

West End plan moves forward

By Nathan Pipenberg
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Borough officials agreed Monday to move forward with a zoning ordinance that will change building standards in West End State College.

The State College Borough Council voted unanimously to schedule a public hearing on the zoning ordinance at a date yet to be determined.

The ordinance is one of several

in the works that will transform the West End from what Mayor Elizabeth Goreham has called a "student housing ghetto" into a population made up of students, young professionals and families.

Planning Director Carl Hess was on hand to show council members the latest changes made



Goreham

to the West End ordinance.

He said it would allow taller buildings, especially in the areas farthest north, where the West End nears the Penn State campus. Buildings there could reach three to five stories.

Along College Avenue, where many properties are considered historic, buildings would be three stories or fewer, according to the proposal.

Council also plans to discuss and tweak the ordinance before

the hearing, starting at a work session next week.

Other ordinances dealing with West End are still in the hands of the State College Planning Commission, including one that would determine green building standards and one that would give businesses incentives to create bike paths leading to campus.

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For more coverage on the borough council, | LOCAL Page 2.



Courtesy of live.psu.edu

The Biobehavioral Health Building will be modeled as such.

HUB lawn will close

Construction near the HUB lawn may force the area to close.

By Paul Osolnick
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Penn State will close sections of the HUB-Robeson Center lawn during construction on a new Biobehavioral Health Building — set to begin this fall.

Plans for the new building came after the Penn State Board of Trustees approved construction on the \$48.1 million building at its July 9 meeting, Penn State spokeswoman Lisa Powers said.

The new building will provide additional space for the College of Health and Human Development, Powers said.

The area currently occupied by a bridge connecting Henderson to Henderson South will be the site of the new building, she said.

That bridge will be demolished to make room for the new building's construction, Powers said.

Powers said the demolition and construction is currently projected to begin in late September or early October.

Powers said demolition on the bridge and construction on the new building will close parts of the HUB lawn due to its proximity to the work site.

"During construction, large sections of the HUB lawn will be closed off," Powers said. "And at some points, the entire lawn will be offline due to construction vehicles being brought in, construction materials being stored and earth movement taking place."

Powers said she does not have an estimate on how long the HUB lawn will be unavailable for activities.

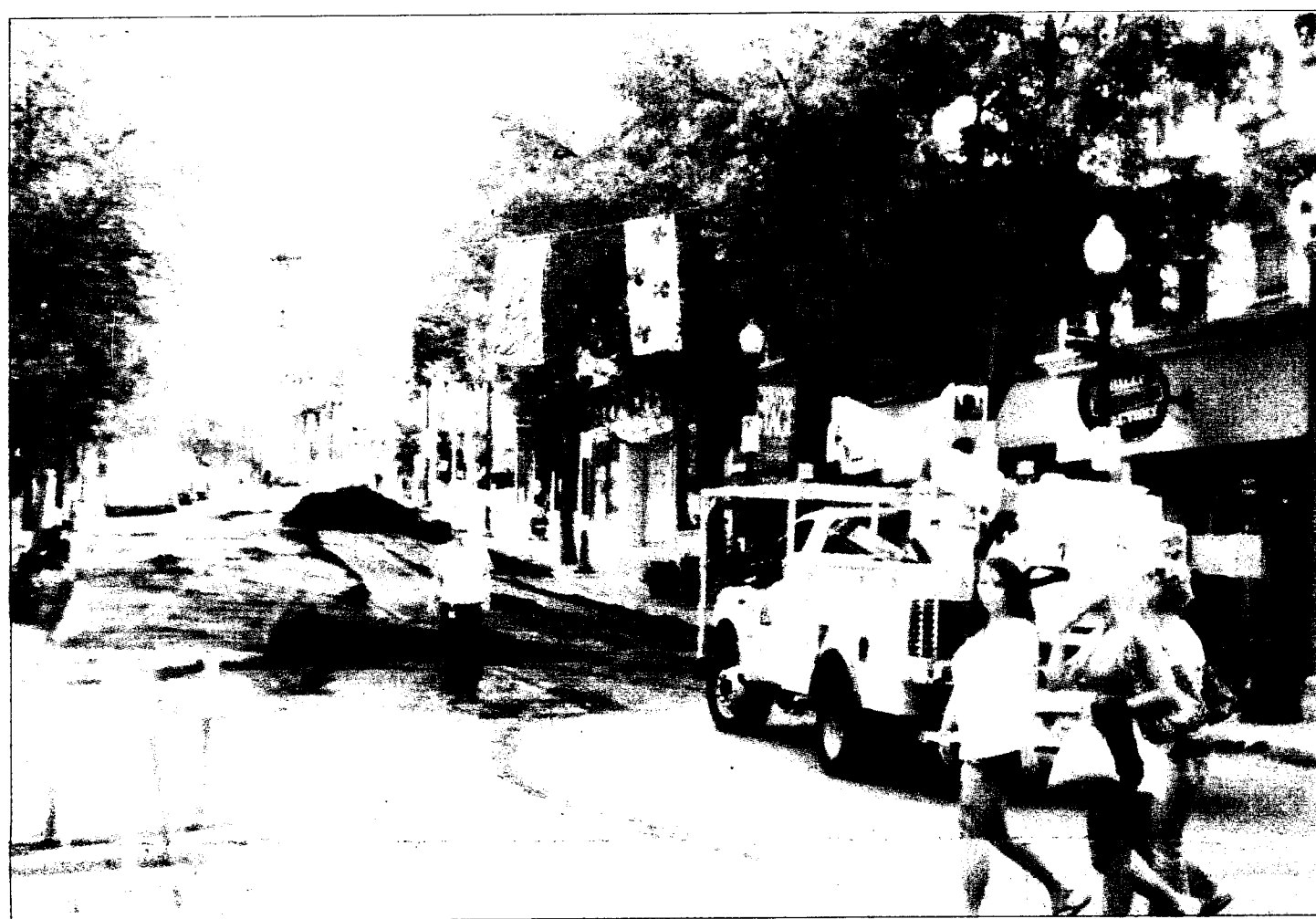
The construction includes plans for improvements to the HUB lawn for events held there.

