

oral quarrel

This week's Oral Quarrel question asked readers: Considering the turmoil in the world, what are your thoughts about traveling now? Would you change your vacation plans?

Following are the responses:

Yes, I would definitely change my travel plans, and I would not travel overseas.

Yes, we have changed our vacation plans. We had planned to take a trip to

Greece in the fall, and at this time we are cancelling our arrangements. We postponed it two years ago when there was a similar turmoil going on and now we are delaying it again.

Any country that does not have max-

imum security at their airports and does not search bodily, physically or whatever other way, their passengers should be outlawed from having any of our aircraft landing there.

I would still consider traveling on a

plane. One must consider there are so many car accidents a day. True, when a plane crashes almost everybody dies but these types of incidents don't happen as much as automobile crashes.

I would be very cautious and take out any kind of flight insurance I could but I wouldn't change my vacation plans. Truth is I wish I could afford to take a nice vacation abroad . . .

I am an attorney traveling to London, England, July 15 for the American Bar Convention. I will not change my plans although I recognize there is an element of risk. Will not change plans.

Yes, my plans have already been changed and cancelled, a trip to Athens and the Greek Islands. Also I had considered Vienna but that was on the list of airports that the Secretary of State's office did not recommend to go to. So I am going to stay right here in the United States.

Alcohol drug services offered

Brighton Hospital's new series of free Community Education Programs will begin on Tuesday, July 2, and focus on helping family members to understand alcoholism and chemical dependency and learn how this disease can be treated.

The hospital hosts the education program on the first Tuesday evening of

each month beginning at 7 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

The series begins in July with a film and discussion of how family members may be inadvertently helping a loved one to keep drinking.

On Tuesday, Aug. 6, the series continues with a showing of "Intervention," a film that depicts how family

members, acting as a team under the direction of a trained counselor, can confront their loved one and insist that he or she obtain treatment.

Other topics to be covered from September through December include how parents can talk with their children about alcohol and substance abuse, how family members are affected by the

disease, and what families need to know about alcohol, marijuana and cocaine.

A complete schedule for the free Community Education Program through December can be obtained by contacting Brighton Hospital's Community Relations Department at 227-1211, Ext. 276.

Why trooper believes in seat belts

Continued from Page 1

belts on, that it is better to be thrown from a car than to roll over in it or remain trapped in the vehicle.

"One of my first accidents was an incident where a young man's car rolled over him. He's alive, but I think he lost the use of his body below his neck," Haire said.

"If he'd had his seat belt on, I'm convinced his injuries would have been minimal."

The rate for fatal injuries for occupants thrown from vehicles is 40 times greater than those who remain within the vehicle, according to state police.

In a roll-over accident, seat belts also keep occupants from tumbling inside the vehicle, striking glass and metal objects, state police said.

In an accident, every object inside the vehicle becomes a dangerous implement, Haire said. Things which usually may be soft to the touch such as the dashboard, seats and even other people, are potential hazards.

"Your own body becomes a missile during an accident," Haire said.

HAIRE WARNED that anything your body may come into contact with, even something as small as the knob on the radio or something as large as the

steering wheel, can cause serious, even fatal injuries.

Seat belts are designed to help force the vehicle, not the driver or passengers, to take the impact in an accident, according to state police.

"The newer, crossover belts are designed with a pendulum motion," Haire explained.

So, even though a person may not feel resistance from the seat belt when sitting normally, upon impact in an accident the belt reacts with the force of gravity to restrain the person from any sudden movements.

It also helps to keep the driver behind the wheel, where he or she may be able to control the vehicle and keep it from running into another vehicle or person, said Haire.

Many people argue the question of freedom of choice when they talk about the mandatory seat belt law. But to Haire, there is no choice.

"Drivers do not have a freedom of choice when they hit someone else," he said.

"Their (driver's) freedom of choice ends when they start hurting people needlessly."

There are no facts that say a person's chance of being in an accident are lessened any by driving slower or by

limiting long distance traveling. In fact, just the opposite is true, said Haire.

Approximately 8-10 percent of all fatal traffic accidents occur at speeds less than 40 miles per hour, according to state police.

"People not wearing seat belts have been killed at speeds as low as 12 miles per hour or less," Haire said.

In 1983, 68 percent of all fatal accidents occurred in the county where the driver resided, said state police.

Although Haire is a seasoned trooper now, he still finds himself bothered by the thoughts of traffic fatalities he has witnessed.

"Fatal accidents — they all should stand out in your mind, but there's just some things you try to forget," Haire said quietly.

No matter how hard he tries, Haire cannot rid himself of the gruesome scenes he has had to deal with.

"There is not an accident that has gone by that hasn't bothered me after work, or later at home," he said.

Accident probed

Continued from Page 1

Intendent Lawrence Freedman called the deaths a tragedy.

"IT'S JUST a shame," Freedman said. "We've been hit twice in the past week," he said, referring to the deaths of two other schoolchildren, Amit and Ardi Gupta, who died June 23 in the Air-India plane crash.

"It's a sad tragedy. You begin to wonder when everything is going to stop," Freedman said.

DiCicco said the only thing that is keeping her and her family together is their faith.

"In my mind, they are with the Lord in Heaven, and they are not suffering. That's the only thing I'm holding on to," she said.

"What you see on my face is just

makeup," she said, looking down at her hands. "You function on shock in these instances."

The bodies of DiCicco's sons were recovered by Canadian divers Tuesday. Her husband's body was recovered Thursday along with the bodies of four of the fishermen, within 100 yards of where their boat had been, Paquette said.

Canadian authorities said all of the bodies would be released when the remaining body, Elcher's, was found. Paquette said he expected that body to be found sometime on Friday.

It was not known whether the bodies would require autopsies to determine the cause of death, he said.

DiCicco said arrangements for the funeral services were pending, but that they would "probably be sometime on Monday."

Belt deadline here

Continued from Page 1

tion from a physician that they are unable to wear a safety belt for physical or medical reasons.

• The law states that all drivers and all front seat passengers must buckle

up. For example, if you have four people in the front seat with only three safety belts and one person is unbelted, the driver or the person may receive a traffic citation.

• All drivers and passengers must buckle up, regardless of the state or province in which they reside.

Exchange families sought for students

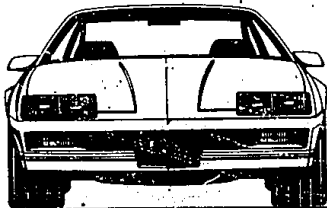
Youth for Understanding is looking for families interested in sharing their home with a foreign student. These exchange students come from such countries as Germany, France, Holland, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Japan, the Philippines, Brazil, Colombia, as well as from other European and South American countries.

Youth for Understanding is now

seeking homes for students who will arrive from 25 different countries in August and 10 Latin American countries in January. If you are interested, call 800-872-3100, or write: Youth for Understanding, 6264 Dixie Highway, Bridgeport, Mich. 48722.

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