Feb. 24

THE COLLEGIAN

WATCH FOR WOOLY MAMMOTHS...

Mr. Joseph Jackins, Jr., Business Manager of the College for the past four years, has accepted a position as Chief Accountant with Air Cargo, Inc. of Annapolis. Joe, who has been our man Friday to everyone, will be sorely missed, but we are happy to see him advance in his career of accounting. Joe's last day with us will be March 15th.

C.T. Elzey

THIS WEEK

February 24ᵗʰ 1979 no.# ?

All College Food Committee Meeting
Wednesday Feb. 28th
Time to be announced
Everyone welcome-come and gripe, we
want to hear it!

Concert
March 2, 1979-Friday evening
8:15 p.m.
FSK Auditorium

Annapolis Brass Quintet

Reception in FSK lobby following
the concert.

E. Bolotin
Music Librarian

The world's most bizzare crimes
committed in the name of art!
You'll scream, you'll cry, you'll laugh
your head off
as the Spartans present the great
Gothic tragedy:
"EVERYTHING & THE KITCHEN SINK"

"Johny doesn't have a bad voice"
-The Collegian

"Sick"
"Psychedelic"
"Faggots"
"All in good fun"
"Nowhere near music"

Monday, February 25
After Seminar
F.S.K. Auditorium

(Tim and Mary Edwards)

TUESDAY

Paulette Clem of "Open Door" will present the Alcohol film, and discussion on Tuesday, the 27ᵗʰ, at 4:30 pm. in the Conversation Room. This presentation was cancelled last week because of the snow.

Baltimore Waldorf School to Hold
Benefit Waltz

The Waldorf School of Baltimore will host a Winter Waltz on Saturday, March 17, at Towson State University's Chesapeake Room. Proceeds from the Winter Waltz will help add a 6th grade to the school next fall. For reservations call the Waldorf School of Baltimore at 367-6808. Additional information is posted on the Assistant Deans' Bulletin Board.

WE'VE GOT A
WINNER!
Answers to
the math
problems on
pp. 6-7

* * *

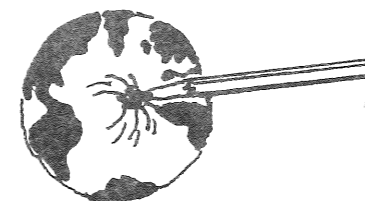You can not
win if you
do not run:
D.C. Election news
on p. 8

REMINDER:

Our deadline
is Wednesday
in the mail,
Thursday in
our office
(Mellon 213)

Late submissions will
only be done
if an arrangement is made
with the
Editor.

NEXT WEEK:

Literary issue
& Candidate
Statements

THE COLLEGIAN
THE STUDENT WEEKLY OF ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

S.BALL

OUR GANG

Looking for their Mr. Goodbars: Alison Athey (anyone tall), Ken Ross (his mother), John Lippman (a Vassar girl), Jeff Harter (California girls), Patti Nogales (religious types), Danie le George (insists she isn't looking), Fred Cox (?), Terry Polk (anyone slow), Amy Coughlin (some one from a good home), Janet McKennis (males), Sean Ball (an Editor), Wendy Tribulski (Marlon Brando), Carolyn Allen (anyone like herself), Jeff Hume (Mr. Spock), Ann Schwartz (   ), and Chris Witmer (anyone)
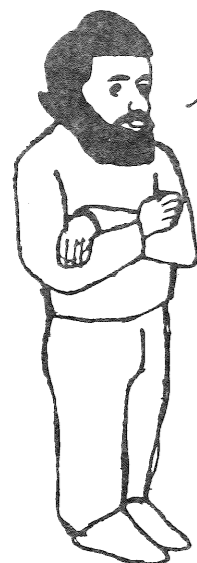
Cover art   Chris Witmer

TO ALL STUDENTS

The Admissions Office needs your help over
Spring Break. If you're interested in intro-
ducing former teachers, counselors, friends
or prospective students to St. John's, please
come by the Admissions Office. We'll be happy
to give you a packet of our current literature
and the names of prospectives in your area.

