# opinions

editorial opinion A blow-out for consumer rights?

A consumer rights case that will go before a settlement for the full amount of the car: the Michigan Supreme Court tomorrow \$5,697. sounds like something you might see in In two subsequent appeals, Miller has won "The People's Court."

'Clarence Miller, 66, of St. Clair, Michigan bought a new Dodge car from Colonial Dodge of East Detroit in 1976. But when Miller drove the car home from the dealership. he realized there was something miss- consumer can draw the line. ing from his new car — it was missing a In this case, Miller made repeated atspare tire.

assembly line.

Regardless, Miller says he is the kind of curb in front of his house.

Now the case is going to the Michigan Supreme Court for a decision that attorneys agree will set a precedent for consumer rights battles.

The case has wound its way for years -through several Michigan courts. The dealership won the original case at the trial in damages and interest to the dealership. dealership was not satisfied — they wanted service to their customers.

one and the dealership has won one. Now, Miller has successfully appealed the case to

Michigan's highest court. What is at stake in this case is just how defective a product must be before the

tempts to allow the dealership to compen-The dealership said the Chrysler Corpora- sate him for the missing spare. But how far tion shipped the car without the spare be- should Miller have had to go before he drew cause of a rubber workers' strike that was the line? Obviously the agreement of purgoing on at the time the car came off the chasing a new car includes the spare tire.

And when Miller agreed to pay the first settlement of \$1,000 in damages to the dealperson who expects to get what he pays for ership, the dealer should not have balked. - so he cancelled the checks he used to pay After all, is not the dealer responsible for for the car and left the car sitting along the providing exactly and completely what the customer has paid for?

In the meantime, the car still sits, rusting, where it has for the last eight years: in a lot in St. Clair, 45 miles north of Detroit, where police towed the car after the temporary license tags expired.

As citizens' awareness of our legal system increases, as well as incidents of consumer level, when Miller was ordered to pay \$1,000 fraud, the Michigan Supreme Court should jump at this chance to send a message to Miller agreed to pay the damages, but the businesses who fail to provide satisfactory

tors: Paul Chiland, Thomas Swarr; Wednesday, April 4, 1984

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THE LIFE

OF

**JESSE** 

JACKSON

No Stone Left Unturned

HE OREGONIAN.

Jesse, like Gary and

Fritz, is also a talented

mimic of 1960s figures .

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I DON'T WANNA

EAT THIS LIVER

WANNA HAVE A

PIZZA DELIVERED

Wightman, Matt Michael; Photo Edi- year of graduation of the writer. All

Jesse Jackson, born in

South Carolina, was,

shall we say, a rather

demanding child ...

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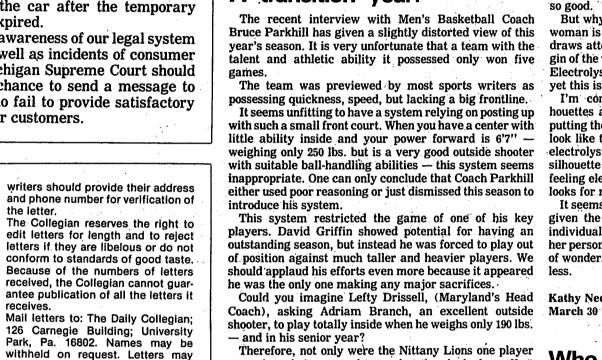
Complaints: News and editorial

encourages comments on news cov- the editor. Business and advertising complaints should be presented t grievances may be filed with the Accuracy and Fair Play Committee Editors: 'John Severance, Chris, alumni should include the major and Gerry Lynn Hamilton, executive sec-

retary, Collegian Inc.

problem ....

He develops an ego



Therefore, not only were the Nittany Lions one player sive and coaching system that fit the team's talents and abilities.

