

Dinstein says Saudi revolution inevitable

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that the possibility exists that this will fail and ultimately coup d'état will occur in Egypt, we all hope that that is not the case but if it will appear to be the case, then obviously it will change the whole situation.

You see, the Middle East other than Israel is a very volatile part of the world. They have revolutions, assassinations going on there all the time. We have learned to live with it. It is like living in Naples, Italy—you see people living on the slopes of Mount Vesuvius. Saudi Arabia feels like we live on the slopes of a political Mount Vesuvius—it erupts all the time.

Do you realize how many coup d'états and assassinations there have been in the Arab world in the past 10 or 15 years? If I were an insurance salesman, I would have already refused to sell a life insurance policy to any leader in the Arab world. In that respect the world situation creates a barrier because we don't have too many contacts in the Arab countries. We are like a democratic island in a sea of despotic regimes which change all the time, so you watch the changes.

COLLEGIAN: Egyptian President Mubarak supports the sale of AWACS to Saudi Arabia. Will that affect your country's talks with him?

DINSTEN: No, the sale of AWACS is somewhat misinterpreted in this context. In the final analysis it is not an Israeli issue and with respect, I do not really think the sale will affect the balance of power in the Middle East. Saudi Arabia is no match for the Israeli air force.

The real question is entirely different; that is, we are talking about the last word in sophisticated weapons and just as the Shah of Iran was toppled overnight, who knows what will happen in Saudi Arabia. As you know the United States was just about to send the AWACS planes to the Shah of Iran before he was overthrown. Imagine what would have happened had these AWACS planes now been in the possession of the Ayatollah.

This is what worries us and this is why it had been suggested that if you want to go ahead with it, then go ahead with it, but please keep American technicians on board to make sure that they aren't not reach the wrong hands.

The problem with Saudi Arabia, most Middle East experts agree, is not whether there will be a coup d'état in Saudi Arabia; the question is when.

That is to say that the revolution is bound to take place in that country. It is inevitable; you have a most corrupt regime in which you have 100 or 200 people all belonging to one royal family all with billions of billions of dollars and they don't even know what to do with it, whereas the people by and large don't even benefit from it.

So if you want to provide these people with weapons that they need only for prestige, go ahead, for the threat to them is not from the Soviet Union or the Israelis, the threat is from internal revolution and the AWACS planes are not being saved from an internal revolution.

But I am worried about the fate of the AWACS once there is an internal revolution and it is going to get shot of these AWACS planes?

If it is the Soviets, then it is you who are going to be in trouble and the problem is American rather than Israeli. We never objected to the sale of aircraft to Egypt; up until the death of Sadat, the assumption was that Egypt was a stable, friendly country, but the Saudis are another story. You could not call them stable.



A woman strolls along Chicago's shore on Lake Michigan—and a few gulls joined her, enjoying a recent period of warm weather.

Winging it

Freshmen recognize need to write well, profs say

By PAUL K. MARTIN
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

While the quality of freshman writing at the University has remained constant over the last five years, the motivations of students have changed, an assistant professor of English said.

"Today, students see the need for the ability to write more than they did five years ago," Marie Secor said. "But they don't want any more."

Because of heavy competition in the job market, students are increasingly concerned about writing and communication skills. "The students are more interested in the ability to be more eager to learn than students several years ago, Secor said.

"Most freshmen just have not had enough experience writing and consequently they are not as good as they used to be," John T. Harwood, director of English composition, agreed. "The major problem of most students is inexperience," he

said. "Most have not done much writing and therefore are not clear about the purpose of their writing."

Harwood, who is responsible for the English 4, 10, 20 and 30 programs, said during any given year more than 12,000 students enroll in composition courses at the University.

All students graduating with a baccalaureate degree are required to complete at least English 20 (Composition and Rhetoric II) or English 30 (Honors Freshman Composition), Harwood said.

Incoming freshmen are placed in either English 4 (Basic Writing Skills), English 10 or 20 depending on the results of a placement test administered to all incoming freshmen before entering the University.

