

Searching For Humor

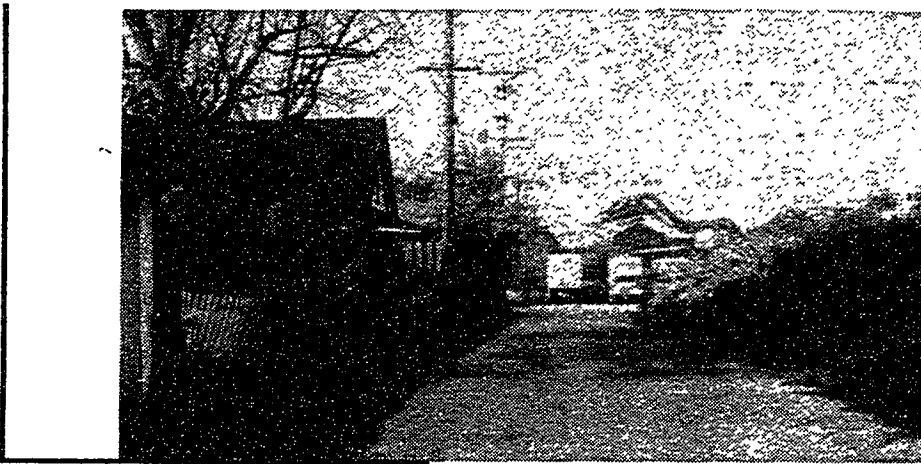
I searched for humor
in the pages of my past
thinking that Scamp and Blondie
could sustain a laugh to last.
But alas, the woe Peanuts gave me
(In fact, the entire comix cast)
For their jokes and situations proved too slow,
or else my own wit too fast.
So I searched for a funny,
a comedy new under the sun,
or even a well-used line
for hot-crossed buns
still
I searched for humor
and still I found none.

Mad and Lampoon consistently bored me,
Hustler's bold visions completely abhorred me.
I searched the East for Wisdom
and asked God could He afford me
a script to let tears flow
But no,
there was no cosmic comic to have soared me
or let fly a humorous row.
Still I searched
from Marx to Bruce to Simon I'd run
seeking the meaning to the word fun
in the limmerick
the one-liner,
or the eternal pun.
Still
I searched for humor
and still I found none.

Marc Woytowich



Presque Isle Lighthouse will soon feel the force of winter storms as another season ends.



Living With Children Seminar Series

On September 15, a seminar program on the effects of separation and divorce on children was held at the Reed Union Building lecture hall.

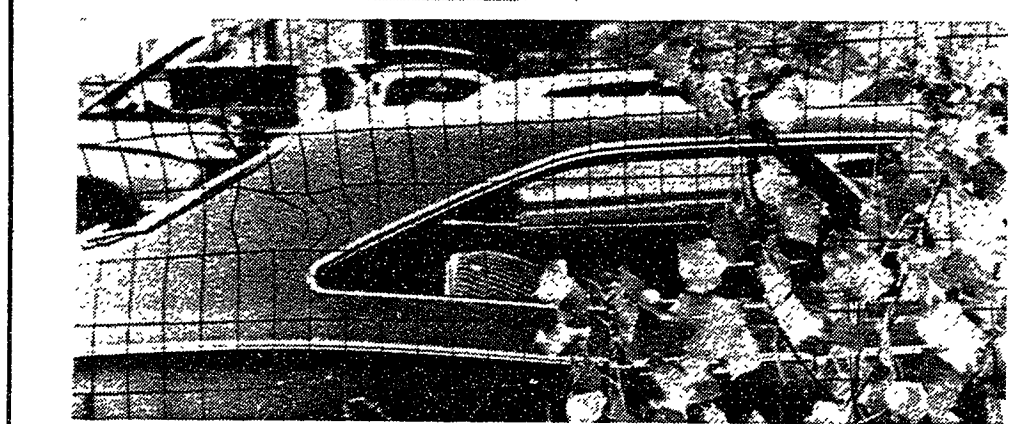
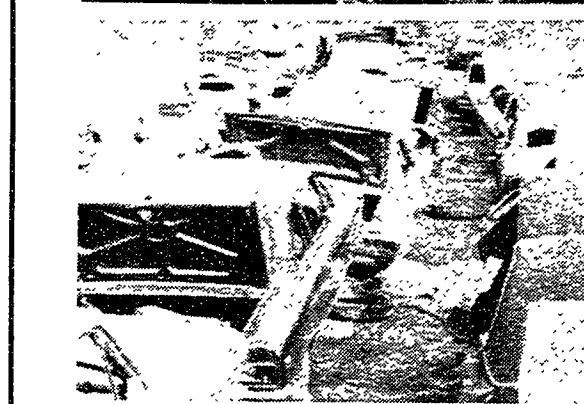
The primary speaker for the seminar was Maria Isaacs, Ph.D. Dr. Isaacs is a clinical psychologist. She is the founder and director of the Divorce Counseling Service for the Children and Families of Philadelphia. Dr. Isaacs has had wide clinical experience dealing with the problems of families and children. Most recently, her clinical work has concentrated on the problems that separation and divorce causes parents and children. She has also conducted extensive research on the effects of divorce on children. Dr. Isaacs has recently been awarded a large research grant to conduct a long Fudinal study on the long term effects of divorce on children.

