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Money problems may spell end for Campus Loop

By KAREN MCMANIMAN
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

Because of financial problems, the University may find future operation of the Campus Bus Loop System impossible, Richard L. Crowley, assistant vice president for business services, said.

"It appears to be very difficult to attempt to continue the Campus Loop operation with the increase of the deficit, the reluctance of passengers to pay at least 50 percent of the operating subsidy and knowing there is no arrangement for the replacement of the buses," he said.

Crowley said even the present fare of 25 cents does not cover operating expenses of the Campus Loop Bus System.

"With inflation and rising costs of fuel, materials, repairs and wages, the deficit has been rapidly increasing each year," he said.

"The University subsidy for that deficit in 1979-80 was roughly \$98,000 which is only about half of the actual operation costs," Ralph E. Zilly, senior vice president for finance and opera-

tions, said.

The Loop began as a University service in 1974. Its ridership has increased every year since with the exception of 1979-80 when the first fare hike was imposed (from 10 cents to 25 cents). After the fare hike that Fall Term, ridership decreased by 41 percent, Crowley said.

Ridership tallies for Fall, Winter and Spring terms '79-80 were 86,117, 153,845, and 117,230 respectively, Crowley said.

Another factor in the Loop's possible elimination is that many of the buses are showing their age, Bruce Younkin, foreman of bus operations, said.

"We have been encountering little problems, usually with parts," Younkin said.

He said the buses are in operable condition, better than a few years ago, because old parts have been replaced with better components.

"We will, however, be in need of some new equipment in the near future," he said.

Zilly said there is nothing in the 1980-81 budget for new buses.

Crowley said the Loop's fleet is comprised of

six buses which are valued at approximately \$100,000 each. The estimated replacement cost of those buses is \$140,000 to \$150,000 per bus, he said.

"We will have to continue to repair them until they are unoperable," Zilly said.

Zilly said no fare increase is in sight to help defray the University's subsidization of the Loop.

"Every transit service in the country operates on some form of subsidization, some even receive 90 percent federal funding. But, being a private institution, we must make up the difference ourselves," Zilly said.

The Loop was introduced in 1972 as a research project under James H. Miller, director of Public Transportation Programs for the University.

"We used it more or less as a guinea pig to determine student interest in such a service," Miller said.

Transportation around campus had long been a concern of the University, but the town bus services said they would not run on campus without a subsidy from the University, Miller said.

Buses for the project were leased from Fullington Bus Co., 310 W. Aaron Drive, at a rate of \$5.50 per hour. The first ridership tallies averaged 3,000 per week for Fall Term '72, 5,800 per week for Winter Term and 4,800 per week for Spring Term, Miller said.

"In 1973 the research part of the transportation project was over, and we could no longer justify it, so the Loop was discontinued for Fall and Winter of '73," he said.

The Undergraduate Student Government and Association of Residence Hall Students petitioned for reinstatement of the service on a full-time basis, Miller said.

Crowley said they had been having reliability and equipment problems with Fullington on the project and decided not to continue with the company.

Fullington filed with the Public Utility Commission for rights to operate its own buses on University roads and won those rights, Miller said.

The University then paid \$25,000 to Fullington for the right to run University-owned buses on

campus. The Loop was returned to action in January 1974 with only two twin coaches, which were purchased by the University, Miller said. The fare was set at 10 cents.

At the September '80 Board of Trustees Meeting, University President John W. Oswald said the Loop is on a list of 25 to 30 items considered valuable, but which could be cut, wholly or partially, if a real crisis arose.

The idea of curtailing or eliminating the Loop was brought up at a Student Advisory Board meeting earlier in September, where it met firm opposition from student leaders, said Andy Weintraub, vice president of USG.

Has there been any further discussion of a reduction or cancellation move for the Loop?

"We constantly evaluate all our budgets and operations to assess their value to the students, faculty and staff. At the present time, the present schedule is expected to continue for the remainder of this school year," Crowley said.

"With the cost of operations mounting and the Fleet buses becoming older, a decision must be made on the future status of the Campus Loop."

Iraq has loose grip on Iranian port city

By United Press International
Western reporters yesterday visited the vital Iranian port city of Khurrumshahr and said the city is under Iraqi military control, but it is not secure.

The Iraqi army has apparently driven the last of the Iranian defenders over the Karun River and can be said to control Khurrumshahr in a military sense, but they have so far failed to make it safe or secure from Iranian sniper and mortar fire from the south bank of the Karun, opposite the city.

Even as the reporters visited yesterday, Iran claimed its forces "are in full control" of the south bank of the Karun River, where there are some suburbs of Khurrumshahr and an Iranian naval base.

Tehran Radio said Iranian forces "are holding up the Iraqi advance on the Khurrumshahr-Abadan bridge."

From what Western reporters saw, that statement was true.

