

Ordinance creates as many problems as it solves

By LINDA KRIEG
Collegian Staff Writer

An effort to prevent private parking lots in Calder Square I from being blocked by traffic and delivery trucks has inadvertently resulted in problems for businesses in Calder Square II.

The State College Municipal Council passed an ordinance last month that switched parking for delivery trucks from the north side of Calder Alley to the south side.

Mayor Arnold Addison said several businesses in the block from McAllister Street to McAllister Alley had complained that delivery trucks and private vehicles blocked private lots. No private vehicles are allowed to park in the alley except in spaces paid for on private lots.

Council President Mary Ann Haas said at the time she believed the change would only occur in Calder Square I. However, the ordinance

also switched parking regulations in Calder Square II.

"There's no private parking on the north side (in Calder Square II)," Haas said, therefore, the argument that delivery trucks block private lots is not valid.

Businessmen from McAllister Alley to Pugh Street said several problems have developed in Calder Square II as a result of the ordinance.

Pat Daugherty, owner of the Tavern restaurant, described the change as an "overreaction."

"There's no parking at all from the brick walkway (in McAllister Alley) to Pugh Street, so why change it on that side? It's a disaster," he said.

Daugherty said the change surprised most people, adding that a UPS driver was unaware of the change until he received a parking ticket.

Daugherty said deliveries may

opt for the \$10 violation to park closer to the businesses or may decide to unload from College Avenue, creating more congestion there.

Steve Long, University Book Center general manager, said some deliveries may park illegally and others legally, therefore crowding the alley.

Suggesting that parking in Calder II should be switched back to the north side, Long said, "I don't think it would confuse anyone to have two different ways of parking on two different stretches of the alley."

Daugherty and Long agreed that north side stores receive heavier and more frequent deliveries and winter ice and slush will make unloading treacherous because deliveries will have to cross traffic.

"Trucks will have to park farther into Calder II because telephone poles would hit side mirrors on trucks if they parked too close,

Daugherty said.

Daugherty also said the south side businesses receive deliveries from Pugh Street and McAllister Alley rather than from Calder Alley.

Charles Petnick, owner of Mr. Charles in Calder I, said the ordinance won't prevent vehicles from being parked in.

"Trucks with permits are allowed to stop in Calder Alley as long as they are in the process of loading or unloading," Orndorf said.

Addison said parking regulations were changed because of complaints from businesses that private lots were being blocked.

Although the Pedestrian Traffic Commission looked at the problem and recommended no change be made, the commission did not report its recommendation to the council, Addison said. Consequently, he petitioned to the Public Works Committee of the Council, which advised the council to change deliveries to the south side.

"We wanted to free private parking

entrance and exits," Addison said. "People are paying for that space."

