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It was a Gentle Thursday — for a few hours

By WENDY ZOLDOS
Daily Collegian Staff Writer
Gentle Thursday 1979 will be remembered as the "day of sharing", that never fully materialized.

The skies were threatening when the day began at 10 a.m., and the cloudy, overcast skies brought heavy rains which forced the late afternoon cancellation of Gentle Thursday.

But the weather didn't dampen the spirits of University students who braved the rain to enjoy some of the ninth annual event.

"I'll probably be the last one to leave," maroon robe clothed Darryl Moore (9th-man-environment relations) said. "I'm glad they didn't move it to the Intramural Fields. Whenever they start up a tradition like this, they should keep it there," he said.

The only band to perform for Gentle Thursday, Avatar, began to play for a moderate-sized crowd at 11 a.m. Gentle Thursday coordinator Pam Winterhalter said, "This is it. We can't cancel now since a band is performing."

The crowd was very mellow and gentle in the morning hours, as most listened to the rock sounds of Avatar. An art class was seated in a circle, painting landscape scenes. Eco-Action members manned their refuse barrels, awaiting recyclables. Marshals passed out novelties like balloons, candy, yo-yos

and squirt guns to the crowd. University Police Services remained on the fringe of the HUB lawn, warning potential drinkers to dispose of their coolers.

The Recreation and Parks Society organized games for the day, with participants playing tug-of-war and human pinball while others rolled around atop a giant earthball.

Matt Leininger, (6th-recreation and parks), one of the coordinators for the games, said the games were the idea of the Gentle Thursday committee. Leininger said the Gentle Thursday

committee was trying to alter the image of Gentle Thursday, and the Recreation and Parks Society was glad to help out.

"We played all afternoon last week, and we'll be here all day today," Leininger said. "I think we will have more people playing when they see we are here," he said.

Joel Smith (9th-food service) sported a dozen balloons attached to his hat and a sign advertising yogurt, hot dogs and other snack foods. Smith was advertising for Food Service 330, and said Continued on Page 3.

Police issue many citations

By NANCY BOYD
Daily Collegian Staff Writer
Although Gentle Thursday was canceled there were numerous arrests on the HUB lawn throughout the day by both University and State College police. State College Police Sgt. Thomas Rusnak said numerous citations were also issued during the day for underage drinking.

"We will be dealing with these all night and tomorrow," he said. "I can't make an estimate at this time, only to say that there were many."

In one late afternoon incident, a female minor was arrested after a

scuffle when she tried to run while being cited for underage drinking, he said.

"There was nothing else we could do," Rusnak said. "She ran like a wild animal, resisting everyone in sight."

Rusnak said a male, also a minor, was arrested with the girl when he resisted both town and University Police Services in the same incident.

About 15 persons were dealt with by University Police, beginning at 7 a.m., according to University police manager Thomas R. Harmon.

Harmon said two State College residents were charged with several Continued on Page 3.

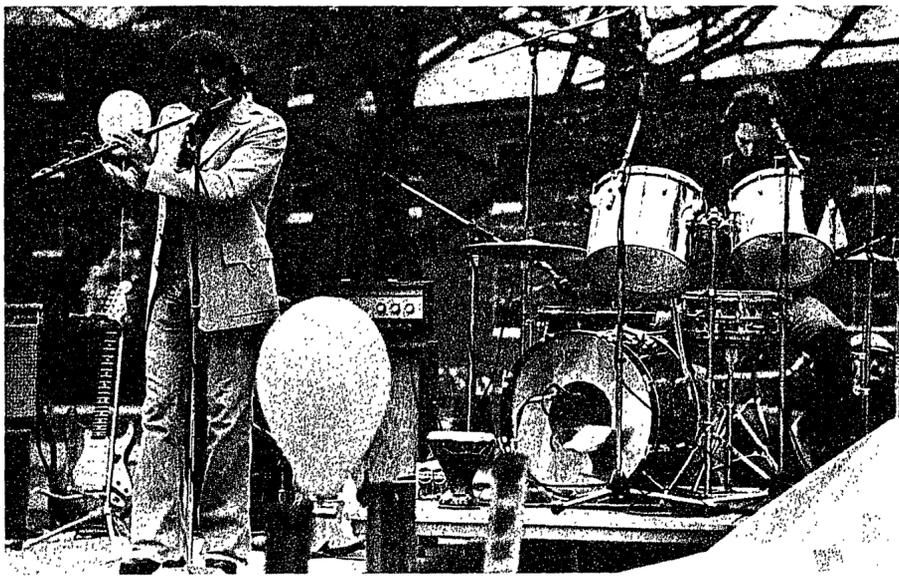


Photo by Jon Saraceno

Members of Avatar perform before the rains fell to wash out Gentle Thursday for the second week in a row. There will be no third shot for the event in 1979.

Thatcher predicted British winner

LONDON (AP) — Margaret Thatcher's Conservatives scored upsets in urban strongholds of the governing Laborites and surged toward victory today in Britain's general elections as the rural vote rolled in. Computer projections indicated a comfortable Conservative majority in the House of Commons.

