

THE CARBON

A Student Publication with a Sports Page

April 5, 1993

"They writhe upon the page in a veritable rage of adversity" - L. Ferlinghetti

Theatre Department Sees Russia

ST. PETERSBURG, CITY OF THE CZARS

March 6-13, 1993

St. Petersburg, City of the Czars welcomed twenty-one alumni, friends, students, and faculty for five sunny days of theatre, sight-seeing, and shopping during the Spring Semester break of 1993 sponsored by the Theatre Department of Marian College.

A trip to Paris, City of Romance and Light is scheduled for Spring Break, 1994. For further information one should contact Dr. Jack Sederholm of the Marian College Theatre Department.

Among the top theatre productions seen on the trip was an evening at the St. Petersburg Circus, oldest in Russia, an evening at the Marinski Theatre to see the Kirov Ballet company perform GIESELL, and an evening at the Marly Theatre to see the opera EUGENIE ORNEGIN with story by Alexander Pushkin and music by P. Tsaikowski. Those who went on the overnight trip to Moscow also saw a ballet by the Balsoi Theatre company.

Participants found that the American dollar went far in purchasing major souvenir items. Maruschka dolls, fur hats, books, amber jewelry, and other items too numerous to mention were only a part of the "shop until you drop" atmosphere which prevailed during the trip. The Russian economy is experiencing a high rate of inflation and

so goods and services were very inexpensive.

Out of only 43 reported days of sunshine a year which the city is supposedly to receive, we were given five sunny days. The temperatures hovered around the freezing mark, but with layered clothing, the warm Russian hospitality of our guide and driver, and the excellent heating of the palaces, churches, and museums visited, it was a comfortable trip.

The horror stories about the food in Russia was not experienced by the group. Each morning and noon fine breakfasts and dinners were served. The Russians like to take their time at meals so that each noon dinner was at least five courses long. Each meal consisted of an appetizer, soup, entre, coffee, and dessert. At the hotel there was a hard currency store available to buy snacks, and the hotel was equipped with three coffee shops, and a restaurant for other meals.

Upon arrival in St. Petersburg the group was treated to a tour of the City. That afternoon a trip to Pushkin Village was planned to see the summer palace of the Czar.

The second day was taken up with the Hermitage Museum and the Russian western art collection. Nine rooms were devoted to French Impressionist alone. On the following days were tours of the Russian Museum where Russian art was on display, and a tour of the Peter and Paul Fortress, the burial place of the

Czars and the sight of revolutionary internment.

Five members of the group opted to take the overnight Moscow trip and experienced history in the making. They were present on Red Square when the Communist Party demonstrated for the ouster of President Yeltsin. However, their tour of the Armory, St. Basil's Cathedral, and other points in the city were, for them, overwhelming.

The rest of the group toured the Peterhof Summer Palace outside St. Petersburg on Friday and reported that this palace was a "lived in" palace and not a made-over museum and the furniture and appointments of the palace were spectacular beyond words.

A special treat was given the group on the way over when Finnair, our package tour guides, gave us a half-day tour of Helsinki, Finland during a layover there. A special spot in our minds is connected with Helsinki on the return for it was there where we also laid over in a first-class hotel at airline expense waiting for the storm on the East Coast of the U.S. to clear.

All on the tour agreed that the people were polite and friendly, the sights were spectacular and enlightening, and the shopping and theatre the best anywhere. Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Jack Sederholm, Chair

Thursday, April 8: Be Prepared!

At 10:00 AM on Thursday, April 8, 1993 Marian College will participate in a tornado preparedness exercise. This is part of a series of exercises which are designed to test the various emergency communications and public warning systems throughout Indiana. All Marion County public safety and human services agencies have been encouraged to conduct tornado preparedness exercises this spring.

