



Special Supplement to MICHIGAN STATE NEWS January 17, 1972

Prices up at some bars

By RAY ANDERSON
State News Staff Writer

Lowering the age of majority to 18 has not necessarily lowered the cost of drinking for the nearly 25,000 new adults attending MSU and wishing to exercise their new status at one of the area's drinking establishments.

Since Jan. 1, at least four bars in or near East Lansing have hiked their prices for a variety of

reasons ranging from dollar devaluation to "pushing pitchers of beer."

John Scholz, manager of the Olde World Bread and Ale at 211 MAC Ave. said the recent dollar devaluation has caused him to raise the price on his imported draft beer by 10 cents to compensate for the 8.6 per cent decrease in the dollar's worth.

"We had been anticipating the price increase since the President

revalued the dollar," Scholz said, "and it just so happened that it corresponded with the age of majority."

Lizard's at 211 Abbott Road raised the price on beer from 35 to 40 cents per glass. Stan Howes, Lizard's manager, said the increase was an attempt by the managing staff to lower labor cost and congestion around the bar.

His comments were repeated by Jim "Lizard" VanderBerg, who further emphasized that cost for a pitcher of beer remained the same.

"It's a lot easier for the waitresses, bartenders and patrons to move a pitcher of beer, he said, "and they get the same amount of beer as previously."

Mac's bar at 2700 East Michigan Ave. also raised the price of their draft beer, by five cents a glass and 25 cents a pitcher. Still, their prices are somewhat lower than those of other bars frequented by MSU students.

The biggest price increase

came from that bastion of MSU revelry through years past, the Coral Gables.

The Gables welcomed the New Year by extending its Friday-Saturday cover charge for the show bar to a Wednesday-through-Sunday schedule. Patrons of its downstairs Rathskeller, formerly admission-free, must now also cough up 50 cents apiece.

The Gables' drink prices have also been raised across the board—or, bar. While evening prices begin now at 8 p.m. compared to the 9 p.m. of months past, both local and premium beer costs five cents a bottle more, as do many mixed drinks. More elaborate potions, like the Singapore Sling, now cost ten cents more than they did in December.

Toni Conti, Coral Gables manager, attributes the numerous price increases to a variety of causes.

"These new people are drinking a lot less," he said. "It's just like a mixer." More important, Conti claimed, are

higher prices through the economy in general.

"We can't be expected to carry the burden," Conti explained.

Asked if the Gables' "regulars" were upset by the new cover charges, Conti said they are "more upset by the waiting lines than anything else."

Since the number of bars available to MSU students is limited, most establishments agreed they expect to continue operating near capacity and the various price increases should enhance their profits considerably.

A patron's view of the price hikes has not been as positive.

One 19-year-old who frequents Lizard's said that hearing of the price increase really frustrated her.

"If nobody had told me I wouldn't have known, but now that I know, it's really a bummer," she said. "They are making money hand over fist on my innocence."

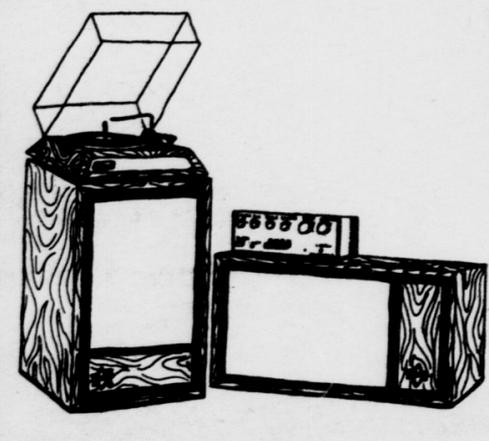
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Prices up at some bars



Frisking is part of the campus police routine when they stop a drunk driver. The routine also includes giving a Breathalyzer test, then booking and bedding down in the Ingham County Jail.
SN photo by Don Gerstner

MSU offers information

A University office has established itself as a clearinghouse for information on issues related to the lowered age of majority in Michigan. Students and other members of the University community with specific questions should contact the Office of Judicial Programs in the Student Services Building. Ruth Renaud, director of judicial programs, said.

