editorial opinion

Hall of Shame?

players — including former stars Willie fame. Parker, Dale Berra and John Milner, have athletes of the game enough? also been linked to cocaine use.

And the list seems to go on. little league players who grow up idolizing the Pirates to two World Championships, these players, or those high school and Parker are now looked upon as crimicollege players who are close to signing nals, not heroes, by the little leaguers. contracts with major league clubs? Will What does Yogi Berra think about all

all-American ideal?

as much then as he does now.

public's living room and poured millions of the reputation of their sport.

It seems too many athletes are playing drugs.

There's a cancer growing on major for headlines and multi-million dollar conleague sports, and it's spreading more with tracts. And, with all the accusations and each coming season. But in this case, drugs charges flying around and planting seeds of won't treat the problem — they are the doubt in everyone's mind, playing for the love of the game seems to be a part of In recent weeks, some of baseball's finest ancient history — a part of the old hall of

Stargell and Willie Mays and current stars What is lacking in the professional athlete Keith Hernandez and Joaquin Andujar — that would make him take drugs? What have been accused in drug-trafficking trials outside pressures are too overwhelming for for allegedly using cocaine and other illegal him to handle without believing artificial substances. Many of the Pittsburgh Pirates' stimulants are the answer? Isn't the natural 1979 World Series squad, including Dave high that comes with playing with the best

Obviously, it isn't. Heroes like Stargell, the 1979 co-National What kind of example does this set for the League Most Valuable Player who powered

their careers be cut short by overzealous this? What would have happened to the cocaine dealers looking to make an easy baseball tradition had Yogi, Jackie Robinson or Mickey Mantle succumbed to outside How could such behavior be allowed to pressures and used artificial stimulants? mar the tradition associated closely to the They didn't need any dope-induced high to play the game; they played with heart and Life must have been simpler in the days guts and sometimes played with pain.

of the Lou Gehrigs, Babe Ruths and Joe No tears should be shed for the players DiMaggios; the game had more romance who are charged with drug-trafficking. and playing was its own reward. Pete Rose reminisced not long ago that he played baseball for the Philadelphia Phillies for traveled to the largest cities, ate at the \$12,000 a year at first and loved it every bit finest restaurants, and stayed at the nicest hotels. They lived in a world that less skilled But something must have happened along athletes can only dream of. Sadly enough, however, this dream world is becoming a Television brought the game into the nightmare as players abuse themselves and

dollars into big city teams to broadcast The cancer that is spreading over major games. The Curt Flood case more than 15 league sports must be treated. The tradiyears ago, where for the first time players tions of baseball and football must be as were allowed to declare free agency, paved respected as they were when players gave it the way for players to name their price to their "all" for the love of the game — not for the highest bidder. And greedy owners, the money; not for the headlines; but solely ever more eager for winners, paid millions for the love of the game. The tradition of of dollars to these players. That's the trage- any major league sport should not be marred with the tragedy and shame of



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The Daily Collegian

Friday, Oct. 4, 1985

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reader opinion

It's murder

Correctional Institution near, we all must realize that execute all murderers and so quickly after conviction. capital punishment does not do what it is supposed to do. But mandatory capital punishment is unconstitutional as Therefore, it should be abolished and these and others' cruel and unusual punishment. Executions are more premeditated than most murders. Court's 1976 conclusion of 25 years of research that there

And killing is no way to show that killing is wrong. Granted, these people have committed serious crimes deters violent crime

One argument for executing people who commmit were black. In Texas, blacks who kill whites are 87 violent (i.e. capital) crimes is that it teaches others if percent more likely to receive a death sentence than those they kill or rape, they themselves will be killed. This with black victims. nals clearly rationalize and weigh the consequences systemic oppression of the poor? a world-wide movement working for human rights. They (ourselves?) from killing and calling it justice. also said that when the crime is premeditated, the

individual rarely believes he or she will be apprehended let alone executed. This sense of I-will-get-away-with-it As the dates of three people's deaths at Rockview cannot be wiped out of the criminal mind unless we General deterence is also questioned by the Supreme

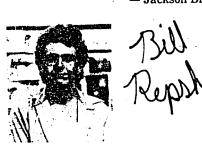
and society must protect itself against these people. We Since 1972, 62 percent of the people on death row have must protect ourselves, our families and our children. But been unskilled, service or domestic workers; and 60 is this the best method? Is this a just method. It is called percent were unemployed at the time of their crimes. Since 1930, 90 percent (405) of the men executed for rape

concept of general deterence assumes that violent crimi- Is this criminal justice? Or institutional racism and before doing grave violence. Most people who murder do I repeat: Because the death penalty does not do what it not see past their actions they are so caught up in passion, purports to do, because it is the most extreme punishor drugs or alcohol, according to Amnesty International, ment, it must be abolished. We must stop our state

Beliefs:

The life-long struggle to find a higher purpose through a better use of mind

And you'd think with all of the genius And the brilliance of these times, That we might find a higher purpose And a better use of mind.