Procedures to be followed on Thursday, April 8:

1. 10:00 AM - an air horn will sound (a loud constant tone) in or near your building to announce the beginning of the drill.
2. Proceed immediately to your designated shelter area (shelter location are posted in each campus building).
3. Stay in your shelter area until you hear

the all-clear.

4. Designated "building coordinators" will check the shelter area in their building to provide assistance or give further instructions if needed.

5. 10:05 AM (approximate) - an air horn will sound the "all clear" by means of short, alternating tones. **Return to normal activities.**

Women's Colleges: In the Spotlight in the 1990s

By Karen Neustadt
College Press Service

The Year of the Woman was also the year of women's colleges.

A resurgence of interest in all-female colleges and universities brought a flood of applications to admissions offices at some of the elite schools in the United States in 1992.

"There has been an increase of applications at 85 percent of our schools between 1990 and the present, averaging around 8 percent, but going as high as 60 percent," said Jadwiga Sebrechts, executive director of the Washington-based Coalitions for Women's Colleges.

The nation's 84 all-women colleges include such institutions as Wellesley, Barnard and Smith colleges. In the mid-'80s, the Women's College Coalition, which consists of 63 women's colleges, was formed by the presidents of the schools to strengthen the voice of women's schools.

Some admissions officials credit the increase in applications to the "Hillary factor," pointing to the famous Wellesley College graduate residing in the White House.

But all-female colleges also have become more attractive to young women as a result of other factors, such as the Anita Hill-Clarence Thomas hearings, a focus on the elections of 1992, touted as the Year of the Woman, a American Association of University Women study blasting gender bias in U.S. classrooms,

discussion of the backlash against feminism, and a growing realization that sexism is still a major stumbling block in today's society.

"Co-education was the great hope for women," Sebrechts said. But through the years, Sebrechts noted, a small group of women remained loyal to women's colleges, and continued to believe in the advantages of an all-female student body.

Sebrechts noted that by 1986, the "great hope had tarnished" the tides had turned, and the first increase in applications at women's schools in decades was reported.

Why? Sebrechts points to the success of graduates.

"Women's college graduates continued to be disproportionately successful," she said. "The women you found in heavily male dominated fields were women's college graduates. Virtually all women scientists of note are from women's schools."

"We're thrilled. Applications are up 21 percent," said Nancy Gillece, admissions director at Hood College in Frederick, Md. Gillece, who believes that women have a different learning style than men, said they do better academically when competing with women.

"We've had more media attention to the resurgence because of interesting and exceptional individuals who are in front of the camera," she said. "But women's colleges have been enjoying the revival

since the mid-'80s."

While 2 percent of today's female college students are attending women's colleges, more than 24 percent of women who are members of Congress, who sit on corporate boards or who pursue a Ph.D. in math or science have attended women's colleges, Rogers said.

At Barnard College in New York City, spokeswoman Beverly Solochech reported applications were up 17.5 percent this year, on top of a 21 percent increase last year.

"Our recruitment office is working very hard and creatively," Solochech said.

"Being a woman's college in a year when women's issues are in the limelight may have also helped - but that in itself would not be the only reason."

Smith College at Northampton, Mass., reported a 10 percent increase in new applications this year on top of a 24 percent increase last year. Applications from African-American women rose 24 percent.

"Women's colleges do better exposing women to women mentors, and teaching women how to take leadership positions," said Stacy Schmeidel, director of media relations at Smith.

"You don't just read books by great male authors, but books by women," she said. "I think one thing that has really helped has been the AAUW study that showed the amount of gender bias in the educational system."

Job Outlook Improving

by College Press Service

MILWAUKEE--Hiring prospects are improving for the second quarter of this year, according to a survey of 15,000 businesses nationwide.

"Employers are now planning new staffing beyond the seasonal variations of the past two years. It appears we are headed for a real increase," said Manpower President Mitchell Fromstein.

The figures represent an increase from last quarter, when 17 percent planned further hiring and 13 percent were cutting back, according to Manpower, a Milwaukee-based temporary help service. For the second quarter a year ago, 21

percent of the firms surveyed were planning to increase work forces.

