



# Accu-Weather forecasts from Happy Valley house

By JOHN MITCHELL  
Collegian Staff Writer

"Sunny today and hot tomale" might be the weather forecast heard in Mexico City this morning, and surprisingly, that forecast may have been formulated by Accu-Weather in State College.

Accu-Weather is a private weather forecast service owned and operated in State College by Joel Myers, part-time lecturer in meteorology at the University.

The service forecasts weather for city governments, private companies, ski areas, and for radio and television.

Although Mexico City is not one of the 190 clients served by Accu-Weather, its distance from State College is not the reason. Accu-Weather can forecast weather for any location in the country from its unassuming location in a house at 622 W. College Avenue.

According to Accu-Weather meteorologist Elliot Abrams, high speed teletype machines and a facsimile machine bring weather information from around the country to Accu-Weather's office, which consists of several rooms on the first floor. The "faces" machine produces 128 weather maps daily and is provided by the National Weather Service, Abrams said.

Myers started the service in 1963 when a local gas company and a ski area wanted more specific weather forecasts than the National Weather Service could offer.

"We don't claim to be more accurate than the National Weather Service, but we tailor our service to our clients' needs," Abrams said.

Frank Brody (4th-meteorology) currently is employed part-

time at Accu-Weather. He has been interested in following the weather and forecasting since high school. When he arrived at Penn State, he wanted to get some experience in the field.

"I heard of Accu-Weather on KYW-radio in Philadelphia, and I was curious when I heard the guys giving weather discussions on the air. I contacted Dr. Meyers when I got here, and he gave me a chance to work at Accu-Weather."

"I plot weather maps, phone in forecasts, and do a little forecasting which is overseen by the professional forecasters here," Brody said.

In the last several years, the service has grown to include 17 radio and television stations, mostly in the middle-Atlantic region.

Although Accu-Weather gets its fame from its customers in the broadcast media, the major part of its business comes from service to city governments and municipalities. The firm is especially busy in the winter months forecasting snow, Abrams said.

Municipalities may pay thousands of dollars per hour for snow removal operations in their jurisdiction, Abrams said. Precise forecasting of when the snow will start, how long it will fall, and how much will fall is important when deciding whether snow crews should begin salting the roads or plowing, he added.

Accu-Weather forecasts for practically all the major ski areas in the North and Northeast part of the country, Abrams said. He said the ski areas need precise temperature forecasts as well as other information to be used in deciding what type of maintenance is required to keep the slopes in good condition.

## What's the weather?

ACCU-WEATHER FORECASTERS predict the weather at their office at 622 W. College Ave.

Photo by Laurie E. Usher

## Vote tally on calendar not due until winter

to Joe Kaplan, Academic Assembly president.

Kaplan yesterday said the delay in counting the ballots was caused by the lateness of the term and the amount of time needed to get computer read-outs of the results.

About 8,000 students filled out ballots Wednesday and Thursday, and a preliminary review showed a wide majority in favor of retaining the term system, Kaplan said.

Friday's issue of The Daily Collegian incorrectly stated in its article on the constitutional convention that the first item to be discussed at the convention's next meeting is voting specifications. The sentence should read: "The consensus at last night's meeting was that voting specifications were to be the fourth item discussed at the next meeting." The first item on the agenda will be a "proclamation of legitimacy."

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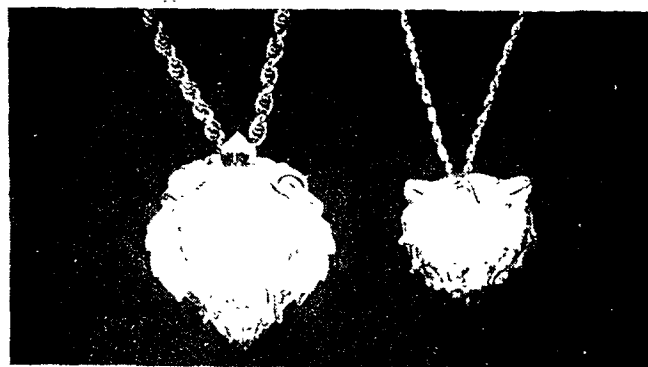
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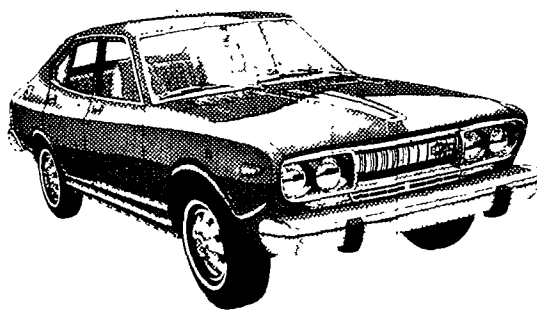
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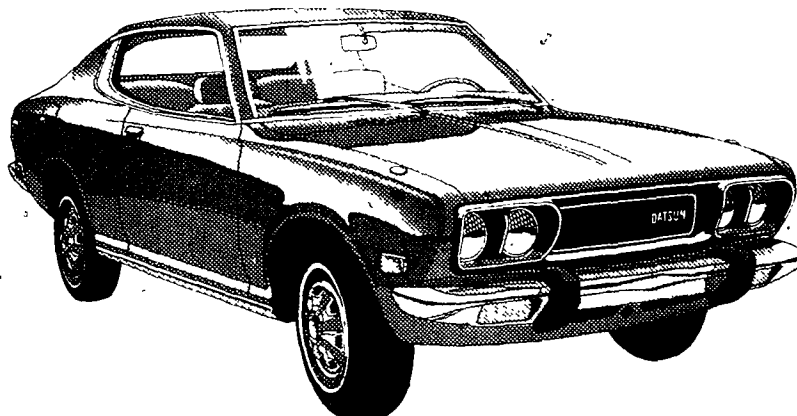


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