

Editorial opinion

# Aiming the enemy

### Sticker tactics inappropriate for anti-vandalism campaign

The past few days, residents of the Centre Region have been bombarded by requests to "Put the breaks on vandalism." A noble thought indeed. However, the recent media blitz will cost somewhere in the vicinity of \$10,000 for the first year, according to J. Steven Dersheimer, chairman of the Centre County Anti-Vandalism Committee.

One big problem with the campaign is its cost—nearly \$10,000 from the private sector. Dersheimer said about \$5,000 has been donated by local businesses, with more money coming in from collection cans located around town. Not all of the money is going toward anti-vandalism advertising. Part of it is being used to educate

school children and the public in the Centre Region about the evils of vandalism.

These children, after being told why vandalism is bad, will probably go out with their new red, black and white "Put the breaks on vandalism" bumper stickers and—thinking they are doing a good deed—will help put the breaks on vandalism. How?

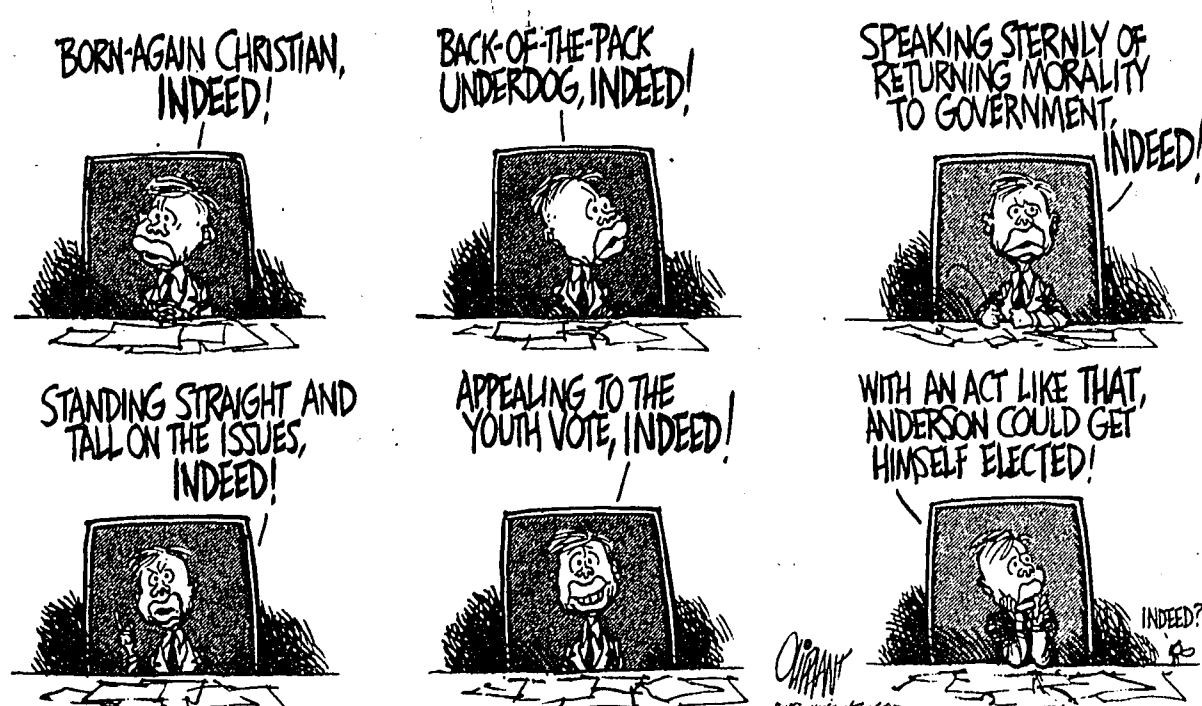
By putting the stickers on everything from school lockers to store windows. The story on campus will not be much different. Already, the stickers have made their way to dormitory doors, blackboards and other undesirable places.

No matter how good the cause, bumper stickers on University and private property is not an intelligent

method of promotion. How can the fight against vandalism be waged if we are arming the vandals?

