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## Ariel - Volume 9 Number 5

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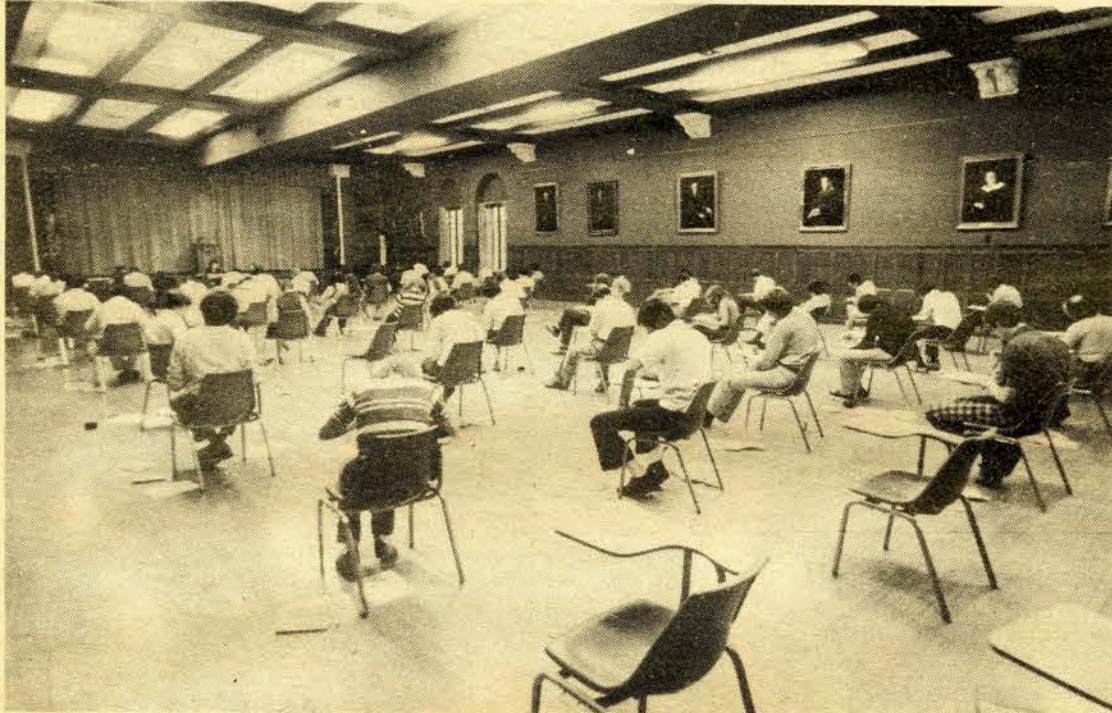
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## How to Clear the Boards

by George Coar

In June of this year, the sophomore medical students will be taking part I of the National Boards, a measure of the student's adeptness in the basic sciences and the most important test of his first two years of medical school. It is not only important in the aforementioned sense, but also because a Jefferson student is required to pass this exam before he can enter the third year of his medical education. Much concern has been expressed about the National Boards, but how much does the typical medical student know?

The National Boards are graded on a scale of 200 to 800 with 500 being a mean score. A total score of 380 is considered passing. Seven basic sciences are tested: Anatomy, Biochemistry, Physiology, Pathology, Microbiology, Pharmacology, and Behavioral Sciences.

The Office of Medical Education uses a process each year to detect students who are considered in danger of not passing the boards. Mr. Jon Veloski stated that the procedure involves taking the final grade in Cell and Tissue, the final grade in Structure and Function, the raw score in the Fall Path final, and by appropriately weighing each of these factors, a predicted figure is derived: When these figures are compared with the past performances on the Boards of students with similar academic profiles, a projection of the board score is made.

For the students with a projected board score which may be considered failure or borderline passing (approximately 420) have been asked

to participate in a Self-Assessment Program which consists of questions simulating those asked by the boards but constructed by the Jefferson faculty, from the various disciplines, which the student answers on a computer. The answers are explained after the student gives his response.

What about students who are not projected to fail? Dr. Gonella, Associate Dean, explains that "any student who at Jefferson has maintained grades of 75 or better in each discipline, not just an average of 75, who has no **personal problems** and spends an adequate amount of studying time, should have no problems passing the National Boards." What is adequate studying time? Dean Gonella feels that about ten days should be appropriate considering that up to this point the student is studying on a daily basis, assimilating and learning material, not just cramming for an exam. Dr. Gonella stresses that students who score in the 68-75 range in their studies at Jefferson should have some apprehensions about taking the boards, as there is a distinct possibility that they could fail. Dr. Gonella also stressed concern over students who seem to have a downward trend in their academic record. For example, a student receives an 80 in Biochem followed by a 76 in Structure & Function, and then proceeds to score 75 in spring Path and only has a raw score of 49 on the Fall Path final (mean of 60) is a discouraging sign.

An encouraging sign is a student who shows an improving performance, for example, 69 in Biochem, 74 in Structure & Function, 78 in Spring Path and a raw score

of 65 in Fall Path. This student is apparently working through his academic difficulties.

Do students not projected to be in danger of failing actually fail the boards? A few students do, but Dr. Gonella claims these students usually have a problem other than academic ones as the reason. Examples are illness, family problems, or relationship problems.

Why such a high number of failures last year? One reason is that the academic records of last year's class were lower than previous years. Curves were greater, and there was grade inflation. A second reason is that the curved, and not raw, scores were used as the pathology component in making projections. Dr. Gonella also explained that 28 of the 32 retaking the boards passed, often increasing their scores by over 100 points.

If a student has apprehensions, what can he do? Students who are concerned about the National Boards are welcomed at the Office of Medical Education, which is located on the main floor of the College Building. Dr. Carter Zeleznik is willing to help any student with questions he or she might have. He plans to conduct a two-session workshop in early March designed to acquaint students with procedures for taking the National Boards. Those interested should contact him at extension 8907. Also, the National Boards publishes an information booklet which gives the student some ideas of what to study.

In summary, what should be the student's concerns? Dr. Gonella feels that a false panic was created by last year's results. Students  
[Continued on page 3]

Is this fit to print?

## NO NEWS AT JEFF

By John Welch

No news is good news. It also describes to a close degree the state of affairs at Jefferson for the past few weeks. In order to better illustrate this point our news staff compiled the following non-news items from every corner of the university and surrounding community. In desperation, we even sent one reporter as far as Casablanca for a story. Here, then, is the result of our diligence:

First, Dr. Aponte, chairman of the Pathology department, **did not** suffer a heart attack last month as was widely rumored. What did happen is that while giving a lecture presentation in the New York area he became dizzy, lost consciousness for a few moments and collapsed behind the lecturne. Refusing hospitalization in New York, Dr. Aponte had the driver of his rented limousine drive him back to Philadelphia and directly to Jefferson where he was admitted for observation. After two days of intensive tests, Dr. Aponte discharged himself and went home. When

this reporter talked with Dr. Aponte last week he seemed to be in both good health and his usual good spirits.

