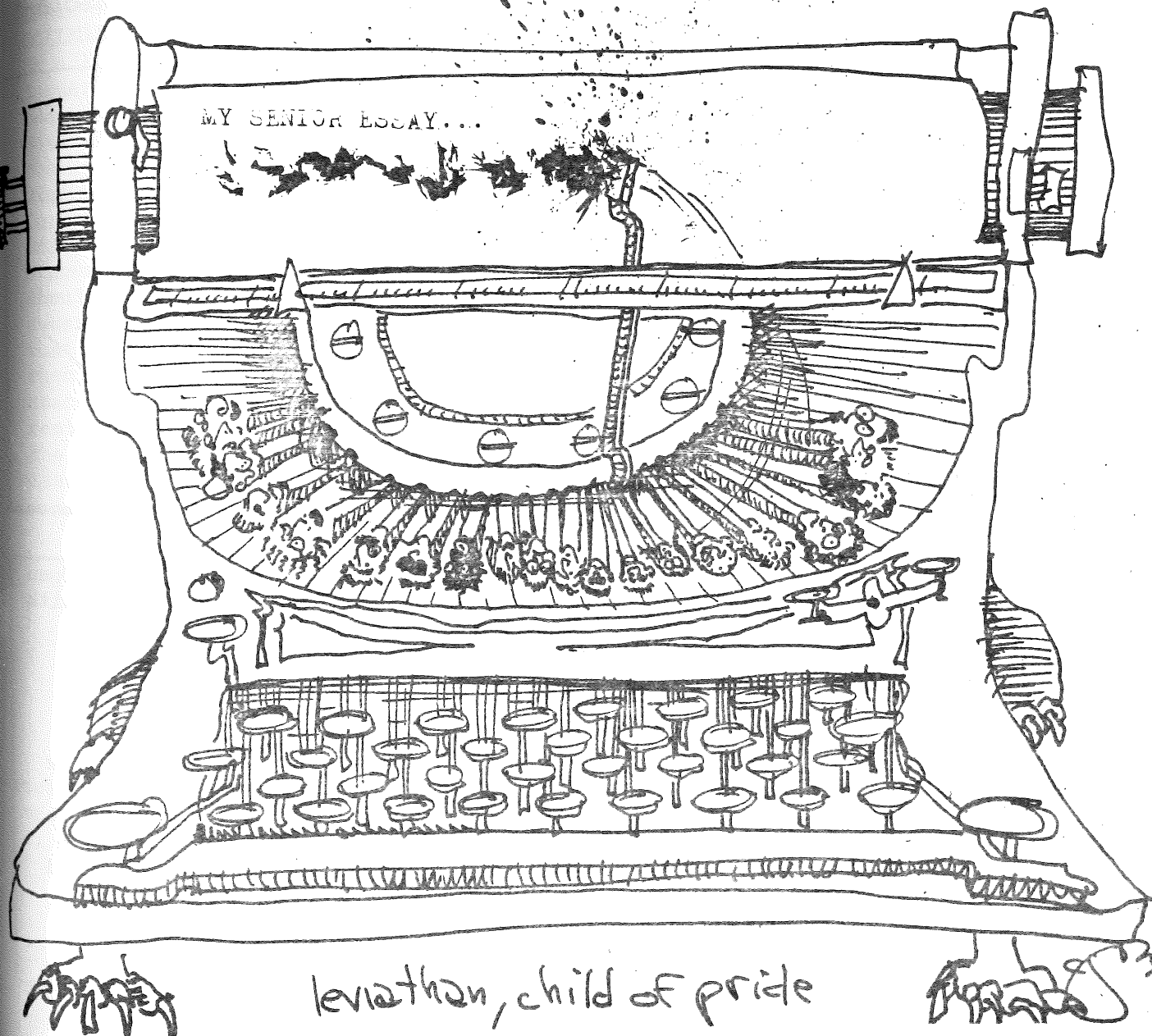


THE COLLEGIAN

THE STUDENT WEEKLY OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

ANAPOLIS, MARYLAND



leviathan, child of pride

THIS WEEK

CO-OP MEETING

Tuesday Feb. 20th in Rm. 141 at 4:30 pm

Bring: Checks, Calculators, Back order sheets, & Credit/debit slips

Harry Golding will be selling peppercorns, anise, and bayleaves before the meeting starts.

