



photo by Jeff Warren

Police and safety service's Geo Metro "Stealth" patrol is used for student patrols and the escort service. It is powered by electricity, not gasoline.

PSH police and safety service offer environment-friendly patrols

Mandy Souchack
Staff Reporter

Penn State Harrisburg's Police and Safety Services (PSPS) has recently added "two ecologically friendly vehicles on campus," according to Leonard Supenski, Chief of Police and Safety Services. Neither are normally associated with police vehicles.

The "Stealth", as nicknamed by the police force, is an electrically powered Geo Metro. The conversion from gas to electric was funded by a donation from Pennsylvania Power and Light.

Unit 7321 is the only electric-powered car in the country used for police services. It is used for student patrol, the escort service, and for special details on campus.

PSPS is using the car in cooperation with the Science and Technology department for research. Police Services will track the usage of the vehicle, including the miles per kilowatt hour, miles traveled before recharge is necessary, the lifetime of batteries, and the on road performance.

Magnetic signs are used to change the title of the vehicle. During daylight

hours, the vehicle is used for safety and security, and between 6 and 11 p.m., it is used for the escort service.

The car looks like a normal one from the outside, and even after just getting in. But, a driver or passenger will soon notice, there is no gear shift. Instead, a switch is located next to where the ignition is. Putting the switch in the up position makes it go forward, and the down position reverses the vehicle.

Also, a passenger may initially get worried because the gas meter reads EMPTY, but, it is run on **See Police pg. 2**

"Team teaching" adds to success of new honors program

Joanne C. Ramirez
Staff Reporter

Dr. Glen Mazis, associate professor of humanities and philosophy, recalls that when Penn State Harrisburg's (PSH) doors first opened to students in 1966, the faculty dreamt of providing an interdisciplinary environment which would foster a deeper learning experience for all students.

Although the classification of the campus into six separate academic divisions in 1980 seemed to diminish the possible realization of this idea, faculty and students alike have renewed the quest for an enriched and lasting educational experience.

The interdisciplinary dream lives on in the newly

formed Penn State Harrisburg Honors Program (HP).

The PSH Honors Program was implemented this Fall and, according to program director Mazis, it is enjoying a successful debut.

Seventeen applicants were accepted for the Fall semester; these students are currently enrolled in the introductory seminar which presents a rewarding and challenging experience unlike any other on campus, Mazis said.

This seminar, entitled "Ecological Challenges to the Discipline," provides a rounded analysis of the environmental crisis as it affects business, ethics and legislation.

Through the concept of "team teaching", a group of professors from various

departments presents lectures and material relative to this topic and their discipline. Mazis believes this approach will help students connect more easily to their particular interests by broadening their scope and understanding of each theme.

The emphasis is on creativity and community and with venues such as the banks of the Susquehanna serving as a backdrop to some of these classes, participating students agree that the Honors Program is both entertaining and educational.

Mazis described such novelties as a planned backpacking trip along the Appalachian Trail, various movies and discussion groups, and tacos and pizza during some classes.

During a recent visit

to Franklin & Marshall College, HP students were treated to a performance of Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" after which dinner was served at the Monk's Tunic, which had been opened that night exclusively for the HP members.

"I wanted to get as much as I could out of Penn State Harrisburg," declares HP student, Jason Matkowski. He believes the Honors Program is the best way to achieve this goal. Matkowski is an Applied Behavioral Science major and is pleased to hear input from other HP students and faculty with varied backgrounds and interests.

"It's nice to hear all sides. Everyone has different views," reports

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Task force to reassign Olmsted Building space

Jody L. Jacobs
Editor

Penn State Harrisburg's (PSH) "Library of the Future" is scheduled to be occupied by Fall 1999. Heindel Library's ensuing move has many members of the PSH community wondering what will eventually occupy the space the library leaves vacant.

A task force committee has been established to recommend how that space will be occupied once the new library is completed.

The committee was formed at the recommendation of the Faculty Senate Committee on Physical Plant.

Task force members include: Director, Office of Physical Plant, Ed Dankanich (chair); Robert Larsen, assistant professor of professional accountancy; Sam McClintock, associate professor of environmental engineering; Janet Widoff, coordinator student activities and manager, college life enrichment office; Clarence Hardaway, manager,

buildings and grounds; Frank Nieves, president, student government association (SGA); and April Leister, senior senator of behavioral sciences and education SGA.

The committee is asking students and all members of the PSH community to submit proposals to recommend future uses of: the Olmsted Building's first floor east (currently the Heindel Library); first floor west, which is occupied by the library's administrative offices (formerly the office of academic records and registration); and any Olmsted area subsequently vacated by units/services which move into the spaces formerly mentioned.

The task force will host two campus-wide forums to discuss issues associated with the reassignment of the vacated space and to provide information on how to submit proposals.

The first meeting is Nov. 13 at 5 p.m., and the second will be Nov. 14, at 12 **See Library pg. 6**

Campus participates in National Depression Screening Day

Nicole Lynn Meck
Staff Reporter

On Thurs., Oct. 10, Penn State Harrisburg (PSH) took part in National Depression Screening Day. It was held in the Black Cultural Arts Center (BCAC) with help from student assistance center staff, PSH students, and members of the psychology club.

Faculty, staff, and students had a chance to watch movies about depression, hear a lecture, and have a personal screening done.

An evaluation form was completed and then scored. The screening was done by the staff of the student assistance center. It was done as a way to outreach to the community here and to

provide information.

"It is hard work but I like doing it," Steve Backels, licensed psychologist said this about the program. Backels works in the campus student assistance center as coordinator of personal counseling services.

The depression screening demonstrated to the campus community that there are a number of signs of depression. Depression is more than just the blues. They are not enjoying anything, sleeping too much or not enough, withdrawal from friends, sad, angry, anxiety, or irritable, unable to concentrate or remember, change in appetite, no energy, feelings of worthlessness, hopelessness, and guilt, physical symptoms such as headaches

or stomachaches, talking or thinking about suicide.

Depression is a medical condition that can be treated with medication and counseling. Anyone can be affected by depression, it crosses gender, race, and religious lines.

Depression can strike even the most creative, intelligent, and insightful people. Based on historical evidence, depressive illness has struck: Abraham Lincoln, Winston Churchill, Mark Twain, Georgia O'Keefe, and Cole Porter.

Also, there is another depressive condition known as seasonal affective disorder (SAD). SAD comes from people's sensitivity to seasonal changes in daylight.

If the short days of

winter are particularly bothersome, there is help. You can try to get out more when the sun is shining or light therapy. This involves spending time under full-spectrum lighting.

The student assistance center (SAC) at PSH is able to provide counseling services to those here that need it. It is confidential, free, and tailored to meet the needs of the individual.

The SAC is located in W-117 of the Olmstead Building. The phone number is (717) 948-6025, or just drop by the office. The staff consists of Steve Backels and Linda E. Meashey who are licensed psychologists, and Felcia Brown-Haywood who is a national certified counselor.



photo courtesy of police services

On Oct. 11, Chief of Police and Safety Service, Leonard Supenski, and officer Dori Beard responded to several complaints that a white Ford Escort was mowing in the Olmsted Building parking lot. Since the owner of the vehicle could not be located, the officers used a "slim jim" to unlock the car. After popping the hood open, they found a cat wedged in the front engine area. Supenski and Beard managed to free the cat and find it a home. Herman Manning, of PSH maintenance and operations adopted it.