Second, in a related non-news item, we have been able to **squash** the rumor that Ed Sekula of pathology handout fame will take over as chairman of the Pathology department. This speculation started minutes after rumors of Dr. Aponte's impending death spread across the campus. We have been able to confirm, however, that it was Ed who was seen wheeling a cart with metal desk on it down the middle of 10th street last month with two other unidentified companions. In a scene that would have made the three stooges proud, Ed, ran a red light at the corner of 10th and Walnut and then proceeded to snag a wheel of the cart on a manhole cover thereby *spilling* the "hot" desk into the middle of the intersection. The accident and resulting traffic jam was witnessed by a group of Jefferson students namely Chris Rosko, John Radomski, Steve Robb, Greg  
[Continued on page 7]

## Four Week Blocks BLOCKED

The Faculty Curriculum Committee debated the four week vs. six week senior block issue for more than two hours at its January 26 meeting, before it voted down a motion on the floor that would have created 4 week blocks in the senior year. Because of the closeness of the vote, the FCC immediately passed a motion directing Dr. Gonella to contact the departmental heads of all the clinical and basic sciences to ascertain their positions on this proposal and other possible compromise proposals. At the FCC meeting in February, Dr. Gonella's new data will be presented, after which the 4 week vs. 6 week senior block issue will be debated and voted on for the last time this academic year.

The motion that was defeated would have divided the senior year into nine four week blocks (presently there are six six week blocks). The proposal permitted each of the five senior track programs (Family Medicine, Surgery, Growth and

Internal Medicine, Neurosciences and Human Behavior) to require students to take three consecutive 4 week blocks within their major. This would permit the programs to maintain the 12 weeks of time presently spent in their clerkships. The motion suggested that the required basic science block (presently 6 weeks long with ten student-faculty contact hours per week) be shortened to 4 weeks, but that the contact hours be increased to 15 per week, thereby maintaining the present 60 hour total. This year's senior students could choose three electives (each six weeks long), only one of which could be spent away from Jefferson. The defeated proposal would have increased the number of electives to five (each 4 weeks long). In addition, students would have been permitted to take two electives away from Jefferson.

John W. Smith II  
Class of 1981 representative

# Superman Soars But Pumpkin Rots

by Richard Yelovich

When man first began to interpret his world through an artistic medium, he necessarily spawned a symbiotic relationship with those who judged his work. The role of the critic as public evaluator has been casually dismissed at best, and severely maligned in less pacific times. In 1711, Alexander Pope wrote his searing Essay on Criticism which garnered the respect of his colleagues and the enduring wrath of certain critics with lines like: "Some have at first for wits then poets passed/turned critics next and proved plain fools at last."

Even today many artists are themselves involved in writing criticism and vice versa. Book reviews are regularly written by struggling or successful novelists. The

same is true to a lesser degree with music, art, and motion pictures.

By their economic magnitude and widespread appeal, movies seem to receive the most attention. When members of the industry mingle with critics, the involvement often smacks of patronage. Witness Time magazine's three page hosanna on "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" last year. While superlatives flourished, the readers were kept at a distance concerning Time's investment in the film and percentage of the profits. Recently, the makers of "Superman" offered a bit part to Rex Reed. His four-star rating now graces every advertisement for the picture from coast to coast.

The influence of a critic cannot be underestimated. In his heyday as New York Times theater critic, Clive Barnes could virtually close a show overnight with a negative review. When Rolling Stone music editor Dave Marsh speaks, turntables stop and the rock world listens. And everyone reads the film critic's critic, Pauline Kael of the New Yorker. It must be remembered that professional critics are extensively educated, thoroughly knowledgeable spokesmen who possess a solid data base from which to draw their inferences and conclusions. Others can only be regarded as highly opinionated amateurs embodying enough gall to succeed in publishing their viewpoints.

Which leads me unqualifyingly but without hesitation into a review of "Superman,

the Movie." Like last year's "Star Wars," this is ample tribute to the advancement of Hollywood technology. The plot appears to be lifted from several of the comic books, and the characterizations follow suit. The special effects, however, are uniquely stunning, especially the opening scene on Krypton, Superman's home.

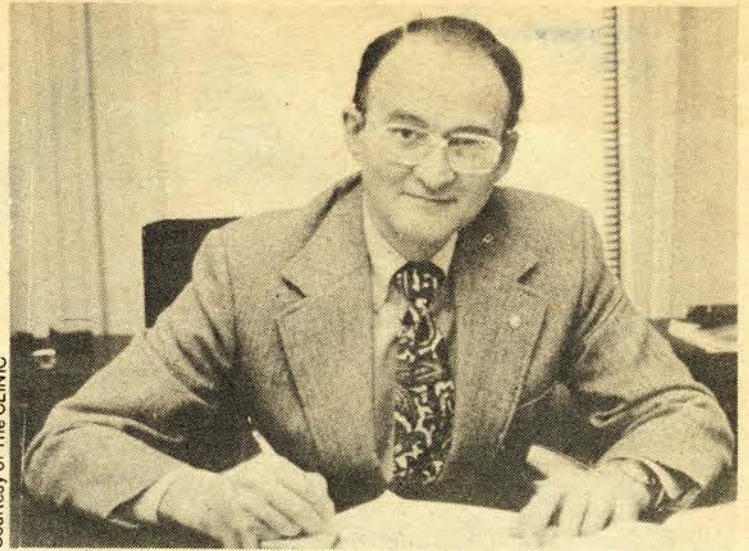
Marlon Brando and Gene Hackman provide their names to attract a wide audience, and unknown Christopher Reeves delivers a relaxed, enjoyable performance as The Man of Steel and his alias, Clark Kent. John Williams' ("Star Wars," "Close Encounters") soundtrack soars with Superman through the clouds and the result is two and one-half hours of sheer comic book fun coupled with visual and acoustic delight.

You can count on more of these splashy extravaganzas in the future. The sequel was filmed along with the original for a cool 75 million dollar combined pricetag. A word of caution to the guys; the price of admission is \$4.00, your date will undoubtedly be ga-ga over Superman, and you most likely will be asked to fly her home.

Next up is "Halloween", a perverse low-budget picture that concentrates on scaring you silly in the hope that you won't recognize its inconsistencies. The story involves a six year old boy who fatally knifes his sister on Halloween. After being locked up for fifteen years, he escapes on the day before Halloween and returns to his hometown with more than trick or treating on his mind. Donald Pleasance is his psychiatrist who rambles through the film claiming he has seen the devil lurking behind the boy's eyes in quiet anticipation of this night.

There are some frightening moments but the movie is hardly horrific. Much credit should be given to a superbly suspenseful soundtrack that sustains your attention during much of a film that lacks substance and credibility. There is one terrific scene where the killer disposes of the boyfriend downstairs, dons a white sheet and returns to the bedroom. The pretty young thing in bed, thinking him to be her boyfriend, begins the coy exhibition of herself that really gets the killer's pumpkin glowing. Alas, her burlesque career is considerably shortened.

The ending is only slightly less bizarre and conveniently leaves the possibility of a sequel to fill our Octobers with screams of fright.



Courtesy of The CLINIC

President Bluemle recently addressed The Ethical Society on "Lying to Patients"

## ETHANOLICS

by Mark Rubin

Maintaining an objective view while writing about the success of a "labor of love" is not easy, so please bear with me:

February marks the four month anniversary of the newly resurfaced Jefferson Ethical Society. Judging by the overwhelming response to date, the society can look forward to well over four months of existence in the future. Each of the three meetings held since November has been attended by over one hundred students and faculty. It is with great pride that the society boasts of over 80 dues paying members.

