

# OGRA: EXEMPTION ISSUE

May 1991

## **Mrs. Herzberg Arrested!!!**

### **Teacher Allegedly Found Sexual Imagery in Long Lost Dickinson Poem**

SOMERSET, May 29 - Scandal rocked the private school system in central New Jersey today when a prominent English teacher was arrested for "grievous acts." Mrs. Barbara Herzberg, who teaches English on all levels of the Upper School, was taken into custody by the Somerset County Sheriff's Department and awaits arraignment on charges ranging from endangering the welfare of minors to lewd and lascivious behavior. These charges stem from Herzberg's interpretation of a long lost poem by Emily Dickinson (see inset), an author who is known for her sexual themes and erotic imagery. It is obvious to all who have read the poem that there are no sexual themes, but Herzberg insists that they abound in the poem.

"The moth loved life so much that he died, he even could have died because of too much sex," commented Herzberg from her cell

at the Somerset County Correctional Center for Women. When the OGRA asked Sheriff John B. Tanre of Mrs. Herzberg's behavior as an inmate he stated: "She is quickly becoming a

model inmate by teaching Advanced Placement English twice a day to the other women." Herzberg is scheduled for arraignment at the Somerset County Court House on June 8th. She will be represented by the law firm of George G. Gussis, who has

received acclaim at Rutgers Preparatory School for representing two speedsters; Amar T. Maktal and Howard Hymowitz. When the OGRA contacted Mr. Gussis for comment he stated "Mrs. Herzberg has become a victim of our neo-conservative system, fostered by Helmsian ideology. This will be one of my toughest challenges ever, due to the conservative nature of Somerset County and its court system."

*Dickinson's Long lost poem recently  
discovered in archives*

#### **The Moth**

There once was a little moth.  
It Died.

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## **The Ogra Favorite Teacher Award for 1991 Barbara Herzberg**

*This award conditional upon the exemption of Joe Locandro, Sandy Somers, and Geoffrey Gussis*



# The OGRA Back Page

## Exemption Issue

### SHOOTIN' From The Lip

Joe "The Lip" Lup

## Roving Reporter

**Question: Which Book did you like the Best?**

Jordana: I don't know, I was never there!!  
John: I particularly preferred Hamlet, but Mel Gibson is not man enough for me; not enough emotion.  
Alpa: He He He I Love them all He He He  
Arthur: Billy Budd - it had the best Cliff Notes  
Shivam, Raguini, Sonali (in unison): We like the one Mrs. Herzberg likes best.

**Question: How good is Mrs. Herzberg as a teacher?**

Jordana: Who is Mrs. Herzberg?  
John: Her analysis of poetry is superb. However, on plays she tends to overcompensate.  
Alpa: Very good - No - wait - Extremely good.  
Arthur: She compliments the Cliff Notes very well.

**Question: Should Mrs. Herzberg exempt Joe, Sandy and Geoff?**

Alpa: No, they are not Democrats - He He He  
John: No, only I should, after all I was on the Drama Board.  
Jordana: Are they in my English Class?  
Arthur: No, they have very low SAT's.

**Question: Do you have any additional comments?**

Adam, Garvin, and Arthur: This sure beats our dumb movie!  
Marisol: I'm going to Brown!  
Jordana: Does anyone have notes on the last few books?  
Arthur: Sure Jordana, I have all of the CLIFF NOTES.

## THE OGRA ...

A radical but conservative,  
stubborn but charming, group  
of individuals who live on the  
edge.

Magud DTP  
1991

Instead of my normal sport going to take time off and write about a: Her name is Barbara Herzberg, and she has my attention by the praises of three of Sandy Somers, Geoffrey Gussis, and Joe By interviewing these students, I have a youthful looking (she's actually 41) Herzt epitome of the perfect English teacher. She is articulate, good-looking, humorous, knowledgeable and influential. She is a motivator - never always pushing and molding her students in a lean English machine. She has made a mark on students, particularly her seniors; according to she has "instilled the love of literature into our Her lectures and discussions were carefully and painstakingly noted by her students, agree that she is "the English Master." So, I says, "Hail to the Herzberg." Anyway...

Maybe it's just me, but does anyone think Mrs. Herzberg kind of, y'know, Shakespeare? I mean, can't you picture it - Willie, talk nasty like Iago to me!"

Sometimes people are way to dramatic. Has anyone else noticed that John Fidel, Alpa Patel, and Marisol Gonzalez love to read? I mean, really love to read! And why does every character that John plays seem upset and agitated, every character that Alpa plays seem loud and cheery, and every character Marisol plays seem to want, ehem, attention? AP Exams always seem easier than they are.

