## —The Daily Collegian Thursday, Dec. 11, 1980 Right-on-red increases accidents Lawyers face action

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The adoption of right-turnon-red laws has boosted collisions at intersections by 20 intersection. percent, or about 20,000 annually, with 1,400 of them in- Extrapolating from the data, the analysts estimated volving pedestrians, an independent research group that if similar laws were enacted during the same estimated yesterday.

A study by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safey compared police-reported crash information from six states where right-on-red laws were adopted bet- Federal Highway Administration. The agency concludween 1974 and 1977 with three states where the law re- ed the law would reduce fuel consumption and auto mained unchanged.

It concluded that indiscriminate right-turn-on-red laws conflict with Congress' intent in 1975 of promoting such a policy only to "the maximum extent practicable consistent with safety.'

Only a handful of states allowed the practice in the early 1970s, but Congress made it a requirement in eturn for federal aid for state energy conservation Now it is permitted in all states and the District of

Columbia unless specifically prohibited by a sign period in all states, 20,000 additional crashes would have resulted each year, 1,400 involving pedestrians. That finding is almost double a 1976 prediction by the

missions with a "relatively insignificant number of accidents. The insurance institute said the results of its study

"show that, whatever the savings in gasoline resulting from right-turn-on-red, they are being paid for in increases in pedestrian and other intersection crashes. "In fact, the adoption of right-turn-on-red leads to an increase of more than 20 percent in all crashes involving a right turn at signalized intersections, with substantially larger percentage increases in urban

American way of life and will not be been an emotive subject in the United shotgun or rifle — locked in a safe or of a murderer. "Anything short of a fullscale tighten- cumstances, for example while travel- cepted — in the U.S.A., including the

"Nothing was done and now, ye But the thrust of editorials, including Most European nations make it very again, we witness the tragedy of a

British law, which is typical, bans the the newspaper asked.

The data showed crashes in urban areas increased 25 percent. Collisions involving a vehicle and a pedestrian increased 59 percent overall, with pedestrian-vehicle collisions in urban areas alone jumping 79 percent. Elderly victims fared worst: the study found a 110

percent increase in the number of them hit by vehicles. A 100 percent increase was found for other adults, and Adverse effects could be reduced by outlawing right

The findings contrast with the economic benefits of the law — which the study estimated at a fuel savings of 25 million to 190 million gallons annually, or from 0.2

The institute, founded in 1959, is a research organization supported by auto insurance companie



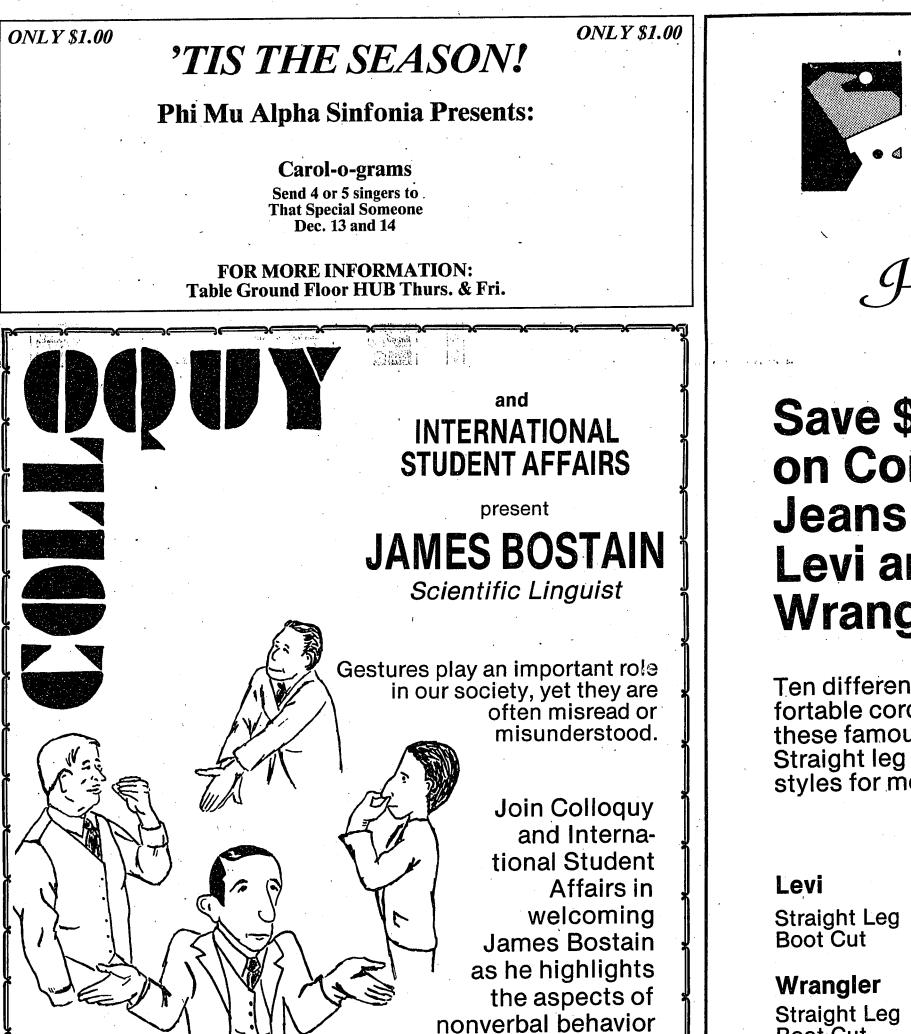
cured until there is effective gun control, States, dating back to the Founding thief-proof cabinet. Guns may not be "But the violence mentality is so European opinion-makers, shocked by Fathers," North said. he shooting murder of John Lennon, said vesterday.

