



## Operation: Rescue

Local fire departments and ambulance services had their version of a pop quiz last Nov. 13 when a mock accident was created for them near the Nittany Mall.

The accident, held during Emergency Medical Service Week, was to test how quickly and effectively the emergency crews could handle the four-car, nine-person drill.

The cars, one of which was set on fire, were donated by a local junkyard owner, and the "victims" came from a class taught at Ritenour Health Center for emergency medical technicians. Participants feigned injuries ranging from minor lacerations to severe head and chest injuries. One bystander collapsed of a "heart attack."

Accident victims were welded into the cars to make their rescue more difficult, and the five different ambulance corps that responded were timed.

The Ritenour ambulance was first to respond, followed closely by the State College Alpha unit.

The Nittany Mall location was chosen by the drill's sponsors — the Centre County Ambulance Association and the Centre Community Hospital — because it is a frequent location of accidents and because the heavy traffic would make it a challenge.

The entire operation lasted about an hour and 10 minutes from the time the accident calls were out until all the victims were either treated or in hospitals. Fifty volunteers from the area responded.

— by Bob Frick

Photos by Lynn Dudinsky

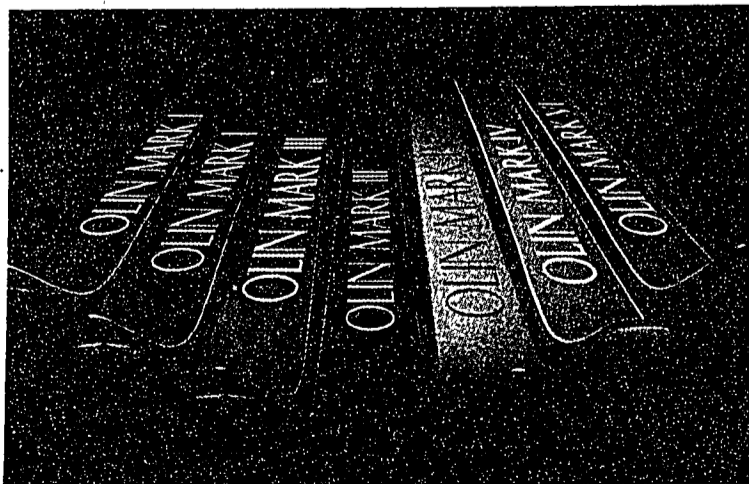
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A reputable dealer will offer his products at a competitive price. One that is fair to you and fair to him. And unlike dealers that just sell skis, he will offer you a level of expertise and service that is worth far more than the extra few dollars a lesser dealer might save you.

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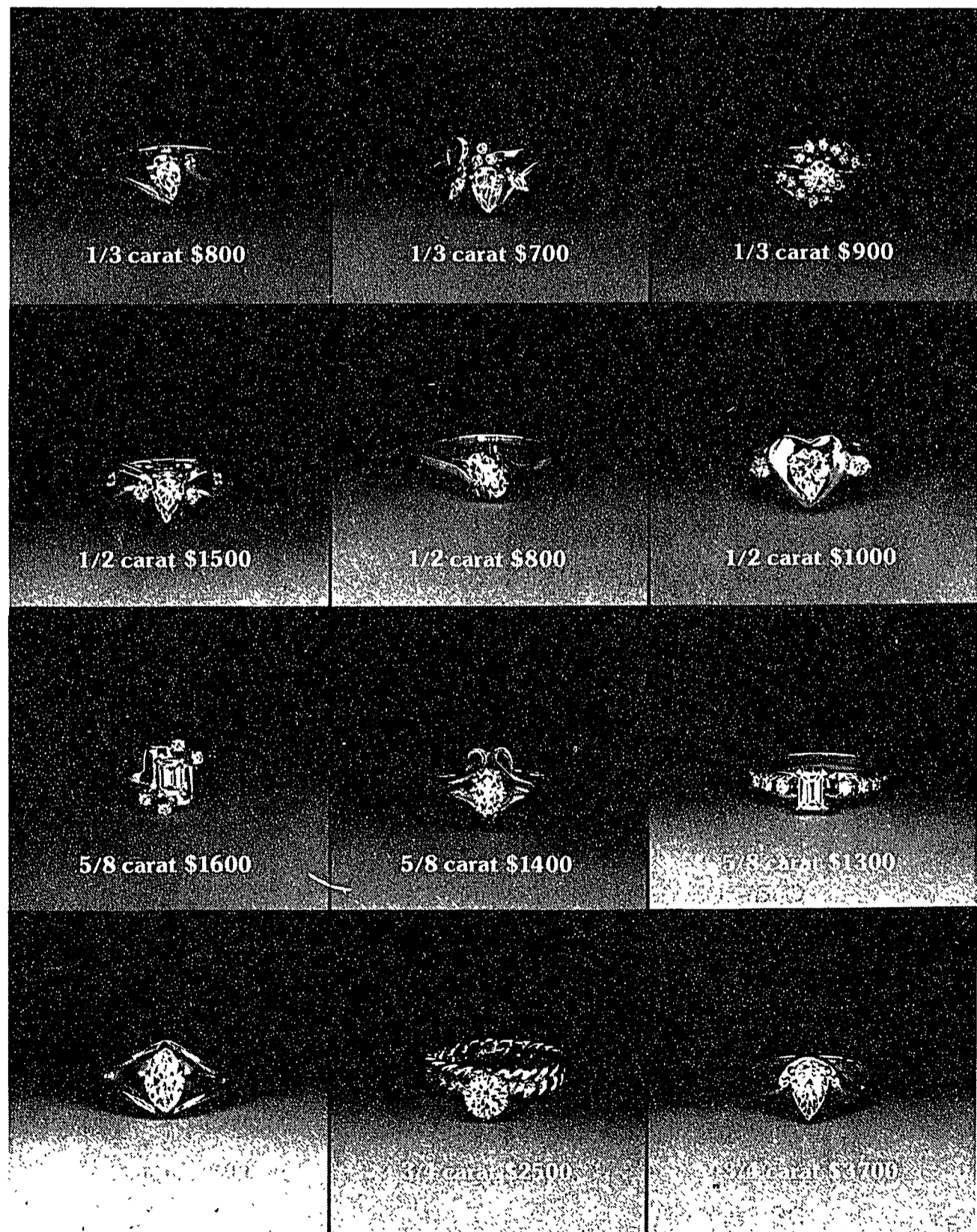


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