Robert de la Viez

WHAT'S ALL
THIS TALK ABOUT
PUNK ROCK?

ME, I SELL
WINE, CHEESE,
AND PHILOSOPHY...

CHEAP

(ESPECIALLY THE
PHILOSOPHY).

LOST AND FOUND

Senior Lab Manual 1976 (blue folder)
purple scarf
Icelandic wool cap
plaid scarf (red, yellow, blue, gray)
plaid shirt
suede jacket
blue lace shawl
plaid hat
gray velveteen hat
large yellow comb
two umbrellas
4 (!) pairs of glasses
set of keys
assorted keys
pipe
necklaces (2)
leather watch band
paper bag with books and postcards
headband

These items may be found in the
Assistant Deans' Office.

COLLEGIUM MUSICUM

The College community is invited to
another Collegium Musicum Tuesday, March
6 at 8:00pm. Please will all students
and tutors who wish to perform send
through campus mail: name of the tune,
composer, performers, instruments and
approximate time, before March 5. (So
I can make up programs.)

Hope all come!
Anthony Cox

Lost: A blue leatherette bound edition
of Bach's 2 and 3 part Inventions. I
lent this copy that belonged to my grand-
mother to someone and can't remember who!
For sentimental reasons and to play the
Inventions, I would like them returned,
please. The music may say "Susan Lovisa
Butler" or "Lydia Huntington" in the
front.

Thank you,

Lydia Sparrow

On Grades and Transcripts

The recent submissions to "The Collegian" on these issues have encouraged me
to add one of my own, where before I had thought the situation hopeless. These
issues seem to me to be really symptoms of one issue, that present policy at
St. John's is (in my opinion) betraying what Barr, Buchanan, Klein, et al.,
started 40-odd years ago.
For as we know, St. John's College is NOT like any other school. Here the stu-
dents are supposedly taught be the books themselves, and the tutors are supposed
to be the "tools" (the word used by one of the pieces of promotional writing
sent out by the Admissions Office to describe the function of the faculty) of
the students for help in understanding their real teachers. By the way, how
then is it proper that the TOOL, not the TEACHER, give a grade? If the student
makes use of the tool only when the state of his knowledge of the student demands
it, how can a grade with any justifiable basis be given for this? How can any-
one be graded on how much, or how, he uses something to gain what h. may already
have? But back to the main point.
The new transcript does not show on the main form of it, the part which will
certainly be read by outsiders, that SJC is different; on the contrary, it is
saying to the outside world that hey, we aren't really that different at all,
we've got courses like "Mod. Pol. Thought" just like everyone else. Now there
is obviously a great amount of deception in this, as Mrs. Schmidt and Mr. Sny-
der both pointed out; yet what must such a form reveal of how those responsible
for its formulation think about the school? Does it reveal an attitude for which
grades are consonant with the Program, because any school like this (like the
ones offering "Mod. Pol. Thought") has grades?
The Dean at least doesn't seem to think like this. For he answered only a min-
or aspect of the provocative letter of Mrs. Schmidt; he did not answer the ques-
tions she raised or challenge their validity. Does this mean that he agrees with
her, that he too has these questions?
I think Miss Pickering's a good description of the duplicito   erratic, and
undefied effect of the grading system on the learning here. I can't see how her
description of what the grade-mentality does to our classes could be challenged,
since this is an accurate description, how can grades here be justified? How
can the school with good (or any) conscience continue a practice well-nigh fat-
al to its stated goal's success, to the success of its raison d'être, for the
benefit of OUTSIDERS? Is not this a gross betrayal of the Program?
When Barr, etc., founded this school, they were not afraid of the misunder-
standing's others might conceive of its system; they put the education of their
students above the convenience of others. As to the claim that grades are kept
so that Johnnies can get into med and other schools after graduation, I do not
see its validity. Other schools have abolished grades in favor of written des-
criptions of course work, and they get their students into these schools. Is
it fair to jeopardize severely, to say the least, the education of the Program
for this dubios "advantage" to be had, even if it exist, by a minority of the
students?