- Rick Campbell



SPECIAL CONCERT

Helen Stephenson, soprano
Frank Conlon, piano

8:15 pm
Tonight (Feb. 18)
Great Hall

The program will include songs composed by David Stephenson to the poetry of Heine, as well as works by Mozart, Cesti, Faure, and Richard Strauss.

-Elizabeth Bolotin
Music Librarian

11-5
Daily

1-5
Sunday

Antique Rose
up to 40% off everything

Vintage Clothing
&
Jewelry

Unique shoes and accessories

Hawaiian Shirts, 40's Rayon dresses
and suits, party dresses, lacey
Victorian petticoats and camisole
tops

45 Randall Street
(off the Dock)

We Buy and Sell

263-0377
636-5128

TUESDAY

Presentation on Alcohol in the Conversation Room at 4:30 pm.

Talk given by Paulette Clem of "Open Door", a local agency concerned with drug abuse.

TWO MORE students are needed to be ushers for the Sat., Feb. 24th performance of the Maryland Ballet. Please call me on Tuesday between 2-3 pm if you wish to render assistance, and also see the performance FREE.

- Ingrid Miller
College Relations

INSIDE

ART WORK,
ART WORK
EVERY PAGE
(almost)

-- not a
lot to think

More letters
on the Graded
Book Program,
pp. 7-11

NOTE WELL

The March 4th issue of the COLLEGIAN will be a literary issue; this means that next week will be the last regular issue before Spring Break. All announcements should be submitted for that issue, then, as news space will be restricted in the March 4th issue.

THE COLLEGIAN

THE STUDENT WEEKLY OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

The Polity Court is all but dead.

Two causes can be found for this near-death. One is that students do not think that they should regulate themselves. Instead, students rely on the Administration to police them and resolve their difficulties. There is, then, little business for the Court.

The second cause is student attitude toward the Court itself. Students have little respect for the Court's abilities. Whether this attitude results from failings of students or of the Court, the effect is that few people seriously consider taking a case to Polity Court.

As most disputes at St. John's can be simply resolved, the problem of maintaining an authority to settle difficult disputes is not immediate to us. So the Court has existed for years, unused but untroublesome.

It is a ridiculous practice to keep the Court for extreme cases, however. Presently it is hard to know what is sufficiently extreme to warrant prosecution. And even in the random cases when a complaint is made it is not clear that the Court can provide adequate solutions to extreme problems.

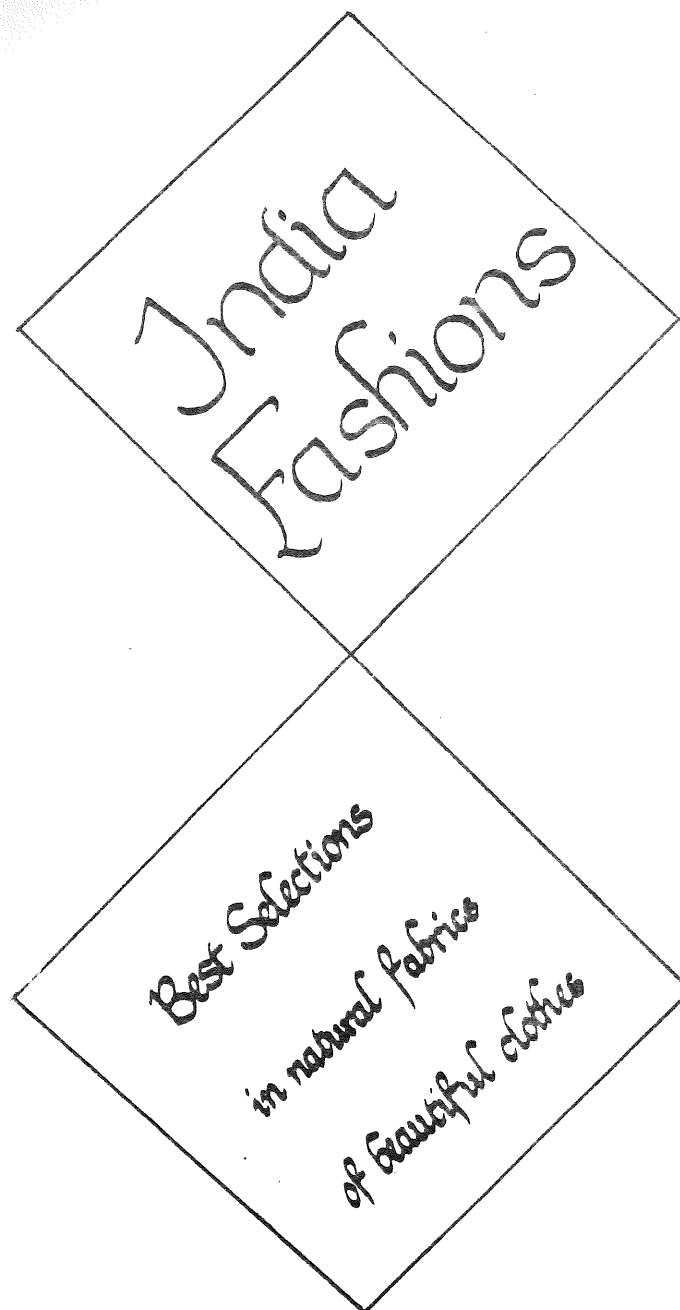
Here is the conclusion: students do not regularly use the Court, and its irregular use is a pretense of justice. By this argument the Court ought to be dissolved.