The crusade against vandalism is undoubtedly a good cause, however, the tactics are questionable. If the public is indeed willing to donate \$10,000 to the fight against vandalism so buttons, advertisements, posters and bumper stickers can be bought and distributed, the public would probably be willing to donate the same amount of money for stepped-up police coverage.

And increased police coverage has advantages over posters, buttons and bumper stickers. With that, we are not arming the enemy. We are confronting him.



# New budget's 'teeth' may lead to tasty bite of economic pie

Teeth are something we easily associate with Jimmy Carter. But until last Wednesday, they were conspicuously absent from his anti-inflation policies.

With his package of budget reductions, oil import fees, and most importantly, restrictions on consumer credit expansion, the President has finally taken some substantive steps to put the skids on inflation. Now, amid wailing and gnashing of teeth, comes the hope that these steps will slow the rush to rewrite the economic textbooks changing rampant inflation from a variable to a constant.

In the last ten years, we have fought the symptoms, but not the disease, of inflation. In particular, the Carter administration's stop-and-go, speed-and-guarantee policies which have confused businessmen and aggravated prevailing economic cycles.

The inevitable, creeping-crocodile election day 1980 has apparently awakened President Carter to the detriments of runaway Keynesian inflation theory, and at long last convinced him that too much government spending is merely destabilizing.

Through his budget actions, the president has opened new vistas for Webster's dictionary. He heralded his fiscal 1981 budget as "lean and austere." When he introduced it in January, evidently "lean and austere" means enough fat for \$15 billion in cutbacks.

Yesterday a group of economists suggested an alternative budget plan which would shave \$21 billion from federal spending. This is to say nothing of the federal fiscal blood the Republicans would spill if in power.

In the letter "Cold hard facts," the authors claim "there is a serious deficiency in the educational level of the present armed forces." A wide variety of studies have shown this to be true.

To remedy this, the military will be looking for the "new breed" of draftee, the individual who has a high degree of technological competence and a higher degree of education.

College students are at the top of the list. In the past, if Mommy and Daddy had the money to put Junior in college, Junior received a deferment and the poor and the lower-middle class fought the war. This time kids, Uncle Sam wants YOU. Are you willing to risk off to protect Rockefeller's interest in the Persian Gulf area?

As for freeing the hostages in Iran: why not trade them Richard Nixon, Henry Kissinger, and David Rockefeller? It was their double-dealing that put America in this awkward position. Now, the young people of this country are once again expected to bail-out big business with their lives.

The Vietnam Vets were treated rather shabbily by the society they were supposedly sent to protect. The Veterans' Administration still refuses to acknowledge health problems due to Agent Orange, a chemical defoliant used in Southeast Asia. The old G.I. bill is dead with nothing to replace it.

After such a raw deal was handed out to the veterans of the last war, all I can say to those screaming for action in the next one is, "Good luck." I'll not be fool enough to be taken in again and neither will my family. I will hold blameless any who feel the political climate is brighter in Canada or Sweden.



# Hoover secures high standards Sightless secretary enjoys work

By LISA MORANO Daily Collegian Staff Writer

If happiness is a challenge — then Peggy Hoover is one very happy person. Hoover is 23 years old, a 1979 graduate of Thiel College in Greenville, Pa., and a secretary for the office of Associate Dean for Continuing Education and Commonweal Campuses in the College of Human Development.

And she's been blind since birth. "Coping with my situation is a challenge. I set high standards for the things I want to do and wouldn't be happy without a challenge," Hoover said.

Hoover does not wear her handicap like a badge, but cheerfully accepts it as a way of life. Hoover said she likes to observe the attitudes of others, handicapped or not, and finds some tend to "wallow in self-pity" or "feel sorry for themselves" if something goes wrong. "Not me. I am blind and that's what it

is," Hoover said. "Working here, I can overcome any awkwardness and be a little more open with people."

Hoover said her parents encouraged her to become an active part of society at an early age and enrolled her in the Western Pennsylvania School for the Blind in Pittsburgh where she studied for 12 years. Her high school curriculum was academically oriented and she planned to be a rehabilitation counselor.