K. Shapar

ECLIP.m   ECLIP...   ECLIP...   ECLIPSE!   ECLIP...

TOMORROW

WINNERS, SOLUTIONS, AND ONE MORE PROBLEM

A. To Messrs. Rappaport and Norton: one pitcher of beer and one hearty handclasp.

B. Mr. Elliot's solution of the triangulation problem. (It's not wholeheartedly Euclidean, but it works--and, by making it more complicated I can make it more nearly Euclidean):

As observed by many would-be solvers, the problem reduces to proving:

(*) In any polygon of more than 3 sides one can find two vertices, not the endpoints of the same edge, which can be connected by a straight line lying wholly within the figure.

((*) suffices because the newly drawn line divides the original into two polygons--each having fewer sides than the original. By applying (*) to these, etc., etc. we eventually divide the original figure into triangles.)

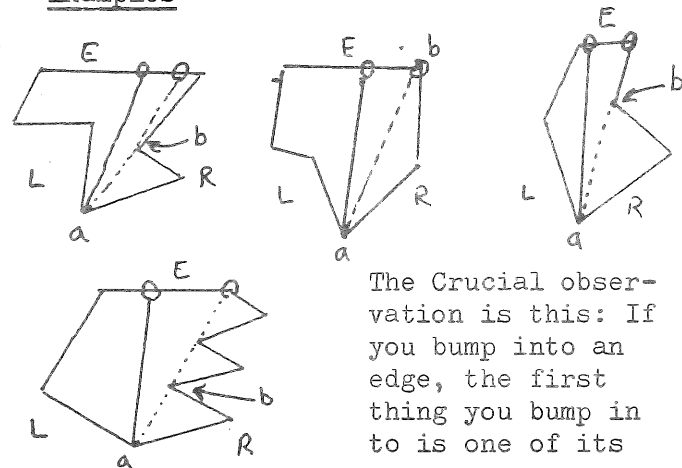Proof of (*): Choose any vertex in the figure. Call it a and call the two edges meeting at a: L(left) and R(Right). Draw some line from a which lies inside the figure and extend it until it first meets some edge, E. Think of this line as a piece of elastic with a ring on its end which can slide up and down edge E:

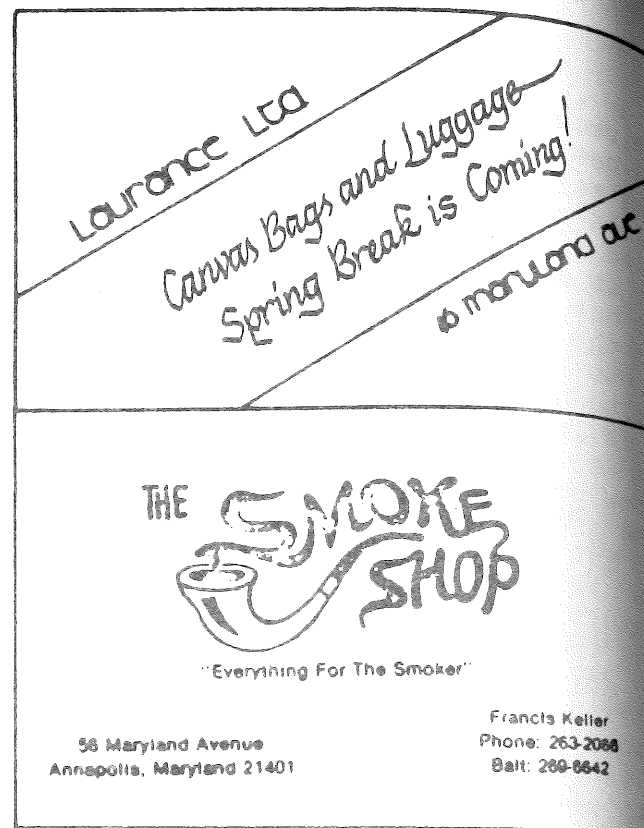Slide the ring back and forth along E. Two things can happen.