A breakdown of professions and hiring plans include:

-Construction: Spring is the traditional period for a rise in construction hiring; 36 percent of the surveyed firms plan more hiring, and 8 percent plan cutbacks.

-Transportation and Public utilities: Hiring forecasts still lag begin most other industries, with 18 percent expecting to hire and 8 percent indicating they will trim employment rolls.

-Finance, insurance and real estate: These professions are starting to move forward in hiring, Manpower said, although at a

slow rate. Of the firms surveyed, 21 percent said they will increase personnel and 8 percent will be reducing staff levels.

-Education, public and private: Jobs in these fields, which have been hard to find in the past two years, are not loosening up, Manpower found. Only 12 percent of the respondents plan on hiring teachers, and 8 percent will seek decreases.

-Public administration: The outlook for government jobs remains weak. Budget pressures, especially in the South and West, equate to 20 percent expecting to hire workers, but 10 percent seeking cutbacks.

Schools Engage In Blood Fued

By College Press Service

PHILADELPHIA -- Rivalry between Temple University and Penn State was notched up a bit in February when the Temple Owls beat the Nittany Lions of Penn State in a month-long blood donor competition.

This is the second year the two universities have squared off in the Lifesaver Cup. The trophy will be moved from Penn State in University Park, Pa., to Temple in Philadelphia. The Nittany Lions won the first round in 1992.

"I thought it would be fun for students to set up a competition for blood collection," said Andrea Dunn, College recruitment specialist with the Red Cross for the Penn-Jersey region. "Blood collection is a serious thing, but it's good to have fun at the same time."

Penn State's goal was to get 1,000 pints of blood, and 685 students, or 68 percent

of the goal, donated. Temple's goal was 720 pints, and 630 students, or 87 percent of the goal, donated.

People also have the mistaken idea that one can get the AIDS virus from donating blood, Dunn said. "That's totally impossible," she said.

Blood banks in the Philadelphia area had 67 units of O positive blood on hand in February, when the normal goal is to have 1,600 units.

Student groups at Temple, including the Latino Student Associations, the College of Arts and Sciences, dormitories and the School of Education, rolled up their sleeves to donate blood in the spirit of volunteerism and friendly rivalry with Penn State.

Similar groups did the same thing at Penn State, she said.

Group Sponsors

Anxiety Month

by College Press Service

MAPLEWOOD, N.J. - **As if you didn't have enough to worry about...**

The National Anxiety Center has declared April to be National Anxiety Month and announced the winners of its third annual "Chicken Little Awards" taken from media reports.

Killer meteors, a \$40 billion space station and margarine were among those named. "If I tried to dream this stuff up, I couldn't," said Alan Caruba, founder of the tongue-in-cheek contest.

Winners included a report on an asteroid that was reported to have been a "close call" when it was 2.2 million miles away Earth, a space station that has grown in cost from \$8 billion in 1984 to \$40 billion in 1993, and a study that concluded margarine may be worse for people than butter.

Hofstra Wins Goldberg Contes

by College Press Service

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. -

Engineering students at Hofstra University in Hempstead, N.Y., captured the 6th Annual National Rube Goldberg Contest, which demonstrates the most ludicrous, complicated way to screw in a lightbulb.