SEAN BALL

US

Fresh from their former lives: Alison Athey (previously a nun), Ken Ross (a male model), John Lippman (an accountant), Jeff Harter (a bit player in "Leave it to Beaver"), Patti Nogales (a mother of fifty-two children), Danielle George (a willow tree), Fred Cox (a barber), Terry Polk (somebody's sister), Amy Coughlin (a tree surgeon), Janet McKennis (no former life), Sean Ball (an Editor), Wendy Tribulski (an Avon lady), Carolyn Allen (a Fury), Chris Butler (a stenographer), Jeff Hume (Mr. Spock) and Robert Werner (a staff member)

Cover art Charley Jones



ATTENTION: DON'T PAY THOSE CROOKS!

If you have something that needs to be notarized (financial aid forms, tax returns, etc.), I am a Notary Public and will notarize the documents free of charge. I realize it's a little late for those of you who have already turned in your FAF's, but you can keep this in mind for the future.

-Lisa Simeone

WOMEN'S GROUP TO START SOON!

A Women's group is to begin on Tuesday, February 20th and meet for approximately 10 weeks. This group will be open once again to St. John's students only. This small group will provide the opportunity to discuss social and academic difficulties as well as other common interests of groups members.

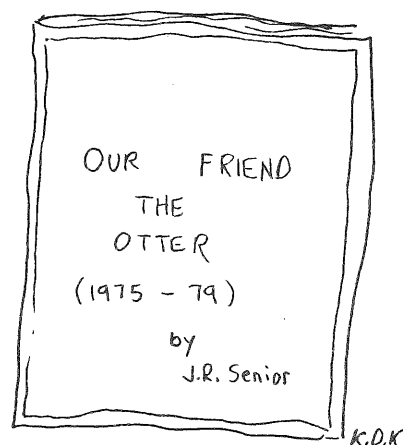
The group will be led by Heidi Katz, a 2nd year graduate student at the University of Maryland School of Social Work. If you are interested in joining the group or if you have any questions please drop a note with your phone number in mailbox 175 (on campus). Or you can reach me at 268-3438 after 6 p.m.

The deadline for notifying me of your interest in the group will be February 16th. All are welcome!

The group meets Tuesdays 4:00-5:15 p.m. **A Men's Group will also be offered to St. John's students. If you are interested in joining please drop off a note with your phone number in mailbox 175. This group will be led by a male professional and interested students will be contacted.

Attention Silver and Gold Souls:

The Bookstore has been able to purchase a large quantity of The Republic translated by Alan Bloom. These books are referred to by the publisher as "hurt" books. They are not use or damaged. The Bookstore is selling them for \$ 2.95 (reg. \$ 5.75).



K.D.K.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

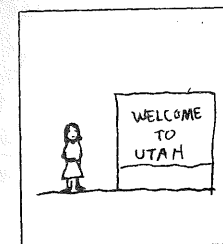
The deadline for submitting an application to transfer to Santa Fe is March 1.

The Algebra and French Reading Knowledge Examinations will be given on Thursday, February 22, at 1:30 p.m. Anyone who has not yet passed them should take them. The examinations will be distributed in the Dean's Office and can be taken in the classrooms. The examinations are to be returned to the Dean's Office no later than 4:30 p.m.

