

What's that smell?

by Tricia Goldberg

Whenever I get a whiff of Grey Flannel cologne, it reminds me of Jeff. It goes rummaging around my mind and finds images of cool, romantic, promising evenings spent with him years ago. A mild melancholy engulfs me and I wonder how he is now, how many children he has, what his life is like without me.

Indeed, the fragrances I've worn have had a deep connection to my morale. With the rickety identity of my late teens, I was one day ravishingly attractive, brilliant, and the next day hopelessly plain and unpopular; but I wore the same fragrance every day—Cachet. It was the one my older, wiser, and incredibly beautiful sister wore, and it steadied me.

Of all the senses, the ability to smell is the most emotionally charged. *Vogue's* October 1990 issue states that, "The cells in the nose that do our smelling link up with the olfactory center in the brain—part of the 'old brain' that controls feelings and moods. Smells, especially repeated

ones, are stored in the memory as scent impressions. When the odor is smelled again, even years later, it can call up a host of associations."

Perfume scholar Edwin T. Morris, who teaches at The New School, New York University, said, "Smell is our most primitive and powerful link to the outside world: it affects our appetite, our sex drive, our moods."

Popular novelist Jackie Collins said: "The most sensual scent, I find, is Poison by Christian Dior...it's most definitely lethal. Scent establishes a mood. When I'm writing a particularly erotic scene, I prefer to wear Fendi. In my novels, the 'Hollywood wives' wear Joy or Giorgio, and the 'Hollywood husbands' settle for Armani. Men, I believe, should most definitely experience the thrill of splashing themselves with Xeryus by Givenchy."

Is it any wonder then that colognes are so popular? Fragrance sales are higher than ever. *New Woman's* February '91 stated, "In the last few years, the men's fragrance category has been

growing at a rapid rate—up to 5 percent per year, ... the women's category ... at an annual rate of 2 percent."

The hottest fragrances today, according to Norma Wilkerson of Bullock's cosmetic counter in the Fashion Show Mall, include the following.

Men's	Women's
Eternity	Eternity
Giorgio	Giorgio original
Giorgio	Giorgio Red
Armani	
273	273
Boss	Jessica
	McClintock
Bijan	Paloma
Picasso	Tiffany
Bijan	Bouch Eron

UNLV Freshman LaDon McIntyre said she most enjoys Eternity for Men and Poison. Junior James Aquino said his favorite is Eternity for Men, and he has no opinion on women's fragrances. My favorites include Krizia Uomo for men and Camp Beverly Hills for women.



illus. by Jason Bermingham

Volume of UNLV mail increases with cost

by Amy Conlan

Nearly 2 million pieces of mail will be posted throughout the UNLV Mail Center this year, according to the Center's supervisor, Jina Fletcher.

Fletcher said 15,000 to 17,000 items, including interdepartment communication envelopes as well as the letters that are mailed, are handled by the Center each workday.

The 2 million pieces of mail will cost the university about \$390,000 in postage this year, a figure that will rise next year due to the Feb. 3 increase in postal rates, the supervisor said.

The Nevada Legislature, which "never approves enough money," Fletcher said, only appropriated \$116,000 for the UNLV postal budget this year. The budget deficit will have to be made up from the university's emergency fund.

The volume of mail has been increasing along with university enrollment, but special events can create a mail surge. For example, Fletcher said she noticed a large increase in mail volume after UNLV won the 1990 National Basketball Championship.

Most outgoing mail sent by UNLV qualifies to be posted at a preferred postage rate reserved

specifically for nonprofit organizations. Examples of correspondence that would not qualify would include mail generated by profit-making seminars and profit-making entertainment events at Thomas & Mack Center. Postal inspectors regularly examine the Mail Center's operation for violations, according to Fletcher.

Mistakes in posting mail incorrectly could lead to the loss of the university's nonprofit status and greatly increase the university's cost for postage, the mail supervisor explained.

The Mail Center serves 300 university departments through pickup and delivery service at 93 designated campus mail stations.

Fletcher said two mail employees wheel their way through the campus in electronic carts, picking up outgoing mail and delivering incoming mail in two daily "mail runs." The first pickup/delivery is from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., the second is from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The arrival of the daily incoming mail from the U.S. Postal Service turns the Mail Center into a beehive of activity. Mail personnel sort mail for delivery to each department into individual mail cubicles that are mounted on the interior walls of the Center.

Interdepartment communication envelopes are also sorted into the same cubicles and routed for delivery back to one of the pickup/delivery stations along with the U.S. mail.