Police nab more drunks

By BOB NOVOSAD
State News Staff Writer

Students enjoying their new drinking privileges should be careful when driving home from the bars or leaving a party, because drunk driving arrests on campus are on the rise.

MSU police have already made a total of nine arrests for drunk driving this term, including six students and three nonstudents, and expect the trend to continue. During the first 12

days of 1971, police had made only one arrest.

East Lansing Police report the arrest of five young adults for driving under the influence, and the arrest of another for being drunk and disorderly. Police said the increase in drunk driving arrests is related to the lowered drinking age made possible by the Age of Majority Act. Capt. Adam J. Zutaut of the Dept. of Public Safety said he expects the bulk of drunk driving arrests on campus to continue to be in the 18-21 age group.

Zutaut also said that the Dept. of Public Safety has not altered regular patrols or alerted officers to check for driving students who may be intoxicated.

The number of arrests made for drunk driving on campus this year has been relatively small when compared to the total arrests made by MSU police. Police report they have made 117 arrests since Jan. 1, and only nine of those were for drunk driving. However, during the completed year of 1971, police made a total of 190 arrests for intoxicated

driving on campus.

In order for Joe Student to be stopped for driving while visibly impaired, he must first exhibit erratic driving behavior. Deviations from normal driving, according to police, include excessive speed, weaving in the

road, abnormal use of the horn, and driving at an unusually slow speed.

Police said that after stopping a suspect for drunk driving, the officers run a routine identification check. A variety
(Please turn to page 11)

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Drinking rules tightened

By DAN DEVER
State News Staff Writer

With approximately 98 per cent of the student population now of legal drinking age, MSU has tightened its guidelines on the use of alcoholic beverages in residence halls.

The new guidelines are a result of a review of University policies and state law by the dean of students' office in cooperation with Residence Hall Programs and Residence Hall Assn.

"We found that we were not consistent with state law in

many of the cases involving the use of alcohol in the residence halls," explained Gary North, coordinator of Residence Hall Programs.

The new guidelines require that any event in which alcohol will be consumed by 10 or more persons in common areas of residence halls (other than in students' rooms) must be registered with, and approved by the head adviser.

This registration process is being initiated to insure that the consistent with state law in students sponsoring the events

are aware of the state laws and University regulations and of their responsibility for the conduct of students attending.

One of the big areas included in the new guidelines concerns

the sale of alcoholic beverages. The State Liquor Control Act prohibits the sale of alcoholic beverages on state property, which includes the MSU campus.

The new guidelines provide

that a residence hall, "house" or any other regularly identifiable organization may sponsor a social event at which alcoholic beverages are furnished as part of the event if the following
(Please turn to page 10)



Just relaxing

After a hard day at the lecture hall, these Case Hall students have coupled a little friendly relaxation with their favorite libations. MSU officials approve of small informal gatherings but for anything larger, caution students to check new University liquor policies.

