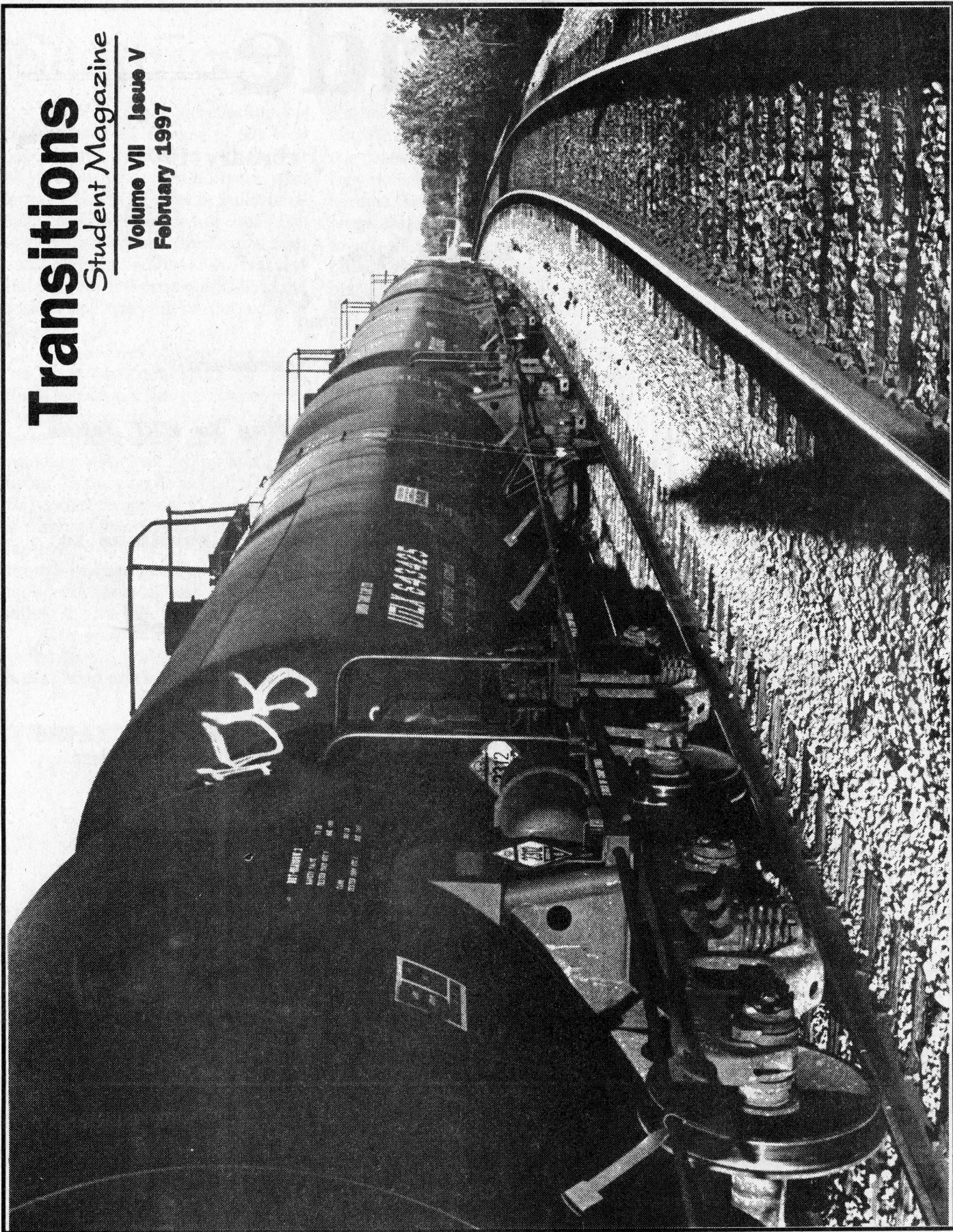


Transitions

Student Magazine

Volume VII Issue V
February 1997



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Transitions is published monthly by the University of Southern Indiana Student Publications. It is distributed throughout the campus and city of Evansville, Ind. The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of distributors, the university, its faculty or administration.

Transitions welcomes and encourages submissions on any topic or medium. Include author or artist's name, address and phone number for verification. All submissions become property of *Transitions* unless prior arrangements have been made.

Transitions also welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be typed, legibly signed, and include a phone number for verification. Publication is based on space and editorial review.

Transitions is printed by the Princeton Clarion.

For more informations about advertising, subscriptions or distribution, call (812) 464-1856 or write:

Transitions
8600 University Blvd.
Evansville, IN 47712

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Sacrifices: *Transitions* off the Web

Many people have asked recently about the demise of our web page. I can only say that with the exit of Webmaster James Belleau, who found a better job and broader horizons, the page more or less died. The story becomes more complicated than that, however, because I have had several very earnest people ask about the position and carrying on the work of James.

The answer to these people is "no" or at least "not right now." I am afraid we do not have the resources. The computer that was used as our server is now being used for such mundane duties as typing and page layout. In the past, it did not have all the needed programs, so giving it up as a server was no sacrifice. Now it has everything we need and zips through our commands with lightening speed, more or less. We are not willing to give that up.

Our only other computer, who we fondly call "Pokey," will soon trek to the Shield newspaper office where

a sewage spill killed one of his brothers. We first offered Shield staffers the use of several broken typewriters, but they politely refused. Or, at least, we assume the crying sounds they made were refusals. Sometimes it is so hard to tell. Pokey is almost as good as a broken typewriter as the staff members of the *Shield* will soon realize.

In the interest of the truth I will admit that another problem is the editor, who has only so much time. I find in my last semester of college that I actually enjoy writing and want to devote more time to that occupation. I wouldn't mind doing some classwork this semester, either. Coordinating things with the Webmaster takes time and energy that I would rather devote to making the paper copy of *Transitions* better or, maybe, to pursuing some semblance of a personal life. I'll admit that even if we had the resources, I would have to consider the other costs.

I apologize about the end of the Web page. I think it is a worth-while

The editor runs in and out all day, every day, but the best times to catch her are:

Monday

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday

4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Or, be original and make an appointment.

If you find anything amiss in this issue or any other, please call 464-1856.

endeavor, and hope that it can be reinstated in the future. But, the printed copies of *Transitions* and the *Shield* come first and, unfortunately, the Web version of *Transitions* takes time and resources away from them.

The Aerie

USI's Literary Magazine

Attention all majors. There is a call for:

- Non-fiction
- Fiction
- Essays
- Photography
- Poetry
- Art

A submission box is located in every department. Please include telephone number and a short bio with submission.

For more information call 422-8757 or 985-0874.

I WONDER IF MY BROTHER REX'LL BE UP TO BEING MY BEST MAN...

WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

HE USED TO HAVE THIS REACTION WHEN HE WAS AROUND ME... BUT HE'S PROBABLY OVER THAT BY NOW...

REX DEAR, YOU RECEIVED A LETTER FROM YOUR BROTHER ERNIE...

Hurr-lch
:cack! 6

REX DEAR ARE YOU FEELING OK?

REX DEAR, I THOUGHT YOU WERE AN ONLY GUILD? YOU HAVE A BROTHER NAMED ERNIE?!

Blech

GOODNESS REX, YOU'RE SICK AGAIN??

NO...I HAVE... NO BROTHER... "COUGH"...

SURE YOU DO REX DARLING. HIS NAME'S ERNIE. IT SAYS SO RIGHT HERE!!

NOOO!!
HURR-LICH!
COUGH, COUGH

JANE, PLEASE! EVERY TIME I HEAR THAT NAME IT CAUSES UNCONTROLLABLE NAUSEA...

