



Marla Edelman



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## Illini Union

The Illini Union was completed in 1941. Federal funds, private loans and gifts financed the building of the structure. It exemplifies the Georgian architecture inspired by Williamsburg, Va. The Georgian architecture is the predominant style found throughout campus. The south wing, built in 1963 doubled the size of the Union and added a courtyard.



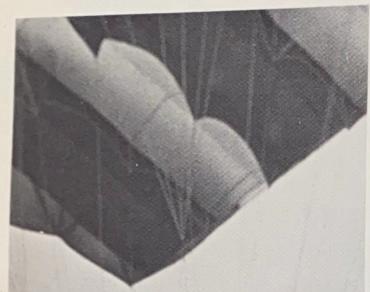
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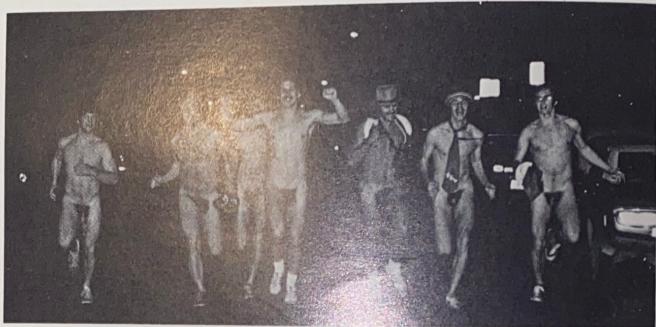
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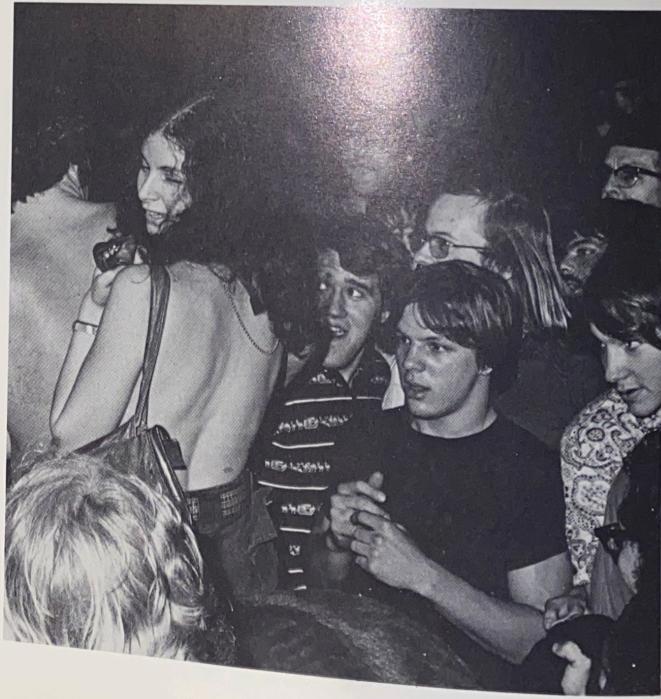
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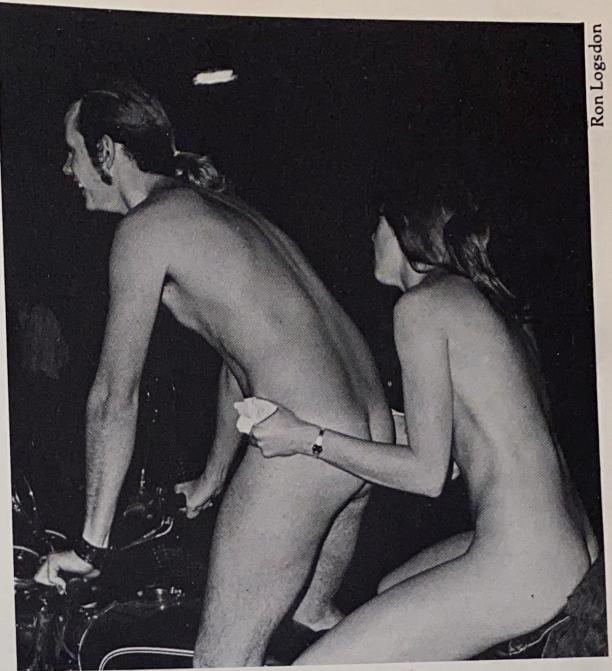
Chris Walker



