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## Auto Emissions Test Could Cost You Up To \$300

by Christopher Conti

If you own a car that takes leaded gas only there is a good chance you will be forced to pay anywhere from 50 to 300 dollars in repair fees.

According to the Clean Air Act all cars built after the Act was introduced, must have a Catalytic Converter and take unleaded gas only. In recent years the E.P.A. has been introducing federal laws requiring all motorists to have an Auto Emmissions test done on their car. It is their estimate that on a majority of the vehicles the Catalytic Converters have ceased to function, and are helping car exhaust become the number one pollutant in the country. These tests if they prove your converter is defective could cost you up to 300 dollars in repair fees.

Because this is a federal law all states are obligated to put some sort of program into effect. Pennsylvania has been fighting this law every inch of the way. Alternative bills have been introduced that would minimize the costs to about \$50, or that the car owner would be subjected to the tests only when he sells the car. Pennsylvania as of yet has not created a program and the federal government has threatened to withhold the money collected from the 5% gas tax if one is not created soon.

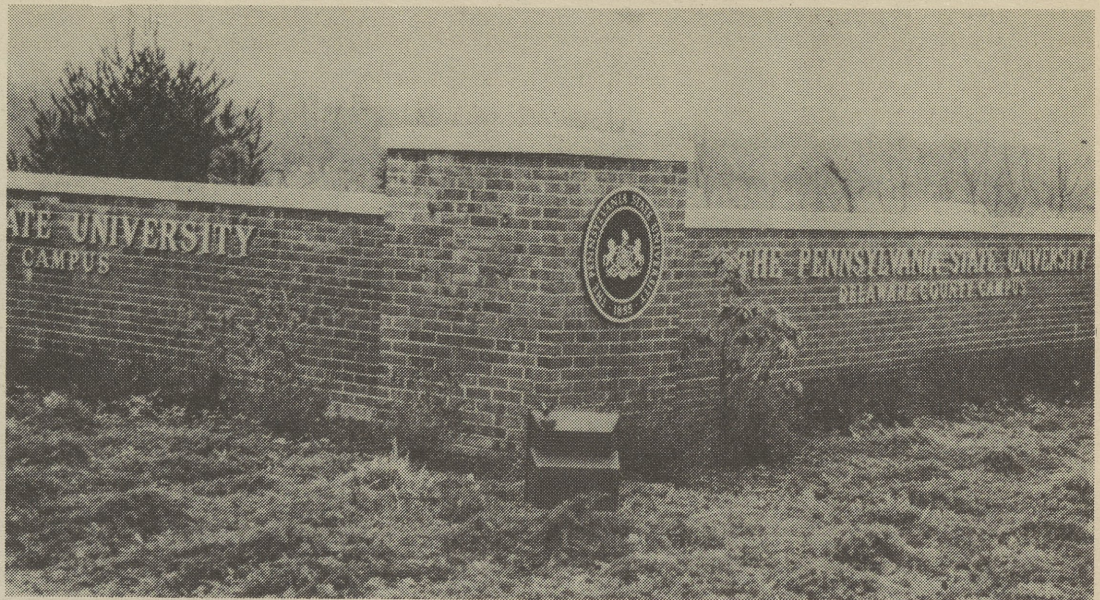
Either way the state loses money: if it adopts the system it will have to supply about 40 million dollars of machinery for the tests, and if they fail to adopt a system Pennsylvania residents will be paying a 5%

gas tax and not gaining its benefits.

Kay Jones Prof. at Drexel University, Vice President of a consultant Board, and considered by most to be the leading authority on air quality control, has been lecturing across the country against an Auto Emmissions test. According to Prof. Jones the E.P.A. has greatly over projected the failure rates of the Catalytic Converters. Jones states that only those who illegally use leaded gas when unleaded is specified, those who take off the Catalytic Converter or those who have changed their carburetor are in danger of not meeting E.P.A. standards. Jones estimates that achieving the E.P.A. standards will do almost nothing for air quality. His studies conclude that it will eliminate one day worth of pollution every 3 years - hardly enough to make any substantial effect.

