

Shamir, Peres to share premiership

By The Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and his designated successor, Shimon Peres, have reached agreement on a bipartisan government in which they will alternate as premier, Israel Radio reported yesterday.

The radio report came after midnight and could not be confirmed with party officials involved in the government negotiations. The radio did not say who confirmed the agreement and party officials called by The Associated Press did not answer their telephones.

Israel Radio said the government is to be established for four years and two months with Labor Party leader Peres serving as prime minister for the first half and Likud leader Shamir as his deputy and foreign minister. They will switch roles in the second half, said the radio, which is state-owned but operates as an independent corporation.

Labor and Likud have been negotiating for more than three weeks on a way to join Israel's two major political blocs in a national unity government, following July 23 elections which gave neither a majority in the Parliament.

The radio said Yitzhak Rabin, prime minister in the last Labor government, will

be defense minister for the entire life of the new government, and a Likud candidate yet to be named will be finance minister.

There will be 24 Cabinet ministers, 12 from each party, the report said.

Peres and Shamir had said after a meeting Wednesday that they expected negotiations on a joint government to be finished by next week. They were scheduled to meet again today.

From the beginning, the major obstacle to a joint government was the question of who would lead it.

President Chaim Herzog named Peres prime minister-designate and asked him to form a new government because Labor won 43 seats in the election to Likud's 41. But Herzog also asked him to try to unite with Likud rather than putting together a coalition with some of the 13 smaller parties that won seats in the 120-member Knesset.

Shamir's backers had said they would demand the premiership, and Peres said at the start that it was not negotiable.

It said they agreed that new Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank of the Jordan River would be approved by a simple majority in the joint Cabinet. Labor had demanded a two-thirds majority for such decisions, in hopes of keeping campaign promises to freeze settlement building.



Barbara Wiedemann (junior — foreign service and telecommunications) does some outdoor studying among the trees near the possibly ill-fated Buckhout Gardens.

Biology labs to replace gardens

By PAT COLLIER
Collegian Staff Writer

A battle is heating up about Buckhout Gardens, which may be torn down to make space for new biology labs, the head of the biology department said yesterday.

"It's the classic conflict between beauty and utility," said Eugene Lindstrom of the proposed action, which would close the gardens to make space for a new teaching laboratory.

The new lab is needed to house several biochemistry classes and offices for eight faculty members currently housed in Frear and Buckhout labs, Lindstrom said.

The need for the new lab has arisen because proposed renovations would close parts of Buckhout and North Frear Buildings, he said.

"If somebody else can come up with a better place for the labs, I'm all for it," he

said. "But right now it looks like this is our only alternative."

Lindstrom said the labs must be close to campus so students can arrive at their classes on time. In addition, the faculty members' offices must be close to campus, he said.

"You can't just put these people out in the boonies," he said.

The fate of the Buckhout gardens will be decided on Sept. 6, when the University's Board of Trustees will be presented with preliminary plans for the construction of temporary facilities in the Buckhout area," said Roger Williams, a University spokesman.

The trustees will decide whether to approve the plans then, Williams said.

"If the University was to eliminate a garden plot, it would look at relocating that facility elsewhere to the extent possible," he said.

On the other side of the issue, a number of concerned State College residents want to see the proposed action stopped.

Joe Banks, Sierra Club president, is one. "We're trying to organize to persuade the trustees to leave the gardens alone," Banks said. "We want to do this because we feel the gardens belong here for two reasons. First, that they are beautiful as well as educational. Second, all of the open space on campus has disappeared, especially in this area."

Betsy Wertz, (senior-agricultural science) also believes the gardens should stay. In an attempt to influence University President Bryce Jordan and James Dungan, director of facilities information management, on the garden issue she is eliciting letters from students, town residents

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Drop/add extended

By KRISTINE SORCHILLA
Collegian Staff Writer

The deadline for the free drop/add period has been extended until 5 p.m. Tuesday, a public information spokesman said last night.

Bill Mahon, speaking for the Office of the Vice President for Academic Services, said the deadline was extended "as a service to students who need additional time to complete drop/add transactions."

If the deadline had not been extended, students would be required to pay a \$6 fee per transaction beginning today, Mahon said. The fee will be reinstated Wednesday.

Robert E. Dunham, vice president for academic services, said University officials decided last night to extend the deadline because many students are still dropping and adding courses.

"The extension was not necessarily because of problems created by the new computerized drop/add system, Dunham said.

"It's not necessarily long lines (that caused the deadline extension). Whenever you have a new system, peculiar difficulties are uncovered," Dunham said. "We wanted to make sure we weren't penalizing students who are still making transactions."

Discovery aloft — finally



By HARRY F. ROSENTHAL
Associated Press Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Space shuttle Discovery finally got off the ground yesterday, beautifully and flawlessly, and its crew launched a communications satellite attached to the same kind of rocket motor that sent two earlier satellites into useless orbits.

This time it worked. Mission control sent word to the shuttle and astronaut Steve Hawley responded, "That's real good news, we're up here celebrating."

