

Winners

— The U. S. Congress for killing tuition tax credits and for raising the income ceiling for Basic Educational Opportunity Grants eligibility from \$15,000 to \$26,000.

— The Penn State Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation for paying the league fees, transportation and ice time for the Hockey Club which has been displaced to the Skatium in Mechanicsburg due to the conversion of the Ice Pavilion.

— Colloquy, the Interfraternity Council and the

Panhellenic Council for sponsoring the campus appearance of investigative reporter Bob Woodward.

— Acting University President Edward D. Eddy for postponing his decision on arming the campus police until he has heard discussion of the issue at the Oct. 31 Faculty Senate meeting.

— Israeli and Egyptian negotiators for agreeing on the text of a peacemaking treaty in the Mideast.

— ABC for changing the date of the Pitt game and the University for opening the dorms.

Sinners

— The Associated Student Activities Budgetary Committee for refusing to fund Students for a Pennsylvania Public Interest Research Group in its petition drive.

— The University for charging participants in the ice skating therapy program for the mentally and physically handicapped fees for ice time and skate rental for the first time in 11 years. In rationalizing the decision, Walter H. Schmidt, assistant to the dean of the College of

Health, Physical Education and Recreation, said he did not see the fairness in charging University students while allowing other groups to use the facilities free.

— Democratic lieutenant governor candidate Robert Casey for his remarks to a reporter that there was no need for special education for deaf children. "Put those kids at the front of the classrooms if they can't hear," Casey said.

It's California politics starring Jerry Brown

The political trade often has been compared to the art of the theatre. Subtle characterization, precise timing and a lock on the audience are the keys to winning both good reviews and big elections.

Nowhere is the metaphor better illustrated than in the career of Gov. Jerry Brown of California. Brown's mastery of political role-playing is peerless on the West Coast and perhaps equally unmatched throughout the country. At times, it is also frightening.

Paul Pringle

A case in point is Brown's current roadshow as a candidate for re-election in November. His campaign, now viewed as a big hit, had gotten off to an inauspicious start with the passage of Proposition 13 by California voters in June. Brown had long been a widely-quoted and vitriolic opponent of the tax-cutting measure, labeling it interchangeably as a "sham," a "ripoff" and a "potential disaster."

With the ballot-box success of the proposition, the youthful Democrat saw his prestige as an issue spokesman tarnished and his chances for re-election diminished. Indeed, Evette Younger, who is state attorney general and the governor's Republican challenger, was shown neck-and-neck with Brown in most opinion polls taken shortly after the proposition's passage.

But like his actor predecessor, Ronald Reagan, Brown is a quick study. Within hours of the voters' verdict, he and his aides had re-worked the anti-13 script. The cries of sham and ripoff, like Orwellian oldspak, had disappeared, and the governor soon was talking about the

"wisdom" of the voters' deed and the timeliness of big tax cuts. What once had been termed a disaster now was being lauded as good policy.

At first glance, Brown's volte-face had appeared to be the feeble ploy of a sinking vote-seeker. That was at first glance.

In a recent survey by the respected California Poll, more than 40 percent of voters polled in the state said they believed Brown had been in favor of Proposition 13 since the day it had been drafted. The survey was conducted just two months after the governor's final scathing of the measure, which had received front-page coverage statewide.

The poll also showed Brown leading Younger by a double-digit margin. Most of the voters backing Brown, according to the poll, cited his "early" support of 13 as a major factor in their favoring him over the Republican.

Of course, it is not unusual for politicians to ride popular coattails, even though at one time they may have discarded them as rags. What is unusual, however, is the uncanny measure of success Jerry Brown has had in hoodwinking the California electorate.

Only a long and in-depth study can determine the specific reasons behind Brown's delusional performance. At play are the peculiar factors of the state's political climate in general, the role of California media in the election and the varying attitudes of the electorate, among others. Still, when one political figure can apparently upstage all these factors and change the political reality of some 5 million voters, one conclusion can be made — the act itself is scary.

Paul Pringle is a graduate student in journalism.

Letters to the Editor

Vicious

Certainly the election to the papacy of Cardinal Karol Wojtyla, Archbishop of Krakow, should be the occasion of much joy to Poles in the new pope's homeland and to Polish-Americans in the United States. Polish-American commentators have already expressed the hope that the election would help to end the spate of vicious, anti-Polish "jokes" which have become fashionable in American society.