Khurrumshahr's bridge is of crucial strategic importance to the Iraqi siege of Abadan, about 9 miles further south and site of the Middle East's largest oil refinery, because it leads onto Abadan island.

An earlier Iranian broadcast bitterly attacked deserters fleeing trenches at the besieged oil capital of Ahwaz, where an important battle seemed imminent. It called them "chickenhearted" cowards who sought to hide "like jackals."

Military communiques from both sides yesterday were as contradictory as ever.

Tehran said it was now "calling on the Iraqi troops to surrender" outside Abadan, 9 miles downstream from Khurrumshahr.

But Iraq said its forces had thrown up check-points along roads leading from the refining center.

"One vehicle carrying mortar guns and light weapons was seized on a check-point where Iraqi forces were checking cars leaving the besieged oil city of Abadan," the official Iraqi News Agency said.

Iraq said its forces shot down two Iranian Phantom jets and killed 64 Iranian soldiers.

Western reporters who visited Khurrumshahr, the first such group to be allowed as far as the Karun River since the war started Sept. 22, were twice pinned down by Iranian sniper fire.

The streets of Khurrumshahr, littered with both live and spent ammunition, bricks and rubble, is a scene of almost total destruction, the reporters said.

Barely a house has escaped damage in the artillery beating the city of 100,000 has taken by both sides.

Though the Iraqis are controlling Khurrumshahr, which apparently has been deserted by all civilians, the city is a very dangerous place to be.

Snipers were working from across the river and, apparently, from atop a modern, bow-shaped bridge in reinforced gray concrete, which the Iraqis claimed to have captured last Friday.

"There are only about two or three snipers up on the bridge," said an Iraqi tank commander holed up in an office building a few yards from the water's edge.

"We don't know what's over on the other side," an Iraqi major said. "We have not occupied the other side yet. They (the Iraqis) have no transport. There are only pockets over there. They have only small arms."

Despite that claim, mortar fire was coming in sporadically from the Iranian-held southern bank of the river, where a small suburb of Khurrumshahr and an Iranian navy base were located.

Khurrumshahr lies mainly on the north bank of the river, at the point that the Karun flows into the disputed Shatt-al-Arab waterway.

The Iraqis say they are on three sides of Abadan and are shelling it intensively, but acknowledge they do not have troops onto the island where Abadan stands.

Along the port area and in the railroad yards, Western reporters saw twisted metal cargo containers littering the docks and huge heaps of dust and rubble that once were houses.

During the visit, an Iranian mortar shell exploded on the roof of the building, causing no casualties but underlining the point that, while Khurrumshahr may be under Iraqi control, it is not secure.

While the reporters were visiting Khurrumshahr yesterday, a group of hardline members boycotted the Iranian parliament's session on the 52 American hostages causing debate to be postponed until Sunday amid fears that the extremists might boycott again.

There appeared little hope the hostages would be freed before Tuesday's presidential election — the anniversary of their capture — in spite of reports from some Iranian leaders that a majority of members in Iran's parliament was in favor of that timetable.

Though a parliamentary majority — 162 of the 224 occupied seats — showed up yesterday, Iran's Central News Bureau said the body was 17 short of a quorum — which requires 179 of the total 270 seats to be filled. The deputies who boycotted the session oppose even considering the 362-day-old hostage issue in the midst of the war with Iraq.



Mrs. Casper

It looks like Jana Dubis (4th animal biology) has just seen a ghost at last night's East Halls Halloween party.

GOP aide quits post

Reagan adviser questioned in article

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Richard Allen, Ronald Reagan's top foreign policy adviser, resigned yesterday because of news reports indicating he used his power during the Nixon administration to make money for himself.

Reagan, campaigning in New Orleans, said, "He's withdrawn so that he will not be made an issue — so that's all I'm going to say."

Ed Meese, a top campaign aide, announced Allen's withdrawal in a statement in Washington, saying, "Mr. Allen continues to have the full confidence of Ronald Reagan and the campaign organization."

Meese said Allen "has withdrawn for the remaining days of the campaign to remove this matter as a possible issue in the campaign."

Reagan was asked if he still has confidence in Allen. "Mr. Meese is a man of good judgment," Reagan replied, "and Mr. Meese feels that way, and he's looked into it."

It has been reported Allen might be in line for a key job if Reagan wins the election — possibly the national security adviser post now held by Zbigniew Brzezinski.

Reagan's press secretary, Lyn Nofziger, said Reagan had not asked Allen to withdraw and had not even talked to him about the matter. He said he did not know whether Meese had asked Allen to step aside.

Asked if Allen might still get a job in a Reagan administration, Nofziger said, "I don't think we'll go beyond the election . . . on account of we don't know what's going to happen."

Allen, 44, served under Richard Nixon as a senior staff member on the National Security Council, then as deputy assistant to the president for international economic affairs.

