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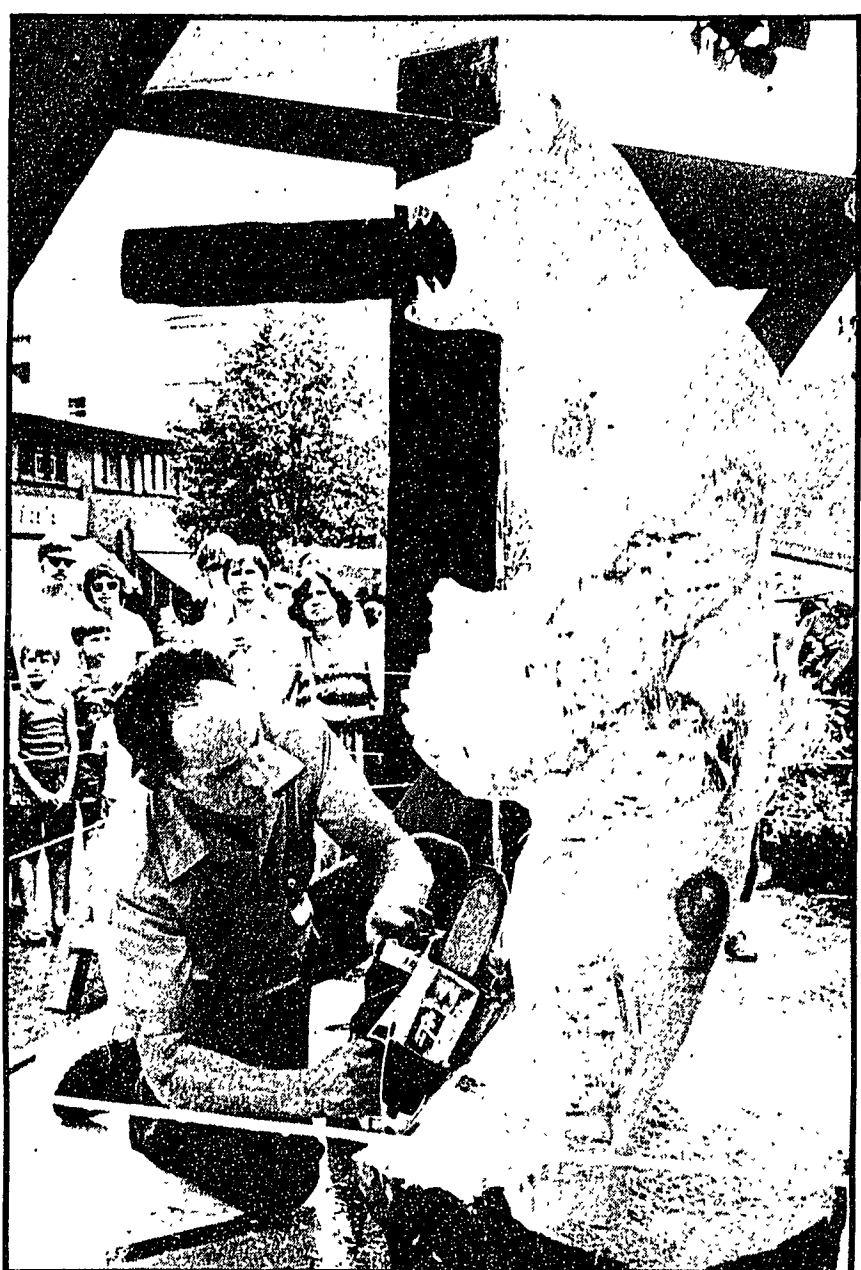


Photo by Patrick Little

Chainsaw and chisel

Lester Rishel, above, combines traditional craftsmanship with modern technology. Rishel numbers a chain saw among his sculpting tools. A craftsman, below, allows a passerby to help chisel a hand-hewn dish. More photos, page 4.



Collegian photo

Defense aid request anticipated

Israeli head to meet with Carter

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin meets President Carter tomorrow to present secret Middle East peace proposals and, sources say, to ask for more U.S. defense aid.

Begin, who led the conservative Likud party to upset victory in recent national elections, is now the key figure in Carter's campaign to orchestrate an Arab-Israeli peace settlement.

The President has met personally with the leader of every other nation directly involved in that conflict.

Begin is the unknown quantity for Carter, and they got off to a rough start when U.S. officials publicly challenged some of Begin's early policy declarations on occupied Arab territories.

In recent weeks, however, the two leaders have been trying to patch things up with conciliatory statements in anticipation of their two-day Washington conference.

Israeli officials told reports the Carter administration seems to be making an all out effort for a smooth visit and they expect it to go well. They said Carter even planned to send his personal plane to New York to transport Begin to Washington.

Begin flew to New York Friday, disclosing as he left Israel that he was "bearing concrete proposals for the peace-making process."

He said he wanted Carter to hear them before any details are made public.

Israeli government sources said Begin may ask for \$2 to 2.5 billion in U.S. military and economic aid in fiscal 1979 — compared to the \$1.75 billion it will get in the 1978 fiscal year that begins this October.

