

# Don't look:

### Experts warn that solar eclipse gazing could be dangerous

By PATRICIA A. DIACONT  
Collegian Staff Writer

With an upcoming annular solar eclipse on May 30, experts are again warning people about the dangers of directly viewing the event. According to a statement released by Frank Post, spokesman for the National Society to Prevent Blindness, watching the eclipse on television or through a trained observation group is the best way to observe the event. Directly observing the eclipse, even when skies are overcast, could damage the retina, a thin

and delicate membrane behind the eye that transmits images to the brain. Dennis Hirschfelder, director of eye safety programs for the society, said that looking directly at the eclipse could result in solar retinopathy—tiny holes burned in the retina by the infrared radiation of the sun. The burns cause no pain and victims can often be unaware of the damage, he said. The amount of time that a person has to view an eclipse for damage to occur can vary, Hirschfelder said. "It could be a quick glance, but it

depends on the cloud covering and where you are located, but people are advised not to look at it for even five seconds," he said. He added that following the total eclipse in 1970, over 100 cases of solar retinopathy were reported. Post said in his release that unlike total eclipses, when the moon crosses over the sun and fully blocks it out, an annular eclipse allows the annulus or outer ring of the sun's atmosphere to be seen at all times. John Zink, research assistant with the University's department of astronomy, said that the eclipse should

be visible in North America about 11 a.m. and last about six minutes. He added that only a portion of the sun will be blocked in this continent and only people located in a certain band across the continent, such as Atlanta, Ga. and Richmond, Va., will witness the maximum effects of the eclipse. According to the release, the Astronomical League reported the moon's shadow is expected to travel north-eastward from Louisiana and cross Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia and arrive in Maryland around noon.

# Scholars program ties 3 courses under 1 theme

By BETH KAY  
Collegian Staff Writer

An experimental University Scholars program was developed this semester to help students understand the interconnection of ideas in related courses. Paul Axt, director of the University Scholars Program, said that in the "cluster" project, students are enrolled in three, three-credit courses that fulfill a bachelor's degree requirement. All three courses center around one theme or topic. "The courses" cover the subjects more in depth instead of just skimming them," she said. The project provides a lunch hour between two of the classes for a distinguished visitor to conduct a seminar, said Greg Farber, lunch seminar coordinator. The lunch gives students a chance to see the problems in all three areas that influence each other, Farber said. "The students enjoy the seminars because they are geared around some topic in different ways, which is an interesting way to study something," Farber said. "The teachers make it very enjoyable too."

One notable visitor will be Kenneth Burke, winner of the National Medal of Literature, who will visit April 25, he said. Axt said if the program is successful he hopes the idea will work within other colleges and among colleges. "Students seem to be very enthusiastic," he said. Axt said one criticism of general education is that students do not see how their courses are connected. Another criticism is that introductory courses that cover a lot of material have a tendency to teach very superficially, he said. "Part of the underlying problem in a university is that the faculty members tend to be specialists rather than generalists," Axt said. The instructors for the program are Larry Spence, political science; Richard Bord, sociology; and Charles Mann, comparative literature. "It is an experiment for (professors) as well as for (the students)," Mann said. The instructors are in close contact with each other and their efforts are coordinated, Axt said.

# Career day to help students plan for real world

By PAULA DU PONT  
Collegian Staff Writer

Students from the Colleges of Health, Physical Education and Recreation; The Liberal Arts; Human Development; and Agriculture will have the chance to discuss concerns about career opportunities during a career planning day tomorrow. Rob Rager, the editor of the College of HPER publications, said students can discuss career opportunities and planning, job placement, practicum opportunities and college programs at the career fair held in the HUB fishbowl. The opening panel discussion will begin at 11:30 a.m. in the HUB gallery lounge. "Students will be able to visit (with alumni) and have one-on-one contact with alumni, faculty, counselors and Career Development and Placement Center representatives," Rager said. The purpose of the career day is to provide students with information that will help them plan for careers in the fields of health, fitness, recreation and related areas, he said.

