

collegian notes

- Free University will present a program titled "Meditation and the Conscious Self" at 7 tonight in 204 Human Development Building.
- The Adult Education Graduate Student Association will meet at noon today in 101 Kern. Dr. K. Warner Schaie will speak.
- The Nittany Mountain Chapter of the American Diabetes Association will present a program titled, "Do you have questions about diabetes?" at 7:30 tonight in the conference room of Centre Community Hospital.
- Pi Mu Epsilon Math Honor Fraternity will meet at 7:30 tonight in 117 McAllister.
- Delta Sigma Pi will meet at 7 tonight in 323 HUB. The speaker will be Jim Short of National Steel.
- Vocational Industrial Clubs of America will meet at 7 tonight in 107 Rackley.
- The Environmental Resource Management Club will meet at 7:30 tonight in 301 Agricultural Administration Building. Representatives from the state Department of Environmental Resources will discuss career opportunities.
- Trans-Species Unlimited, subcommittee of Eco-Action, will meet at 5:15 this afternoon in 147 Burrows.
- Colloquy will meet at 7 tonight in 307 HUB.
- The Nittany Chemical Society will meet at 7 tonight in S-S Osmond. The meeting will feature a lecture by Peter Jurs titled "Computer Applications in Chemistry" and will be followed by a tour of the chemistry department.
- The National Agri-Marketing Association will meet at 7 tonight in 307 Soucek.
- The IFC Dance Marathon 1983 will hold a dancer meeting at 7 tonight in 105 Forum.

police log

- Cheryl Heasley, University clerk typist, told University Police Services on Monday that an oil painting was missing from the first floor lounge of Tyson Building. An estimate of the painting's value was not available, police said.
- Two incidents of theft by deception were reported by the State College Police Department on Monday. Quick-change artists caused a loss of \$15 to Arby's, 400 W. College Ave., and a \$20 loss to the Butterut Shop, 309 Benner Pike, police said.
- Stephen Mulloy, McLean, Va., told University police Sunday that a Florida registration plate was missing from his car in Parking Lot Orange D.
- James Breen, supervisor of the meteorological technology facility, 423 Walker, told University police Monday that unidentified people had shot three holes in an unattended department of meteorological research vehicles in State College on Monday.
- Allan Jefferson, 513 Geary, told University police Monday that a Massachusetts registration plate was missing from his car in Parking Lot Orange D.
- Glenn Mulberger, 516 Elm Road, told University police Monday that a ping-pong table was missing from the ground floor of McKee Hall. The ping-pong table is valued at \$100, police said.
- State College police reported Monday that a Veterans Administration check that should have been delivered to Philip Crosby, Hilltop Trailer Park, East College Avenue, had not been received. An investigation is under way.

Ski resorts' business freezes

By JOHN HOLT
Collegian Staff Writer

Winter is the time of snow and cold when people stop thinking about going skiing and instead, go out and do it — normally. This year has been an exception.

After an initial snowfall on Dec. 20 covered State College with 1 1/2 inches of cold white fluff, the area has seen only dustings of snow.

The outlook for snow is bleak for the remainder of this week. Though the northwest counties may receive up to eight inches of snow in some spots, State College apparently will not fare as well, receiving only a light dusting to possibly an inch, said Fred Gadomski, supervisor of the University weather station.

The weather later in the week will bring no better news, with only the possibility of a light dusting late Friday or early Saturday.

However, Central Pennsylvania is now in a pattern of cold dry air, which will be cold enough to support man-made snow, Gadomski said.

Several Central Pennsylvania ski slopes and ski stores said they are coping as well as they can with the no-snow situation.

Hidden Valley Ski Resort in Somerset has been operating since Dec. 26 on man-made snow. It has a limited coverage of four to eight inches on two to five slopes, said Doug Lowry, resort ski manager.

Although Hidden Valley has been open from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. since Dec. 26, it has had only a moderate skier turnout, Lowry said.

