

Loop passes increase; single fares remain 25 cents

By JULIE HERR
Collegian Staff Writer

Because of rising operation costs and a tight budget, the University recently decided to increase the fare for a Campus Loop pass by \$5 per year, the University's vice president for business said recently.

Ralph Zilly said a semester pass will now cost \$40 but fare for a single ride will remain at 25 cents. Under the term calendar, riders paid \$25

per term. Because many students cannot afford to pay the entire fee all at once, they may purchase two \$20 passes.

The first would be valid for the first half of the semester and other for the second half.

The hike is needed because the amount of money lost on the bus system increased from \$50,000 to more than \$175,000 over the past several years, Zilly said.

In addition, Zilly said, the bus drivers' union forced the University to hire more union drivers instead of student drivers, thereby increasing the amount of money spent on the bus system.

As a result, the University discontinued the free ride policy after 9 p.m. Although the night bus services will still be offered, students will have to pay the regular fee, he said.

During the summer, the bus service was discontinued causing concern among graduate students living in Graduate Circle, who relied on the Loop as their main source of transportation.

"In response to their concern, the Graduate Student Association is forming a committee to look into ways to help keep costs down and see what they can possibly do about the situation," said Kim Zaugg, GSA president.

Zaugg initiated the idea of offering two passes a semester to dissipate student cost.

Some graduate students took matters into their own hands and circulated a petition to submit to Zilly and the GSA.

Zilly said the petition was not very meaningful to him because it was unclear.

In contrast, little response from the undergraduate students resulted, said Emil Parvensky, president of the Undergraduate Student Government.

Parvensky said the University should always provide some sort of bus system for the students.

"Although the University views the Loop as a loss of money, it should be viewed as a valuable service to be provided to the students and the losses viewed as the costs of running the operation," Parvensky said. "It is just a difference in perspective."

Swimmers must pay fee at Nat and White Building

By JOHN HOLT
Collegian Staff Writer

Beginning this semester, persons will be charged for swimming in the McCoy Natatorium and White Building pools.

Students will pay \$10 per semester, while faculty, staff and retired employees will be charged a \$20 per semester fee.

Or students may pay \$1 per swim, while students' guests pay \$2 and faculty pay \$3.

Lou MacNeill, director of Aquatic programs, said the fee is necessary to maintain the high quality of the swimming facilities at the University. He said it was also the only way to have money for improving the aquatic programs and facilities.

"Since the aquatics program was started in 1965, we raised ourselves to be on the level of No. 1 in the country, or at least in the top three," MacNeill said. "In order to continue to be successful at most anything, you have to have enough money."

MacNeill said his department's only choice was to close the Natatorium or charge a fee. Three years ago, he said, the working budget was cut by almost 50 percent, causing MacNeill to make cuts in hours of operation and the number of lifeguards on staff.

"We've been supported over the years by millions of dollars," MacNeill said, adding that he did not know where the money — allocated from the College of Health, Physical Education and Recreation — was being channeled.

MacNeill said he has been operating the pools since

February without budgeted money.

"I don't know who has been supporting us," he said. "Maybe it's athletic money from the football program."

MacNeill said about 160 student and 40 faculty tickets have been sold, with only one student complaining about paying a fee to swim.

Family swim fees took the largest jump with a per-semester fee of \$40 and summer session fees set at \$20. This is an increase from \$40 per year to \$100 per year. MacNeill said these tickets are now being printed and will be available soon.

Although the cost of swimming at the University has increased, the schedule has changed little. Students may swim Tuesday through Friday from 6 until 10 p.m., Saturday from noon until 10 p.m. and Sunday from 2:30 until 10 p.m.

Faculty and staff may swim weekdays from 7 until 8 a.m. They may also swim from 12:15 until 1 p.m. and from 5:30 until 6 p.m. Family night remains from 6 until 10 p.m. on Monday nights.

MacNeill said the outdoor pool fees and times are the same as they were during Summer Session. The pool opens at 10:30 a.m. daily and stays open until 6 p.m. After Sept. 5, the pool will be open from noon until 5 p.m., and will officially close for the season Oct. 1.

The \$1 per day fee will continue through this fall but will be raised to \$1.25 when the pool opens next year, MacNeill said.

The recreation swimming schedules may be picked up in the Aquatic Programs office at 203 Natatorium, he said.

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