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Battalion/Page 5 August 4, 1982

## Headphone's connected to earbones; laws pending

#### United Press International City and state governments

nationwide are imposing laws with strict fines to keep a growing number of Americans from land. walking, jogging and driving in the "never, never land" of stereo headsets

Woodbridge, N.J., recently became the first city to ban the use of the earphone-cassette players by drivers of cars, carries a \$50 fine and 15 days in motorcycles and mopeds, as well jail and several bills are pending as joggers on roadways. When the ordinance takes effect Aug. 29, even pedestrians will have to remove the headsets to cross the street

Farino said Wednesday he was the first lawmaker to propose such a measure. The idea came to him after a near-miss with a

"One day I was driving my wearing a stereo headset. The car and a cyclist was in front of fine is \$25 for a first offense and 'One day I was driving my Farino said. "I saw him me." with his headset on, blew my horn and tried to pass him. He damn near hit me. He said he was sorry, he was listening to music and couldn't hear me

He said a young suburban woman was killed recently because she didn't hear a car coming.

dustry

Farino's headset ban was passed in a City Council committee but never made it to the full council, evidently because of

ping across the street cutting me quent violations. off, and he didn't know where he was. He was in never, never vious," Public Safety Director driving.

Politicians — able to hear a bandwagon from miles away, with or without headphones are proposing more laws on the

subject and harsher fines. The Woodbridge, N.J., law

in other cities. One measure, sponsored by New Jersey Sen. John Gregorio, would impose a \$75 fine for a reet. But Chicago Alderman Louis in the earphones on a highway, whether on foot or in a vehicle. A second violation would be \$150.

In Massachusetts, it is illegal cyclist wired to a personal stereo. to operate a motor vehicle while

"I watched this guy bebop- can go as high as \$100 for subse-"The reason for this law is ob-

George A. Luciano said. "Next to sight, hearing is the most important sense used when



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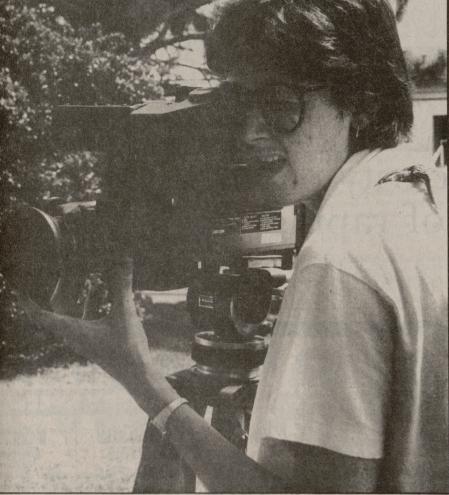
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#### Young, intrepid reporter

Nancy senior Weatherley, journalism major from Irving, zooms a TV in on her subject with camera. A production assistant at

KAMU-TV, Weatherley was taping a segment for 15 Magazine. The piece will air the last week in August.

photo by Colette Hutchings

### veks. old by hat New Orleans possible site of 1984 Demo convention

ing comp United Press International NEW ORLEANS — City lead-ts are teaming with 1984 yment set ntly. world's Fair officials to take a and look at making a bid for the 984 Democratic National Conid many of ere plagian apers and m had been file

New Orleans became a candite for the political meeting hen the National Organization Women and other women's You groups dropped a boycott of the city, organized after New leans and several other cities not endorse the Equal ghts Amendment. "NOW, the National Political

omen's Caucus and other pro-RA groups have quietly drop-

The world's fair is designed to facility to house the convention. accommodate the needs of simultaneous events like the national political convention, said fair general manager Petr

Spurney. A Democratic National Committee spokesman in Washington said convention planners believe New Orleans, Chicago, are possible sites for the 1984

convention

Edward McNeill, vice president and executive director of the Greater New Orleans Tourist and Convention Commission, said even with the world's fair here, there is a chance that a sufficient number of hotel rooms could be made available for the

convention, provided the plan-Miami and Atlanta are major ning is done far enough in adv-cities in anti-ERA states that now ance. The Republicans already City officials also stress the have chosen Dallas as the site of Superdome would be a prime their 1984 national convention.



pressure from the electronics in-No headsets while driving, motorcycling or biking would be allowed. Joggers and pedes-trians would have to remove the earphones while crossing

streets. "I've noticed a higher and higher degree of people riding cars, motorcycles and bikes with these things on," Councilman William K. Collins said. "I term that a hazard simply because people using personal stereo units cannot hear oncoming cars.

It's really getting out of hand." Collins, 30, a Brown Universi-ty geologist, said a headsetequipped jogger recently walked in front of his car at an equipped intersection

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