Chem 332, Professor Fox Problem Set #4 Use additional paper

1. Provide the reagents

a)
$$HO$$
 Et CO_2H Br CO_2H CO_2

Ph

3) Rationalize the following observations:

4. Provide a mechanism for the formation of 1 and 2

5. Circle the product, and explain using your knowledge of molecular orbitalsof the following transformation

$$CH_3$$
 Δ CH_3 or CH_3

6. The conversion of Dewar benzene (3) to benzene is extremely exothermic (by 60 kcal/mol), yet it occurs only very slowly under thermal conditions. However, photolysis converts Dewar benzene into benzene very readily. Explain why, using your knowledge of electrocyclic rearrangements to determine the problem with a concerted thermal ring opening, and why a concerted photochemical ring opening should be facile.

for this problem it might be helpful if you consider Dewar benzene as a cyclobutene with 2 R groups, and benzene as a butadiene with two R groups.