Sincerely yours,

Edward G. Sparrow

Edward G. Sparrow
Dean



THE
COLLEGIAN
STAFF PROFILES:
W. Tribulski

Profession: COLLEGIAN printer, student

Latest accomplishment: Made it to her room after 4 hours at a Chase-Stone party

Interests: Cliff-diving, truth-seeking, and watching the Bionic Woman on TV

Quote: "God, do we need more printers."

Wendy is one of the people whose life has been radically improved by becoming a COLLEGIAN printer. Wouldn't you like to learn this fascinating skill? Please? For more info, contact Wendy Tribulski, thru campus mail or at ext. 29.

(submitted by the Editor)



Win your blazer
in our shoes....

47 WEST STREET
ANNAPOLIS, MD
21401

SUMMER OPENINGS

Two student assistants are needed this summer to work in the laboratory and to help generally with the summer program, which begins on the 11th of June and lasts for ten weeks.

If you wish to apply, please send me a note in care of the Assistant Deans' Office before spring vacation.

Samuel S. Kutler

Dear College Community,

The next All-College Seminar will be on Sunday, the fourth of March, at 3:00 p.m. That means in the afternoon. The reading for this seminar is from The Myth of Sisyphus by Albert Camus. There's a whole passal of these books in the Bookstore, and cheap, too. Start on page 3, which is the beginning of the section titled "An Absurd Reasoning." Read straight through (i.e. all the pages) until you get to page 91, which is the end of the section titled "The Myth of Sisyphus." Then stop. You may read the rest if you want to, but it's not part of this seminar reading. The reading is all about suicide and freedom and love and what life's about and stuff. Seriously, it's really quite good. Also, we'll probably serve cocoa and cookies to the tame lion of March. Sign-up sheets will appear (as if by magic) in the Coffee Shop on Monday. These sheets are for tutors, too, so don't be shy.

Love,
SCI - type people

Robert de La Viez
WINE AND CHEESE
51 West Street
Annapolis
267-8066. Daily 10-6

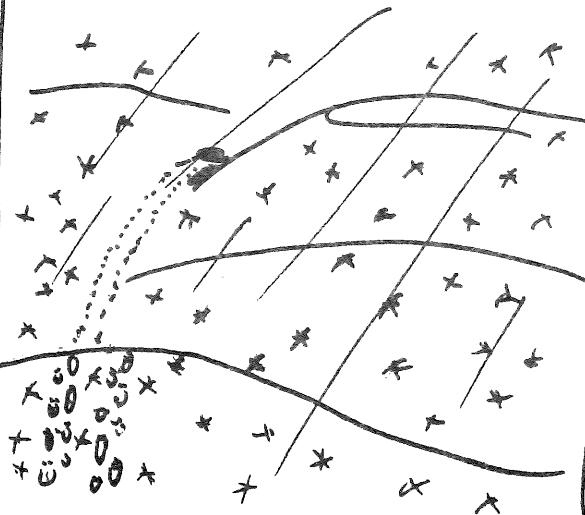


*It's safe to come into the store now
~ Robert is on vacation.*

and now... THE PEOPLE WHO BROUGHT YOU: WET NASTY AND THE BOWDAGE BOYS
LA VACHE DANS LE BEFFROI
AND ATTILA LE HUN ET SAN YAK EN FRANCE
proudly present: **PROCYON LOTOR COMIX** by the Python-Trek Coalition of Campbell II

Once upon a time, two Procyonidae (order Carnivora, species Procyon lotor lotor) were evicted from their warm winter den by high winds which destroyed their tree. Cold and hungry, they struggled through the drifts, seeking a new home.

On they went, losing their way in the snow, desperately searching for shelter as music from Dr. Zhivago played in the background...



Finally, a huge form loomed up at the end of the blinding storm... was their search at an end?



LOOK, MARTHA! IT'S A CONDOMINIUM!

Overjoyed, they moved into the half-wood half-concrete structure. Sam the (male) began to notice small, hairy, furry tree creatures (probably Felidae...)

LETTERS

I do not deny that the abolition of grades at St. John's would make it more difficult for students here to gain admission to graduate schools. I realize that concessions must often be made to the practical exigencies of life. What must be asked when such concessions are contemplated is: at what cost will we concede? The cost of having grades at St. John's is too high in my opinion.

I am not as concerned as Mrs. Schmidt seems to be that grades here tend to be unfair. I agree that, due to the lack of clearly set out criteria, there may well be more unfair grades given here than at other schools. I do not know that this is actually the case, however, and I do not see any way that one could be absolutely sure about it.