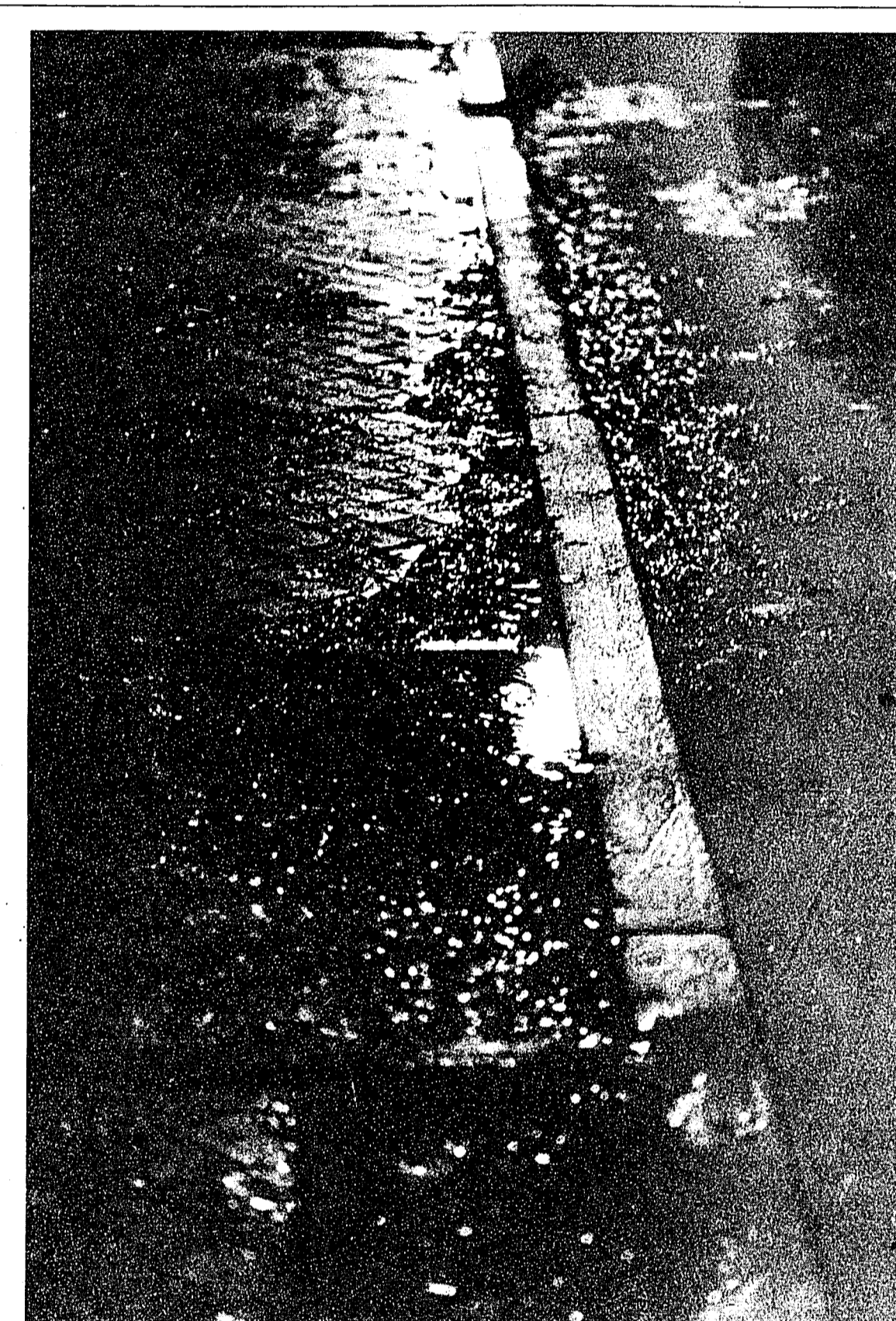
Addison said he knew of complaints about heavy deliveries, but he is not concerned about them because deliveries have equipment to move them.

"The difference is about its feet," Addison said. "So I don't think that argument holds water at all."

Dean McNight, senior vice-president of Mid-State Bank, said he complained to the borough about a year ago that the bank's drive-in window was being blocked by delivery trucks.

Also, people who transported currency from the bank were often blocked in and had to wait with large sums of money in their cars, he added.

Addison said, "What we have done is not going to solve all the problems. If it's a miserable failure, I'll be the first to admit it."



Collegian Photo © Scott Wilkerson

Soaked

The ducks might be happy, but for most people the puddles are becoming a little bothersome after several days of rain in State College have left everything quite a bit soggy. Today's forecast also calls for possible showers that should taper off by tomorrow morning.

Accu-Weather

Forecasts for the world via State College

By ERIC SCHMIDT
Collegian Staff Writer

A Soviet farmer enters a bank in Moscow and requests from a computer an extended weather forecast for the Soviet wheat belt, just as an American commercial airline pilot is deciding whether to land his craft in a storm. The two may be miles apart, but both could be receiving weather information from State College, site of the world's largest private weather forecasting organization.

Accu-Weather Inc., 419 W. College Ave., has been in business for 23 years, said company president Joel N. Myers.

Myers, who is also a University trustee, started the business as a graduate student of the University in 1962, and provided weather forecasts for local ski areas. Since that time, the business has grown to employ 120 people serving 88 countries from its office in State College, he said.

The list of clients has grown from local ski areas to include about 100 radio stations, the United Press International, Reuters and about 200 television stations affiliated with the ABC and CBS television networks, Myers said. The Accu-Weather name is recognized today by more than 10 million Americans.

Myers said that Accu-Weather does not gather weather information. Instead, the company organizes and distributes information from various sources, including the National Weather Service, the Armed Forces and the National Satellite Center in Suitland, Md., he said.

Accu-Weather receives its information through land lines — similar to telephone lines, but dedicated to providing one type of information on a continuous basis — and satellite transmissions, said Michael A. Steinberg, associate vice president.

