## Bikers lift their lids to repeal helmet law

Himdreds of the motorcyclists who rode through Himes Park Sunday were not wearing belmets.

The bareheaded group was returning home from a noon anti-helmet raily held at Detroit's Kennedy Square under the sponsorship of A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactements (ABATE). One thousand riders took part in the demonstration.

ABATE President James Rhoades of Garden Gity explained at the rally that the cyclists who participated in the protest want more than just the right to let their hair blow in the breast Rhoades said the bikers were state legislators to enact mandatory motor cycle education programs to be taken before bikers are given motorcycle

Helmets, Rhoades maintains, offer Helmels, Rhoades maintains, offer little protection at speeds over 10 miles an hour. Travelling faster than that, Rhoades says riders stand the chance of suffering severe neck injuries in a fall when the spine is pressed against a rigid helmet.

Many bikers at the rally said there are times—"like a traffic jam on 1-91"—when they'd gladly don a helmet. But they resent the fact that the state requires them to wear one at all times.

A few representatives from the Libertarian Party supported ABATE in its stand that the helmet law is an infringement of civil liberties.

ASIDE FROM a few people reliev-ing themselves on a statue in the middle of Woodward, the crowd was well-behaved. A helmet was burned in protest during the rally.

For the most part, the motorcyclists got down to the task of becoming a political pressure group and spen most of the morning learning who their state legislators were.

"Our motto is, 'Let those who ride decide,' " said Vince Consiglio, a Detroit school teacher who serves as the legislative liaison for ABATE.

The registative halson for ABATE.

"People who choose to wear helmets can do so. But if the state really is sincere in trying to make motorcycles safer, they should become involved in rider education and public awareness of the motorcycles."

"Somebody applying for a license to ride a motorcycle should be put through a whole series of written and read tests. And automobile drivers have to be taught to share the road with the motorcyclist.



Bare-headed cyclists bound for Hines Park demonstrated against the mandatory helmet law Sunday afternoon. (Photo by Gary Wettig)

ice announcements or commercials

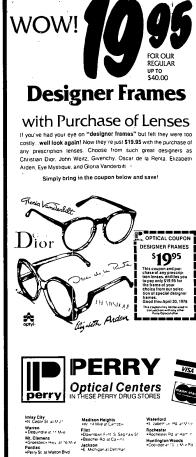
We'd also like to outlaw blind spots in car mirrors so the motorcyclist stands a better chance of being seen. Statis-tics show the majority of motorcycle accidents are the fault of car drivers. But that's no consolation to the guy who just got wasted on his motor-cycle."

Consiglio said 27 states have already repealed the helmet law. Ohio struck down the helmet requirement last month and on July 1 it will be legal to ride without a "brain bucket" in that state, according to Consiglio.

As legislative liaison person for the anti-helmet lobby, Consiglio said his job consists of telling bikers who their state representative is.

"Some of these guys never even heard of the governor." Consiglio said. On the other hand, he said, the move-ment is expanding from the clubs and ABATE and is gaining support among suburban, weekend motorcyclists.

C. B. Charles' Galleries · C. B. Charles' Galleries · C. B. Charles' Q C.B. CHARLES' GALLERIES VISIT THE ULTIMATE GALLERIES OF ANTIQUES Oriental Rugs - Fine Paintings Crystal - Ivory & Jade - Bronzes welry - Sterling - China - Porcelo Orientalia - Fine Furniture DISTINCTIVE GIFTS AND COLLECTABLES Jane MacKenzie will be happy to assist you. You are welcome to browse 825 Woodward Avenue Pontlac, Michigan 48053 (One mile north of Sauare Lake Road) MONDAY-FRIDAY 10 - 5 SATURDAY 10 - 4 8 C B. Charles' Galleries C. B. Charles' Galleries C. B. Ch



Rochester «Rochester Ralla" Hamin

SENIOR CITIZENS

FREE FRAME
ADJUSTMENTS
No matter where you

The end of bitter coffee taste.

WE PARTICIPATE IN ALL AUTO WORKER OPTICAL CO-PAY PLANS

Neadow Brook Theatre OPENS TODAY COLE COLE PORTER PENS THURSDAY, APRIL 20th

BIRMINGHAM A

THE CUSTOM MOOD OF POLO.

DON'T BUY! prove you can play then we hope you 

Smiley Brothers

Polo

REMOVE candle wax from carpeting by applying a warm iron on a blotter over the spot. Repeat until the spot is removed. Read your Observer & Eccentric Classified section for lots of good buys.

## Win a Super **Food Processor**

"With a Little Help From Your Friends." Listen to WOMC FM104 for details.

Turn to We Hay Your Songs!

Classified Ads





instant coffee mellowed with chicory. It's the dawn of new coffee taste-coffee taste that's better natured, not bitter.

not bitter.

Because Nestle has discovered how to mellow fine coffees with roasted chicory to bring out coffees better nature, but leave the bitter taste behind.

Save a pretty penny. Clip out the coupon, then drink in the beautiful taste of Sunrise.

Better natured. Not bitter.

.50¢ " Save 50¢ on any size jar of Sunrise\*

instant coffee mellowed with chicory



50¢

50¢

STORE COUPON SHOULD 500

**mackenzie's** 

The blending of the finest all-wool worsted suitings with POLO'S traditional

styling and impeccable tailoring.

Observer & Eccentric Work!