

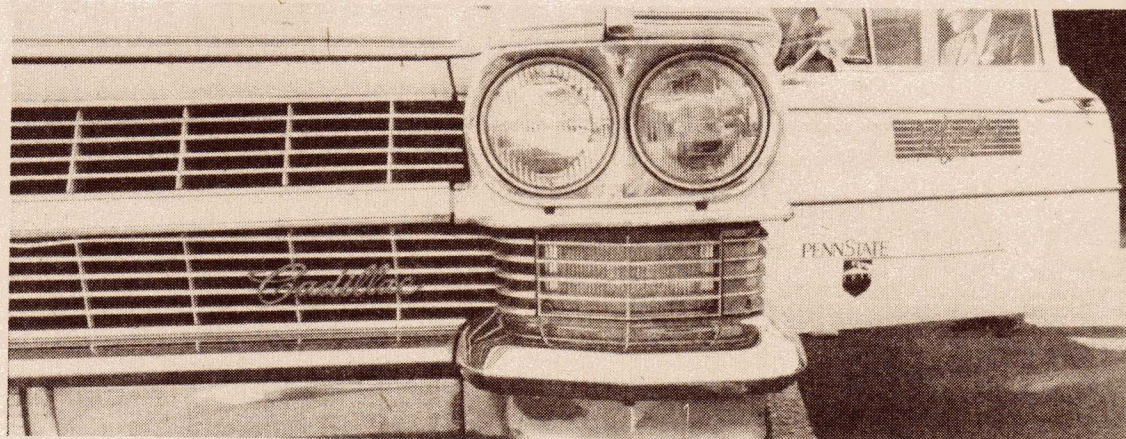
# Cadillac is featured in collection

By RACHELLE AYUYANG  
Collegian Arts Writer

In the lazy, hazy days of summer before his death, showman Fred Waring's blue 1964 Cadillac limousine was as common a sight as people eating ice cream at the Creamery or hanging out at the pool.

The car is now restored and has become part and parcel of the University, said Pete Kiefer, collection coordinator. The University is the center of "Fred Waring's America," the vast memorabilia collection of the former University Board of Trustee member who died in 1984.

An anonymous State College donor financed the estimated \$9,000 to \$10,000 restoration. Rider Auto, 1703 W. College Ave., which performed the reconditioning, repainted the car white with red and white stripes on the sides, rebuilt its engine, and reupholstered some of the interior with gray carpeting,



Collegian Photo/Chris Mousulick

A restored cadillac that was once owned by Fred Waring is part of a campus memorabilia collection entitled "Fred Waring's America." Waring and his cadillac were a common sight on campus in past summers.

said Chuck Rider, vice president of Rider Auto.

The car will be used for VIP functions and parades, such as when Singing Lion members will ride in the car for the Homecoming parade, Kiefer said.

"He liked nothing more than to load it up with his singers and take them down for a late night snack at the Deli when he came up for his summer workshops," said Kiefer, who worked for Waring for 30 years.

He said that after Waring's death,

Waring's wife Virginia sold the car to someone in the Shawnee River Gap area. When she heard of the University's interest in the car, Virginia Waring waited for the chance to buy it back and then donated it to the University in 1987.

Virginia Waring said her late husband had a passion for collecting cars that could be traced to when he began driving at 12. With his first earnings, he bought a car.

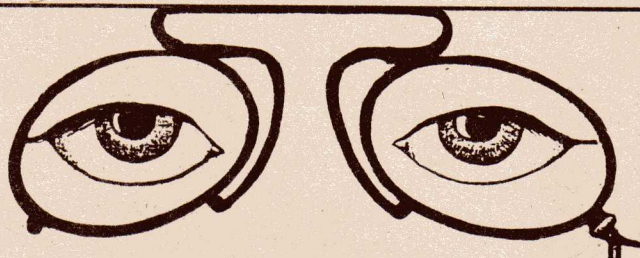
Virginia Waring bought the black limousine in 1975 and painted it "post

office blue" with red and white stripes along the side.

Although the car had a tendency to break down and could not bear long road trips, Virginia Waring said her husband would always drive it to Penn State in the summer because he enjoyed the attention it received.

"It was a fixture on campus. When people saw that long Cadillac, they knew he was in residence," she said.

Kiefer said it has not been decided where the car will be permanently housed.



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