I'm writing this because I'm tired of arguing but realize we have to. When a Catholic boy can't discuss beliefs with a born-again Christian girl, something is wrong. You tell me to approach your beliefs with an open thinking. I may not agree with you, and I'll use humor to show that. But I have at least

be good people, but unless they accept Jesus reason for a reason. as their savior, they won't go to heaven." Every mind somehow uses reason

mind implies a willingness to learn from Reason has nothing to do with it. If God any source. What have you learned of The wants you to believe, He'll guide you." Koran, or of Buddha? If you honestly be I get the impression that God wants lieve you'll learn nothing, I suggest you everyone to believe. Why would He refuse to read them. Wisdom is not a Christian invenguide anyone? Wouldn't that be like saying,

something you won't do for me. I believe in God: I believe Christ is His son. I accept most Christian tenets. Not all — I'd love to discuss these with you, but you've decided

a young Christian who realizes that man was never meant to know God exists; man was meant to believe he knows. That's the difference between blind faith and faith. I know, you could run all over me with Bible mind, and I do. The religious one-liners in quotes on that. A Moslem could run all over my columns are my way of saying, "I'm me with Koran quotes. Anyone could produce his holy book and run all over me.

It's ironic when you tell me to have an addiction. The Bible is not a "How-To" that anyone won't go to heaven. I don't care open mind, yet you refuse to be open to any book. It seems like every time a devout what sins he may have committed. I hope my born-again friends and I against the other religion. Let's talk about Hinduism or Christian gets cornered, he whips out his everyone goes to heaven, with separate world" attitude. Your ears seem deaf to in English and a columnist for The Daily Buddhism, without you adopting your usual Bible and uses it like a machine gun to beliefs intact. Maybe I'm just dreaming, I anything you don't want to hear. That's a Collegian. His column appears every Fri-

"Bill, these people are wrong. They may I'll use my ability with words; God created

That's an open mind? To me, an open justify its beliefs. You'll say, "No, Bill. "Man, whom I have created equal, some of you are not worthy, therefore some of you will burn in hell without My guidance." I don't believe God would do that.

If you agree with me on that, then wouldn't your saying that only born-again Christians are being guided by God be the same as saying everyone else is going to hell? Don't say that everyone else is going to hell because they're not open to the words of Christ. I, and millions of other Christians words. Yet you have this Puritan belief that you are one of God's chosen people; only those who believe the exact way you do will

I've decided one thing about Christianity: That is the antithesis of free will -pass- no matter what the Bible says about noning the thin line between guidance and believers going to hell, I will never believe silence his opponents. Get me cornered and don't know. Neither do you, although you'd sign of ignorance, or weakness. And please, day.

doesn't involve reading a book. Everyone is philosophers who could run theological cir-We're too young to know all the answers; a 90-year-old man is too young.

I'm too young to be thinking these

tional without a hint of rationality. You talk. I can't be that way, and you know it. must think I'm all rationality. I am not You said we can't talk about religion anymade of steel; you know how fragile I can be. If I didn't feel a strong belief in my heart, I wouldn't dare put pen to paper. The pessimist. If I always have to worry about whole idea of my Christianity is to realize what I say to you, I'll save us a lot of trouble that I'm not living for myself; I'm living to and not say anything at all. I don't want that achieve a higher purpose through sacrifice. Sacrifice is not the annihilation of individuality. If someone challenges my beliefs, you'll hear my words. Of course, you may hear some nasty words that I'll later regret using. But they're my words, and I thank God for giving me a free will to use them. You know I'll stand up to anyone. If my opponent says something I don't morally agree with, unlike you I'll listen and learn. sideline. I believe in God because of you. Just because I don't agree with you doesn't mean I'm attacking you. Why have

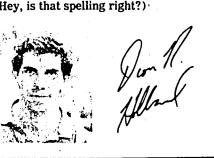
never admit that. Who knows heaven ex- never say to me again, "You could never ists? There is only one way to be sure, and it understand." I understand great religious

thoughts, and you're too old to be so emomore - we'd only argue. Yeah, and sometimes we'd only agree; don't be a closet to happen. I'll accept you as you are and believe you'll go to heaven no matter what you believe in. Can you say the same to me? We haven't come this far to throw everything away because of our silly pride. I will anything for you. I won't reduce our relationship to eternal dinner-party banter; it's impossible for me to stand on your

SPRINGSTEIN:

The man, the myth, the voice — liver, lover, poet . . . all-around great guy

Springstein, "I'm on Fire." Springstein, "Jungleland." "Born to Run." (Hey, is that spelling right?)



