# Dangerous driving brings crackdown

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Most people head to scenic State 11 in northern Pickens and Oconee counties to take in the beauty of the lakes and foothills, but some motorcyclists see the long, straight stretches and winding mountain highways as an opportunity to crack open the throttle.

Now law enforcement is cracking down.

"We have complaints every weekend that it's warm," Pickens County Assistant Sheriff Tim Morgan said. "Quite often (motorcyclists) time themselves (on U.S. 178), seeing who can make the fastest run. They're passing in curves, and there's some extreme high-speed reckless driving. Our mission there is to save lives and try to break that activity."




SUZIE RIDDLE / Staff

Pickens County has already increased weekend patrols along a stretch of U.S. 178 going north from State 11 to the North Carolina line, Morgan said.

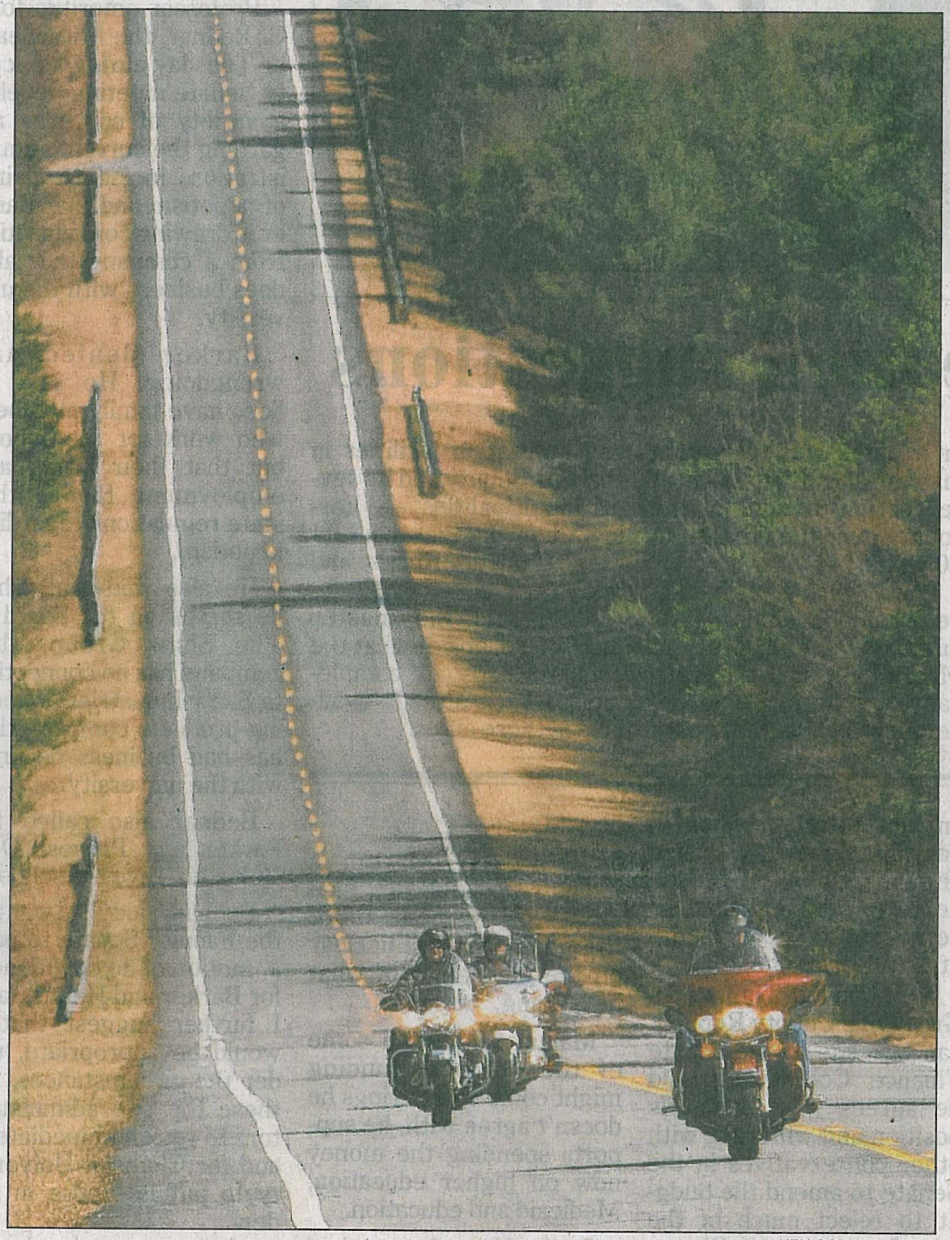
State troopers promise to work together with deputies from Pickens and Oconee counties this spring to ramp up enforcement of traffic laws, according to Lance Cpl. Kathy Hiles of the state Highway Patrol.

"As we get into warmer weather, we do increase our enforcement along Highway 11, mainly because of the increased traffic, especially toward the lake areas and Oconee County," Hiles said.

She said troopers are

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# Police target mountain highways



KEN OSBURN / Staff

Police say motorcyclists sometimes use the long, straight stretches of State 11 to compete for fastest times. A rider in this group Tuesday said he's seen reckless riding but his "Social Security Club" doesn't do it.