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## County has highest alcohol abuse rate in Pennsylvania

By MARGARET ANN WALSH,  
Daily Collegian Staff Writer

Centre County has the highest incidence of heavy drinking in Pennsylvania, according to a study from the Governor's Council on Drug and Alcohol Abuse.

As a result, Centre Community Hospital, along with the Drug and Alcohol Office of the Centre County Mental Health and Mental Retardation organization, is sponsoring an Alcohol Awareness program to deal with the problem.

Although weekends, especially during the summer and football season, are the worst time as far alcohol in the emergency room is concerned, there is no major connection between the University and the problem, said Dr. Tom Bem, an emergency room physician at the hospital.

"There are an unusually large amount of high school, college and even junior high school students represented," he said.

But he added that many middle-aged and older citizens also abuse alcohol in the county.

The 3½-month awareness program, funded primarily by the hospital, is a combination of media spots to acquaint citizens with the problems of alcohol abuse, speakers for service clubs and distribution of bumper stickers, said Tom Zyrrol, hospital administrator of operations.

The program's primary purpose is to stimulate community awareness that alcohol abuse does exist in the county, Zyrrol said.

Cindy Hughes, an emergency room nurse at the hospital, said the program has been in the planning stages since May, when it was first proposed at Town Day, sponsored by the Organization for Town Independent Students.

The impact of alcohol on emergency room treatments is enormous, Hughes said. The hospital must increase the staff load on the weekends, which is when alcohol-related incidents occur most often, she said.

The problem of heavy drinking is not restricted to alcoholics — many of the emergency cases are businessmen and upstanding citizens, Hughes said.

Hughes said she called the state Liquor Control Board and asked how much alcohol is sold in the county.

"Without even looking it up, he told me 1,800 cases of liquor are sold here each week," she said, "and that's not even counting the beer distributors."

Bem said alcohol-related emergency cases fall into three categories.

The first category is the toxic effects, he said. These are the physical effects of the alcohol — severe abdominal pain, internal bleeding, depression of the brain and vital functions that can lead to unconsciousness or respiratory problems and possible death.

Peer pressure often leads to drinking a large amount of alcohol in a short period of time, Bem said. This is what is referred to as "binge drinking."

The heavy use of alcohol can also result in serious side effects, which are the second category of alcohol-related emergency cases, Bem said. The drinker often loses the use of his mental capacities and gets into fights leading to serious injuries — or, the drinker loses his sense of balance and falls, which can result in fractured bones or even skull injuries, he said.

The third category of alcohol-related emergency cases, Bem said, is perhaps the most well-known — drunk driving.

Please see ALCOHOL ABUSE, Page 4.

## penn state 38, boston college 7



Love ya, Lions!

They came. They saw. They conquered. These fans were among the 84,473 spectators who came to Beaver Stadium for Saturday's Homecoming game — and witnessed the Lions' triumph over the Boston College Eagles. And coupled with USC's loss to Arizona this weekend, could we really be No.1 again? We won't know until tomorrow. Game coverage begins on Page 10, and Homecoming coverage begins on Page 6.

Photo by Barbara Parkyn

## Taxes:

Real estate, income rates may increase, Fairbanks says

By CAROL ANDREWS  
and GENE GRYGO

Daily Collegian Staff Writers

Local taxpayers may face an increase in their real estate and income taxes, and a decrease in services because of cuts in federal revenue sharing and the overspending of the State College Municipal Council, local officials said.

State College residents may face up to an 8-mill real estate tax increase in 1982 if President Reagan cuts the revenue sharing program, Municipal Manager Carl Fairbanks said.

Reagan is considering cutting the revenue sharing program beginning in fiscal year 1983, which will begin Oct. 1, 1982, and eliminating it entirely by the end of 1984, Fairbanks said.

"If we were to lose the entire amount of revenue sharing and continued with the programs we have done in the past, the borough would have to raise its taxes," he said.

"We will be notified of the cuts after action by Congress," he said.

Fairbanks said sources in Washington have told him there may be a 12 percent decrease in revenue

sharing, he said. However, "we have no firm information," he said.

The tax increase may not be as large if the municipality reduced its programs or used another source of revenue to finance them, Fairbanks said.

"Other sources of revenue we might be able to use include selling property owned by the borough or increasing rates on licenses and permits," Fairbanks said.

State College now receives about \$340,000 a year from the federal government.

Please see MUNICIPAL TAX, Page 4.