HMMM

ERNIE MORGAN, ERNIE MORGAN, ERNIE MORGAN ERNIE MORGAN!! (HEA-HEA)

NOOOOO!
HUR-LLL!!
COUGH-CAK!
...THE LOVE OF GOD. (YAK)

MENTAL NOTE: "I AM IN COMPLETE CONTROL OF THIS RELATIONSHIP..."

REX DEAR, WHAT'S WRONG ABOUT YOUR BROTHER ERNIE? HE SAID HE WAS GETTING MARRIED. YOU SHOULD BE HAPPY!

THAT MAN HAS CAUSED SO MUCH PAIN TO MY FATHER. NOT TO MENTION HE HAS THE BRAIN CAPACITY OF...

...A MONKEY! YOU HAVE THE BRAIN CAPACITY OF A MONKEY ERNIE MORGAN!!

DON'T JUST STAND THERE!!

Hooked on Ebonics

Black English prompts opportunity

Many conservatives and liberals alike are vexed over the recent attempt by the Oakland, Calif. school system to validate black English, or Ebonics, as an acceptable derivation of Standard American English. Certifying Ebonics, these opponents say, would place a stigma of linguistic inferiority on the shoulders of African-Americans.

Personally, I suspect Ebonics, like all dialects, is simply a habit. It will be hard to convince me that blacks in general would have a tougher time in Grammar 314 than I did. Having looked at both sides of this issue, however, I can see some positive aspects of introducing Ebonics instruction into our classrooms.

One benefit of officially recognizing Ebonics is the boost it would give the proponents of multicultural education. These folks have suffered a bit lately at the hands of a few ethnocentric writers and living-in-the-past talking heads who insist on reminding us America was at one time considered a "melting pot" and admired around the world for it.

Next, the installation of Ebonic instruction would address the current infatuation with "self-esteem," the fad word of the educational establishment in the '90s. Teachers are expected to raise the self-esteem of their students, even at the cost of sacrificing classroom accomplishment. "Never say anything negative about a student's work, even if it deserves it" is an instruction all of us teacher wannabees receive during our time spent in education classes.

Ebonics would raise self-esteem, particularly among the teachers and school board members who have given up on their students. Ebonics can be a way for these people to relate to a certain block of students. Everyone deserves to feel good about themselves.

But I confess the brightest aspect I see in Ebonics is surely the same one the



Listing Tward Starboard
by Mike Whicker

Oakland school system sees -- a chance to fatten our respective coffers. But where the Oakland school system must rely on taxpayers, I will address consumers. I spy industry here, and an occasion for entrepreneurship.

Softwear will be needed. English-to-Spanish, -French and -German language softwear translation programs are hot sellers. Standard English to Ebonics softwear will be in great demand. As proven by Bill Gates, the early bird grabs the lion's share of the softwear market. I have started work.

For a white man, I feel I have a decent grasp of Ebonics, although I make no pretense of being bilingual. I am building my Ebonics softwear with the help of a former teammate of mine who is fluent in the language.

Olace Williams and I played semi-pro football together for three years back in the late '70s. Lucky for me, Olace is both black and from the inner-city (St. Louis). When the issue of Ebonics hit the newspapers the idea struck Olace and me to begin cataloging an Ebonics lexicon.

For advertisement purposes I will list a sampling from the W&W (Williams & Whicker) Ebonics Translation Softwear Program (requires Windows 3.1). Our format follows that of most foreign language softwear programs -- Standard English is typed in, an icon is clicked, then, on a split scene, the softwear translates your Standard English into Ebonics.

Some examples:

English: "Hello, I would like you to meet my girlfriend."

W&W Softwear: "She my b----."

English: "As a friend, I am concerned about your health."

W&W Softwear: "You a fat m---- f----."

English: "I see your point, but I disagree with your reasoning."

W&W Softwear: "Backoff before I open my can of whup-ass!"

Teachers will demand Ebonic translations of the classics. Olace and I will fill the need.

Shakespeare: "We few, we happy few, we band of brothers." *Henry V*.

W&W Softwear: "Yo, we gang-bangers be some bad m---- f-----."

Shakespeare: "Plots have I laid, inductions dangerous." *Richard III*.

W&W Softwear: "I be scopin' the backlash on you brutha."

Milton: "Sufficient to have stood, though free to fall." *Paradise Lost*.

W&W Softwear: "Watch out, that be strike three."

Poe: "Tell this soul with sorrow laden, . . ." *The Raven*.

W&W Softwear: "Say wha?"

Tom Paine: "These are the times that try men's souls." *The Crisis, No. 1*

W&W Softwear: "Why this jive be wackin' on me?"

Robert Burns: "My love is like a red, red rose." *A Red, Red Rose*.

W&W Ebonics Softwear: "I wanna sweat you with my jammy."

And from *Huckleberry Finn*, a quote from Jim:

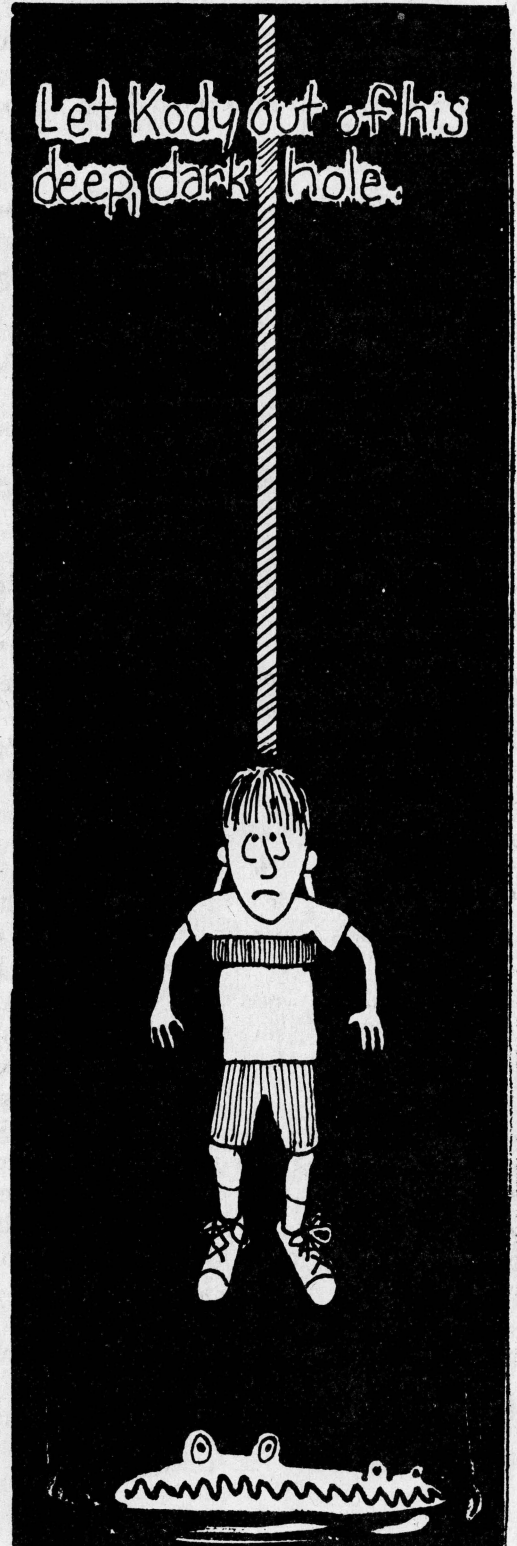
"I hain't ever hearn er sich a thing b'fo'."

W&W Ebonics Softwear:

"I hain't ever hearn er sich a thing b'fo'."

mwhicker@risc.usi.edu

NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS



Goodbye Studio Art

Fear, not logic, closed long-lived business

I wish to extend my regards to the owners and employees of Studio Art, who were forced to shut their doors after 28 successful years due to a misguided law and a gaggle of intolerant Bible thumpers. Studio Art was, for the most part, a clean, well-lighted place for the purchase and exhibition of adult materials and the best porn shop for miles.