Accu-Weather's success is due in part to its computer network which allows the company to collect and distribute information in a variety of forms, including charts and graphs.

The information can be used, for example, to determine the deviation from the expected weather condition for that location, Steinberg said.

Accu-Weather's 55 meteorolo-

gists use the information it collects to provide the most up-to-date and accurate forecasts possible, he said. To insure accuracy, Accu-Weather meteorologists collaborate on the forecasts, so the opinion of one meteorologist will not bias the report, he said.

Accu-Weather provides other services for its clients in addition to simple forecasts. It provides a library of stored computer graphics, ranging from weather maps to sketches for clients, Steinberg said. The client accesses the graphics computer via telephone and airs the graphic, superimposing the appropriate information over the design.

Accu-Weather also sells weather data in two forms through its ACCU-DATA system. One form — "raw" weather data — is pure data in its coded form, such as wind speed and direction, temperature and precipitation, Steinberg said.

Data is also available in a reconfigured form that is easier for a non-technical person to use, Steinberg said.

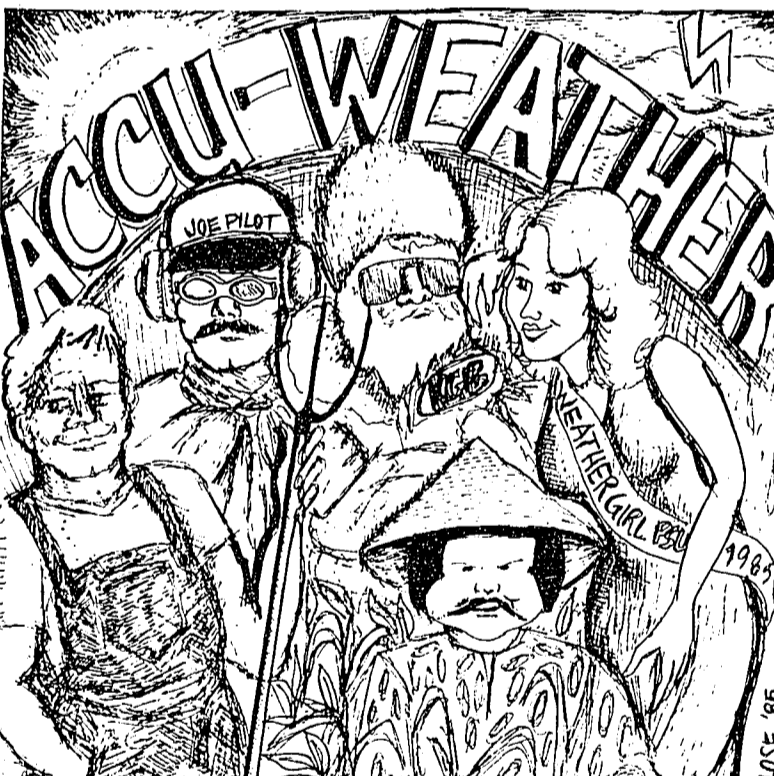
The information in ACCU-DATA is useful to a variety of clients — television stations, airlines, utilities and any company that has a

need for accurate weather information.

Accu-Weather also provides a full forecast for radio stations in two forms, Steinberg said. An Accu-Weather meteorologist can read the forecast over the phone lines to the client who then has the option of airing the forecast live or recording it for future broadcast. Clients may also elect to transcribe the forecast and have their own disc jockey read it.

WQWK-FM and WRSC-AM use both forms, said the owner/operator of both stations Bob Zimmerman. The textual form is phoned into the station where it is taken down as dictation and later read on the air, Zimmerman said. Sessions that are recorded for later broadcast are read directly into a recording device and broadcast when time permits.

Computer graphics are not the only graphics services Accu-Weather provides, Steinberg said. The company also sends weather maps to newspapers nationwide through a digital facsimile machine that sends the graphic through the telephone lines to another device that translates the information back into a graphic.



Hazards of smokeless tobacco are focus of campaign

By LAURA PRAH
Collegian Feature Writer

At the turn of this century, the average American consumed four pounds of chewing tobacco and 100 cigarettes per year. In 1985, they were consuming only a half-pound of chewing tobacco and 4,000 cigarettes per person each year.

Decreased use of chewing tobacco resulted from the invention of a cigarette rolling machine, which made cigarettes a cheap alternative. In addition, advertising during World War II established cigarettes as a "macho symbol" for soldiers. Tuberculosis, which was transmitted by spitting associated with smokeless tobacco, was the leading killer among Americans and lung cancer was virtually unknown.