Last year out of the 9,168 students taking the placement exam, 50 or 6 percent were exempted from English 10 and English 20, while 1,236 or 13 percent were required to enroll in English 4, Harwood said.

That 13 percent figure is very low when compared with

averages from the University of Pittsburgh and Temple University, Harwood said. These schools are both located in urban areas where up to 40 percent of incoming freshmen may need remedial writing courses, Harwood said.

English 4, taught by experienced instructors with small class enrollments, prepares students for the expository prose writing they will encounter in English 10, Harwood said. The emphasis in the course is on writing, Harwood said, and although English 4 is not a drill course, grammar and sentence structure are stressed.

Martha Kohn, assistant English professor, said most students required to write English 4 are probably not very good readers and this shows up in the immaturity of their prose.

"Inexperience in writing is not the problem but rather the cause of the problem," Kohn said.

"Many students are not comfortable with writing and think of it as an enemy, Kohn said. But by reading and becoming more aware of words, students can improve their writing tremendously," Kohn said.

Harwood said lack of money this year forced the closing of a University learning center for students with reading and writing problems after only one year of operation. Harwood said he hopes to see the service, funded by a grant from the office of undergraduate studies, re-instituted in the near future.

Because of budget restrictions, the English department cannot afford to run the center alone, Harwood said. Because the problem of poor reading and writing cuts across all colleges at the University, Harwood said he hopes additional funding will come from individual colleges.

In the final analysis, practice is the key to improving your writing skills, Secor said.

"I'm from the school that believes that writing can be taught," Secor said, "and I have never met a student willing to learn that could not be taught how to write."

Chapel celebrates its 25th birthday

By LINDSAY NAYTHONS
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

For 25 years, University students "have been strengthened and enriched" by religious pluralism on campus, University President John W. Oswald said Friday at the 25th anniversary of the Helen Eakin Eisenhower Chapel.

Before Oswald's speech, J. Thomas Eakin, University director of religious affairs, called religion "a part of this University's life" and said the commitment to have a non-denominational chapel will continue to provide an appropriate place for religion on campus.

"The values, ethics, morality and personal philosophy taught here are evident in all phases of the University," Eakin said.

Raymond O. Murphy, vice president of church and state does not mean that there should be exclusion of religion.

On the contrary, "our religious diversity and this chapel show clearly that (religion) fosters student growth and intellectual development along with social responsibility," he said.

Oswald spoke about a case that will soon be heard in the Supreme Court in which students at the University of Missouri had to take legal action in order to use the chapel's main entrance to challenge the state constitution.

"The students there were seriously deprived of important programs," he said.

"I am delighted to join in the celebration of this chapel and all it stands for. Although we are a tax-supported University, we promote religious pluralism.

"Freedom of religion for ourselves means the same for the person as well. We have no religious exclusion here and our students are strengthened and enriched by this policy.