Apparently this will not be the case, for I see that The Daily Collegian has used the papal election as an occasion to propagate Polonophobic sentiments based, unconsciously or otherwise, on the quasi-racist myth that Poles are mentally deficient. Mark VanDine's cartoon Oct. 18 is patently offensive and in astonishingly poor taste.

As a student in Nazi-occupied Poland, young Karol Wojtyla literally risked his life because the foreign oppressors, ostensibly convinced that Poles were mentally deficient, had dismantled the formal Polish educational system. Participation in the Polish underground's classes was punished severely, often by death. And yet, Karol Wojtyla rose to earn a doctorate in moral theology, become fluent in six languages and author numerous scholarly articles and books.

In the light of these circumstances, Mr. VanDine's cartoon is nothing less than an affront to the entire Polish-American community. It is indeed unfortunate that the Collegian has served as the medium for such anti-Polish "humor."

Laurence Orzell
graduate-history
Oct. 20

Non-answer

I would like to correct some misinformation you provided to your readers. Your article on the candidates night at Hillel was filled with some outstanding examples of poor journalism. In particular, your report on the genetic disease Tay-Sachs and on Gregg Cunningham's non-answer to a question about this disease were in serious error.

First, Tay-Sachs is a disease which is predominantly found in Jewish people. One out of 25 individuals in the American Jewish community is a carrier for the Tay-Sachs gene as compared to one out of 300 — the carrier rate for the entire American population. If both parents are carriers for the Tay-Sachs gene they have a one out of four chance of having a Tay-Sachs baby.

These children progress normally for the first four to six months. However, after this period of time, the children go through a degeneration which leaves them virtual vegetables. They remain in this half-dead state for up to five years. Because of their condition, most Tay-Sachs children have to be hospitalized by the end of their first year. The hospital costs range from \$40,000 to \$60,000 a year.

This information was given to Mr. G.L. Cunningham. He was then asked whether he believes that a woman who knows she is carrying a Tay-Sachs child should not have the right to terminate the pregnancy. There are now available tests which allow a woman to discover if she is carrying a Tay-Sachs child early in her pregnancy. Mr. Cunningham responded to this question by saying he is opposed to the killing of fetuses. He also went into a lengthy discussion on the horrors of slavery and the virtues of Helen Keller. He concluded that it was important for women to be forced to give birth to vegetables because some of them may live.

I assured Mr. Cunningham, as I would like to assure your readers, that there is no cure nor is there likely to be a cure in the near future for the Tay-Sachs disorder. In addition, Tay-Sachs babies are doomed from the time of conception. However, at no time was it stated that abortion is the only option for women carrying Tay-Sachs fetuses. Unlike the "Right to Lifers," who would force all women to adhere to their moral and religious beliefs, those of us who are concerned with the quality of life suggest that all options be kept available.

Ronald Yasbin
Oct. 19

Negative

I would like to express my opinion concerning the issue of arming the University Police Services personnel. First I would like to state that I am pro-arming.

In your editorial on Wednesday Oct. 18, The Daily Collegian has recapped the events to this point accurately. It has shown that the University is not making a hasty irrational decision, but rather a well-researched one. The Collegian also states that the people who will be affected most by the decision — University students — should be polled as to their opinion on the matter. I agree totally with this suggestion, but right now most people I have spoken with do not have all the facts on the issue, which are too numerous to list here.

The Collegian as a member of the news media has the power to influence its readers as does any other paper. I feel the Collegian, whether intentional or not, has influenced the student body in a negative fashion. In the editorial cited earlier there is a reference to the PSO resume as, "This Gun for Hire." This appears as if you are speaking of a mafia hit man, someone who is paid to kill, not a professional who is paid to protect the University citizens. In other articles the Collegian has referred to the PSO's as "Stormer's Troopers" and has also depicted a cartoon of the cushman as a tank

Ronald Yasbin
Oct. 19



searching for an unaware student to gun down. This couldn't be further from the truth. I can't envision a PSO waving a gun at a student or other person unnecessarily. Their guns would be holstered and only drawn in a life threatening situation.

In our society today, the police have assumed the responsibility for protection once held by male family members. With this role they may be called into situations where a gun is necessary to preserve innocent life. This situation can and could happen here. Sending an unarmed officer into a situation like this is like sending a fireman to fight a fire without a hose.

