

Alcohol dulls responsibilities

by Steph Daly

Flash . . . two car collision on N.E. 72nd: Victims listed in serious condition, more details later, immediately the station is returned to musical sounds. Sound familiar?

Yes, is naturally the answer given by everyone. Every thirty seconds an accident is occurring somehow . . . somewhere.

Why? Well, some are merely accidents, but others are accidents that could have been prevented if the person behind the wheel had thought twice before indulging in that last drink.

To sum it all up, accidents are becoming a little too common lately, drinking and driving has become a very serious and deadly problem.

Three out of every five accidents are caused by intoxicated drivers, too many of these accidents involve teenagers, but just so that all the blame won't be placed on our shoulders let us take the case of Joe.

Joe was a young man, slowly but surely working up to a position in his line of business, had been married for four years, and was the father of two fine little sons.

It was Christmas Eve and they had closed the office down early for the occasion, when all the fellows retired to a local bar. After downing his fifth drink, Joe began to feel depressed.

Another, Joe? C'mon don't be a party pooper—Listen, guys, I really should be making it on home, but well, okay, I guess I'll . . . You know the rest.



More time went by, and Joe by now was beginning to blur his words and was intent on arguing when asked if he'd care to cab it home with the rest of them. "No," was his answer. He could drive. "In fact a little better, after a few drinks." This statement is heard often, no matter what the age be. That's what Joe thought . . .

Within twenty minutes Joe's car was found completely totaled, crunched and flaming. Joe had been drifting from one side of the road to the other when suddenly . . . bright lights, screeching and . . . nothing. But "he could drive, in fact a little better after a few drinks."

Joe did not live to share with his family what was planned to be a Merry Christmas.

It is up to us, the future adults of tomorrow, to accept our responsibilities before we step behind the wheel, a responsibility not only towards ourselves but towards others.

The Implied Consent law is one of the many used to help keep drinking drivers off the streets. In this law the victim is asked to blow up a balloon where a meter reads the exact degree of intoxication; however the driver must consent before performing the test. Refusal to take the test results in suspension of the driver's license.

But this is only to prove if we have been drinking. We must stop and think before drinking, and maybe ask ourselves these questions: Am I growing up to be a future adult? Maybe even a possible credit to my God, my country, and my sex?

We must not forget that man's only true desire is to live—will you? The decisions to these questions are up to you, and only you.

Speed cited as main teen violation

by Steph Daly

Is it a temptation for you not to step extra hard on the accelerator of your car? Are you tempted to drive on through the stop sign when all around seems clear? In a recent survey at the Portland Police Department, it was found that most often boys were given tickets for the violation of speeding, and girls for running stop signs.

The greatest number of tickets given were received for speeding. "Following too close" was another problem.

"Most young people think that because they are young and because they do have faster reflexes that, naturally, they can go faster," commented Officer Robert Harms. He also added, "One sure improvement is being shown through Drivers Education courses."



Signs have purpose An illegally parked car is demonstrated as the driver of this car completely ignores the two signs which he parked right next to.

Another main problem with teenage drivers is the condition of cars. "If the Vehicle Inspection was required," commented Officer Harms, "then half the cars on the road would be unable to be driven, due to lack of balance in suspension."

In 1966 out of 102,000,000 people there were 10,000,000 accidents involving teens and fatal accidents numbered 10,000. In these accidents 17 percent were led by the age group 20-24. Following close in line were the teens aging 16-19.

"I feel most of the teenagers are fine drivers," commented Officer Harms. "It is just that one or two give the bad name to the others and people take their example and tend to lump them all together," he concluded.

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Groups stressed at Sounds assembly

"This year's United Sounds assembly will be patterned after last year's with more of an emphasis on 'groups' instead of solos," according to Robert Gerber, United Sounds adviser.

"Things are kind of sketchy at the moment," reported Chris Thorn, United Sounds president. A group consisting of Student Body President Ron Marrs, and Dave Schlicker, and Bart DaFoe of Washington high will perform two numbers; Debby Chung and Kenn Bell will be accompanied by Jim Mills on the banjo.

Jeff Still will perform his own composition of a classical instrumental on the electric guitar with background provided by Dale Potter and Doug Fraser; Angelika Braker, a graduate of '67, and Nancy Thorn will sing their selections of folk ballads; and Nancy McCreedy, Pam Wiik, and Wendy Wong will perform the Irish ballad interpretation of "Johnny Comes Marching Home."



Jay-walker nuisance Walking across two lanes of traffic during the morning "rush hour" doesn't seem to bother this student. The corner is only about 100 yards away.

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