Powers said the plans introduced at the board meeting included a "semi-circular area" for events.

University Park Undergraduate Association President Christian Ragland said the HUB

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CLEAN SWEEP



Steph Witt/Collegian

A group of girls survey the clean up process on Allen Street a day later following the Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts. Rick Bryant, Arts Fest's executive director, said hundreds of volunteers are required to help set up, run and clean up after the four-day festival.

University to enforce bike rules

Transportation Services may begin to confiscate unregistered bikes.

By Sky Friedlander
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Penn State Transportation Services began confiscating bicycles found around campus Monday, after three weeks of ticketing unregistered bicycles.

The tags inform the owner that they must register their bike or re-register if their sticker has expired. The tags also remind students how to register.

Bicycle owners who have been warned with a ticket and who fail to comply could have their bike taken, said Penn State Parking Officer Manager Jean Harris.

If registration has expired, parking officials will cut bike locks and will not reimburse bike owners, Harris said.

"Anything that is not registered will be cut," Harris said. Once the bike is taken, it is held at Lion Surplus on Services Road. If the owner doesn't contact parking services within 90 days, the bikes will be sold at an auction at the store.

Though officials have used this strategy before, there was no bike "round-up" last year, Harris said.

Penn State isn't taking the bikes just to make some extra cash, though. If registered, abandoned bikes and stolen bikes can

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Where to go

To register your bike: transportation.psu.edu or parking office number 814-865-1436

Cost: Free

Source: Penn State Transportation Services



Ryan Ullsh/Collegian

Café 210 West, 210 W. College Ave., is one of several bars that attracted students during last year's Senior Week.

SENIOR WEEK

Move disappoints some

By Brendan McNally
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Downtown bar manager Stella Cho would be disappointed to see the Senior Week tradition go — but if it does, she said, seniors will just think of new ways to celebrate graduation.

At Friday's Penn State Board of Trustees meeting, Penn State

President Graham Spanier suggested ending "Senior Week" — the week between spring semester finals and graduation that has become a time for seniors to enjoy their final days at Penn State and, for some, to drink.

Spanier wants graduation to be scheduled directly after finals, a move that would effectively end Senior Week.

Cho, who manages Mezzanine, 420 E. College Ave., said whatever changes Penn State makes, seniors will always be in town to enjoy the week after finals.

"I can see [seniors] having Senior Week anyway, just like they did with State Patty's Day," Cho said.

Though officials at Penn State

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Alumni association makes elm tree furniture

By Michael Hricik
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Penn State's diseased elm trees have found a purpose: furniture and household items available to alumni through the Penn State Elms Collection.

The collection is a line of furniture and frames created by the Penn State Alumni Association.

"We'd rather not be in this position, but we'd rather if these trees do come down, they find a place in the homes of alumni," Roger Williams, executive director of the Penn State Alumni Association.

The items can be purchased online at pennstateelmscollection.com.

The collection's efforts have

been successful thus far, raising more than \$60,000 in the line's first seven months and exceeding Williams' expectations.

Proceeds made from sales will be distributed to the association, to the Office of Physical Plant and to the companies responsible for creating products for the collection, Williams said.

Elm phloem necrosis, commonly known as Elm yellows disease, was detected on campus in 2008. The disease affects elm trees by infecting the inner bark, or phloem, of the tree, restricting the flow of nutrients.

Caused by the white-banded elm leafhopper, a disease-carrying insect, Elm yellows has been resistant to proposed cures.

Infected trees die within three years of contraction of this disease and need to be cut down as soon as possible to prevent the disease's spread. Though these trees pose a threat to surrounding elms, their wood remains unaffected by elm yellows.

Penn State houses one of the largest elm tree collections in the United States. The disease has affected more than 15 percent of the university's more than 200 elms.

Treatments for another tree ailment — Dutch elm disease — have proved reliable in staying off Elm yellows, Williams said.

"The elms on campus are sprayed for Dutch elm disease

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Steph Witt/Collegian

Elm trees surround a man as he walks down a sidewalk.