

## Bell offers new billing options with rate hike

By MARY STEPHENS  
Collegian Staff Writer

As part of a rate hike approved by the state Public Utilities Commission, Bell of Pennsylvania is offering a new measured local calls service.

Instead of paying a flat rate monthly fee, Bell customers can opt to pay for each local call they make. The measure is part of a \$255 million rate increase that was recently approved by the PUC, said James C. Walck, manager for residence service center for Centre, Huntingdon and Mifflin counties. Bell had requested a \$400 million increase.

Bell customers will be able to choose among three billing options:

- The flat rate option will cost \$7.20 and will include all local calls.
- The standard measured option will cost \$5 with \$3 in local calls without extra charges.
- The basic measured option will cost \$3.80 with no allowance for local calls.

The cost of local calls will be determined based on the time of day. Calls will cost 6 cents between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m., 3 cents between 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. and midnight, and 1 cent between midnight and 7 a.m.

State College and Bellefonte customers will be offered the options immediately. However, Boalsburg, Centre Hall, Millheim, Pleasant Gap, Snow Shoe and Spring Mills will be charged the flat rate until Jan. 1 when they also will be offered the options, he said.

Jeffrey Kuhns, manager of telecommunications for the University, said the University is waiting to

hear from Bell how measured service will affect the residence halls and campus phones.

And Walck said Bell is awaiting word from the PUC as to what it can do concerning the University. Customers' bills will not reflect the changes until Oct. 15, Walck said, because the computer needs time to make the adjustments in billing.

The flat rate for a private line was \$5.18 before the increases, Walck said. However, it is difficult to compare that price with the new price because of the new options.

"For people who choose either the standard measured or basic measured option the new prices will be cheaper," Walck said. "However, for those choosing the flat rate option there will be an increase of about \$2," he said.

Bell is offering the new service because it thinks it is more fair, Walck said. Measured service charges those people actually using the system, he said.

"The important thing to stress is that customers watch their calling patterns and choose an option that best fits them," Walck said.

Dan Clearfield, assistant state consumer advocate, said measured service would allow people to affect the amount of their bills more.

"It does provide people who make fewer local calls a break," Clearfield said.

Customers will be able to change from one class of billing to another without additional charge. However, a customer can only change once in a billing period to prevent people from changing billing classes when they expect they'll be making a lot of calls.

"We were very pleased with the measured serv-

ice decision," Walck said.

Clearfield said the consumer advocate's office did not support the increase.

"We also did not think it was a good idea to extend measured service," Clearfield said. "Measured service has more negative aspects than positive."

Included in the cost of the changeover, which will be about \$30 million or \$11 million per year, Clearfield said. Revenues will produce \$2 million to \$3 million, and the other \$7 million will have paid by mostly customers with the basic rate service.

A survey taken by Bell last year showed that only 25 to 30 percent of those surveyed preferred the measured service, he said.

Also, with the new service Bell would not provide a record of the local calls made in the billing period.

But Walck said Bell would give customers a record of the number of calls they made during the set time periods.

Under the rate increase, phone rentals will also increase in price depending on the model.

Phone rental increases are: rotary Princess style, \$1.80 to \$2.75; Triline rotary, \$2.10 to \$3; Touchtone \$1.60 to \$2.50; Princess Touchtone \$2.20 to \$3.50; and triline Touchtone \$2.80 to \$4. The rental cost of the traditional rotary model phone will remain at 80 cents.

Directory assistance calls will increase from 10 cents to 20 cents, Walck said, but customers will still be able to use directory assistance for three calls free of charge.

Private number service will cost 75 cents per month, an increase from 62 cents per month.

## IFC marathon to aid Four Diamonds

Money raised by the 1983 Interfraternity Dance Marathon will again be donated to the Four Diamonds Fund at the University's Hershey Medical Center, the Interfraternity Council decided at last night's meeting.

IFC President Luke Taiclet said he took 33 proposals this year because other philanthropies wanted the chance to receive the funds.

"I had several people go through the whole stack of proposals and rank them and grade them," Taiclet said.

Everyone who went through the proposals decided Four Diamonds should be the beneficiary, he said.

