

News briefs

Cuba to free prisoners soon

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Cuban government said yesterday it would free only "a matter of hours" before all Americans in a Havana prison are released.

U.S. officials moved quickly to arrange for the return — and to arrest any among the prisoners who were jailed in Cuba for airplane hijacking.

Neither Escartin nor the State Department gave the exact number to be released. A department list differed slightly from one obtained by UPI.

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Mafia members' trial begins

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — The racketeering trial of five reputed Mafia members, expected to reveal racy secrets of the inner workings of the mob including underworld killings, began yesterday under heavy courtroom security.

The defendants are accused of conspiring to set up the killing of Frank "The Boss" Bonpensiero, former head of the mob in San Diego, who was gunned down in a telephone booth in February 1977.

They are also accused of trying to extort money from two prominent Las Vegas gambling figures and from several pornographers involved in an FBI "sting" operation in Los Angeles.

Newsroom searches curtailed

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Carter signed a bill yesterday designed to prevent surprise police searches of newsrooms.

The legislation requires police to request voluntary cooperation when seeking information from news-gathering organizations or use a subpoena that can be contested in court, rather than arriving unannounced with a search warrant.

The bill stems from a 1978 Supreme Court decision that upheld a search of the offices of a Stanford University student newspaper by police with a search warrant.

Dinosaur may have been seen

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Two American scientists believe a mysterious elephant-sized animal with a long neck and tail seen in the swampy jungles of western Africa may be a dinosaur.

The magazine Science 80 said a preliminary investigation by Roy Mackal of the University of Chicago and James Powell, a herpetologist living in Plainview, Texas, suggests the creature resembles a "hyposaurus" — a dinosaur believed to have died out 70 million years ago.

Mackal and Powell have not seen any of the creatures. But they were quoted as saying that natives of a largely unexplored region of the Congo say the animals have smooth, brownish-gray skin, a long flexible neck, a very long tail and three-clawed feet as big as frying pans.

Natives call the animals "Mokele-Mbembe."

Science 80 said the strongest evidence is a 1959 report of an animal that was killed because it disturbed natives fishing on Lake Tete.

The scientists said natives reported that the task of cutting up the animal was difficult because the creature had such a long neck and tail.

Communist dynasty proposed

TOKYO (UPI) — North Korea's ruling Communist Party laid the groundwork yesterday for the world's first Communist dynasty, endorsing President Kim Il-sung's son, heir apparent to his father.

The official (North) Korean Central News Agency, in a broadcast monitored in Tokyo, listed Kim's son, 39-year-old Kim Jong-il, as ranking second behind his father in the 19-member secretariat of the Korean Workers' Party.

Analysts had expected young Kim to succeed his father as party secretary-general and president at the party's five-day general meeting.

Court rules against expulsion

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — A church-run school acted unconstitutionally when it expelled a white girl for her friendship with a black youth, a federal appeals court ruled yesterday.

The decision by the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed a lower court ruling which held that the Marsumco Christian School in Woodbridge observed a legitimate religious doctrine that opposed interracial romance.