Today chewing tobacco sales are again on the rise up 69 percent since 1978 — and much of the chewing is by college students. The National Collegiate Survey shows that 8 percent of all male college students are regular users of snuff, a common term for smokeless tobacco.

Elaine Jurs, executive director of the Center County unit of the American Cancer Society, said the society recently started a campaign to educate young people on the harmful

effects of smokeless tobacco by distributing information in the school systems.

"The thrust of the campaign is to keep kids from starting in the first place because once you start it is extremely difficult to stop," Jurs said. "Isolated incidents of young men developing oral cancer are highly correlated to smokeless tobacco."

"It only makes sense to warn people about the higher risk of using male, but the problem with young people is they don't believe there is anything as awful," she said.

U.S. Tobacco Company promotes smokeless tobacco by aiming advertisements at young male students and athletes through College Marketing Programs and Rodeo Scholarship Programs. Gregory Connelly, dental director for the Massachusetts Department of Health, has conducted studies on the clinical effects of smokeless tobacco.

The popularity of smokeless tobacco may be a case of history repeating itself, Connelly said. People are recognizing the health hazards of cigarettes and are trading the site of the cancer from the lungs to the mouth. Unless action is taken now to prevent the use of smokeless tobacco, cancer of the mouth by the turn of the century will be a major

epidemic as tuberculosis was in the past and lung cancer is now.

Clarence Stoner, assistant professor of physical education and head baseball coach at the University, said chewing tobacco has unfairly been traditionally associated with baseball more than any other sport. He said he classifies smokeless tobacco as a distasteful habit along with smoking and alcohol.

Tom Wallace, athletic director at State College Area High School, said he has seen a decrease in the use of smokeless tobacco this year among students. "The big campaign in the high school, he said, is not warning against the harmful effects of tobacco — smokeless or cigarette — but alcohol and drug awareness.

"Chewing tobacco was a bad student got caught up in because everyone else did it, but weren't really crazy about it," Wallace said.

Chewing tobacco constantly irritates the mouth and causes a breakdown in oral tissue, said William Hibel, a dentist at Hittman Health Center. The extent of the damage depends on how often someone uses it and in what stage the irritation is caught. Sometimes a biopsy will be performed to check if the damaged tissue can recover.

If the bill is passed, the warning labels will include three statements: "Contents may cause mouth cancer," "contents may cause gum disease and tooth loss," and "this package contains nicotine which can be addictive." Warning labels would be highly and visibly displayed on packages and advertisements.

tobacco in the last year at Ritenour, Hibel said.

Snuff tobacco leads to oral cancer, irreversible gum disease, gum damage, discolored teeth, bad breath, tooth abrasion and cavities, said Richard Asa, manager of media services for the American Dental Society.

With a high sodium content of 207-1,200 mg per container, smokeless

are safe, although medical and dental authorities say otherwise, Asa said. In magazine advertisements, sports figures promote tobacco, which has helped widespread social acceptance and increased use among young male athletes. People who are using, have used or are starting to use smokeless tobacco honestly believe it is a safe alternative to smoking, he said.

In May, the Surgeon General convened a committee to look at the tobacco problem and there is a possibility the committee will recommend a warning label," said Gregory Connelly, dental director for Massachusetts Department of Health.

Although it hasn't been proven, smokeless tobacco occasionally has been cited as a health hazard, the health and environment spokesperson said.

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Congress eyes new warning

A bill that would mandate warning labels on containers of smokeless tobacco is currently being considered in Congress, a spokesperson for the subcommittee on health and environment said recently.

"Earlier this summer the Surgeon General convened a committee to look at the tobacco problem and there is a possibility the committee will recommend a warning label," said Gregory Connelly, dental director for Massachusetts Department of Health.

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*25%-33% Off Assorted Jr. Skirts. Reg. \$21-\$30, now \$14.49-\$22.49. ALL STORES	*25% Off Ladies Loungewear. Reg. \$15-\$37, now \$11.99-\$27.49. STATE COLLEGE	*20% Off Infant Stretch Suits. Reg. \$10-\$18, now \$7.99-\$14.49. STATE COLLEGE	*25% Off Assorted Candles and Candle Rings. Reg. 65¢-\$12, now 48¢-89¢. STATE COLLEGE