Case I) In one direction or other the elastic line bumps into another edge of the figure before reaching L or R.

Examples

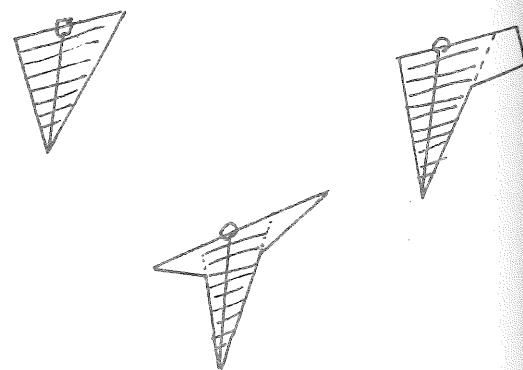The Crucial observation is this: If you bump into an edge, the first thing you bump into is one of its endpoints. Let b be the first vertex you bump into. Then the line from a to b lies entirely within the figure and (by assump-

tion) is neither L nor R.

Case II) In either direction you slide unhindered until reaching L or R.

Examples

In example (1) the figure is already a triangle. In (2), (3) the elastic line has swept out an area (the shaded area) which lies wholly within the figure (since by assumption the elastic line didn't bump into anything) and also contains the straight line joining the other endpoints of L and R--so they can be joined.
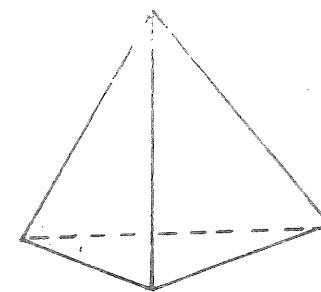
That proves (*).

What the proof shows is this: Take a any vertex. Either it can be connected to another (non-adjacent) vertex or the two vertices adjacent to it can be connected to each other.
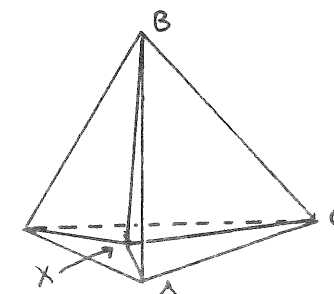
One of the interests of a problem like the one above is that it requires us to ask: just what are we going to call a polygon? E.g., whould we call a polygon? It can be triangulated by the method above, but fails to satisfy the theorem: the angles of an n-sided "polygon" sum to (n-2)180°. We might first decide what theorems we want and then choose the definitions so as to make the desired theorems true. And if we should decide that a polygon won't be allowed to have any holes, what is a mathematically applicable way to say "hole-less"? For those who like this sort of thing: "Proofs and Refutations", by Imre Lakatos, is an interesting account of a long history of proofs and disproofs of a famous theorem of Euler--all turning on the question: what's a polyhedron?

Problem: (Answer unknown to me) Euclid shows that the sum of the angles on the faces of a solid angle must be less than 360°. (Actually, this is true only for convex solid angles--see Heath, vol. III, pg. 311.) Here is an intuitive proof. Given

cut through it by a suitably chosen plane

drop a perpendicular from the apex to the plane and consider the shadows which the face angles cast on the plane.

(∡ AXC is the shadow of ∡ ABC)

Each shadow is greater than the angle which casts it, and the shadows sum to 360°—so the face angles sum to less than 360°. Mr. Monsma has shown how to make this work if the given solid angle has only three edges, but it wasn't immediately obvious how to extend that proof to apply to all (convex) solid angles. Problem: extend it.

—David Guaspari

Polity Elections

Elections for President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Delegate Council and for three positions on the Polity Court will be held Tuesday, March 6.