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## Flashes of Flesh

What began as a few random flashes of flesh on March 4, 1974, progressed into a mass gathering and undressing of University students the night of March 8.

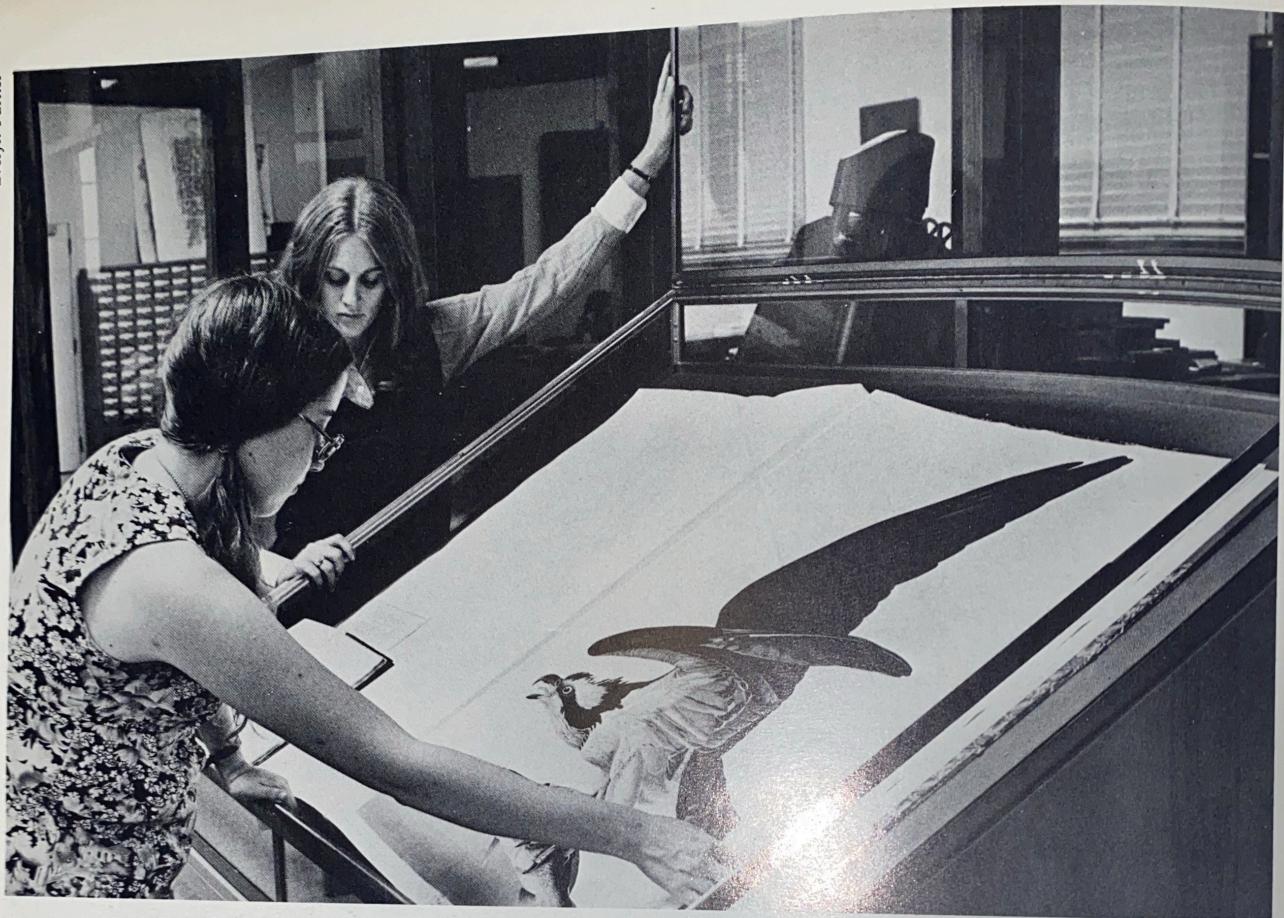
"Streaking," which hit the University campus a few weeks after it had occurred on campuses across the country, was originally intended to be a quick run in the nude. But as the fad gathered momentum, creative streakers parachuted in the nude, can-canned in the nude, bicycled in the nude, motorcycled in the nude, rode horseback in the nude and climbed flag-poles in the nude.