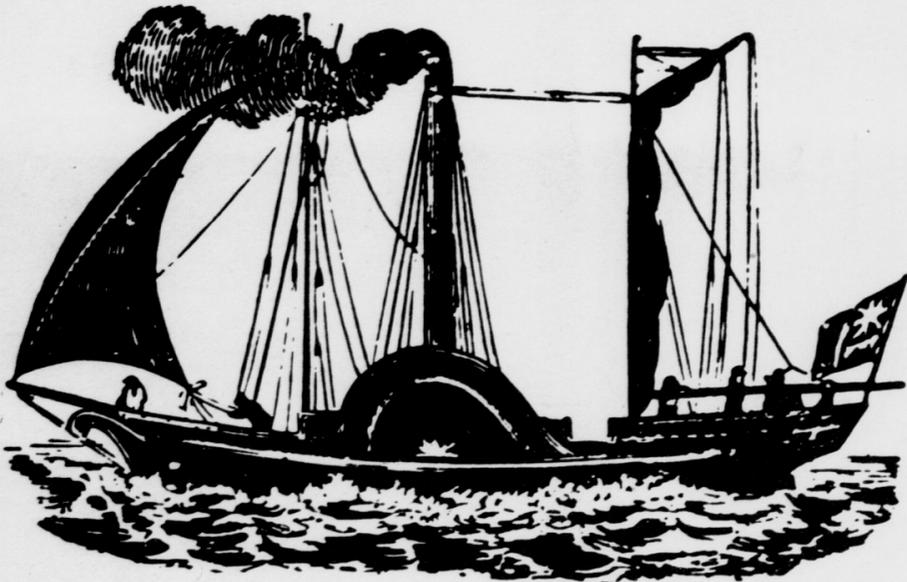
SN photo by Craig Porter

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Fraud hits young adults

By BOB ROACH
State News Staff Writer

Shady businessmen reap millions of dollars annually from the broad and fertile field of consumer ignorance. The field has been further extended since Jan. 1, experts fear, when Michigan law made 18-to-20 year-olds full adults.

Though almost 500,000 new young adults in Michigan are now able to sign fully legal and binding contracts for the first time, the experts say they will stand a better chance of keeping their money if they know the more common deceptive schemes to watch for, and what to do after signing a questionable contract.

Andrew Eiler of the Michigan Consumers Council warns young adults attending college, including the 25,000 new young adults at MSU, to be especially wary of insurance and magazine salesmen who prey on college students.

"Often these insurance firms that go after the college senior will tie you up with both the insurance itself and with financing for the first year's premium," he said. "Usually, the student can't afford the initial premium, so the plan is to get you to sign a separate installment contract to borrow the premium cost."

While some insurance salesmen have been guilty of outright

misrepresentation in telling the customer what he is signing, the real problem is that few people, especially young people, really understand insurance, Eiler said.

Before buying insurance, he warns, the young person should take a careful look at his long-term financial prospects to see exactly what he needs. Whether the insurance customer is after savings or financial security, he should at least explore the other financial opportunities that offer the same end results, Eiler said.

Eiler is particularly critical of specialty policies such as children's life insurance, cancer insurance or extra-income insurance for long-term

hospitalization.

"Ask yourself," he said, "if you really want to insure your child's life. That makes him a liability to you as long as he's alive."

Cancer or extra-income hospitalization insurance is rarely worthwhile, he added, because both require, before the payoff, an extremely long hospitalization period that is rare, even with cancer patients. Eiler also warns unwary consumers, especially college

students, against long-term magazine subscriptions.

"The salesman will boil it down for you so that you'll appear to be getting an exceptionally good deal if you sign up for five-year subscriptions on a number of magazines," he said.

"It will look like just pennies a week, but to qualify you have to agree to pay the entire price in just one year. Instead of a small

(Please turn to page 10)

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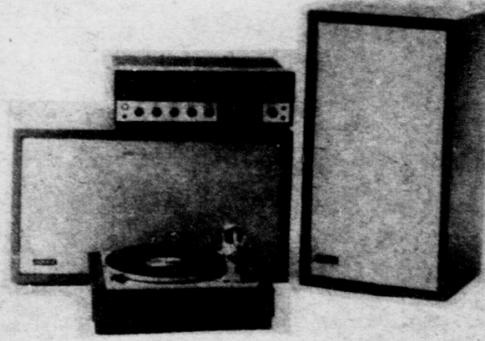
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Drunk driver fears false

By NAT ABBATE
State News Staff Writer

Fears that the new Age of Majority Law would lead to more alcohol-related traffic fatalities have apparently been unfounded, according to a Michigan State Police official.

Capt. John Amthor, commanding officer of the safety and traffic division, said recently that he is unaware of any special traffic problems which may have been created

since the law went into effect on Jan. 1.

