

–editorial opinion–

Fear kills

Violence could end if people discard their shells

nuclear bombs, people have been others who die of gunshot and knife killing each other since there were wounds each year while the rest of people to kill.

come to expect such horrors.

seem to expect violence as part of decided. If banning handguns would everyday life.

and people are signing up for train- lence on television would save lives, ing in marksmanship, martial arts maybe that's an answer. Other soluand personal defense.

to the fear of violence by pulling as a natural part of our society is to shells around themselves and hiding condone the assassination of presitheir eves.

Reagan, Mr. Brady, Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Delahanty? On the side-

With rocks tied to sticks or with ing in pain like the thousands of us prance away in terror.

A week ago, someone shot Presi- Everyone is to blame for violence, dent Reagan. The president's broth- not just owners of guns and knives, er, Neil, said the incident came as no not just killers. Everyone is responbig surprise to him. We live in a sible. And the whole country must violent society, he said, and should respond together rather than withdrawing into each individual shell.

Yes, more and more, Americans The gun control issue must be save lives, perhaps banning hand-Handgun sales continue to boom, guns is one answer. If banning viotions must be explored.

Turtle-like, people are responding But to continue to accept violence dents, the killing of next-door neigh-But where does this leave Mr. bors, and nuclear holocaust.

The Daily Collegian's editorial opinion is walk, bleeding into the gutter, writh-determinea by its Bourd of Opinion, man editor-in-chief holding final responsibility. determined by its Board of Opinion, with the



Handgun control: PRO.

from National Rifle Association mem- gunshot in a bar room brawl three years President of the United States. bers. Somebody once again has to be ago, is dead. So are countless others who And the blood is on our hands. accused of starting the United States are victims of gunshot wounds every It's time to stop the killing. Don't tell the fittest rules — in the street as well as | New York City police officer, was killed Daly in The New York Daily News to down the road to communism. Somebody year. has to suffer the inevitable chastisement suggesting that the Bill of Rights be violated

I guess that somebody might as well be me this time. But I'm not a dedicated humanitarian,

a communist or a martyr. I'm just scared and sugarst the second Because it's time to put the guns away: Monday was the second time in my 21 years that I heard someone say, "The president's been shot." I was just 4 years old the first time, not old enough to really understand what had just happened. This time I understood. This time I was ap- tion of Reagan, was not a terrorist or a does guarantee are life and liberty.

John F. Kennedy is dead. Martin Lu- gan's economic and political views. He is anyone else will establish gun control in Daily Collegian

me that the U.S. Constitution protects the the political arena. step to communism. And don't tell me that "guns don't kill people, people do." Because guns do kill people. And the Some of them may even say I'm crazy. Constitution, if you take the time to read But let's hope they're wrong. Because it, only protects our right to a well-regu- there's nothing to stop me from walking lated militia - not the right of crazy into a pawn shop and buying a gun. people to carry guns. Alexander Haig And God knows there are enough crazy should be the exception, not the rule_____people walking around with guns - cra-Having freedom is not very useful zy enough to kill, but not too crazy for our

Early evidence seems to show that when you can't walk down a public street society to give them a way to kill, quickly John Warnock Hinckley Jr., the man without fearing for your life. And the two and effectively. charged with the attempted assassina- rights that our Constitution certainly

Somebody has to write this column. ther King is dead. John Lennon is dead. A simply a man who allegedly walked into this country. The NRA is a huge interest [consequently, lots of votes.

just a few days. They'll say I'm un-Amer-

ican, a communist, a bleeding-heart.

Doug Bell is a 12th-term journalism left-wing radical dismayed with Rea- But I don't really believe Congress or major and contributing editor for The



=reader opinion= Deprived

The term "gun control" is a misnomer. Since they are inanimate objects, without wills or the ability to act on their own, there is obviously no need to control guns. "Gun control" is in actuality "people control." It consists of depriving people, to one degree or another, of the most effective means of self-defense: firearms. You can't depend on the police to protect you from violent crime. Police apprehend criminals after the crime is done, very rarely do they stumble into it. Their limited resources make it impossible for them to

be there when needed. If you want protection you will have to provide it yourself. Handguns are just right. They can be employed by one single, weak, innocent against a group of strong evil attackers. They are equalizers and, by definition, evil groups attack good individuals, not the other way around.