The competition attracted 700 cheering students from around the country to Purdue University. The prize? A five-foot trophy captured last year by the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

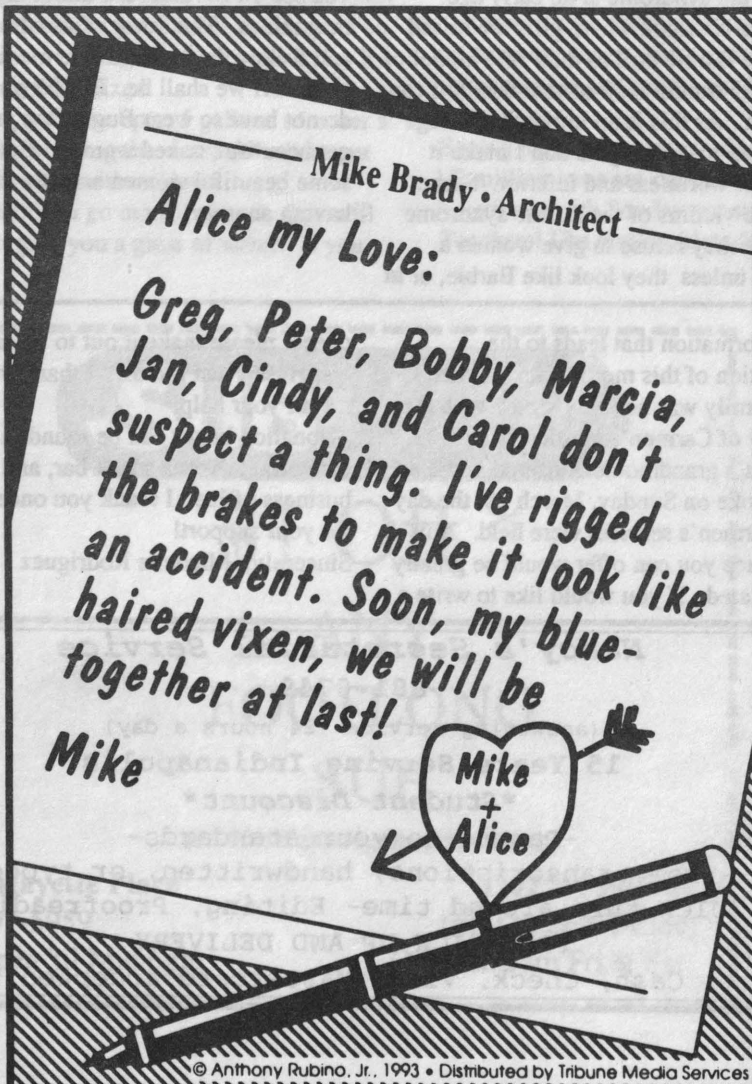
The winning contraption revolved around a creepy antics of a tiny Addams Family, complete with a graveyard, human eyeballs and a living hand in a black box. Rules say each machine must require at least 20 steps to complete the task. Hofstra's entry required 26.

"Winning the contest was the best thing to happen to Hofstra University in 75 years," said Chris Gerard, a senior in engineering and Hofstra team spokesman.

The contest was named for the late *New York Daily Mail* cartoonist who drew outlandish machines to do simple tasks. Judges look for ingenuity in screwing in the light bulb. Points are taken off for human intervention after the machine starts or for taking more than five minutes to light the bulb.

Wild Kingdom

By Anthony Rubino, Jr.



Femrealcynist Writes Again

by Heather Ray

Femrealcynists know that society is to blame for many of the evils of today. One way society is able to dictate to us the way we have to be in order to be accepted, is through the media. Magazines and television in particular are two ways women are kept up to date on how they must look and act in order to have a fair chance at what they want in life.

Young women learn from an early age that beauty is needed for full personhood. They are praised by parents and told they are pretty. By the time they reach an age of reason, the idea of beauty is so internalized that they never second guess some of the rituals they must undergo to achieve that beauty. Young and Modern and other such magazines are often the bibles for young ladies. They teach a girl how to look more like a woman, dress fashionably and most importantly, how to get and keep a guy. Very few of the articles in these magazines deal with issues such as health, education and employment opportunities and self esteem and inner love. A young lady who reads these magazines and subscribes to their beliefs will lead a life of external beauty while her inner self suffers. She is lead to believe that having a man is essential for happiness. She also knows that in order to get and keep a man

she must look good at any cost.

