

Sentencing: 5-year terms to be mandatory for some violent crimes

By RENAE HARDOY
Collegian Staff Writer

Five-year minimum sentences will become mandatory for certain violent crimes as a result of a law signed this week by Gov. Dick Thornburgh, the assistant press secretary to the governor.

Kirk Wilson said the law provides a mandatory five-year sentence for:

- Violent crimes involving the use of a gun in the act of committing such a crime.
- Any repeat violent crimes by one offender.
- Crimes committed on or near public transit facilities.

Changes were also made in sentencing for second- and third-degree murder, Wilson said.

"A person found guilty of second or third degree murder will automatically receive life imprisonment - will not change," he said.

Wilson also noted that the sentence for first-degree murder - automatic life imprisonment - will not change.

The law will take effect June 8, he said.

The new law is part of a four-part "anti-crime package" originally proposed by Thornburgh in April 1981, Wilson said.

"The package was based on what he (Thornburgh) saw as a demand by Pennsylvania's citizenry to crack down on violent crime," he said.

Two parts of the four-part plan have been signed into law, Wilson said. One section provides funding for more than 2,000 additional prison cells across the state. The other section is the one on mandatory minimum sentencing, he said.

The two remaining sections that have not yet been passed involve parole reform and changing a bureau to a cabinet-level department, Wilson said.

Wilson said the proposed section on parole reform calls for two changes in the present parole system.

Under the proposal, a judge would set a minimum and maximum time to be served by a criminal after the judge has sentenced the criminal.

The person sentenced would have to serve the minimum sentence before being eligible for early release, or parole, according to this section.

Now, a criminal is eligible for parole when half the minimum sentence is served; if that person was sentenced 10 to 20 years, he or she would be up for parole after five years.

The development of the overall campaign will be done through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, Wilson said.

Coping with weather can be fashionable

Fashionable ways of coping with the various temperatures in University buildings and a home insulation model were Feb. 22 in the HUB.

Energy Conservation Day, sponsored by the Executive Energy Conservation Committee with the HUB and Eco-Action, was one in a series of events the committee is sponsoring to increase the awareness of the need to conserve energy.

The event consisted of exhibits open to the public in the HUB browsing gallery and an energy fashion show.

The exhibits, contributed by the Penn State Cooperative Extension Service, the Central Pennsylvania Solar Energy Cooperative and the Pennsylvania Energy Center, demonstrated energy tips such as effective ways to insulate homes and techniques to save water. A solar collector was also featured.

In addition to the exhibits, the organizations provided pamphlets with ideas on cutting home heating costs, passive solar heating methods and other energy-related topics. Information on energy seminars was also available.

The fashion show, "Fahrenheit Fashions," showed a number of ways to dress for the environment in different University buildings.

Models wore athletic wear that could double as casual wear, as well as miniskirts and layered outfits. The versatility of layered outfits was stressed, because they allow the wearer to adapt to a variety of temperature conditions.

Local clothing merchants provided the fashions.

Gary Abdullah, coordinator of the fashion show, said the show went well and plans for a show next year will be made.

—by Paula Domico

police log

- An unidentified woman was seriously injured in a two-car accident Wednesday afternoon and was taken to Centre Community Hospital. Her head was bleeding, the State College Police Department said.
- John Best, 933 Robin Road, told State College police Wednesday that some sterling silverware was missing from his home some time between Dec. 1 and March 8.
- The silverware is valued at about \$850, police said.
- Charlene Mullen, 340 E. Beaver Ave., told State College police that two rings and \$5 in change were missing from her apartment some time between Feb. 28 and March 7.
- The rings are valued at about \$450, police said.
- Martin Gillespie, 313 Porter, told University Police Services that a car stereo was missing from his car which had been parked south of Porter Hall.
- The car stereo is valued at about \$450, police said.
- by Jacquelyn Goss

Citizens and agencies discuss fund allocation

By KAREN KOSKI
Collegian Staff Writer

The State College Municipal Council received help last night in deciding how to allocate community development block grant funds as more than 15 private citizens and representatives of agencies presented proposals for use of the funds.

Centre County became eligible for \$705,000 in block grant funds because an increase in population as recorded in the 1980 census designated the county a standard metropolitan statistical area.

Director of Community Development Henry Lawlor said at the public hearing on funds distribution, four categories of activities are eligible for funds: housing improvement projects, economic development programs, human services and neighborhood improvement programs.

Lawlor said a program must either benefit low to moderate income households, help in the elimination of slums or blight or meet an urgent community need to receive funds.

He said projects under consideration by the council include programs for the handicapped, street repairs, historic preservation and a job program.

Among those who presented proposals for use of the funds was Iran Mosemsin, financial and grants manager of the Women's Resource Center, 110 Sowers St. She said her group is requesting \$10,000 for one year's rental and utilities for a house for battered women and their children.