"Four Diamonds offered us two things that make it potentially the most accommodating philanthropy group to work with," Taiclet said. "First, it has the potential to keep 1,004 feet (502 people) dancing for 48 hours because of the kids. Second, it keeps the money in the Penn State system."

In other business, the overall winner of the Omega Epsilon award is Acacia fraternity, not Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, as announced last Spring Term, academic chairman Tom Foster said.

The mistake was recognized at the end of Spring Term but only resolved last week, Foster said.

The Omega Epsilon award is given out by the Pennsylvania Lambda Education foundation, which is an alumni organization of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity, he said.

"The award is given out for excellence in scholarship, leadership and activities," he said. The mistake that put Phi Kappa Psi in first place for the overall award was in the activities area.

Both fraternities heard rumors that the other was not really the winner of the award, Foster said. "Neither knew what was going on."

"We got everyone together last week to rectify the problem," he said. "(Acacia) simply had more points." —by Patricia Hungerford

Dear Beta,  
"We rocked all day and canned all night  
With never a pause or a bit of respite  
Good times were had from finish to start  
And you rocked your way right into our hearts!"  
Love,  
The Dee Cees

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Is Holding Its Fall  
Organizational Meeting  
Wed. Sept. 29th 7:30 p.m.  
605 Liberal Arts Tower  
Everyone Welcome/Refreshments Served

**UNIVERSITY CALENDAR**  
Tuesday, September 28  
Museum of Art, gallery talk, 10:30 a.m. Jeanne Chenault Porter, art history, on "The Baroque Phenomenon: Searching for a Definition."  
Life on Earth Series, *The First Forests*, noon, Kern Lobby.  
Comp. Lit. Luncheon, 12:15 p.m., Room 204 HUB. Cornelia Comorovski, Univ. of Angers, France, on "The Basic Metaphor of the Theatre of the Absurd."  
CDPC seminar, "Resume Preparation," 5th period; "Interview Skills," 6th period, Conference Room, Walnut Bldg.  
Penn State Singers meeting, 7 p.m., Room 111 Chambers.  
Penn State Science Fiction Society meeting, 7 p.m., Room 307 Boucke.  
Circle-K meeting, 7 p.m., Rooms 318-319 HUB.  
Real Estate/Insurance Club meeting, 7:30 p.m., Room 217 Willard.  
Model Railroad Club meeting, 7:30 p.m., Room 304 Willard.  
College Republicans meeting, 7:30 p.m., Room 151 Willard.  
The Women's Collective meeting, 7:30 p.m., Room 204 Boucke.  
College Democrats meeting, 7:30 p.m., Room 318 Willard.  
Lion Ambassadors PR Committee meeting, 7:30 p.m., Room 308 Boucke.  
USG Senate meeting, 8:30 p.m., Room 304 Boucke.

**JAZZ**  
The PENN STATE JAZZ CLUB  
cordially invites you to attend our organizational meeting  
WED. SEPT. 29 7:00 P.M. 306 BOUCKE  
Musicians and non-musicians alike will enjoy our extensive JAZZ ALBUM COLLECTION and have the opportunity to participate in our many active functions.  
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(or stop by our office at 224 HUB)

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Sept. 26-Oct. 2  
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the best of both worlds.

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TRUE CONTINENTAL — OUR OWN Croissant OR Brioche, served with butter and your choice of jelly, jam or marmalade, Cheddar cheese and fresh apple slices 1.39 (honey butter on request .20)  
FIRST PERIOD RUSH — Two Eggs, Fried or Scrambled, Home Fries and Two Slices of Toast served with butter and jelly 99 (honey butter on request .20)  
TWO BY TWO — Two Eggs, Fried or Scrambled and Two Large Pancakes, served with butter and syrup 1.59  
SECOND PERIOD FEAST — Two Eggs, Fried or Scrambled, Home Fries, Bacon or Sausage and Two Slices of Toast served with butter and jelly 1.79  
CAKES AND MORE — Two Large Pancakes, served with butter and syrup and Your Choice of Bacon or Sausage 1.79  
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