"As far as contacts we've had are concerned, there is no problem," he said. "It may show up on the State Police accident computer printout, but it hasn't so far by word of mouth."

He said that a computerized analysis of January's traffic accidents will be available on Feb. 15, and will give officials more facts on which to base their evaluations of the new law.

Amthor said that three drivers between 18 and 21 years of age were involved in traffic fatalities over the New Year's weekend. He added that his office had no way of knowing yet whether any of the three had been drinking before their accidents.

During the same period three drivers between 18 and 21 years of age were involved in traffic fatalities. All three were suspected of drinking before their deaths.

The relative calm on the roads which has accompanied the state's new drinkers surprised many.

"My own personal opinion was that there would be a problem with drinking drivers for two or three weeks, and then it would level off," Amthor said. "So far there hasn't even been that initial problem."

A spokesman for the Automobile Association of America (AAA) echoed this

opinion.

"What is remarkable is almost the complete absence of 18-to-20-year-olds involved in traffic fatalities over the New Year's weekend," he said. "We really didn't expect them to do that well."

While it will be some time before the full effects of the new law can be evaluated, he said, the outlook is hopeful that Michigan's new drinkers will be able to continue their impressive driving record.

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Statutes conflict on gun permits

A conflict between state and federal statutes has resulted in law enforcement officials withholding handgun permits from 18-to-20-year-old applicants.

Though they qualify for such permits under the recent Age of Majority Act, Steve Naert, asst. police chief of East Lansing, said Monday that his department is withholding permits pending a ruling by the state attorney general's office.

"The Michigan law allowing firearms to be bought by 18-year-olds is in violation of a federal law which requires persons to be 21," Naert explained. As a result, all Michigan police agencies are not issuing permits to persons under 21 until a ruling is made.

Naert said that gun dealers will probably be bound by the federal law since they are licensed by a federal agency. This could mean that no one under 21 will be able to purchase firearms in Michigan, he said.

Legal age bill

omits trial status
for 17-year-olds

Michigan's new Age of Majority Act has exposed an inconsistency in criminal law where 17-year-olds may be tried either as juveniles or adults.

Under a system created in the past, alleged offenders aged 17-to-20 could be treated in juvenile court or as adults in circuit court. But now that 18-to-20-year-olds are full legal adults, the 17-year-olds seem to be left in limbo.

Ingham County Probate Court Judge James T. Kallman recently predicted that the Michigan Legislature may soon grant juvenile courts exclusive jurisdiction over 17-year-olds, appropriate to their nonadult status.



Young adults could cost MSU money, officials say

By MICHAEL FOX
State News Staff Writer

University officials have expressed some concern that the lowered age of adulthood may result in financial loss to MSU through more students declaring bankruptcy.

The lowered age of majority in Michigan extended the right to file a petition of bankruptcy in federal district court among the other privileges and responsibilities now extended to 18-year-olds.

"Anyone who runs credit in any manner is vulnerable to extending credit to a person who cannot meet his debts," Paul V. Rumpsa, MSU comptroller, said of the University's position.

MSU extends credit to students through its own loan program and the National Defense Student Loan program. Furthermore, deferred payments for housing such as residence hall room and board or monthly apartment rent in married housing is a creditor situation. Even library fines create a situation of extended credit for MSU.

"In effect we have added three more years to the age period during which our debtors can declare bankruptcy," Rumpsa said.

Rumpsa directs control of most of the day-to-day financial operations of the University. His concern is similar to that of a department store owner extending credit to the new adults.

"In the past, parents have often assumed the responsibility for their children's debts and I think this is generally true even with the 18-year-old adulthood," he said.

In calendar year 1971, the University was forced to write off about \$24,100 because of bankruptcies, Rumpsa reported. He said that not only students, but even parents paying for their children's college education, are occasionally forced to resort to bankruptcy.

