

Iranian political situation forum scheduled

• The Middle East Studies Committee will sponsor an Open Forum on the Political Situation in Iran at 7:15 tonight in 173 Willard.

• There will be a meeting of the Penn State student chapter of the National Agricultural Marketing Association at 8 tonight in 320 HUB. The association's goals and benefits will be discussed.

• The Agricultural Mechanization Club will elect new officers for the next year and Dennis Murphy will speak on farm safety at 7:30 tonight in 124 Agricultural Engineering.

• Robert D. Shipman will speak at the Penn State Forestry Society meeting at 7:30 tonight in 105 Ferguson.

• There will be a meeting of the Earth and Mineral Sciences Student Council at 7 tonight in 244 Deike. Election of new officers will be held.

• An American cultural exhibition workshop entitled, "Folk Music, Fiddle Competition and the Music Industry" will be held at 2 p.m. today in the HUB main lounge.

• There will be a public meeting on "Further Weapons Manufacture and Deployment," sponsored by the Coalition Advocating Nuclear Disarmament, at 7:30 tonight in the HUB assembly room.

• The Young Socialist Alliance will meet at 7 tonight in 308 Willard.

• The National Agri-Marketing Association will meet at 7 tonight in 320 HUB.

• The Economics Club will meet at 7 tonight in 420 Kern.

• Students for PennPIRG will meet at 7 tonight in 316 Boucke.

• The Overcomers Christian Fellowship will meet at 9 tonight outside 202 HUB.

• The Froth advertising staff will meet at 7:30 tonight in 314 Boucke.

• The Graduate Commons will present guitarist/vocalist Reuben Sairs in a Valentine's Day noontime concert at 12:15 p.m. today in the lobby of the Kern.

Collegian notes

• There will be a meeting of the Penn State Veterans Organization at 8 tonight at 227 E. Nittany Ave.

• A free introductory lecture on Transcendental Meditation will be held at 8 tonight in 308 Boucke.

Cabinet nominees receive two crucial confirmations

HARRISBURG (AP) — Two of Gov. Dick Thornburgh's most sensitive cabinet nominees won approval from Senate committees Tuesday, clearing their first hurdles in the confirmation process.

The Senate Finance Committee unanimously approved the nomination of Revenue Secretary-designate Howard Cohen, who would take charge of an agency that annually collects over \$5 billion a year in taxes. He currently heads the public management unit of the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School.

And the Senate Environmental Resources Committee, after reviewing testimony given last week, voted 17-1 to approve the nomination of Clifford Jones to head the Department of Environmental Resources.

Jones had been the most controversial of Gov. Dick Thornburgh's 18 cabinet nominees because he heads the business-oriented Pennsylvania's For Effective Government and was formerly chairman of the Republican State Committee.

The Rules Committee must act on the recommendations before the full Senate can vote on confirmation.

The 37-year-old Cohen, promising to make the department one of "unquestioned trust and integrity," pledged to rid the state's tax collection arm of patronage by hiring on merit.

Former Revenue Secretary Milt Lopus already had begun a purge of past corrupt practices in the department, where 83 percent of the 3,600 jobs are considered patronage.

"We're not going to run a political operation at Revenue," said Cohen without being specific on how his merit

hiring system would work. "I've got a tough job to do. The people I hire have to be damn good. It's the head of professionalizing the Department of Revenue."

But Cohen said that qualified people with political sponsors won't be penalized. And he said the qualifications of the current employees would be reviewed.

"I wouldn't fire someone who supported the opposition. I'm not going to uproot the place. I'm going to improve it to make it a better place," said Cohen, noting that he would not tolerate anyone but would not stop an employee from voluntarily getting involved in a political campaign.

Several senators questioned Cohen about the seven Washington jobs he held in eight years. In one, he served as an assistant to President Nixon, where he convicted Watergate figure Charles Colson was his immediate superior.

Before the hearing, committee members were briefed on the contents of a tape recording in which Colson called his former employee "loyal, trustworthy, competent and someone who would make a good Revenue Secretary."

"I'm at a loss to return the compliment," said Cohen. "Taint runs like ink on a blotter. There were a lot of good people who served in the Nixon and Ford administrations — and in the Shapp administration."

Meanwhile, only Sen. Edward Barry, D-Allentown, voted against Jones' nomination. Committee chairman Robert Mellow, D-Lackawanna, said there was nothing at Jones' hearing to stand in the way of his confirmation.

Consultant lauds tax structure

County assessments equitable, study says

Real property assessment in Centre County is generally equitable, according to a study recently completed by Roger H. Downing, a private consultant hired by the Centre County Commissioners.

"(Tax assessment) uniformity in Centre County has been maintained and improved since the last study in 1975," though agricultural areas have been less equitably assessed than residential and

commercial areas, Downing said. He attributed this to the large number of extremely small tracts of land involved in some agricultural areas.

Downing said that his study would be better handled if there were a state agency making them on a regular basis.

The commissioners, in their meeting yesterday, also heard a letter from

Commissioner Louis G. Mete of the State Election Bureau, certifying vacancies in the municipal primary election for which offices nomination petitions must be filed.

The letter certified the following vacancies: justice of supreme court, judges of the superior court (2), judges of the commonwealth court (2), and judge of the court of common pleas. In

addition, Mete said that the Democratic and Republican parties have been certified as eligible to nominate candidates at the municipal primary election.

The "McCarthy '76" party has been disqualified, having received insufficient votes in the 1976 election to remain certified, the letter said.

—by Rand Stewart

Guess what, pardner? Roy Rogers got ripped off

• A sign valued at \$75 was reported stolen from Roy Rogers, 322 W College Ave. at approximately 4 a.m. Friday, State College police said.

• A wallet containing an I.D. and \$53 was reported stolen Monday from Playland, 352 E. College Ave., police said.

• Two cars collided near the intersection of North Atherton Street and West Park Avenue on Monday

afternoon. Rudolph F. Glick, McShannon, Pa., was traveling south on Atherton Street when he struck a stopped jeep driven by William E. Catherman of Spring Mills, Pa. The road was snow-covered and slippery,

police said. Both drivers were uninjured.

• A car hit a sidepost and route marker near the intersection of routes 550 and 64 Monday night. Pam Mark of Pleasant Gap was traveling south on route 64 and lost control of her car upon entering route 550. Mark suffered minor injuries. The road was snow-covered and icy, State police at Rockview said.

—by Wendy Trilling



FINANCE CLUB MEETING
THURS. FEB. 15TH 7:30 PM 413 BOUCKE

Speaker: Mr. Dick Hess
Topic: Job Search Strategies
Also: Election of 1979-80 Officers

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26" Cartwheel	\$92.00	55.20	Men's Carry-on	\$55.00	33.00
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