

been able to ship Reggie  
the kangaroo head he wanted  
for his skull collection,  
but since it's illegal to  
mail kangaroo heads, it  
arrived in a box labeled  
MODEL, WITHOUT GLUE. Then  
I left the house, and  
the woman next door had  
ejected her drunken husband  
onto the sidewalk and was  
flinging his clothes at him  
piece by piece, including  
individual socks, and he  
was taking pot shots at her  
with a heavy-duty Sears  
staple gun. I decided  
there were a dozen things  
I should be doing and that  
I should do them immediately.  
But when I got in the Datsun  
the words on the rearview  
mirror said THINGS IN THIS  
MIRROR ARE CLOSER THAN  
THEY APPEAR, and then I  
really began to worry.

#### O RACCOON

I was driving through Albany  
with Richard the trapper  
and he told me, "I visited  
your city of New Orleans  
some years ago,  
mainly Bourbon Street  
where I was introduced  
to a fuchsia drink  
they called a Hurricane.  
Later, I was lying  
on my face in Jackson Square  
protecting my tongue  
and listening to a man  
on a nearby bench  
talk to a black raccoon  
which wasn't there.  
He was patting its head."  
"If it wasn't there," I asked  
"what made you certain  
it was a raccoon?"



"By the informal manner  
in which he addressed it,"  
Richard said.

-- Martha McFerren

New Orleans LA

LONNIE WICKERSHAM

One divorce  
one bankruptcy  
one bad pileup in a  
stockcar race

You don't like him  
and neither do I

but you must admit  
that old boy  
don't make the same mistake  
twice

MARTY FEDDERMAN IN CALIFORNIA

His eyes  
and beard are  
stabbing black

and he left New York  
for Chico State

teaches advanced literature  
to a multi-racial group

of students  
who need bonehead English  
bad

-- Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel

Paso Robles CA