With results in from 350 of the 635 parliamentary districts, Labor had 179 seats but showed an overall loss of 15. The Conservatives had an overall gain of 23 seats for 161 and surged ahead in the popular vote from yesterday's election.

The Scottish National Party had won only two seats while losing six, and other minor parties won three seats and lost two.

Computer projections by two British news organizations predicted that Thatcher would become Europe's first woman prime minister with a majority of 40-43 seats in the 635-seat House of Commons, ending five years of rule by Prime Minister James Callaghan's Labor Party.

In the popular vote from 350 districts, the Conservatives had 6,648,977 — 42.6 percent; Labor 6,294,208 — 40.3 percent; Liberals 1,965,624 — 12.6 percent, and others 716,582 — 4.6 percent.

In the last election in October 1974, Labor gained 39.3 percent of the votes and that gave them 319 seats in Commons — a majority of two.

The returns, laboriously counted by hand, showed a 74.8 percent turnout, with about 30 million of 41 million registered voters casting ballots.

Vote counters planned to take a break at 5 a.m. (midnight EDT), and resume work around 10 a.m. (5 a.m. EDT).

Pollsters, bookmakers and stockbrokers had been confident of a Conservative victory.

Despite the chilliest May weather in almost 50 years, voters trooped to polling stations in schools and pubs, town halls and cricket pavilions to decide whether Britain should have another round of moderate socialism under 67-year-old Prime Minister James Callaghan and his Labor Party or veer to the right with Thatcher.

"We never count our chickens before they are hatched, and we don't count No. 10 Downing St. before it is thatched," quipped the opposition leader, a champion of free enterprise, when asked yesterday whether she was confident of winning.

Five opinion polls published Election Day gave her Conservative Party leads ranging from two to eight percentage points. The nation's legal bookmakers reported heavy wagering in favor of the Tories, including one bet of 20,000 pounds (\$41,000). Stock prices nudged record highs on hopes the party that traditionally backs big business would win.

An electorate of 41,093,262 was eligible to cast ballots for the new Commons. The party that wins the most seats will be asked by Queen Elizabeth II to form a government. It will hold power for up to five years, until it calls a new election.

Few women in modern history have led their nations' governments. Sirimavo Bandaranaike was prime minister of Sri Lanka in 1960-65 and 1970-77, Indira Gandhi served as prime minister of India in 1966-77, Golda Meir was Israel's prime minister in 1969-74 and Isabel Peron was president of Argentina in 1974-76.

Callaghan fought an uphill battle since a vote of no-confidence brought about a dissolution of Commons in March. Labor won 319 seats, a majority, in the last election, in October 1974. But deaths, by-elections and party defections eventually cut that number to 306, and Callaghan had depended on the support of the Liberals and other small parties to stay in power.

The campaign was waged mainly over the pocket-book issues of jobs — 1.3 million Britons are out of work, a 5.6 percent unemployment rate — and prices, most of which have doubled in the past five years.

Callaghan stressed his experience as a former foreign secretary, home secretary, chancellor of the exchequer and prime minister, the post he moved into in April 1976 when Harold Wilson resigned as government chief and Labor Party leader.



Photo by Joe Tori

Night dream

The character Bottom in William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" has been turned into an ass, although he doesn't know it. David Hughes plays Bottom and Lisa Barnett plays Peaseblossom in a University Theater production this weekend and next week at the Playhouse. See review on page 12.

Califano expects Island area cancer death

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government yesterday doubled its estimate of radiation exposure to the public from the Three Mile Island nuclear accident, prompting HEW Secretary Joseph A. Califano to predict at least one additional cancer death among residents of the area.

Califano also told a Senate hearing that some scientists "would predict up to 10 additional cancer deaths" for the two million central Pennsylvania residents living within 50 miles of the stricken plant.

The secretary of Health, Education and Welfare abandoned his earlier claim that the March 28 accident did not pose a cancer threat to anyone living within 50 miles of the plant.

Testifying to a Senate Governmental Affairs subcommittee, Califano said it

now appears that enough radiation was released to cause one additional cancer death, one additional non-fatal cancer and possibly one additional birth defect in the area.

And he said that workers at the plant and those engaged in clean-up operations "have been exposed to significantly higher levels of radiation and will face significantly greater (health) risks than the general population."

However, Califano said risk figures had not yet been calculated for these workers.

The nation's No. 1 health official released new figures showing the total dose received by those living within a 50-mile circle of the plant, an area which includes the state capital of Harrisburg, was at least 3,500 "person rems" instead

of the 1,800 person rems reported in early April.

Califano said he expects an even higher figure will be reported in a fuller analysis of the data which is expected to be completed and made public next week by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Person-rems measure the total radiation exposure in a given population. The figures represent the product of the number of people living in the area multiplied by the average dose received by each individual, measured in "rems."