Israeli sources also said Begin will push for a reconvening of the Middle East peace conference with a projected opening date of Oct. 10.

Western diplomats said they believe Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, military hero of the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, was chief architect of the new Israeli peace proposals.

Only a few top Israeli officials knew what they were, but some reports circulating in Israel said Begin is prepared to return portions of occupied Sinai peninsula territories to Egypt and parts of the Golan Heights to Syria. These reports said, however, that Begin's government means to stand firm in its refusal to return any of the West Bank Jordan River territory to Jordan.

The Arabs insist Israel must return all the occupied lands, and the Carter administration — to Israel's dismay — has stated repeatedly that U.N. resolutions obligate the Israelis to return all but "minor" portions.

The President, however, insists he is not trying to impose any particular peace formula on either side.

Canvass decision might affect trustee case

By CHRIS HEPP
and LAURA SHERICK
Collegian Staff Writers

A Pennsylvania Superior Court decision to uphold a Centre County Court ruling on dorm canvassing may affect another University case, University attorney Delbert McQuaide said Saturday.

Speaking at a University Board of Trustees meeting, McQuaide said the ruling, which permits the University to prohibit political canvassing in the residence halls when residents vote for it, could affect a suit brought against the University by four students last term. The students charged the University trustee selection process was not constitutional.

McQuaide said the three dissenting justices in the ruling said in their opinions that the University "was not an agency of the Commonwealth."

McQuaide said the justices referred to the University as a private corporate agency.

The students charged in their suit Spring Term that the trustee selection process was unconstitutional because the 21 trustees from the agricultural and industrial societies do not represent the public.

The board also discussed the University budget and the state budget, deadlocked in the state legislature because of a tax dilemma. Rep. Helen Wise, D-77th District, said the legislature is expected to pass a budget before its Thursday recess, possibly a budget with tax increases.

Wise said she was optimistic that the legislature would pass one of two budgets under consideration before Thursday, and might pass one today. Wise said, however, that the tax increase needed to assure the University's anticipated \$109 million appropriation was short of votes.

"We are 20 votes short in the House

and five votes short in the Senate," she said. She urged the trustees to contact legislators and press for the tax increase.

University President John W. Oswald said that while he hoped the \$109 million budget would be passed by the legislature, he had developed plans in case the second budget, which calls for no new taxes, was adopted. The second budget would supply the University with \$106 million in funds, the same as last year's appropriation.

Oswald said under a \$106 million budget he would be able to implement faculty and staff pay raises which were held up last week because of the budgetary problems, but only "with serious cutbacks in other areas."

State budget dilemma still reigns

HARRISBURG (AP) — With the state's emergency funding running out tonight, the legislature's budget problem can be summed up with one word: confusion.

Some legislators want increased taxes; some don't. Others say they'll vote for taxes, but only if extra school funding is eliminated from the budget.

And still another sizeable group of legislators are saying if the school funds are cut, they won't vote for the budget.

Amid that uncertainty, Democratic leaders insist that the budget that comes up for a vote will require raising the state income tax.

The straw votes taken last week on higher taxes "nowhere near approached the majority you'll need to pass taxes, so I don't see how they're going to sell it," Rep. Ronald Cowell, D-Allegheny, said yesterday.

"But it doesn't look like we're going to get the chance to vote on a no-tax budget," he added.

A third possibility of reducing the University's current expected appropriation by 6 per cent to \$100 million had been studied in Harrisburg by a joint House-Senate budget committee. Wise said it was not under active consideration at the moment. Oswald said such funding would force a second tuition increase this year.

The board's committee on physical plant heard an informal report from trustee Mimi Barash on the commuter service planned for the University Park airport. Barash said the Commuter Committee has contacted area businesses and has raised more than \$100,000 from the community towards the building of an airport terminal.

In other board business, the trustees

authorized a name change for the President's dining room in the HUB. The room will now be called the George L. Donovan Room, in honor of the former director of student activities. USG president Grant Ackerman asked that the room be converted to office space for student groups. President Oswald agreed to meet in the future with Ackerman to discuss the possibility of conversion.

The board authorized the sale of land in Shamokin Township and the purchase of land in Stone Valley Recreation Area. It also authorized building a new \$125,000 high pressure gas laboratory at University Park and a total of 403 parking spaces at branch campuses.

See page 3 for related story

House likely to approve Carter's vote plan

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Carter's universal voter registration plan appears to have a good chance of House passage this week following a compromise worked out between House leaders and the White House.

Congress also will be occupied with other major issues, including defense appropriations, a farm and food stamp reform bill and committee action on major energy legislation.

The voter registration bill, expected to reach the House floor Thursday, would allow voters to register on election day for federal elections.

As originally approved by the House Administration Committee, states would

have had the option of adopting the plan in 1978 for their own elections, and it would have become mandatory starting with the 1980 elections.

But committee chairman Frank Thompson Jr., D-N.J., said agreement had been reached with Carter and Vice President Walter Mondale to drop the mandatory requirement when it goes to the House floor.