What I am concerned about is the effect that the existence of grades at St. John's has on what we do here. Mrs. Schmidt is correct in saying that competition has only been driven underground. In fact, many students would not hesitate to say that they work for grades. They consider this to be a realistic attitude. Given the existence of grades at St. John's, they are right to call it realistic.

It might be argued that classes are conducted here in such a way that it is possible for students to do well and get good grades without having to compete and detract from the quality of class discussions. This is the unrealistic attitude. There is a limited amount of time in each class and only one student can talk at a time. In a manner of speaking, each student takes up a certain amount of space in each discussion. Whether a student will use that space for his benefit only or for the benefit of both himself and the class depends on his motive for speaking. If he speaks because he hopes to make a good impression on the tutor, he will necessarily approach the discussion with a set purpose and a closed mind, whether he is aware of it or not. He is not going to be willing to take risks that might make him look stupid, to let the subject at hand lead him where it will. If he did, he might end up in a place in which he might be out of his depth. There he might stumble about; he will not shine. Neither can he take the chance of being completely open to what other students have to say. He might end up in the same place as if he would were he to take a risk himself. What such a student must do, then, is restrict the path of the discussion to a direction which is to his advantage. There are as many ways of doing this as there are students. He may keep to the narrow road of well memorized, but superficially prepared demonstrations, and completed translation assignments, the content of which he may not have considered seriously. Or he might gad about in the wide open field of the "esoteric", throwing about Greek phrases with engaging sincerity. In short, he will not be interested in community or cooperation; he will be there to compete.

Most students at St. John's are not like this. Many who are concerned about their grades do not allow their concern to manifest itself in competitive behaviour. There are enough students in every class, however, who do compete. They exercise a destructive influence which is extremely difficult to mitigate sufficiently. Because they assume positions of control it is nearly impossible to deal with them on any but their own terms. If grades did not exist at St. John's, the number of students who put graduate school first, and so are overly concerned about looking good in class, would decrease significantly.

Grades can only reflect the overt behaviour of a student in class. They cannot reflect what is more important, nor should they. What is more important is what it is that a student is learning by being at St. John's. This includes what happens in class and out of class, what the student shares with others and those changes within him which not even he can perceive as they take place. It is a kind of learning that occurs in different ways for

everyone. At some times it is best advanced by talking in class and careful preparation of assignments. At other times the process rightly pauses in confusion, entangled in a web of as yet unclear thoughts. In such confusion, a student may not talk in a class for some time, but his silence will be a rich one. Sometimes such confusion can only be worked out by diverting energy from assigned work to other books and to conversations outside of class. Grades can say nothing about this kind of learning.

It might be argued that grades are, indeed, intended only to be a reflection of the students' overt behaviour in class. I find it difficult to make sense ever of this. Consider a typical class. There is the student whose contribution to the class lies mainly in his willingness and ability to translate, demonstrate or find the pertinent passage in the text. There is the student who speaks rarely, but who nearly always ties together important ideas when he does speak. If the class is lucky, it might have a student whose most important contribution is his sense of humor and gracious manner which set a tone for the class and make the whole thing work. There is often a student who never speaks in class, but who knows grammar or algebra well enough to teach it to students outside of the classroom.

This contributes directly to the work inside the class. There is the student who never tires of asking the simple but necessary questions, which is a service to those whose egos, perhaps understandably, lack the stamina to do the same. I have had students like these in my classes throughout my four years here. I owe all of them more than I can say. It is beyond me how these various important contributions can be measured by a letter grade.

It is important that in the creation story in Genesis the world is not created in one fell swoop. The creation of a world unfolds in time, it does not burst forth complete. People spend their lives building worlds, building what it is that they are. To use an old fashioned word, people are constantly building their characters, consciously or not. Young people should be seriously committed to the thoughtful laying of the foundations of their worlds. The kind of learning mentioned above is a part of this labor. St. John's claims to be committed to the thoughtful laying of such foundations. Such a commitment rests on learning for the good of the individual, which is really learning for its own sake, not primarily for the sake of anything "practical". In this respect, the commitment is a matter of honor.