Blue Knob Ski Resort in Claysburg is also feeling the effects of minimal snowfall.

Blue Knob has only two slopes open with man-made snow, although skiing is excellent on these slopes due to a 26- to 36-inch base, Ski Manager Emery Musselman said.

"With the warm weather, we decided to concentrate on making snow on only two slopes, and as a result they are in very good condition," Musselman said.

Last year Blue Knob opened the week after Christmas, but this season it didn't open until after the New Year. So far the turnout has been less than one-half of last year's, Musselman said.

Tussey Mountain could not be reached for comment on slope conditions.

Local ski retail stores said they are faring well, in spite of the lack of snow.

The Appalachians Outdoor House, 324 W. College Ave., said sales of ski equipment are higher than last year's for the months of October to December. Some of the credit for the higher retail ski sales was attributed to expectations by skiers of the predicted cold snowy winter.

Another factor contributing to early increased sales at the Outdoor House was its special buys on skis from overstocked manufacturers, owner Geoff Brugler said.

He said sales of ski equipment are higher than last year's for the months of October to December. Some of the credit for the higher retail ski sales was attributed to expectations by skiers of the predicted cold snowy winter.

Business at The Ski Station, 107 McAllister St., is definitely slower than in the past, owner David Fairbairn said. He said business flow was comparable to last year's until Christmas, although equipment sales are off now.

Foreign study programs described

By LAURA REHRMANN
Collegian Staff Writer

The Office of Foreign Studies is trying to internationalize the campus through its study abroad programs, said the assistant to the director of Foreign Studies.

Michael Laubsher said students who visit a foreign country gain new perspectives. When the students return and share their ideas, the University is affected indirectly by the students' international experience.

Laubsher described opportunities to study abroad in a program Monday night sponsored by the Business and Society, International Language, and International Cultures interest houses.

The University offers group study abroad programs in England, Germany, France, Spain, Italy, Peru, Israel, Kenya and Taiwan. Programs in affiliation with other institutions are also offered in the Soviet Union, Germany and Italy.

The many courses offered include business, education, architecture, political science, languages and mass communications. Students can also fulfill language, social sciences or humanities requirements when they study abroad.

If none of the group programs offered at Penn State satisfies a student's needs, the Office of Foreign Studies can help locate a program in another school that will, Laubsher said. Students can then take a leave of absence from the University and study abroad independently.

Laubsher listed several advantages to studying abroad in a Penn State program.

First, students remain registered at Penn State while they are abroad so they do not have to transfer credits and they can continue to receive student aid.

Also, tuition charges for studying abroad are the same as for University Park Campus.

Room and board charges are also comparable to University Park campus, depending on which program a student is enrolled in, Laubsher said. For example, housing is more expensive in Tel Aviv, Israel, but in Taiwan students pay less.

Depending on the program, students can live in dormitories, apartments or with families while abroad. In Taiwan, students live in dormitories with seven to eight students per room and sleep on beds made of bamboo mats, Laubsher said.

"It takes time to adjust," he said, but "I have heard nothing but praise" for the Taiwan program.

All programs have been revised because of the switch to the semester system, but "generally no drastic changes" were involved, Laubsher said. Most changes were needed in raising the number of credits for the programs.

The semester system will work much better for the study abroad program than the term system, Laubsher said, because there will be more time for students to become immersed in the country's culture and become fluent in the language.

"Many foreign language students were just feeling comfortable with the language by the 10th week," he said. Also, the courses will be "less intensive" because they will not be crammed into 10 weeks.

One disadvantage of the calendar change is the fact that students will spend a proportionally larger amount of their undergraduate career away from the University. It will be more difficult for students in tight curriculums, such as engineering, to study abroad.

A second drawback to semesters is that there will be fewer opportunities for students to take the courses that are prerequisites for their program, Laubsher said. Some of the prerequisites may need to be revised.

Between 200 and 300 students participate in the foreign studies program each year.

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