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Hangin' around The sky above Skimont can be a very private place if you know how to get there. This hang-glider pilot seems to have had no trouble getting away from it all. Photo by Mike Mullen

New traffic code increases fines

By SUE MUSHENO
Collegian Staff Writer

A heavy foot on the gas pedal can make the pocketbook light on the shoulder, especially since July 1, when the new State Motor Vehicle Code went into effect, raising fines and reducing points for road violations.

Speeding fines are averaging \$55 plus \$10 for the magistrate, according to Fred Hoyt, state police trooper at the Johnstown substation. Traffic fines have nearly tripled since last year when an average speeding fine was \$10 plus \$5 for the magistrate, he said.

Under the new code the basic speeding fine is \$35 with an additional charge of \$2 for every mile in excess of five miles over the speed limit, Hoyt said. For example, a person clocked at 70 miles per hour on the turnpike would be awarded a fine of \$35 plus \$20 for the ten miles between 60 and 70. With the magistrate fee of \$10 the total cost comes to \$65.

While speeders' pocketbooks grow lighter, state and municipal treasuries expand. State College Police Chief Elwood G. Williams said half of the revenue derived from fines in the municipality will come back to the public and is supposed to be used for road improvement. The code was designed for traffic safety rather than

revenue, he said.

But a Lebanon County policeman said he thinks the new code is a money-making racket for the state. He said more people feared an accumulation of points rather than a fine.

Williams explained that one can still lose his license after receiving 11 points, but each offense warrants less

points than under the old code. For example, if running a red light cost five points last year, it may cost only three points this year, he said.

"I don't think it's really cut down on our speeding," Williams said. "The number of speeders is running about the same as last year."

The legislator has done an injustice to municipal police by making speeding a serious crime, but not providing adequate equipment for detection, Williams said. Local police still may not use radar equipment to detect speeding and they must pace a vehicle three-tenths of a mile before making an arrest, he added.

The new traffic code was urged by the Federal Highway Commission to make the state code comply with federal traffic standards, Williams said. The federal government is pushing all of the states to update their codes so they will all be more uniform, he explained.

Also in the new code is a hike in drunk driving fines, which will take effect September 13, according to Seymour Heyison, state director of traffic safety. He said the fines may go as high as \$2500.

Average drunken driving fines in Centre County have been \$200-\$300 plus loss of license for one year, Williams said.



Carter opens campaign with swing through South

NORFOLK, Va., (UPI) — Jimmy Carter formally opened his fall campaign yesterday with a swing through his native South, telling thousands, "I owe special interests nothing, I owe the American people everything."

The Democratic presidential nominee spoke the words at the shaded "Little White House" in Warm Springs, Ga., where Franklin D. Roosevelt died in 1945 and John F. Kennedy campaigned in 1960.

Carter repeated them at the Norfolk Botanical Garden, in Norfolk, where he served in the Navy, and added, "The Democrats have always been close to the people. The Republicans have always been close to special interests."

Carter spoke to 7,000 persons at Warm Springs, to 4,000 at Norfolk and to 80,000 at the Southern 500 Stock Car Races in Darlington, S.C. The only spot on the otherwise bright sunny day, from

Carter's point of view, was at Darlington where Sen. Robert Dole also appeared, the two men shook hands.

Later, Carter's press secretary, Jody Powell, said Carter had been invited first: "There is a difference between tactics and manners — and this was gross bad manners."

Carter repeated familiar themes during the day, including his expression of a belief in the people. "We are never to forget that our economic system is still solid, our system of government is still the best on earth."

"Richard Nixon did not hurt our system of government. The Vietnam War, the CIA revelation and Watergate did not hurt our system," he said. "The only thing that hasn't changed is the strength of character of the American people, we need not be afraid of the future."

Carter chose Warm Springs to open his

campaign, pledging "if elected I'll try to be a worthy leader of our great country."

