

Local businesses, tenants order cars to be towed

By ANDREA SANTER
Collegian Staff Writer

Throughout State College, towing signs suggest that local stores are closely monitoring where people park. However, the actual number of stores that hover over their lots waiting to kidnap someone's car, is a lot less than the signs suggest.

At CVS, 138 E. Beaver Ave., employees keep a check on cars in their spaces by writing down what cars are in the lot whenever they have time to check, said Mike Kraus, a CVS employee. If a car is parked for a long time they will write a warning and put it on the car, as well as take down the license plate number and make of the car. If it happens more than once, the car will be towed, he said.

When businesses need cars towed, they usually rely on Walks

Towing, 827 S. Atherton St., or Tennis Towing, 117 Cherry Lane, to remove illegally parked cars. Both towing companies charge \$50 to \$60 to tow.

Cathy Tennis of Tennis Towing, said the fee is regulated by the State College Borough.

Police are usually not called to handle illegally parked cars. Officer Joe Zaffuto of the State College Police Department, said certain towing companies are authorized under the borough to handle towings.

"The police only get called when a vehicle is abandoned or someone can't get into their driveway because a car is blocking it," he said.

For Central Bank, 116 E. College Ave., the tow sign is important for security reasons. Virginia McAduo, customer service office manager,

said at night the bank's parking spaces need to be vacant so the ATM trucks have places to park. Central Bank also tows when a customer complains they have not been able to find a free space.

And for downtown apartment complexes like Hetzel Plaza and Penn Towers, tenants are in charge of monitoring their own parking spaces during football weekends.

Trudi Wagner, rental consultant for Associated Realty Property Management, said tenants have an agreement which allows for towing.

"Tenants just show this agreement to a tow company and then they can have the car in their space today," Wagner said.

Wagner said she feels that the lease works well because tenants can handle things themselves and it saves them time trying to get a

hold of someone without having to wait until office hours.

Although many students' main form of transportation is their legs, some who do have cars find parking and towing a big problem.

Jen Smith (senior-human development and family studies) said she feels the problem is the lack of available parking spaces downtown.

"I was towed and it cost me \$60 to get my car back," she said.

Whether a car is ticketed or towed, Michael Albright, manager of Woodrings Floral Gardens, 145 S. Allen Street, said he feels the lack of parking downtown keeps customers away.

"Many of my customers have expressed that there are not enough places for them to park," he said.

Soundtracks focus more on fringe elements of rock and roll

By GARY KOLTOOKIAN
Collegian Arts Writer

Many current movie soundtracks are employing the talents of obscure bands, rather than popular mainstream bands.

The soundtracks to *Clueless* and *Angus* both feature songs by little-known artists such as Smoking Popes, while the *Kids* soundtrack centers exclusively around Lou Barlow's side project Folk Implosion.

New soundtracks bear little resemblance to past ones. Popular soundtracks from the mid-1980s such as *Beverly Hills Cop* featured songs from well-established musicians. Eddie Murphy pursued criminals to Glenn Frey's "The Heat is On," while the Pointer Sisters performed their soulful "Neutron Dance," enriching the action with the Motown sound.

But on current soundtracks, the artists are often new to the mainstream music scene. Newer bands don't have the same reputation as

more established acts, but newer soundtracks seem to be taking a chance on them.

"It's definitely good exposure for the bands, especially if the movie hits it big," said Tim Mayhew, an employee at Vibes Records, 226 E. College Ave. "No-name bands add to the movie because you don't tend to associate (the movie) with the radio."

The *Kids* soundtrack features music that is more atmospheric than all-out rock. Songs like "Nothing Gonna Stop" and "Simean Groove" offer an eerie glimpse of teenage angst through the use of seductive beats, soft vocals, and infectious rhythm. Standing together as a whole, the songs form a strong base on which to construct a film about adolescence.

Upon leaving a showing of *Kids*, Mike Newman (senior-landscape architecture) wasn't totally convinced of the music's relevance. "At some points I wondered if it was authentic for the scenario."

Unlike *Kids*, *Mortal Kombat* sounds exactly

like its name. The flavor of the album is hardcore industrial rock, led at the helm by KMFDM. Songs such as "Burn" and "Juke Joint Jezebel" feature lyrics totally unrelated to the film.

"The soundtrack was half the movie because all they did was fight," Russell Jones, an employee at the State Theatre, 128 W. College Ave. "I thought the movie was a big ad."

Enjoying the success of the *Mortal Kombat* soundtrack,TVT Records maintains that the music is just right for the film.

"It's kind of obvious," said Susan Reyes, a spokesperson for TVT. "You wouldn't put country on the *Mortal Kombat* soundtrack."

Sean McDonnell, (senior-English), an employee at Blue Train Compact Disc, 418 E. College Ave., said otherwise.

"It's a Nine Inch Nails spinoff. They're just trying to promote bands with a similar sound. It's just violent music for a violent movie," he said.

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