Jones thinks an acceptable alternative would be heavy fines if you are caught unlawfully using leaded gas, and a law requiring an emissions test only if the vehicle is sold. This Jones claims will discourage people from removing the converter if they will only be forced to replace it when they sell the car.

The issue is now being fought over in our commonwealth and the state has the decision of spending millions for a possibly useless item, or going against federal law. Unfortunately neither is a very pleasant choice and we can only hope that Congress comes up with a liveable compromise to this costly problem.



UNIVERSITY SEAL STOLEN - Sometime during the night of December 23 one of the University seals was removed from the campus entrance wall. What the person(s) involved in this incident fails to realize is that this not a joke, it is a CRIME that carries a serious punishment. We would very much like to have the seal returned. Anyone knowing information relative to this incident is asked to contact Mr. Slauch in room 105J, main building, or Dean Linder, room 105H, main building. All information will be kept in strict confidence. Photo by Brian Shaunessy

## Penn State Dance Marathon

by Patricia Matkowski

As winter term rolls around, so does the 11th Annual Interfraternity Council Dance Marathon of Penn State. This year, over 500 dancers will participate on February 4th, 5th, and 6th in this 48-hour marathon, taking place in the North gym of the Mary Beaver White building of University Park.

This event, which is one of the largest campus-wide fundraisers in the country, will be to the theme of "Give the Kids a Chance... Dance!" All of the proceeds of this year's marathon will benefit The Four Diamonds Fund of the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. The Fund helps relieve the financial burdens for the families of children being treated for cancer at the center. It also provides up-to-date equipment, service, and research for the patients.

This year the IFC would like as much involvement in the marathon as possible to reach the goal of \$100,000 and would like all Penn State students to

join in the activities. The IFC hopes that each branch campus will have at least one couple dance to represent them since cash prizes will be awarded to the top three campuses raising the most money.

Money may be raised through pledges received by the dancers for each hour danced, canning

and button and t-shirt sales. In addition, competitions will be set up between individual branch campuses in hope of further increasing enthusiasm among students.

If you would like to sign up or have any questions, please call the IFC Office, 203B H.U.B. at (814) 865-3455.

## Club Report

### The Christian Chronicles

by Helen Cohen

Do you usually find yourself in the lounge or lobby Mondays during fourth period just wasting away the hour in boredom? Well why not fill the gap by coming to room 219 for the Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship meetings? Learn about Christianity under the guidance of such sparkling personalities as Mary Sidoriak, Mark Parish, Kevin Lyods and the many others who lead and participate.

Not only does Inter Varsity offer Bible studies, prayer, and

learning and sharing experiences, there are also many socials (parties, concerts, retreats, ski weekends), and soon to come - films! So come and join the good, clean fun and learn a little about what it takes to be a Christian! Join Inter Varsity! Mondays, room 219, fourth period!

Can't make the meetings but have something on your mind that's bothering you? Jot down your thoughts and drop them off in the prayer request box on the wall in the lounge in the main building.

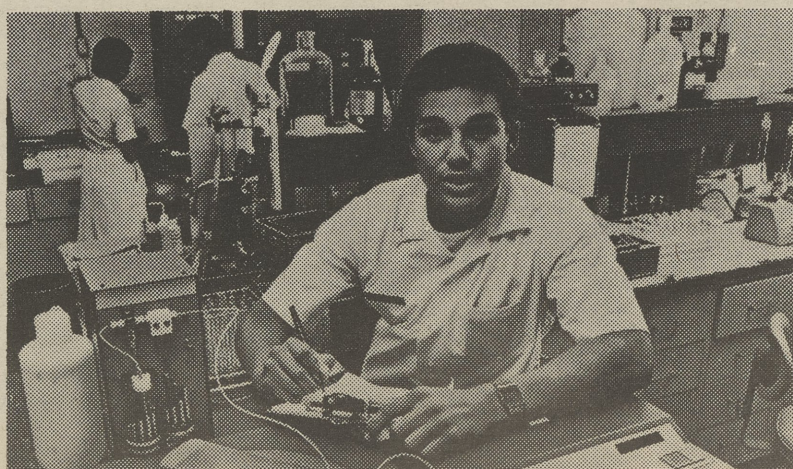
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