

# Signature

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## Prefatory Note

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# SIGNATURE

## UNI Student Magazine



Damn the torpedos — full speed ahead.  
David Glasgow Farragut

*This issue is dedicated to Chuck and Flo, for vicarious help, and to Mom, and most of all, to fourth-generation genes.*

My name is Sue Bliss. Ten people have just made me the captain of a sinking ship, and the only directions were "Here is a rubber duck. Start swimming."

The second comment was: "Who is your staff?" Staff? Staff. I have coerced, bribed and threatened several very creative acquaintances of mine into pulling this magazine out of a hat (or should I say, a spin). To indicate the kind of raw confidence a few people have had in the probability of coming out with the magazine, I quote a suggestion for a name from an unnamed professor: "The Titanic Travel Diary." Up to this point, the magazine has been a theory; to Mr. Confidence, quoted above, I say, "Here it is." I have had a lot of help from several members on the Board of Student Publications; I am also indebted to John Nicol for advice and heretofore unnamed special resources, and forever to Jeannine Steinquist for helping me to learn to spell SIGNATURE. Many other people have added considerably. If it's been uphill, at least it hasn't been lonely.

The UNI student magazine has barely survived the last several years. Due to questionable content, maybe an "Our Gang" staff or two, and lack of identity, the magazine almost went under.

SIGNATURE is the antidote to the past chaos. You can recognize us by our "S" logo, the funny ads in the lowan, and our quality content. We can recognize you by your talent, and contribution to an outstanding collection of creative energy. The

creative noise is out there: SIGNATURE is the place.

We are undertaking some standard editorial policies with this issue. Judging from reader response and flack in the past, we are not printing a collection of street language. If you want to get earthy, stick your head in the ground. We've seen it (or heard it) before; SIGNATURE is aiming at the creative, the fresh thought on campus, and the same old four letter words just don't interest us. Get creative—use a thesaurus. An ineffectual legislature and the culture vultures aside, we don't jump up and down over art-porno, either.

The same applies to overly presumptuous or wordy poetry: It's fine if you're 89 and famous, but what do you know about unrequited anything at 22? (We don't have the answers either—except that if we can't understand it, then you probably can't either.) Ambiguity does not equal talent.

A final word: this publication, like the lowan, is funded with cash that once lined your own pockets. No matter how (quote) apathetic students are cracked up to be, they usually get very excited where dollars (and sense) are involved.

UNI has a lot of creative, funny, thoughtful and fascinating people. We on the staff sort of discovered each other, and in turn, unearthed some great stuff right out of the campus. This magazine is yours (and ours) and an outlet to thought that the lowan just can't handle in the same way. Besides, someone has to parody them.

**Editor's note:** Although this issue is almost bereft of art, the editors welcome all visual contributions—but we can't print 'em if we don't have 'em. All art work will be handled carefully (staff members include two frustrated art majors) and returned.

All contributions for the spring issue of SIGNATURE should be typed, double-spaced, with author's name and phone number in top right corner. Photographs and drawings should be sharp black and white, high contrast for best reproduction. Contribution deadline for the spring issue is April 1. Please enclose stamped, self-addressed envelope (SASE) with manuscript to insure return. Contributions should be left with the secretary at the Northern lowan or mailed to: SIGNATURE—UNI STUDENT MAGAZINE, Room 112, Maucker Union.