

Collegian Photo/Dan Gleiter

Spinning the wheel

LeAnn Ruffaner (senior-advertising) works on a clay cup for her Arts 180 class in the basement of the Arts Cottage yesterday.

CATA revamps transport system for disabled

By PETER J. VIERNO Collegian Staff Writer

The complementary paratransit service plan recently approved by the Centre Area Transportation Authority includes a two-step fare increase and an extension of service area.

The plan was designed to improve the paratransit system throughout the region in accordance with the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act.

The changes were worked out in association with organized disabled groups in the region and are required for all transportation \$3.40. systems under the act, said CATA

General Manager Kevin Abbey. The paratransit system must now \$1.50 for trips to Bellefonte, prohibiting transportation from State much difference."

comparable to the fixed route system, Abbey said. The core area of the bus route will include threefourths of a mile on either side of

the borough. Abbey also said a two-step fare increase states that twice as much may be charged to ride on the paratransit system as on the fixed route system.

The cost will go from \$1.30 to \$1.50, then eventually to \$1.70. The fares for trips to Bellefonte are currently double, with the cost at \$2.60 and will move up to \$3 and then to

Senior citizens will still pay 75 cents for trips in the Centre Region and

the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Joan Lee, co-president of the Citizens for Barrier-Free Living, said the increased fare does not begin to pay for the paratransit services. She said taxpayers will have to pick up the costs eventually to continue the services.

In addition, reservations to use Centre Ride — the paratransit system provided by CATA — can still be made between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. the day before expected travel. Also, the service times will remain from 6:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., except on Sundays when it begins at 9 a.m.

Abbey said a temporary change will address capacity constraints by

be seen as complementary and regardless of their eligibility under College to Bellefonte for wheelchair users between 2 and 3:45 p.m. because Skills of Central Pennsylvania, Inc., a sheltered workshop, requires the use of the lift-equipped

vans to return its clients home. Capacity constraints will be dealt with permanently by buying a liftequipped van within two years, said Judy Minor, CATA paratransit

coordinator. The paratransit plan does not represent a major change in CAT-A's disabled transportation policy,

Minor added. "The plan strongly emphasizes the paratransit system as complementary to the fixed route system," Minor said. "But other than that I don't see

Research different for professors at Commonwealth Campuses

By JULIE BROWN Collegian Staff Writer

Predicting the weather can be a tedious process. Jon Nese, associate professor of meteorology, is researching a way for meteorologists to identify which weather situations are the easiest to predict. But Nese doesn't do his research from Uni-

versity Park's Walker Building — he does it at the Beaver Campus. Contrary to what many people think, University Park isn't the only place where research is conducted, said Robert Arbuckle, chief executive

officer of the New Kensington Campus.

at University Park or at a Commonwealth Campus, said Leslie Brown, director of academic affairs

'It wouldn't hurt to have a little more time to

All faculty members on the tenure track, whether Campus faculty members are on the tenure track,

tenure track requires a great deal of research.

And funding for research at Commonwealth Campuses comes from various places, Brown said. Some research is funded independently, while other research projects are funded by Research Development Grants through the University, she

added. Some projects also receive funding locally or from individual departments, Arbuckle said. The liberal arts department funds some research

But research funds are often hard to come by,





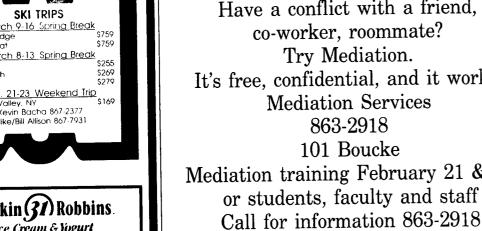


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are required to do research along with teaching at the Beaver Campus, adding that success on classes, he said.

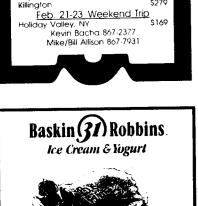
Although Nese likes teaching, he said it's difficult at times to research and teach classes.

do research." said Nese, who teaches three classes. Researching at a Commonwealth Campus is different than researching at University Park, he said. The primary function of the Commonwealth Campuses is to teach, and it is impossible for professors to do as much research as University Park professors, he said.

But a large percentage of Commonwealth

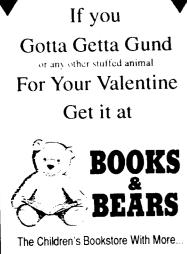
projects at the New Kensington Campus, he said.

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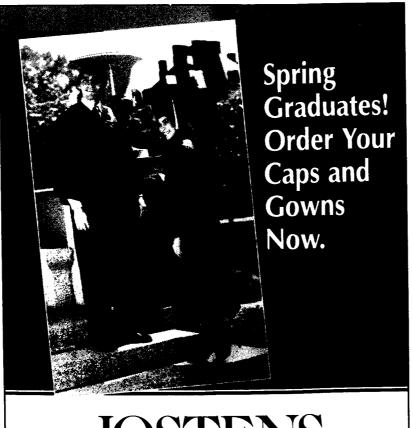
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