Candidates for President must (1) have been in residence at the College for at least one year prior to this election, (2) not have intentions of leaving the College before the completion of the term of office in November, 1979, and (3) submit a petition signed by at least twenty members of the student polity.

Candidates for Secretary and Treasurer must (1) have been in residence for a full semester prior to the election, (2) not have intentions of leaving the College before the completion of the terms of office in November, 1979, and (3) submit a petition signed by only ten members of the student polity.

Candidates for the three positions for Justice on the Polity Court must (1) have been in residence at the College for at least one full semester prior to the election, (2) not have intentions of leaving the College before the completion of the terms of office in March, 1980, and (3) submit a petition signed by only ten members of the student polity.

Off-campus residents are invited to vote immediately after seminar Monday from 10:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. The ballot box will be open Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Coffee Shop, 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. outside the Dining Hall, 1:00 to 5:30 p.m. in the Coffee Shop, and 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. outside the Dining Hall.

Petitions for the candidates must (1) if of opposing candidates, not have any signatures the same, and (2) be submitted to and validated by one of the Polity Court Justices (Chris Banta, Evan Canter, Matthew Hartzell, Kate Kominars, Daniel Van Doren, or Jamie Whalen) before Friday, March 2.

There shall be no electioneering within the room of the ballot box or within 25 feet. If someone wishes to contest the election, an appeal in writing should be made to one of the election judges before the ballot box is opened at 7:30 p.m.

Daniel Van Doren

D.C.

SCI UPDATE:

(1) All-College Seminar—Wednesday, 7:00 P.M. is the deadline for signing up. The sign-up sheets are in the coffee shop on the D.C. bulletin board. The seminar will be on Sunday, March 4 at 3:00 P.M. The reading, available in the bookstore, is the 90-page essay, The Myth of Sisyphus, by Albert Camus. Lists of class assignments will be posted in the coffee shop on Thursday night.

(2) Grades—Mr. Sparrow, Dean and ex-officio member of the Faculty Instruction Committee, will meet with the Student Committee on Instruction on Wednesday night at 7:00 P.M. in 31 McDowell. We will discuss grades. Interested students are encouraged to attend.

The SCI meets every Tuesday at 7:00 P.M. on third floor McDowell. Our meetings are always open.

