

OPINION and REVIEW

Editorial

Recession Kills Student Jobs

By Andy McIntire

The other day I decided to go out and look for a job. Armed with my references and a brand new pen I headed for the nearest shopping mall confident that I would find a job best suited for me. However I didn't find a job; instead I found nothing but great disappointment when I discovered, to my dismay, that in the "land of opportunity" there are simply no jobs to be found.

Yes friends, the time has come for us to wake up and smell the coffee. Our once great economic country of stability is on the verge of economic disaster so pleasantly called a recession. But is it really just a recession or could it indeed be much worse?

Yet, why should we worry at all when our great elected leader George Herbert Walker Bush stated, just a few short months ago, that the United States would see to it that no Russian citizen starves this winter. Well isn't that just dandy. Excuse me, but George, what about all the American citizens who are facing some of the hardest times we have seen since the great depression?

What about our failed banking system and the ever growing homeless issue, jobs, and health care? What does George Herbert Walker Bush plan to do for the American people, the people who elected him? Sometimes I wonder if the veto President ever remembers us at all.

So, in the mean time, I'm still out there searching for a job. I actually heard that ditch diggers are needed somewhere near my home. I will have to check that out, just as soon as I register to vote in the primary.



A KINDER GENTLER POINTE OF LIGHT

Citizens Misinformed About Foreign Cars' Reliability

By Roya Sami

Are Foreign cars better than American? No. According to the Philadelphia Inquirer (Sunday January 19, 1992 edition) "Ford, General Motors, and Chrysler have made dramatic improvements in their cars so much that many are considered equal or better than Asian or European cars."

Then why the bad publicity? Many magazines use unfair comparisons. For example, the January 1991 issue of Popular Mechanics mentioned, under the "all time worst" the Lincoln Continental 1958, and as the "all time best" the Lexus 1990. Yet, at the time this magazine was published, Lexus was not even in the market for a year.

Furthermore, Japanese cars were not in the American market until the early 1960's, when Subaru and Datsun were introduced and proved to be unpopular. In fact, those cars proved to be so inefficient that one entrepreneur invested in a track made of used tires, and used the Subarus as bumper cars; that was the end of the first wave of Subarus in the U.S.

Subarus and Datsuns were both withdrawn due to the fact that they broke down too frequently (Introduced in 1969, the Datsun 240z, resembling the U.S.-made 1964 Apollo, sold successfully.). Popular Mechanics not only made an unfair comparison, comparing a car of 1958 to a high-tech car of 1990, but

they didn't even use credible information.

Many people are misinformed about the reliability of foreign cars. The reason being is that when foreign cars are recalled, it is done quietly. But, any recall of American made automobiles is publicized and in many cases exaggerated.

For instance, last year Chrysler was accused of the air-bag being too hot, which causes a slight pinkness in the drivers hand (no mention was made that the bag saved the drivers life). But the newspapers did not bring up the fact that BMW 635 and M6 1988-89 "air bag could deploy after minor bump," and the Toyota Celica 1990 "air bag could fail to deploy in a crash."

Also, we all heard about the possible failure of seat-belts in some Chrysler cars; but, it was not publicized that in BMW 1988-90 automobiles, "front safety-belts could fail in a crash or hard stop." And the Toyota Camry 1987-89 models were recalled because the "reactor for lap safety belt could lock in retracted position making the belt unusable;" the problem was uncorrected for three years after knowledge of the fact!

The Lexus LS 400, 1990, the same one named the "all time best" in Popular Mechanics, was recalled due to the fact that the "cruise control may not disengage when brakes are applied."

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