In her presentation, Dr. Isaacs shared her research and clinical knowledge with the audience. She emphasized that divorce has different effects on children in various age groups. Very young children, for example, may blame themselves for the divorce and revert to bed-wetting and tantrums. Adolescents, on the other hand, may side with one parent or the other and become very moralistic about the divorce.

As well as identifying the important issues in divorce for children in different age groups, Dr. Isaacs provided the audience with some practical suggestions for helping children deal with the problems divorce can cause them. Dr. Isaacs examples of these suggestions by showing on video tapes segments of actual therapy sessions with children and divorced parents.

The audience of over 70 people responded enthusiastically to Dr. Isaacs' presentation. The audience was composed of concerned parents, teachers from local schools, and social service staff persons from various agencies in the Erie area. The audience participated actively in the question and answer panel discussion that followed Dr. Isaacs' presentation.

The panel for the discussion consisted of Dr. Isaacs, Mr. Thomas DiStefano, Family Services Director for the Erie Headstart Program, Ms. Terry Fassetto, a member of Beginnings, an outreach program of the Hamot Mental Health Center for the divorced and separated, and Robert Nelson, Ph.D. Dr. Nelson is the director of the Marriage Counseling Service of Erie, Inc. and Director of the Graduate Counseling Program at



iron pulse no more. A feather breeze came up from the railroad tracks, barely nudging the squeaky hinge on a '63 Ford. It rests. The breeze goes on, dodging in and out of broken jagged windshields like a thought that always escapes me. The windows had taken a beating from rocks; projectiles launched from the hands of unthinking youth. Cracks spread over them like a spiderweb palms. I coughed.

Gannon College. The panel was moderated by Mr. Dana Anderson, Instructor of Psychology at Behrend. Mr. Bruce Begin, Executive Director of the Sarah A. Reed Children's Center provided some opening and closing remarks.

The Seminar Series is co-sponsored by the Sarah A. Reed Children's Center and the Behrend College Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences with the cooperation of the Primary Prevention Task Force of the Youth Services Coordinating Council. Funding was provided through grants from the office of Children and Youth and Act 148. The seminar series is a program for the Erie Community in celebration of the International Year of the Child.

The second in the "Living With Children" seminar series will be presented on Saturday, October 6th at the RUB main lecture hall. Mr. Sam Gibbon, Senior Consultant of the Children's Television Workshop, will speak on "The Emerging Role of the Media and Its Effects on Children." Mr. Gibbon developed the "Electric Company," program on Public Television and served as producer for the "Captain Kangaroo" and "Sesame Street" programs. His presentation will be followed by a question and answer panel discussion moderated by Dr. Stephen Knouse, Assistant Professor of Psychology at Behrend.

Registration of this seminar is \$2.50. Registration will be at the door or can be arranged by contacting the Sarah A. Reed Children's Center.

Time was stopped here. The most recent model was a '73 Pinto. It too was slowly rusting into Earth. I kicked a fender and red dust rose around me. Again I coughed. Great red chips of rust fell like slate as I kicked the fender over and over again. A Pinto.

I climbed atop a van to view this vast graveyard of mechanical waste. Each car was a tomb. Each contained a history inscribed somewhere within. A1481H, J1630B, each license plate served as gravestone marker. Numbers forgotten by their masters long ago. And the scars of rocks and bottles could serve as epitaph. Where were the flowers planted gently in the radiator? Did no one mourn the Pinto?

I sat and reflected. "What a quiet place," I thought. It was calmer than a theatre after closing, except that no actors would ever perform here again. This was the final rest, the last show. Flat giants had fallen beneath the David of decay.

"Perhaps they accept their fate," I mused, listening to a small rodent make his nest in the upholstery. A realization I had then, as to the authorship of those tiny black beads on the seat of that Pinto. I had brushed them aside and had gone on thinking.

I hopped off the van and ran towards a Camaro. I climbed up the hood and jumped back down. I did this many times, rapt in a child's joy with a Tonka Toy. I removed my shirt and felt the sun reflecting off a windshield not yet shattered. I paused, then coughed. Then I found a rock and broke it. "What a beautiful day," I thought. I wondered where I could find a set of plugs to fit my Chevy.

RESEARCH PAPERS

10,250 on File — All Academic Subjects
Send \$1.00 for your up-to-date, 306-page mail order catalog.

ACADEMIC RESEARCH
P.O. BOX 24873
LOS ANGELES, CA 90024

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____

WRANGLER WRANCE

WEST ERIE PLAZA
Casual Fashions For Campus Wear
or Just About Anywhere!