

CATA approves '83-'84 budget; few fare hikes planned

By TONY PHYRILLAS
Collegian Staff Writer

For the first time in four years, most Centre Line bus riders will not have to face a fare increase—but can still look forward to increased service.

The Centre Area Transportation Authority on Friday unanimously adopted the tentative 1983-84 budget, keeping most fares at current levels and proposing more daytime and nighttime service, as well as the continuation of two new demonstration routes.

The budget also includes good news for local municipalities, whose overall payments to CATA will decrease by 1 percent under the budget, compared to a 54 percent increase CATA asked for last year. After discussions with local elected officials, CATA accepted a 22 percent increase in the local shares.

The basic cash fare will remain at 50 cents for most riders, except within Bellefonte where the fare will increase 5 cents to 60 cents, to con-

form with the regionwide fare.

The \$1.3 million spending plan—a 13 percent increase over this year—projects an increase in passenger revenue of 9.4 percent to \$230,500. CATA has maintained a policy of recovering half of the system's expenses from its riders. Even without a fare increase, CATA expects to recover 50.6 percent of its revenue from riders.

"The budget is a very pleasant change from last year's," CATA chairman James H. Miller said. "I expect the discussion and approval process will be easier this time."

The big difference in this year's request for lower local shares can be attributed to a turnaround in the federal funding picture, CATA managing director Paul Oversier said.

CATA is assuming the federal government will appropriate at least 85 percent of the funds authorized under the Federal Public Transportation Act of 1982.

That legislation, passed in December, authorized continued funding for mass transit operating assistance for

three additional years at 95 percent of the 1982 level.

However, federal funding figures are still tentative, Oversier said, because last year's legislation is only a recommendation of funding levels and the actual figures will be determined through annual budget appropriations.

About \$537,000 of CATA's operating budget will come from federal and state grants. CATA is expecting \$321,000 from the federal government and \$215,000 from the state.

Although Congress voted to continue funding through 1987, President Reagan is proposing to cut operating aid by 75 percent in 1984 and then eliminate the funding in 1985.

"Our budgeted funding levels are only assumptions but Congress indicated quite clearly that it intends to continue the funding in the future," Oversier said.

The tentative budget will circulate among CATA's member municipalities and will be formally presented to the Centre Region Council of Governments at its April 25 meeting.

If CATA's five participating municipalities—State College borough and College, Ferguson, Harris and Patton townships—and Bellefonte approve their local shares, the CATA board will adopt a final budget in May. The CATA fiscal year begins July 1.

CATA is proposing major adjustments to its daytime schedule necessitated by the University's conversion to a semester calendar.

"This is added service necessary to retain our present ridership," Oversier said.

Because of different class schedules and later classes, CATA will add service on the B-Boalsburg, C-Houseville and F-Pine Grove Mills routes.

CATA also expects to add 10 daily trips on Waupelani Drive.

In the area of optional service—service that might not be added if local municipalities are not willing to pay for it—CATA is proposing more evening service on the X-Nittany Mall/Bellefonte, B-Boalsburg and F-Pine Grove Mills routes.

Also, two demonstration routes begun this spring will be placed permanently in the system.

Despite its poor ridership, the M-Mountainview route will be added to the schedule with 10 daily trips serving Centre Community Hospital.

The A-West Park Forest route will also be added permanently with six daily trips.

CATA is also combining its term passes into semester passes to coincide with the University's conversion. The total cost of fall and spring semester passes would be equivalent to the cost of three term passes. Under the new budget, each semester pass will sell for \$62.50. Summer passes will sell for \$35.

The price of annual and apartment passes will stay at \$125 and \$70, respectively.

A new feature proposed by the budget will be "night stickers," which will allow regular passholders to ride buses in the evening at a reduced rate.

A pass with a sticker on it will save a rider 35 cents off the 60 cents cash fare needed on the Evening and Sunday Shuttle routes.

Oversier said the night sticker system is being implemented as a result of complaints from students forced to pay full fare at night and also as a means to increase ridership on the system.

The cost of the sticker will vary depending on the type of pass a rider purchases. For annual and apartment pass holders the price will be \$20 and for semester pass holders, the price will be \$10.


