



Texas - the print Mark acquired.



Mark sifts through his collection

Clackamas student amasses collection of Nagels

Photos by Von Daniel

by Von Daniel



Mark's personal favorite,

"People who have never bought art before have bought Nagels."

If you have no idea what Nagels are you're missing out. Collector Mark Walker describes them as being "totally California."

Walker is nineteen years old and a student here at Clackamas. His passion is collecting works of art by Painter-Graphic designer Patrick Nagel.

Walker got started collecting just by purchasing one print but he soon found out that you can't have just one "Nagels are addictive," said Walker. He came to acquiring Nagels by originally being attracted to the first print he had come across. Many people might know it as being the cover of the Duran Duran Rio album. Walker was on a trip with his father to see his sister in Corvallis when they passed an art gallery. Walker shouted for his father to stop the car. Walker then hopped out and ran into the gallery where in the window he saw the Print Texas or "Rio." The owner of the gallery was out so Walker took a business card and called the gallery when he got home. Since at the time Walker had no job or real source of income he struck a deal with the owner. The cost of the print was \$250 so he put some money down on it and sent checks when ever he acquired enough money. It was close to his birthday and Mark told people that, "If I get anything but cash I'll hock it."

Over a period of three years Walker has increased his collection to a total of 29 pieces and hasn't quit yet. The value of his collection is approximated at \$5,600 and grows in price all the time.

Some people would regard paying between \$100 and \$600

ridiculous for a print, but Walker justifies this with three reasons: 1) He treats his collection as an investment 2) The technical quality of the art is outstanding. 3) The Smithsonian Institute and the White House wouldn't invest in garbage. An example of a good mark upon a print would be the third print he acquired. Palm Springs Life is the name and Walker purchased it for \$63. It is now worth over \$1200.

An unusual thing that has helped Walker find prints is that he is in contact with Nagel's widow Jennifer Dumas. She is said to be the inspiration for what we now know as "The Nagel Woman." She is also the soul copyright owner of all works not previously published. It's a mystery as to how Walker found her and especially that they've become friends because Mark says, "she doesn't talk to just anyone, I feel lucky talking to her."

When Walker decides on a print that he wants he goes through a process much like a private detective would. He calls local galleries, then calls Mirage gallery in California which publishes most all of Nagel's works. Next he calls the name which appears on the print if there is one and lastly calls a list of national galleries which usually keep Nagels in stock. It isn't unusual for Walker to run up quite a phone bill. The last print he received cost him a total of \$931.00, \$250 of which was the phone bill. Walker says, "I feel pretty lucky to own his collection. 29 out of 65 pieces is pretty good." He has reached the point where he buys the prints for pleasure more than need or because they are in demand.

"I had no idea I'd have this many."



The rarest and most expensive to purchase.

Regarded

Palm Springs Life