Why has the society done so well and achieved such lofty goals? It may well be due to the famous "home-grown talent" which has addressed the meetings, i.e. Drs. Brent, Vogel, and last but not least, Bluemle. Others attribute the success to the stimulating ethical issues presented, and the occasionally heated debates that they invoke. I prefer to think of these reasons as contributory factors, with the major reason for success being the superb press coverage I've given the society. Whatever the reason, the society has fared very well.

For those of you who have managed to maintain your ignorance of the society's existence, I'll give you a brief precis. The Ethical Society is a group of students and faculty who get together once a month with a substantial quantity of alcohol, and then try to solve the ethical problems of the universe. This heady task is accomplished via a reasonably short address to the group by a famed speaker followed by discussions until the alcohol runs out. The atmosphere is informal and the speakers are encouraged to drink heavily so they will be more inclined to reveal their true feelings.

Underlying the joviality of the society is a very serious theme—considering ethical problems that many of us will have to face in the future.

The society tries to give everyone the opportunity to get as much out of a meeting as they want. So whether you

come to have free drinks, socialize with friends and colleagues, or discuss ethics, the Jefferson Ethical Society welcomes you with open arms. We hope to see you February 16 when Dr. Laird Jackson will be the featured speaker.

## WANTED: LITERATI

by Richard Yelovich

AEROS, the Jefferson literary magazine, is extending its deadline to March 1, with a projected issue for the first week of May. All forms of original creative works are eligible for publication i.e. poetry, prose, short stories, essays, photography, sketches. The magazine was resurrected last year to provide a necessary literary outlet for the many creative people in the Jefferson community. Last year's issue was well received and several copies are circulating around the Commons should anyone desire to examine the format. It should be noted that ALL Jefferson affiliates are encouraged to contribute to the magazine. This year's response has been fairly good with the notable exception of the freshman medical college class. Surely the Class of '82 must house some literati capable of gracing the pages of AEROS. It would be distressing not to have the class represented because of apathy as opposed to lack of talent.

If there are any questions or material to be submitted, see Andrea Jordan (Box 357) or Richard Yelovich (Box 845).

## Fat For Fuel

Two University of Illinois researchers reported that Americans are overweight by 2.3 billion pounds. They calculated that 50 million men and 60 million women need to lose weight. If these excess pounds were shed, the equivalent of 1.3 billion gallons of gasoline would be the total energy saving. Keeping this weight off could supply four major U.S. cities with electricity.

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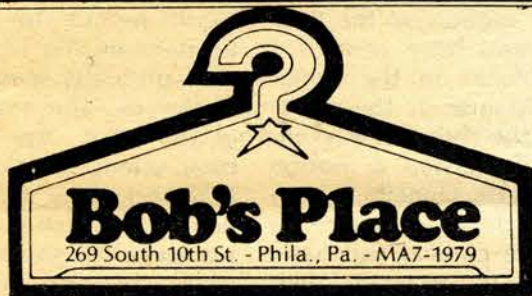
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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

by George Coar

... Tests at Chicago Medical School have shown D-phenylalanine (DPA) to be an effective pain killer by inhibiting one of the enzymes responsible for destroying the opiate-like enkephalins. Patients suffering from disorders such as muscle inflammation, crippling arthritis, and low-back pain reported themselves as being in less pain than when undergoing procedures such as surgery, acupuncture, or use of strong analgesics. Tests showed freedom from pain for up to 30 days after terminating DPA treatment.

... A Louisiana Federal Appeals Court has overturned a ruling of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) limiting occupational exposure to benzene to one part per million averaged over an eight-hour work day and forbidding skin contact with solutions containing more than 0.5% benzene by volume. The court's reasoning was that the OSHA failed to determine the cost/benefit relationship of its ruling. (Consumers Union News) ... "In the Winner's Corner With Complex Carbohydrates", by Candace Arthur and Paul Cifrino indicates that eating complex carbohydrates found in vegetables, breads, beans, and foods such as pasta, noodles, and rice instead of excess fat and sugar can aid in preventing and be used in treating

ailments such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes, and obesity.

... For a Maryland family to move the same weight of household goods a similar distance out-of-state as within state would cost 40% to 67% more because, while intrastate competition holds down costs, the Interstate Commerce Commission approves higher rates set by rate bureaus. If this contrast between unregulated, competitive rates and ICC-regulated rates exists nationwide, it is then estimated that American families are spending at least \$240 million per year for interstate moving in excess of what they need be spending.

... A 23 pound Pocket Bicycle has been patented by two Newton, Mass. inventors. This five-speed collapsible touring bike has no hinge, but is instead, like a suspension bridge, designed with struts and cables that form a diamond around a collapsible seat post and the main frame tube.

... Over 100 people have filed a \$1.8 billion class action suit on behalf of all consumers against Firestone Tire and Rubber Company. These plaintiffs claim that Firestone knowingly failed to correct defects including "tread separation and chunking, steel-belt separation or shifting, sidewall blisters, bead distortion, and out-of-round conditions".

... Telephone Pioneers of

America have invented several new devices for aiding the handicapped. For the hard of hearing, there is a transistor radio that amplifies radio, television, and movies, in addition to special blinking toys which encourage deaf youngsters to communicate. For the blind, a beeping baseball and other such sporting equipment have been a product of their research. But the most amazing product could be a "yell-a-phone" for the paralyzed individual which is preprogrammed with frequently dialed numbers. A specific two-second sound by an immobile person activates the phone, and a second sound makes it stop at a chosen number.

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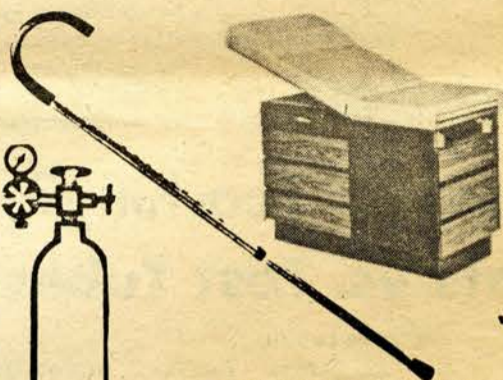
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## CAHS News

by Roslyn Taylor

The College of Allied Health Sciences Student Advisory Committee, the student government mechanism for all Programs within the College, has resumed its regular schedule of meetings for the 1978-79 academic year.

At the January 24 meeting of the SAC, the Reverend Leon Sullivan was named as the probable Merves Lecturer on Wednesday April 18. College of Allied Health Sciences representation in the *Ariel* was again discussed and Roslyn Taylor (Baccalaureate Nursing) is now acting as liaison with the *Ariel* staff. Dean Abrams reported on the subject of snow days for the College and said that the decision to cancel classes due to snow and inclement weather will be made according to the policy of each department, since the College as a whole cannot have its own snow number.

Andy Aker (Cytotechnology), the new chairman of the College Social Sub-committee, reported plans for the College of Allied Health Sciences second Annual Winter Social to be held Friday February 16. This will be a free semi-formal occasion with buffet and a D.J. for the College students, guest and faculty. The Student Handbook Sub-committee submitted a detailed table of

contents for the proposed handbook, to be approved by the classes in the College. Plans for the Alumni Dinner Dance June 1, and a Coffee Hour on February 26 were reported by the Alumni Relations Sub-committee.