"One day I just changed my mind and decided to look into secretarial sciences," she recalled. "There's so much to learn."

Hoover's job entails answering phones, typing and filing, plus being receptionist for the office located in 216 Human Development East. She said she likes working in an office atmosphere and enjoys good, friendly relationships with her fellow workers.

Hoover came to the University after

working briefly for the Centre County Library in Bellefonte.

"I used to transcribe interviews with elderly people from cassette tapes," she said. Her present duties still require tape transcription and afford her a typing speed of 60 words per minute.

"I'm shooting for 75," she said. "My first day here was so hectic and I thought I'd never know all I had to do," Hoover said. "Now (18 months later) I feel a sense of accomplishment when I answer questions and know what I'm talking about. Everybody gets stumped once in a while."

Hoover said her high school and college training prepared her for her chosen field.

"Secretarial work is not easy. It tends to be frustrating, like working under the gun of a deadline," she said smiling. "It's much like a newspaper situation."

Use of some special equipment helps make Hoover's job easier. To help her

distinguish which phone line is ringing, each sound has a different pitch. She also uses an Oplacon, a device that uses 144 electronic rods to raise the typed letter so it can be identified. The main component of the machine is no bigger than a cassette recorder.

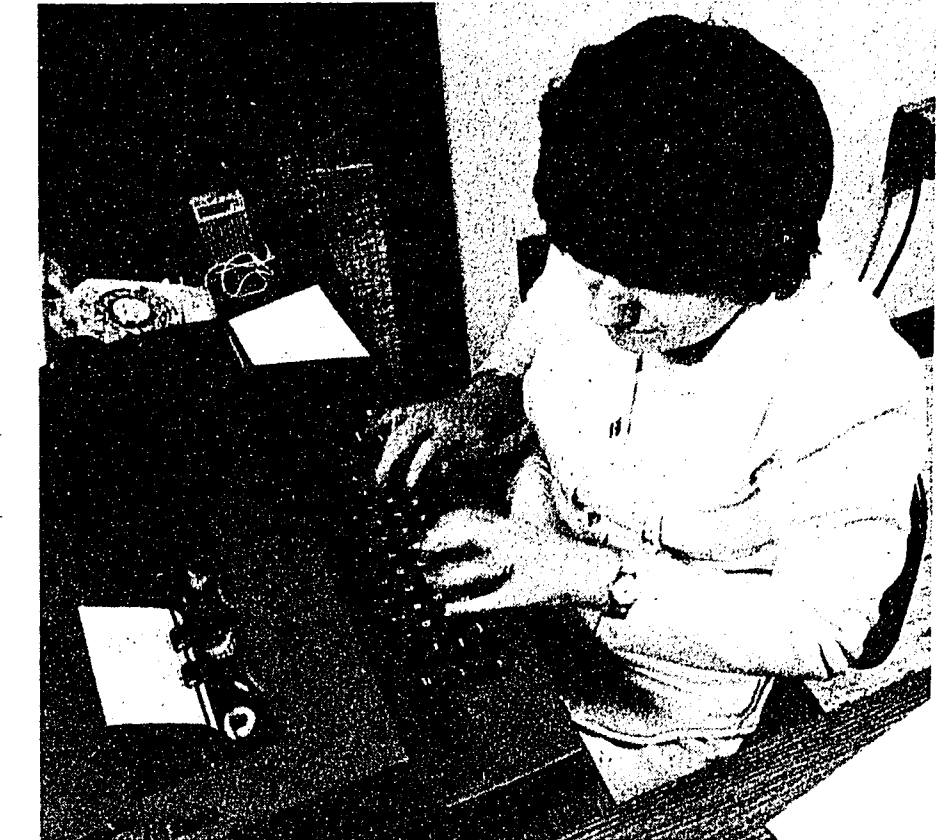
When not at the office, Hoover said she enjoys church activities, sports and listening to music.

"I can't wait until baseball season starts. I love those Pirates."

During her college years, Hoover said "happy hours" were a favorite pastime, but bar situations made her uncomfortable. She said she now prefers a more quiet lifestyle.

