12-6-1974

The Carbon (December 6, 1974)

Marian University - Indianapolis

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This week at Marian:

Friday, December 6
- Mama Mia Pizza Party (8:30-12:00) PERC

Saturday, December 7
- Open House at Clare Hall 7:30-1:30
- Senior Recital--Jayne Ennoke and Joyce Gulling 7:30-Music Building
- Dick Hendricks Karate-9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Clare Hall Gym
- Retreat ---8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. SAC

Sunday, December 8
- Christmas Party 10:00 p.m. - 12:00 p.m. Clare Hall
- Philharmonic Performance-3:00 p.m. M.H. Aud.
- Tours of Allison-1:00-5:00 p.m.

Monday, December 9
- Philharmonic Rehearsal 6:30-10:00-C.M. Lounge
- Basketball- Bethel College Here

Tuesday, December 10
- SRA Film-1:30 Lib. Aud.

Wednesday, December 11
- Registration for Spring Semester
- Christmas Party I.K. Gym
- The Board of Trustees will meet TODAY

Thursday, December 12
- Registration
- Christmas Convocation-12:30-1:30 M.H. Aud.
- Basketball- St. Joseph College There

the views in this publication are those of the individual writer and do not necessarily reflect those of Marian College.

Vol. 39 12-6-74 No.11
To Mr. Ed Klamen, Jr.

Ed, Joe Kempf is the guy who two Carbons ago found out how poorly you air your grinds and who in the last Carbon found out that you have a great deal of difficulty reading as well. It seems to me in my letter that I made it pain-fully apparent that I was directing my remarks to the way you expressed your grinds, not to you as a person. Don’t flatter yourself: I would have reacted in the same way to any remarks in the Carbon that were so unintelligible and poorly written.

I assume, of course, that since "Who's Joe Kempf (and why is he saying all those things about me)" followed immediately after your letter, you were the author of that question. If it was, however, inserted by the Editors of the Carbon, I would be more than a bit miffed if I were you, for they’ve written it in such a way that it appears you wrote it. If they wrote it, they are certainly guilty of irresponsible journalism: if you wrote it, I am forced to conclude that either you can’t read or you simply insist on interpreting my letter in a way which clearly states was not intended.

Cordially,
Joseph Kempf

Dear Editors of the Carbon:

Thank you for your reply in Carbon #10 to my letter appearing in #9 regarding grining intelligibly. I appreciate the sincerity of that reply also. As regards to your objecting to my use of the word "stupider," however, I can only reply that it is a word commonly in use which I hear every day, just as I do the superlative form, "stupidest"--as in the expression, "That’s the stupidest thing I’ve ever heard." Concerning your inability to find the word in your dictionary, I suggest that you check it to see if you can find the words "shorter," "longer," and "slower." Chances are good that you won’t, for smaller (I hope that form is permissible, even though you won’t find it in your dictionary) dictionaries seldom include the comparative and superlative forms of common adjectives. Such a practice would simply take up too much space.

As a matter of fact, you won’t find "stupider" in any dictionary (I suspect, for I haven’t checked every dictionary), but it certainly won’t be found in the Oxford English Dictionary or Webster’s New International. However, you likewise won’t find included many current words which are in common, everyday use: "to escalate," for example. Actually, I thought about "stupider" before I wrote it, but I infinitely prefer the word to the stylistic barbarity that you obviously suggest: "Even punching Dean Woodman in the nose would have been more effective (more stupid also, but certainly more effective than the above mish-mash)." What my ear objected to in your suggested revision was the unpleasant repetition of the word "more" three times in so short a space. That was my ultimate criterion in deciding upon "stupider." However, it also suggested some of the crudity that I wanted the idea of punching Dean Woodman in the nose to convey.

Finally, you wouldn’t believe how much I commented your footnote on "stupider" caused. At least a dozen students asked me, "Is there such a word?" or "Where did you ever get 'stupider'?" My reply was to them the same as it is to you: I got it out of everyday usage, and it is everyday usage that ultimately determines whether or not a word is a word. If a word is commonly used, it exists—whether it is included in dictionaries or not. And that, my friends, is one of the basic axioms of linguistics. Check it out. So you see, your footnote raised a great deal more interest and controversy than I was expecting, probably because so many students found the idea of the Carbon’s catching a teacher (and an English Teacher, at that) in a misuse as an especially appealing one. Obviously, students found my plea for expressing ideas intelligibly boring compared to the possibility of my misusing a word, so that the plea itself got lost as a result of your calling attention to "stupider." Most unfortunate, I’d say. And now perhaps you understand why I said in my last letter that I had long ago given up hope of communicating anything to anyone in the Carbon.