My occasional patronage of Studio Art was always a pleasant experience, as it was for many in the tri-state region. Anybody can tell you that sex sells, but it

takes a special kind of gutsy entrepreneur to sell sex. Thanks, Studio Art. You'll be sorely missed.

If it is indeed true that people fear what they do not understand, then America has quite a ways to go when it comes to sex education. Violence, deceit, treachery, treason, racism, greed, drug abuse and any number of other dark chasms of the human experience can, and often are, put on display in full graphic view in most of the ever growing number of media outlets. But not sex. Sex cannot be displayed, only nervously and whimsically discussed in most cases. Certainly, legal channels do exist for sexual materials in the United States, but they are shrinking in number—and those that remain are accorded an image nothing short of an alley bath house. Most outlets for adult materials are not the cave of carnality that many would have you believe, however, and I report this fact from experience.

Assuredly, there are many who feel that the real issue facing pornog-

raphy is one of First Amendment rights and freedom of expression. I, on the other hand, would contend that the keystone issue regarding pornography is not one of rights but one of fear. An activity as wonderful, natural, universal and fulfilling as sex should not be looked upon with the abhorrence that millions of Americans accord it.

An activity as wonderful, natural, universal and fulfilling as sex should not be looked upon with the abhorrence that millions of Americans accord it.

Deviancy in sexual behavior such as child molestation and rape should not be tolerated, and such acts are rightfully illegal. Materials depicting such deviant activity were not available at Studio Art to the best of my knowledge, and make up only a tiny fraction of the pornography market as a whole.

Some feminists have asserted that women who perform in a sexual industry are, in effect, victims of rape. As Gloria Steinem claims, "Pornography is not about sex. It's about an imbalance of male-female power that allows and even requires sex to be used as a form of aggression." This position only diminishes the abomination of real rape, and shows no respect for those women who have decided to cash in on the sexual revolution so vehemently spurred on by feminists not so many years ago. Undoubtedly, the word 'choice' is a tenet of any pro-women platform. Why then should women who *choose* to enter the sex industry not be given the same choice to do with their bodies

what they please? As psychologist Leonore Tiefer argues, "There will be no sexuality for women at all without freely available sexual information and open talk about sexual possibilities and expression."

Prime-time television is replete with sexual innuendoes which provide hours of merriment for millions every week. The nation's most popular show,

Seinfeld, has dedicated countless episodes on sexual matters—from orgasms to masturbation to organ size—and raises nary an eyebrow. But a man's naked behind shown on *NYPD Blue* gets

the phones ringing in no time.

As long as Americans continue to stigmatize the naked and sexual human body, young Americans will continue to face the adult realities of venereal disease, unwanted pregnancy, abortion, among others—due to sexual ignorance.

I'm not proposing that *Deep Inside Seka* be shown to high school students, but still, what other course of study exists in which filmed or videotaped depictions of the subject cannot be applied? I contend that after the initial snickering and giggling, students might actually learn something, and would respect the fact that they were given the opportunity to regard sex in a mature fashion. Understanding goes a long way toward satisfying curiosity, and condom machines in the boys' room or the crackling wit of sitcoms do little to provide that understanding. Young people should be aware of sex, not afraid of it.

Adults should have free and

continued on next page

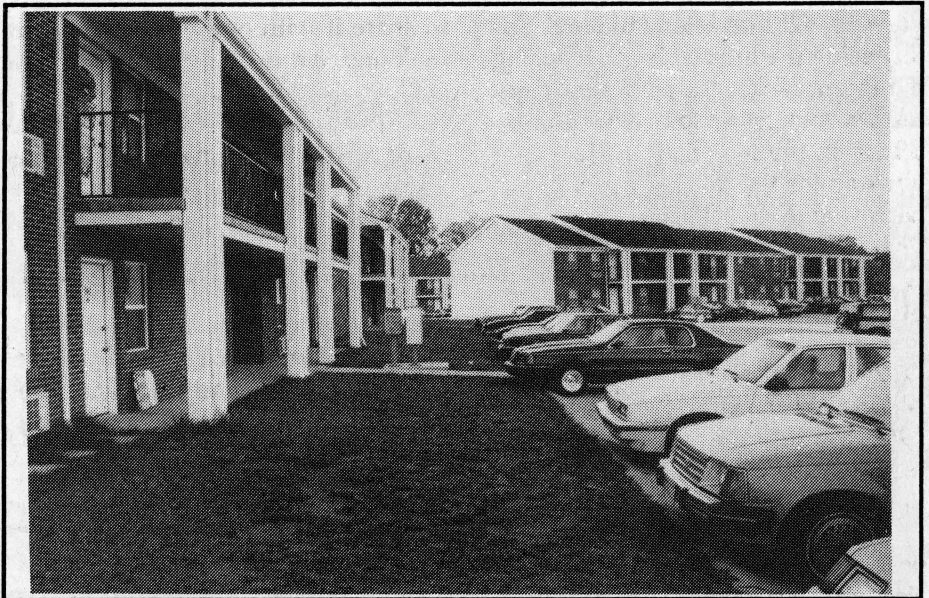
legal access of sexual materials. The crass assumption that Studio Arts' location, within 500 feet of two churches, somehow posed a threat to Franklin Street is specious to say the least. There should be cause for concern when a legal and successful business in operation for 28 years should be forced to close down due to such a pinhead law as the one that crushed Studio Art.

Were any studies done regarding the sexual behavior of west-side residents over the past 28 years that might substantiate the logic of the law? Of course not. Did Studio Art earn a reputation as a den of decadence due to a concentration of crime, drugs or prostitution in or around it's parameters? Absolutely not. Studio Art only scared people because people are afraid of, if not obsessed by, sex.

Finally, though Milos Forman's new film *Me People vs. Larry Flynt* is a fine film, Flynt should not be lauded as a champion of First Amendment rights. Flynt is a man who relishes attention, and he and his magazine have received plenty of it to quite a hefty profit. Flynt is loved by some, hated by many, but ignored by very few. Flynt and Madonna must have attended the same business school, for she too knows the bankroll benefits of scaring the bejeezus out of people by documenting her adventurous sexual attitudes.

But we all could learn something from Larry Flynt and Madonna. We could learn to approach sex as the big, basic and rhythmic human satisfaction provider that it is (as adults, of course), and not the Satanic put of pleasure Sister Rita described to me in the fifth grade. There is such a thing as sexual maturity, and the degree to which adults in our society fail to approach sexual matters like grown-ups is distressing, and may soon become oppressive if we're not leery of their presence.

Russell Fox



USI Housing faced a record number of applications this year. Shield file photo

Running out of space USI Housing turns to creative solutions

"Spacious one to two bedroom apartments available on the East side. Fully furnished, including beds and dishwasher. Large closets, swimming pool and tennis court access. Reasonable rate."

Not quite what one would describe as typical university housing. Due to the growing population of on-campus residents and the lack of accommodations to meet those living needs, however, USI was forced to look into other options for housing its students last fall. What they came up with was providing off-campus apartments to returning students at the same rate as living in USI housing.

This year, USI experienced a 100 percent growth in students outside region 13, the 11 counties making up the Southern-most part of Indiana, according to Greg Myers, director of USI Housing. Because of this, many students planning to attend USI were outside of commuting distance. By last spring's priority deadline for housing

applications by incoming students, there were more applicants than the university had beds for, even with the two new complexes being built. This created significant challenges in accomadating all the students. "We had to come up with creative ways to handle all the people or the University [would] not grow," Myers said.

The creative alternative USI Housing found was to go to the community. Myers and his staff talked with the Apartment Managers Association in Evansville about the possibility of providing community apartments to students. A letter was sent to the apartment community and also to all returning students who had previously lived on campus to see how interested students would be about living off campus.

