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Progress seen as Carter victory

**Health bill heads for vote**

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — When the administration's hospital cost containment bill comes up for a vote in a key House health subcommittee today, the weakened version that emerges will look like a defeat for the administration; but that judgment would be premature.  
Sources say the bill will be minus any mandatory powers President Carter wants. But the decision by the health subcommittee of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee to pass the weaker legislation is part of a plan to get the bill to the House floor.  
Next stop will be the full Commerce Committee. A much tougher battle will be waged to win approval there.  
Supporters have always said they had a better chance to pass the bill — which would set a voluntary and potentially mandatory ceiling on the rate of annual hospital cost increases — in the House itself, if they could get it out of committee.  
The subcommittee, chaired by Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., will recommend a voluntary plan — minus any word of standby mandatory controls. The issue will be effectively bucked to the full Commerce Committee in time for Speaker Thomas O'Neill's Sept. 15 deadline for action.  
Sources said Wednesday the "votes are just not there" (in Waxman's subcommittee) for such a stiff proposal.  
In remarks to a White House audience Tuesday, Carter said hospital bills have taken advantage of the lack of competition within the industry.  
He reminded his listeners that the hospital lobby is powerful and well-organized, and spends a good deal of time cultivating key members of Congress.  
The rate of hospital cost increases has been running well ahead of the overall inflation rate. The sources suggested many lawmakers will find it hard to explain to their constituents a vote against the bill.  
Right now the situation looks like this:  
The bill has passed one subcommittee and was voted down in another. That means the issue will come to the full Senate later in the fall. Chances: anybody's guess.  
In the House, the Ways and Means Committee has cleared the bill, but tacked on a host of waiting amendments. Once Waxman's subcommittee and the full Commerce panel acts, the bill can be cleared for floor debate.

**Crimson Tide denies NOW accusations**

United Press International  
TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — The University of Alabama denies charges that female students have received athletic scholarships to entertain high school athletes the university is trying to recruit.  
Associate athletic director Sam Bailey said Tuesday the school has 20 "hostesses" who escort prospective athletes around campus and who receive a tuition break of \$150 a semester, the same as cheerleaders.  
He said it would be unfair to call such tuition assistance an athletic scholarship.  
The charge came Tuesday from the National Organization for Women. Holly Knox, director of NOW's project on equal educational rights, told a Washington news conference that as late as 1976 Alabama offered athletic scholarships to "for the entertainment of male athletes the school wanted to recruit."  
The university calls the girls hostesses, Knox said, but "we have another name for them."  
Ann Marie Lawler, associate athletic director in charge of women's athletics at the university, said NOW was relying on an unflattering and inaccurate account of the practice that appeared in a defunct magazine on women's sports.  
But NOW said the charge was based on documents showing practice existed as late as 1976.  
"We have girls that have been hostesses for years, like most schools do," assistant athletic director Charley Thornton said. "What they do is serve as hostesses for high school recruits by showing them around the campus and going to the games. It (the NOW allegation) makes it sound like we're buying these girls. We are not."  
The allegation against the university was an example cited by Knox after she announced that Alabama "rock bottom" — the worst in the nation — in giving women equal treatment in education.  
NOW awarded the state's "Silver Snail," a sculpture of a snail suggesting slow progress on men's rights.

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10:50 Morning Worship with the Rev. Michael Miller preaching.  
Lunch following worship. For transportation call 823-5451.  
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