Homecoming '80 Schedule of Events



- MONDAY, OCT. 13 thru SUNDAY, OCT. 19 Homecoming Display — First Floor HUB
THURSDAY, OCT. 16
8:00 P.M. Jerry Rubin (speaker) — Eisenhower Auditorium
FRIDAY, OCT. 17
2:00 P.M. Freshman Football Game — Flower Garden Fields
5:45 P.M. Homecoming Parade — Miss Pennsylvania, Budweiser Clydesdales
7:00 P.M. Candlelight Ceremony — Old Main: Jay Feldstein (Alumni Assoc. President) speaker, and Penn State Glee Club
7:15 P.M. Men's Soccer vs. William and Mary
9:00 P.M. Bonfire/Pep Rally, Fireworks — South of Stadium: Joe Paterno, football players, cheerleaders
12:00 P.M.-7:00 A.M. All Night Vigil — Nittany Lion Shrine: WQWK
SATURDAY, OCT. 18
11:00 A.M. Women's Soccer Club Game vs. Cortland State — Pollock Fields
1:15 P.M. Balloon Launch — Beaver Stadium
1:30 P.M. Penn State vs. Syracuse — Beaver Stadium
7:30-9:00 P.M. Penn State Glee Club/Women's Chorus Concert — Schwab Auditorium: Free
7:00-9:15-11:30 P.M. USG Movie: "The Seduction of Joe Tynan" — 121 Sparks, Special Price: \$1.25
8:30 P.M. "Threater: Weird Tales" — HUB Ballroom: Student Foundation for the Performing Arts — FREE
SUNDAY, OCT. 19
11:00 A.M. Alumni Brunch — Nittany Lion Inn: Dr. Eddy (speaker), Acacia Singers
11:00 A.M. Special Homecoming Mass — Eisenhower Auditorium
11:00 A.M. Lacrosse Alumni Game — IM Fields
11:00 A.M. Women's Tennis Match vs. Penn
12:00-6:00 P.M. Fifth Annual Pioneer Craft Festival — Stone Valley
7:15 P.M. Men's Soccer Game vs. Notre Dame
7:30 P.M. Homecoming Awards Ceremony — HUB Assembly Room



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Honors program called success by most involved

By ANNE CONNORS Daily Collegian Staff Writer
The University Scholars Program, a special curriculum for academically gifted students, has been termed a success so far, according to most people involved.

The University Faculty Senate passed the program last spring to attract academically superior students to the University by providing smaller classes, different courses and greater academic challenges.

This term 325 freshmen and sophomores are enrolled in the program and within the next two years 650 to 700 students will be participating, Paul Axt, director of the program, said.

Students in the program say it helps expand their horizons.

"The honors program offers me a lot of opportunities, it creates a small-university atmosphere and I think I get better instructors,"

John Tarzosh (4th-engineering) said. "I'm really glad to be in the program — it's one of the reasons I came to Penn State," Susan Morgan (1st-business administration) said.

Students are invited to participate in the program if they have Scholastic Aptitude Test scores of 1300 or above, or if their grade point average is 3.35 (science) or 3.5 (non-science). To stay in the honors program, students must take 3 honors courses per year and maintain a 3.2 average.

Freshmen with 3.6 averages at the end of the year are automatically invited to participate in the program, and juniors may enter if they have a 3.8 average in their major, Axt said.

"The Honors Program provides academically superior students with a special opportunity to make full use of their ability and realize their academic potential," Axt said.

something like this," he said. Ted Sklenski, president of the Academic Assembly, said he thinks the program is a good idea.

"We'll have to wait and see if it brings more kids into the school," he said.

Honors courses cover subject material in greater depth, but do not assign more work, students and faculty said.

"I assign the same amount of reading material, but it's the difference between reading a fifth-grade reader and the New York Times," Paul R. Cornwell, professor of psychology said.

Raymond G. Ayoub, professor of mathematics, said he tries to give the honors students more theory in the classroom.

"I think the students are a little overpowered by the material, but their reaction has been very positive," Ayoub said.

Morgan said "I think the honors courses require more preparation on (the student's) part."

Some professors said the courses are more enjoyable to teach, but they require more work.

"I think the downfall of the University Scholars Program would be if the administration expects us to teach it as just another course without a reduced course load," Cornwell said.

Cornwell says class format is changed for honor students. "Instead of a lecture for Psychology 2, the honors students are divided into discussion sections with eight students led by a professor."

"The honors students also use a more sophisticated text," Cornwell said.

Honors program assistants in the dorm areas organize dinner seminars with visiting scholars, artists and people in public life to help honor students learn outside the classroom.

"The honors program gives you a good chance to get involved in activities the average kids can't do," Chris Loewen (1st-liberal arts) said.

