DISSERTATION

Section One: Cultural Experiences

After deciding to create a video for my semester project, my German class decided to create a comedy and put it to video. In order for our class to begin, Frau Baarspul felt that our class needed to view a real German comedy and the videos made by classes from previous years. Viewing these videos have not only helped my German class better understanding the kind of production, art, and skill required to make a video, but it also helped me to integrate my own ideas into filming a video that would not also be entertaining to an audience, but also entertaining to produce.

I also visited a web site on the Cannes Film Festival that takes place every year and viewed the section that discussed the films (The Official Site - http://www.festival-cannes.fr/cannes98/va/allfilms//communique.html). Learning and understanding how Hollywood judges and puts together videos helped me better my filming skills and integrate my ideas more clearly.

Section Two: Analysis

My video, *Insanity: An Abstract Video*, was produced for humor and entertainment.

Although not clearly displayed to the viewer, it does have a message: *Life moves pretty fast; if*you don't stop and look around once in a while, you may miss it. I feel that this message is

important because too many people take life for granted and don't realize that they have until it is

too late. If more people heeded this message, they would not only have more fun, but in turn live

fuller lives.

In an abstract form, the message is displayed in *Insanity* by the subjects. They are simply high school students who manage to find humor and fun while in school and on their own time; therefore, they are making their lives more worthwhile. I have seen this message displayed through another medium, the motion picture, *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*. By skipping school with two friends, Ferris was able to see things he probably wouldn't have been able to see under normal, everyday circumstances. He truly experienced a fulfilling day, and his life was probably more worthwhile because of it. He even taught his friends to learn to just stop, look around, and enjoy themselves. I've liked that movie for as long as I can remember, mainly for the sole reason that the main purpose of life is to enjoy it and have as much fun as you can throughout your life.

For the future, I plan on attending college until I have an Associate of Arts, Associate of Technical Arts, Bachelor of Arts in English or Humanities, Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, and a Masters degree in either English, Humanities, or Computers. Since I am the proud owner of a hand-held video camera, I plan to use it whenever possible, whenever necessary to improve, fulfill, and further my education. And I don't believe I would find it so significant to my future if I hadn't used it for my semester project.