Television commercials enhance the importance of beauty as well as show women in stereotypical roles. This is unfair to women as well as to men. To women, these commercials limit their potential by teaching viewers that women best functions are cooking and cleaning. The more people who continue to believe this the harder it is for women to prove that they can do many things as well as men can. Men can hate commercials to because when women's roles are limited, so are mens. If women are shown as the only ones who cook and clean, then men are thought of as incapable of such things. They are seen as tough guys who love women for beauty only and are incapable of sensitivity. As a man I believe I would be offended at being placed in a box such as that.

Thanks to our friends in advertising, women can look forward to developing the Barbie syndrome at an early age. This is a situation where girls are raised with the Barbie doll as their role model of how they should look so that they too can get Ken. As this is an impossible image to live up to, when girls don't make it they feel worthless and inferior. Some men are victims of the Barbie syndrome because they refuse to give women a chance unless they look like Barbie, or at

least as close as possible.

So what is all this mindless rambling about. Well, it's just a few of the things that society allows that feed the beast we call the beauty myth and the belief that women are dependent. Watching, looking at and believing these media liars causes us to internalize what we see and hear and to ignore what actually is. Beauty is not as important as heart and soul and intelligence and humor and love and strength and desire and a million other qualities. Young ladies to don't need to know how to catch and keep young guys, they need to learn that life can be lived and survived on one's own if need be. They need to know that they are not half a person without a man. Women can cook and clean and do laundry, but men can too. In fact, Men do these things and should not be overlooked for it. In closing, at last, I would recommend that you do not fall victim to believing what you see on t.v. and read about in magazines. The fewer of us who believe and follow the myths of the media, the better off we shall be. By the way, men do not have to wear Bugle Boy jeans to get beautiful, naked women. Besides, some beautiful women aren't worth having anyway.

Attention Marian Students and Staff:

I need your help! I am trying to raise money for an Indianapolis family who's daughter was viciously murdered on Tuesday, March 23, on the north side of town. Carmen Hope VanHuss was a very caring, fun loving, sweet, 19 yr. old young lady. She was no different than you and I. Carmen graduated from high school and if she had the chance she would have gone to college. Carmen was found Wednesday, March 25, in her apartment, beaten and stabbed many times all over her body. No one should have to die this way.

The family needs help to pay for the funeral cost and would also like to raise some money as a reward for anyone who

has information that leads to the conviction of this morbid sick person. This family was not only struck with the tragedy of Carmen's murder, but Carmen's grandmother suffered and died of a stroke on Sunday, March 28, the day that Carmen's services were held. Any assistance you can offer would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to write a

check, please make it out to "Carmen VanHuss Trust Fund." I thank you now for all your help!

Donation boxes can be found in Clare's cafeteria, Alverna snack bar, and the business office. I thank you once again for your support!

Sincerely, Michelle Rodriguez

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Save Her! She's the Only One We Have

by Chris Brebner

Greetings campers! Well, April is here, and it's that time again. Earth Day is set for the 22nd. This is a day when we as a community collectively do something for our Mother Earth. So, to get you started, this week's column will contain a few suggestions on ways to help the earth.

First off, conserve water! Nature continually recycles water, but 90% of the world's supply of drinkable water is groundwater. The total amount of water around has been the same for billions of years, but the groundwater level is not equal around the world, so in some places, the supply is short. This is why we need to learn better ways to conserve the water we have.

-Take shorter showers. Turn the water off when you shampoo or soap up, then turn the water on again to rinse off.

-Only do full loads of clothes and dishes to save water and energy.

-Repair, or have them repaired, the leaky faucets around your house or dorm. You can save 15-20 gallons of water a day by having them fixed.

-You can save up to 5 gallons of water a day by shutting the water off when you brush your teeth or shave.

-When you go out for a meal, they will often give you a glass of water. If you

don't usually drink it, ask them not to bring it to you. Many restaurants have already adopted the program and are saving billions of gallons of water a year.