creasingly typical of New York, and the resisted right down the line," he said. British police carry no weapons. United States in general, where the "At the moment there does not appear In Dublin, the Irish Press recalled the reedom to carry guns has brought forth to be any ready answer to the problem. 1963 assassination of President John F. monsters." London's New Standard said The United States has become a violent Kennedy and said there had been "much in an editorial hours after the British society and will remain so while power- talk in America" of tightening the laws said, "A man who lived with a musician was shot and killed in Manhat- ful interests prevent proper gun on the possession of firearms. tan Monday night.

control.

those in Irish newspapers, condemned the laxity of American gun laws and call- firearms. ed for them to be toughened. Irish sociologist William North said sale of guns, including hunting rifles, ex- The Swedish newspaper Svenska in which some kind of perverted

crop of the laxity in American gun other rigorous conditions, permit- U.S.A., so unfamiliar to us in Sweden,"



carried except in specified cir- widespread - and unfortunately acing of the laws will be useless to contain ing to a shooting club, and the weapon right of everyone to carry weapons, that Lennon's "meaningless murder is in- such violence, and such a move would be must be disassembled. Ordinarily, the end for John Lennon was made all the worse.

The Times of London editorial called Lennon's death "peculiarly American." The London Daily Telegraph editorial philosophy of peace has perished by the

It said, "The silly but mainly harmless mob hysteria which followed the Beatles round the world in the '60s has now, in the streets of New York in 1980, a sequel Lennon's slaying was an "inevitable out- cept to people issued a permit. Among Dagbladet, reflecting on "violence in the autograph-hunting has turned into murder

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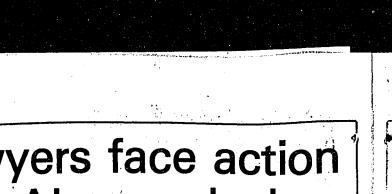
"Will that lesson never be learned?"

a 30 percent increase for children. on red in urban centers with heavy traffic, the researchers suggested.

to 1.3 gallons of fuel per car — and an annual time saving of 0.3 to 1.7 hours per driver.

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A handful of Justice Department lawyers has been warned they may be disciplined - perhaps fired - for news leaks about Abscam and other undercover FBI probes, Deputy Attorney General Charles Renfrew said vesterdav

for Abscam leaks



Renfrew said he has sent letters to fewer than a half-dozen prosecutors giving them a chance to answer allegations that they broke department rules in leaking information about the investigations.

It is possible that some of those involved could face dismissal, Renfrew said, but stressed he first wants to hear the lawyers' defenses and whether there were mitigating circumstances.

Those implicated in the leaks were indentified after a massive, costly investigation of the disclosures last February that prematurely ended the Abscam probe in which eight members of Congress were implicated.

Renfrew said he has met with some of the accused lawyers and hopes the three weeks.

The splash of Abscam publicity so angered Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti that he ordered an extensive investigation. The probe later was expanded to include leaks about the undercover projects called "Brilab" amd "Pendorf."

The leak investigation — costing at least \$750,000 and involving nearly 40 investigators including an FBI team that looked into possible misconduct by bureau agents — was supervised by U.S. Attorney Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut.

Sources have said Blumenthal's report frequently relies on circumstantial evidence and intuition to pinpoint probable leakers. FBI Direcor William Webster, who would mete out punishment to bureau agents, told reporters recently the investigation left a number of questions unanswered

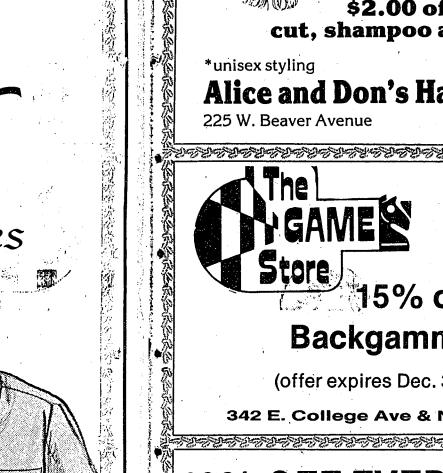
"I am exacting a high standard of proof" in determining whether hand out discipline, Renfrew said citing the effect on employees.

"It has to be treated very carefully very sensitively," he said.

Sources have indicated that executive assistant FBI Director Frand cis M. Mullen Jr., assistant bureau director Oliver Revell and Sean Mc Weeney, head of the bureau's matter can be concluded in two or organized crime unit, and a number of agents were asked to take polygraph tests in connection with the leak probe.

> Last spring, Civiletti said an adverse inference could be drawn if Justice or FBI employees refused to submit to polygraph examinations or performed poorly on the tests.





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