"The honors students have toured the Garfield-Thomas Water Tunnel and the State Applied Research Lab. Tomorrow the honors students will lunch with former Sen. Eugene McCarthy, D-Minn. The program does not discriminate against the average student, Axt said.

"If all the University was doing was gearing to the average student, it would be neglecting the needs of students who have special talents," he said.

Sklenski said "It (the honors program) does discriminate, but not to the point of being ridiculous."

Most students said being in the honors program does not make them feel any different from anyone else or cut down on their time.

"I enjoy the academic atmosphere offered by the honors program, but I don't feel any different from any other kids at Penn State," Bob Davis (1st-engineering science) said.

Term change to be discussed

By DAVID MEIZERIAN Daily Collegian Staff Writer
Academic effects of the proposed change in the University calendar from terms to semesters was discussed at a workshop at 7 tonight in the HUB main lounge.

The program, sponsored by the Undergraduate Student Government's Academic Assembly, will feature several University faculty members and administrators discussing the effects of the proposed change.

"That's the only thing we will be covering at the meeting," said Ted Sklenski, Academic Assembly president.

"We've invited faculty members and administration to make 5 to 10 minute presentations on what they think are the most important effects of the semester change," he said.

The program will be opened to questions after the individual presentations, Sklenski said.

"We tried to get a fully balanced panel of those who are in favor of the change and those who are against it," he said.

Included on the panel will be: Rosemary Schraer, assistant provost; James B. Bartoo, dean of the graduate school; George J. McMurtry, former chairman of the Faculty Senate; Frank Mallette, chairman of the Faculty Senate's academic planning subcommittee; James Dungan, special assistant to the director of planning and budget; John J. Romano, assistant dean for the College of the Liberal Arts; John Wyckoff, assistant director for the Division of Undergraduate Studies; and

Red Cross registration today

Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity will hold Red Cross Bloodmobile Registration from 9:30 until 3:30 today in the HUB basement.

The Rhetoric Student Advisory Board will hold Blood Pressure Screening from 9 until 3 today in the HUB basement.

The Ukrainian Club will meet at 8 tonight in 312 Boucke.

Moviar Kappa will meet at 7 tonight in the Kappa Kappa Gamma suite, Cooper Hall.

The WDFM news staff will meet at 7 tonight in 304 Sparks.

The School of Music will present a piano recital by University faculty member Steven Smith at 8:30 tonight in the Recital Hall of the Music Building.

Alpha Epsilon Delta will present a program titled "Underclassmen Orientation to the Pre-med Major" at 7 tonight in 151 Willard.

The Kung Fu Club will meet at 8 tonight in 153 White Building. Beginners and advanced people are welcome.

The Kodokan Judo Club will practice at 6:30 tonight in the wrestling room of the Intramural Building. Beginners are welcome.

The Earth and Mineral Sciences Student Council will meet at 6:30 tonight in 244 Deike.

The Archery Club will meet at 7 tonight in 10 IM Building. Beginners are welcome.

Applications for Winter Term Free University programs are due Oct. 31. They can be picked up in 223 HUB.

The American Society of Civil Engineers will present Roger Car-

rier, district engineer for the Pittsburgh area, at 7 tonight in the HUB Assembly Room. Carrier will speak on soil mechanics.

Washington and Lee School of Law will hold pre-law interviews from 2:30 until 4 today in 114 Burrows. Interested persons should sign up in 107 Burrows.

Western New England School of Law will hold pre-law interviews from 10 a.m. until noon today in 114 Burrows. Interested persons should sign up in 107 Burrows.

The Justice Action Group will meet at 7 tonight in the Living Center of the Human Development Building.

The Archery Club will meet at 7 tonight in 10 IM Building. Beginners are welcome.

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PENN STATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB PRESENTS TOM SEGALSTAD LAALN/W3 ON: "AMATEUR RADIO FROM EUROPE AND OTHER ODD PLACES" WEDNESDAY, 15 OCTOBER 7:30 P.M., 208 ENGINEERING UNIT E

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