

IN THE FACE

Caruso-In The Face
 by Matthew Filippi
 Entertainment Editor

Where do bands get started? They must play somewhere before they become so popular that you have to pay fifteen dollars to stand twenty feet away from them. Well, if you happened to be in the Reed building last Saturday, you had the perfect opportunity to meet with a band who's fast on the rise to becoming known. The name of the band is Caruso. They traveled from Trenton, Michigan to play here at Behrend for the third time. The band, consisting of four members (three of which are brothers), has received incredible recognition in the past. "Caruso is one of the hottest collegiate bands in the country. Their new single, London, is driving, infectious pop music. This record could break them nationally," said Ron Givens of Newsweek on Campus.

Caruso has opened for various well known acts such as Corie Hart, UB40, the Guess Who, John Cafferty and the Beaver Brown Band, and Joan Jett. They are presently being reviewed by most of the major record companies in the States. When asked if they ever considered doing a movie sound track, they informed me that it was

being looked into at the present time. When I asked, "By who?", Joe Caruso replied, "We can't tell you by who but I'm pretty sure it begins with a 'P' and ends in 'mount'."

A future plan for the band is to record another E.P., hoping to make it with this one. Their strategy is to leave out the soft sentimental songs and go for the "upbeat, who knows what this song means as long as it gets us in the door type song." It's sad but it's the only way to go about it in the music business today. Their last E.P., In The Face helped to open some of those doors for the band. "We opened the doors, now it's time to walk in," said Mike Caruso. In The Face contains the single, "London", which was top 3 for approximately eleven weeks at Harmony House in Detroit. "In The Face is the most successful selling record by any unsigned Detroit band in the history of Harmony House," said Sandy Bean, Distributing Director for H.H.

I believe the E.P. has a lot of potential, especially as a movie sound track. Caruso plays tight, smooth flowing pop rock. They're backed by a very strong drummer, Rob Caruso, and complimented with a progressive lead guitarist, Lee Thomas, the only member who is not a Caruso brother and the only

member who is married (Sorry, Tom, but it's what they want to know). They are also very strong vocally. Their ability to harmonize is outstanding. But I think what really tops them off is their ability to entertain crowds and their attitudes. Everyone loves them. Wright State University comments, "This is the easiest band in the world to work with, great show, we'll definitely have them back." I can't begin to tell you how true this is. I have had a great time interviewing this band. I'm sure they've been interviewed a thousand times and are probably tired of answering the same old questions, but they seemed to like doing it. One thing Caruso didn't have that most bands do is an ego problem. This is just another thing that makes them stand on top. In the past, the band has been known for their looks. A lot of bands have made it on looks alone but Caruso wants to be known for their music, not their looks. This is the way it should be. Good luck, Caruso!

For posters, T-shirts or a copy of their single, "London" or their E.P. In The Face, write:

P.O. Box 224
 Trenton, Mich.
 48183



"Psyche of a Racist Culture"

by William Warner
 Collegian Staff Writer

Are you a racist? Most of you would respond with a raised eyebrow and a solemn "no." You would probably be offended or at least become defensive if you were told, "You are wrong. You ARE a racist." Try as we may to deny it, nearly all of us are guilty of some form of discrimination. There are those among us whose prejudice is obvious in the way they speak and act towards others. Al Campanis, former vice president of the L.A. Dodgers baseball team, and Jimmy The Greek, ex-sports forcaster for the CBS television network, both lost their jobs because of their racist comments. More common are the unintended sometimes unconscious acts that we, as products of our environment, fail to recognize as racist. Believing that a black person has a natural talent for sports or an innate ability to sing or dance are two of the more obvious examples.

Dr. Alvin Poussaint, "a social activist and script consultant for the 'Cosby Show,'" appeared at Penn State Behrend on Monday Feb. 1st.

In his presentation, "Psyche of a Racist Culture," the associate professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School addressed the problems of discrimination in contemporary America. When we talk about racism, if we talk about it at all, we speak of the past. We cite the acts of our forefathers, the slave trading, the civil rights movement, and the tragic loss of Dr. Martin Luther King. These are historical events, drama from an era gone by. Focusing on the history of American racism lies at the root of the problem. Racism is not a thing of the past. While blatant acts of discrimination are attracting intense public scrutiny, offenders and victims alike continue to perpetuate the subtler forms of racism.