Hoover's attitude is an example of one who does not retreat when the going gets tough, but stands to face the problem. Her personality and sense of humor are reflected in her everyday manner.

"To visitors and co-workers, she often stops and says, 'I'll be looking for you.'"



Kim Hoover

Photo by Renee Jacobs

# War: big business benefit

By MICHAEL J. SCHIRRA

9th-economies (Editor's Note: Michael J. Schirra is a former member of the 82nd Airborne, 25th Infantry Division. He served in Vietnam from 1969-70.)

While reading the March 11 issue of The Daily Collegian, I was shocked out of the fetid torpor into which many Nam vets have fallen. Thank you to all those who contributed to the Letters to the Editor and Op-ed sections for shaking me out of my lethargy.

Pertaining to Robert Leslie Brown's letter, "At any cost," what lesson Vietnam?

Speaking from bitter experience, I can suggest not to fight for the Big Business economy. The Vietnam War was the first "catered" war in American history. All the buildings, oil (gas, diesel fuel, etc.) and electrical power, were supplied by a civilian concern, Pacific Architects and Engineers (P.A. & E.). Guess which ex-president's wife was the major stockholder for P.A. & E., as well as being a major stockholder in Bell helicopter? None other than L.B.J.'s.

Another trivia question: Which major aerospace company, after making a fortune on the war, claimed to be broke when the war wound down, only to be subsidized at public expense? Check your business directory.

Brown mentions author Alexander Solzhenitsyn's ("The Gulag Archipelago") arrest for criticizing Stalin in a letter to a friend. During the Vietnam conflict, many American soldiers were busted, in essence, for the same thing. It was a crime to write P.T.A. (P—the Army) or F.T.W. (F—the War), even as initials. (I still have my F.T.W. tattoo.)

Brown goes on to say that "unfortunately Solzhenitsyn's story is commonplace." Unfortunately yes, all over the world. I suggest Mr. Brown read Eldridge Cleaver's "Soul on Ice" in which my gunner, a future Chicago Blackstone Ranger, turned me on to while we were in Nam. To round out Mr. Brown's literary education, he should also read (since he indicated that he sat long enough to read "The Gulag Archipelago," not just skim it) "Fear and Loathing Along the Campaign Trail" by Hunter S. Thompson and "Trial" by Tom Hayden.

The French philosopher Merleau-Ponty, a Communist sympathizer after World War II, realized in the early 1950s that Stalin's Russia was as imperialistic and manipulative of its people as the capitalist and fascist states. It's all the same to those in power — the people suffer and pay the price of the government's policies.

John Cochenour's letter, "Worth dying for," was an interesting, if misguided, piece. Come on John — do you really believe that "the U.S. would shudder under the economic strain caused by the ensuing oil shortage?" What ever happened to Yankee ingenuity? The multinationals and the large corporations use oil as a lever to extort exorbitant revenues and promises of patriotic insanity from those duped by the need for "more energy" consumption per capita.

As for Cochenour's comment that "Draft registration is not the first step toward war, quite the contrary it is the first step toward continued peace," show me just one instance in which a war has not closely followed the institution of a draft. I appreciate Cochenour's willingness "to fight," but I abhor the use of misguided patriotism, especially at the beck and call of the multi-nationals and a military industrial complex which knows war is good for business.

Randolph Caldwell, states in his letter "Don't come back" that "a marked majority of Happy Valley residents appear to be against serving their country through serving in the military." I personally believe they refuse to be taken in by the lies served up as patriotism.

Caldwell goes on to say that "being a U.S. citizen... entitles us to freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and the right to vote. Americans can choose their own occupation and where they wish to live."

But does freedom of speech literally mean freedom of speech, or what the powers that be want to hear or condone?

The Supreme Court recently ruled that a former CIA agent could not write about his experiences. This decision affects the future of presidential memoirs, as well as those of other civil servants. As for freedom of the press — have you forgotten the member of the New York Press who was jailed rather than reveal the source of confidential informants?

In the letter "Cold hard facts," the authors claim "there is a serious deficiency in the educational level of the present armed forces." A wide variety of studies have shown this to be true.

