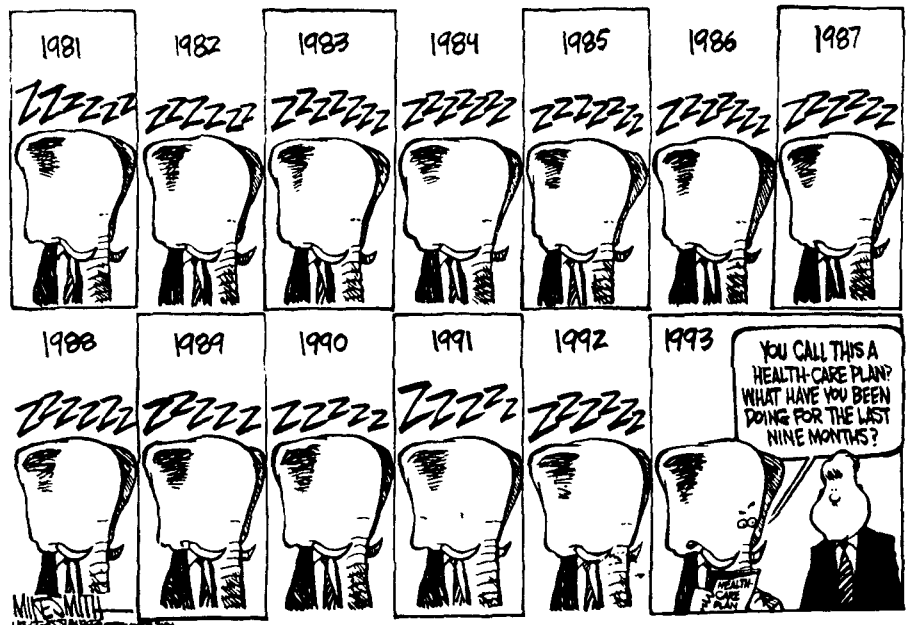


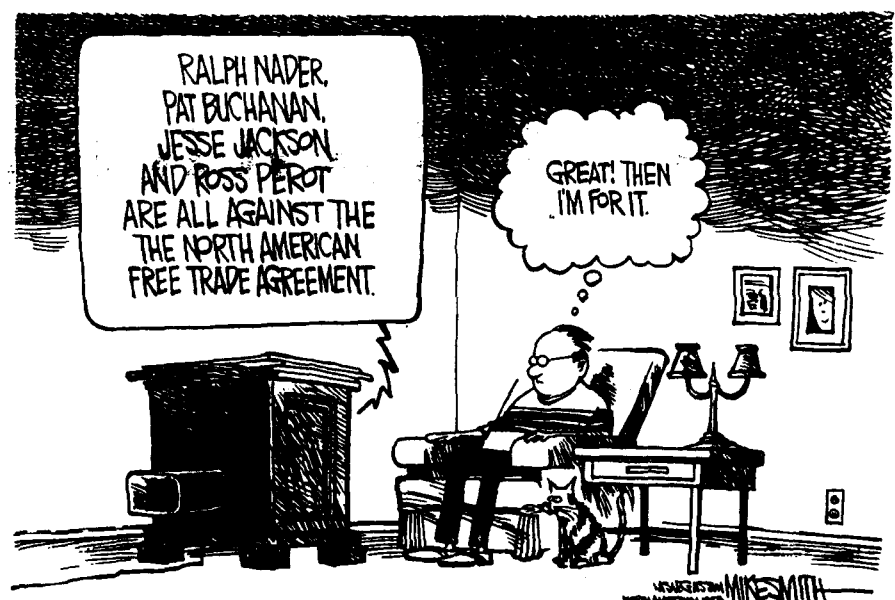
OPINIONS

Editorial...

Last night Vice President Al Gore and billionaire H. Ross Perot appeared live on CNN's "Larry King Live" show to debate the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). The debate was quite lively, although the participants frequently diverged from the topic at hand. It was so bad that halfway through the debate Gore asked Perot, "Why don't we talk about NAFTA?" When they actually spoke about NAFTA, the participants presented the same facts the American public has heard for weeks. Supporters of NAFTA want you to believe that it is a superpowered job creator and will automatically revive our country's economy. Those against NAFTA insist that it will push American jobs south of the border to Mexico and will cause our country economic ruin. As is the case in most things, the bad is not as bad as they want you to believe and the good is not as good. Leading economists have stated that NAFTA probably will not have a major impact on the job market. They predict that up to 200,000 jobs will either be created or lost because of the treaty. That is a pretty small number for a country with a population of 250 million. The treaty if nothing else is something new. It is worth giving a try. It includes many safety clauses to ensure that the countries involved do not suffer. The treaty will not end all of our economic woes, but the problems are not going to just go away by themselves either.



Editorial Cartoons



Tell us!...Drop us a line...
 Let us know what you think about our stories, columns or editorial. Write a letter to the editor. Letters must be dropped off at the Collegian office by Tuesday at noon.

THE BEHREND COLLEGE Collegian

Collegian Staff: Dawn Anderson, Michelle Bauer, Ila Belkin, April Bogdanaki, Laura Borowski, Maria Cornelia, T.J. Cochis, Jen Dugan, Shawn Gallagher, Kristie Guldner, Glee Jesteadt, Tom Koefe, Portia Kelly, Greg Kibben, Allen Lingen, Paul Lorio, Shawn Mahoney, Paul Marini, Sarah Melchiorre, Rob Moffatt, Doug Moore, Scott Moore, Joe Montello, Sarah Pina, Mickey Rathert, Collette Rethage, John Rossomando, Terry Rucker, Vince Smith, Kevin Stark, Jon Toubakaris, Bill Verdecchia, Reagan Warner, Kristin Wasilewski, Paul D. Young

Published weekly by the students of
 The Pennsylvania State University
 at Erie, The Behrend College

Co-Editors
 Matthew D. Cissne
 Alicia Hartman

Business Manager
 Darlene Stremic

The Collegian's editorial opinion is determined by the editorial staff, with the editor holding final responsibility. Opinions expressed in The Collegian are not necessarily those of The Collegian or The Pennsylvania State University.

News Editor
 Hal D. Coffey

Entertainment Editor
 Darlette Parrett

Sports Editors
 Matthew D. Cissne
 Keith E. McFall

Copy Editors
 Alicia Hartman
 Joanne Riccardi

Photo Coordinator
 Arnel Balcita

Advertising Managers
 Loretta Russ
 Terri Swanson

Photographers: Holly Beary, Craig Brown, Jen Colvin, Darren Schilberg, Jeff Zimmerman

Typist
 Glee Jesteadt

Office Manager
 Lori Anna Dyer

Advisor
 Cathy Mester

Postal Information: The Collegian is published weekly by the students of The Pennsylvania State University at Erie, The Behrend College, First Floor, The J. Elmer Reed Union Building, Station Road, Erie, PA 16583. 814-898-6488 or 814-898-6015 fax. ISSN 1071-9228

Letter Policy: The Collegian encourages letters on news coverage, editorial content and university affairs. Letters should be typewritten, double-spaced and signed by no more than two persons. Letters should be no longer than 400 words. Letters should include the semester standing and major of the writer. All letters should provide the address and phone number of the writer for verification of the letter. The Collegian reserves the right to edit letters for length and to reject letters. Letters should be submitted to The Collegian office at least three weeks on the Tuesday prior to the desired publication date. Letters submitted to The Collegian become property of the newspaper. The Collegian is published only Tuesday during the semester year on single pages.