Carter stood in front of the tree-shaded "Little White House" where Roosevelt died at Warm Springs. A crowd of several thousand, including a front row of persons in wheelchairs from the polio treatment center, applauded him 36 times in the 27-minute speech.

Carter hugged Graham Jackson, 73, the black accordionist who was photographed in tears at Roosevelt's funeral, and who played yesterday for the Labor Day formal kickoff of Carter's campaign for the presidency. James Roosevelt introduced Carter, and his brother, Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr., also was present.

The speech listed many of the themes Carter sounded in his 20-month bid for the presidency — jobs, comprehensive health care, welfare reform, a balanced

budget, an end to secrecy in government.

Carter left his brick home at Plains, Ga., in the 6:30 a.m. darkness, carrying, as always, his suitcase and luggage. A motorcade took him at speeds of up to 70 miles per hour to Warm Springs.

The site was chosen, Carter's staff said because it is in his native Georgia; the traditional Democratic kickoff spot of Detroit is in Ford's home state and Warm Springs suggests healing, the dominant Carter political theme.

Carter's family was with him — his mother, his wife, her mother, sons Jeff and Chip and daughter Amy. Then they scattered, some of them to campaign across the country this week.

Carter did not mention President Ford, preferring to invoke the memories of Democratic presidents. But he kept up his theme of the lack of leadership in the White House.

"When Harry Truman was in the White House, a sign on his desk said, remember what?" Carter asked. The crowd roared: "The buck stops here."

"There was never any doubt about who was captain of the ship," Carter continued. "Now, no one seems to be in charge. No one seems to be responsible."

Carter flew on to the Southern 500 stock car race at Darlington, where he crossed paths, to his annoyance it was reported, with Sen. Robert Dole, the Republican vice presidential nominee.

The two men shook hands, however, on the track in front of the grandstand holding 80,000 persons.

It was learned Carter almost cancelled the Darlington appearance when he learned that Dole would be present. Carter was in the lead car for the pace lap of the race and Dole was five cars back.

Carter stayed for 20 minutes, shaking hands with the pit attendants and others in the infield.

Carter said that stock car racing was his favorite spectator sport. He said he had traveled at speeds of 120 miles per hour, but had no desire to experience the 180 or 190 m.p.h. the stock cars travel.

In the campaign opener at Warm Springs, Carter, blaming the Republicans for "terrible economic and social ills," said the nation needs him now as it did Roosevelt in 1932 and John F. Kennedy in 1960.

"This year, as in 1932, our country is divided, our people are out of work and our national leaders do not lead," he said at Warm Springs. "This year, as in 1960, our nation is drifting, without inspiration and purpose."

USG to hold hearing on drinking policy

By MIKE MENTREK
Collegian Staff Writer

Undergraduate Student Government President W.T. Williams announced yesterday that USG would hold a series of public hearings to determine what action it would take against the dorm drinking enforcement policy.

Williams said the hearings would show USG exactly what the student sentiment is concerning the stricter enforcement policy. "If we want to get this monster turned around, we have to make our presence felt. This is a major challenge to the student body and unless we react quickly, other concessions will surely follow," Williams said.

"I have found nothing less than total outrage at Director of Residential Life M. Lee Upcraft and his regressive attitudes. While it is obvious that a substantial number of dorm residents and RAs feel the recent directives to be of a dictatorial nature, only through open and public hearings can the sentiments of the dorm community be recorded."

The new drinking policy prohibits the possession and use of alcoholic beverages by any student under the age of 21. It also forbids the consumption of liquor on all University property except in private residence halls of students older than 21.

Residential Life adopted a stricter policy for the enforcement of these guidelines by RAs. At the same time, the first warning card system usually used in first-offense cases was eliminated. The majority of alcohol violations will now result in immediate referral.

The tentative date for the initial USG hearing is September 15, with a possible location in 225 HUB. Williams said additional hearings would be scheduled as he deemed necessary.

Faculty and administration members will be permitted to testify at the hearings, but will not receive personal invitations.