Bankruptcy is actually a legal act to dissolve one's indebtedness. In such cases, for example, a person may owe

about \$10,000 but possess only \$2,000 in assets. Bankruptcy is a matter for the federal courts and is handled by federal district courts such as those located in Michigan at Grand Rapids and Detroit.

"Bankruptcy means you put all your assets in federal district court and start again with the slate wiped clean," Gilbert Gildia, asst. professor of business law, explained.

Gildea said there are special provisions for those who declare bankruptcy but are still wage earners. Bankruptcy can either be initiated voluntarily by an

individual or involuntarily by his creditors.

"A trustee will be appointed to marshal all the remaining assets of the bankrupt individual," Gildea said. "He will notify all creditors with the assets split up among them. The return to creditors is not that great."

Because an institution like MSU cannot expect to receive very much in terms of returns on a loan or other extended credit when a person declares bankruptcy, University officials are watching the situation.



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Buyers can cancel door-to-door sales

Along with other Michigan residents, new young adults gained the right to cancel home solicitation sales when Gov. Milliken last week signed Public Act 227 into law.

The act prescribes the rights and duties of parties to such sales and allows the buyer to cancel certain agreements within three days of the sale.

Specifically, home solicitation sales in excess of \$35 in goods or services may be canceled by notifying the solicitor in writing before midnight of the third business day after the agreement is signed. The law regards notice to be given at the time cancellation is mailed.

In addition, the solicitor is required to include a clause in the contract notifying the buyer of his rights under the law. Until the solicitor complies with this provision, the buyer may notify the seller in any manner and by any means of his intention to cancel.

After an agreement has been canceled, the solicitor has the

further responsibility of surrendering to the buyer any payments already made and any evidence of obligation within 10 days after receiving the notice.

Transactions not included under the law include those involving prior negotiations at a place of business.

*JMC to sponsor
statewide meet
on new age law*

Students of Justin Morrill College (JMC) will sponsor a conference on the age of majority sometime in March.

While the date and details of the conference are not yet finalized, the conference will be open to all Michigan colleges and some representative high schools, according to John Wells, academic assistant at JMC.

Speakers from different walks of public life will be invited to participate in discussions concerning numerous aspects of the new Age of Majority Law.

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Swindles heard in claims court

By RICK WILBINS
State News Staff Writer

Have you been cheated out of your damage deposit by your landlord? Or forced to pay for a roommate's damages when he refused? Or swindled by a campus con artist?

Take it to small claims court.

According to the Michigan Consumers Council pamphlet, "How to Sue Someone in Small Claims Court", you can sue without a lawyer for up to \$300 on a legitimate complaint in small claims court.

"Small claims court is for anyone who feels he has been given a raw deal," said Judge Maurice Schoenberger, of the 54th District Court. But he cautioned people to be sure they have a good case and the right person when filing suit.

If you have a good case, the procedure is simple and inexpensive:

- File a claim against the person you are suing. To do so you must go to the district court office. If the person you are suing lives or does business in East Lansing, then you file the claim at the 54th District Court office in City Hall on Abbot Road.

- Fill out a legal form or affidavit naming the person or business you are suing, for how much, and why. It is a good idea to bring any documented evidence (bills, receipts, etc.) with you when filing.

- Pay the \$5 filing fee and a \$2 service charge for each person you are suing.

- The court will serve a summons on the person you sued telling them who is suing and for how much. That person can choose to take the matter to district court where he has the right to counsel or can elect to be his own counsel in small claims court. Most people choose the latter.

- After you and the defendant have been notified of your court date, collect all evidence and witnesses, if necessary, to support your claim. Neither you nor the person you sued will be able to use lawyers.

- Bring all the necessary information and people to the judges chambers at the time designated on your court notice. The judge's decision will be final with no right to appeal.