Next, RECYCLE!

Obviously, there is a lot of aluminum out there that can be recycled. Recycling aluminum takes 90% less energy than making it from scratch.

-Save those soda cans and take them to a local center for recycling. You can make a few bucks and do a favor to the environment.

-There are also a variety of other aluminum things that can be recycled; old lawn chairs, some car & motorcycle parts, tent poles that are no longer in use, pie pans, and of course, aluminum foil.

-Some plastic products are also recyclable. Take a look at some of the household products around your house and check the label. They may be recyclable.

-Glass bottles are recyclable.

-Reuse plastic and paper bags that you get from the store. Most of them are pretty durable and can be used for several trips.

Saving paper saves trees! Each week, 1/2 million trees are cut down to supply Americans with Sunday papers!

Teachers! Use test booklets for lengthy

tests. Make one set of copies of a test and ask your students to use their own notebook paper for the answers. We're still using paper, but much less than we would if test copies were printed up again and again. Reuse the test if possible to cut back on paper and the energy used to print them.

Buy paper that is already recycled. There are many types available;

-Notebook paper

-Computer paper

-Typing paper

-Receipts

-Envelopes

Well, that should be enough to get you started. Remember that there are many earth-safe alternatives to conveniences in our everyday routines. Every effort counts, so if you have that attitude, "I'm only one person, what good is my small contribution?", realize that there are billions of people on this earth, and that if we each continue with our small contributions, we are making a world of difference.

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Walt (think about it)- Julie Maraszkiwicz
Lover of Pluto and the like- Chris Brebner
Typist Daisy Duck- Teresa Sears
Sports Goofy- Scott Gobel
Sports Minnie- Tammy Davis
Mickey Mouse- Jan Leap
Informor- Big Blue

It Looks and Reads Just Like a Sports Page

NCAA Update

by Scott Gobel

Once again it is tourney time in the N.C.A.A. "March Madness" has been on a high for several weeks now and is less than twelve hours away from crowning a new champ. The first few rounds went as expected with several upsets, most notably the #12 seat, in the west, Santa Clara knocking off the #2 seat Arizona. The big upset in round two was California topping defending champs, Duke. The "sweet sixteen" went as predicted with the exception of Temple topping Vanderbilt. The final round of eight saw the departure of the beloved Hoosiers, setting the stage for the final four in New Orleans.

So what happens from there? Well, my pick is North Carolina over Kentucky. But in the last twenty two years my predictions have usually been off the mark. O.K., so I'm 0-22. Nobody's perfect! No matter who wins we have all enjoyed these past couple weeks of games all day, and I for one will miss it; all except Dick Vitale, who goes back on the shelf for another year, Baby!!
Trivia Question: Which Final Four team has won the most NCAA Championships? How many?

Go On Out to a Ball Game

by Tammy Davis

The lady knights softball season was started with a bang. On Thursday, March 25, they beat Indiana Tech. They also won the Hanover Classic Saturday, March 27, by beating Mt. St. Joe 6 to 4 and Hanover 7 to 6 in 11 innings. The ladies would love to have fan support at their up and coming games. During this next week they play:

- Tuesday, April 6 at Indiana Tech.
 - Thursday, April 8 at Franklin
 - Tuesday, April 13 vs. Grace, Here
- Hope to see some of you there for support!

