

Dorm areas schedule outdoor activities

By JOYCE WASHNIK
Collegian Staff Writer

Roller skating parties, ice cream socials, arm wrestling and a casino night are just some of the events planned for students in the residence halls this spring.

Every year each dorm area plans a week of special activities toward the end of April and the beginning of May, with the majority of the events outdoors.

North Week is from April 24 to 30. In North Halls, events are planned so each residence hall receives points for doing certain activities. There is also an individual contest to select "Emperor (or Empress) of the North." Activities during North Week include arm wrestling, a talent show, a bike rally, a frisbee throw, a basketball contest and a scavenger hunt.

The scavenger hunt will run from April 25 to 29. In past years, students have had to find pink slips with English 20 on them, menus from three years ago, red shoelaces and pictures of University President John W. Oswald.

In addition, students get points for doing certain stunts, such as eating worms or shooting baskets while wearing nothing but shaving cream.

"It should be a lot of fun," said Paula Berardinelli, co-chairwoman of North Week. "We just hope the weather holds for us."

Pollock-Nittany is also planning a Spring Week, with activities such as free ice skating, all-night movies, an ice cream social, a dance in the quad with a disc jockey, a casino night and a picnic at Stone Valley.

Kicking-off the week, scheduled for May 1 to 8, will be a semi-formal at the Sheraton Penn State Inn, 240 S. Pugh St.

"We always have good turnouts for Spring Week," said Patty Kartes, president of the Pollock-Nittany Residence Hall Association. "It's nice to see everybody out and everybody having a good time."

West Halls week, to be held from April 19 to 24, will include outdoor movies, a picnic dinner, an ice cream social and a casino night. In addition, a week-long tourna-

ment of athletic events is scheduled, including volleyball, frisbee, golf, a bicycle race and a baseball catch.

Two bands are tentatively scheduled to play sometime during the week, said Mark Mangificio, president of the West Halls Residence Association.

"I hope it goes over really well," he said. South Week runs from May 3 to 9 and includes an outdoor picnic dinner and coffeehouse, all-night movies, a hayride, a co-ed volleyball tournament, a roller skating party and a Mount Nittany hike.

On May 6 there will be a gong show with prize money totaling \$200.

Centre Halls week, scheduled for May 3 to 8, will begin with a two-day outdoor carnival, with each residence hall house setting up a booth.

East Week, running from May 3 to 9, will include a talent show, an East Halls version of "Name That Tune," a ping-pong tournament, a scavenger hunt, a tug-of-war, a frisbee toss, a pie eating contest and a "steepie chase" race through East Halls.

Campus Loop gets spring fever, too — and loses riders

By CHERYL SACRA
Collegian Staff Writer

Just like students with spring fever, the Campus Loop suffers from the nice weather. Loop ridership drops off in the spring, but unlike some students, the loop must keep working.

"The Campus Loop is very much controlled by the weather," said Bruce Younkin, foreman of bus operations. "We do well in the winter, and don't do well in the spring."

Ruth Carpenter, a full-time Campus Loop driver, said, "I think the students get spring fever. They want to get out and walk."

In 1981, ridership dropped from 161,947 riders in the winter to 114,118 riders in the

spring, Younkin said. "This year the drop-off should probably be more drastic because we had such a severe winter," he said.

Most of the people who ride the loop do so because of convenience or bad weather, Younkin said. It is not a service they need to get between two points, he said.

But regardless of ridership, rates remain the same throughout the year, Younkin said.

"We cannot vary the rates because they're regulated by the PUC (Public Utilities Commission) and because students complain," he said.

About twice as many passes are sold for the loop in the winter compared to spring, Younkin said.

Passes, which sell for \$15 apiece, last for

a term and allow students to ride as often as they want, Younkin said. A lot of passes are sold to students living in East Halls and Graduate Circle because they are so isolated, Younkin said.

Carpenter said she notices a change, but not a drastic change, in the ridership from winter to spring. And she said she doesn't find driving in the spring boring.

"Spring is a nice time to drive. You see the kids out doing things, and you can see the trees bud and the flowers come up," she said.

The people are friendlier when the weather is nice, Carpenter said.

"They seem to want to talk more. When we have a nice day, everybody is just so happy. Usually someone will strike up a conversation," Carpenter said.

