Top-Ranking Student at Smith
Missing from Wellesley Home

SYLVIA PLATH
Missing student

Miss Sylvia Plath, 20, top-ranking student in the Smith College junior class last June, disappeared from her home at 26 Elmwood St., Wellesley, yesterday afternoon. A police search was asked by her widowed mother, Mrs. Aurelia S. Plath, a Boston University professor.

Mrs. Plath told Wellesley police her daughter had left the house about 2 p.m. Later a note from her was found, in which she said she was "going for a hike" and would be back today.

Had Been 'Nervous'

The brilliant student had been "nervous" and under a doctor's care for several months, her mother said. She described Sylvia as a girl who liked to be alone and enjoying taking walks by herself.

An attractive girl, Miss Plath was described as five feet, nine
inches tall weighting 140 pounds, dark brown hair and brown eyes and wearing a light blue skirt and white sleeveless blouse when she left home.

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Girl Missing in Wellesley

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Sylvia planned on returning to Smith next month for her senior year, Mrs. Plath said. Last year she was editor of the Smith Review, the college literary [literary] magazine, a member of the college's Press Board and Smith correspondent for the Daily Hampshire Gazette.

She won two poetry prize awards at Smith last year, had three poems accepted by Harper's Magazine, had stories and poems published in Seventeen magazine [magazine], won a $500 award from Mademoiselle magazine for a short story and last May won a guest editorship to the Mademoiselle [Mademoiselle] office in New York.

Sylvia's brother, Warren, will enter Harvard this fall. Their father, Dr. Otto Plath, also a Boston University professor, died 10 years ago.

Transcribed by Peter K. Steinberg, 11 September 2016.