Groups Hold Picnic Despite Lousy Weather-

by Jan Travers

Even uncooperative weather was unable to dampen the spirit of those attending the "picnic" for computer science and information systems program students and faculty.

The picnic, originally scheduled for the Sculpture Garden on April 21, was sponsored by the Association for Systems Management (ASM), Data Processing Management Association (DPMA), and the Information Systems Program. Designed as a social event, it gave students and faculty members a chance to interact in an informal setting.

"People must take the initiative to seek information on opportunities available to them in the field," said Mehdi Khosrowpour, chairman of the Information Systems Program and faculty advisor for ASM.

A new feature of this semester's picnic was the presence of a former IS

student who graduated from Penn State Harrisburg. Now working for Computer Task Group, Inc., John J. Laporta offered information on entering the job force.

"My company wants Penn State students because the students coming out of this program are better prepared than many other graduates for jobs," said Laporta in describing how employers perceive Penn State graduates.

Laporta advised the students that the more programming they do, the better off they will be because in the "real world" employers have more respect for the worker who is able to find his own answer to a problem. Agreeing, Khosrowpour encouraged the students to

develop their own style of debugging.

"No one can teach it [debugging] to you, you just do it. By writing a lot of programs, you get to know your own typical mistakes. Only practice can make you better," said Khosrowpour.

Annual Health Fair Successful

By Andrea Abolins

Fifty-five health organizations provided screenings for more than 1000 people who attended this year's Penn State Harrisburg Health Fair held April 4 and 5.

According to Jean Kresge, coordinator of Health Services, this fair was the most successful one to date. The fair, held annually, enables students and community members to have screenings and find out what health services are available to them in the area.

Pi Sigma Chi helped to sponsor the fair. Student volunteers filled balloons with helium, greeted visitors, and dressed up as clowns. The Nittany Lion made an appearance and the Capital Iron Group demonstrated weightlifting for middle school students attending the fair.

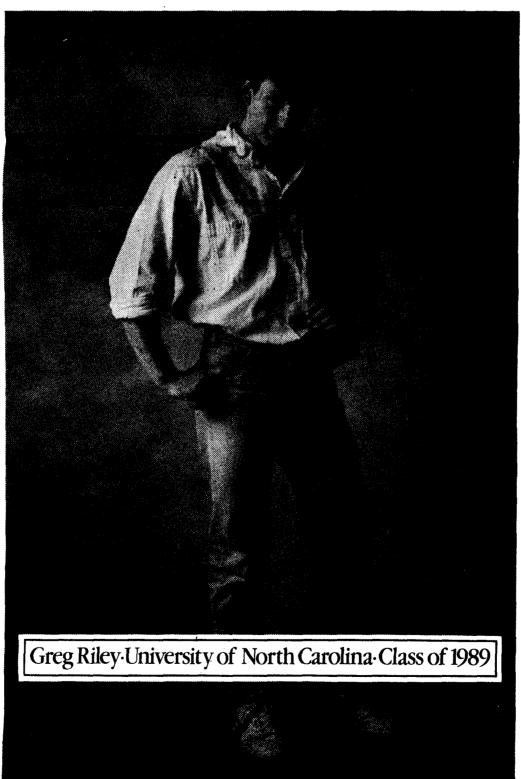
The fair was organized by Kresge. She has organized all of the campus' helaht fairs, and this year was assisted with preparations by Jane Keider, Lois Cochran, instructional services and maintenance.

The Health Fair has helped a number of people determine health problems. Commonly found are people with high blood pressure or diabetes who did not realize they had these conditions.

Though the tests are often of a serious nature, fun also prevails at the fair. Door prizes, donated by local businesses, were given away every hour. Empire Beauty School provided free haircuts and manicures.

More agencies plan on participating in next year's Health Fair. The fair will once again be on April 4 and 5, and students are asked to volunteer.

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