On the local funding level, CATA is requesting \$109,155 from its member municipalities. Municipal shares are determined by a formula that takes into account the amount of service provided to each municipality and the revenue received from that service.

The shares requested from State College, Bellefonte and Patton Township are slightly down from last year. Requested shares from College, Ferguson and Harris townships are up slightly. Harris Township is being asked to pay about \$1,500 more because the township will be receiving the most new service.

Introducing...

The 75¢ TACO!

Every Monday at Pedros is Taco Monday where tacos are only 75¢ each.



PEDRO'S


131 S. Garner St. 234-4725
Mon-Thurs 11am-mid
Fri-Sat 11am-2:30am
Sun noon-mid

JUST WHAT A PERM SHOULD BE — LONG LASTING
for permanent crisp body.

RICH IN CONDITIONERS
for super shine & soft feel

THE STYLE OF YOUR CHOICE
for lasting waves, curls or body.

CALL TODAY and take advantage of our SPRING SALE
\$5.00 OFF any perm with this ad Offer ends 4-30-83



ELWOOD'S HAIR STUDIO
Upstairs 103 E. Beaver State College 237-6663

BLUE BAND AUDITIONS

Silks — April 23 and 24

Majorettes — May 7 and 8

Drum Major — May 8

Applications are available in 217 Chambers Building

Smart people read Collegian ads. Right?

This year, some of our graduates will be remembered under the following yearbook heading...

Those Not Pictured or Listed

Lo Vie 1984 The Penn State Yearbook

"Don't be a blank spot! Your college yearbook is a lasting memory of a great part of your life. For your sake, and others, get your picture taken."

Stop by: 209 HUD or Call 856-2602

0-219

SUPER SPECIAL FRENCH FRIES

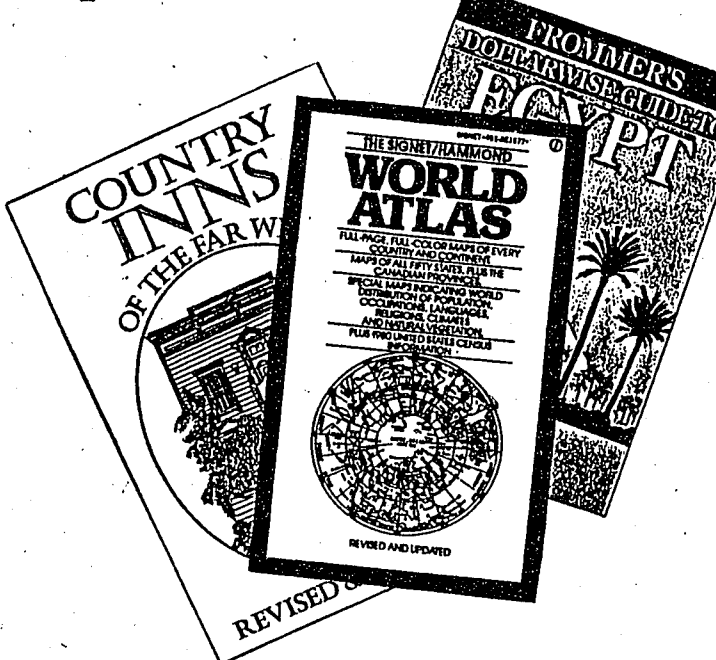
25¢ 25¢ 25¢



ALL DAY~ALL NIGHT~ALL MONTH!

Three Locations ~ University Dr. & Bellefonte Ave. ~ Westerly Parkway Shopping Center & E. College Ave.

Special on Wednesday Only*



TRAVEL BOOKS 20% OFF!
at the **Penn State Bookstore on campus**

Owned and operated by the Pennsylvania State University

* April 20th — (Textbooks Excluded)

GRAB SOMEONE'S ATTENTION!

... and the best way to do that is with a professionally typeset/printed résumé from Collegian Production. With our wide variety of styles you can be sure of presenting your vital statistics in the most attractive way possible. A prospective employer can only get out of your résumé what you put into it. Having it professionally prepared says that you've gone all the way. At Collegian Production we do our best to help make your résumé grab their attention... and keep it!

CP
collegian production

Résumé Service
126 Carnegie Building
Monday through Friday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
or by appointment
863-3215