Thompson said the concession was made to gain Republican votes although there were enough Democrats to pass the original bill.

"We want to make this a bipartisan bill if at all possible," Thompson said.

Prior to taking up the voter

registration bill, the House is expected to complete action on a farm-food stamp bill where the greatest controversy will be over price supports for this year's wheat crop.

The House and Senate versions of the farm bill are at odds over support levels and loan rates for wheat, feed grains, cotton and rice, with the Senate bill seeking \$2.90 a bushel for 1977 and \$3.10 in 1978. The House version sets a \$2.65 target this year and \$3 in 1978.

Both bills are higher than Carter's request, but there are indications the administration may be willing to compromise.

Also in the bill is a proposal to

overhaul the \$5.4 billion a year food stamp program so that the needy will get all their stamps free. Under the current program, all recipients pay for some of their stamps. The bill also would tighten eligibility requirements.

Heat wave

A full-fledged heat wave is in progress in what is now the hottest part of the summer. Hazy, hot and humid today and tomorrow with highs reaching 90. Warm and humid tonight, low 70. Late afternoon and evening thunderstorms are possible both days. Keep cool.

PSU must meet legal regulations

Programs for handicapped urged

By LUCY JORDAN
Collegian Staff Writer

Navigating a revolving door is like dancing through an eggbeater for a person in a wheelchair.

According to the 1975 Penn State University President's Commission Report on the Physically Handicapped Student, "One in every 10 Americans has limited mobility (due) to a disabling disease, defect, or injury."

Tim Fitzgerald, a 1976 University alumnus and a member of the commission, said the report made many recommendations for changes in accessibility to buildings for handicapped persons.

They included the appointment of a full-time services coordinator for handicapped students, the establishment of a resource center for the disabled, an advisor in each college to work with handicapped students, and a special orientation period for newly enrolled handicapped students. It also suggested a University Park residence hall complex be modified to meet the needs of the disabled.

Also among the key recommendations was the establishment of a wheelchair repair service, parking privileges with reserved stalls, the issuing of meal tickets good at all dining halls and distributing keys to all elevators that handicapped students use in reaching classrooms.

Penn State has three years to meet the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which bans discrimination against persons with physical, mental or psychological disabilities.

The act stipulates that if programs cannot be made accessible through the reassignment of classrooms or

by providing physical aids or tutors, changes must be made within three years.

Fitzgerald, founder of A.B.L.E.D. (A Better Living Environment for the Disabled) said: "One major problem with many programs serving the disabled stems from the fact that able-bodied people decide what the handicapped want and need. This has resulted in much wasted time and money, as well as creating very negative attitudes in disabled individuals."

Vince Staskel (12th-rehabilitation education), a paraplegic, feels the commission has taken only the first step towards improving the environment for handicapped Penn State students.

"Although the recommendations are excellent, few of them have materialized since the 1975 report. The University has done an excellent job with curb cuts but there is still a lot to be done. It's important that when a ramp is built, it should not be too steep," he said.

"Wheelchairs don't have very good brakes. For example, the only access to Ritenour is a ramp up onto the loading dock behind the building. Once you get up the steep ramp, you're teetering on a dock that's three or four feet from the ground," he said.

"If I couldn't stop and fell off, I'd be a wreck," Staskel said. "It's ironic that the health facility that provides good care for the handicapped student inside isn't accessible from the outside."

Another architectural irony at Penn State is the college of Human Development, Staskel said. "I can't believe that a college that includes majors in rehabilitation and human service fields doesn't have better access for the disabled," he said.

Staskel said that ramps are often too narrow or not

available at all. Most of the modern buildings are accessible but the older buildings like Sparks, Carnegie, Human Development, Ritenour and most labs are poorly prepared for the entrance of a disabled student.

"It's true kids neglect the dorms but I feel that the handicapped students should have keys to the elevators so that we can get to every floor," Staskel said. "Elevators are out of order often and I end up late for a class after I started out very early."

Many of Staskel's problems have been with the bathrooms in the dorms. For a person in a wheelchair, most dorm sinks, mirrors, telephones, fountains, lab tables, counters and the like are overhead. Showers are difficult for someone who can't walk. Staskel said he recommended a couch and a hand shower.

"Imagine yourself being four-feet tall and trying to dial a phone or look in a mirror and you'll know how we feel," Staskel said.

"Plans to obtain more curb cuts may help my grandchildren, for change is slow in coming," Staskel said.

He said that architectural changes are a "one-time deal," an investment that never has to be made again. "There are so many advantages anyway," said Staskel. "How many bicyclists would be willing to give up the curb cuts that make their jump from road to sidewalk so smooth?"

"Being handicapped is 'in' (in terms of favorable legislation), so I might as well jump on the bandwagon and enjoy the limelight while we make many long overdue changes for a minority that has much in common with women and blacks who have been discriminated against," he said.



Photo by Linda Hart

New ramps for wheelchairs on College Avenue are part of the University's efforts to make life easier for the handicapped.