It was with this commitment and this sense of honor that St. John's made a decision in 1937 to stand apart from the larger academic community. We may say that honor is still held as a genuine standard here. But the meaning of the 1937 decision crumbles when we effectively present ourselves to the rest of the academic world (e.g. to graduate schools) as a school which gives grades and has courses like Early Mod. Pol. Thought (see the new transcript). Graduate schools do have recourse to other means of evaluating applicants: test scores, recommendations, transcripts with written evaluations. It would not be easy, but it would be right for St. John's to force graduate schools to use such means of evaluation. By grading its students, St. John's undermines its commitment to the individual learning and building within a community. It undermines the seriousness of the 1937 decision. We will always exist within the context of a larger academic community. How we orient ourselves in regard to it and what concessions we are willing to make to it indicate whether we are remaining true to ourselves.

Frances Pickering



Dear Mr. Ball,

It occurred to me after reading last week's issue of the Collegian that some of your readers might be wondering why the current edition of the Student Handbook states on page 49:

You may at any time request the Dean to amend your education record and, in the case of dissatisfaction, request a hearing. The hearing, however, cannot concern the change of a grade awarded.

and why previous editions of the Handbook did not contain this statement.

1. The Handbook contains the statement because the College is required by Federal law to publish a Policy of Confidentiality and Students' Right of Access, and that published policy must be a statement of the obligations and rights of educational institutions and their students as those duties and rights are specified by that same Federal law. The Student Handbook seems as good a place as any to publish those rights and duties.

2. The Federal regulations, authorized by the law and requiring the publication referred to, became effective January 6, 1975. That law leaves each institution free to articulate the requirements of the law in any words it chooses, provided that the essential rights and duties are listed and that the persons affected by the law can learn where a complete copy of it may be found on campus.

I learned the detailed provisions of this regulation in November, 1978, about five months after I became Dean. I judged, on reading the regulation that, in order clearly to comply with it, more of its provisions should appear in the Student Handbook than had appeared in the 1975, 1976, and 1977 editions, the only years in which mention of these matters had previously been required to be made. That "more" included, among other things, the publication of a student's right to request that educational records be amended and to have a hearing provided him by the College if a request for amendment were denied. Because it seemed possible that this legal right to a hearing might be interpreted to mean that a student or parent could request a hearing about the grade awarded on completion of a part of the Program, I thought it prudent to include a statement about the limit on the extent of that right. The basis for my statement is to be found in Volume 41, No. 118, June 17, 1976 of the Federal Register. The relevant regulation states:

Sec. 99.21 (a)

(a) An educational agency or institution shall, on request, provide an opportunity for a hearing in order to challenge the content of a student's education records to insure that information in the educational records of the student is not inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of students. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with 99.22.

...

The official HEW comment and response on this section is this:

Comment

A commenter requested clarification regarding whether or not

a hearing could be requested by a parent of a student or an eligible student to contest the assignment of a grade.

Response

A hearing may not be requested by a parent of a student or an eligible student to contest the assignment of a grade; however, a hearing may be requested to contest whether or not the assigned grade was recorded accurately in the education records of the students. The Joint Statement in Explanation of Buckley/Pell Amendment (Congressional Record at S. 21488, daily edition, December 13, 1974) stated in part:

There has been much concern that the right to a hearing will permit a parent or student to contest the grade given a student's performance in a course. That is not intended. It is intended only that there be procedures to challenge the accuracy of institutional records which record the grade which was actually given. Thus, the parents or student could seek to correct an improperly recorded grade, but could not through the hearing required pursuant to this law contest whether the teacher should have assigned a higher grade because the parents or student believe that the student was entitled to the higher grade.

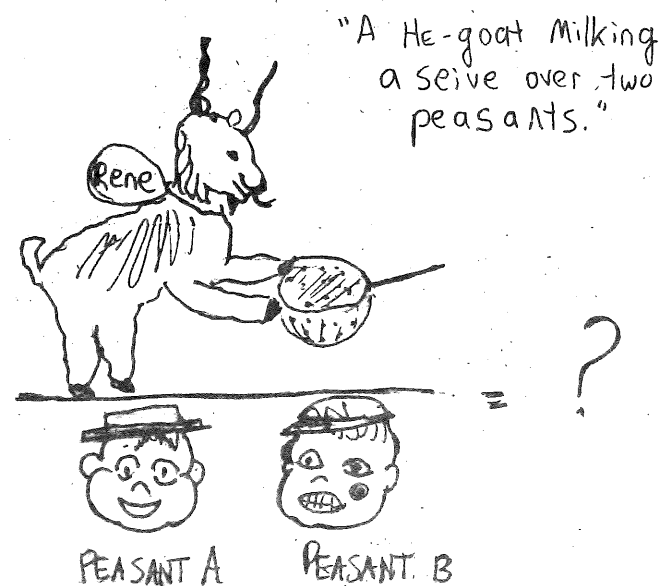
...