Dr. Poussaint feels that black children perpetuate stereotypes (like natural ability to dance and play sports) because "they feel it's a 'one up' on white kids. The game is that black kids do it well because they practice it. It is not a genetic thing that has to do with Blacks and Whites, but people believe it. It's instilled in our heads and it's woven into the fabric of our culture."

He also believes that, if the stereotypic expectations imposed upon black children can be reduced and their energies redirected, Blacks will become more successful in other areas. "...if black kids came home...and somehow on their agenda, instead of basketball and sports, were to practice math and science four or five hours a day, then they would be good at math and science (instead of sports). If we don't believe that, we're in trouble. That's the kind of intellectual propaganda game that limits potential."

Dr. Poussaint has taken an active role in the struggle for equality in America. He received his medical degree from Cornell University in 1960. He went on to be the Chief Resident of the psychiatry department at UCLA for two years and Southern Field Director for the medical committee of the Human Rights Movement in Jackson, Mississippi. He moved to Harvard Medical School in 1969 and is currently an Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Associate Dean of Student Affairs. He has written two best-selling books, WHY BLACKS KILL BLACKS and BLACK CHILD CARE. He also works as a script consultant to the "Cosby Show" in an effort to "influence more responsible network programming."

Communion

COMMUNION-Book Review
 by D.H. Grzybowski
 Collegian Contributing Writer

Communion, by Whitley Streiber, is an interesting and believable piece of non-fiction by the author of such scaring fictional classics as *The Wolfen* and *The Hunger*. Communion, if it was the work of the author's imagination, would make for sensational sci-fi reading. Instead we are given the author's recollection of his contact with aliens in a journal format. Imagine, if you will, your worst nightmare coming true and you will begin to understand the anxiety Whitley Streiber faced in coming to terms with the reality of a disputed and controversial subject.

Mr. Streiber was not a believer in UFO's nor did he have a history of emotional distress which might predispose him to imagine being contacted by aliens. It would be easier, he admits, to be diagnosed as mentally disturbed than to deal with such a strange and as yet scientifically unaccepted reality of alien life. He admits to a lie detector test, hypnosis and has his mental capabilities certified in an attempt to rectify and make sense of what is at the root of his disturbing memories—memories which defy logic.

The encounters which Mr. Streiber describes have unknowingly been going on since he was five years old. As the years progressed the unexplained trauma, both emotional and physical, became more pronounced. It was this trauma which forced him to examine the existence of aliens, though he is reluctant to embrace this conclusion.

The events are presented as they are initially remembered; at first just vague impressions of unusual memories—a flash of bright light, figures lurking by the bed, and unexplained paralysis. The missing details are later recalled through hypnosis as one man's striking impressions of what he believes to be the truth.

Whether or not we choose to accept this truth is up to us. At first, like Mr. Streiber, we doubt the existence of aliens, choosing instead to rationalize away that which we are not yet ready to accept or understand. But as the book progresses we slowly (dare we?) entertain the possibility of their existence even though we are still fighting with our logical side which tells us they do not, can not, indeed they must not exist.

The evidence presented is supported by transcripts of what was said while under hypnosis, published accounts of previous contact with aliens, and covered-up government reports. This evidence leads us to actively wonder if perhaps what we have read could be true, though our reservations still lurk in the background.

Upon reading the encounters presented in *Communion* it appears that indeed something very strange, yet very real, is happening. The conclusion (at first inconceivable because it goes against logic, reason, and your better judgement) clearly points in one direction—THERE IS SOMETHING OUT THERE.

Education around the world

by Lorrie Reib
 Collegian Staff Writer

For some time now Penn State University has offered the chance for their junior and senior students to study abroad. Students get to study in all parts of the world, learn new languages, study foreign economics, and broaden their horizons. This program offers so many different programs that it's right for just about anyone.

Mari Trinkle, who's office is in the Glennhill Farmhouse, handles all of the applicants from Behrend. She gives students all of the facts they want to know about any particular country they would like to study in, and the courses that are offered there. Mari Trinkle is a good source of information on the Education Abroad Program because she went to Germany herself for a year in 1968.