"We were not expecting such a large response [from the students]. We got 60 calls the first morning after the letter went out," said Myers. Over the next couple days, that number

grew to 200 interested students. After seeing the interest level, Housing then went back to the apartment community and began to interview complexes in the next step at finalizing housing for the fall semester. It was narrowed down to seven complexes:

The Timbers, Village Green, Shyloh, Stonehedge, Regency Club, Charter Oaks and the Normandy Arms. 190 students were locked into agreements.

To solve future housing crunches, the university has also purchased Golden Tower Apartments. Residents at this complex, including USI students, still live there under Golden Tower's contract.

Students who now live in the other off-campus apartment complexes took advantage of USI's offer for various reasons. For some, the cost of living off campus at the same cost as living on campus was attractive. It appealed to others because of the surroundings or being closer to jobs held off campus. For other students, the fact that USI is now a "dry" campus and no longer offers "over-21" housing created an incentive to move.

"The idea of living off campus really appealed to me," Tina Warren, a fourth-year student, said. "I felt as though I had spent my time on campus and I was older and more mature and ready for something else." For Tina, living off campus also meant being closer to her job.

Junior Nathan Cecil liked the opportunity that USI was providing to live off campus at the same rate as on-campus housing. "I liked the idea of living in a bigger apartment and only having

to share it with one other person, at the same cost as living with three others."

Though the arrangements are made with USI, living off-campus is different from living on campus. Students are not accountable to Resident

tentions of the students.

According to Myers a decision has not yet been made whether or not the offer will be made again next year to USI students. One problem Housing is dealing with is holding vacant apartments for three months in the

summer when students return home, and the storage of all the additional furniture purchased to furnish the apartments. Those details are still being

"We had to come up with creative ways to handle all the people, or the University [would] not grow." -- Greg Myers, USI Housing Director

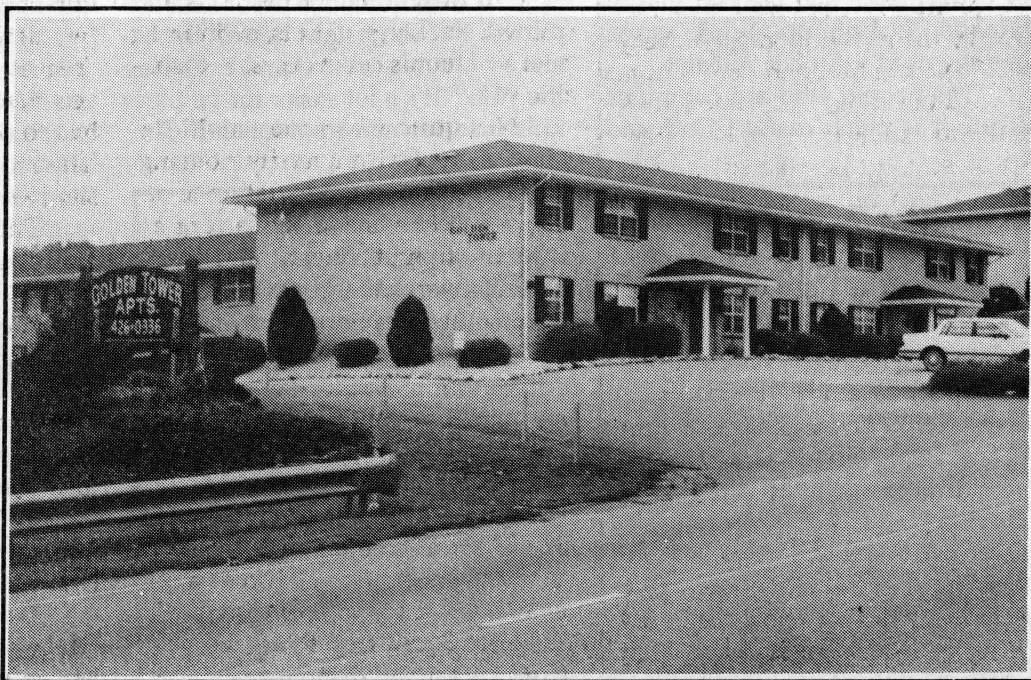
Assistants or USI security. Instead, they are under the staff of the apartment complex and call the police if there is a problem. "Students have to follow the University's rules and the Apartment rules," Myers said. It also means a 15-to-20-minute commute each day to classes.

Late last semester USI Housing surveyed residents about their experiences. Housing must now deal with coordinating efforts based on the in-

worked out.

However, if not off-campus housing, the University will have to discover another solution to accommodate all those off-campus students and the growth anticipated for the next academic fall semester. Those are the issues Housing is dealing with now and, as stated by Myers, "some decisions have to be made [about where housing is going]."

—Mary Beth Cable



USI owns Golden Tower Apartments and has housing arrangements with other area complexes. Shield file photo

A New Educational Resource

Researching on the Internet: How good is it?

On any given day in the Orr Center's computer labs one can find students surfing the Internet. Some type messages to other Internet users on "chat lines," while others look up the latest sports scores or read movie reviews. Some students, however, use the Internet in much the way its inventors envisioned: as an educational and research resource.

Junior Betty Goff, a political science major, used the Internet last semester to research a paper for one of her classes. Goff said she researched the World Health Organization and found hundreds of pages related to her topic.

Because of the quantity and quality of information, Goff never left the computer lab to round off her paper with more traditional library research. "I found everything I needed to know right there [on the Internet]," she said.

Goff was not alone. She said seven of the eight people in that 400-level political science class researched their topics via computer. Goff cited the convenience and the fact that information is more up-to-date as reasons she used it for her research.

"For people who are computer-literate it is much easier," Goff said.

"You don't even have to retype everything. Just cut and paste." Goff used "cut" and "paste" commands in Netscape to choose what information she wanted for her paper. She "cut" selected text, then "pasted" it into her paper in Microsoft Word.

David Rice Library's Instructional Services Librarian, Joni Kanzler, often introduces students to the Internet in the classes she teaches on how to use the library.

"If the professors ask, and we have time," she said. "[Students] need to learn the basics [of the library] first." She said she has been approached by a few students seeking help with researching via the Internet. Students are often scared at first, she said.

With a little skill and a lot of patience, students can learn to use the Internet.

"It was difficult at first," Goff admitted. But she taught herself the basics by playing around and exploring the Web. "It's a lot easier for younger kids than for non-trationals," Goff,

a non-traditional student, said. "They grew up with computers."

Students should not feel totally alone in their searches. Library staff

members and computer lab monitors can often help. Though currently few computers in the library have the Internet and the ones that do are relatively slow, Kanzler said that many of the staff members at the library have useful pages bookmarked, or saved, and know

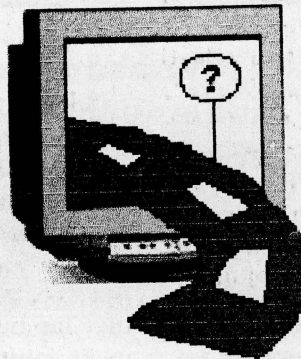
what pages to go to for certain information.

For example, one of the best sites belongs to the United States Government Printing Office, Kanzler said. "The Government has stopped printing some of [its documents] in a paper format," she said. Instead the GPO puts it on the Web. Library staffers know of other useful sites that would save searching time.

Though she only started using the Internet last summer, Goff spends much of her time in the strange place that is the web. Besides doing research, she browses pages, talks on the chat lines and works on her own home page. Goff has also used the Internet for research of a more personal nature. Taking advantage of one of its directories which lists addresses and phone numbers, Goff tracked down her ex-husband who owed child-support.

Dr. Hillary Braysmith, professor of Art History, is "not terribly impressed" with the Internet. "Some of [the information posted] is so blatantly wrong," she said. In Braysmith's discipline the offending pages "tend to be placed there by undergraduates. They aren't experts." A student using some of these pages to prepare for her classes would fail, she said.

