

2

All-terrain vehicles stir controversy

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — State officials asked a legislative committee Tuesday to extend a tentative welcome to the latest rage in backwoods recreation: three- and four-wheeled buggies known as "all-terrain vehicles," or ATVs.

State Forester Theodore Natti asked the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee to approve an experimental ATV trail system in Pine River state forest in Ossipee and Effingham.

"Pine River will by no means solve the off-highway recreational vehicle situation," Natti said. "But we believe that Pine River should serve as a pilot project to help establish a statewide program for the recreational use of these vehicles."

A lobbyist for two sand-and-gravel mining companies said banning ATVs would be a better idea. Paul Worsowicz said if the state won't do that, it should at least pass a law protecting companies and other landowners from lawsuits filed by ATV drivers who injure themselves.

Worsowicz said trespassing by ATVs and some other off-highway vehicles is frequent and flagrant.

"State statutes are not protecting the landowners. We have posting statutes, but they do not work," he said. He said one problem for sand-and-gravel companies is damage to land reclamation efforts.

"We're planting seedlings in the spring, but in the winter and even in the fall, these vehicles are riding right over them and destroying our reclamation work," he said.

Lt. David Hewitt, the state Fish and Game Department official in charge of off-highway vehicle safety and enforcement, also sup-

ported experimental trails in Pine River.

"I feel strongly that once the state provides these people a place to operate ... it will reduce landowner problems," he said.

Hewitt said registrations of ATVs — which he said can have three, four or six wheels — have shot up dramatically in the past several years. He said 8,000 were registered in the year that ended Sept. 30, up from 700 two years earlier.

"I can tell you right now that I firmly believe that there are another 10,000 out there that are unregistered," said Hewitt, who predicted ATVs will soon outnumber snowmobiles in the state.

Douglas Eoute, head of the state Bureau of Off-Highway Vehicles, also endorsed the Pine River experiment. He compared complaints by landowners and others about ATVs to the outcry that accompanied the upsurge of snowmobiling in the early 1970s.

"I believe we've solved the snowmobile problem. ... We do not any longer hear very much about snowmobile problems," said Eoute. He said self-policing by snowmobiling clubs was an important part of the solution.

Anne Busta of Auburn, representing two trail-biking clubs, a sport akin to ATV riding, said the state discriminates against ATV owners. She said ATV enthusiasts, unlike snowmobilers, get nothing from the state in return for their \$13 annual registration fees.

Hewitt agreed. "Right now, other than what I feel is fairly stringent law enforce-

ment ... the state is giving absolutely nothing," he said.

Eoute said only one state trail is officially open to ATVs, the Rockingham Recreation Trail in the Derry-Windham-Fremont area.

Eoute conceded there are conflicts between off-highway vehicle drivers and people hiking or riding horses on the Rockingham trail. "But at this particular time, we feel it's working well enough to continue

that way," he said of keeping the trail open to all users.

Committee member Geraldine Bangs, R-Derry, disagreed.

"I think you brushed over rather lightly the problems in Derry," she said. She cited complaints about guns being fired on the trail and people holding noisy, all-night parties there.

Rep. Mary Sullivan, D-Manchester, sponsored the Pine River bill.



United Press International photo

Suspicious fire

Boston firemen battle a three-alarm blaze at a vacant Dorchester-section building where a tenant died in a fire six months ago. The arson squad is investigating the Tuesday fire, in which one firefighter was injured.

Accused Harvard professor quits

CAMBRIDGE (AP) — A Harvard University professor has resigned from his tenured position in the government department amid allegations that he sexually harassed a female student at another college two years ago.

Douglas A. Hibbs Jr., a specialist in political economics, will take a medical leave of absence and then resign at the end of the leave, university officials said in a statement released Monday night. School officials would not say how long the leave would last.

University spokesman David M. Rosen said the resignation followed a sexual harassment complaint filed against Hibbs last December.

Rosen would not discuss details of the complaint. However, The Harvard Crimson reported Tuesday that the complaint was filed by a student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in May 1983, where Hibbs has worked in the past while teaching at Harvard.

