Shaffer Asks Sensenbrenner For Crosswalk

In a letter to Columbus Mayor M.E. Sensenbrenner and City Council today, Jay C. Shaffer, student body president, requested a crosswalk be installed at 1972 N. High St., in front of McDonald's restaurant.

Presently there are signs reading, "Do Not Cross Here—Not A Legal Crosswalk," located on both sides of the street.

"Though there are signs, enough students ignore them and endanger their lives to such an extent that the request must not be ignored," Shaffer said in his letter.

Shaffer wrote the letter at the request of the Student Assembly. At its meeting last Thursday, Student Assembly passed a resolution asking for the crosswalk.

Crackdown at crosswalks

Pedestrians to be protected

4-25-72

Ohio State's Department of Public Safety has embarked upon what David Stormer, associate director of the department, has termed "an emphasized enforcement of crosswalks on campus."

The program involves campus police officers paying closer attention to crosswalks to assure that the pedestrian is given the right-of-way by bicycles and other vehicles, Stormer said. He added that enforcement ranges from a strong warning to ticketing violators who fail to yield to pedestrians.

"We've had a fair amount of accidents and complaints concerning cases where the pedestrian has not been given the right-of-way," Stormer said.

In the last eight months, three of the six pedestrians hit while crossing campus streets were within a crosswalk. Stormer said that all six required medical treatment or hospitalization.

The latest accident occurred Thursday when Mary Goodall, a freshman from Cambridge, was struck by a bicycle on West 19th Street. She was taken to the student health center by the campus police and treated for cuts and bruises.

Stormer said there is a need for such an enforcement program on campus because "merely crossing a street oftentimes becomes a question of the ability of a person to take evasive action."

However, he pointed out that the pedestrian should use the crosswalks in ways to insure his safety.

Stormer said the department of traffic is cooperating in this program by repainting all of the University's crosswalks.

Whether citations will be given to a violator who fails to yield to pedestrians will be up to the individual officers. Stormer said, "However, passing out citations will not be stressed too strongly."