Other issues discussed were College of Allied Health Sciences participation in intramural sports and the possibility of awarding trophies; SAC participation in the interviewing process for a new Director of Student Affairs and Services; and increase in tuition next year for which no definite figures are yet available; SAC continuing representation on the Commons Board; and ticket allocation for commencement. The next SAC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 19 at 12 noon, in M-25 Jefferson Alumni Hall. All are invited to attend.

## More On The Boards

[Continued from page 1]

who work hard and have been successful at Jefferson should just continue to work hard and they should have no problems. Those students whose academic profiles are lower need to be concerned and can possibly benefit from counseling concerning their effort for the boards.

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## Research or Teaching? Students vs. Test Tubes

by Steve Levine

Why are so many medical school "teachers" across the country part-time teachers and full-time researchers? Why is the young basic science professor encouraged to "forget about teaching for a while and establish (himself) as a researcher"? Why is little, if any, consideration given to teaching ability when hiring and or promoting a medical school instructor? Although there are many economical and practical reasons given for these conditions to exist, it seems to me to be both illogical and counterproductive for a "teacher" at a medical school to be a poor lecturer with an inability to get material across to the students. The present semi-solution, to permit the poor instructor to leave the lecture hall permanently, is a waste of tuition dollars from the students and capitation funds from government—both of which are intended to pay directly for the education of students.

I realize that a researcher who is bringing in a large grant provides both an "overhead percentage" to the school and a portion of his own salary through that grant; I also understand the great importance of medical research and the prestige and acclaim that "good research" can bring to the researcher, his school and department. Being as these factors merit as much consideration as the others mentioned above, I certainly am not advocating the abolition of research in medical schools. I propose a compromise instead, a compromise whereby we may attempt to combine the motivating and dynamic lecturer with the scholarly and diligent researcher.

To achieve these ends, I submit the following four proposals to the department heads and administrators here at Jefferson:

First of all, when hiring a new faculty member, attempts should be made to attract people who are interested in and capable of teaching as well as performing research. This is of prime importance when hiring a new department head. Being as his influence will be instrumental in the hiring of junior faculty members, a chairman who is interested in medical education will tend to find other faculty members with similar ideas.

Secondly, when choosing various faculty members to teach large blocks of material, look for the professor whose teaching style is well developed and whose desire to teach is high. While one or two hours of poor instruction is an often unavoidable situation, a stretch of fifteen to twenty lectures from a less than competent professor can be disastrous to the instructor and the students.

Thirdly, I propose that student reviews and opinions of lecturers be used as primary guides in the determination of the strengths and weaknesses of a particular instructor in the lecture hall. While students may be unable to judge the quality of the content of lectures without further study, they are certainly the best judges of whether a lecturer is getting his point across.

Finally, to encourage teachers to be actively improving their teaching abilities, I propose that the level of these abilities be given increased consideration in the determination of faculty promotions. With such an economic driving force at their backs, poor lecturers might begin to work harder when preparing their presentations; they might try to discover and correct their weak points; they might find some new and innovative approaches to the teaching of some previously dry, boring and confusing material.

What would be the results of the implementation of such suggested programs? First and foremost, the quality of education received here at Jefferson would increase dramatically without a substantial decrease in the quality or quantity of research. Not only would the student be happier with the lecturer, the lecture and the material presented, (thus making it easier for him to learn) but also, the professor might begin to enjoy his teaching duties. That, of itself, should stimulate the lecturer to continue to improve. Finally, by encouraging the development of good teaching skills as well as proficient research technique among the instructors, administrators and department heads would be contributing to the overall professional growth of the Jefferson faculty.

## SMIRKING PROHIBITED?

by Risus Sardonicus  
[AKA John Radomski]

On the morning of January ninth, also known as Black Tuesday, the sophomore class was stricken with a rare (actually unknown beforehand) disease, smirking. Unfortunately the ailment chose to rear its ugly head during the ten o'clock pharmacology lecture, completely disrupting the lecturer's train of thought. The acknowledged masters of epidemiological investigation, the "micro maulers", were summoned to the scene. They were told by the security department to drop whatever they were doing and come on down. Unfortunately for the custodial people they took this command literally. They were preparing fecal unknowns for lab at the time.

After conducting extensive interviews with the professor and several students, the symptoms were characterized. The affected student will close his notebook, throw his pen into the nearest trash receptacle and thereupon stare into the lecturer's eyes with a ridiculous

look on his face resembling a smirk. Hence, the name of the disease. How clever.

It was the consistent opinion of the representative from the Pharmacy department that the etiologic agent was emanating from the dreaded tape recorder animal. This puzzled the micro masters, since they had never heard of a recorder device active as a reservoir. However, since they had just spent the previous week explaining how some very exotic diseases are found in cat feces, beaver pond water, the Lenigrad Sewer System, Big Boulder Ski Resort, armadillos, rabbits, fleas, rats, hot dogs, cows, mosquitos, pigs, and sandflies, they decided not to take any chances with this baby. Very carefully the suspected tape machine was transported via Brink's trucks to the third floor. Since the growth requirements for the smirk animal were not known, they decided to shoot the whole wad. The tape recorder was triple streaked on TSA, MAC, HE, WPA, CIA, NATO, and Pol Pot blood agar plates. Also the following media were inoculated: TSI, Simon's,

Christensen's, Lysine, Mycosel, Bem, NaCl, Taxo P, Taxo A, and income tax.

At press time the causative agent had not been isolated, but the chairman reported that it was EXQUISITELY sensitive to absolutely nothing. E. Jawetz in his latest edition (released yesterday) calls this ailment the Sophomore Smirk, etiology a complete conundrum. In an unrelated event of importance for the freshman class, the micro department has vowed that next year's bacteriology component of the course will not focus on so many trivial antigens, capsules and cell wall structures. Instead, only clinically relevant material of immediate use to young, budding physicians will be covered. The lecture will be given on January 15 from 9-9:50 a.m.; lab will be cancelled.

Finally, the department of Community Health and Preventive Medicine, forever searching for a meaningful existence, decided to act to prevent a recurrence of the disease. They were last seen changing the No Smoking signs around Jeff Hall to read No Smirking.

## ARIEL Supports Four Week Blocks

The senior block issue - why was it defeated, who's for it, who's against it, is there any chance of it passing, and what can the students do to improve its chances?

Repeated polls of the senior class conducted on match day with nearly 100% responding have shown that more than 70% of the students would have preferred four week senior blocks. Why? There are at least four good reasons. Under the four week system the students would have more responsibility for their senior year curriculum; instead of only three electives, they would have five. Secondly, students would have a more varied and diversified exposure in their senior year. More students would take electives like Radiology, ENT, Neurology, Rehabilitation Medicine, EKG, etc. Thirdly, students would be permitted to spend two blocks away from Jefferson. It is common knowledge that one's chances for getting a certain residency increase by taking an elective there. For those students interested in Family Medicine and Internal Medicine residencies, which are increasingly more difficult to obtain, the opportunity to visit two of the institutions applied to would be a welcome addition to the senior year. Finally, a four week block system would make it easier to schedule electives away from Jefferson, since nearly all other medical schools operate on a four week system.