Please tell any student or group of students, whom you know to be concerned about these matters beyond what I have written here to come to see me. Misunderstandings requiring this sort of clarification may perhaps in this way be avoided.

Sincerely yours,

Edward G. Sparrow

Edward G. Sparrow
Dean



Solve using
transcendental
Logic.

Clue: See Cant's synthetic
unity of non-perception

SUBMITTED BY

A. Craven, R. Putnam, J. Kates

ESSAY WRITING ON 4th Fl. East



THE GREAT LOOKS PROGRAM

It is distressing to discover that the Administrative Body of this college thinks that the classical education its Program engenders is, in a peculiar manner, impotent; unable to express its worth when presented to the conventional world, and in particular to those places of higher learning where our minds may now be cast forward. (A query nags us here: If we do not appear to be a worthy institution to the graduate schools, can we ever so appear to high school students?) But clearly, they have decided to alter its features to a mollifying visage - on the terms of other institutions unfortunate procedures; rendering its form common, and without question, acceptable. A frightening apparition! Yet, it must be certain that one does not come to terms with others, at first meeting (or on any other occasion) by wearing a heavy, burdensome mirror in front of one's face. It is rather ridiculous, unbecoming, and more than slightly dishonest. In any case, it is difficult to believe that upon seeing their own images that they would be, somehow, impressed. Remember that the transcript is, to graduate schools, the Program.

Luckily, the Program and the transcript are two distinctly different things. But the problems of appearance and reality are already more than enough; let us not add to them.

Aside from the problems of presentation and disparity, one wonders if this new transcript would be "not unfamiliar to the fathers of the Republic" - Madison and Jefferson. It would even be exotic to Hamilton (Ellen, that is!). Perhaps this Loch Ness* Program (L.N.; that is) should herself be brought before an enabling committee to be examined. The opening question might be: Will a creature of the St. John's College Administration, L.N. Program, in conventional garb, be able to defend her policy?

*to our misfortune, a real creation.

submitted by,
William Snyder

(Ed. note: Edith Hamilton, a graduate of St. John's, appeared on a COLLEGIAN cover of her own design wearing full academic dress and armed with a gun in order to "defend her thesis." The cover was a spoof of a recent TIME magazine article on St. John's.)

The Barrister Inn

Happy Hour 4-6 M-F
Late night menu 11-1 pm

.....

It's cold outside—
But we provide the warmth
and cozy atmosphere
to accompany good conversation
and friends.

WHAT'S NEWS? by Steph

OKAY! It's February. So who wants to write a sports column? Any Takers?

Here we go:

Amazons 3 D.C.'s 1
Maenads 3 Nymphs 2
D.C.'S 0 Nymphs 3
Maenads 3 Amazons 1
Amazons 1 Nymphs 3

I suppose that one could have looked at the schedule and the scoreboard to figure that out (that's what I did) but there is a subtle simplicity about the linear procession of lists (Listz!) that entralls me.

Interesting notes:

Carol Colatrella hasn't shown up for the last two Amazon games, and they've lost.

Marjorie Allison has shown up for the

last two said games.

Kristen Hawkinson has been there too. Carol Katrina scored 14 points against the Amazons without a break in her serve. Senior Essay Writing Period has been detrimental to attendance in the area of Women's sports. It has probably enhanced attendance at the L.C.

Page Collingwood has a headache after each Volleyball game. Could this be connected with the blows she inflicts upon herself each time she misses the ball?

C.C.D.: can't serve. What will the long-term ramifications of this be? Is it a heavy-duty personal problem or will it cause one?

Lauren Crigler is not a ballerina. Who is Joanie Harris? Does she play racquetball?

Has Fred Cox changed his outfit? I think he washed it?

A referee for volleyball can sometimes feel like God: (reference to a deity is due to the content of sophomore seminar readings) above it all.

"Couch" Simeone still hasn't started working for her blazer. Personally, I don't think she ever will.

Personally, I think I've been reading too much Stoppard. But it's February, you know.

-S-

Laurance Lea

Canvas Bags and Luggage

Spring Break is Coming!