To remedy this, the military will be looking for the "new breed" of draftee, the individual who has a high degree of technological competence and a higher degree of education.

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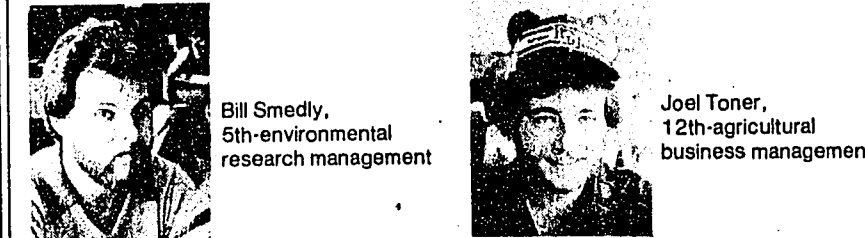
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# QUOTOGRAPHS

A LOOK AT OPINION IN THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Question: In view of the upcoming Undergraduate Student Government elections: What do you think USG's function is? Will you be voting?



"I don't know what they do here. Usually, from other schools I have been to, they haven't been too effective." (voting)

"Are they involved in ASA? Is ASA a part of student government? I guess they just work with the faculty and staff running the University to try to make the atmosphere better for students. I don't know if it's a good job or not. I don't know. I really don't know that much about the USG (sic)." (voting)

"I personally don't really know what the USG is up to. I haven't found out or seen any evidence of things they have been up to or things that the organization does." (voting)

"I think they offer a service to the students. I'm not really sure exactly what they do. I don't know if it's their fault or my fault for not checking into it." (voting)

"I don't know. It's not really clear because no one ever really came out and said, 'This is what we do and if you have a complaint, you come to us and go to see these people about it.' That's what I assume they do. I'm not sure." (voting)

—Quoted by Brian Garnerman

# Letters to the Editor

## The best defense

As a feminist, I take exception to the March 18 editorial, "Rape," which masqueraded a patriarchal, anti-feminist attitude as an enlightened, educated opinion.

What I find most astonishing about articles urging women to "protect themselves" is that the rapist, a man, is continually an absentee. He is never mentioned as the core of the crime; the editorial mores that created him are never questioned.

The most naive assertion of the editorial was that women "shouldn't be paranoid about rape," but they should simultaneously file to buses or enlist male chaperones with every move they make after "tripping home."

If the author thinks this is a progressive opinion, I should like to point out to him or her that rape, aside from the potential to happen to any woman, can happen at any time. Dusk does not a rapist make. Logically then, to avoid rape, a woman would have to constantly take crowded roads or walk astride omnipotent, protected males.

"Women do not have to walk alone," the author offers. According to this plan, women needn't do anything alone.

"A good defense is the best offense," we are also told. The best defense is to eliminate the problem—the rapist. I am eternally sick of seeing women saddled with the hardships of potential threat before, and the results after, of this male crime. But I am even more disgusted by the subtle argument that because women are inherently vulnerable by virtue of their vaginas, they should remember at all times that they are not safe—and it is their responsibility to "protect themselves."

I am not arguing the prudence of self-protection. But rape is not a disease that seizes upon unsuspecting women in the deep of the night. I should like to see far more articles that cease preaching and start examining the roots of aggression and violence that this society has planted in rapists.

## The run around

This past Saturday, a group of us went to the I.M. Building with the intention of having an informal street hockey game.

We started off in Gym 2, but we were informed that we could only play hockey in Gym 3. After finally getting space in Gym 3, we were once again informed that we could not play in the gym as long as there were people waiting to play basketball, and we were asked to leave.

We were under the impression that the I.M. facilities are for all students to use and not just for those with more popular interests. We hockey players feel we should have as much right to use a gym as any other sports enthusiasts.

Paul Jendrowski, 9th-meteorology  
Carl Rosenberg, 9th-broadcasting  
March 19

What is this nation coming to? Are we to believe that spending money on items that could destroy the human race is more important than finding and creating jobs for our youth? Is it more important to educate our children or to blow our children off the face of the earth? Should Americans sit back and watch the oil of the world disappear in an estimated 40 years or should our great country take the initiative and try to develop alternate sources of power for our children and their children?