At issue are questions raised in the Wall Street Journal Tuesday indicating Allen tried to profit from his government service.

The Journal said it had obtained some of Allen's correspondence showing he leaked secret information about White House deliberations on export-import policies to a Japanese business associate.

The newspaper said the letters made clear Allen was trying to set up consulting contracts with the Japanese — some of which he got after his government service ended.

The article said even now, Allen gets a retainer to promote Datsun cars.

Sen. Williams indicted for Abscam involvement

NEW YORK (UPI) — Sen. Harrison Williams, D-N.J., was indicted yesterday on conspiracy and bribery charges in a \$100 million Abscam scheme — the most influential figure accused in the FBI's undercover probe of political corruption.

Williams became the second U.S. senator in 40 years to face felony charges while in office.

A federal grand jury charged that Williams promised to steer federal military contracts to a Virginia titanium mine in which he accepted an interest. The indictment said a phony Arab sheik agreed to lend \$100 million to the mine to sweeten the deal.

Williams, a 60-year-old liberal Democrat, was the first senator to be charged with corruption since 1974, when Sen. Edward Gurney, R-Fla., was indicted on charges that he conspired to take bribes in the form of campaign contributions from Florida builders. He was acquitted.

The only former senator to be indicted

in recent memory was Daniel Brewster, D-Md., who was charged 11 months after leaving office with accepting an unlawful gratuity. He was convicted in 1975 after a 3-year legal battle that went to the Supreme Court.

If convicted, Williams would face a maximum penalty of 59 years in prison and \$110,000 in fines. Three others also were charged in the case.

In Washington, Williams, a 22-year Senate veteran who is tied for 12th in seniority, declared his innocence in an appearance before television cameras, but declined to take questions from reporters.

"I am innocent. I did nothing wrong," he said, reading from a statement. "A suggestion was made which was improper. It was immediately rejected. That was the end of that. The facts will prove my innocence in a court of law before 12 Americans."

He said reports on his alleged involvement in the Abscam scandal have made the past nine months "difficult and pain-

'I am innocent. I did nothing wrong . . . The facts will prove my innocence in a court of law before 12 Americans.'

— Sen. Harrison Williams, D-N.J.

ful for me, my wife, my staff and all our families and friends.

"We have held our heads high," Williams said. "We have worked hard for New Jersey and the nation. There is no reason for this to change."

Williams' lawyer, George Koelzer, said he was "fully confident the senator will be found innocent and will be vindicated by the verdict."

Williams, powerful chairman of the Labor and Human Resources Committee and a longtime ally of labor, was the first senator to be indicted in the 2-year Abscam investigation, in which undercover FBI agents posed as representatives of the phony Arab sheik seeking

political favors from public officials. His case was the most complex and he is expected to be the last member charged.

Six congressmen and 13 others also have been charged. Reps. Michael Myers, D-Pa., and John Jenrette, D-S.C. have been convicted. Myers subsequently was expelled from the House but is running for re-election.

Williams was indicted just days before the presidential election, a move demanded by the Senate Ethics Committee to ensure that "there is no political hanky panky" that might influence the presidential vote in his home state of New Jersey. He is not up for re-election himself until 1982.

Williams was specifically accused of bribery, conspiracy and crossing state lines to further a racketeering enterprise.

Three other men were charged as accomplices: Mayor Angelo Errichetti of Camden, N.J., who was convicted along with Myers and two others in the first Abscam trial, and two of the senator's friends Alex Feinberg and George Katz. Another friend, Henry Williams III — no relation to the senator — was named as an undicted co-conspirator.

Williams allegedly received the stock in August, 1979 as he was about to leave Kennedy International Airport for a trip to Europe. The stock was made out in Feinberg's name and Feinberg had endorsed it, making it negotiable.

At Myers' trial last August, Thomas Puccio, who headed the Abscam prosecution team, accused Williams of "participating in a crime."

Jurors at the Myers' trial heard a conversation taped June 28, 1979, in which Melvin Weinberg, a convicted swindler

and chief Abscam operative, coached Williams on how to behave when he met the sheik.

Weinberg: "He's only interested in you. You got to tell him how important you are. Who you are: 'I'm the man; I'm the man who's going to open the door; I'm the man who's going to do this and use my influence and I guarantee this.' Follow me. All bull . . . He's not going to open his mouth. He speaks bad English and he's ashamed how he speaks."

Cool for ghouls

Plenty of sunshine, becoming quite breezy and slightly milder during the afternoon with a high of 55. It should be dry, but chilly tonight with mainly clear skies and a low of 33. Morning sunshine tomorrow will give way to cloudiness in the afternoon. It will remain breezy on Saturday with cooler temperatures and a high of 49. Partly cloudy and chilly on Sunday with a high of only 45.