

# Morrison imposter writes 'novel novel'

By JOHN VANORE  
Battalion Staff Writer

On July 9, 1971, it was announced to the press that Jim Morrison, lead singer of The Doors, had been buried the day before in Paris. He had reportedly died on July 3, but no mention was made until after his interment, almost a week later.

Several things didn't quite make sense about the death. First, it seemed odd that a 27-year-old man, as active as Morrison was, could die of a heart attack.

Second, his casket was always sealed. No one who could be taken at his/her word ever saw the body in the casket, except for Morrison's wife Pamela. She died of a heroin overdose last year without making any statements.

All this happened within less than a year of the deaths of Jimi Hendrix and Janis Joplin, and within two years of the "Paul is dead" hoax. Three American rock deaths in a year's time seemed a bit much to Morrison's fans, many of whom refuse to believe that he is really dead.

Why dredge up all this ancient history? Well, about a month ago a fellow surfaced in New Orleans claiming to be Jim Morrison.

An analysis of his story led to one conclusion: Jim Morrison may be alive, but he sure isn't that fellow in New Orleans.

A taped interview with the pretender was aired on radio WRNO in New Orleans soon after he made his presence known. However, certain parts were edited out — most notably the fact that his ("Morrison's") real name is Billy Casselberry, and that he legally changed his name to

Jim Morrison in California. He claims to have become Morrison by means of some sort of psychic transformation that took place at the time of Morrison's death.

Casselberry compared his transformation to the tradition of a Japanese kabuki actor, who would pass his stage identity down to a successor, year after year. Quite a lame story.

Writing under Morrison's name, Casselberry, a paraplegic, has produced what he calls "a novel novel." The book, "The Bank of America of Louisiana," describes "the reappearance on earth of a deceased Hollywood rock star... disguised as a mild-minded Louisiana banker." Sounds like Casselberry's brain went soft after watching too many "Superman" shows on television.

Casselberry's Zeppelin Publishing Corp., headquartered in Baton Rouge, is actually a slap-dash one-man operation. The book itself is a poorly written and edited work on about the level of a retarded first-grader, churned out on an epileptic typewriter.

The biggest reason for Casselberry's pulling off this stunt is the dense cloud of mystery and ambiguity surrounding Morrison's Parisian death.

In the first place, it's very simple to get a death certificate in France because a body isn't needed. All that is required is for the French equivalent of a Notary Public to affix his seal to a statement affirming that so-and-so died of such-and-such

causes on the above date. And, voila! a man is legally dead.

Under circumstances like that, a man of Morrison's intelligence and wit could very easily pull off a faked death. Even the first Morrison's manager, Bill Siddons, cannot reject that possibility.

He also remarked that Morrison's casket was sealed when he got to Paris "because he couldn't stand the sensationalism of his image." That also accounted for the delay in announcing Morrison's death, since everyone involved was said to have wanted a private funeral without the publicity that inevitably accompanies a rock star's death.

But hope springs eternal within the heart of man, or so it is said. And that hope has, over the years, been channelled into a vast energy by Morrison fans who never accepted the reports of his death. Even Casselberry has referred to this.

"There are a tremendous number of people who won't believe Morrison is dead until the body has been exhumed," said Casselberry. "Until that time, there's this tremendous untapped reality. It's not necessarily a reality in terms of truth, but since people continue to have this belief, it's a very real kind of energy."

How true he is, at least on one count. Die-hard fans will grab at anything that's offered them, but that's no excuse for Casselberry's brand of hogwash. Hopefully his kind will be taken off the streets.

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**\*ALL LECTURES BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 7:30 P.M. AND END AT 8:30 P.M.**

# MEETINGS SCHEDULED

The American Meteorological Society will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 112 in the Oceanography Building.

The Entomology Club will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. under the old oak tree in front of the Academic Building.

The A&M Wheelmen will meet Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. by the Rudder Tower Fountain.

The Freshman Class Council will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 601 in Rudder Tower.

The Student International Meditation Society will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 510 in Rudder Tower.

Young Republicans will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 140 MSC.

The Student Education Society will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 229 MSC.

The Bryan Chamber Orchestra Rehearsal will be Wednesday at 8 p.m. in Room 206 MSC.

The Society of American Military Engineers will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 108 in the Harrington Education Center.

The Bryan-College Station Sierra Club will meet Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the University National Bank.

OPA Pledges will meet Wednesday at 7:30 in Room 216 L&M MSC.

Omega Phi Alpha will meet Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in Room 607 in the Rudder Tower.

The Bridge Committee will meet Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Room 225 MSC.

Psi Chi will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 308 in Rudder Tower.

The A&M Sports Car Club will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 401 in Rudder Tower.

Senior Class Council will meet Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 410 in Rudder Tower.

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**OFFICIAL NOTICE**

3 p.m. day before publication

**OFFICIAL NOTICE**

College of Science English Proficiency Examination A Make-up Examination, for all JUNIORS and SENIORS in curricula of the College of Science who have not taken the English Proficiency Examination, will be given on Thursday, November 13, 1975, at 7:30 p.m.

Biology Department Curricula - Room 113 BSBE Chemistry Department Curricula - Room 225 CHEM Math Department Curricula - Room 206 ACAD Physics Department Curricula - Room 202 PHYS

For information and guidelines on the nature of the examination, check with the departmental secretary. Completion of this examination, a requirement of the College of Science, is a prerequisite for registration for the Spring Semester, 1976. 386

Notice is hereby given to all concerned that all currently displayed parking and traffic signs, including color designations of parking areas, supersede instructions printed in the University Traffic Regulations. In this connection it must be recognized that the Traffic Regulations and accompanying campus map are of necessity sent to the printer in early summer, based on enrollment and vehicle projections made at that time.

Enrollment statistics, and an actual count of vehicles after fall classes begin, often require that adjustments be made in parking areas. The beginning of new construction projects, and the completion of old projects, also demand changes in parking requirements. When readjustments are made to accommodate these changes, the result is a conflict between what appears on the ground and what appears in the Traffic Regulations map. It must be understood, therefore, that in-place parking and traffic signs supersede previously printed regulations and instructions. 3615

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**OFFICIAL NOTICE**

Final Examination for the Doctoral Degree Name: Miller, Robert Carroll Degree: Ph.D. in English Dissertation: JOHNSON'S DICTIONARY CATEGORIZED: A SELECTION FOR EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY STUDIES. Time: November 25, 1975 at 1:00 p.m. Place: Room 507 in the Harrington Ed. Center Phase I George W. Kunze Dean of the Graduate College

Final Examination for the Doctoral Degree Name: Kinahan, James Joseph Degree: Ph.D. in Biochemistry Dissertation: REGULATION OF GENE EXPRESSION: TWO SYSTEMS. Time: November 21, 1975 at 10:00 a.m. Place: Room 214 in the Heep Bldg. George W. Kunze Dean of the Graduate College

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Arthur T. Barry, of Worcester was chosen by the Worcester Veterans Council for his work for and with veterans. The selection was made at a dinner after Tuesday's Veterans Day parade.

Police once estimated that Barry stole between \$4 million and \$10 million in jewels. He operated on Long Island during the 1920s.

Barry served 19 years in prison in New York for a \$100,000 jewel robbery and was released in November 1949.

A veteran of World War I, Barry was awarded the Silver Star but went AWOL before it could be presented to him.

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