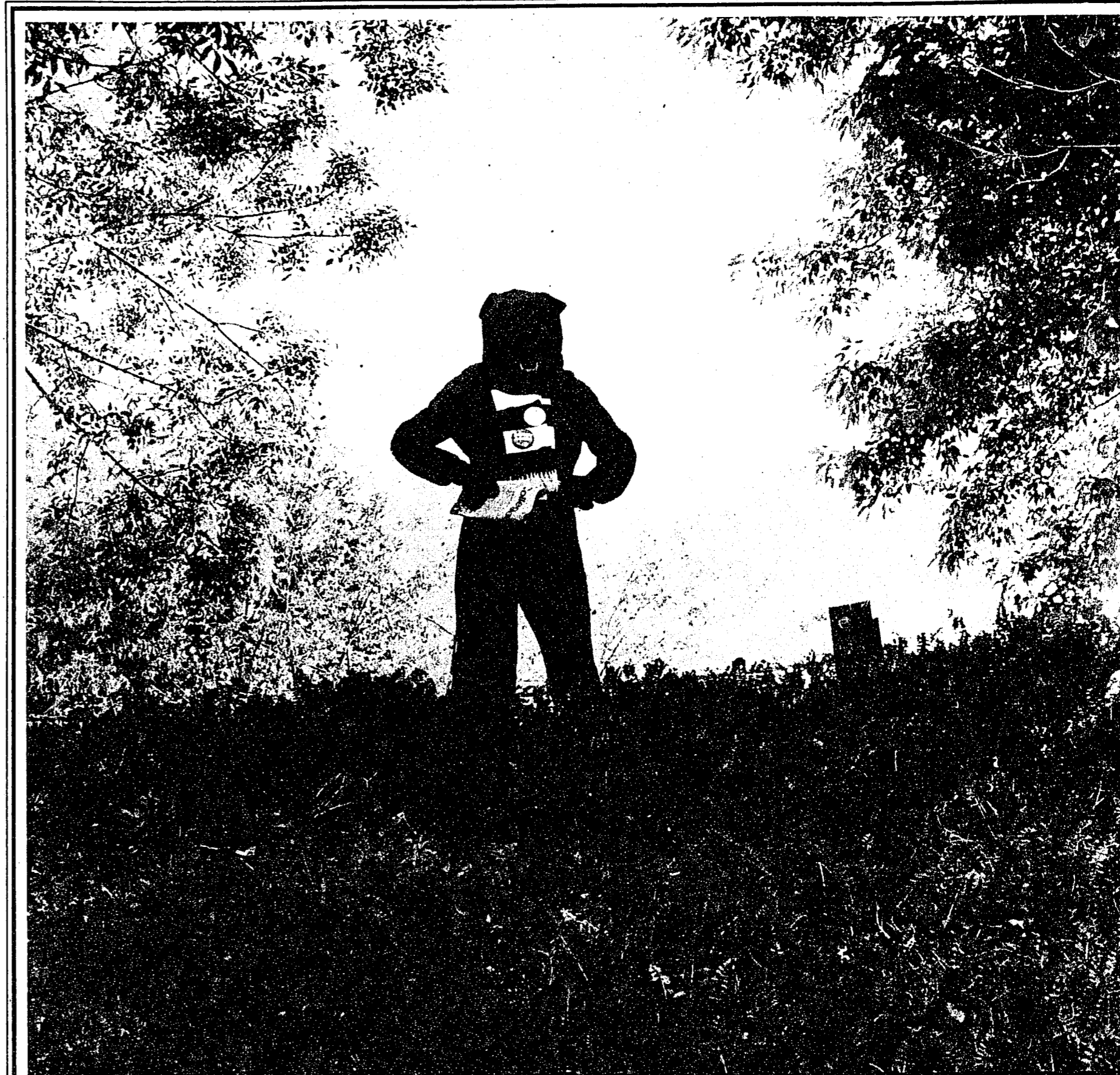
Greg Thompson (9th-administration of justice), who lives in East Halls, said he definitely rides the loop more in the winter than he does in the spring.

"(Parking Lot 80) is bad to walk across in the winter," Thompson said.

Another East Halls resident, Lynn Mulaly (10th-finances), said people tend to want to be outside more in the spring. She rides the loop mostly at night or if the weather is cold, she said.

Carpenter said the days seem to go faster in the spring when it's nice, but there is one thing she misses when she is driving.

"I do envy that I can't get out and lounge in the sun," Carpenter said.



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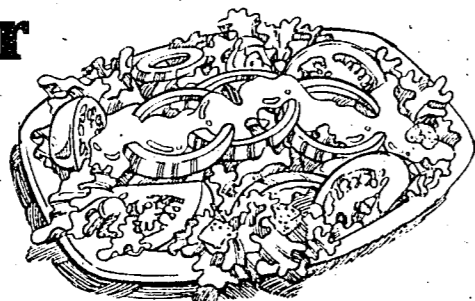
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