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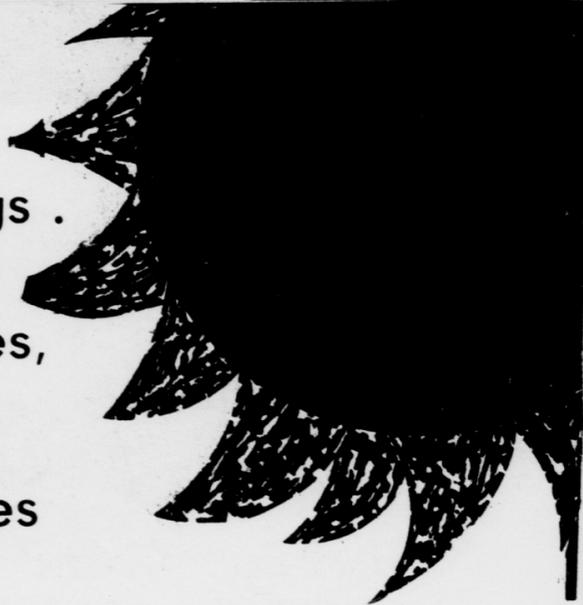
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The Women of Pachel

Fraud hits young adults

(Continued from page five)
 amount, you could end up paying \$10 to \$15 a month for a year, and I don't know too many students with that kind of money to throw around for magazines."

But what recourse does the consumer — at 18, or 21 — have once he has signed a contract for any goods or services?

S. Martin Taylor, deputy director of the Michigan Dept.

of Commerce, advises the distraught customer to:

"Just sit down and, with good common sense, ask yourself 'Have I been wronged?' If the answer is yes, you've probably got some legal remedy."

Regardless of what a salesman or a warranty may say, the law provides for a "warranty of fitness for purpose," Taylor said.

This means the law guarantees a product must function at least for the purpose it was intended.

Laws also provide for a grace period on home improvement sale contracts or any credit arrangements under which the seller may place a lien on a person's home, Eiler said.

On home improvement sales contracts for more than \$300, he said, the customer may cancel his contract by sending a registered letter or personally delivering a written notice of cancellation to the seller's place of business before 5 p.m. on the next business day after signing.

In any credit transaction where the seller may obtain a lien on the customer's home, Eiler said, the customer has the option to cancel his contract in writing before midnight of the third day after he has received a copy of the contract.

In all credit or installment sales, whether for home improvement or for time payments on other purchases, the businessmen normally "sell the paper," or finance contract, to a finance company to whom the customer is then responsible for payment, Eiler said.

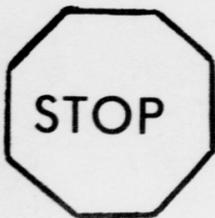
But, he added, the federal truth-in-lending act now requires the finance company to notify the consumer it has bought the contract and allows the consumer 15 days from date of notification to tell the finance company if the businessmen performed his part of the contractual obligations satisfactorily.

This means that if the proper product or service wasn't delivered, the customer is not liable for payment as long as he tells the finance company within 15 days. But if the consumer doesn't make his grievances known in 15 days, Eiler said, he is fully responsible for paying for the contract held by the finance company. The consumer

still has legal remedy, but only through separate legal action against the businessman. The finance company must be paid.

"So the most important thing for every consumer, whether old or young, student or worker," Eiler said, "is to realize exactly what the notice means when it comes from the finance company."

The law also provides that the consumer isn't liable for payment until he receives the product or service, a copy of the contract, and notice that it has been sold to a finance company, he said. But in the event that the product isn't delivered, the finance company must be informed within the 15-day grace period.

