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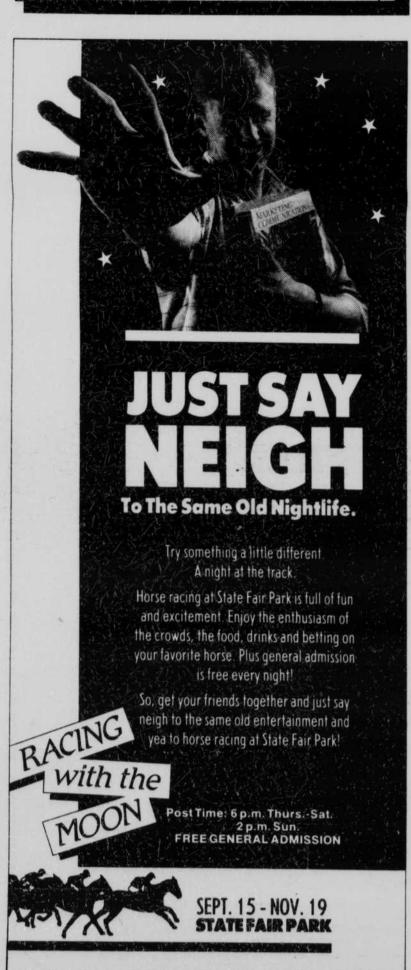
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Meeting attendance increases

Head-shaving used as incentive

By Robin Trimarchi Staff Reporter

Freshman Jeff Ecker expected residence hall life to be "quite a change," but he said he didn't expect to see the guys on his floor shaving the student assistant's head.

Ecker, a general studies major from Axton, said that when his SA Steve Hughes suggested it, he thought Hughes was kidding.

Hughes, a sophomore from Wood River, uses offbeat tactics to make his Harper 6 Residence Hall floor meetings more interesting.

On Monday, he let floor members play barber.

Now, he sports a "one millimeter buzz with a No. 6 on top" for a haircut, Hughes said.

"I made a little deal with the guys," he said. "I told them that if 80 percent (of 6th floor residents) came to the meeting, I'd let them cut my hair any way they wanted to."

His tactic worked.

"Ten different guys got to work on my head," he said.

Encouraging attendance at monthly meetings is a priority for Hughes.

"People get to know each other and soon they don't feel intimidated," he said. "It can be a gripe session.

"If we do fun stuff others join in. It helps build floor community if they know they have an SA that cares and will do crazy things for them."

According to some of the 59 floor residents, his methods are a success.

Roddy James, a sophomore business major from Scotland, said he thinks Hughes is "nuts."

"He's a nice, easy-going guy," he said. His antics "pull the guys together."

Senior Jeff Hooper, a human development major from Carmichael, Calif., agrees.

"I think he's nuts, but he's cool," Hooper said. "We've had the most turnout this year."



David Hansen/Daily Nebraskan

Harper SA Steve Hughes shows off his new #6 hairstyle.

Hughes plans more unconventional ploys to bring the guys together. He is serious about his job as student assistant.

"You need to be there when

someone has a problem," Hughes said. "Last year I hated college. But when you have good floor community, it's like having a nice home. Guys respect your rights."

