

Israel reaches secret decision

From our wire services
JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Menachem Begin said early today the Israeli cabinet, meeting in an extraordinary session, made many "reasonable" decisions about Egyptian terms for a peace treaty.

Begin declined to reveal the contents of the decisions but said he expects "a positive response" to the proposals from Egyptian President Anwar Sadat.

The Israeli prime minister said he assumed Secretary of State Cyrus Vance would leave for Cairo after the Cabinet meets with Carter and the U.S. delegation at 3 a.m. EST today.

Begin said he did not reveal the contents of the decisions because he thought it would be best for Egyptian leaders to hear of them from Vance rather than from the news media.

Begin said aides kept Vance informed of the decisions as they were being made throughout the night in the Israeli Cabinet's emergency session called after six hours of talks between Carter and the Israeli delegation yesterday.

"I am quite tired," Begin told reporters as he left the Cabinet meeting wrapped up against the dawn chill in a dark overcoat and black hat.

Begin said the Cabinet debated all the outstanding problems between Egypt and Israel.

He said he expected Vance would inform Carter of the decisions when the American president awakened at his suite in the King David Hotel in Jerusalem.

Carter is expected to return home this afternoon after addressing the Knesset.

As he called the Cabinet into session

last night, Begin made it clear he felt Israeli security was at stake.

There were persistent reports Carter would extend his visit to Israel another day in hopes an agreement would be reached but White House aide Hamilton Jordan said there were no plans for this at the moment.

Carter was to breakfast with the Israeli Cabinet today to hear its reply to the still secret Egyptian proposals that brought on the Begin statement last night.

Both the Israeli state radio and television said Carter would send Secretary of State Cyrus Vance to Cairo to report to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat on the talks. American officials said it would be a good sign if Vance made the trip to Cairo.

Begin and Carter toasted each other at a state dinner in the president's honor held in the Marc Chagall Hall of the Knesset (parliament) building. Begin convened his cabinet immediately afterwards for what his spokesman termed a decision making and clarification session.

Outside the Knesset, baton-swinging police scattered about 300 right-wing extremists protesting Carter's peace mission in a scene reminiscent of anti-war demonstrations in the United States during the 1960s. Police said they arrested about 40 people.

There were shouts of "Go home, Carter!" before police drove them away.

Carter, appearing fatigued following more than six hours with Begin and the full U.S. and Israeli negotiating teams, continued on page 16.

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PennDOT chief pledges to repair potholes

By PAULA FROKE
 Daily Collegian Staff Writer

Department of Transportation Secretary Thomas D. Larson Friday promised an end to potholes, poor PennDOT service and patronage highway jobs, and a fresh start for the state's stalled highway construction program.

He has, however, one problem.

Before these planned reforms can be started, Larson said, the state legislature must grant Gov. Thornburgh's request for a \$202 million, 20 percent increase in the transportation budget.

"We obviously can't make any commitments until we get the money," Larson told an audience of highway interest groups and central Pennsylvania legislators attending a "summit on highways" at Toftrees.

"We're just playing financial games if we propose to spend money we don't have."

Thornburgh, in his budget address last Wednesday, proposed to revitalize the ailing PennDOT by tacking a 6 percent sales tax to the wholesale price of gasoline, and by increasing by 25 percent all truck registration fees.

Critics of the proposed tax, which would be passed on to the consumer in the form of an estimated 3-cent-per-gallon price increase at the pumps, have termed the tax too inflationary. Larson, however, said he disagrees.

"Actually," he said, "it's exactly the opposite."

"Better transportation cannot be called inflationary," he said, adding that the things which create higher inflation are those which are "non-

productive," such as replacing a new tire because of pothole damage.

Although he said he cannot take any action on actual highway repairs or construction until the legislature passes the budget increase, Larson said he has been working to establish priorities that will assure a more efficient and credible transportation department for the state.

One of his most important goals as the new transportation secretary has been to re-establish the importance of good quality service, Larson said.

"When I first took office, I found that the condition of the system had been allowed to fall to a point where good service was not provided," he said.

"This was the central problem."

Providing good service, he said, includes placing competent people in appropriate jobs, using lasting materials in highway construction and

repair, meeting the state's transportation needs, and using the people's tax money wisely.