Martha Starling, the director of Alumni Relations for the College of Human Development, said programs within each area of human development will start at 9 a.m. and will continue throughout the day as more than 24 alumni visit classes. "The alumni are making their contribution of time and money to get themselves here," said Starling. The programs will be in the various Human Development buildings, and a reception that is open to all students will be at 4 p.m. in the Human Development Living Center. Awards will be given out to two alumni and a student at the reception said Tina Hay, assistant to the dean. "The year education preparing you for life as well as a career?" is the topic to be discussed by two University alumni in the HUB Assembly Room at 12:30 p.m. as part of the College of the Liberal Arts Career Planning Day '84. Speakers include Herald Fahringer, the New York lawyer who defended Jean Harris during her murder trial; Paul Adams, president of First American Bank of Maryland; and Darla Wilson, college recruiter for American Telephone & Telegraph of Philadelphia, said Peter Hagen, an administrative assis-

tant in the College of the Liberal Arts. Wilson is expected to focus her speech on careers for women, Rager said. A little more than 53 alumni and about 25 faculty members will be available for discussion, Rager said. The Liberal Arts and HPER career fairs will run until 4:30 p.m. with a few of the Human Development career day programs extending into the evening. Schedules for the Human Development career day events are available in 102 Human Development Building.

# Ford Tempo gets bad mark in safety test

By ANDREW R. WHITEHEAD  
Collegian Staff Writer

The Tempo, a popular front wheel drive sedan vehicle built by the Ford Motor Co., has received the third worst test result scores for head injuries of any car ever tested, said a spokeswoman for the Center for Auto Safety said yesterday. Faith Little said the car received a score of 2,355 points in a head injuries test conducted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. "If a car receives a score of 1,000 or more it could mean serious injury or death to the driver," she said. "The results are the worst we have seen in a long time." The testing is conducted, Little said, in three separate areas: head, chest and leg injuries. "The Tempo also scored poorly on the chest injuries test," she said. "Out of a possible 60 points (representing the highest chance for injury), the Tempo got a 63."

However, the Tempo scored within the generally accepted range for leg injuries, she said. Dan Howell, another spokesman for the center, which is located in Washington, D.C., explained how the testing was conducted. "The head injuries test involves the crashing of a car into a brick wall at 35 miles-per-hour," he said. "The worst car ever tested was the 1979 Renault Fuego with a head injury score of 3,768." Howell added, "The motor companies don't like to use these results for comparison. We want to get these figures to the public so they can make their own decisions." Richard Judy, technical and regulatory public affairs manager for the Ford Motor Co., said the Tempo has passed the tests Ford runs for safety certification. "Ford's test indicated that the test car met all criteria, including the head injury criteria," Judy said. A National Highway Traffic Safety Administration official, who requested anonymity, said the 35 mile-per-hour test is five miles-per-hour faster than is required by federal government regulations. "This test, at 35 miles-per-hour, uses 33 percent

more impact energy, making the test more effective," the spokesman said. Judy said the government's test involves a 36 percent higher energy level than Ford's 30 miles-per-hour tests. The difference in the results of Ford's and the center's tests could also be attributed to variations like the test dummies' positions and the tightness of the safety belts, he said. The Tempo's safety belts have "provided good protection for real people in real accidents," Judy said. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration spokesman said that the Center for Auto Safety's test results are used to determine the "driver head injury criteria," which is based on the 1,000 point scale. But "One data point (such as these test results) can't be used to make broad or specific generalizations about the safety of these automobiles and whether or not someone would be killed or injured in a crash," the spokesman added.

# Health Expo makes learning fun

### Program emphasizes student involvement, official says

By PAT COLLIER  
Collegian Staff Writer

Health Expo '84 is offering University students a chance to have fun while learning about a wide range of health care topics, the co-chairwomen of the event said yesterday. The purpose of the Expo, sponsored by the Undergraduate Student Government and Ritenour Health Center, is "to make people aware of the many aspects of health care and show essentially what it means to be healthy," USG Town Senator Kelli Chestnut said. The Expo began yesterday and will continue from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. today in the HUB fishbowl, Chestnut said. The Expo features 40 exhibits which deal with various aspects of health care and health awareness including birth control, stress, alcohol and drug abuse and physical fitness, she said. The emphasis of this year's Health Expo, unlike in past years, is on involvement and interaction between exhibitors and students who come to see the exhibitions, co-chairwoman Susan Kennedy from Ritenour said. In the past, the emphasis had been on films and lectures about specific health-related topics, Kennedy said.

This year's Expo, however "is being conducted on a more personal level," she said. "There is more opportunity for interaction and participation on the part of students who come to see the Expo," Kennedy said. Chestnut said, "We've got demonstrations, assessments of personal health, blood pressure screening the sorts of things where you can actually sit down and learn something and enjoy it as well." She said the students who had been walking through the fishbowl looking at the exhibits yesterday seemed to be enjoying themselves.

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