Who cares if the United States could blow up the Soviet Union seven times over? All it takes is just one time.

If Congress is going to spend money on military items, most of which just sit around and gather dust or become outdated in a few years, we better ask ourselves: Why are we putting so much money on this earth to destroy each other or to live naturally with each other.

Cathy Lalke  
6th-speech communications  
March 19

## Just one time

Woman don't rape women. Men do.  
Diane Salvatore  
7th-journalism  
March 19

As I read through the March 18 issue of The Daily Collegian, I noticed something that I just could not believe. Our beloved President has decided to finally cut our federal budget by a wonderful \$13 billion. But wait, good ole Jimmy has decided that those cuts shall be taken out of education, solar energy and youth employment programs.

Sure, I'm a good ole red-blooded American; but I can not comprehend how anyone in his right mind would want to cut funds to these vital needed programs. Meanwhile, back in Washington, our government continually spends billions upon billions, UPON BILLIONS of dollars on our national defense program. How can that be morally justified?

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Cathy Lalke  
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**Glenn Kidder**  
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at  
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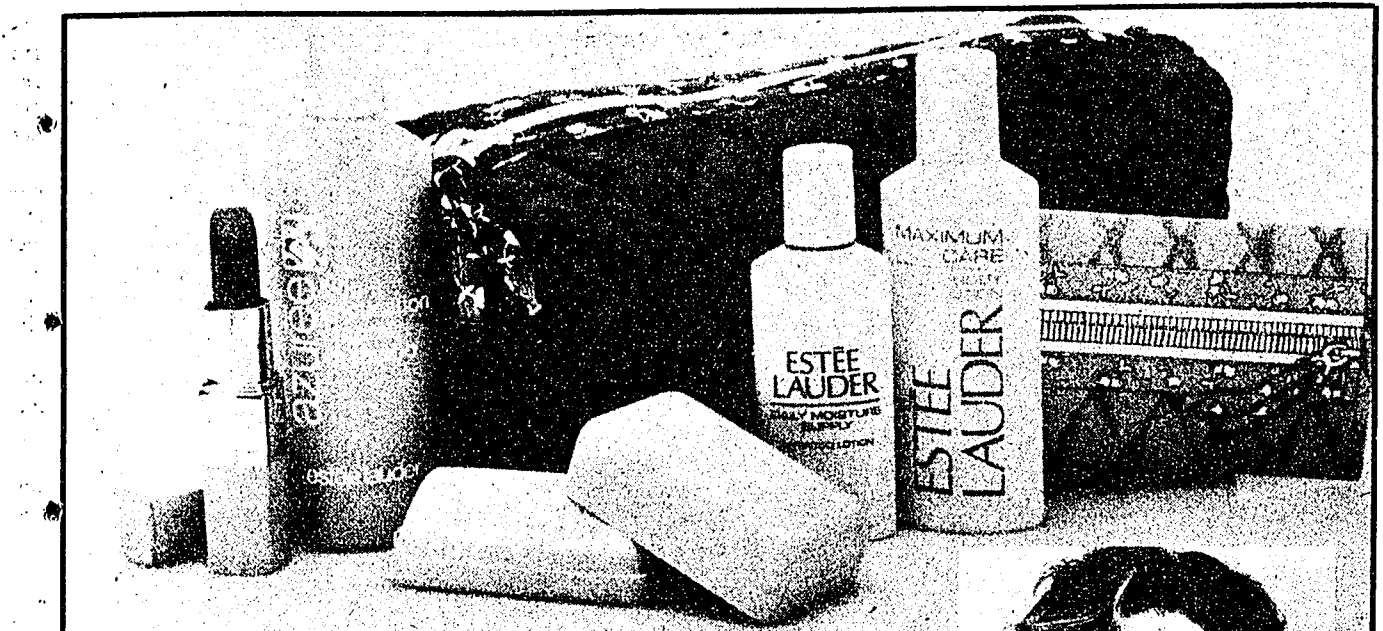
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