Outgoing mail is sorted, sealed, stamped and forwarded for delivery to the U.S. Postal Service by the Mail Center. Outgoing mail received in the Center by 2:30 p.m. will go out the same day, according to Fletcher.

Some pieces of mail are easier to route than others and misaddressed correspondence creates a time-consuming and frustrating part of the job, Fletcher said.

She recalled a recent letter addressed to UNLV: "attention: Susan." Unfortunately, there are 40 Susans who receive mail by way of the UNLV Mail Center.

Fletcher said some of the mail arrives addressed to people she has never heard of because some departments fail to let her know about the arrival of new personnel. If she can't locate the right person, she has to return the mail to the sender.

"This makes some people mad," she said. But with the massive volume of mail she is responsible for, she said she can't spend too much time playing detective.

A hand up— not a handout

By: Tina Crinite

Today the American dream of owning your own home may still be a reality through a group of people called Habitat for Humanity International.

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit organization designed to eliminate inadequate and substandard housing, and currently a chapter is underway to help families in Las Vegas.

Founder and President Millard Fuller and wife Linda Fuller started Habitat for Humanity in 1969 when Fuller was

director of Koinonia Farm, a Christian community located in southwest Georgia near Americus. Koinonia's Partnership Housing Program was a forerunner to Habitat for Humanity, but it wasn't until 1976 that the official counting of houses started.

The main objective of Habitat for Humanity is to build houses in a community. A qualifying family is then able to move in while Habitat holds the mortgage for twenty years. The family then pays monthly \$200 to \$250 with zero interest. Ownership of a house then becomes an obtainable dream.

The families who are eligible through application (comparable to a loan application) are usually people who earn approximately half of what is considered me-

dia income within that community. In Las Vegas the medium income is \$33,000 and therefore families who are within

the \$17,500 bracket are encouraged to apply for this assistance in becoming homeowners.

"We are very direct with the applicants. Since we are the ones who hold the mortgage, they must have the ability to make all the payments," Anita Gant, board member of Habitat for Humanity of Las Vegas, Inc., said. "This is designed to break the poverty cycle."

In its fifteen year operation since 1976, this organization has built and sold over 8,500 houses, and by the end of 1991 the number is hoped to be raised to 15,000 homes.

Although Habitat is a Christian based organization, the members, volunteers, and applicants do not have to be followers of that religion. "We do not proselytize (to induce someone to convert one's faith)," Gant said. "Our social ministries accept the way people are regardless of their faith. We have a goal in mind and it is achieved with a minimal amount of garbage and red tape."

The money to make building these houses possible is done through fund-raising, donations, and volunteer workers willing to donate their time, money, and talents. Habitat for Humanity was incorporated in Las Vegas on Dec. 31, 1990, and has already earned over \$8,000 with-

out much promotion in the community. Their goal is to raise \$110,000 by July 1992 to build three houses.

"If you can hold a hammer and have a roof over your head, you can help somebody else," Gretchen Stamos, protestant chaplain, UNLV Center for Religion and Life, said.

The houses built are not lavish and extravagant, but the 1,000 square feet homes

"If you can hold a hammer and have a roof over your head, you can help someone else."

are modest, decent, safe, and meet code requirements. The families who move in are not always the tradi-

tional nuclear family. The family selection committee is non-discriminatory in its choice of the applicant who will receive the home whether it is a mother, father, and two kids, or a single mother and three kids.

The labor of building these houses comes mainly from volunteers except for various parts of the house which require the work of a professional. Many volunteer workers include carpenters, painters, concrete men, and regular everyday people with the desire to help some-

one. Former President of the United States Jimmy Carter has been a volunteer since 1983 and participates in physical labor every summer



along with fifteen traveling work groups who last year visited 225 cities building one house per week.

A person may help volunteer in many community projects. This type of volunteering is very encouraging because the volunteer can actually see the results; an actual house built, and a family as it lifts "itself out of the bad and into the good."

Upon completion there is a house dedication (picture the scene in the movie "It's a Wonderful Life," when Jimmy Stewart helps a family move in) and the recipients are extremely grateful.

"This is certainly what Las Vegas needs, to see a difference being made," Gant said.

"When you volunteer it is just the beginning, there is no end. Once the bug bites it's fantastic. I have been fortunate to work with dedicated people who volunteer their skills and become involved with making people's lives better," Gant said.

Gant will speak and give a video presentation telling more about Habitat for Humanity in Las Vegas on April 8 at 7:30 p.m. in the Center for Religion and Life (located on Brussels). For more information or if you might be willing to participate in a UNLV chapter of Habitat for Humanity, contact Anita Gant at 388-0227.