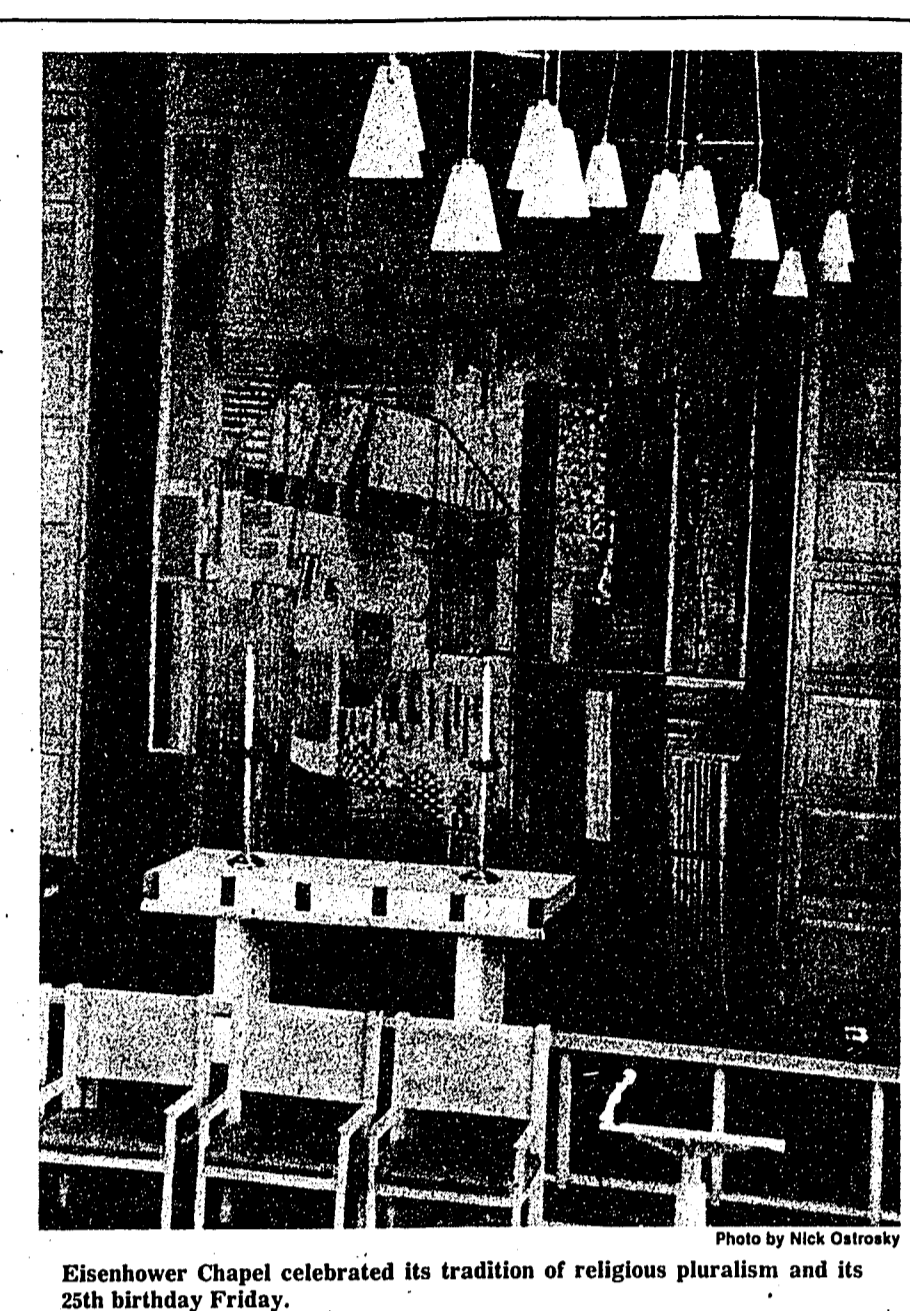
Rabbi Jeffrey Eisenstat, director of the B'nai B'rith Hill Foundation, told of a biblical story in which an Arab king went up on a mountain, "perhaps Mount Nitany," and saw all the Jews in the valley below with their festivities and "many splendid colors, even blue and white."

Instead of cursing them, the king blessed them for their peaceful and religious ways.

"Education with religion encompasses an ecumenical setting," Eisenstat said. "This chapel has been a place to harbor individual religious beliefs and enhance our religious diversity."

Eisenhower Chapel takes its name from the wife of former University President Milton S. Eisenhower, who presided from 1950 to 1956.

The cornerstone for the chapel was laid by former President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1955.



Eisenhower Chapel celebrated its tradition of religious pluralism and its 25th birthday Friday.

'The big powers in the Middle East are there to stay.'

—David Malach

Mideast oil control to change, speaker says

By PATRICIA HUNGERFORD
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

"The United States' interests in the Middle East boil down to two issues—in the short run, oil and the Suez Canal, and in the long run, alliances with the United States and oil shipments to the west from Libya have not changed one bit. If anything, there is some suggestion that they have increased slightly."

"The big powers in the Middle East are there to stay," Malach said. "They will not leave until there is a reason in the past year, the oil producing states have begun to realize they have to keep their price below the world market of alternatives, Malach said, "which means that Middle Eastern oil will still be profitable to use, but does not mean that political control of the Middle Eastern oil politics is remain."

