

Cunningham against welfare bill

By PAUL SUNYAK

Daily Collegian Staff Writer

State Rep. Gregg Cunningham, R-77th, said he voted against a welfare funding bill because of "Christmas treeing," or the attaching of pet projects, by members of the Senate.

The bill was initiated in the House and sent to the Senate, where various pet projects were tacked on, including an allotment of \$25 million for pothole repair, Cunningham said.

"The Senate tacked on the pothole issue to bring public pressure on the House to pass the bill," Cunningham said. "They were using potholes and welfare recipients to get their own projects through."

Cunningham said when the bill was returned to the House for a vote, it was \$1.2 million in the red.

He explained that the Welfare Department ran out of money for the county boards of assistance after six months, due to short-sightedness in the Shapp administration.

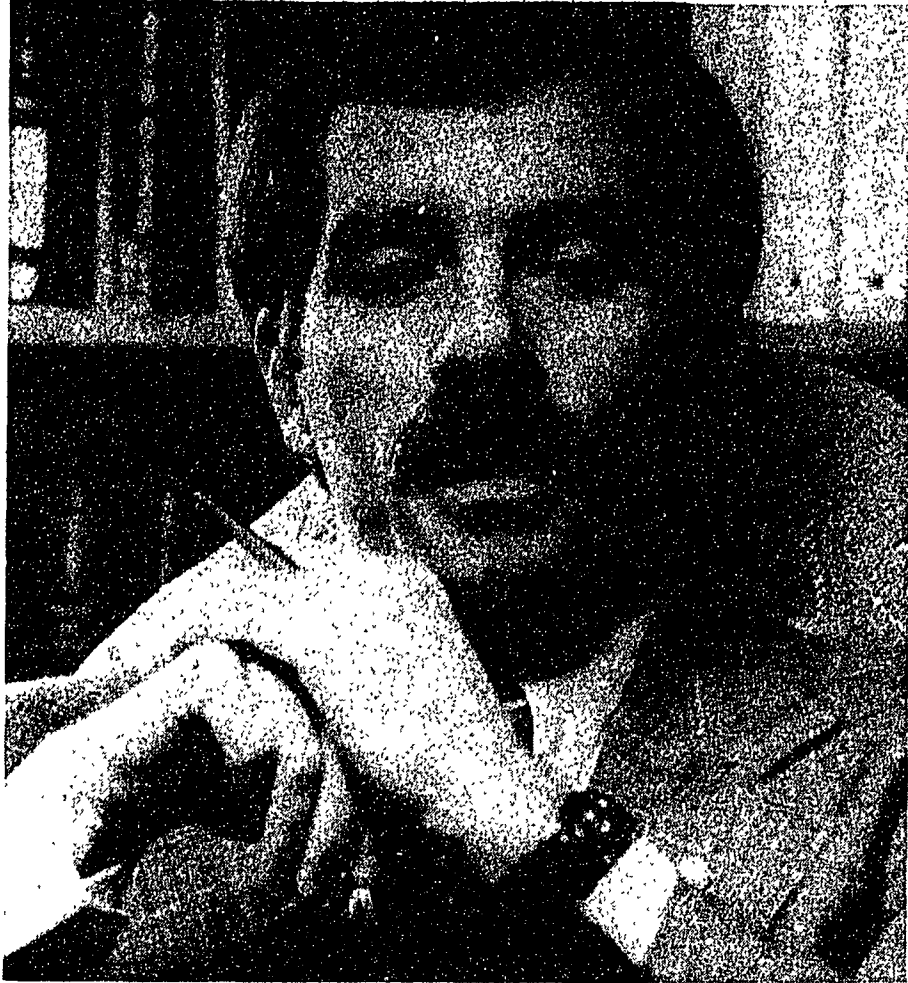
Cunningham said after the House rushed the bill to the Senate, the Democratic leadership elected to sit on it for three weeks before sending it back for House approval only days before the welfare money was to run out.

"It was business as usual, the same old game," Cunningham said. "The leadership deliberately created a crisis."