In talking to her, I found out a lot of interesting facts. She told me things like; "I was in Germany when Czechoslovakia was invaded. The tanks were only about 20 miles away and to think if they would have kept on rolling I would have been in the middle of it all." She was almost in the middle of history being made. She told me about how it helped her to do a lot of growing up during that time and it forced her to become independent. "I couldn't call mom everytime something went wrong." But I think the most important quote Mari Trinkle made was; "It was the most interesting and best year of my life and if I had to do it all over again I would."

Germany isn't the only place students can go to study. Other possible places include: Athens, Greece—Cairo, Egypt—Canberra, Australia—Leningrad, USSR—Manchester, England and even Nairobi, Kenya. There are also many more choices available.

How would your parents finance all of this you ask? That's easy. The cost is no more than airfare plus regular Penn State University Park tuition. Room and board is the same as double occupancy housing at U.P. also. So in all reality they would only be paying for your airfare, which can range anywhere from \$400 for England up to \$1700 for Australia. Also, you can still receive financial aid.

All credits you would be taking are regular Penn State credits. You are allowed to take a full credit load and a minimum of 12. If you would choose to study abroad in the summer, you could take anywhere from 3 to 15 credits. Don't get too excited yet though. Students must have a cumulative grade average of 2.5 to even be considered for this program, and the higher the better. For most of the more competitive countries you must have at least a 3.0. The average G.P.A. of students who went in 1987 was a 3.16, but for a competitive country such as Australia a 3.8 was required. So as you can see, this is not just an easy way to see Europe. You really must want to go and learn. You must obtain a 'C' or higher in all of your subjects and attend every class. That probably eliminates some people right now, huh?

There are application deadlines for the education abroad programs. The deadline for fall 88 FS semesters was October 1, but don't worry, you can still apply for the spring semester of 1989. You have until March 11th to turn in your application. These deadlines are consistent from year to year so if you are going to be a junior by the fall semester of 1989 then you can apply by October 1, 1988.

Anyone seriously interested should contact Mari Trinkle in the Glennhill Farmhouse, phone 6160, for more information.

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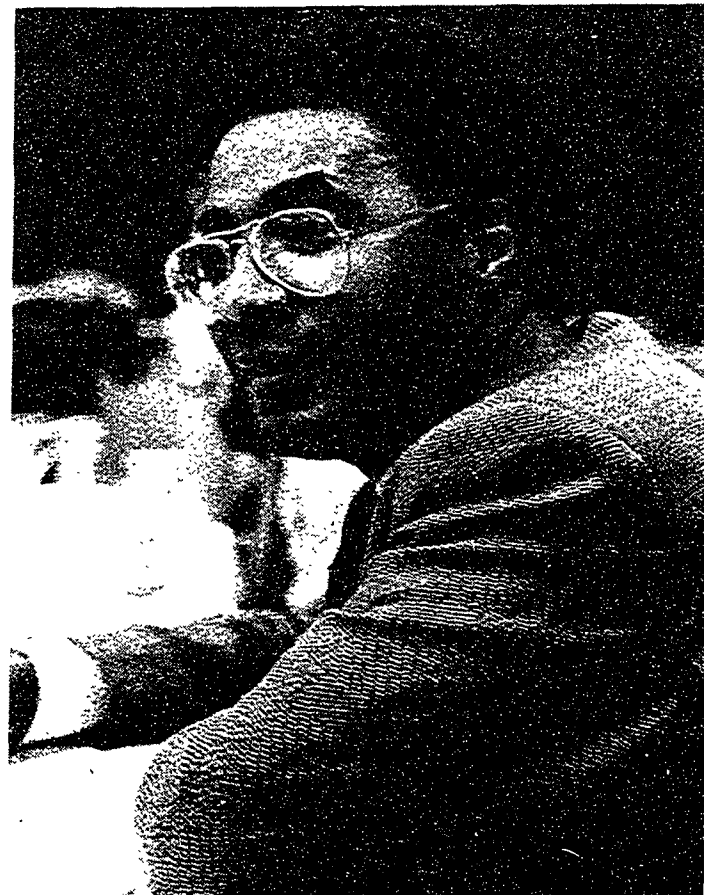


photo by Holly Lew

Dr. Alvin Poussaint
 script consultant for the 'Cosby Show'