Users should be aware that while



An Internet Glossary

Internet - The largest network of computer networks in the world, easily recognizable by the format of Internet email addresses: userid@host.

bookmarking - saving an Internet address to a computer for instant access later.

home page - The opening page of a Web site.

Net - A colloquial term that is often used to refer to the entirety of Cyberspace.

Web browser - A client program designed to interact with World Wide Web servers on the Internet for the purpose of viewing Web pages.

Most definitions supplied by Wolff New Media

many legitimate sources of information can be found on the Net, some pages are posted by individuals who have no more credentials than the average person with a hobby and a little bit of knowledge of computers.

Braysmith does not totally dismiss the Internet. She said she would accept "professional sources." For example, many museums post pages, she said. If such pages were used, she would expect her students to cite them in their bibliographies. She said she is also "toying with the idea that they submit print-outs of the pages."

Philosophy major Rob Hoover has used the Internet for computer science research. "If I were going to research something in philosophy, the Internet would be one of my last resorts," he said.

"I would use the Internet for research purposes, only to find sources of information, then would I go to those sources," he said. "I wouldn't trust all the stuff that's out there unless I knew the source was reliable."

Some of the more reliable sources are home pages run by government offices, universities and non-profit organizations. Many publications, scholarly and otherwise, have on-line versions which could prove useful when paper copies are not available in area libraries.

Kanzler warned that some of these publications require on-line subscriptions that cost money. USI students will soon have more journal articles available to them, however. This semester, Rice Library is trying out EBSCOhost and ProQuest Direct, Internet services that provide access to various databases of academic journals.

Documenting Internet resources still remains a problem. The latest edition of the *MLA Handbook* is incomplete on the subject. According to *Newsweek* magazine the next edition will explain internet documentation fully. Until then students can ask their professors for their preferences or look

Navigating the Net: Search Engines Help

With its millions of pages to sift through, the Internet can be difficult to navigate. Because of this situation, some companies have created search engines, services which aid in finding pages related to topics. To find a search engine, click on "Net Search," one of the buttons at the top of the screen in Netscape, the most popular Internet program available to USI students.

Searching the Net is a process similar to using the key-word search option in most library computer catalogues. Users type in the key words of their topic and the search engine scans a database of Internet pages.

Like the library system there are flaws in the key-word method. As one USI student found, typing "Tho-

mas Hardy" as a key word will yield not only scholarly articles, but also every home page whose owners list "Thomas Hardy as a favorite or most hated author. Some companies and organizations lace their pages with certain popular key words in hopes of receiving more visits, or hits, from Internet users.

Another problem is that searches often yield thousands of matches. To cut the number of matches, it is a good idea to type in several key words at once using a search engine that can handle the task or, as USI librarian Joni Kanzler suggests, find a search engine that can search under subject categories.

Tracy Bee

to the Internet itself. Janice Walker, a professor from the University of Florida has developed a MLA-like citation. Her Internet address is www.cas.usf.edu/english/walker/mla.html.

Other people have posted similar pages, but two such pages listed by *Newsweek* as filling the gap were

tions should be taken. Besides just citing a page in a bibliography, printing it out is an option as Braysmith suggested. Goff printed out much of her research and presented it to her professor.

Only one computer lab in the Orr Center, 3066, allows printing off the Internet, but pages can also be saved

to computer disk in any of the labs. This not only provides a compact record for the research, but allows for convenience and mobility. Pages can be saved and easily

accessed later for reading or printing.

Kanzler says the library staff sees one problem with the students who first use the Internet. "They think a computer can do everything. The students "think they can get everything on it," she said.

"There's fun stuff. There's useful stuff," Kanzler said. "It takes a while to find the useful stuff."

Tracy Bee

A sample citation from Janice Walker's home page

Bruckman, Amy. "Approaches to Managing Deviant Behavior in Virtual Communities." <ftp://media.mit.edu/pub/asb/papers/deviance-chi94> (4 Dec.1994).

unavailable when the author of this article tried to access them. Their inavailability, whether temporary or permanent, illustrates a problem with Internet research and documentation: some pages are here today, gone tomorrow. Servers go down. Addresses change. The problem is not that pervasive, however. Most legitimate sources of information are permanent, more or less. But, because the Internet is an ephemeral place, some precau-

POETRY

Anatomy of a Survivor

I hear me screaming, so far yet so near.
He pounds, he kicks, now he's pulling my hair.
I pray for sleep so I don't have to fear.

Morning comes, ears ringing, only one tear.
He sounds like a lunatic, now I'm scared.
I hear me screaming, so far yet so near.

He keeps repeating, you'll never leave here.
See my life crumble, I'm so unaware.
I pray for sleep, so I don't have to fear.

Browbeaten, I run, try to disappear.
Don't fumble, get out of this damn nightmare.
I hear me screaming, so far yet so near.

Weeping, shh quiet. I'm free now I sneer.
Divorce court. I'm coming, I see him there.
I pray for sleep so I don't have to fear.

Believed in myself, I will persevere.
He feels no remorse, I feel no fear.
I hear me screaming, so far yet so near.
I lay to sleep, now I don't have to fear.

Connie Krohn

Breakfast of Champions

I avoid cereal, its crunch too life confirming,
sounding out my breakfasts alone.
The milk gleams too white and wholesome;
even the bowl leaves me to long for rough edges, jagged
ends.

Breakfast intrudes my body, wresting my stomach
from the needling hunger that fuels me.
I need an ache to survive.
Cereal only satisfies, pacifies,
wields the comfort, health, sanity I neither need nor want.
I champion nothing in my life, leaving everything to luck,
or chance- nothing ventured nothing lost.
Gains come crunchy and sweet, to be savored,
like a fine cereal.
My life offers nothing decadent and sugar coated,
but plain and bare as a bowl of cornflakes.
I begin again, hungry for comfort.

Shannon Neese

West

Kansas, driving on that concrete ribbon of admiration,
Decorating billowing clouds of green.
Endless miles of lucid creation.

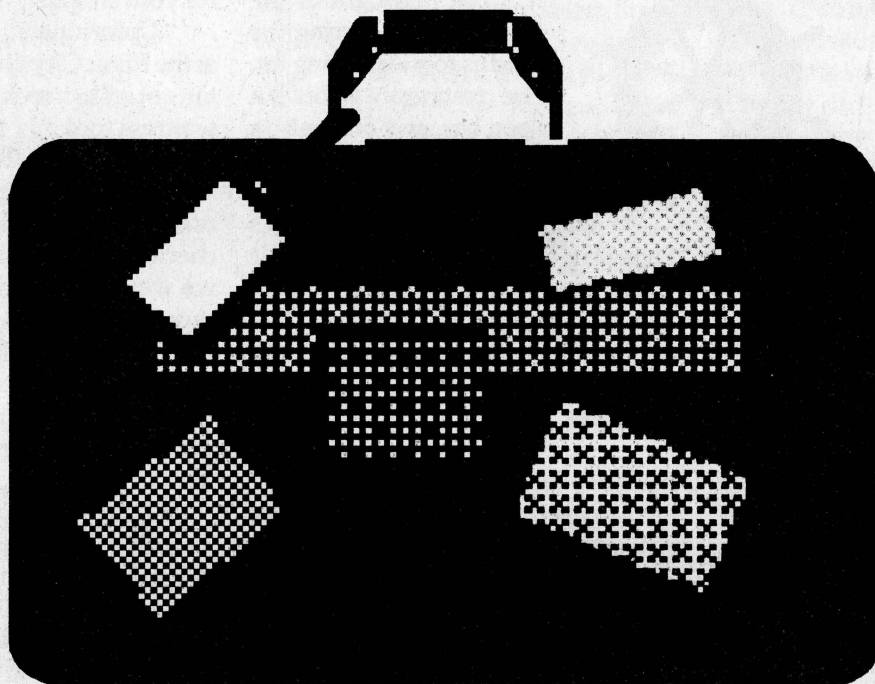
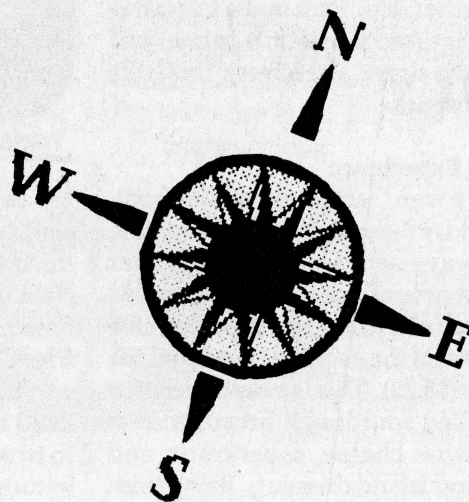
Into the mountains of awe and expectation,
Crawling ever slower till the peak is seen.
Soothing my eyes from their sedation.