Who is against the proposal, but would be willing to live with it? - the clinical sciences. They oppose the motion for the following reasons. The change would mean more work initially for them. Effort would be required to adjust their teaching package to four weeks. There would be increased administrative work involved with scheduling. Most importantly, the proposal would mean more work for departmental secretaries, who arrange switches within the year. Some of the clinical departments who see the bulk of their students on an elective basis only, are opposed to the motion because it decreases the student's exposure to their discipline by two weeks. A few of the departments contend that their material can't be taught in four weeks time. However, all of the five track programs (except Surgery which has yet to be interviewed) have admitted that were the four week block system instituted, they could tolerate it without too much hardship.

Who is strongly opposed to the proposal? - two of the basic science departments. Why? They claim that they can't increase the number of student-faculty contact hours from ten to fifteen per week. They contend that their students are working maximally already and could not possibly put in an extra hour per day in conference or lab. One department insists that it is impossible for students to write a research paper in four weeks. Both of these departments decry the depth of understanding and the academic excellence that would be sacrificed. Their final argument is that they are tired of giving up their curriculum time. Ten years ago they relinquished many hours in the first two years with the proviso that they would get six weeks in the senior year - now, they don't want that time whittled down to four weeks.

[Continued on page 5]



Eye of Horus: precursor to prescription symbol Rx.

## Prescription Beginnings

The Eye of Horus was a talisman used in ancient Egyptian times to oppose disease and suffering of humans. It was found on vases dating 1500 B.C., which perhaps served as containers of medicines. Though magical, its use had a powerful curative effect on people of that time. The following, taken from **Medicine: An Illustrated History** (Lyons and Petrucelli), describes the relation of the Eye of Horus in the Egyptian Mythological order.

"All deities were associated with some aspect of health or illness. Many began as local divinities, later to be taken up by the whole kingdom as cosmic gods. Others were melded into some other deity. Ra, the sun-god, held the highest place in the pantheon. Isis, symbol of earth-mother, was worshipped as a healing goddess. Her cult persisted for many centuries... A brother of Isis was Osiris, a personification of the Nile, who was dismembered by yet another brother, the evil Seth. Isis lay upon her brother Osiris, restored him, and conceived his son, Horus. Seth, who together with his sister and nefarious consort, Nephthys, was a prime bringer of disease to humans, then destroyed the eye of Horus. Though, the source of all knowledge and

[Continued on page 5]

# Four Week Blocks

[Continued from page 4]

If only two departments were adamant in their opposition, why did the four week proposal lose? The answer is that the clinical departments who would have lived with the change were not willing to fight for it. Preferring the status quo, they voted against it also.

Is there any hope? - Yes, one final vote on this issue is scheduled for late February. The motion has a chance of winning if the clinical departments can be convinced to fight for the students.

No one on the Faculty Curriculum Committee has argued against allowing students more freedom and responsibility in their senior year. Few have contended that it would not be preferable to have more graduates with clinical exposure in Radiology, Neurology, ENT, or Rehabilitation Medicine. Most members would like to improve the seniors' chances of matching. But what about the arguments made by the basic sciences? If freshmen spend seven hours per day in contact with faculty (3 hours lecture, 4 hours lab), read class notes, handouts, and texts, as well as study for exams; isn't it conceivable that seniors could spend 3 hours per day in contact with faculty, as well as read their journal articles and prepare their research paper? Isn't the academic excellence achieved and the depth of understanding reached more a function of a student's motivation than the amount of time he is forced to spend in the block? In the four week system, the motivated student could easily take two basic science blocks if he preferred. (He would still be left with four electives).

By the time this year's sophomore class becomes seniors, they'll be paying \$7,000 + for tuition. Students emerging from the junior year are used to working very hard. Maybe students are saying that the country club life of the senior year is getting too expensive, and that they'd like more for their money. The four week senior block proposal will give them more - much, much more. Student's pleas have been ignored for too many years. This year is the year to pass 4 week senior blocks! Here are the names of the Faculty Curriculum Committee members - tell them how **you** feel!

Jussi Saukkonen, M.D.  
Arthur Allen, Ph.D.  
Gonzalo E. Aponte, M.D.  
Paul C. Brucker, M.D.  
Allen J. Erslev, M.D.  
Paul J. Fink, M.D.  
James Fox, M.D.  
Joseph Gonnella, M.D.  
E. Marshall Johnson, Ph.D.  
Tyrie Jenkins - Class '80

James Lee, M.D.  
Sylvester Mobley, M.D.  
Irving J. Olshin, M.D.  
James Plumb, M.D.  
James Spath, Ph.D.  
Michael Starrels, M.D.  
Robert Steiner, M.D.  
Wolfgang Vogel, Ph.D.  
Diana Brown - Class '79  
John W. Smith II - Class '81

## AMSA Ambles On

Last fall found AMSA a very active organization about Jefferson. Three seminars at Jefferson and one regional workshop in New York City head the list of activities that kept members and non-members alike current on issues of interest to medical students.

The Survival Seminar last September featured a panel of students with a wide variety of experiences at Jefferson. Married students, women, and Penn State-Jefferson Program students were among those given hints on how to survive academically and thrive socially. One could not leave without a strong sense of the diversity of the student body.

A highly relevant seminar last October considered the consequences of stress. Dr. Fink gave an introduction to the psychology of stress. Dr. Rupp discussed the physiology of stress. Dr. Margolis spoke on the use of hypnosis in the prevention of ulcers in burn patients. It is believed that burn patients frequently develop ulcers due to the stress inherent in their convalescence. Dr. Amar spoke on biofeedback and autogenic relaxation. Dr. Berentini discussed Yoga and meditation.

In November there was a Business Seminar featuring the Mutual Association for Professional Services and Price Waterhouse Inc., an

accounting firm. The representatives of these organizations encouraged students with families and those on loans to strongly consider life insurance. The presentation also featured a speaker from the AMA and a presentation on the financial aspects of opening a new practice.

The regional AMSA workshop was held last October at Mt. Sinai Medical

School. Jefferson sent nine freshmen. The program included sessions on socialized medicine, death and dying, humanistic medicine, and preparations for the national convention this March in Denver.

Last December an AMSA-sponsored event occurred at Jefferson. It was entitled Communities and Care: A [Continued on page 6]

## Commons Calendar

- Feb. 5, Mon. 6PM Diploma Nursing Basketball, (Roxborough), Memorial Hall, Fairmount Park
- Feb. 7, Wed. 1 PM, University Hour "Joe and Penny Aronson - Folk Songs and Humor" Thomas Eakins Lounge (Social Lounge), Jeff Hall.  
8PM Oscar Ghiglia, Guitarist, \$2.00 tickets available in the Commons Office, M-63, Jeff Hall, Univ. Museum 33rd and Spruce.
- Feb. 9, Fri. 9PM-12AM T.G. Party cafeteria. Guest passes and I.D.'s required. Pick up guest passes from receptionist, Jeff Hall no later than 4:00 PM Friday.
- Feb. 14, Wed. 1PM University House, "James Shea - Vice President of Temple University, author of "Jogging" will discuss "Running for your Life" Room 139 Jeff Hall.  
4:30 PM, Commons Board M-21 Jeff Hall.
- Feb. 15, Thurs. 7PM Diploma Nursing Basketball (Lankenau) Episcopal Academy.
- Feb. 18, Sun. 3PM Cushion concert, PCPA Jazz Ensemble, cafeteria center, Jeff Hall, \$1.00 commons members and students and \$2.00 guests.
- Feb. 21, Wed. 1PM University House, Dr. Eugene Garfield, Director of the Institute for Scientific Information. Solis Cohen.
- Feb. 23, Fri. 7PM and 9PM. Comedy film "Never Give Sucker an Even Break" Solis Cohen, Jeff Hall.
- Feb. 26, Mon. 6PM Diploma Nursing Basketball, (Bryn Mawr), Memorial Hall, Fairmount Park.  
11AM-2PM, Mardi Gras luncheon, Jeff Hall, Cafeteria.
- Feb. 27, Tues. 1PM University House, Dr. Leon Peris and Dr. Benjamin Kendall, Jeff faculty will discuss "Flying and Scuba Diving", RM 139, Jeff Hall.
- Feb. 28, Wed.

