

September 24, 1969
F - 201
Miss Wolff

70146

First Optional Assignment: Legend

During the Spring semester of 1966, there was a male student who lived in McNutt Quadrangle and became famous for his weird bird-like call. This call, imitated from a radio program which the student had heard as a youngster, began at a slow pitch and rose to a hysterical, shrieking laugh. No one knew who the student was who made the call, so the nicknamed him the I. U. Birdman. At 10:30 every evening, the student would start his call from the third floor of the men's dormitory section. The birdman became so popular with the student body that many people would fill the McNutt and Foster parking lots and wait to hear the call. Even local and campus radio stations recorded the call so it could be played on their broadcasts. However, there were some that weren't so excited about the birdman. Either the school or the dormitory officials tried their best to find out who the birdman was. They even planned to catch the student by trapping him in his room at the regular hour of his call. Word of the plan leaked out to his fellow-students; and in order to protect their friend, they all crowded into the hall on his floor. The officials were thus prevented from finding him. Toward the end of the semester, a large panty raid occurred; and the birdman provided the signal for it. He was finally caught and silenced by the administration. The noise that he made was very scary and even the cause of nightmares.

[REDACTED]

During the fall semester of 1966 at Indiana University, several girls and I were telling unusual stories during supper at Foster Quadrangle. One of our counselors told us this particular story about the birdman. This counselor, [REDACTED], a junior from Indianapolis, has heard the weird call herself. Although the whole group of girls was sympathetic to the student in his dispute with the administration, their reaction to the story was one of wonder. Even imagining the cry was somewhat frightening. I have heard the ~~birma~~ birdman story on several other occasions and am sure that it circulated widely among students on the Indiana University campus.

[REDACTED]