Prevention is a major area of police work. Arming the PSO's may cause an aggressor to hesitate before deviating from the accepted social norms. In researching the topic I found that the University lacked a defibrillator and IKG monitor until President Oswald was the victim of a heart attack. I pray that we don't lose a PSO or student because the University refused to arm the PSO's — a well trained group of professionals entrusted with our safety. At least give them an equal chance as that of the aggressor.

John A. Damiano
7th-pre-med
Oct. 20

Wondering

The editorial cartoon which was published on the second page of Thursday's Daily Collegian makes me wonder how people can live with so much apathy. The artist of the cartoon depicting India's first test tube baby and the person responsible for having it published are equally questioned, as are those readers who thought it was humorous or at least not disturbing.

I am not advocating the scientific breakthrough but I detest the things inferred in reference to India's population. Every life is equally important and of real value. A married couple in India feels the same desire to share love with a child as one in a more developed country.

India has an overpopulation problem and a hunger problem, but these problems must be dealt with by needed reforms, advancements and aid. This should not deprive a childless couple of conceiving a much-wanted child if the means are obtainable.

To those who are concerned with the desperate situation of India's population — put your efforts into constructive action. Learn what an individual can do to fight hunger in developing countries — hunger which is a cause of India's overpopulation. Stop devaluing human life and start working toward the solutions for a better life for everyone.

Antoinette Bilik
10th-agriculture
Oct. 12

Stooping

The cartoon that appeared on the editorial page of The Daily Collegian Oct. 12 was not only of poor taste, but was wicked, mischievous and misleading, and it certainly was not humorous. Far from lauding the technological advancement of India, a nation which is less developed and has limited resources, the Collegian, too, like most other Western news media, chose to portray only the bleak image.

The Collegian miserably failed in its attempt to belittle the work of the researchers at Calcutta, who successfully delivered a test-tube baby, which, incidentally, was only the second of its kind in the world. It is only pragmatic and for their own good that the Western nations (and their news media) recognize the advancement of the developing nations. The days when the developed nations could, technologically or otherwise, dictate the developing third world nations

are over. India is more than just a country of 600 million people. Sure, we are behind, but we are catching up... fast.

Finally, a word to the editorial editor — please, do not stoop so low to get the readers' attention.

Mridul Kumar
graduate-mechanical engineering
Oct. 13

Annoying

This is with reference to your cartoon on the creation of a test-tube baby in India. It is annoying to note that every time India comes out with a great scientific achievement it gets a cold reception and negative and prejudiced publicity in the western world.

It is shocking that this great achievement did not even get equally generous publicity as the recent one in Europe got. It sure deserves even more than that considering that this great achievement is from a country with barely half the technological advancement of the other developed countries. Instead it got negative publicity by way of your cartoon and a certain TV news-coverage depicting that India has added one more person to that non-existent situation — starvation.

It is high time the West has a positive attitude toward India and takes advantage of its scientific breakthroughs rather than try to snub them out with envy and contempt.

S. Venkatarajani
graduate-solid-state science
S.V. Krishnaswamy
research associate for Materials Research Lab
Oct. 15

the Collegian

Dave Skidmore
Editor

**Judy Stimson,
Judi Rodrick**
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The Daily Collegian encourages comments on news coverage, editorial policy and campus and off-campus affairs. Letters should be typewritten, double spaced, signed by no more than two persons and not longer than 30 lines. Students' letters should include the name, term and major of the writer.

Doing things the PennPIRG way

Jeff Dixon, self-proclaimed President of Rubber House in West Halls has come up with a way to fund house projects next year. He wants to have a two dollar "Rubber House" fee tacked onto everyone's estimated bill, and those unwilling to pay it simply have to check it off. Dixon hopes to make a fortune simply on the basis of people not knowing what they're paying.

Actually, Dixon's system isn't new, he stole the idea from Jeff Goldsmith, who hopes to fund PennPIRG in a similar fashion.

Since the idea was first created, however, many other people have tried to steal it. This upsets Dixon, who said that since he went to the trouble of stealing the idea, it is, by rights, his, and no other groups should be allowed to use it.