Statistically, in 1966, 87 percent of all gun crimes in New York City were committed by unregistered weapons. In Detroit in 1971, the figure was 75 percent. Real criminals won't register their guns. In 1970, states with strict gun control had a murder

rate of 4.1 per 100,000 people. In the same year, state with more libertarian laws regarding guns had 3.9 deaths from handguns per 100,000 people.

Philadelphia, in 1968, enacted severe restrictions on gun ownership. During the next two years, it experienced a 17 percent increase in murders (increasing to 37 percent in the next year and a half). During the same period, Pittsburgh, with a relatively libertarian gun law, had a 1 percent decline in homicides. Criminals tend to kill the unarmed, not the armed. Finally, if one likes political reasons one should

remember that on the day Nazi Germany swallowed. the main part of Czechoslovakia, the arms registration lists were seized and the people disarmed. The same thing happened in Hungary in 1948 when it went

I have never fired a gun in my life but I sleep better knowing there are 90 million private guns in America. When only police have guns, the police state is just round the corner

Walt Karwicki II 252 W. Cottage Place York. PA 17403

March 24

the Collegian

Editor

Monday April 6, 1981—Page 2 **Debby Vinokur** Paula Froke **Business Manager**

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uting Editor, Doug Bell.

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and CON,

with an illegal handgun, and finally, last make a point. President Reagan, why am I still against

I guess it's because I realize gun control laws alone will not change anything. It's the old ''if a criminal wants a gun bad enough, he will get one easily" line, but unfortunately it is true.

Sure, countries such as England and Japan are good examples for the employment of gun control. But they cannot be applied here. The United States is a lifferent country with a much different

What is needed are stricter laws concerning the use of handguns. There has to be a deterrent that would make a person think before using a gun while committing a crime. The death penalty for murder has to be

nstated before any talk about reducing gun-related crimes can start. Until then, no amount of gun control legislation will be effective.

Someone now caught in the act of a crime knows that using a gun will only result in a slightly longer sentence if Dean Longo is a 6th-term aerospace the criminal to use a gun. However, if the The Daily Collegian.

death penalty for the use of that gun were Somebody has to take the usual flack neighbor of mine, struck by a stray a pawn shop, bought a gun and shot the group, controlling lots of bucks, and After visiting John Lennon's home only imposed, then the criminal might not be

weeks after his slaying, then, only two as tempted to pull it as quickly. In the home of the brave, survival of weeks later, hearing that my uncle, a I would like to use a column by Michael right of citizens to keep and bear arms. I know the inevitable flow of anti-gun week, anxiously waiting for the dreaded Daly mentioned a certain crime-ridden

Don't tell me that gun control is the first control letters will follow this column in news that thankfully never came about area of New York. On this block, every store had been held up at least once. A couple of store owners had even been

On this block, there is a restaurant, Among all this violence, the restaruant had never been touched, not even the silverware had been lifted. The reason for this was the restaurant reportedly had Mafia connections

You see, the Mafia has this policy concerning crimes committed against them. There are no trials, no lawyers and no judges, just one-way rides to the bottom of the nearest river when you are

This is an extreme example. Using organized crime as a model for society is ridiculous, but it does show that capital ounishment can and does work.

Of course I don't mean capital punishment should be implemented for every crime involving a handgun. These crimes should be taken on an individual basis; only if a death occurs should the penalty be implemented. The government has to take a get-

tough stance. It has to take a stand and decide if it wants to stop the use of handguns in crime, or if it simply wants to take the easy way out of a hard situation and in the process, have many more innocent people killed, and many more murderers walking the streets.