Cunningham said when he voted against the bill, the Associated Press story that was released "created the appearance I was voting against potholes, which is not true."

Gov. Thornburgh vetoed the bill after it was passed by the House, a move supported by Cunningham.

On potholes, Cunningham said he supports Thornburgh's proposal to make the state's six percent sales tax applicable to gasoline purchases.



Rep. Gregg Cunningham

Photo by Randy Bennett

Cunningham explained the General Fund is used to finance all aspects of government except transportation. The money from the gasoline hike would go into the Motor License Fund to be used for highways and state police protection, he said.

Cunningham said he believes Penn-

DOT has "turned the corner" by eliminating corruption and inefficiency and doing away with the patronage system.

"The governor's gasoline tax proposal sets a good, modern tone," he said. "But I don't feel comfortable with any increase in taxes for the General Fund."

Japanese course time changed

Japanese 100, the course Japanese Literature in Translation, will be offered Tuesdays and Thursdays 15th period in 16 Sparks, rather than during 13th period as scheduled. No previous knowledge of Japanese is required. The course, which will be taught in English and which fulfills the "other cultures" requirement for liberal arts students, includes readings in prose, poetry and drama and films of Japanese theater. Interested students should call Professor H. Tanaka at 863-0589.

A telescope observation session and a slide show will highlight the Astronomy Open House sponsored by the Penn State Astronomy Club and Astronomy Department at 7:30 tonight on the sixth floor of Davey Lab. Cloud date is March 10. Call TIPS Hotline at 863-1234 for any information concerning postponement.

The public is invited to a graduate violin recital to be given by Lois Oakley at 3:30 p.m. Sunday in the Recital Hall at the Music Building.

Openings are still available for the course RCL ED 005A for those interested in improving reading and study skills. Call E.P. Bliesmer at 865-6565 for further information.

Anyone interested in working in the Penn State Thespians' production of *Lil' Abner* should attend a meeting at 1 p.m. Sunday in Schwab Auditorium.

The Messianic Jewish Congregation of State College will hold Purim services at 7:30 tonight in the Sheraton.

Library tours for undergraduates will be conducted at 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. today in Pattee. Graduate student tours will be held at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The Rustical Quality String Band will play at a square dance sponsored by Penn State Folklore Society at 9 p.m. in Walnut Building.

Instruction for international folk-dancing will begin at 7:30 tonight in 301 HUB.

Newman Student Association of the Penn State Catholic Center will sponsor Michael McDevitt who will speak on Lent: An Aid To Spiritual Growth at a pizza party following 5:05 mass in the large lounge of Eisenhower Chapel.

PSU Veterans Organization will sponsor Happy Hours from 4 to 9 p.m. at 227 E. Nittany Ave.

Tahoka Freeway will play at a miniconcert sponsored by the Hetzel Union Board at 9 p.m. Sunday in the HUB ballroom.

The Penn State Model Railroad Club will hold a work meeting and discuss final plans for the model contest at 7 tonight in the HUB clubroom.

The Ballroom Dance Club will teach the Latin Hustle at their meeting at 7 tonight in 133 White Building.

Bahai Association will sponsor a discussion on the significance of the month of fast at 1 p.m. Sunday in 324 HUB.

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Elementary, Watson . . . the solution was in the Collegian Classifieds the whole time!

Former nurse shrugged off warnings

BALTIMORE (UPI) — A former Maryland nurse, when confronted by other nurses about allegedly disconnecting several patients' respirators, shrugged the challenges off by saying, "They'll never catch me," a co-worker testified yesterday.

Leslie Lynch told a Baltimore Criminal Court jury that Mary Rose Robaczynski, 24, of Pasadena, Md., unhooked the respirators of three patients and turned down the oxygen flow on a fourth patient. Robaczynski is being tried for murder in the March 8, 1978, death of Harry Gessner, a 48-year-old comatose patient whose respirator she allegedly unhooked.

Robaczynski also faces first degree murder charges in connection with three other respirator deaths at Maryland General Hospital.