EXPEDITED

NOURISHMEN

EMPORIUM

name withheld by request

## It ain't easy

Have any of you ever thought about what it would be like to be blind, or unable to walk? Me neither. Well, last week, A.B.L.E.D. (Association for Barrier-Free Living, Environment and Design) gave me and others the chance to experience a few of the problems that the handicapped face daily. A.B.L.E.D. held a Capability Week at the HUB, and on

Tuesday (March 27) they had a wheelchair obstacle course and an opportunity to experience a visual impairment, conducted by Percy Wilson.

have any trouble maneuvering a wheelchair. Boy, was I in for a big surprise. Something as simple as turning around in a small area can become a major difficulty for someone in a wheelchair. I didn't realize how difficult it can be to get over a curb or get a book off of a shelf. Even going through a doorway can be an obstacle that must be

face. Capability Week showed me just how little I do know. It opened my eyes even more to the many obstacles that must be overcome daily

many others with the opportunity to experience a few of the many problems those with handicaps must deal with. I also thank God that I was able to get out of the wheelchair and walk away.

### Jeanne George, sophomore-nursing March 30

## **Objects**, not individuals

Magazine, I noticed an ad for electrolysis for both men tion of electrolysis which supplied the appropriate infor- April 3

primary . . . SCHEME DREAM

In 1979, he unwittingly

kisses off the New York



If it ain't good enough for the governor, it ain't for us either The Philadelphia Inquirer published Sun- lence in Education" program. Speeches, ble for the pamphlet as well as many of the

day an article about the traveling escapades press releases and the pamphlets have been of Pennsylvania Gov. Dick Thornburgh's two sons. It seems as if these two lads are getting state trooper escorts to and from schools in Massachusetts while Pennsylvania is paying the bill.



The Inquirer, along with many readers, are upset about the bill. I'm upset about Massachusetts As an editor, I have seen an overload of information on Thornburgh's new "Excel- school years. Private schools are also eligi-

avidly promoting the goal of upgrading Pennsylvania's educational system. From what I have seen, I think Thornburgh's plan may work. Now, I read about how the Thornburgh

boys are going out of state for education. Thornburgh's 17-year-old son is attending a prepatory school in western Massachusetts. His 25-year-old is a graduate student at Harvard. I can understand going out-ofstate for graduate schools. However, I cannot understand going out-of-state for a prepatory school.

The Daily Collegian recently reported that more than 145,000 eighth graders in the state's public schools will soon be receiving a message from Thornburgh. The message is intended to inspire the students to "make a commitment to a personal agenda for excellence" by signing up for a solid program of academic courses during their high other programs that Thornburgh is enlist-It is my understanding that what Thornburgh is saying is thoughtful course selection and advanced placement course enrollment will aid students in getting the most from their education. Thornburgh does not, however, say that a plan to implement these recommended courses is underway. Therefore, one assumes that the courses are

available and that a student should make a conscious effort to enroll. But, what happened to his younger son? Couldn't he make a conscious effort to correctly choose a beneficial course selection? Or is it that the courses just weren't there and he found them in Massachusetts? It is a sad commentary on the state of education in Pennsylvania when a top government official - who is so avid about improving education — sends his son to an out-of-state school. So much for confidence

in the existing system

I am not condemning the new educational policies and programs that Thornburgh is attempting to set forth. But I am questioning the timing of such proposals. When Thornburgh took office in January

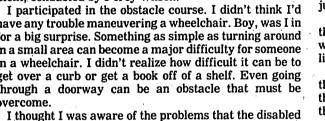
1979, he was faced with many problems, including education. For the most part, he hasn't done a bad job. Now in his second term as governor, Thornburgh is taking a hard look at education. But it was during his first term that the issue of his son's education came up.

It must have been apparent then that the education available to his son was not acceptable. If it was acceptable, troopers would not be escorting the boy to and from Massachusetts

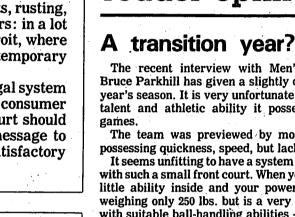
the past few years, called Thornburgh's budgets harsh to education. This year, however, the 1984-85 budget is being seen in a better light. That's good news. proposed a 7 percent funding increase for

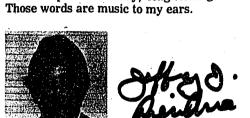
As I was skimming through the pages of Collegian

I would like to thank A.B.L.E.D. for providing me and so









Voters obviously have had enough of increasing taxes, inflation, unemployment — in short, mismanaged government. The neo-liberal movement, which began during the New Deal period under Franklin D. Roosevelt, is almost drained of its followers. Two people who enjoy spending other people's hardearned money, however, still come to mind ---Walter Mondale and Gary Hart.

