

911 deadline gets 30 day extension

By RICH KIRKPATRICK
Associated Press Writer

HARRISBURG - The Public Utility Commission yesterday gave local telephone companies another month to come up with cost figures for providing 911 service, but the action will not affect efforts to expand the service statewide.

On June 19, the PUC directed the companies to provide the data within 30 days, but the companies asked for a 60-day extension.

The PUC deadlocked 2-2 yesterday on a motion by Chairman William Smith to grant them the full extension and limit the requested information to companies that already provide 911 service. Many of the state's 41 local exchange companies do not provide the service, now available in all or parts of 31 of the state's 67 counties.

Statewide growth not affected

The PUC then voted 3-1 for a motion by Commissioner David Rolka for a 30-day extension.

Smith said it was better for companies without 911 service to provide the information after counties had acted on the new 911 law, signed by Gov. Robert P. Casey on July 9.

The law, which takes effect in September, allows counties to impose a monthly charge on each telephone bill of up to either \$1 to \$1.50, depending on the size of the county, to establish and operate 911 networks. The more sparsely populated areas could pay the higher fee.

The PUC wants the data to help prepare for reviews it must do of the monthly surcharge.

By dialing the 911 exchange, a telephone customer is able to reach an emergency dispatcher who can summon police, firefighters or medical personnel.

Rolka said the companies should be able to gather the information within the next month. He said the PUC is seeking data based on changes that must be made in central office switching equipment to handle 911 and is not asking the companies to try to guess at figures.

Dan Reisteter, vice president of external affairs for the Pennsylvania Telephone Association, which had requested the extension, said the group wanted a better idea of what the PUC was after.

He said many association members don't provide 911 service.

"It's a little difficult for them to make an assumption as to what the prospective costs will be," he said.

But he emphasized that telephone companies want to cooperate with the effort to expand 911.

The monthly surcharge for 911 will be collected with the local phone bill. The contribution rate would be set by counties following a public hearing, and the initial rate cannot be increased for at least three years.

The state Department of Community Affairs will be responsible for developing guidelines for the program. The department is also responsible for reviewing county 911 plans. Plans must also be reviewed by the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Council, as well as the PUC.

Police Log

■ Criminal Mischief: The convertible top of a 1966 Mustang owned by Terry Young, 636 E. College Ave., was slashed while the car was parked at 500 E. Calder Way between 5 Wednesday night and 8 yesterday morning, State College Bureau of Police Services said.

Nothing was taken from inside the car and the amount of damage is unknown, police said.

■ Theft: A blue Avalanche mountain bike, worth \$800 and owned by Geoffrey Perry, 133 W. Fairmount Ave., was reported taken from behind his residence sometime between midnight and 7:42 yesterday morning, State College police said.

The bike was locked with a Kryptonite lock and a cable lock at the time it was taken. The Kryptonite lock was

found locked to the spot where the bicycle was kept, police said

■ Theft: A wallet was reportedly taken from an unlocked truck owned by Albert Randizo, 428 E. Hamilton Ave., sometime between 9 Wednesday night and 2:30 yesterday morning, State College police said.

The wallet, which was in the truck's glove compartment, contained several

credit cards and a large amount of cash, police said. The amount of money was not disclosed.

— compiled by Corey Herman

In case of an emergency, dial 911. For business and non-emergency calls, the State College Bureau of Police Services can be reached at 234-7150 and University Police Services can be reached at 863-1111.

Lawyer: Detective lied during testimony

By SAMUEL MAULL
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A defense lawyer, trying to blunt the effect of written and videotaped statements given by his client in the Central Park jogger case, suggested yesterday that a police detective had lied on the stand.

In an animated and pointed cross-examination, attorney Michael Joseph also tried to show that the witness, Detective Harry Hildebrandt, had put words into the mouth of the defendant, Antron McCray, 16. Joseph claims the youth admitted to crimes he did not commit.

The lawyer concedes that McCray does not seem to be under any coercion during the videotaped statement, which was shown to the jury on Wednesday. On the tape, McCray seems fidgety but unafraid and sometimes volunteers information not requested in Assistant District Attorney Elizabeth Lederer's questions. His parents are in the room with him.

Joseph maintains that the coercion of his client and his parents was subtle and committed by detectives before Lederer spoke to the youth.

Waving McCray's signed statement in front of Hildebrandt, Joseph asked, "These were words coming out of your mouth, not Antron's, weren't they?"

"They were from both," the detective said.

"You said the statement as you wrote it, right?" Joseph asked.

"That's correct," the detective said, but added he occasionally asked McCray, "Is it 1 kb... Is that right?" Joseph pointed out that the statement refers to the female jogger being attacked below 96th Street near the tennis courts on the north side of the reservoir. The attack was actually about six blocks farther north.

When Hildebrandt replied that he, a city officer for 28 years, was not sure of the location of the reservoir, supporters of the defendants laughed derisively.

They also laughed when he said he did not know McCray was a suspect in the attack on the female jogger when he started questioning him.



Collegian Photo/Jessica Hippely

Squeaky clean

Frank Novak (senior-general arts and sciences) washes his car at a car wash on University Drive. The sunny weather yesterday was ideal for such activities and the high temperatures sent people looking for ways to keep cool.

Correction

A photo caption in yesterday's *The Daily Collegian* incorrectly identified the owner of Pepe the parrot. Pepe is owned by Suzanne Cordes of Plants by Suzanne.

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