Down into the valleys of joy and realization,
Fed by so many fingered streams.
Endless miles of lucid creation.

Vast voids of desert cremation.
Open air, country, filling my head with dreams
Soothing my eyes from their sedation.

Endless miles of lucid creation

John Farless



River City Grille: Didn't float our boat

The River City Grille is located in the Pavilion of the Casino Aztar complex on the Ohio. Park in the free parking garage (second floor is prime) and follow the signs. The River City Grille is downstairs.

Jamy's Experience

We were seated almost immediately and ordered drinks. I stayed with the always-safe Coke. The waiter brought around ice water and spilled about half of it in my lap. A perfect clue to the rest of the evening. I ordered the Rueben (\$5.25). This is a sandwich that has grilled sourdough bread, corned beef, Swiss cheese, sauerkraut, and Thousand Island dressing. Being from the heart of German Country, Jasper, I cherished the sandwich. It was delicious but messy. Ah, but a small sacrifice to the food gods!

For dessert I ordered a Triple C (\$2.95): a fudge brownie with three scoops of rich chocolate ice cream, pools of fudge sauce, and real whipped cream. It was delicious, but way too much. I couldn't finish it so I had to give up the rest.

The food was good but the service was terrible. I'm not sure, but it may be better after a few months. The place has been around for about two months so I thought that they would have been established by now. I might give them one more shot—they're on my probationary period.

Shannon's Experience

Viva Las Vegas! Or so I thought as I entered the Pavilion. The place lacked the lights and tacky glamour of La La Land. After vetoing the Italian and fancy steak place as a little above our budget, we settled on the River City Grille. The decor seemed too pseudo-American, something like Huck and Tom gone to Atlantic City.

The menu featured items like "Par-

Dining with the Gang

Transitions Staff Restaurant Review

ley Bet" and "Aces High." I selected, simply, "Fiddlers"—two catfish, which came with choice of soup or salad, vegetable or cole slaw, choice of potato, and bread. I picked salad, cole slaw, and fries. The slaw never came. I ordered a cup of soup as well, vegetable beef. I liked the soup, though it was nothing to treasure. The salad was a standard lettuce, etc. The fiddlers were crunchy, though bland. I enjoyed the steak fries and snowflake rolls most.

For dessert I ordered cheese cake, which came smooth and creamy and swirled with strawberries. Our server seemed disgruntled; service was not courteous and prompt, but given the fact she stands on her feet many hours a day to wait on drunks with unearned money to burn, I can make allowances.

The highlight of the evening came during the exodus to the parking lot. The restaurant faces an open bar, and one patron shook her booty for all it was worth to a lounge singer's bad rendition of Al Green's

"Let's Stay Together." With the whole bar singing along, the scenario looked like a beer commercial. I doubt I'll return to this Las Vegas wanna be, not even under the duress of an Elvis impersonator.

Jennifer's Experience

I would have to compare the Pavilion's River City Grille to eating at a carnival, and it wasn't the atmosphere but the way I felt the rest of the night after dining there. Because I starved myself all day, I walked into the Captain D's-like decor of the River City

Grille absolutely famished. So ordering was pretty simple. I wanted a substantial amount of calories: Chicken Sandwich with cheese and fries.

Whenever I dine out I'm always sympathetic to the server, simply because I'm one also. I always enjoy a server with a sense of humor about having such a crappy job. Ours didn't crack a smile once. She wasn't happy to get a party of seven like ours, especially since we get rather rowdy. I have long observed the need for a proficiency test before attaining a server position. When you can't divide twenty-odd items between seven people in ten minutes, the question of basic math comes into play. We waited 30 minutes.

The whole evening left me with indigestion, not just physically. The Pavilion may be employing a decent portion of Evansville, but a noisy restaurant with an incompetent staff, and a bathroom 150 feet outside the joint is not my kind of evening out.

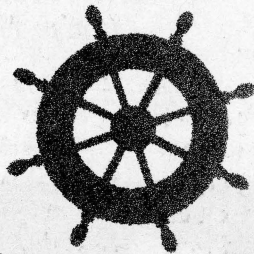
Tracy Lynn's Experience

There's nothing quite as nice as dinner with good friends. Thank God for your friends!

Unfortunately, it seemed our meal at the River City Grille in Aztar's Pavilion got off to a rocky start when the curt waitress took her time getting back to our table after delivering our drinks.

Once she came back and we began ordering, she failed to separate our checks ahead of time after I mentioned we would need them that way. This caused quite a long wait at the end of the meal as we waited for her to use the computer system. Plus, there was a mix-up about a soft drink that didn't get billed, but none of us knew whose it was.

To further aggravate us, one of the kitchen crew brought out our meal on several trays, leaving them to sit in the virtually empty dining area until our waitress came back to the table. I don't understand how she could have missed them sitting in the middle of the room,



considering we were seated right next to the kitchen entrance!

Despite these annoyances, the meal was large and delicious. Short on monedá, I ordered the all-American favorite, a cheeseburger with all the fixings (\$4.75). Thick, hot french fries, crisp lettuce, succulent tomatoes, dill pickles sliced long-ways and freshly cut onion topped off the more-than-a-quarter-pound burger.

Dessert was as all-American as the meal: Hot Apple Pie and stolen bites of Jamy's Triple C sundae-type calorie-fest. The apple pie was served hot enough for my tastes. While broken a bit from warming in a microwave, it was delicious from first bite.

Overall, the trip and hassle was worth the wait for the food. And the conversation helped fill the gaps in service. I would visit this establishment again in hopes of better service the second time around.

John's Experience

There are several places to dine in the new Casino Aztar Pavilion, but we chose the River City Grille. I was looking forward to sampling the cuisine of

River City Grille

Dress: Casual

Price: \$5-15 for a meal

Drinks are served from the bar

Food: Various sandwiches and platters

☆☆☆☆☆-JACKPOT!

☆☆☆☆-Two cherries and a bar-- you won, but not the mother load.

☆☆☆-You win some, you lose some.

☆☆-I won \$2 on a lottery ticket and *that* was more exciting.

☆-Remember the cartoons where the character is left wearing nothing but a barrel?

one of the new restaurants, but was disappointed to find the best part of my meal a mixed drink.

Tracy Bee spilled water and recruited everyone's napkin for cleanup duty while at the other end of the table Jennifer complained that she was so hungry she was digesting before the food got there. She was saved by a basket of crackers.

For an appetizer we ordered Italian poppers which were a little different than the traditional poppers you will find. The breaded red peppers contained jack cheese, sausage and spicy sauce. The poppers were enough to hold us over until a waiter (other than our own) was kind enough to bring our food out and leave next it to the table. We sat there drooling and Jennifer looked like she would explode any minute, before our waitress finally came to disperse our food. I ordered a chicken taco salad, but I didn't realize that chicken was supposed to be brown and hard. The salad was far from good, and I'm not even sure if it passed satisfactory.