Neither Dixon nor Goldsmith were greedy in asking for money for their group — they only wanted two dollars tacked on the bill that could be refunded to the student at his request at a later

date. The refund would, of course, entail standing in line for two hours and filling out 513 forms, all of which require verification by 37 nonexistent persons.

Actually, this last part was not in Goldsmith's original plan. It was added at the behest of the University to make this refund granting consistent with the way all other refunds are granted here.



Walt Meyer

WICI (Women in Communications, Inc.) is requesting a seven dollar check-off. The Water Polo Club does not want to be accused of being greedy, and wants only 50 cents from each student. The

ARHS slush fund wants 20 dollars from every student added to the estimated bill.

David Stormer wants \$1.50 per person for .38 caliber bullets. The Ice Hockey Club wants \$9.50 tacked on to each bill on the pretext that if it can't have ice, it at least wants monetary compensation. McDonald's, in conjunction with Joe Paterno, wants the estimated bill of each student increased by \$15 to pay for the new sports complex.

All of these groups realize they are not guaranteed these funds and that they are contributions, but unlike the old system of contributions, under this one, instead of giving the money freely, it is taken from you, until you ask to get it back.

Raymond Patterson, University vice president for finance, said that by spring he expects the estimated bill for the term to be in the neighborhood of \$1,700 for dorm dwellers — that is, barring an increase in tuition or room and board costs.

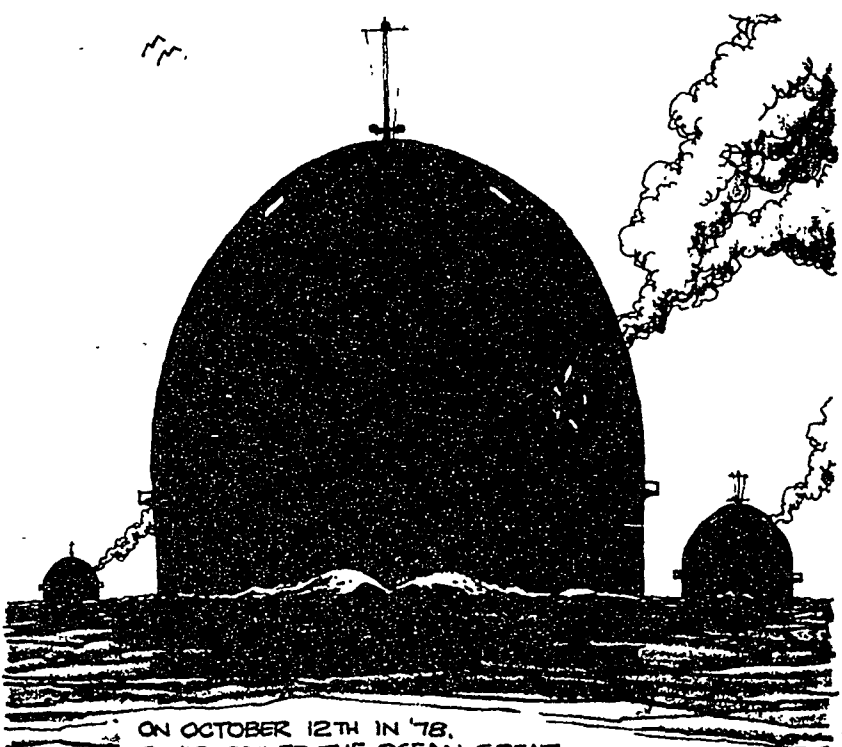
Students for PennPIRG insists that

since their's is such a worthy cause, it should be the one funded with the check-off system. Dave Haberle, of course, insists that USG is at least as worthy of being funded this way and Provost Eddy makes a good case for letting the University slide a donation space or two on the bill. And if these groups are worthy, certainly Rubber House can't be far behind.

"I'm excited about the possibilities," said Eddy in a rare outburst of lucidness. He explained that rather than having one check-off for special University funding, he prefers several in the hopes that people will miss one or two, or possibly will refuse to pay the wrong part, and will find that they no longer have a dorm room.

If enough PennPIRG petitions are signed, by next fall, every student on campus will be keeping Rubber House supplied with water balloons.

Walt Meyer is a last term advertising major.



ON OCTOBER 12TH IN '78, SOHIO SAILED THE OCEAN GREAT, TO BRING TO LONG BEACH ALASKA CRUDE, AND ALL THE OTHER POLLUTANTS RUDE....