

Amendment could give University preferred status

By GINA BRISGONE
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

An amendment is in the works in the state House of Representatives to fund the University as part of the state's general appropriation budget — a move which may enable the University to get its state appropriation on time.

If passed, the amendment would, in effect, change state-related universities, (including Penn State, the University of Pittsburgh, Temple University and Lincoln University), from non-preferred to preferred status in the state appropriation budget.

As part of the state's "preferred payments" the University's appropriation would be voted on as part of the state's general fund budget package. The preferred payments which now include state-owned colleges and state agencies must be voted on as a whole each year by June 30, State Rep. Ronald R. Cowell, D-117 of Allegheny County who proposed the amendment, said. The University is now funded as part of the state's non-preferred appropriations which are voted as separate pieces of legislation.

If the University is funded as part of the general fund budget, he said, funding

would not be withheld or delayed because of a budget crisis.

In 1977, when the state lacked funds, the general fund appropriations were voted on to balance the state's budget, he said, but the non-preferred appropriations were delayed.

The legislature got the budget passed, and wanted to "concentrate on the non-preferred appropriations later," he said. "As a result, the University appropriation was delayed for six months," he said, "and the University found it had to borrow money to meet operating costs until it received the state appropriation."

"The legislature withheld all (non-preferred) appropriations for six months to pressure some legislators to vote in favor of a tax increase to fund the state related universities," he said.

"We must eliminate the possibility and likelihood that the students, faculty and staff of these schools will again be used as pawns in some future budget impasse," Cowell said.

Cowell said he does not want to see the University and other state-related universities used as "scapegoats" to raise taxes.

If passed, the amendment will

decrease the number of votes needed in the state house and senate to approve an appropriation from two-thirds of both house and senate to a majority.

State Rep. Gregg Cunningham, R-77, of state College, said he is "apprehensive" about the proposed amendment because he thinks it will lead to an increase in state control of the University.

"Penn State would find itself increasingly subordinated by the state Department of Education," he said. "It would be like the University was state owned, it would lose its autonomy."

Cunningham said if the University is funded like the state-owned colleges, the state would begin to gain control of the University's decisions such as curriculum, hiring and firing criteria.

Frank E. Forni, director of commonwealth relations for the University, echoed Cunningham's concern about an increase of state control as a result of the new funding status.

"We would welcome" legislation to stop the delay of state funding, Forni said. "but we are very concerned if the University would have to lose its autonomy."

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Task force is established to probe racial climate

By BOB WARE
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The State College chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People voted at a meeting last night to establish a task force to study the racial climate in State College.

The meeting was "basically held" as a result of an Eastern Patriots Association of Kutztown meeting in State College last Saturday night, Thelma T. Price, president of the local NAACP, said.

Members of the local NAACP said they received information from a reliable source that the Eastern Patriots Association was a part of the Ku Klux Klan, Jane Madsen, chairwoman of the Centre County Advisory Council to the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, said.

Newspaper stories in The Express of Easton and the Morning Call in Allentown on Dec. 27, 1978, confirm this view in quoting Wallace Rile, the Exalted Cyclops of the KKK as saying, "The

Eastern Patriots Association and the Ku Klux Klan are usually synonymous."

The local NAACP contacted the Sheraton Penn State, where the association had planned to meet, and informed them that the association was part of the KKK, Price said.

The Sheraton Penn State cancelled the association's reservations, but hotel bartender Cubby Bair denied the cancellation was because of the nature of the association.

"Hell no, I had a party already booked for that room," Bair said in a telephone interview last night.

The association met Saturday night in the Beaver Room of the Hotel State College, Price said. This was confirmed by Chris Papas, co-owner of the Hotel State College.

A few members of the NAACP and the Human Relations Advisory Council attended the meeting.

"The door was closed when we went, a young man about 18 or 19 years old was standing there, obviously standing

guard," Madsen said. The man said the meeting was closed — only members were allowed, she said. However, another man appeared after a short time and allowed them in, she said.

"We watched a 30 minute film ... designed to scare people of the United States about the growing influence of Russia," she said.

In the room were six young men who were invited. When members of the NAACP and the Human Relations Advisory Council left, the men, one carrying a briefcase with a white cross led the boys away, she said.

"Obviously, we foiled the meeting," Madsen said. "The movie was a cover-up."

"It (the KKK) is something this community does not want and will not tolerate," Price said. "We cannot prevent them from coming, but we can tell them that they're not welcome."

The task force will be composed of community, religious, business and academic leaders, as well as students, the NAACP decided.