The season has officially begun for the Marian College Baseball Team. They began their season in Florida playing 12 games and returning with a 5 and 7 record. Since then they have played four games with a record of 7 and 8. The baseball team always gives their fans a good game. Their up and coming are as scheduled:

- Monday, April 6 at Bethel
- Thursday, April 8 vs. Anderson, Here
- Saturday, April 10 vs. Huntington, Here
- Tuesday, April 13 vs. St. Francis, Here

Volleyball Tournament Announced

by Scott Gobel

The Doyle Hall Council and several area businesses announce the fourth semi-annual Volleyball Classic, to be held from Friday, April 30 to Sunday, May 2. The tournament is open to several schools, including Butler and I.U.P.U.I. So why should you enter? One reason is an ultra cool souvenir tank top and even more importantly, a \$100 cash first place purse. The organizers have developed a unique system for teams. Your choices are: two men, one man and one woman, or three women. They say that this setup will allow for the most even competition. The entry is only five dollars per participant, but there are a limited number of team slots open so those interested should register A.S.A.P. The final acceptance date is April 26, to be turned into Doyle Hall Council. If you have any questions contact Matt Stoelb at X518 or Scott Gobel at the Carbon office X108. This is a great opportunity to see some good volleyball and catch a few rays. Even if you don't enter, be sure to check it out.

Resident Life Info

1. Summer Housing- Any Student wishing to live on-campus during the summer may pick up a Summer Housing Agreement and Summer Housing Contract from the office of Residence life, Room 160, St. Francis Hall.

2. 1993 Fall Housing- Any student wishing to live on-campus for the 1993 Fall semester who did not receive housing materials may pick up a housing packet from the Office of Residence Life, Room 160, St. Francis Hall.

3. Off Campus Housing- Any current resident student wishing to live off-campus (with parents, relatives, or apartments, etc.) for the 1993 Fall semester must register for off-campus living in the Office of Residence Life, Room 160, St. Francis Hall.

4. Residence Hall Closing Information

Please note the following dates and times for residence hall closing and make your plans now!

- Non-graduating students - 6:00 p.m. Friday, May 7, 1993
- Graduating Students - 6:00 p.m. Sunday, May 9, 1993

Please remember that all students must go through official room check- out procedures with a Resident Assistant or Resident Director.

Dear Readers:

Hey. We've undergone a few more changes. We now have two regular typists, Theresa Sears and Lisa Horner. We also have two sports writers, Scott Gobel and Tammy Davis. These lovely giving people have made the Carbon very

happy. (happy happy joy joy, happy happy joy joy!) In addition to our new found sports page we have a new page entitled "Creations" which is a page for all of you creative people to spew forth your energetic juices in the areas of extremely short stories, poems, drawings etc. This week, to celebrate the birth of this new page, it is graced by people who are famous, dead or both. If you have a submission please submit it to Big Blue. Please sign your work. If you want to remain anonymous, that's cool, we won't print your name, but we do need to know who you are in case we have a question. Anyhoo, keep your stuff coming and continue to feed Big Blue. Love and such, Your devoted editor.

"Modern creativity has high
psychic costs." --Morris Berman

"When I was one and twenty
I heard a wise man say,
'Give crowns and pounds and guineas
But not your heart away;
Give pearls away and rubies
But I was one and twenty
No use to talk to me.'"
-- AE Houseman,
from "When I was One and Twenty."

Read
this



"When we two parted
In Silence and tears
Half broken hearted
To sever for years
Pale grew thy cheek and cold
Colder thy kiss;
Truly that hour foretold
Sorrow to this
The dew of the morning
Sunk chill on my brow
It felt like the warning
Of what I feel now.
The vows are all broken,
And light is thy fame
I hear thy name spoken
And share in its shame
They name thee before me
A knell to mine ear;
A shudder comes o'er me
Why wert thou so dear?
They know not I knew thee
Who knew thee too well-
Long, long shall I rue thee
too deeply to tell
In secret we met-
In silence I grieve
That thy heart should forget
Thy spirit conceive
If I should meet thee
After long years
How should I greet thee?
With Silence and tears."
--Lord Byron

"The glamour of childish days is upon me, my man hood is cast down in
the flood of remembrance, I weep like a child for the past." -- DH
Lawrence, from "Piano"