Of those two Democratic presidential candidates, one is too-close-for-comfort with interest groups and the other asserts "new ideas,"

The conservative wave has been gathering Hitler's "new era" talk You see, it's not the conservative Republimomentum since the 1970's and now is sweeping the country, not to mention the world. cans who are reactionary, but the neo-liberals (neo means new: today's conservatives are Thanks to keen policy making by the Reagan administration, the U.S. economy may finally be on a path of steady, long-term growth. That is, if you promise less government interference, lower taxes, stronger national defense and long-term economic growth, you will be elected president. If you don't, well,

just look at the Democratic candidates. Even in Europe, conservatism has eroded gust 1983 — concluded that misallocation of the proportion of Socialists (Europe's left) in resources resulting from Soviet inefficiency governments. As reported in Economist mag- is, on a global scale, from at least three to four azine on Aug 7 1983, Socialists now represent only 36.4 percent of cabinet members. Moreover, in England, a BBC-Gallup, preelection survey done in June 1983 revealed that 57 percent of voters would rather denatio- in sight. According to Economist magazine, nalize British Steel and British Leyland. which, by the way, did happen. And 61 percent as the new Soviet leader, central planning believed that unemployment should be reme- thus inefficiency - is expected to increase.

died by allowing private companies to keep more of their profits. Those policy prescriptions sound like dis- brief reign, few people realize that Chernenko guised Reagonomics, whereby deregulation and tax cuts act as incentives for growth. Indeed, my friends, socialism is a blatant of cronies — the apparatchiks — are too

failure. It promised utopian-like equality, entrenched in dogma to perceive the country's which was more than it could deliver. In fact, needs. They thwarted all plans that resembled it is argued that socialism widens the gap reform.

cient resource use. Take, for example, the Soviet Union. It is, after all, a socialist country. What can be yesterday's 1776-type liberals), who still have derived from the CIA and Soviet "leaks" is not yet caught up to the latest voter craze. that Soviet socialism is not only destroying its economy, but is rapidly depleting the world's resources Specifically, a study done by Pameda Desai and Riccardo Martin — as reported in Quar-

the Soviet Union, are the losers.

wicaupon exp. 4/15/84 The Environmental Resource Mgmt. Club presents the film: 'the Poisoning Of Michigan

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The Daily Collegian 🤉 Wednesday, April 4, 1984—9

# Socialist failures abound, even in this country

central planning, socialism has caused ineffi-

terly Journal of Economics magazine in Aupercent to 10 percent. That, they argue, is quite significant. Now all countries, not just

What's more, it doesn't look like any relief is Sept. 3, 1983, with the emergence of Chernenko Although Brezhnev's gang was partially to

blame for the do-nothingness of Andropov's was one of Andropov's main opponents. Basically, good ol' Chernenko and his batch

other hand, believed in reform by using economic levers and incentives rather than local party interference. Thus, they argued, central planning and party rule would be strength-Unfortunately, Chernenko — an old Soviet

socialist who cannot bare the thought of his group losing power — will not improve the Soviet economy.

Meanwhile, back in the states, young voters like myself are more optimistic with each passing day that our economy will stay healthy. Still, though, we have the neo-liberal Democrats who insist upon igniting inflation by repealing tax indexing and monetizing the

Ultra-left-leaning Hart is becoming more and more unpalatable as he floods us with his increase-government-spending-on-everything talk. While Mondale, who sounds more like John Glenn every day, is still a Socialist at the core. Will they ever see the light? "In the end, one agrees with the great conservative economist Frederick von Ha-

yeck,'' the Dec. 6, 1982 Forbes magazine said. Socialism is a return to feudalism. It is not the wave of the future - not in the Soviet Union, not anywhere.'

Jeffrey J. Diecidue is a junior majoring in ournalism and economics and is a columnist for 'The Daily Collegian.