## Med Trivia

### Prescription Postscript

[Continued from page 4]

physician to the gods, healed the eye of Horus.

"Following this divine example, Egyptian royal couples were often brother and sister. The custom of sibling marriage was also adopted at court, and eventually by the lower classes. By the second century A.D., it was estimated that two-thirds of the citizens of Arsinoe were offspring of sibling unions."

This anecdote illustrates well the age-old belief in the supernatural. Throughout much of our Western cultural development, similar tales of magical cures have proliferated, and continue, indeed, into our current "enlightened" practice of medicine. The so-called "Placebo effect" is a prime example. The fact is that people need a sprinkling of "magic", and many will expect this from us in our future practice. Though lacking in tangible parameters, perhaps we can come to understand why people need such an item. This understanding would have far-reaching clinical application, especially in the primary care field. Many of these patients will benefit from our judicious use of the "placebo effect", just as the ancients were placated by the ever-watchful Eye of Horus.

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# RELATIONSHIPS

by Robert L. Brent

There are certain ingredients that are essential for optimal interpersonal relationships. Although it may seem apparent that students can more readily learn from someone that they respect and like, you may wonder how important it is for the teacher to respect and like the student. In the 1950's Carl Rogers published a "most cited" paper in the medical literature which stated that psychotherapy was doomed to failure, if the therapist disliked his patient. In other words, an optimal environment for successful therapy, is for the therapist to have significant affection and compassion for his patient. One may wonder whether this relationship is important in other non-intimate interactions. Most one-to-one teaching relationships are more successful if there is warmth and affection - the music teacher and his protegee, the investigator and his graduate student. Learning and advancement can occur in the absence of warmth and affection, but the progress is more painful and less rewarding.

When I first came to Jefferson, I realized that some faculty members would embarrass students during educational interactions. It was believed by some faculty members that students would remember these educational experiences. I think they remember the pain, but not the facts or concepts.

In the Department of Pediatrics we emphasize that ridicule is an inappropriate educational technique. In fact we approach each new teaching interaction with the hope for a positive interaction and a successful educational experience. Since the faculty in clinical departments were once medical students, there is usually a natural empathy and identification with them. Furthermore, since most faculty members are physicians the clinical faculty tends to respect the medical profession, although they may be quite critical of certain aspects of medicine.

When a faculty member becomes "extremely" critical of certain aspects of medicine or medical education, it may interfere with his ability to be an effective teacher. It is important for students to perceive prejudices among the faculty because it will

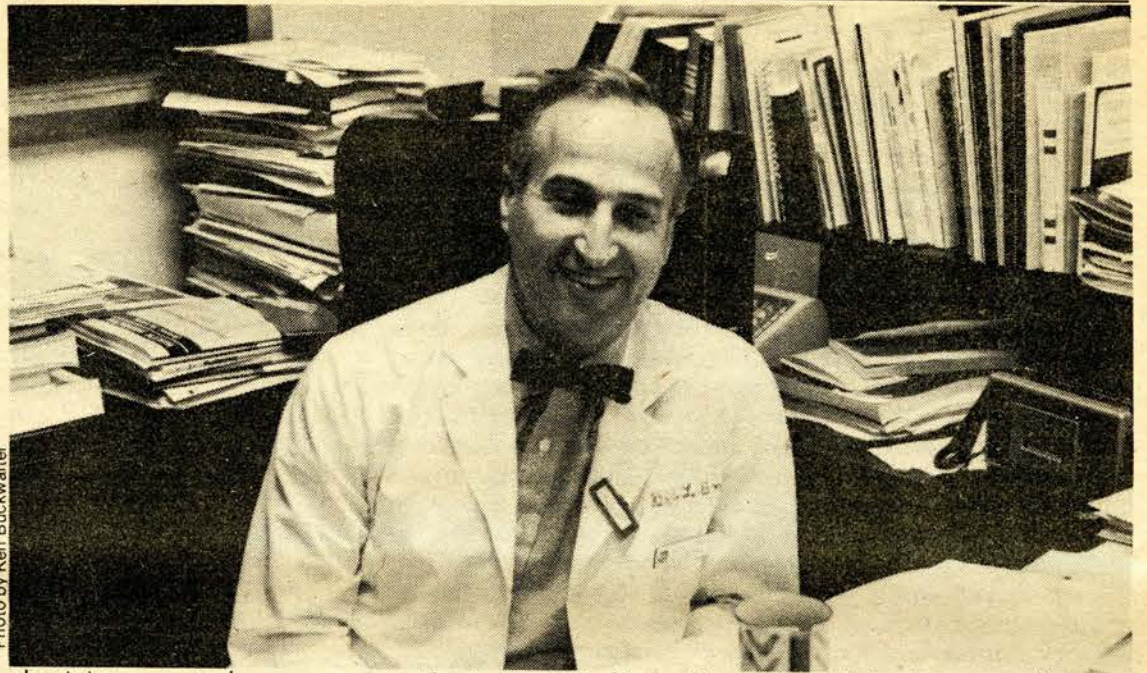
allow the students to identify and isolate the scholarly interaction from the personal interaction.

What are some of the prejudices of faculty members that may prevent them from having affection and respect for certain medical students and in rare instances, all medical students?

There is an occasional faculty member that may not be supportive of the increasing number of women in medicine. Among the pre-clinical scientists you may rarely encounter a teacher who has a basic animosity toward physicians, because he feels they earn too much money or he has other negative stereotypes about physicians. Even in the clinical years, negative experiences may occur such as the surgical faculty member who thinks less of a student because he is interested in psychiatry.

When a faculty member has subconscious prejudicial feelings toward a student, the educational interaction may not be optimal. Therefore, it is essential to recognize that there are two components to every student - faculty interaction, the educational component and the interpersonal component. Carl Rogers said that a negative interpersonal relationship between psychotherapist and patient dooms the psychotherapeutic relationship - it need not doom the student faculty relationship, since although the student is dependent, he is not as vulnerable as a patient with psychiatric symptoms. A student must learn from all types of professionals.

As students leave the pre-clinical years they assume new responsibilities. Interpersonal relationships with basic science faculty are minimally related to the learning of the basic sciences and the assimilation of the facts presented in "Introduction To Clinical Medicine". During the last two years of medical school there is a gradual transition of the students' relationship with professional colleagues and/or teachers. Some students thrive in this new environment and others become aware of problems that they never had before. Besides continuing to learn medical facts, history taking, physical examination, technical procedures and writing differential diagnoses, the future



physician must become a student of interpersonal relationships. Students will begin to recognize whether they have an affection for all people or whether they are having difficulties with nurses, social workers and even some patients.