Taking guns from the public is not the 🚹 answer. Dealing with criminals instead of citizens is the answer.

caught. This makes it very tempting for engineering major and a staff writer for

=reader opinion____

Think

- With the clamor and emotionalism brought on by the recent assassination attempt on President Reagan, I feel that students should use their heads when deciding on the issue of gun control.
- The incident has brought on the wrath of gun control advocates and their reactionary counterparts. The solution to the handgun problem ranges from the views of gun control advocates who feel the abolition of private gun ownership
- or strict control is the answer, to the views of pro-gun advocates who feel that strict mandatory sentences are the answer. In talking with many students, I find that the majority of opinions do not lie around the mean of these solutions, but at the extremes.
- If a student stops and puts either one of these solutions into the real world, he or she will realize neither one is the answer. Students at the University can easily observe that the government is not very efficient in limiting the supply of controlled substances to the public. The mass quantities of marijuana, speed and other such
- controlled substances available on this campus should be proof enough of that. In effect, then, the argument of pro-gun enthusiasts is correct in that the government would only be disarming the
- law-abiding citizen. On the other hand, steep case loads and overcrowding in American prisons do not make the solution of pro-gun advocates very feasible either. I feel that the problem we currently face goes
- far deeper than violence caused by handguns. Many freedoms and privileges are abused by Americans every day. It is the cost of living in a free society. Personally, I strongly oppose gun control even though I feel the solution offered by

pro-gun advocates is not much better. Most of all, I think students should not insult their educational achievements by being easily swayed by either side during this period of motionalism and illogic.

Jim Laurie, 7th-administration of justice April 3

Shuddering

As I sit listening to the reports concerning the hooting of President Reagan, I shudder at the hought of opening the paper tomorrow and looking at the headlines which claim that hand-

guns should be banned. I would be the first one to admit that what anspired was shameless and very regretable. However, the fact remains that banning handguns to stop the crime of murder is like banning utane lighters to stop the act of smoking; banning water pipes to stop people from smoking marijuana; banning the automobile in order to stop people from getting maimed or killed; or banning alcohol hoping people will not drink alcoholic beverages.

The fact is that people will always have access to guns when they wish to obtain them. Furthermore, banning handguns penalizes the law-abiding citizen who wishes to engage in sport

shooting or hunting. Taken one step further, if handguns indeed were ever banned, what is to stop the rifle that the sportsman lawfully uses to hunt with from

being banned? President Reagan himself is against handgun control, and I'll just bet that is still his position.