Mosemsin said the resource center treated 165 women last year who were handicapped, street repairs, historic preservation and a job program.

Ray Boyle, program coordinator for On Drugs Inc., proposed \$17,000 in funds be given to the 24-hour drug and alcohol crisis hotline and drop-in center for an office computer, equipment and funds for two additional staff positions.

Another request for funds came from Nancy L. Kulczyk in behalf of the Easter Seals, 1300 S. Allen St. She requested \$63,000 to build an addition to the Easter Seals Clinic in State College. The money represents 70 percent of the funds needed to build the addition.

Two organizations requested funds to build State College satellites of existing agencies.

Hean Valence of Family Health Services Inc., Bellefonte, requested \$30,706 to help expand the agency which provides gynecological care, help for patients with sexually transmitted diseases and child screening programs.

She said of the 6,000 clients the service helps, 3,000 live in State College.

Alice M. Rivlin, director of Counseling Services Inc., Bellefonte, also requested funds to expand her agency, which provides counseling for people on a low income with emotional problems. He asked for \$7,200 in funds for office space and \$7,500 for partial staffing of the project.

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Grad students may face huge debts due to aid cuts

By CHRISTOPHER GONNELL
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lori Froeling, a University of Iowa senior, assumed that "the biggest hurdle" in her academic career "would be to get accepted to law school."

But now that the prestigious University of Chicago Law School has admitted the 23-year-old Keokuk, Iowa, native, Froeling says she is facing an even bigger obstacle: how to pay the \$7,100-a-year tuition.

When Bob Harrington graduates from Tufts University Dental School in Boston, he will carry a debt of \$60,000 into his new career. The monthly payments of \$1,000 on student loans will consume half the \$25,000 that the average dentist makes starting out in practice.

Carla Walters, 25, a third-year medical student at Howard University and a single mother of 6-year-old twin girls, expects to be \$50,000 in debt by the time she graduates next year.

She fears the rapidly escalating costs of medical school, coupled with deep student aid cuts sought by the Reagan administration, will "knock completely out" this myth called the American dream.

President Reagan's proposals to bar graduate students from the Guaranteed Student Loan program and to slash \$1.5 billion from other student aid, loans and job subsidies now costing \$2.3 billion have brought howls of protest from hundreds of American campuses. The cuts face stiff resistance from both Republicans and Democrats in Congress.

Alice M. Rivlin, director of the Congressional Budget Office, told a House panel Wednesday that overall federal aid to college students would be sliced nearly in half by 1984 under cuts Reagan has already pushed through Congress or is now seeking. The aid peaked in 1981 at \$14.7 billion and would drop to \$7.7 billion two years from now, she said.

With the average tuition at private medical schools nearing \$10,000, future physicians routinely take on debts the size of a home mortgage.

Students such as Harrington and Walters already on the verge of their careers may have gotten off easy.

John C. Carl, a medical student at George Washington University, which is raising its tuition to a record \$18,000 annually in the fall, says, "I don't want to drop out of a job if we don't produce the people who renew the technology of this nation."

Raymond B. Anderson, associate dean of Columbia University's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, derided the auxiliary program as "a safety net for the rich." Graduate students could face monthly interest payments of \$466 while still attending school, which Anderson charges "would virtually guarantee bankruptcy."



Alice M. Rivlin

pay back \$25,260 over 15 years if the interest rate is 13.5 percent.

A student who borrows \$20,000 a year for four years "is going to have to face paying back \$450,000 to \$500,000," said Carl, who took this year off from his studies to lobby for the American Medical Student Association.

Some 3.5 million students borrowed \$7.7 billion through the Guaranteed Student Loan program in 1981 at a cost to the federal treasury of \$2.7 billion.

Some 600,000 to 700,000 of those borrowers were graduate students. They pay no interest until after leaving school and then pay only 7 percent to a percent, with the government absorbing the rest of the loans' cost.

Reagan wants to shift graduate students into a 14 percent loan program that charges interest from the first day of the loan.

Only 14 states and the District of Columbia actually have made loans under this program, which was created two years ago for students' parents. Reagan would allow graduate students to borrow up to \$40,000 instead of \$25,000 in the so-called Auxiliary Loans to Assist Students.

White House budget director David Stockman told a House Budget task force on Feb. 26, "I think it is fundamentally wrong to ask a steelworker who works all day for \$25,000 a year to pay taxes to subsidize a graduate student in metallurgy or petroleum engineering who is going to . . . (earn) \$50,000 a year within two or three years of graduation."

U.S. Rep. Paul Simon, D-Ill., who heads the Budget Committee's task force on entitlements and chairs the House subcommittee on post-secondary education, rejoined, "That steelworker is going to end up being out of a job if we don't produce the people who renew the technology of this nation."

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