Joseph Kempf

A “P.S.” of my own: At least you used your dictionary, something which has not been particularly apparent in past issues of the Carbon this year. I’m delighted to find that such an instrument exists in the Carbon office.

Mr. Kempf,

I have been co-editor of the Carbon for nearly one full semes ter. In this short period I have made many mistakes and oversights. I am genuinely sorry for the typographical errors, the misspellings and every grammatical error that has gone into the Carbon. I would prefer that every issue be perfect, unfortunately the paper is put together by beings who are imperfect.

Every human is guilty of imperfection. Every task undertaken by humans ends imperfectly. Some come closer to perfection than others, but none are absolutely perfect. From what I hear, there is only one being in the universe capable of perfection. We tried to talk him into being a co-editor, but he wouldn’t take the job.

Read any newspaper, Mr. Kempf. You will find errors in all of them. The Carbon may not be on the same level as The Washington Post, but it is susceptible to the same type of errors.

The next time you pick up a Carbon, I ask you to read it for content. Before you take out your red pen and begin to correct the grammar, try to figure out the point the writer is attempting to make.

Bill Platt
Carbon Co-editor

NOTICE

Contact Mr. Meloche at the information office for time and date so he can engrave your valuable items.

(Continued—next column)
To Mr. Joseph Kemp:

In this letter I hope to accomplish two things. First, I want to answer your charge of "irresponsible journalism." Second, I would like to explain the mistake contained in the postscript which appeared at the end of your letter. In the last issue of the Carbon, it was Ed Klamm who perpetrated this action, without any encouragement from us. I grant you that we have limited journalistic background, but please give us some credit for common sense. We are not complete fools. I would also like to say that I feel Ed was completely justified to make his sarcastic remark, I know that you made it "painfully apparent" that you were "reacting to Ed's letter, not to Ed himself." It is my belief, and I am not alone in this opinion, that writing is an extension of the personality involved. When you reacted to Ed's letter, you in fact reacted to Ed himself. Being a writer yourself, I hope you can understand this opinion.

Now concerning the matter of the postscript. My intention was not to embarrass you as a teacher in front of the students. I merely wanted to point out the irony of the situation. In your literal interpretation of Ed's letter, I found it quite ironic that you use a word that seemed completely out of place. I do accept your explanation of "one of the basic axioms of linguistics," however, I do not recall ever using the word "stupid" in any of my writings, or ever remember the word being used in anybody else's writing. I have asked several other people about this, including a faculty member, and they are in agreement with me. I am not saying you were wrong in using the word, but you must understand that I am only twenty years old, and possibly I am not as worldly a person as you. Perhaps, someday I will come across the use of the word elsewhere.

Finally it appears to me, that you and "at least a dozen students" overlooked the last line of the postscript, which was, in fact, the whole crux of the matter. Believe it or not, we did appreciate your comments. In our reply we admitted to making many mistakes this past year. We also formally apologized to you and the M.C. Community. What we wanted in return was not forgiveness, but a little bit of understanding. By the last line: "I guess we're all human.", I meant that we had made a mistake, and we felt that you did too. I used the example of "stupid" to point out that we are all human beings, and unfortunately subject to error. I used the example to try and evoke some understanding from you and the rest of the M.C. Community.

I now understand why you gave up hope of trying to communicate anything in the Carbon. Unfortunately, I am not now holding up hope of trying to communicate my ideas in the Carbon. This may be naivete on my part, but I think not.

Cordially,
Paul Lauffer
Co-editor of the Carbon

FROM THE MASSES-CONT.

Because of recent disciplinary actions and a clear indication that more are to follow, I think now is the time to make the issue of the so-called "Crackdown" public. This should be done in order to assess and unify the opinions of those involved. This opportunity is justified, I feel, in the interest of fair play, since the disciplinarians have already taken advantage of the same opportunity.

In my opinion, the crackdown can best be described as a ridiculous mistake because:

1. The question of marijuana use has many moral, legal and social ramifications, and its harmfulness is not deleterious. Therefore, at this point, an attempt to restrict others from marijuana use is a force of pure opinion. Most students who have used pot regularly for the past five years are not inclined to accept the opinions of those who only know that it "smells bad."

2. Marian, in spite of the current trend, is not yet a drug abuse rehabilitation center and should not attempt to function as such through enforcement of the drug rules. Marian's role in reforming society in this area would be humorously negligible, and I doubt if many students would be very receptive to the idea of changing their ways simply for the sake of maximum "moral" maintenance in the Marian microcosm.

3. Although my intent is not to shock or disgust, it is necessary to make public the fact that people do smoke marijuana. Many people. Especially college students. Marian's role in reforming society in this area would be humorously negligible, and I doubt if many students would be very receptive to the idea of changing their ways simply for the sake of maximum "moral" maintenance in the Marian microcosm.