A rem is the standard unit of radiation exposure. An individual dose of 600 rems is considered fatal and 10 rems can damage vital organs. The average person receives close to 200 millirems a year from background radiation,

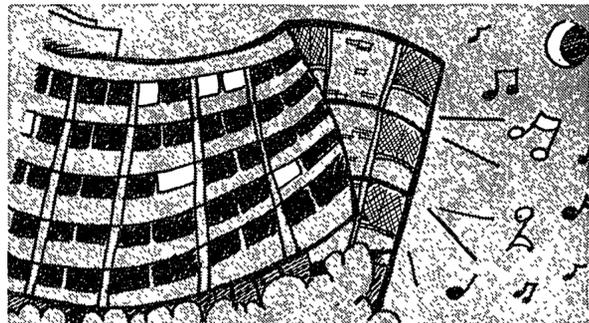
medical X-rays, home appliances and other sources. A millirem is one-thousandths of a rem.

Califano said he based his projections on the traditional formula for computing the link between radiation doses and cancer. But, he noted, "scientists who believe that traditional theory underestimates the risk of low-level radiation would predict up to 10 additional cancer deaths for this population."

"Although one additional fatal cancer or even 10 fatal cancers may seem small statistically ... it is nonetheless ultimately significant for the individuals who become these statistics."

Califano said that in any general population of two million, some 325,000 individuals will ultimately die of some form of cancer.

IN EDITION



Beaver's big blast: maybe the last

Though some Beaver Hall residents feel their massive dorm party scheduled for tonight may be a test case for future parties of this size on campus, South Halls coordinator Marilane Bond says this is not necessarily the case.

It is estimated the party will draw over 1,000 residents and guests — perhaps the largest on-campus crowd to attend a dorm party since the new alcohol enforcement policy went into effect three years ago. Because of its

size, the party will be attended by two resident assistants instead of the normal one RA and two night receptionists.

But other than that, Bond said the party in Beaver will not bias Residential Life's outlook on other parties in other dorms whether the outcome is favorable or otherwise.

"Our biggest concern over the party in Beaver is for fire and safety regulations," Bond says. "With such a large crowd estimated, there may be

problems. If Beaver's party exhibits flagrant violations, we may look unfavorably upon future parties of this size in Beaver Hall. But we will look at parties in other buildings with other students objectively."

The party is billed as encompassing four floors in Beaver Hall, and featuring dancing and punch on each floor.

Good luck, guys, but remember: it's quality not quantity that counts.

Whenever, wherever a gentle anniversary

Laurence Gilbert and his wife, Sherrill Reid, have celebrated their wedding anniversary on Gentle Thursday, regardless of the date, each year since they were married on that day, May 1, 1975, on Raven's Bluff in Poe Valley. The rainy weather and last week's postponement of the 1979 Gentle Thursday did not dampen their celebration.

"We've been stretching out the celebration over the whole week," Gilbert said.

But what if the University cancels future Gentle Thursdays? "Well, we probably won't be here next year

anyway, so we'll hold our own Gentle Thursday," he said.

When asked if they would celebrate on May 1, he said, "We'll see if it's a Thursday."

Happy fourth anniversary, whenever, Laurence and Sherrill.

Some amusements just can't be beat

Starhawk, a video game at the local pinball arcades, can't be beat by its creator, Tim Skelly, head game programmer at Linematronics.

"I felt that if I made a controllable high speed game, the game would be too easy to beat," Skelly told a Daily Collegian reporter. "The goal is to blow up all of the damn ships and not let a single one off the screen. I haven't done it yet myself."

There are three settings for speed on the machine: slow, medium and fast. "When you play," Skelly said, "you don't have to use the fast speed. But the slow speed is ridiculous, too."

So, for you Starhawk patrons, take it from the creator: play the medium speed. It's the only setting where you have a chance at winning.

Incidentally, the reporter lost a total

of four dollars on the machine trying to prove Skelly wrong.

Jewish anecdotes reflect European life

Funny thing is, you just can't tell a Jewish joke without the gestures and voice inflections.

Gil Aberg and Phil Klass told Jewish jokes Sunday at the pseudo-annual Jewish Joke Festival, sponsored for the last 13 years by the Jewish Community Center, albeit with gestures and inflections. The jokes, they said, provide some introspection into the cultural traditions of Jewish life in Europe from the 19th century to the present.

"The jokes are told in context with the background and heritage of the Jews, and we feel they preserve the Jewish heritage, which is in some ways lost to the new generations," Aberg said.

Aberg said the festival was attended by more than 100 Jews and Gentiles, but he said he could not tell a Jewish joke unless, somehow, the accent and expressionism was included.

I guess you had to be there.

—compiled and written by Bob "Suds" Carville

Wire Story Of The Week

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The White House has prepared a list of friends and supporters willing to speak out in behalf of the administration on controversial issues, an aide said yesterday.

The aide said many on the list offered their services to speak out in favor of Carter's policies ranging from inflation to the strategic arms limitation treaty.

Around Rafshoon's office, the program is called "Operation Response."

It is an outgrowth of a memorandum from Rafshoon seeking to respond to public criticism of the president's programs.

Wet's the word

The weekend will get off to a poor start as we have lowering clouds and cool temperatures today, with a high of only 55. Heavy rain will develop this afternoon and continue through Saturday morning. Saturday will be breezy with increasing sunshine. The low Friday night will be 48 and Saturday's high will be a cool 53. Look for mostly sunny skies on Sunday with a high of 58.