Jim Melcher
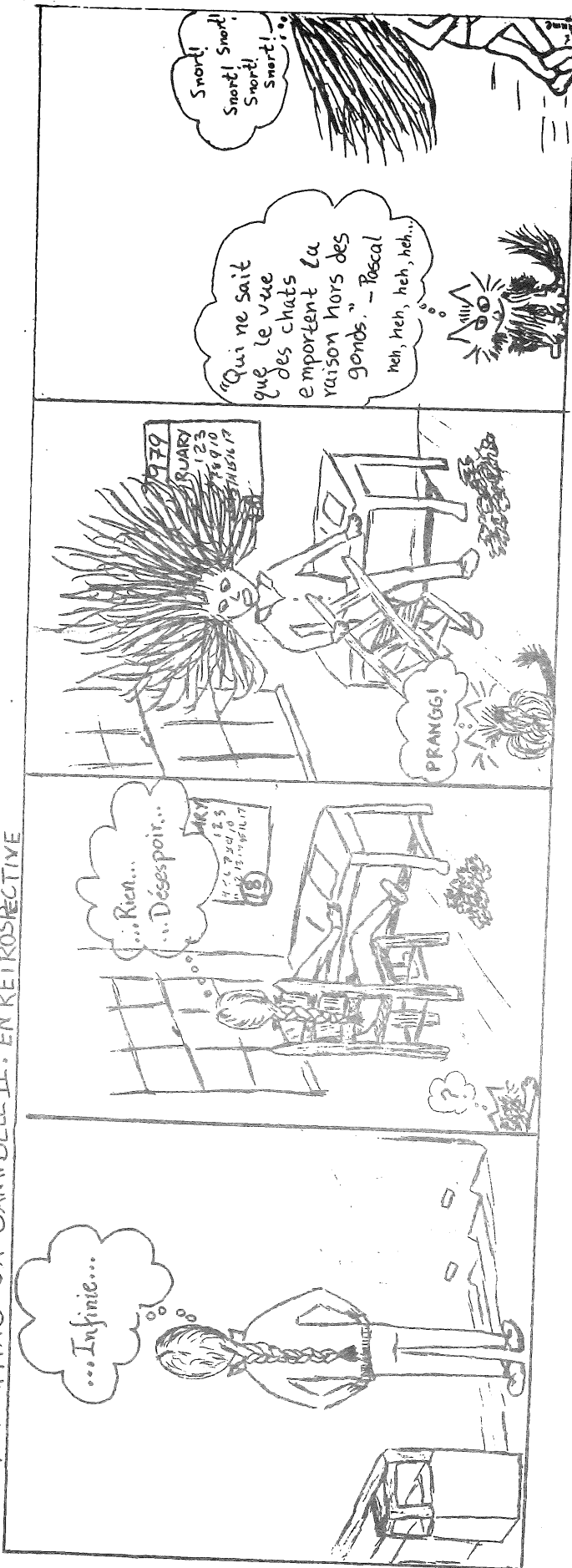for the SCI

20 February 1979   D.C. Minutes

Attending: Coss, Colatrella (15 mins. late), Moron, Stein, St. Amour, Balkcom, Stonesifer, Shapar, Shuler. Guests: Melcher, Betor.

Mr. Coss introduced the topic of the Constitutional Amendments Committee. There were three nominations for this Committee, (David Bolduc, Marion Betor, and David Stein) all approved unanimously.

Mr. Melcher brought up grades again. The Collegian has printed the 3 different transcripts. The Student Committee on Instruction has listened to students' responses on the issue and has solicited articles on the subject written by students. Mr. Sparrow and Mr. Starr (member of the Faculty Instruction Committee) will be talking with Mr. Melcher this week. Some proposal about grades and the transcript will be forthcoming from the SCI. Miss Stonesifer was concerned about the possibility of the college losing accreditation if we give up on grades.

On a side issue, Mr. Coss suggested that the SCI report to the D.C. at least once a month in order to re-establish communication between the D.C. and its subordinate committees. A resolution was unanimously passed on the subject. "Resolved: To have a report from the SCI

to the D.C. on the first Tuesday of every month.

Mr. St. Amour read part of the constitution relating to the objectives of the Committee on Student Life. There is a clause in the constitution which suggests that the Committee on Student Life has a very different purpose than our Student Life Committee has. Mr. St. Amour seemed unreasonably concerned about the sentence and needed some corrections on his history of the origins of the committee. Nothing was done in response to Mr. St. Amour's suggestion "to put them out of existence." Mr. Moron asked for what end all this concern was being flayed about. Mr. St. Amour said that it was enough that the D.C. should be informed about the real state of the existences of the committee.

We passed the following resolution unanimously "Resolved: we the members of the D.C. extend the highest honors and commendations to the student employees in the dining hall for their valiant efforts during the snowstorm.

Mr. Coss wished good fortune, success, and a virtuous experience to the delegates attending the Student Conference in Pennsylvania this weekend.