6 months or more

THE SMOKE SHOP

"Everything For The Smoker"

56 Maryland Avenue
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Francis Keller
Phone: 263-2086
Balt: 269-6642

MEN'S SPORTS

by Bryce Jacobsen

BADMINTON: The tournaments are all over now and in case you hadn't heard about the results, here they are:

winners
Women's singles-Carol Katrina
Mixed doubles-Katrina and Harris
Men's doubles-Maddocks and Newlin
Men's singles-Phil Maddocks
Women's doubles-Katrina and Mandy

It is worthy of note that Miss Katrina won all three tournaments this year, and also last year. When she was a sophomore, she won the mixed doubles, and lost in the Finals in the other two.

That's quite a record. The world of St. John's Badminton will miss her... She leaves a large "void" in the world.

Basketball: Things are winding down, and we could easily end in a tie...provided the Druids and Spartans do not lose their last games. If a tie ensues, we shall have a play-off game.

VOLLEYBALL:

One of our more memorable games was played this week. The Waves squeaked past the Hustlers...15-13, 6-15, 16-14, 15-8, 19-21, 12-15, 18-16.

The Hustlers survived several match points against them in game #5...and finally pulled it out, 21-19. They then took game #6. The last game was another thriller, with the Waves now saving a couple of match points against them, to finally win by 18-16. One of our most exciting, and certainly our longest, game ever.

The Hustlers will be consoled by the fact that they scored 102 points altogether...and the Waves only made 101!

Things are winding down, and we could easily end in a tie...provided the Druids and Spartans do not lose their last games. If a tie ensues, we shall have a play-off game. If one loses its final game, the other wins the title. If both lose, they end in a three-way tie with the Guardians! (We have a neat way to break a three-way tie.)

League Standings:

BASKETBALL	W	L	Pts.
Druids	6	1	19
Spartans	5	1	16
Hustlers	2	4	10
Guardians	2	4	10
Greenwaves	1	6	8

VOLLEYBALL	W	L	Pts.
Druids	5	2	17
Spartans	5	2	17
Guardians	5	3	18
Greenwaves	2	5	11
Hustlers	1	6	9

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE:

Volleyball

Wed. 4:15 Waves-Druids

Thurs. 4:00 Hustlers-Spartans

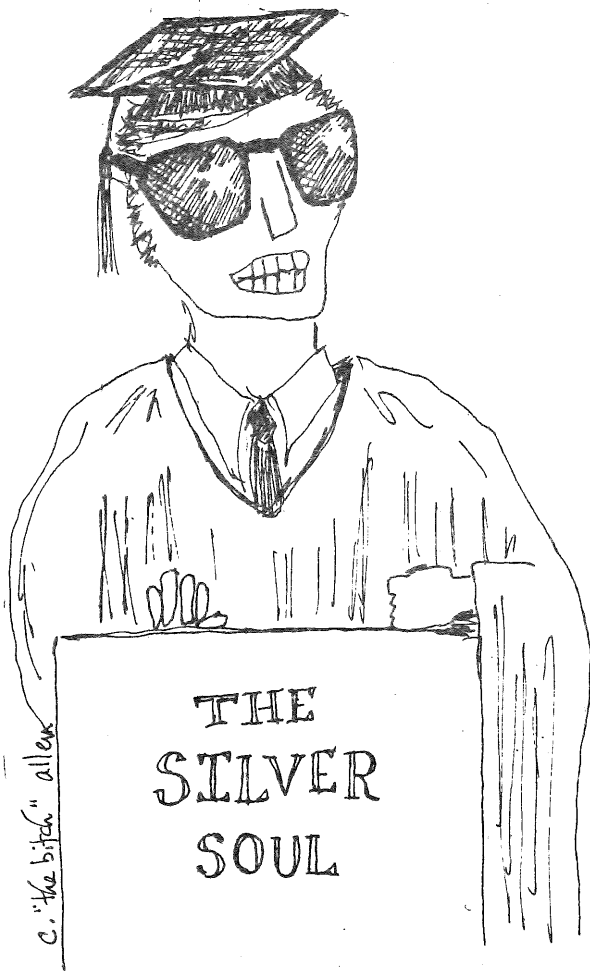
Basketball

Sat. 1:30 Waves-Spartans

3:00 Hustlers-Guardians



essential despair - RDK



The Little Campus Inn

Cocktail Hour
Monday-Friday
Features Snack Menu
from 5pm. to closing

63 Maryland Ave.

Even as you read this,
there are five Seniors
trying to think of Essay
topics. It's hell.

THE COLLEGIAN

St John's College
Annapolis, MD 21404

Non-Profit Organisation

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