Finally, I would like to point out that the right

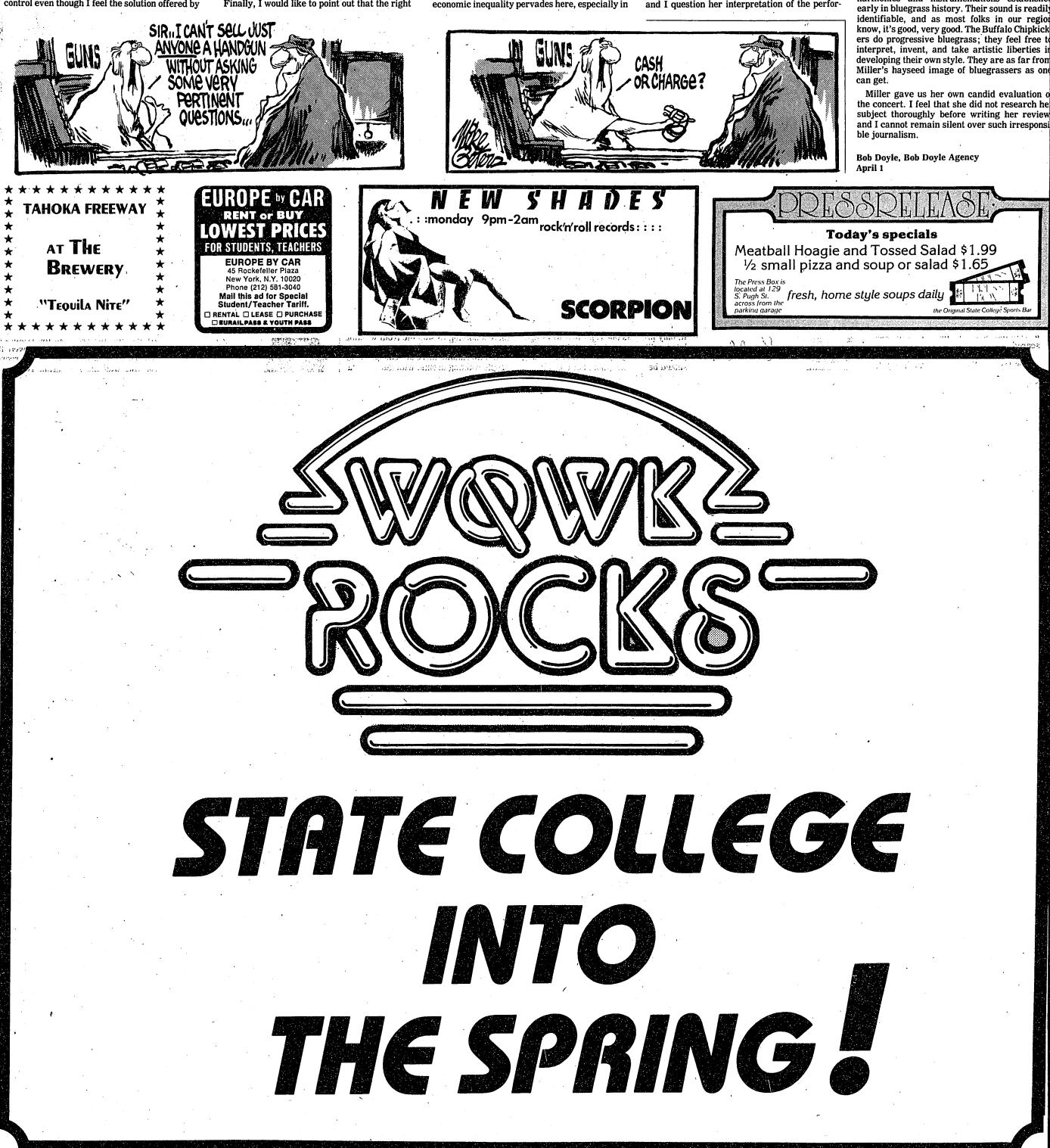
r ignorantly are living up to our names.

Something tells me that "the system" has some very major flaws at home, and tightening the social screws will only increase the pressure in the melting pot. How can this country even attempt to police and incorporate the whole world when clearly frustration and gross socio-

our spiraling crime rate.

Not well

March 30



The American way By ALLEN R. MARSHALL

graduate-geography March 30, 1981

Once again the violent dimension of American life has gripped us with a fear we have come to know all too well over the recent years. The act of terror perpetrated this afternoon against our president and others is not an isolated incident, but rather an example of the way we have chosen to vent our frustrations and disappointments. The assailant was not alone in committing a crime of rage today. Every one of us that sat in front of the TV and wished for Hinkley's death or harm as punishment committed a crime of rage as well. Are we any better than him. even if we do not actually pull the trigger?

The American way of life has children, and threats of war and will never abate. armed intervention to promote polit- The society condemning today's violent. If we choose to condemn the haunt us.

sential that we examine the tenor of American life and how it affects our

Violence, justified in the name of evenge, is without a doubt one of the most serious moral bankruptcies in American culture. In the context of a society where military expansionism and threats of nuclear war. domestic household terror, murder and rape are rampant, is it really extraordinary that seven of the last 16 presidents have been attacked by potential assassins? Is it any wonder that Martin Luther King was killed tragically? Is anyone suprised that we can react so passively to the news of a lynching last week? Unless we begin to ask why in the face of such horror, we are at best disinterested and at worst, enthralled with the spectacle of an asassination atcome to be synonymous with a fas- tempt; the cruelty and suffering cination for violence and hate. Vio- President Reagan and the others lent sports, shoot-em-up experienced today and the unbridled entertainment, cruelty to wives and violence of American life generally

ical stability exemplified by U.S. act of terror is also a society which policy towards El Salvador - all finds its heros in warriors with these are symptomatic of this fas- smoking guns. Until this moral concination. We as a society and a tradiction is resolved, we will never nation have cultivated a response to be a nation at peace, and acts of frustration which is fundamentally cruelty and hatred will continue to

udgment of the situation.