"I told her I knew what she was doing and in essence for her to stop, she just said 'they'll never catch me,'" Lynch testified.

Lynch testified that another time she asked Robaczynski why a patient's respirator was disconnected.

"I said 'Mary, why did you do that,' she just turned to me and said 'She was dead anyway.'"

"We told her we knew what she was doing and if it did not stop we would turn her in," Lynch said. "She just looked at

us and said 'ha.'"

Defense attorneys, who apparently are trying to show Robaczynski may be guilty of practicing medicine without a license, but not murder, elicited from Lynch testimony that she had seen doctors unhook patients' life support systems.

"Have you seen doctors disconnect respirator patients whose hearts are beating?" asked defense lawyer Joseph F. Murphy Jr.

"Yes I have," said Lynch. "How often did the events which you observed take place?" Murphy asked.

"I don't know, I'm not at liberty to say," Lynch said.

Tanzanian forces deep inside Uganda

NAIROBI, Kenya (UPI) — A Tanzanian invasion force swept unopposed to within 30 miles of the Ugandan capital of Kampala yesterday, bound for a showdown battle with President Idi Amin's demoralized army.

Amin told his nation the "situation is very grave," and the official radio for the first time admitted the Tanzanian forces were deep inside Ugandan territory, almost within artillery range of the capital.

A special broadcast conceded the Tanzanians had overrun two southern towns, Masaka and Lukaya, "and are nearing Mpigi, which is less than 25 miles from Kampala and Entebbe."

Mpigi is actually about 30 miles from Kampala. Ugandan armed forces have constructed what one diplomat called an "iron wall" defense line there. The strategic crossroads guard both Kampala and Entebbe, site of the international airport that is Uganda's lifeline to the outside world.

"If and when the Tanzanians capture Mpigi and move beyond it they will come within artillery range of Kampala itself," a diplomatic source said. "If they start shelling the city, that surely will be the end of the Amin regime."

The radio reported Amin called on his armed forces "to fight to the last man,"

and said they must be disciplined, cooperative "and in the fighting spirit to drive out the invaders who are well over 100 miles inside Uganda." The latter figure appeared to be an exaggeration.

The effectiveness of Amin's army has been greatly reduced by low morale in recent months, and several units have mutinied during the dictator's three-month battle against Tanzanian forces and Ugandan exiles.

East Africa buzzed with speculation that Amin's bloody eight-year hold over Uganda might be nearing an end.

Residents of Kampala said the capital was outwardly calm but edgy yesterday. Tanks were parked in the main square, anti-aircraft guns dotted the city's many hills. The latest reinforcements for Amin's army — 1,000 troops sent by Libya, which has been pouring in military aid — reportedly were encamped 3 miles to the south.

Despite the extreme gravity of the situation, Amin was quoted as saying he was not worried. He reportedly spent the day dedicating a surgical ward at a Kampala hospital.

Amin reportedly noted Uganda's forces had not yet gone on the offensive, but the radio quoted him as saying the "enemy is now in range of our targets," presumably meaning artillery range.

His objective is not only to recapture lost territory from the invaders, Amin said, but to "conquer the enemy wherever they are."

"Actions speak louder than words," the radio said.

The broadcast essentially confirmed earlier reports from diplomats and Ugandan exiles. Amin's regime had maintained until yesterday that Masaka, 70 miles south of Kampala, had been recaptured since the Tanzanians first seized it 10 days ago.

Lukaya lies on the main road from Masaka to Kampala, about 20 miles north of Masaka.

The diplomatic sources said the Tanzanian offensive — a force of 4,000 men including both troops from Dar es Salaam and Ugandan exiles fighting as guerrillas — had reached the Catholic mission town of Mitala Maria, about 40 miles south of Kampala. They reported advance units were engaging in skirmishes on the outskirts of Mpigi.

The main portion of the Tanzanian force was sweeping along Uganda's major highway to Mpigi. A second, smaller column, was reported driving north toward the town of Mitanya, which commands the western approaches to Kampala.

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