Did anyone know that it takes 20 minutes to split a check? Well it does at the River City Grille, so we passed the time with the usual "high quality" conversation as we surveyed tacky decor of old ironing boards and irons.

Maybe I was just having a bad day, or I was mad because I had to walk all the way across the Pavilion to use the restroom, but based on my experience, I probably will not return.

Tracy's Experience

While waiting for the others to arrive I checked out the menu at the fancy steak and seafood restaurant adjacent to the ticketing booths. The place looked quiet and dark and the smell of fish wafted toward the entrance. The prices, however,

barred the path.

We opted one of the cheaper establishments and were reminded you get what you pay for.

I sympathized with our waitress who took our orders with a weary look, but as my compatriots have complained the service was below par and the waits for food and bills were abnormally long.

The jalapeno poppers were excellent and seemed to herald good things about the rest of our dining experience. Sometimes such indications are wrong.

I ordered shrimp salad on a croissant and French fries. I have no complaints about the meal. Though not spectacular, it offered something different from the usual Evansville fare. The croissant was just flaky enough. The shrimp satisfied my wish for seafood.

For dessert I had an apple pie. It was merely serviceable, but in fairness I was quite full by this time.

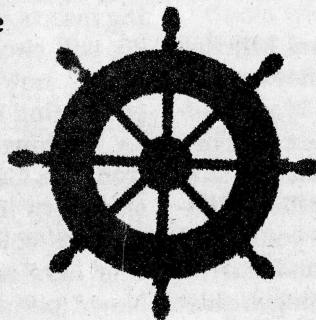
As evil as it is we asked that our checks be separated, but we did ask early in our ordering. This request was then ignored until we insisted. A lengthy wait and mix-up ensued and two items were left off the bills. The cashiers did not handle the situation well and one added to the problem by not listening as we tried to make amends.

I don't always agree with the maxim "the customer is always right," but I couldn't help thinking of it after our adventure at the River City Grille. I've had better service at the restaurant formally known as Jungle Mornings.

Conclusion - ☆☆

The prices were a little high for what we received. Though helpings were generous, the food quality varied. We all agree the service was bad. We tried our luck at the River City Grille and lost.

Besides the River City Grille, the Pavilion offers two other restaurants and a snack bar.



Carousel of Time spins old into new

Joni Mitchell

Hits

Reprise Records

In the mid 1960s, Joni Mitchell became the poster girl for flower-hugging hippies. Now, some 30 years after the genesis of her career, Mitchell releases a CD of her greatest hits, simply titled *Hits*. The path Mitchell follows is a natural one, from young and impressionable to jaded and hurt to older and wiser, finally resting at quiet bewilderment, coming full circle, as lives often do.

Mitchell begins the CD with

"Urge for Going," (1966) a sad lament that, unlike the geese, her lover and summer's warm wind, she cannot escape the fact that "all her empire's falling down." "Circle Game" (1966) offers a look at life, from a child catching insects in a jar to the child at age 20, still circling on "the carousel of time," not yet finished, but ever graduating to different horses.

"Chinese Cafe" and "Come in from the Cold" speak of Mitchell's slow turn into the muck of middle age, and both convey her feeling neither here nor there. "Both Sides, Now," perhaps Mitchell's most well known song, closes the CD.

In the jaded 1990s, some listeners weaned on the poignancy of REM

or Nirvana may find "Both Sides, Now" trite, but the song poetically offers a philosophy of life based on cloud visions—no matter how one examines something, he must examine all angles. A cloud, like life, consistently changes shape.

Mitchell never bores; her work turns from philosophical to humorous ("He gave me back my smile/ but he kept my camera to sell.") Most listeners will recognize Mitchell's signature work, even if they are recent converts. No song disappoints, and *Hits* will surely win over a whole new generation of fans interested in poetic, poignant lyrics sung by a sweet, wearied voice.

Shannon Neese

Cardigans' '70s' homage simply works; Bush's second album sounds rushed

The Cardigans

First Band on the Moon

Mercury Records

When I received this album, I tossed it aside. The cover looked bland and I really didn't even want to give it a listen. I placed it on my large stack of CDs for about two months until I heard the single "Loveful" on the radio. I decided to check this album out.

The music on this album has a real '70s feel to it. I hate '70s music. I don't think that it has very much lyrical value. This album, on the other hand, contains the type of songs that you can just listen to without a lyric sheet and fully enjoy them for their message.

"Been It" tells about a girl who has done everything for her man but still cannot make him happy, while

"Heartbreaker" is the story of someone so wrapped up in the physical side of her relationship that nothing else matters. "Losers" is about those of us who haven't had the easiest time fitting in socially. The best line in this song is "It's lonely to be strange." (If you like this line you'll like this album.)

There is also a remake of Black Sabbath's "Iron Man" on the CD. After listening to this new rendition, a friend of mine, who was familiar with the original, almost gagged and demanded that I turn it off. I kind of liked it.

I loved this CD and I look forward to the next release by the Cardigans. Rating: ***1/2.

Bush

Razorblade Suitcase

Interscope Records

I really enjoyed Bush's first release *Sixteen Stone*, so *Razorblade Suitcase* was an easy choice for a review album. Gavin and the boys didn't waste much time in getting out their follow-up release. Maybe this is why it seems like many of the lyrics were pushed. The music has a faster paced than that of the first album. *Razorblade's* one exception is its slow-paced first single, "Swallow."

The sound also changes on the second album with just a hint of Nirvana in the music. I love Nirvana, but it does nothing for Bush.

All is not lost, however. There are still good songs on this album if you like "classic" Bush. Some of my personal suggestions are "Personal Holloway" and "Cold Contagious." But, don't take my word for it; go out and buy the album and see what you think. Rating: **1/2

Glenn Hassenour

Reefer Madness could happen to you

Old Release Video Suggestion
Reefer Madness
G&H Productions
1938

Welcome back to a still-some-what-roaring time in this young century, when gay people and ragtime filled parlors; folks danced away the afternoons with gin and cigarettes and

This classic story uses a prolonged flashback to illustrate one kid's tragic tale of marijuana addic-

tion and loss—and how THE SAME COULD HAPPEN TO YOU!

Originally titled "Tell Your Children," this film employs scare tactics to deter youth from the violent insanity that is: REEFER MADNESS.

A bright, sincere kid called Bill Harper goes from reading "Romeo & Juliet" to his swell girl on the patio to falling in with the wrong crowd—namely Jack and Mae, a swinging couple with an upstairs apartment where kids go "to have a couple of beers." Finally having lured Bill upstairs, the adults dole joints out of a shoebox like canapes from a tray, and

Bill, crazed from the intoxicating evil weed, beds an older woman. Havoc ensues, blood spills. Coverups, small-change dealers and paranoia lead to circus trials and over-dramatic confessions.

Many humorous characters attend the parties, including Ralph Wiley, a shady guy about to crack, and an ancestor of Cosmo Kramer delivering a lively performance on the piano. The script contains funny phrases like, "We're out of smoke," and "Bring me some reefers!"

During the "using" scenes, each person holds his own joint, and sometimes, halfway through, they become so full-on loaded they have to hurl the roach to the floor and just get up and dance!

The film contains entertaining sub-subsections, like the long-written warning at the outset, asserting that the following events are based in fact. Another involves cop/documentary-type reporting of places people hide drugs: the hollow book, the old phony pocketwatch loaded with pills, etc. They showcase a dinosaur of a rolling machine—a dirty metal contraction straight out of an ironsmith's shop.