The Daily Collegian Monday, April 6, 1981-

to keep and bear arms has been a cherished freedom for many years, very dear to a large number of people throughout the United States. So all you people who think that this incident could have been avoided through some type of gun control, think over what I have said and use a little common sense when making your cockamamie claims that gun control is the answer to

Mike Henry, 10th-administration of justice

This here American hasn't been doing well lately, I mean sex, violence, drugs, scandle, swindle and stealing are increasingly mortal

However, recently it seems this country has acquired a taste for blood. It's like a Dracula syndrome: the Kennedys, Malcolm X, George Wallace, Martin Luther King, John Lennon, Vernon Jordan, Ronald Reagan and company, Atlanta, Dade County, legal prisoner executions. We couldn't even salvage another Japan, Korea, or Taiwan out of Vietnam despite the vain

bloodletting from both friends and enemies. So what's to be expected? After all, the 1948 to 1960 war babies, intentionally, circumstancially

this generation.

For instance, the official family-of-four poverty line is \$8,410 — yet the state incarcerates a felon at a cost of \$10,000 minimum. What an unfair insult! I think we ought to issue guns to everybody

born between 1948 and 1960 and really wade in ankle deep blood for a while - maybe after the initial exhilaration, shock, remorse and rage pass, those of us still alive will be wiser and more confident because, after all, isn't normalcy stretched with each outrageous, irrational event?

We can always nickel-dime, Son of Sam, Hillside Strangler, Klu Klux Klan it, or demand more consideration from Corporate America | influences - according to Bill Monroe - from and Bank America, defended by our ignorant, mercenary army, to develop the future here, for | are the base for an intricate American musi us, instead of investing, exploiting, manipulat-

Gordon Zernich, 8th-history

Response

I congratulate you for publishing Wendy Miller's review of the Whetstone Run/Buffalo Chipkickers concert in the HUB on March 22. The review has stirred much discussion and controversy. Considering I have an interest — both personal and professional --- in bluegrass, I must

ing, conserving and owning a 20th century figurative, not literal — world.

March 31

I quarrel with Miller's definition of bluegrass,

and I question her interpretation of the perfor-

mance. I was irritated by her use of terms suc as "get down." What in the world does "g down" mean? And how about "foot-stompin?" often feel my foot going up and down when listen to Bach or Mozart. What's the connection

Fundamentally, bluegrass is a part-popul part-folk American music form. It consists ba sically of a four-part vocal harmony and a fou instrument combination: guitar, banjo, fiddle o mandolin, and bass. The song style comes to u in part from the ancient ballad singing of th British Isles, and in part from the souther harmony singing of religious groups in the 19t and 20th centuries. Add influences from Iris fiddle tunes, and complicate it further by addin black blues singers. Together, these influence form open to interpretation.

Bluegrass is not a stilted ancient music form it is a free style. And it is a young music form The first recognized bluegrass festival too place in 1965. Bluegrass comes from the name d Bill Monroe's band, the Bluegrass Boys, a nam he chose to honor his native state of Kentucky Monroe was an innovator, and musicians copie his band's style, as well as the style of his banj player (Earl Scruggs). Thus a new America genre was born: bluegrass!

Jeff Dixon of the Hetzel Union Board state clearly to me that the purpose of the Sunday night series is to present bands which normall play downtown and are therefore unavailable to the under 21 age group. The HUB concert at tempted to present a wide spectrum of what w call bluegrass. We call Whetstone Run a tradi tional bluegrass band because they keep the harmonies and instrumentations establishe early in bluegrass history. Their sound is readily identifiable, and as most folks in our region know, it's good, very good. The Buffalo Chipkick ers do progressive bluegrass; they feel free to interpret, invent, and take artistic liberties in developing their own style. They are as far from Miller's hayseed image of bluegrassers as one

the concert. I feel that she did not research he subject thoroughly before writing her review and I cannot remain silent over such irrespons