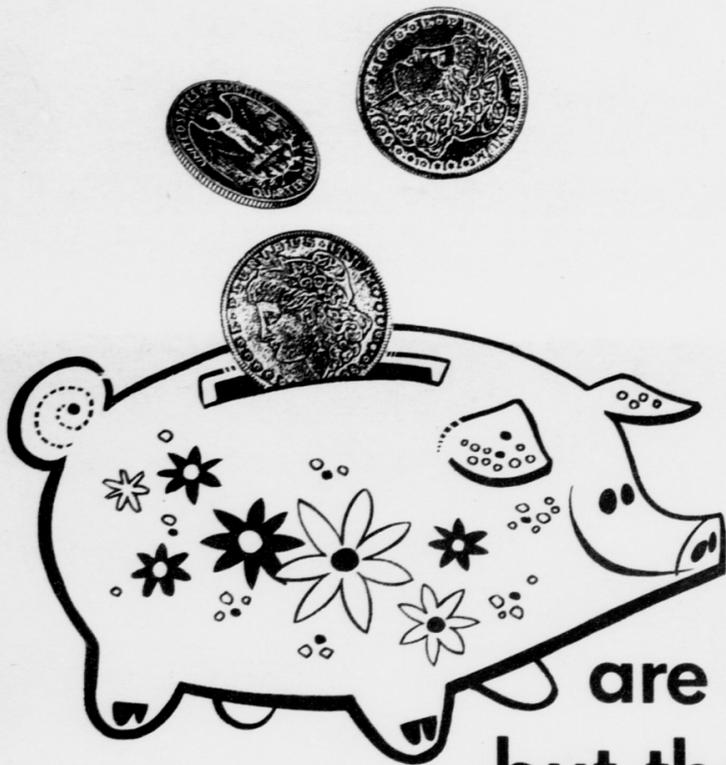


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'U' to tightens guidelines for drinking inside halls

(Continued from page four)
 provisions are observed: • Only members of the sponsoring

organization may attend the event.

*An organization may not be established solely for the purpose of sponsoring such events.

•Funds for the alcoholic beverage must come from dues or prior assessment and must be paid out of the organization treasury. This prohibits the sale of tickets for such an event.

•Publicizing and advertising such an event outside of the membership is prohibited.

These provisions outlaw what is commonly known as a "kegger" where an admission charge paid at the door covers the cost of buying the keg.

"Actually they were always illegal," explained North, "but until reviewing the state statutes we were not fully aware of the extent of the law in this area."

The new guidelines further provide that alcoholic beverages may be consumed at a registered social event where such beverages are not furnished as part of the event if the following provisions are observed:

•The alcoholic beverage which is consumed has been brought to the event by the individual for his own use.

•Organizational funds may be used for food and entertainment but not for the purchase of alcoholic beverage.

•Tickets may be sold to such an event but the money collected from the sale of tickets cannot be used to provide alcoholic beverages.

•Such events cannot be advertised as events at which alcoholic beverages will be served.

•The responsibility for enforcement of the new alcohol policies does not rest with resident assistants or other members of the advisory staff but with the students sponsoring the event.

Eldon Nonnamaker, dean of students, explained that students attending and especially those sponsoring social events where alcohol is served, can now be legally held responsible as adults for damages to life or property.

"This is why it is so important that the students be aware of the laws and policies," he said.

Drunk driving up, police claim

(Continued from page three)

of sobriety tests are then administered. MSU police said they use tests such as picking coins off the pavement, walking a straight line, standing on one leg, or having the operator of the vehicle touch a finger to his nose.

Arresting officers may also forego the sobriety tests and make a visual determination of physical appearance. In this case, blood shot eyes are a dead giveaway.

A breath test is mandatory for anyone stopped for drunk driving under Michigan's implied consent law. MSU police said they administer the breath test only after the arrest has been made, and do so only at the station house.

The breath test is given after a 20-minute waiting period while during which time the driver is not allowed to smoke, drink, or eat. Refusal to take the test calls for an automatic suspension of the drivers license.

A student or anyone else stopped for drunk driving may request an additional test if he so chooses. In this case, the new test is given only after the breath test has been applied, and may be in the form of a blood or urine analysis.

Police said that a person may be considered legally drunk if his

alcohol level registers .15 on the Breathalyzer test. However, a bill pending in the state legislature would lower the intoxicated level to .10.

A reading of .15 on the Breathalyzer test would show that you had consumed four shots of 100 proof liquor or four bottles of beer within the past hour. These figures are based on a 150 lb. person, and would proportionately be one third higher if you weighed 200lb.