4. The crackdown is more destructive than anything and can only result in a lot of trouble for all concerned. Marian's rule on pot is not enforceable and an attempt to enforce it will fail, ending in useless time consumption, regret and (on the part of those who are made examples of) a certain amount of suffering.

I may be criticized for offering problems but no solutions, but my intent was merely to present the problem and one person's opinion. Those who are most upset by my failure to sign my opinion are probably the very ones who, I feel, prevent me from doing so.

Bob Bitchin

The course of four years at Marian college have brought certain changes which, I believe, have been beneficial not only to the student but also to the Administration. I can say this because of the relative peace maintained between the two in the past. It now seems as if (because of some very ---walked up women at Clare Hall (or is that stellt)) that peace is now in jeopardy. Not that it has to be crude, but I'm sure that I'm voicing the opinions of many people when I say that if things get as bad as it is rumored, there could be a severe reverse-harrassment reaction. Now, this is not meant as a threat but it could be taken as a "Word to the wise."

REMEMBER THIS MARIAN II of 1970/1

Yours Truly
3

(Fighting all the way)
FROM THE MASSES CON'T

Dear Carbon:

Indianapolis—December 4, 1974: Beethoven’s Birthday will be celebrated at a party in Broad Ripple on December 14. All classical music enthusiasts are welcome to join the festivities between 11 and 5 at the Gramophone Shoppe, 916 Broad Ripple Avenue. The party commemorating the 204th anniversary of the birth of Ludwig Van Beethoven will be hosted by the Fine Arts Society of Indianapolis. The Society is a non-profit organization devoted to classical music programming on WAIN (90.1 FM).

Among the personalities who will appear are Kenneth Lawless, noted musicologist, who is host on MORNING EDITION, and Norbert Neuss, president of the Society and of MASTERWORKS each Wednesday evening from 8 to 10. There will be a birthday cake in honor of the occasion.

Each Monday through Thursday evening from 6:30 to midnight, and weekends from 2 p.m. till midnight, the Society presents the widest possible variety of classical music on the SECOND PROGRAM. Mornings from 6 to 9:30 Monday through Friday MORNING EDITION is presented as an alternative to commercial radio fare. It is a program of light classical music, news, weather, features and humor.

FROM THE MASSES CON'T

Dear Kempf:

First, in reply to your letter in Carbon #10, let me say that you have no idea what you are talking about by saying that I protested my being "busted" by two sneaks. I was not "busted" nor, have I ever been or have any intention of being so.

Secondly, I feel you really degraded yourself by "breaking that solemn oath" and writing an article for Dean Woodman. Why didn’t he write it, or is he too proud to submit a letter to such a "journalistic rag" as the Carbon? If he felt that students should voice their opinions in such an unattractive way, why doesn’t he say so himself?

Thirdly, it’s amazing how an English teacher can misinterpret writing when he wants to. For instance, "an old adage" pertaining to the PhD behind Woodman’s name (piled higher and deeper, get it?) not to the Dean himself.

Fourth, and last, as poorly written as my last letter was, it certainly put its point across as intended. My purpose was not defeated.

In conclusion, I would like to say that I have nothing personal against you Joe, but this is only a rebuttal to your last letter’s context.

I thank the Carbon editors and typists for their patience and cooperation.

Ed Klemm Jr.

FROM THE MASSES CON'T

Dear Carbon:

This is a rebuttal of an article in the last publication written by C.J. For the benefit of those whose memories fail them, this article cut down the Cafeteria food. It said the food was so bad it could damage the digestive tract, and indeed the entire human anatomy and it is "often totally inedible". The author must be a gentleman (woman) of rancid blood, reared with exquisite taste, and nourished and nurtured by the "gallinopt gourmet" himself.

Without a doubt, our cafeteria is not a gourmet restaurant, but I personally find all of the food (lost my taste buds declare me) very edible and I will go so far as to say that it is tasty. (That’s wrong with me?)

Complaining (among) about the food is very popular this year. Vellid complaints are good and necessary for the improvement of things, but irrelevant, per-stul complaining can be detrimental to our thinking by blocking out the realities and creating envy for things that are really relevant. To better illustrate this I will give an example. As we complain that our stinks are too rare and the chicken too greasy, 400 million real people are facing starvation in this world. We live in such aKirish, turner ware society that we forget the horrendous realities facing these people every day.

We are in the midst of a world food crisis and consumer prices are higher than ever. In view of this I think Sara is doing an excellent job.

Don S. Dunewant

This Carbon was on

the presses for 10/2