The 87-second firing of the solid-propellant motor sped the \$35 million satellite toward an elliptical orbit 22,300 miles by 184 miles around the Earth. Another "burn" is to circularize the orbit at its high point tomorrow.

Satellite Business Systems, which paid NASA \$10 million for the launch, was delighted.

"All data indicates a healthy satellite," said Stephen B. Schwartz, president of the private communications firm. "We got apple pie performance."

After three postponements, Discovery's crew had to endure yet another wait yesterday for liftoff — seven minutes this time — because a private plane was circling offshore for a close, but hazardous, view of the launch. It was chased out of the area by an Air Force plane, and the Federal Aviation Administration said it would take action against the pilot.

"We are happy the orbiter and its crew finally left town," said launch director Bob Sieck. "The launch team is ecstatic. The only way to get over an abort and two postponements is to have a successful launch."

Commander Henry W. Hartsfield, 50, and pilot Michael Coats, 38, began checking out the new ship's systems as soon as they reached orbit, 184 miles above Earth.

Eight hours after liftoff, mission specialists Hawley and Richard Mullane sent the commands that

"We got apple pie performance."

—Stephen B. Schwartz,
president of Satellite
Business Systems

started the satellite on its way. The rocket was timed to ignite 45 minutes after the satellite, spinning at 48 rpm for stability, was ejected with springs from Discovery's cargo bay.

The firing was supposed to be 86 seconds long; it was 87.

"That burn was within one second of perfect," said Mission Control's Brian Welch.

The shuttle was over the equator, southeast of Hawaii at the time the satellite was ejected. Until the firing over the Indian Ocean anxious controllers on the ground did not know whether the launch was successful this time.

It was the first shuttle deployment since February when two communications payloads went into low orbits because their rocket stages, called PAMs for Payload Assist Modules, failed.

The two fiascoes have caused NASA's customers great concern, raised their insurance rates, and caused one satellite launch delay. That, plus three postponements of Discovery's first flight, put the shuttle's reputation as an orbital delivery system into serious question.

Communications satellites must go into an orbit 22,300 miles over the equator to remain "stationary" over one spot of Earth.

Among the crew of six was America's second spacewoman, Judy Resnik.

Flight director Gary Coen said there were a few first-flight problems, all minor. A few instruments didn't work right, two recorders were overheating, an antenna was working only intermittently or not at all, and one computer screen was dark.

Priority system called success

Administrators happy with new room assignment system

By KIM AJECK
Collegian Staff Writer

University administrators are pleased with the new priority housing system that ended the first-come-first-served system that left many students out in the cold.

Donald Arndt, director of housing services, said the system proposed by the Association of Residence Hall Students last fall is a fair system, and student requests were honored whenever possible when making room assignments for Fall Semester.

Under the old room assignment system, students waited in line for dormitory contracts for as long as three or four days, Arndt said.

"That spotlighted the need for a change," he explained.

Before the priority system, singles, suites and all area preferences were assigned to students on a first-come, first-served basis, Arndt said. Consequently, students with special preferences got in line early to assure their assignment. The early lines panicked other students and they too began forming lines.

Arndt said the present system is a compromise between the line system and another alternative: a lottery selection. With lines, the students' fate is in their own hands, while with the lottery there is no choice. The priority system allows for some choice without the unreasonable lines, Arndt said.

The new system, initiated in the spring, involves a two-step process, Arndt said. Students interested in campus housing submitted a housing contract offer card from Jan. 10 to March 2. Later, they were required to fill out another card stating their preferences, such as roommate, room type or residence hall area.

Priority was determined first by semester standing and then by a scrambling system of the last four digits of student identification numbers, he said. Each year the numbers are scrambled differently so that no number has an advantage over another.

"I don't think there is any reason why we should have a system as outdated as standing in line."

—Linda Rowder, ARHS president

Arndt said 100 percent of the contracts were accepted this fall. He added that in the case of a shortage of space in the future, students who request housing last would be denied contracts. They would be notified by March 30.

Arndt suggests that students who are certain they want to remain in the residence halls should submit their offer cards early to better their chances of contract acceptance.

The non-returnable fee for advance housing registration under the new system is \$100 rather than the \$45 fee of previous years. Arndt said ARHS proposed this idea to discourage students from applying for housing if they were unsure about living on campus in the fall.

He explained that many students would risk losing \$45 if they decided not to live on campus. They would be less likely to gamble with \$100, he said.

Students asking for reassignment to the same room with the same roommate should have no problem, he said. Many students who ranked roommate as their first priority were not assigned to the area they requested. Arndt explained that these students were placed together in their requested area if possible, but if an entire room was not vacant they were assigned elsewhere.

Dave Pollock (junior-administration of justice), who lived in West Halls last spring, was surprised that he and his roommate were assigned to East Halls this semester.

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weather

Partly to mostly sunny and less humid today. High of 81 degrees. Clear and cooler tonight. Low of 53. Outlook for labor day weekend is sunny and pleasant with high in the upper 70s.
.....Dan Zimmerman