"After the United States shot down two Libyan planes, the leader in Libya made a vociferous speech about how he was going to sell the United States and oil shipments to the west from Libya have not changed one bit. If anything, there is some suggestion that they have increased slightly."

"Oil will remain, for a significant period of time, a major American dependency, however, it is not sure how long it will be Middle Eastern oil," he said.

In the past year, the oil producing states have begun

"As long as the world is dependent on oil and as long as the location of the Middle East constitutes a strategic location, big powers will continue to be involved to encourage their clients and to try and destabilize their adversaries."

A neutral Middle East is an unrealistic expectation, he said.

"The international situation in the Middle East is far more complex than either American-Soviet rivalry or Israel-Egyptian rivalry," Malach said.

The speech given by Malach, entitled American Interests in the Middle East, was the first in a series of events sponsored by Yachad for Israel, which extends from yesterday through next Sunday.

Fairbanks: Though red tape cut, SMSA funds may be harder to get

By GENE GRVGO
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

Some of the red tape involved in getting community development funds from Washington may have been cut, but the funds may now be harder to obtain, State College Municipal Manager Carl B. Fairbanks said.

State College became entitled to community development grants when it was designated a Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area this summer because of the area's growth as recorded in the 1980 census.

A representative of the Department of Housing and Urban Development notified the State College Municipal Council that Congress's proposed amendments to the Housing and Community Act of 1974 would allow a shorter application period, a briefer application process, fewer public hearings and require new grantees to put together a Housing Assistance Plan. The council must submit its Housing Assistance Plan before any money is approved.

The application period has been shortened from 120 days to about 30, and certain reports such as community profiles and three-year project summaries will be eliminated by the amendments.

"That's the problem for us, to get that plan in and approved, then we can submit the rest of our materials," Fairbanks said. "I think the Housing Assistance Plan will be done by probably a consultant, our planning staff and the council."

Although less paperwork will be required to get the funds, Fairbanks said, the money could be more difficult to acquire because use of the funds is limited.

"The last thing we need to have is some sort of project that gets funded and then is found to be ineligible," he said. "We (council members) want to be as close to the guidelines as possible."

The council can spend the money on projects that benefit low-to-moderate income residents, but not on police or transportation matters or improvements to the municipal building on South Fraser Street.

"There are actions to benefit low-to-moderate income persons living in the community. Housing is one of the main responsibilities of deciding where the funds should go, he said.

"We (the council) talked about putting new streetslights downtown. Supposing that's an approved plan by the council, but there are lots of others," he said. "I have seen a list which includes things such as purchasing parks, installing streetlights, connecting streets, installing sewerage, providing human services."

Students are considered to make up a large percentage of State College's low-

to moderate-income group, Fairbanks said.

"They're probably voluntary low-moderate, but definitely if they live in our community here they would have to be called low-to-moderate income," he said.

One project that might benefit students would be the council's purchase and resale of old houses on West College Avenue, he said.

"It's always been possible," he said. "If a landlord owns a piece of property for real estate, and it's in a poor section of run-down property, and he doesn't have the funds to upgrade it, it's possible to make a grant under this program to upgrade the property, and to provide more adequate housing."

"There are limits on how much you can do for a building. I think the average (grant) would be \$7,500. It'd be also possible to purchase a property to construct apartments in it, and then to sell it."

"I'd like to see some housing work, but I don't think the borough can do that. If you know this community, I don't think you can rationally say that you can spend large amounts of money appropriating housing here. We just don't have that poor housing stuff," he said.

Fairbanks said that the time for preparing a grant proposal and getting a response will be much quicker.

"It looks now as though we can begin to make a submission as early as December, and we can get a receipt of this submission, providing we have an approved Housing Assistance Plan, that we can expect approval within 30 days," he said.

According to the HUD notice, council will be required to hold only "one or more public hearings" on community development and housing needs.

Fairbanks said he would like to see a variety of projects funded, but housing and more streetslights would be high priority projects.

A committee to deal with the community development funds was set up by the council last month, and should have the main responsibility of deciding where the funds should go, he said.

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