A student has the opportunity and responsibility to analyze his own interpersonal interactions and the interpersonal interactions of all other professionals - doctor-patient, doctor-nurse, doctor-resident, doctor-technician, nurse-nurse and many others. Does a student ever ask himself, "how will I deal with patients", or "with all the professionals at a hospital". A perceptive student should analyze all interpersonal difficulties that are observed during the process of

patient care. Working effectively with other health professionals is an essential ingredient in the delivery of quality health care. If one ignores the responsibility of learning about one's self, the student is missing the opportunity to participate in one of the most important maturing processes of medical education.

I would suggest that any student that has concerns about his or her ability to deal with patients or health professionals, ought to speak with his student advisor or a clinical faculty member of his choice. There is no more maturing educational process than active, conscious, participation in the interpersonal interactions involved in becoming a health care professional. This is best ac-

complished by critically analyzing one's own interactions, but students can begin by critically observing the various interpersonal relationships in the health care field.

As a student of medicine you have the responsibility of continuing your scholarship for the rest of your life. Because interpersonal relationships are so important in clinical medicine you have a second and more important responsibility and that is to be a critical observer of interpersonal relationships, including your own. Utilize your time in medical school to work on this facet of your clinical competence, because this will be the only time when you can do this without the full burden of clinical responsibility.

## AMSA Keeps On Ambling

[Continued from page 5]

Political and Social Perspective of Illness and What Can Be Done. There were sixty participants from local medical schools and from as far away as New Mexico. The program examined the way hospitals do and don't respond to community needs. This was done on the local level with the help of State Representative David P. Richardson and on an international level with Dr. Walter Lear, who discussed the nature of health care in a capitalist society.

In February there will be a Public Health Seminar for people on National Health Service Corps Scholarships. The program will be explained by people from the Public Health Service, and students and graduates of the program. The options available to the graduate will be given special attention.

Also, on February 6, David Reed will be giving a slide show on his recent trip to

Red China. A recent graduate of Jefferson, Dr. Reed is a former national treasurer of AMSA and North American representative to the International Federation of Students Medical Associations. The program will take place at the Medical College of Pennsylvania at 7:30 PM. Immediately after the presentation, there will be a meeting to organize a local AMSA coop for books and medical supplies.

The culmination of this year's AMSA activity will take place in Denver, Colorado on March 21-25. Every local AMSA chapter will be sending delegates to the convention. There will be displays by manufacturers, health concerns, health systems, pharmaceutical companies, and medical equipment companies. There will also be seminars on health-related topics and a meeting of the House of Delegates. This body consists of two representatives from

every medical school. It sets internal policy, discusses social issues, and passes resolutions.

In addition to special events, AMSA constantly provides valuable ongoing services to its members. From medical equipment insurance to informative publications, AMSA remains a chief guardian of the medical student's interests.

## Nurses B-ball

[Continued from page 8]

Episcopal Academy is the site for Thursday's matches. A free bus leaves for all games from 11th and Walnut.

Monday February 5 TJU vs Presbyterian  
 Thursday February 8 TJU vs Bryn Mawr  
 Monday February 15 TJU vs Lankenau  
 Thursday February 26 TJU vs Bryn Mawr





# LORDS OF THE BOARDS

by Vincent Viscomi

With the winter months comes Jefferson's most popular intramural sport - basketball. This season a record 29 teams entered the race for the "A" and "B" league championships.

While the "A" league features competition between the top faculty, grad students, med. students, and Jeff employees, the "B" league offers the part-time basketball player plenty of exercise and a less intense athletic atmosphere. The teams to watch of the seventeen entered are Kim Carpenter's PHI ALPHA SIGMA squad, BACKROW Junior led by Steve Flanser, George Rohrer's AKK team, and the Senior All-Stars captained by Steve Cherry.

Along with an untested NU SIGMA NU I; all are undefeated in league play and looking to land a playoff birth.

With AKK losing nearly everyone from last year's championship squad, the "A" league title is up for grabs this year. With the talent dispersed evenly throughout the league, only 2 unbeaten teams remain after 3 games. Thus far, the most impressive team has been Bob Glick's SIMIAN SMOKERS, an independent team composed largely of sophomore and senior medical students - led by Glick, Warren Ventriglia, Jon Adams, and Seth Paul. However, it won't be easy for the Smokers with Phi Alph and Phi Chi again fielding

powerhouses. Tom Griffin's PHI ALPHA SIGMA has featured a balanced offense and hustling defense in their opening two victories and Andy Farkas' Phi Chi crew, last year's bridesmaids, return nearly all their starters giving them, perhaps, the most depth in the league. This year's sleeper could be the Grad Students coached by Steve Eaton. Both the Grad Students and Warriors are loaded with TJU employee talent and, in all probability should get tougher as the season progresses. If the first few games are an accurate indication of what is to come, this year's "A" league title chase will be the most exciting in recent years.

## News Drought Continues

[Continued from page 1]

Slick, Julius Guarino and this reporter. The laughter generated by this scene has kept this reporter smiling for the last three weeks. When asked about the 10th street fiasco, Ed said: "It was fun, but please don't tell anyone about it." We promised.

Third, Emily Wofford, our former Editor-in-Chief, flew to Casablanca last week in order to get a first hand interview with Dr. Shea. Unfortunately for Emily, Dr. Shea flew back to the U.S. before Christmas and is recuperating just fine. Fortunate for us, however, we only gave Emily a one-way ticket.

Fourth, Dr. Mackowiak addressed the Sophomore class last month and told the assembled students that they were not in danger of flunking the National Boards. Part I en masse. However, he didn't make any promises about individual performance. In order to alleviate anxiety Dr. Mackowiak also presented the "Duke's" formula for predicting National Boards performance. For those of you who missed it, here's the formula:

Part I prediction 1.25 (Cell and Tissue Final Grade) + 9.22(Structure and Function Final Grade) + 2.88(Percent correct on the pathology final) - 531. S.E. 55

or

Part I prediction 5.23(C & T) + 4.99(S & F) + 2.67% correct on the path final) - 507. S.E. 55

380 is the passing mark for the Boards. Note that Dr. Mackowiak emphasized that this is only an estimate and that there is a standard error of 55. This means, of course, that the whole Ariel staff might just be available again next year to run the paper.

Fifth, Seth Paul, sophomore student extraordinaire, has not transferred to Hershey as was widely anticipated after he fell in love with a football (ala Mork) that he found there last month. In order to entice him to stay at Jeff, we of the Ariel offered him the position of Editor-in-Chief (replacing Emily who has

taken to talking with strange men in fog-shrouded airports in Casablanca). We also had to promise Seth a year long subscription to the sports page of the Inquirer, Bulletin and the Penn State Collegian. We let Seth keep his football in exchange for his taking our long bombs (like this article) all the way out to the University of Pennsylvania where they are typeset prior to printing.

Sixth, Small group has not been cancelled for the rest of the year for either Freshman or Sophomores. Since Dr. Copeland was not asked about this story we don't know what he might have said about it. However, our student survey revealed the response of at least one student to be: "Oh - felder-garb."

Seventh, the escalators still are not all working. We didn't ask anybody about this story either, so we can't tell you when they will all be operational. But then you really don't need facts to write these stories.