Near midnight of March 8, 12,000 people jammed onto the Quad to watch as approximately 600 streakers raced to Fraternity Park. Although streaking was a predominantly male sport, several women braved the elements to the delight of onlookers. All of these activities earned the University first place honors for that week in a streaker poll conducted by St. Louis University's radio station.

All week the police tried to stay in the background. But when five nude runners and one nude bicyclist streaked from the Auditorium to the Illin. Union, March 6, University police seized one of the streakers. He was not charged, but, one student was arrested in a restroom inside the Union and charged with disorderly conduct. One other student was charged with interfering with the police in their previous arrest and another streaker was arrested near the Student Services Building.

One incident on the night of March 7 disrupted the amiable atmosphere of streaker week. A student was injured after attempting to jump onto the trunk of a moving car while he was fleeing seven pursuers. The confrontation allegedly occurred when a group of students on bicycles had been harassing streakers and streaker-watchers on the Quad earlier that evening.

Cold weather and spring break seemingly compelled students to put their clothes back on — at least for a while.



## Over \$1,000,000 in used books

by Jane Karr

There aren't many places these days where you can pick up a used book for over \$20,000, but the University library managed to find one.

It is the Book of Genesis from an edition of the Gutenberg Bible printed about 1455. It is generally considered to be the first book printed from movable type in Western Civilization.

It is part of the University's collection of books located in the Rare Book Room in the Main Library. The collection, worth well over a million dollars, contains about 100,000 volumes — approximately 1200 of which were published before 1501, and many more before 1701.

The Rare Book Room was established in 1937 when a collection of John Milton and Renaissance materials assembled by Harris F. Fletcher, a retired English professor, became so large it had to be transferred from a fourth floor office to a separate branch library.

The University owns copies of all first editions of John Milton's writings and is recognized as owning the world's leading collection of "Miltoniana." It contains 100 seventeenth century editions of John Milton's work and about 3,000 volumes about Milton.

The library's nucleus consists of works by and about Milton and related primary sources in English history and liter-

ature of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, according to N. Frederick Nash, Rare Book Room librarian. The University collections contain both rare books and special collections. The Milton collection, for example, contains works published from 1634 to the present.

*Allegoriae in Homeris Fabulas de Dijis* (An Allegory about the Fables of Homer) by Heraclides of Pontus and Alexandra by Lycophron are the library's prized possessions. These Hellenistic works contain in their fly leaves Milton's signature, the date he purchased the books and his margin notes. Only seven or eight other volumes are known to have definitely belonged to the poet.

The Milton collection is still growing and will continue to grow through purchases and gifts, according to Nash. Many copies of Milton's poetry and other works published in this century were received as gifts.

In 1949 the Rare Book Room acquired another great treasure — one of the rare surviving complete first editions of the hand-colored engravings of John James Audubon's classic, "The Birds of America."

The "elephant folio", which derives its name from its enormous size of three feet by two feet, is kept in a special glass display case.

The folio, along with five volumes of text, established