

Insurance...

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Edmunds also said he had not known about the reduction in mental health services and that employees would have to pay 10 percent of hospital bills.

Bud Dasenbrok, grounds department director, said that while there had been in-services, they didn't reach all employees.

"I wonder if it (the switch) will really save us any money," Dasenbrok said. "I wonder if the new program isn't actually going to cost us more."

Jay Schluckebier, grounds department assistant director, said employees were still uninformed.

"We've been covered by this new program for one month already, and we still don't know what to do about filing claims or anything," Schluckebier said.

All employees were invited to open meetings, according to Roy Loudon, interim director of personnel services.

The decision to switch to Aetna had already been made before the meetings, but Loudon said the decision was made by the University Systems-wide Committee. The committee represented faculty, managerial staff and all areas of the university, Loudon said.

Loudon also said that information had been sent out in July on how to file claims. A booklet of information would be sent out this week, he added. No more employee in-service meetings are being planned at this time, he said.

Health Central representatives were not invited to the meeting because the objective was to explain Aetna benefits, Loudon said.

"It is mandated by the federal government that we offer employees an optional insurance package," Loudon said.

"We were trying to explain the Aetna plan at the meetings and including Health Central would have diluted that."

Loudon said any employee who wants information about Health Central or Aetna can call the benefits office.

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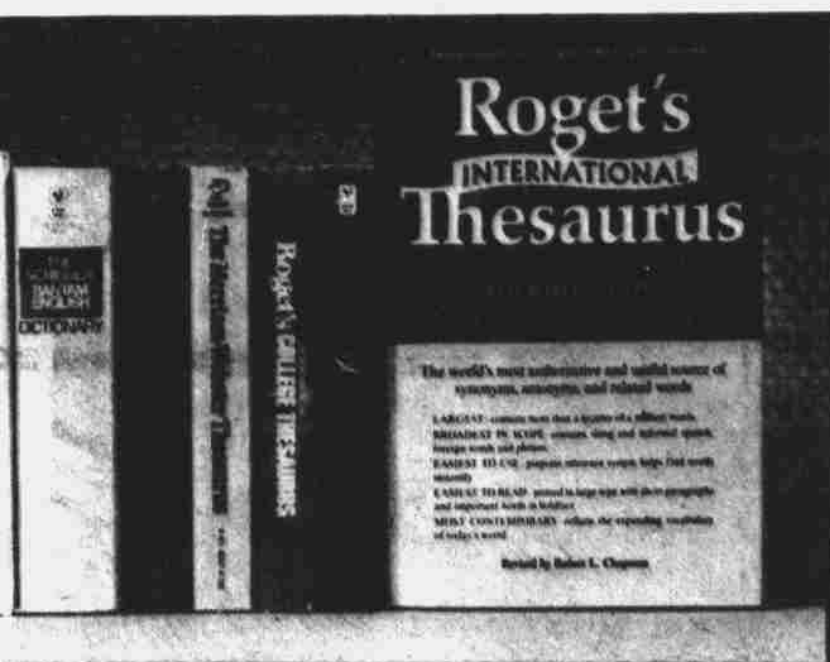
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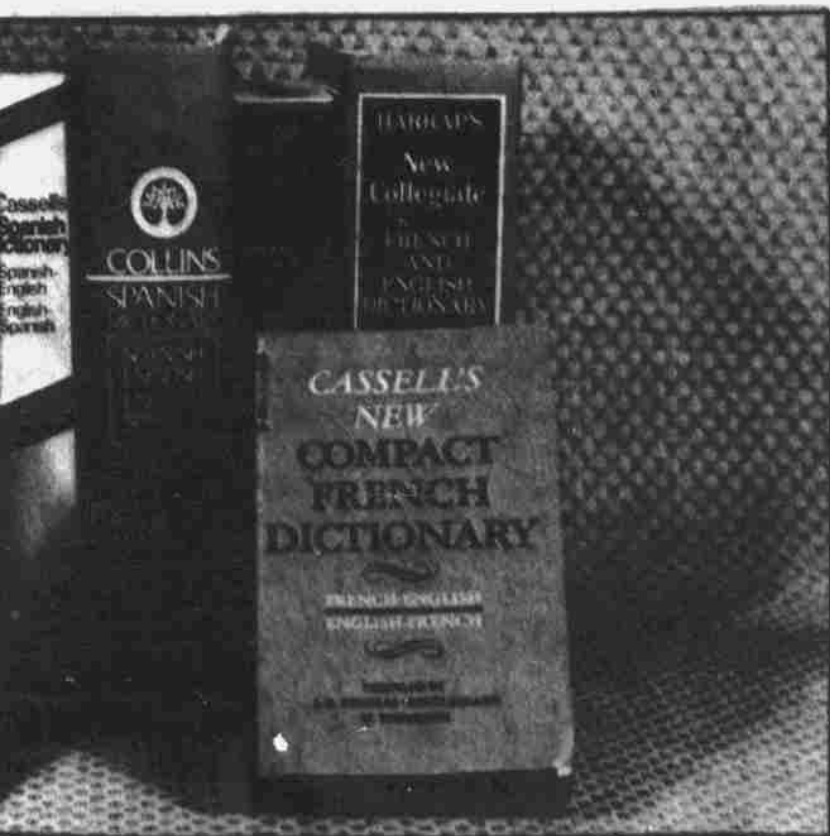
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