But his priority among all these objectives? Filling the potholes.

"There is no question that the people want the pothole problem addressed," he said. "At least 90 percent of the comments I hear are that the potholes must be filled."

The Associated Press has estimated that more than 4.5 million potholes now scar Pennsylvania's roads, and PennDOT itself has reported more than 25 percent of state highways need some type of resurfacing or surface treatment. In an effort to begin emergency repairs on the most critically damaged roads, Thornburgh last Wednesday approved a \$9.6 million fund to begin immediate work. In addition, he has continued on page 16.

Students who applied may get dorm space

By DON DEL VECCIO
 Daily Collegian Staff Writer

After waiting as long as 34 hours in lines last week, it is possible that all students who submitted dorm contract applications will be provided dorm space for the first time in three years, housing director Donald T. Arndt said.

This year, about 7,600 students currently enrolled here applied for dorm spaces. Of the total 12,800 available dorm spaces, 7,000 are open to returning students. The University is expecting at least 600 voluntary cancellations, Arndt said. Students may cancel their applications by sending a written request of cancellation to the Assignment Office for Campus Residences, 101 Shields. Students will be refunded their full \$45 advance payment if cancellations are made by March 23. Remaining applications will be reviewed at this time, Arndt said.

Of the remaining dorm spaces, 4,100 are reserved for incoming freshmen. Transfer students from Commonwealth campuses and other universities receive dorm space according to the number of students applying in each of these categories.

This year's application figures contrast greatly with last year's, when 1,200 of 15,000 applicants included returning and transfer students, as well as freshmen.

Steve Matt, vice president of the Association of Residence Hall Students, said this year's system of submitting dorm contract applications did not affect the number of students who applied for dorm space.

"If people really wanted to live in the dorms they would either wait in the lines or give their contract to a friend," Matt said.

According to Matt, the only flaw in the system was the long lines. "People panicked when they saw the lines forming so early," he said. Students who wanted a particular room got in the lines at the "earliest possible time. Then everybody jumped in to be in line," he added.

Matt said that last year's system of submitting dorm contract applications was impossible to work because too many students asked for reassignments and Housing could not guarantee them all.

Berwyn woman dies after Penn Tower fall

By BETH ROSENFELD
 Daily Collegian Staff Writer

A Berwyn woman died after she apparently jumped from an 11th-floor window in Penn Tower apartments yesterday afternoon.

Mary Beth Englehart of 368 Beachwood Road was still alive after she landed on the second floor patio in back of the building about 2 p.m., a resident of Penn Tower said. A spokeswoman at the Mountainview Unit of Centre Community Hospital said the woman died at the hospital at 2:30 p.m.

The State College Police Department and County

Coroner W. Robert Neff were still investigating the incident last night. A spokesman from the University's public information department said he believed the woman was visiting from out of town.

The Penn Tower resident said she heard a thud outside, and when she ran out on the balcony, a man from the second floor who said he had called an ambulance was already there. The resident said she contacted Rick Heiden, a manager for the fifth and sixth floors, and then got some blankets to keep the woman warm.

Heiden said they tried to keep the woman alive until

the ambulance arrived from the Ritenour Health Center.

Quick changes

March is known for quick changes, and this week's weather will be no exception as today will be partly sunny and breezy, a flurry possible. A high of 26 is expected. Tonight will be mostly clear, and tomorrow will be mostly sunny despite some high clouds, with a low of 19 tonight and a high of 42 tomorrow.

Cunningham discusses proposed funding legislation



Gregg Cunningham

Freshman state Rep. Gregg Cunningham has raised a few eyebrows since his victory last fall over Democrat Helen Wise for the Centre Region's seat in the state House. On Feb. 16, Daily Collegian staff writers Sharon Fink and Bob Frick interviewed Cunningham. The following is the transcript of that interview, edited slightly.

COLLEGIAN: Rep. Cunningham, in your campaign platform you said you would push for legislation guaranteeing continuous funding for non-preferred institutions. Would you describe it, and tell us when you plan to introduce the legislation?

CUNNINGHAM: I plan to introduce it within the next two to three weeks. I have drafted it; I am now reviewing it. I'm going to be sitting down with people at the University to get the benefit of their thinking. I'm going to be talking with representatives — Rep. Cohen (D-Philadelphia) for instance — and various other representatives of districts in which non-preferred funded institutions of higher learning are located.