KEY

"We wear the mask that grins and lies,
It hides our cheeks and shades our eyes-
This debt we pay to human gulle;
With torn and bleeding hearts we smile,
And mouth with myriad subtleties.
Why should the world by over-wise,
In counting all our tears and sighs?
Nay, let them only see us, while
We wear the mask.
We smile but, O Christ, our cries
To thee from tortured souls arise.
We sing, but O the clay is vile
Beneath our feet, and long the mile
But let the world dream other wise,
We wear the mask!" -- PL Dunbar "We Wear the Mask"

"My only weakness is a list
of crimes
My only weakness is... well
nevermind." --The Smiths,
"Shoplifters of the World"

"Uncommon women who as
individuals have the personal
dignity that comes with
intelligence, competence,
flexibility, maturity and a
sense of responsibility...
without loss of gaiety, charm
or femininity..." --Wendy
Wasserstein, Uncommon Women
and Others



ION

Elvis Is Back (No, Not That One)

by Rick Anderson
College Press Service

Elvis Costello/Brodsky Quartet The Juliet Letters Warner

Yes, that's THE Elvis Costello, and yes, that's a string quartet with him in the cover photo. And no, there's no drummer and no electric guitarist. Just Elvis, his songs, two violins, a viola and a cello. In an age when we seem to need a label for everything we hear, Elvis and the Brodskys have created a disc that defies all categories: equal parts art song, pop song and avant-garde experimentation. "The Juliet Letters" is the first real breath of fresh air the music industry has had in ages.

Not that fans will have a hard time recognizing their favorite Angry Young Man, however - tunes like "I Almost Had A Weakness" and "This Offer is Unrepeatable" hard back to the Elvis of old and could easily be arranged for the Attractions, his form band. But gorgeous moments like "The Birds Will Still Be Singing" represents a wholly new approach, and the Brodsky Quartet's Sympathetic and brisk arrangements are the perfect foil to Costello's (shall we say) distinctive voice. Not everyone will like this disc, but everyone should hear it.

Husker Du Everything Falls Apart, Rhino

A very wise person once warned that you have to watch out for "important" records, because they're like "interesting" people; an album can be very influential and make significant statements and still not be any fun to spend time with.

That truism kept coming back to me as I listened to this disc, a reissue of Husker Du's first studio LP. Is it an important release? Absolutely; Husker Du's groundbreaking melodic punk rock inspired a whole generation of alternative rockers and continues to form college radio today. But unlike many "important" bands, the Huskers got better as time went on. The undifferentiated sonic mush of "Land Speed Record" (their live debut) and much of "Everything Falls Apart" gives only a glimpse of what this trio would

accomplish later, on releases like "Metal Circus" and "New Day Rising" - albums which say Husker Du hitting new highs in melodic interest and lyrical depth without sacrificing raw, noisy power.

That future greatness is clear on the title track and "In A Free Land," each an outstanding marriage of hardcore thrash and power pop. But too much of the rest of this disc sounds like noise for noise's sake. Maybe I'm feeling my age, but I need more than that.

Kate & Anna McGarrigle The French Record, Hannibal

The Rykodisc label continues to establish itself as the kind of cool folk-rock with this latest installment in a series of reissues from the Hannibal vaults. If memory serves, "The French Record" was one of the McGarrigle sisters' most popular albums when it was first released in 1980, and it deserves the renaissance it's getting now. An instantly endearing collection of folksongs and originals sung in French, "The French Record" never sounds pretentiously folksy or slavishly authentic, but instead combines elements of Canadian tradition and pop sensibility to create a lovely and loving patchwork. Highlights include "En Filant Ma Quenouille," a banjo-driven spinning song, and the wistful "Entre Lajeunesse et La Sagesse." Very highly recommended.

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Commencement Ushers Needed

Approximately 10 volunteers are needed to usher at the commencement ceremonies on May 9, 1993. The college will pick up the room and board contract through Gaduation Day for those students living on campus. If you are interested, please see Kate Osborn or Connie Wesner in the office of the Assistant Dean for Academic Affaris, before April 23.