The hearings will be held before a full session of the judicial and executive branches of USG. Each student, administrator or faculty member attending the hearings will be given the opportunity to address the assembly.

Williams said he would meet with his advisers following the hearing to evaluate the student opinion and determine from student suggestions what course of action USG would take. No actions or strategies are being ruled out by USG, according to Williams.

Williams and his advisers have already formulated three possible USG-sponsored reactions to the stricter

enforcement of the alcohol policy. The plans of action include:

— A quad party in East Halls in which hundreds of students would openly consume alcohol.

— forming a coalition within USG to bring police to football games to enforce the University regulations prohibiting drinking on Beaver Stadium property. The crackdown would be aimed at tailgate parties held by alumni. Williams said he hoped the arrests would "outrage" the alumni and force them to pressure administrators to relax the alcohol enforcement rules. He said similar action taken by the Michigan State University student government resulted in a state-wide reduction of the legal drinking age. The reduction was considered to be prompted by MSU alumni pressure on legislators, according to Williams.

— informing students of which local and state candidates support a lowering of legal drinking age. The information would be incorporated with a stepped-up voter registration drive sponsored by USG.

Williams emphasized that all three strategies are extremely tentative. "I'm not saying USG is going to support any of these strategies. We're not ruling them out or in. There are enough avenues open to take that USG can do something about (changing the policy)."

Dole blasts Demo ticket, handshakes with Carter

DARLINGTON, S.C. (UPI) — Republican vice presidential hopeful Robert Dole blasted the Democratic ticket in another Dixie campaign thrust yesterday, then smiled and shook hands with Jimmy Carter at the race track.

"It's a beautiful day," Dole told the Democratic presidential nominee as their political paths crossed briefly in a crowd of 80,000 at the Darlington stock car racing track.

Dole smiled and waved as he and Carter rode around the track in the pace car for a Labor Day race. But the Kansas senator had no kind words for Carter or Carter running mate Walter Mondale at an earlier rally.

"Good luck to you and thanks for

calling," Carter told Dole. He referred to a courtesy telephone call from Dole when the GOP hopeful recently visited Carter's home state of Georgia.

Dole flew here from Washington on his second visit to South Carolina in four days and was scheduled to return home before nightfall.

"If they (the Republican ticket) take the South for granted, we're going to make a battleground of it," Dole said at nearby Florence municipal airport as he again emphasized the GOP ticket is not giving up on Dixie this fall.

"You're not going to see much of the vice presidential candidate on the other side," he said of Mondale. "They don't want to bring Mr. Busing to the South."

PLO joins Arab League

CAIRO (UPI) — The Palestinian Liberation Organization was granted full membership in the Arab League yesterday, a spokesman for the League announced.

He said the decision was taken by the Political Committee of the Arab League Council which opened its fall session yesterday. Endorsement by the council was considered a foregone conclusion.

In a formal note to the Arab League in July, Egypt requested full membership for the umbrella guerilla group, which has had nonvoting observer status at all League functions since 1964.

Egypt argued that although the Palestinians presently have no homeland of their own, the wide international recognition afforded the PLO, particularly since the 1973 Middle East war, was sufficient justification for granting it full membership.

Diplomatic sources said the Egyptian bid was a desire to boost the PLO's

prestige at a time when it was suffering military setbacks in the Lebanon civil war.

The PLO will become the 21st member of the League, founded in 1945.

In addition to gaining the right to vote at League functions, the guerrilla organization will be entitled to join the Arab joint defense treaty of 1950 which requires signatories to come to the aid of any member exposed to military aggression.

Weather

The fall term will start on a happy note weatherwise. Clear skies will prevail through Wednesday with moderating temperatures. The high today will be 74 and the high tomorrow 79. Tonight's low will be a cool 48.



Win, Lose or Draw

"Almost anything goes" competition, made famous on network TV, is enjoyed locally as Penn State cheerleaders try to fill the basket of the bicycling Lion Mascot during games at the soccer field. Photo by Doug Henry

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