So it's something that I would like to get into the system very early in the session so it can get repaired to the proper committee and get into the consideration process as quickly as possible, because what I'm proposing necessitates an amendment to the state's constitution, which is a very lengthy process and as a result of which I'm anxious to get it going as soon as possible.

COLLEGIAN: Are you working with people and representatives from Pitt, Temple and Lincoln on this legislation, or is this mainly being introduced from a Penn State angle rather than all the non-preferreds?

CUNNINGHAM: It's my legislation in the sense that I have drafted it, but I want the effort to be collective. I want the collective force of the non-preferred institutions behind the thing if I can persuade them that it's in their best interest, and I'm fairly sure I can.

Interview

COLLEGIAN: An amendment is a difficult piece of legislation to enact. Realistically, do you think the legislature will seriously consider such an amendment?

CUNNINGHAM: Yes, I think they will seriously consider it because my amendment not only provides for the continuous funding of the non-preferred appropriations, it provides for the continuous funding of the preferred appropriations as well. So it is in the interest of all representatives and senators to support legislation that's going to minimize the likelihood of there being an impasse situation that's going to plunge the state into economic chaos. So there should be some self-interest motivation here on the part of all members of the General Assembly to give this very serious consideration.

I might also point out that in addition to this amendment, I'm proposing legislation both in the form of a House rule and in the form of a statutory change that would prohibit the General Assembly from recessing for more than one day at a time when we go beyond the end of the fiscal year and we don't have any budget.

COLLEGIAN: When do you plan to introduce this?

CUNNINGHAM: I will probably introduce this in two stages — both within the next four to six weeks. That timetable can be accelerated if the House moves to consider the adoption of new House rules prior to that time. Obviously, I'll be pressed to do this more quickly if the House moves to consider impasse rules in the very near term.

COLLEGIAN: Judging the current

atmosphere in Harrisburg, do you think that this legislation also has a fair chance of getting passed this year?

CUNNINGHAM: I think it does, and I think that it's going to be very difficult for any representative to argue against it. I can't imagine what their rationale might be. It's not responsible for the legislature to walk out on a budget crisis and go home. That's what happened two years ago, and it created a very unfavorable appearance, and a number of people were at least, in part, not returned to public office as a consequence of that debacle. And I think the attitude of the General Assembly towards this kind of legislation is going to be different than it might have been two years ago.

COLLEGIAN: Of course, Penn State is a non-preferred institution in the state funding scheme. Would putting Penn State on the preferred list improve the University's overall situation?

CUNNINGHAM: I personally do not believe it would improve the University's overall situation. I think that it might give the University access to a more stable stream of funding, but there is no free lunch either in government or in the private sector, and the price I believe the University would have to pay ultimately for that funding security would be a steady erosion of its autonomy.

I think there would be aggressive, more serious incursions on the part of the General Assembly in the internal affairs of the University. There are members of the General Assembly whom I imagine would like to see Penn State on the state procurement system

and the state Civil Service system; who would like to see the General Assembly have some input into curriculum decisions, curriculum content decisions, faculty and staff hiring and firing criteria, and all of the internal things which I believe the University administration is uniquely qualified to make. I think the University administration is uniquely qualified to make decisions in these areas and that the General Assembly is badly underqualified to make these kinds of decisions.

So I don't think this would operate to the benefit of Penn State or higher education or the people of this Commonwealth, and despite the feeling of some of the representatives from the Pitt legislative area, I just don't believe this is going to be good for the non-preferreds. It's also my understanding that the University is rather cool towards the motion.

COLLEGIAN: Is Penn State's trouble in getting funds due to the fact that things are tough all over in Pennsylvania, or does the University lack respect in the state legislature?

CUNNINGHAM: I don't think that there is any anti-Penn State conspiracy in the legislature, and I don't think that there is any anti-higher education conspiracy in the General Assembly. There are representatives who are much more cognizant of the importance of higher education than some other members of the General Assembly.

There appears to me to be a correlation between the education of the representatives involved and their attitude towards higher education generally. Most representatives do possess a higher education and are much more favorably disposed towards the interests of higher education because they have personally benefited from their education and they realize the importance of higher education.

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