Be ready and be warned! Mr. Moron, on behalf of the Rifle Club, said that China has invaded Vietnam. Mr. Stein quoted Pravda "Russia will punish China."
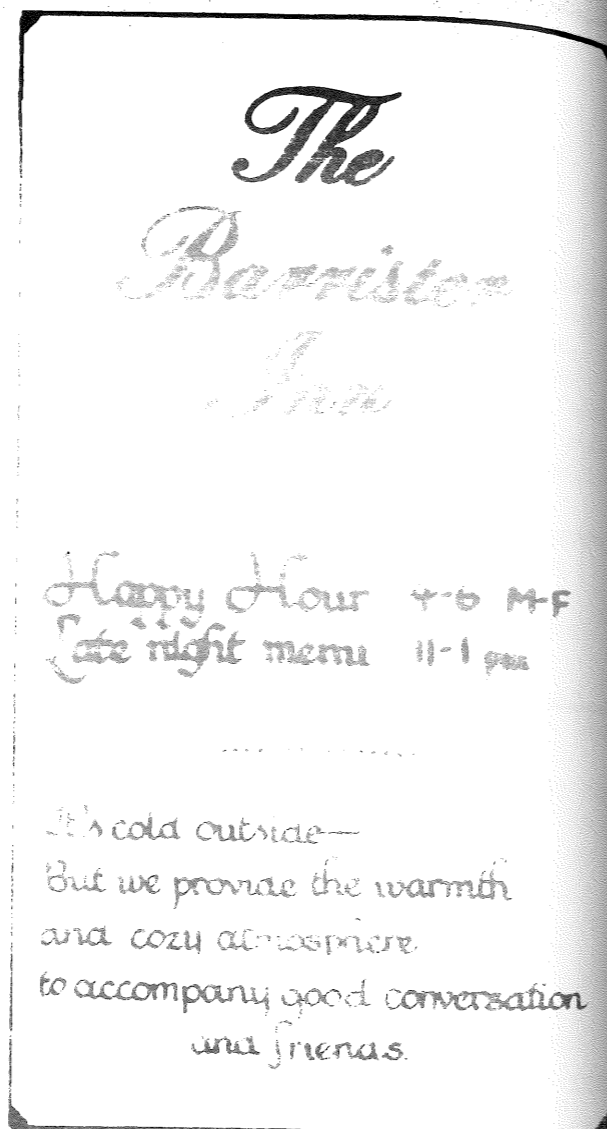
Submitted by
Carol Colatrella

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.

W.S.
by S.L.R.

And the race is on. The Nymphs and the Maenads seem to have sort of a battle going on in the volleyball scene. In fact they had quite a showdown Thursday at Inlehart Hall. 15-9, 15-10, 15-6, 15-8, 16-14, it was hard to tell who was ahead and who was behind. In the end, the Nymphs proved themselves to be ahead; they won 3 games to 2.

This game was preceed on Tuesday with the Nymphs playing the Amazons. Although overall it was (dare I say) a boring game, the Nymphs came out on top 3 to 0. It seems as though the Nymphs are hot this volleyball season.
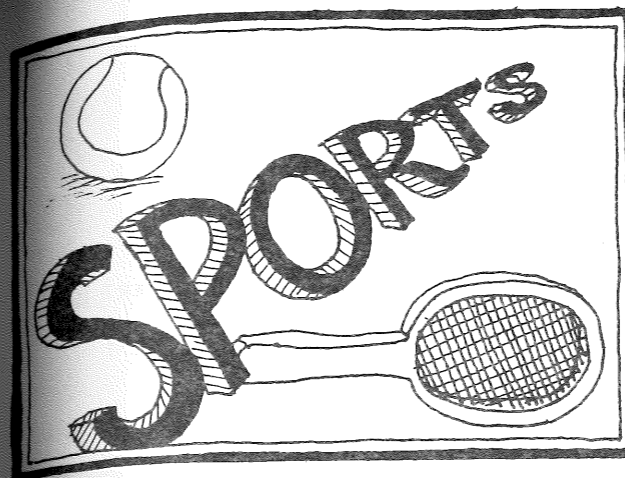
Because we are working in this column in reverse chronological order, it is interesting to note that the D.C.'s were defeated by the Maenads 3 to 0 last Friday aft'.

1) "Quote judiciously so as to combine maximum information with minimum liability."

2) "Quote severally your recollections of what was declaimed synchronously."

3) "Describe nsibly without self-contradiction, and especially without reference to people stuffing bread rolls up their noses, . . ."

4) "That is a most interesting view of the sole duty and justification for art . . .but it has the disadvantage that a great deal of what we call art has no such function and yet in some way it gratifies a hunger that is common to

princes and peasants."