President Carter and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat engage in informal discussion prior to their meeting in Cairo's Tahra Palace. The meeting is part of Carter's peace mission in the Middle East.

Students voice dissatisfaction

Misunderstanding caused lines

By DON DEL VECCHIO
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

Student misunderstanding of a housing notice on dorm application procedures led to lengthy lines that formed as early as 34 hours before contracts were to be accepted, William H. McKinnon, assistant vice president for Housing and Food Services, said yesterday.

Students received information that Housing Services was to begin monitoring lines at 6:00 a.m. Wednesday, he said. It was the students' own "perception as individuals" when they should line up to submit their contracts, he said.

McKinnon said the 6:00 a.m. monitoring time probably would not have been established in the housing notice. However, Housing Services had to monitor the lines at that time to avoid confusion and problems within the lines.

A petition, signed by 714 students "expressing their dissatisfaction" with the dorm application procedures, was originated by seven Nittany Hall residents. Signatures were collected between 3:45 a.m. and 7:15 p.m. Wednesday outside the Pollock Union Building.

Mark Bauer (11th-mineral economics), an originator of the petition, said because of the tension and confusion in the lines, "a lot of students were happy to sign the petition." However, when the processing began, many students were more concerned with having their contracts processed than with the petition.

Bauer said the petition offers no alternatives to the present

dorm application procedures, but that its purpose is solely to convey to Housing Services the idea that many students were dissatisfied with the procedures.

The petition will be submitted to the Pollock-Nittany Residence Hall Association, and then to Housing Services, Bauer said.

McKinnon said students who began to form lines in Waring, Pollock and Findlay dining halls on Tuesday evening were asked to leave by Housing Services when the halls closed. The lines reformed at 6:00 a.m. Wednesday when the dining halls reopened.

McKinnon said Housing Services did not anticipate lines would begin to form as early as they did. "It's hard to know when the lines were to begin."

Housing Services decided to accept dorm contracts at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday instead of 8:00 a.m. Thursday because of a sufficient number of students in the lines. McKinnon said that because of the large number of students in line at that time, Housing Services believed students not in the lines were probably not eligible for dorms.

The dorm application procedures were completed by 8:15 p.m. Wednesday. McKinnon said the lines moved rapidly and orderly. He said the only problem was the "lining up process itself was long."

The lines were reopened at 8:00 a.m. Thursday for students who had not already submitted their contracts. Approximately 25 students were in each of the three lines, McKinnon said.

Mideast peace talks inconclusive

CAIRO, Egypt (UPI) — President Carter, buoyed by a tumultuous welcome from one million cheering Egyptians, yesterday began what he said were "crucial" peace talks with President Anwar Sadat. But already there were signs of snags and American officials termed the first meeting inconclusive.

"There was a full thrashing of outstanding issues. But it is too early to say whether there can be a successful conclusion," one U.S. official said after the first round of talks lasting almost two and a half hours.

Both sides were aware that Carter's own reputation as well as an Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty were riding on the outcome of his personal mission to the Middle East. But despite that, diplomatic sources said, the Egyptian side to the first round of talks "did not appear to be too happy" when they ended.

American officials asked the Egyptians to maintain a strict news blackout on the talks, an indication that both sides considered the negotiations to be active and serious despite the fact that no progress was reported.

Prime Minister Menachem Begin yesterday said President Carter risked coming to the Middle East because he felt chances for concluding an Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty were more promising now than ever before.

Begin sent his best wishes to Carter in Egypt, because "his success would be our success."

But if the president comes to Jerusalem with "unacceptable counterproposals" from Cairo, the 65-year-old Israeli leader warned, "We shall not accept them."

Begin, who returned home from the United States at about the same time Carter's three-day trip to Egypt was beginning, was in a euphoric mood despite his caution that all treaty proposals must be acceptable to Israel.

He repeated Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan's prediction Wednesday that a peace treaty could be signed "within weeks, not months."

Begin cut short his U.S. trip to prepare for Carter's arrival in Jerusalem tomorrow. The prime minister will preside over a special Cabinet meeting and give a secret briefing to opposition and coalition parliamentary leaders

today. Begin's Cabinet Monday endorsed a series of U.S. proposals designed to break a four-month deadlock in the peace treaty talks.

A high official with Carter's party said the president was "not particularly" optimistic he could persuade Egypt and Israel to sign a treaty at this point because "it is much easier for things to go wrong than to go right."