## Tax task force in planning stage

By DINA DEFABO  
and ELLYN HARLEY

Daily Collegian Staff Writers

A task force to study and propose solutions to the tax problems of graduate students does not exist, contrary to a story in last Monday's Daily Collegian.

The task force was proposed two weeks ago, but is still in the developing stage, said Phillip Gross, president of the Graduate Student Association.

"We submitted a written proposal in outline form to James B. Bartoo, dean of the Graduate School, and he was not negative," Gross said. "He was very helpful and instructive, and told us to work on it a little, put it in prose form and bring it back to him."

Bartoo said yesterday that no conclusions about the

proposed task force had been reached. He said, however, that the proposal "seemed to have some merit."

Bartoo said the tax situation for graduate students is a "perennial problem."

"For years, at least, graduate assistants have had occasional audits and this year they've had more than usual," he said.

Bartoo said about 300 of the 2,200 graduate assistants at the University have faced auditing this year. That, he said, is a much higher figure than in past years when "not more than a handful" were audited in any one year.

Gross said GSA Tax Committee Chairwoman Suzanne Hauser Babich and other members of GSA were very happy with the idea of a task force because it could help graduate students solve tax problems they have faced for many years.

"We are all very happy with the idea because it would be a major step," Gross said.

Babich, the source for last week's article, said she understands that the tax force is still in the planning stage.

"I don't remember exactly what I said," she said.

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## inside

Egyptian police said yesterday that gunmen in two cars sprayed machine-gun fire at the home of Interior Minister Nabawy Ismail ..... Page 8

The Expos, Dodgers and Yankees were each mini-playoff winners in major league baseball ..... Page 10

Not doing anything on Saturday night? Try going backstage — live — at NBC in New York...Page 16

## weather

Morning fog and haze giving way to partly sunny skies today with high temperatures near 57 degrees. Fair with fog developing late tonight. Low temperatures will be around 42 degrees. Variable cloudiness and seasonably mild tomorrow with high temperatures in the low 60s.

—by Mark Stunder

## Barry Commoner: A radical for all seasons

By JOHN SCHLÄNDER

Daily Collegian Staff Writer

Barry Commoner, 1980 Consumer Party presidential candidate, says he is a radical. But, says Commoner, so is Pope John Paul II.

Commoner said there is a similarity in Pope John Paul II's political beliefs and his own — and readily accepted a radical label for himself.

Commoner said "radical" used to mean "getting to the root" and he said that getting to root of problems is precisely what he and the Pope are doing.

Commoner, 64, a noted environmentalist and author, is the founder of the Citizens Party. The Citizens Party joined forces with the older Consumer Party in Pennsylvania for the 1980 election and now may be thought of as the same party, he said:

One of the party's main beliefs is that large corporations are wrecking the nation's economy and society and that these corporations must be put under democratic controls. And, according to Commoner, the Pope agrees.

"We have latched on to what I think will be the basic political issue of the next generation.

"Our judgment is now supported by the judgment of the Pope. You read his encyclical

and he talks specifically about what we've been talking about — workers taking over the management of plants, and that sort of thing.

"If we're right, we'll become the majority party. I have reason to believe that we're right."

But some say the party is too idealistic — will people understand the issues and determine right and wrong?

## profile

"It's an act of faith," says Commoner.

Commoner's beliefs are certainly not in the mainstream of current American political thought. One way to capsulize his beliefs is to say he believes almost everything that President Reagan does not.

"What Reagan believes, I think, is baseless in fact. It's very dangerous to the country. And therefore I think he's a bad leader."

Reagan is probably Commoner's prime target for cutting remarks. Asked if Reagan has done

anything right in his first eight months of office, Commoner said "Yes, he took a vacation."

Commoner questions almost everything resembling current conservative thought. In fact, Commoner said in an interview last week, he does not even believe the popular notion that the nation is in a conservative trend.

"Reagan has taken on himself this mandate. But he is unwilling to debate it politically. None of these conservative moves have really been brought up before Congress."

"All he brought up before Congress was cutting some expenditures and taxes without saying for what purpose. He hasn't taken a single substantive right/left (wing) issue before Congress. Because he's afraid to. He's not sure he's going to win."

Also, Commoner said, Reagan's political methods have not been entirely proper. Using Secretary of the Interior James Watt as an example, Commoner, a staunch environmentalist, said: "The big question is 'Why was a guy like that put in office?' And I think the answer is that Reagan has adopted this subversive approach of wrecking a government program by putting a wrecker in charge."

Please see COMMONER, Page 3.



Barry Commoner