5) "That sounds awfully serious. What does it mean?"

The above are all thoughts about writing a sports column about volleyball, from Tom Stoppard's play Travesties.

Personally, I think I've been reading too much Stoppard. What do you think E.C.G.?
                                        -S-
P.S. Mary Williams has bulky blue knees, Alison Athey is still tall, Elizabeth Groff is still short, and Steph Chimiel is still . . .
. . .and I don't think any of this means anything.

MEN'S SPORTS
by Bryce Jacobsen

Volleyball: Druids-4, Greenwaves-1
           Spartans-4, Hustlers-3
So we have our tie, anticipated in last week's column. But for the Spartans, it was a very near thing. The celler-dwelling Hustlers almost pulled off a big upset. The Spartans, to say the least, were "struggling".

In their two games with each other this winter, the Druids and the Spartans each won by 4-2. The play-off (this Monday) could be close.

Basketball: Druids-71, Hustlers-55
           Spartans-87, Guardians-73
Things are falling into place for another tie. If the Spartans beat the Waves in their final game, we will have anoth-

er Spartan-Druid tie...and another play-off game (Wednesday at 4:15).

However, if the Waves play like they did in their last game against the Druids, the Spartans could be in trouble. Could be an interesting game.

LEAGUE STANDINGS

Volleyball

	W	L	Pts
Druids	6	2	20
Spartans	6	2	20
Guardians	5	3	18
Greenwaves	2	6	12
Hustlers	1	7	10

Basketball

	W	L	Pts
Druids	7	1	22
Spartans	6	1	19
Guardians	2	5	11
Hustlers	2	5	11
Greenwaves	1	6	8

Schedule until Spring vacation

Mon 4:15 Volleyball play-off game
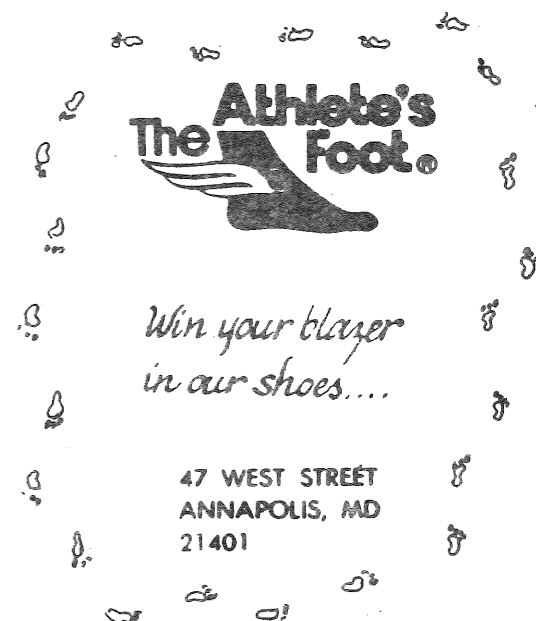   Druids-Spartans
Wed 4:15 Basketball play-off game
           (If Necessary)
Thurs 1:00-6:00 Free-Throw Tourney
           (Men & Women)
Sat 1:30 Womens "Two-on-two" Tourney
     3:00 Mens "Two-on-two" Tourney

Wed 6:00 Fitness Test Deadline

The men will start softball as soon as possible after the Spring Vacation.

You wanna talk about art?
Let's talk about art.
Let's talk about the
"CREATIVE PROCESS"
Wed. 28TH
7:30 IN THE ART GALLERY
with Charlotte Manne*. Okay?

NEW ART GALLERY HOURS

Mon	7-8:00	Fri	3-5:00
			7-8:00
Tue	3-5:00		
Wed	3-5:00	Sat	1:5:00
Thu	7-8:00	Sun	1-3:00

* Charlotte's got a real nice
show in the Gallery, you know.

THE COLLEGIAN
St John's College
Annapolis, MD 21404