A snag appeared when Sadat gave Carter a sharp reminder that the Palestinians were the crux of the problem. In his welcoming speech at the 300-room, 19th century Koubbeh Palace, Sadat said, "We are determined to enable our Palestinian brothers to realize their national rights and regain their freedom."

The remark prompted Carter to introduce an off-the-cuff sentence into his prepared speech saying, "President Sadat and I repledge ourselves not to disappoint those here, in Israel, among the Palestinians, among countries also possibly in a state of war, who depend upon us among others to realize their deepest desire to bring peace to this region."

INMOTION



Illustration by Della Hoke

Aluminum cans make interesting munchies

Dan Daley (9th-industrial engineering) eats aluminum cans. "It's just something people get me to do when I'm really ripped," Daley said. "I don't swallow."

Daley said he has been eating aluminum cans since he was a senior in high school at Allentown.

"I don't know if being from Allentown has anything to do with it," he said, "but I've seen other people from that area do it."

"I've only hurt myself once, minimally. I cut my tongue a little, but it was nothing to write home

about," Daley said. When asked if he has ever eaten other such indigestible objects, Daley said, "I once took a bite out of a glass on a two dollar bet. I never hurt myself doing that, though."

"It's not that hard to do," he said. "Actually, aluminum is quite soft."

"The steel cans are harder to take a bite out of," Daley admitted. "In any case, though, I don't think eating cans is conducive to good health. You have to be in the right state of mind to do it."

The right state of mind?

Sproul Hall is selling Pinchot Hall shirts

The latest in "T-shirts for Penn State" this week is a comment on the Pinchot Hall elevator fire. The T-shirts, sold by 5th floor Sproul Hall as a fund raiser, read "Elevator, Elevator — Pinchot, We Got The Shaft."

The shirts are the idea of Greg Woodman (8th-food service and housing administration), who runs his own T-shirt corporation "Who Loves Ya, Baby, Inc." out of the Kappa Delta Rho fraternity.

Woodman has marketed several other Penn State-related T-shirts ("Sooner or Later, Oklahoma," "1979 Sugar Bowl, How Sweet It Is," and others) this year.

Woodman said he had 144 Pinchot shirts printed, but he added he'll probably order more because sales are going well.

His idea's on the button, but it has its ups and downs.

Registration worker tells tales of terror

Registration for Spring Term is over, but the rumors and the stories

live on forever in the halls of infamy. Terry Dolinar (12th-marketing), a student working at registration, remembers these:

One student, a transfer from a branch campus, had all his courses on his pink slip for spring but took a wrong turn in the Intramural Building and went "on the floor." He thought he had to pick up his courses there again, and he did. When he left the floor, after two hours of horse trading, he had to give back all of his "new" courses. Frustrating? Of course.

And then there was another student, his first term at registration, who had everything he had preregistered for, but who unknowingly gave his course cards back. He was then told he had to pick up the same courses again on the floor.

New this weekend: the 'Weekend' page

We'd like to call your attention to page 15 of today's paper and a new weekly feature, "Weekend."

"Weekend" will be published every Friday in The Daily Collegian and will cover all of the sports, films, shows, television specials and

musical events you'll want to know about for your weekend entertainment.

'Remedial' course for veeps

It was reported (by an unnamed source) that a dozen or so vice presidents in charge of student affairs — all faculty administrators — took a remedial writing course over term break.

Raymond O. Murphy, vice president for student affairs, commented, "I don't like to call the course 'remedial' — though it was for some of us. 'Developmental' is a better word."

Murphy said the two-day course was given under the supervision of Dr. James Hill of the University's English department to "refresh our skills in writing memos, reports and other papers and to help us eliminate common errors in our writing."

"It was our idea to take the course," Murphy said.

When asked if any of the administrators failed the course, Murphy said, "Ask me if any of us passed." We didn't ask.

Murphy said this kind of in-service training is common in University departments.

"The secretaries are next," Murphy said.

—compiled and written by Bob "Suds" Carville

Wire Story Of The Week

WARREN, Mich. (AP) — The Michigan policeman who comes up with the most outlandish excuse by a motorist caught speeding probably won't have to worry about making up an excuse if he's caught speeding.

Michigan's Fraternal Order of Police is holding a statewide contest during March to see who has heard the most "creative" excuse for speeding.

First prize, to be announced in June, is a device used to locate radar detection units before they detect speeders.

Nice and nasty

Today will be nice with mostly sunny skies and a high approaching 50. The clouds will increase tonight with a low of 35. Tomorrow will be nasty with some rain showers possibly mixed with some snow showers at times and a high of 42. Sunday will be partly sunny, breezy, and colder with a high near 34.