Three reasons: his lyrics and / or subject up or dropped. His women: mud-splattered, matter, his voice, and his fans.

he's trying to say? If so, you win, Bruce. the money. The second lyric is from his current mega-hit, "Glory Days." In it, he states that by ya . . ." What the hell is a speedball? I

loosely) about cars, motorcycles, or some scream therapy. It is among the greatest great show, man." form of transmission. What a message —the screech-songs of all time, next to "Money human tragedy in the form of two- or four-

When in further doubt, talk about water of tough-talking women in greasy clothing who needy. The first, from "Hungry Heart," is a he find these women? Remember: The Boss classic. "Don't make no difference what is from New Jersey.

English, or is it a Nihilistic treatise? Is it a by the Night" (2500 words or less, please) apparent one. With Springsteen, fan indeed him?" "O-o-ooo-oooooooo; O-o-o-o-ooooh, wo- game to see if I can decipher what the hell wins \$10. I doubt I'll have to come up with seems short for fanatic. I went by a Ticke- "Shit. Billings."

> think he means fastball, unless he was is an instrument; somewhere between a they were actually bragging about how other two watched him in awe. "It was the trying to pass judgment on the recent scan- tuba and an out-of-tune, off-the-wall, com- much they paid for their last concert. greatest thing that ever happened to me in dal in Pittsburgh. I guess when you are pletely ultra-punk xylophone. Two in
> "Yeah, man, I remember I paid 50 bucks my life, man. The Boss is a genius. And from New Jersey, you talk more about cars stances come to mind here as well. the USA" is a virtuoso performance in and the sound kind of sucked, but it was a hat constitute semi-formal wear. (As op-

> > das Priest.

Great musicians and singers use their were talking about prior concerts. I wonder meals and rooms. I slept on the trucks and I voices as another instrument. Bruce's voice if they talk about anything else. Anyway, ate other people's trash." He paused. The

In "We are the World," Bruce gave Cyndi couldn't see Bruce at all. I think I saw I realize I'm writing to a huge, faceless hate: denim, house wines, and The Boss. I'll some sort, especially a river. Usually drivexplain denim in a future column; house ing across it to get beer. Usually with a little wines are self-explanatory; The Boss? girl (his term) you have either just picked Springsteen's amazing, up-all-night, three-"I don

packs-a-day rendition with Stevie Wonder man." rivalled Tina Turner's self-conscious moan- "Are you sure, man? I'll bet you, dude." Two song lyrics strike me as particularly sleep with you on the first date. Where does ing and Lauper's putting three syllables in Just then a third bedenimed, unshaven, "change.' The argument was this: "He's bandannaed youth enters the conversation. trying so hard, he really feels the lyrics." bandannaed youth enters the conversation. "Clarence went on that tour, but he passed umn appears every other Friday.

"Aaaaaagh. Aaaaaaagh-aaarrgh" — Come again, Bruce? Is he speaking Old essay I receive on the meaning of "Blinded The third reason is the easiest, most Pittsburgh, and Billings. Where'd you catch

for five straight nights in Billings. They kind, too." These are the types of people

Changes Everything" and anything by Juupper-level rears. There was some Grateful

—I went in and bought a George Clinton Dead dude sitting in front of me, and I album.

tron-turned-Shantytown once when tickets The third clone continues: "I caught the The second reason for my intense hatred were on sale (actually, it was a week prior) whole tour, man. Worked for free. Bruce is his voice. (Wait, should his be His?) for one of his concerts. Some of his faithful paid for the whole thing, but I had to get my His lilting, haunting subtlety in "Born in were mid-level, and I could hardly see him, who think that clean jeans and a Peterbilt "I was there, man! I paid 75 a night for for every day.) I couldn't take it any more

> et. But if I could reach just one person, just "I don't think Clarence went on that tour, one soul aching for musical redemption, I've succeeded. Thanks, dudes.

reader opinion

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Tom Hyland, senior-environmental engineering and and delivery people. These people work for subminimal wages and rely on tips to make a living. The low wages

these people receive allow their employers to sell you their products and services at a cheaper rate than would

What do you think?

would like to speak out and voice residents about issues concerning when submitting the letter. your opinions to faculty, staff or the readership of The Daily Collestudents, write a letter to the edi-

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This Fall there are many hot welcome the opinions of students, mester and major. Also, the issues facing Happy Valley. If you faculty, staff, alumni and area author must be present with ID

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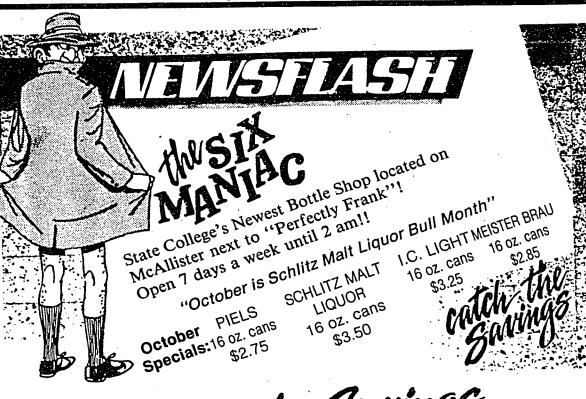
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