Hibbs, 40, was not available for comment Tuesday. His phone has been disconnected and a woman who answered the door at his Cambridge home Monday told The Crimson, "Mr. Hibbs is gone. He's

out of the country for a long time." The woman would not identify herself.

Hibbs is the third professor in the Harvard government department in recent years to be the subject of a sexual harassment complaint.

The other two men were disciplined, although the university refused to comment on their cases publicly.

Asked whether Hibbs is the first professor to leave the school follow-

ing a sexual harassment complaint, Rosen said, "I can't comment on that, and in fact I don't know."

The university's statement said, "Out of consideration for the legitimate and compelling privacy interests of persons involved, the parties intend to make no further statement to the media about these events."

Hibbs, who received tenure from Harvard in 1978, specializes in the statistical analysis of links between the economy and political trends.

OAK FLOORING
3", 4", 5" widths

Stop by and compare random widths to standard strip flooring.

Also . . . ASH, CHERRY, BIRCH and MAPLE.



P. O. Box 329, Great Barrington, MA
(413) 528-9000 .. Mon. - Fri. 8:00 to 4:30

It May Be The President's Birthday . . . but at Berkshire Christian College It's College-For-A-Day!



Come visit us in Lenox, Mass. February 17 and 18.

We'll tour the campus . . . visit classes . . . and get to know one another better!

Bring your parents and your friends.

ALL ARE WELCOME

For information and reservations call Admissions at

1-800-BCC-MASS (in Mass.) 1-800-GO-TO-BCC (out-of-state)

Berkshire Christian College
200 Stockbridge Road, Lenox, MA 01240
Stop by to see us in Boston at booth #220, Congress '85.



Firefighter trims hair to save job

HOLLYWOOD, Fla. (AP) — A firefighter's battle against orders to trim her shoulder-length hair to standards designed for men has ended with her agreement to submit to a hairdresser's scissors, a union leader said Tuesday.

But Cindy Mansker, who said late Monday she was bowing to pressure from superiors in order to keep her job, will probably be able to let her hair grow out again later under new rules that may be prompted by her fight, said Doug Macready, president of the Hollywood local of the International Association of Firefighters.

"Basically what they said was, first she had to comply, then we'll change the rule," Macready said.

Mansker, 22, said her hair would be cut by the time she reported for work Wednesday.

"I was pressured into it," she said Monday. "I came home and talked it over with my fiance. We just feel if I want my job badly enough, then I'll have to cut it."

Hollywood's fire department prohibits hair longer than half an inch over firefighters' collars. Since she began training for the job, Mansker has worn her hair pinned on top of her head.

Last week, she said she would fight the rule even if it meant losing her job. But after meeting Monday with Fire Chief Jim Ward, she agreed to trim her hair.

VIDEO STUDIO STORES
Authorized VIDEO Dealer
VCR's CAMERAS
VIDEO STUDIO TWELVE
180 Elm St. PITTSFIELD 447-7595

MUST CLEAN OUT OUR WAREHOUSE

SCRATCH AND DENT SPECIAL PURCHASES ODDS AND ENDS

84 MODELS ONE OF A KIND

LEFT OVER CHRISTMAS STOCK OUT THEY GO!

• MICROWAVES • REFRIGERATORS • DRYERS
• RANGES • WASHERS • DISHWASHERS
EVERYTHING!!

BUY NOW PAY APRIL
No Down Payment Needed
No Monthly Payment
No Finance Charges
UNTIL APRIL OF 1985

SEE: Ed Cadorette Michael Toomey Ted Sloper Steven Deame
For the Best Price In Town.

BERKSHIRE COUNTY'S LARGEST APPLIANCE STORE
APPLIANCE WORLD
180 NORTH ST. 443-4190 or 443-1253

YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!

START YOUR OWN Sunday Republican PAPER ROUTE NOW!

A GREAT WAY TO EARN EXTRA MONEY

CALL 442-3602 AND WE WILL HELP YOU GET STARTED