Before a person is required to take the breath test, police must advise him of his right to refuse the test. However, suspension of the drivers license follows such a refusal. The actual test is given by having the driver blow a sample of deep-lung air into a heated plastic breath tube connected to the Breathalyzer.

Teenage mayor keeps promise, bans hotrodding

NEWCOMERSTOWN, Ohio (AP) — Ronald Hooker, teenage mayor of this eastern Ohio village, has kept his campaign promise.

By a unanimous vote, the town council approved an ordinance this week making it illegal to unnecessarily race a car motor or to accelerate so quickly that the motor backfires or the tires squeal.

The 19-year-old Hooker had pledged during his campaign to rid the village's streets of hot rodders.

He said at the council meeting recently that the present reckless operation statute makes it difficult for police to prosecute for such unnecessary noise.

Bar prices up

(Continued from page two)

Her view reflected that of many young adults who said they would boycott bars that had increased prices since adoption of the age of majority.

The price increases have had an adverse affect on old patrons as well. One student, 26, and former regular at the Gables is upset.

"Since the price increase I've been going to the Stables," he said. "The band is as good; there is no cover; drinks are cheaper and the atmosphere is friendlier."

But, as another coed said, "If everything is crowded and I'm thirsty I'll get a drink. Face it, they have a captive audience."

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Wills urged for spouses

By BECKIE HANES
State News Staff Writer

Not many of Michigan's new young adults are expected to exercise their right to draft wills, but Judge James T. Kallman of the Ingham County Probate Court recommends that married young people give serious thought to the matter.

Most young adults feel they do not have enough property to warrant the making of a will, the judge said, but the situation is different, and very important, for those who are married.

While all married persons, regardless of age, should have a

will, Kallman said the consideration is most important for those who have children.

"Children should be treated as an asset to this instance," he said, because parents may designate in their wills who they wish to raise the children in the event of their deaths.

Kallman said such a stipulation is increasingly important because of the growing number of dual fatalities, where both parents may be killed in an automobile or airplane crash.

"If they (the parents) express their wishes to the court, we try to follow them," he said.

Kallman said he anticipates more trusts being included in parents' wills. These trusts would prevent children from automatically receiving the trust itself at 18 and would allow parents to decide on the age they feel their children will be responsible enough to handle the money.

Parents would establish these "testamentary" trusts, as they have in the past, and designate the age, he said. Some testamentary trusts are held until the children reach 35 years of age.

With this procedure, children have the income of the trust but not the trust itself.

Kallman said there is no specific form for a will, but it must be witnessed and signed by two individuals before it is considered valid.

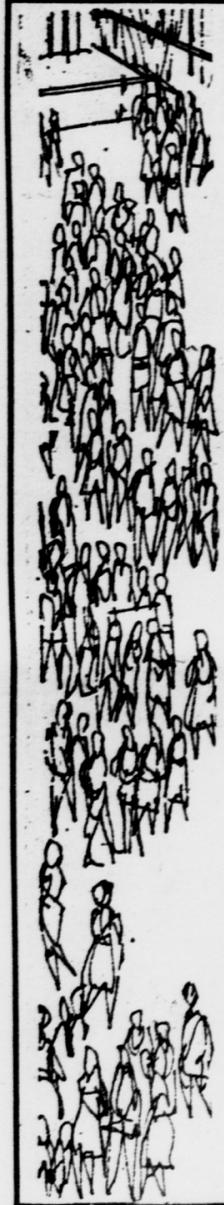
"But if legal language is used, there will be no problem of interpretation, he said. Under such wills, there is no quibbling and the will can be executed correctly.

The will should be filed with

either the probate court, the person writing the will or an attorney.

"A will can be as complicated or as simple as you want it to be," Kallman said. "Each case is so different."

Considerations should be given to how much money should be awarded to charity, assets, whether a child or a relative should be disinherited and any other particular preferences.



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