.

"I don't want my tax money spent on the B1," said Terry Provance, national coordinator of the Friends' protest. "I'd rather have my tax money spent for services I need than for a fleet of bombers I don't need."

The Air Force—proposing a fleet of 244 of the advanced bombers to replace the aging B52s contends the B1 is a necessary "strategic initiative" to redress what it views as a Soviet drive for strategic superiority by the early 1980s.

According to the Air Force, the B1 will take off faster than the B52, fly faster, carry twice the nuclear weaponry and feature much more sophisticated electronic equipment which would be difficult to jam.

Provance said the planes are not worth the \$94 million each they will cost to build.

"Buying more manned bombers would only increase the chance of nuclear disaster," he said. "And even if one accepts the military arguments, bombers are strategically obsolete in this age of nuclear missiles."

The demonstrators will remind Carter of his campaign statement that the B1 is "an example of a proposed system which should not be funded and would be wasteful of taxpayers' dollars."

The President since has modified his position and Provance believes the breakdown in the U.S.-Soviet talks on a new SALT agreement may pressure the administration into going ahead with production of the B1.

"We need to remind Carter of his campaign declaration and to encourage him to move faster on disarmament and arms reductions by starting with zero funding for the B1," Provance said.

Some of those associated with the antibomber campaign say they believe Carter will give the go-ahead for 150 B1s instead of the proposed 244.

Cuba negative towards renewal of pact

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Cuba has "strongly indicated" it will not renew the U.S.-Cuba anti-hijacking agreement until the United States completely lifts its 1962 trade embargo, Sen. George McGovern said yesterday.

"President Castro gave the strongest indication that Cuba will not consider agreeing to an extension until the United States ends its economic embargo on Cuba," said the South Dakota Democrat, who met with Castro for over four hours in Havana Saturday.

The 1973 agreement on handling hijackings expires Friday.

While in Cuba with a South Dakota basketball team, McGovern also met with Castro's brother, Raul, chief of Cuba's armed forces.

McGovern also told a news conference that a Cuban basketball team will visit the United States in November, and said he brought back a formal invitation by Fidel Castro for a U.S. professional baseball team to meet a Cuban all-star team "later this year."

McGovern said he returned with the impression the entire process of improving relations between the two countries hinges on the lifting of the trade embargo by the United States.

McGovern said Castro seemed "anxious" to improve relations, broken off in early 1961, "but he simply appears ready to take no more steps until the United States begins to move" on the trade ban.

Weather

We will see a repeat of yesterday's weather both today and tomorrow. Bright sunshine will send the temperature soaring to 86 both days. Tonight's low under clear skies will be a mild 56.

Pittsburgh ex-mayor says farewell to city

PITTSBURGH (UPI) — Pete Flaherty, for seven years the austerity-minded mayor of this industrial center, bade a dry-eyed but solemn farewell at city hall yesterday and left for Washington to serve as President Carter's deputy U.S. attorney general.

Later in Washington, Flaherty was sworn in by Attorney Griffin Bell with his wife, Nancy, holding the Bible.

Richard Caliguiri, who challenged Flaherty's leadership in the 1973 Democratic primary but lost, took oath as acting mayor. Caliguiri plans to continue Flaherty's frugal ways, but with some modifications.

"There is a point where frugality itself may become waste," he said. "We cannot allow our public services to deteriorate to the point of no return."

Caliguiri plans to boost the number of city police officers from 1,300 to 1,400, double the street resurfacing budget, and "adequately" staff housing and city development departments.

He is not a mayoral candidate in the

May 17 primary and will serve until a new chief executive is sworn in.

"No mayor can do it by himself," Flaherty told Caliguiri during a ceremony in the ornate City Council chamber. An estimated 300 persons crowded in to pay homage to Flaherty and welcome the new mayor to office.

Flaherty, who is best known for keeping the city treasury solvent in times when other cities approach bankruptcy, told his department heads and city employees, "If I ever looked good, you were the ones that did it."

He said the present city council was the "best this city's ever had," thanked the city's business and labor leaders, and finally lauded "the most important people of all, the people of this city, the people who couldn't come here today."

Caliguiri, 45, a member of city council since 1970, said Flaherty "maintained and enhanced" a history of honesty at city government.

Flaherty, 52, was born in the city's ethnic Northside section and attended college in Pittsburgh.



Tom Conroy, IFC president, speaks at last night's meeting. Kim Rhodaback, executive vice-president of IFC, is at left.

IFC board slates hearing on hazing

Interfraternity Council President Tom Conroy announced last night that the IFC board of control will meet in closed session at 6 tonight in 335 Boucke to hear charges brought against Omega Psi Phi stemming from an alleged hazing incident last month.

Anthony Jones (3rd-community development), has filed charges with IFC against the fraternity, alleging physical and mental abuse and requesting compensation for hospital bills and mental anguish sustained throughout a March 13 "hell week."

"This is the second time in my administration that the board of control has met because of a hazing incident, and my feeling is that it is two times too many; this is something we don't need," said Conroy.

Fraternity advisor Bob Kaiser said that a separate investigation through

the University Office of Conduct Standards would have to be done on an individual basis and not on the fraternity as a whole.

Kaiser emphasized that any investigation outside the IFC would depend on the results of tonight's hearing.

Although the hazing incident came at the end of Conroy's administration, the emphasis last night was on honoring IFC leaders who had contributed in a positive way to the organization.

Honored for their work on various committees, social programs and philanthropic events were: Conroy; administrative vice president Phil Lucas; executive vice president Kim Rhodaback; incoming president Steve DiOrto; committee chairman Chris McKown; Mike Braundman and John Mierley; and Gene Riechers, secretary treasurer.