This movie is funny, it's cheesy, and it's difficult to follow for some viewers, because all the characters are either stoned to the bone or square as the day is long. But it is a classic everyone should see, if only to witness the American propaganda. It can be rented (on Tuesdays, for 53 cents) at Flicks Video on Weinbach Avenue, and I'm told the purchase price is \$8.99—less than a dimebag.

To respond to my video suggestions or offer your own video picks send e-mail to jhoke@risc.usi.edu, or leave a note at the Transitions office in the University Center basement.

—Joni Hoke



Life Experiences

Building a foundation of memories for future

My thoughts
exactly...

by Jamy Schuler
jschuler@comsource.net

Taking a picture of my friend on the toilet for a class project. Treking to the Garden of the Gods on the worst possible day of the year (we have photo proof). Crawling through my trunk to get into my car because my doors were frozen shut. Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Robert Reid spending the night in my on-campus apartment. Rushing an accident-prone friend to the emergency room. Retreating from Rocky Horror Picture Show dripping, cold, with toilet paper plastered to my face and bird seed in places no one has seen. Turning 21.

How, one might ponder, do these incidents even remotely have anything in common with the others? Well, they are some of my most memorable college experiences.

In a recent interview, I was asked what was my most memorable moment. The question, heard asked many times to others, absolutely stumped me.

After a few moments of thought, my response was this, "I have no *one* memorable moment. My entire college experience has been remarkable."

And it has. But now I throw the inevitable at you. What is *your* most memorable college experience? (Did you see that one coming?)

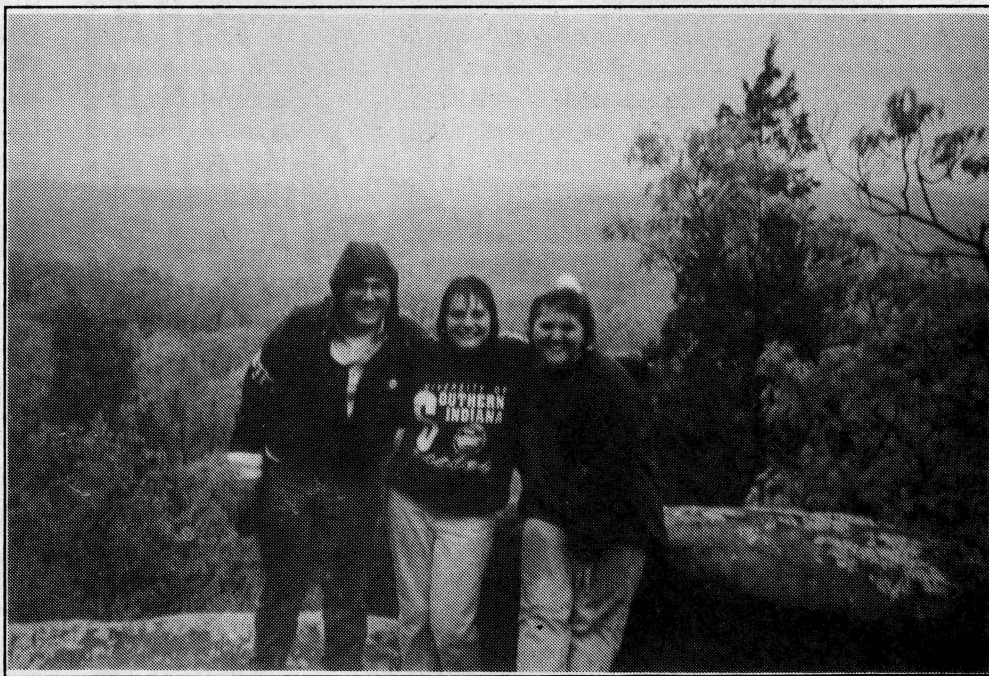
Don't ignore the question and just continue to read on. I'm serious about this. Reflect on your college career. Do you have enough moments that when you are asked to name one, you have to ponder your response? Or do you have any answer at all?

For many, the most memorable blends right in to the most embarrassing. And for that category, I am proud to say that I can't think of any seriously embarrassing display of mine.

Now, if I had tripped down the forum stairs during class, caught my shorts on a desk, took out another student, and landed front and center in the buff, then I would have an award-winner for most embarrassing *and* memorable.

My point is that if you do not have even *one* memorable experience, get one! That's why we're here! Yes, we pay tuition and buy books (most of us) so that we learn and further our education with hopes of achieving our dreams in the future (assuming that we all have dreams—that's another column). But we learn from our experiences and moments as well.

Please don't short change yourself when it comes to life. Pardon the cliché, but these are the times memories are made of.



Jamy Schuler, Angela Hanes and Cathy Cheek in an adventure to remember--Garden of the Gods.

Horoscopes for the Hell of it

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Wow! You are having a fabulous 1997! New job, great grades, adoring friends, and a girlfriend/boyfriend who can't get enough of you. Things seem as though they can't get any better. Enjoy it now. You never know when you may get hit by a meteor and crushed beyond recognition.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20) One fish, two fish, red fish, blue fish. Isn't Dr. Seuss just the best? This semester you choose to do your research paper on his most outstanding works. "Hop on Pop" and "Green Eggs and Ham" are the central topics. You will get an "A" on this paper!

Aries (Mar. 21 - Apr. 19) You have become a financial tycoon. Heavily into real estate, you find yourself making deals with unlikely allies, cheating your long-term friends out of what they deserve. Be careful, though! A mudslide could wipe you out entirely and beware of flying objects from above.

Taurus (Apr. 21 - May 20) The bull is the appropriate sign for you. Your unrelenting stubbornness turns many of your friends away from you this month. You are encouraged to check out Rick Hardesty's "Jonesin'" CD and listen to track six. 'Nough said.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) All is calm in your world this month. Too bad that your world isn't the same as everyone else's! Could that be why they strapped you into that white jacket with the extra-long sleeves? We know that it wasn't quite your size, but it is our understanding that it is supposed to be "snug."

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) Studio Art has been closed for a while now, it is time to move on with your life. All the "toys" you got at the half-price close-out sale should keep you content until at least the end of the month. Who knows? If not, just wait until May (National Masturbation Month) - this is not a lie! There really is such a thing!

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 23) You just got a fabulous pair of new shoes and everyone is commenting on how nice they are everywhere you go. Your musical side is beginning to take over your life and you decide to start a band called "Reacharound." You sure would sound great if you ever actually got to play anything besides the "I've been told" song. Hootie, watch out!

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) You are beginning a new and exciting part of your life this month, Virgo. You are out to make the world a better place in the only way you know how: french fries for everyone. You start small but work your way up to feeding the entire campus each day. Did you know that you are the wind beneath our wings?

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23) Cupid smiles on you this month. During the homecoming "art of kissing" event, you are paired with the person of your dreams. You both learn some amazing techniques for seducing others with just your lips and officials hose you down at the end of the show. Just name your first born "APB" and all will be forgiven.

Scorpio (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21) A special branch of the Evansville Police Department, the thigh police, calls and recruits you for their force. You turn them down for your own segment on Jerry Springer. Your mother is so disgusted with your choice she is forced to sleep with your sister's ex-boyfriend's cat's groomer, Mr. Shears.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 22) You are destined to be the Ruler of Homecoming this month. You attend every event, excel in the art of kissing, and can't wait for the big moment when you are crowned. Okay, so you lose big time. But never fear, you can always get a crown at Burger King.

Capricorn (Dec. 23 - Jan. 19) One word for you, Capricorn: Prozac. Your mood swings are getting on my nerves! Oh, and you should probably have that nasty discharge checked out.

ATTENTION

The next issue of *Transitions* will be available
March 5.

The deadline for submissions of
art, poetry, fiction and articles is
February 25.

The deadline for advertising is
February 23.

Late submissions and ads are accepted on a space-available basis.

Call us at 464-1856 or stop by the *Transitions*
office in the basement of the UC.

Submissions may be left in the *Transitions*
mailbox or sent to:

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