Especially in English.

Joe Locandro, Geoff Gussis, and Willie Alexander Somers should definitely be exempted from their English exam. Why? Simply because they gave their supreme effort all year long. Sandy may say some dumb things, Geoff might not read every assignment, and Joe may be completely clueless about poetry, but they did try their best.

Crime and Punishment is a damn good book. Raskolnikov is an extremely cool character. Madame Bovary is, well, a bit sexual. Yea - just a bit.

Hamlet's great, fantastic. Macbeth and Twelfth Night are okay too. Think this guy Shakespeare was good? I bet he couldn't hit a jumper...



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## Alt to Onslaught of German Arsenal

London- As the war on the continent rages on with no signs for our European Allies, English war scientists are hard at work perfecting a new armor that may yet prove to turn the tide of the Great War in our favor. Scientists at London's Institute for Military-Literary Research have announced that they are "near a breakthrough." After attempting to make the works of Tolstoy into armor for soldiers, the scientists switched authors and have now concentrated on Irish-born author James Joyce's body of work.

"Nothing like the dense first person stream-of-consciousness narrative typical of the Joyce novel," said top British researcher William Farnsbury. He continued,

"We've experimented with the works of Tolstoy and with the lightweight sonnets of John Donne, but we've found problems with both."

Farnsbury explained that the Tolstoy novels were working quite well in actually stopping the bullets, but that they were simply too large.

"War and Peace, as an example," said Farnsbury, "could take multiple hits from many types of ammunition, but the hundreds of characters and the sheer number of pages made it far too bulky for battle-field use."

Donne's poems solved the problem of bulk but stopped significantly less gunfire. Researcher Jonathan Stone commented, "... Not only were the Donne poems a little bit too light to stop modern gunfire, but the rigid form of the Shakespearean sonnet chafed, blistered, and in some cases cut our test case soldiers.

With Tolstoy's work too cumbersome for the infantry man, and Donne's poems too rigid, the Institute was looking for a medium length piece of literature with a very flexible form but of great literary merit. Farnsbury comments, "Joyce's work is extremely dense and filled with meaning, however it is extremely experimental prose, which makes it very flexible and practical for use as infantry armor." Farnsbury explained that the best armor they've come up with uses a layer of stories from The Dubliners, on the inside of the armor, next to the uniform. A layer of chapter 5's from Joyce's A Portrait of

the Artist as a Young Man, considered the most symbolically rich chapter, would be placed on the outside, with several of Joyce's poems crumpled up between.

"We've even found uses for Joyce's work other than attempting to explain humanity and shielding our courageous men," Farnsbury said. "The density of Joyce's work is quickly improving our submarine technology as well. And his work is inadvertently working well as a camouflage. In early field tests, we've found that his conflicting and confusing emotions about women are confusing the German army. Joyce can't decide whether women are Madonnas or whores, and Germans can't decide whether they're shooting at trees or Englishmen."

Thomas O'Flannery, an Irish literary critic, disagrees with the English's use of Joyce. "This is just another example of the English raping Ireland of its individuality and exploiting Irish national treasures. They took our land, our self-respect, and now they're taking our best defensive literature."

Stone disagrees with O'Flannery. "Joyce's personal feelings are of exile. If Joyce feels that Ireland, his Church, and his family have exiled him, then I for one welcome him to England, our correct Anglican church, and the 'family' here at London's Institute for Military-Literary Research."

When Joyce was reached for comment, he said that he was "Glad that the working man can now appreciate the beautiful dense qualities of my work." He then followed up with, "Who are you," and "Where the hell are my damn glasses?"

Tolstoy could not be reached for comment. It was later found out that Tolstoy is, in fact, dead.

The Germans have taken the cue from the Brits and have started experimenting with the works of philosophers like Nietze and Marx, with mixed results. The United States has also taken the initiative in the literature-armor race,

experimenting with the works of Mark Twain and Herman Melville. "Ideally, some day in the future," John Dale, Director of the American Bureau for Literary Ordinance, said, "we might be able to create some sort of alloy, using the best in English and American literature."

"We have currently working on the next generation of English Infantry armor," Stone reported. "Unfortunately, the early drafts have proven far too inflammatory, and field tests using them have proved disastrous. Any electricity or fire near the armor ignites it very quickly, which is obviously a problem on the battle-field. Unless Joyce can tone down the Sexuality of his latest novel, Ulysses, it seems as if we will not be able to use it in combat." Even though Joyce's latest work has been disappointing, the future seems bright for England's Military Literary program.

Contributing reporter for the Times: Andrew Venezia