

Winter, Spring Break alternatives offer community service

by Rebecca Weindorf
staff writer

Looking for some community service ideas this year? If you want to avoid the boring, tedious task of finding some good community service hours for winter or spring (namely, winter and spring break), then the alternative break trips offered by Student Activities may be a place to start.

The 1999-2000 semesters will be offering a winter break alternative trip and two spring break trips out of town to do various service projects, such as working with the homeless, conserving nature, and working with local services and agencies for the needs of the community.

Shawna Pelasky, who is in her first year as coordinator for the alternative break trips, is enthusiastic about the projects. This is her first year in coordinating the projects.

"The winter break alternative trip was added this year, along with the trip to Florida in the spring," Pelasky said. "We have a couple staff members come along for the trip. Currently, we're still searching for a couple staff members to go on the Florida trip, but all the students are looking forward to the trips."

Pelasky also commented that the

trips are for everyone, not just those who do community service on a regular basis. "We get all sorts of people to do these projects. It's not for anyone in particular; it's open to all students. Sometimes we get people who are just curious about what the projects are about and try it out. They end up having a lot of fun giving back to the communities."

One of the catches that may make others stray from the trips is that there is no credit given for the trips. "These are only for community service," Pelasky said. "The students that sign up are usually looking for a service project that is more intense than ones that only require a few hours' work over the summer."

Nevertheless, the turnout for the trips is outstanding. "We only have waiting list seats open for the winter break trip and the spring break trip to Florida," Pelasky said.

The winter break trip will be to Staten Island, NY, and is titled "Project Hospitality". It will run from January 3-8, and the cost is \$75 for housing and meals at the host site. Any other meals, transportation or entertainment activities are to the responsibility of anyone who volunteers. The description of the trip includes working with homeless individuals who may be infected with HIV or AIDS. Other community ser-

vice projects will be done on the trip. There is only a waiting list available to sign up for the trip.

The first spring break trip will be to Hobe Sound, Florida, at Blowing Rocks Preserve. It will run from March 5-11. Cost of the trip includes anything above \$225, including entertainment, transportation to the airport, meals, and camping gear; the \$225 is provided by the Student Activity Fee for a portion of the plane ticket. Some tasks that are included in the trip will be restoring natural habitats and working on building trails at the Preserve. There is only a waiting list available to sign up for the trip.

The second spring break trip will be to Baltimore (which will include a one-day trip to Washington, D.C.) There are still seats available for the trip, which will be for Our Daily Bread. Our Daily Bread is a program that helps feed the homeless of Baltimore; other service activities will be worked on depending on the needs of the community and agencies in Baltimore. The cost is \$70 per person to cover meals and housing; other expenses will be the responsibility of the volunteers.

If you are interested in more details, want to sign up, or have any questions, you can go to the Office of Student Activities for more information. You can also call Shawna Pelasky at ext. 6171 or email her at sep12@psu.edu.

Sample continued from front page



PHOTO BY JEFF MILLER

George Sample sits with his family at the Alumni Fellow Award ceremony.

Sample, himself, continues to live the idea of Penn State pride, spending the entire day at Behrend on the date he received the Alumni Fellow Award.

After a 9:30 lecture about the social, legal and ethical environment of business, and an 11:00 lecture of an introduction to media writing, Sample ate lunch with

the *Behrend Beacon* editorial staff, advisors, Provost and Dean Dr. John Lilley and others who attended. Sample gave the staff tips in regards to asking the tough questions and what skills are good to have when applying for a job in the newspaper business.

Mrs. Mary Negri then led Sample on a campus tour followed by a Penn

State Erie Council of Fellows Meeting.

Sample ended his speech with a reference to a quote spoken by Winston Churchill. "Never...was so much owed by so many to so few." Sample changed that quote to fit the feelings he had that night. "Never have so few owed so much to so many."

Question of the Week

WHAT WAS YOUR MOST EMBARRASSING HALLOWEEN COSTUME, EVER?



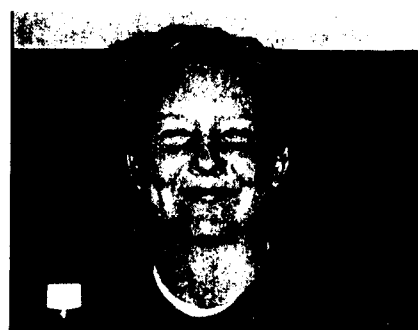
"I was a big yellow bumblebee."
-Lynn Pierson, 07, S&BS



"Every year when I was little I used to be a punk rocker."
-Jen Duda, 01 DUS



"Once I went as a cat, but some old lady thought I was a Playboy bunny! I was so embarrassed."
-Lauren Eisenhuth, 01 ENGR



"One year my friends and I went as the Spice Girls and I was Ginger Spice."
-Kristin Grudowski, 01 COMBA



"I was a frog for four years in a row . . . my mom had made the costume, and she didn't want to make me a new one."
-Pam Lefebvre, 01 DUS

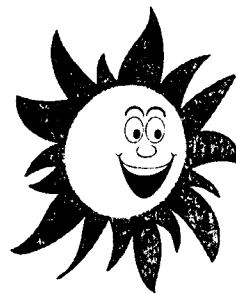
Police And Safety REPORT:

- 10/21/99 07:30 P&S was advised to supervise the towing of vehicles from the Reed Lot during the line painting. Two cars were towed.
- 10/22/99 09:15 Theft from an unlocked vehicle parked in the west end of the F Lot was reported.
- 10/23/99 21:18 A complainant reported being stuck in the mud 100 yards from Ohio Hall, north of Overlook Drive.
- 10/24/99 14:40 P&S received a report from a student that an obscene message was left on the dry erase board on her door in Ohio Hall.
- 10/24/99 17:30 The lawn at the north edge of the S Lot was damaged by a vehicle.
- 10/25/99 17:30 A complainant reported damage to the athletic fields near the main entrance.
- 10/25/99 23:31 A complainant reported that his vehicle had been damaged while parked in the South Engineering Lot.



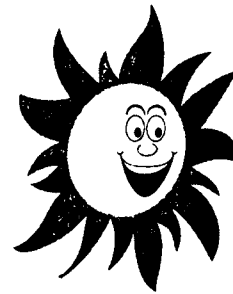
WEEKEND WEATHER OUTLOOK

OCTOBER 29-31, 1999



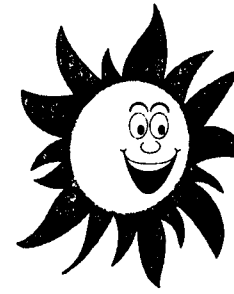
Friday

PARTLY SUNNY; HIGH IN LOW TO MID 60'S.



Saturday

FAIR; LOW OF 40, HIGH IN LOW TO MID 60'S.



Sunday

FAIR; LOW IN MID 40'S, HIGH OF MID TO HIGH 60'S.