The Flying Bull still has not been published. Dan Flynn has not offered any explanation for the demise of the publication. The Ariel tried valiantly last week to contact him and ask about this deplorable situation. As fate would have it, however, Fred Matlin couldn't find a dime to put in the phone. When we pointed out to Fred that it wasn't a pay phone he said that he didn't know the number. When we dialed the number for Fred, he then said that he had ads to sell and left. By the way, if there is anybody out there that knows the whole Bull story, drop us a line. We's like to know.

Ninth, Dr. Bluemle doesn't lie ... usually. Dr. Bluemle impressed this reporter last month by telling the truth about "Lying to Patients" at the Ethical Society meeting which was held at Doc Watson's. In order that his wife will believe his story that he was at Doc Watson's for three hours after work in order to present this fine and truly memorable talk, I here-

by swear on a book of normal values: He Was There! (of course I don't have any idea why he didn't get home until 1:30 that night or who the blonde and brunette were that he left with.)

15 students who were interviewed at Jefferson last month will not be attending Jefferson next year. Apparently, during the afternoon tours these 15 potential Jeff students were paraded through Solis-Cohen auditorium where they saw this medical school in action. Imagine the scene: - 32 (I counted them) students scattered around the lecture hall as though afraid to be recognized by their neighbor. Now - enter these 15 students. What do they see? 31 bleak and bleary eyed sophomore students craning their necks to gawk at these three-piece suited hopefuls. The scribe didn't turn around, but kept on writing down the words which were emanating from the darkness where it was presumed Dr. Karp was standing. As the 15 students were leaving, one was overheard to say: "7,000 dollars a year - they have got to be kidding!"

Lastly, this reporter is not going to flunk Micro. Dr. Mandle promised this in exchange for getting his name mentioned in the paper. Like we said at the beginning of this article - no news is good news.

CALL FOR STORIES: If you know of anything which did not happen at Jefferson recently, then you are just the person we need to write for the Ariel. We'll mold raw talent into seasoned reporters overnight or any other time which might be more convenient. If you are interested - or just attractive - just come and talk to this editor any Wednesday afternoon between 1 and 3 in Solis-Cohen auditorium. If you don't know who I am, just wake somebody up and they'll point me out for you. Besides, I'm the only balding, middle aged weirdo in the class that isn't lecturing and who wears a T-shirt with EDITOR emblazoned on it.

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### VALENTINE'S DAY

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Air Force Flight Jacket with hood, rated to -40°F, very warm, excellent condition, \$35. Call Arthur DE 6-1822.

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"On the Jefferson Campus"

# Sports News

## Hoopsters Bring It Down



Photo by Ken Buckwalter

by Jon Adams

Friday nights about a dozen or so otherwise normal JMC men forsake feminine fellowship for an hour and a half as Jeff's representatives in the Philadelphia Professional School Basketball League. Thirteen teams compete: Penn's

Dental, Veterinary, and Medical Schools, Temple's Dental, Medical and Law Schools, Hahnemann, PCOM, MCP, Villanova Law, and the Schools of Podiatry and Optometry as well as Jefferson. Thus you can see this behavior is not unique to Jeff.

The team includes a 1st year resident in orthopedics, Fred Dalzell; a senior, Bob Glick; four juniors, Tom Grabiak, Bill Polacheck, Jim Spiegel, and Paul Kearney; four sophomores, Mike Rommel, Fran Day, Warren Ventriglia, and Jon Adams; and 3 freshmen, Steve Pearson, Dave Tenn, and Bob Pathroff. Paul Stander, a junior, is coach.

Last year's squad made it to the playoffs, this year's group ought to do the same. So far the team has one earned victory over Temple Law, one four point loss to Hahnemann, and a win by forfeit over Temple Med. The team is especially strong at outside shooting and defense. The defense especially tries to flesh out in a visible way the school colors of black and blue, and frequently even members of visiting teams end up wearing our colors before a game is through. For this there is little appreciation.

The games start at 7:00 P.M. every Friday, in the gym through March. If you need a breather from the books, boob tube, or bar, come on down for awhile. You'll be glad to get back.

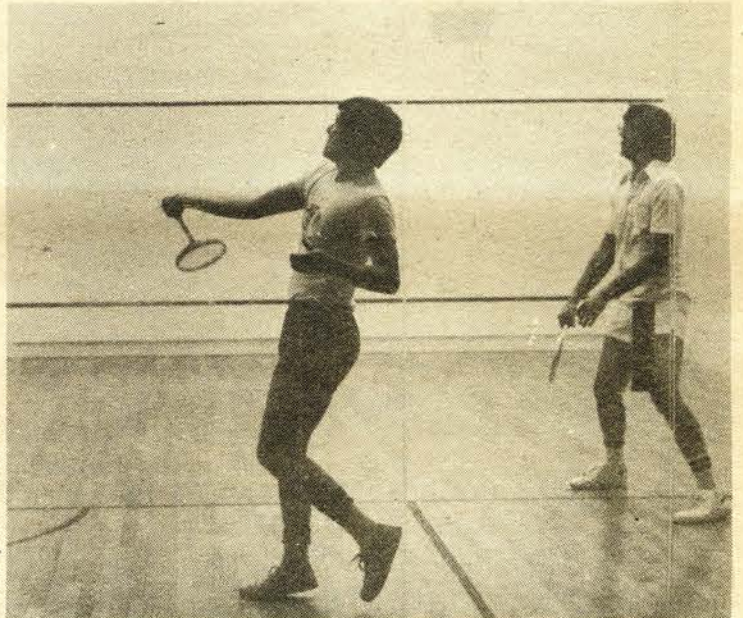


Photo by Ken Buckwalter

## ZUCCHINI

by Eli Saleeby

Now you can have your squash and eat it too. The Commons Committee has recently approved a plan whereby anyone affiliated with Thomas Jefferson University as either a student, faculty member or employee, may play squash at Squashcon, a squash club located on Washington Square. The agreement allows Jeff people free court time from 8:00-11:15 A.M., 1:30-4:15 P.M. and 9:30-11:00 P.M. on Monday through Thursday, Friday times are similar except evening play is from 7:30-9:30 P.M. Weekend court time is from 4:00-8:00 P.M.

Those interested in playing

must obtain a Jeff Squash Club I.D. card from Brenda Peterson, in the Commons Office. Cards are available for \$10 for Commons members (which includes all students) and \$20 for non-Commons members. This card along with a Jeff I.D. must be shown at Squashcon. Reservations for courts may be made up to a week ahead for afternoon court times and 24 hours in advance for evening times.

Many thanks to John Smith II, Wendy Zaharko and Eli Saleeby for their efforts in the negotiations between Commons and Squashcon.

As for eating squash, walk down to the Italian market and select...

## NURSES

### LAY IT UP

by Joyce Freidel

Jefferson's student nurses are on the road to another winning season. Their success formula is the return of the starting five, led by senior co-captains Kathy Alcoy, Maureen Dietzler and Jeanne Humphreyville plus juniors Sue Bergdoll and Marianne Maxwell. The team is under the direction of veteran coach Hersch Kaubin.

Jefferson is currently rated two in the league with a record of 6-1. The only loss suffered has been against Lankenau. Jeff hopes to enhance its ranking with a victory over Lankenau on February 15th. The team is anticipating a good turnout of spectators from the entire university for the match with Lankenau.

There are twelve games in the official season which began in November and ends in March. In addition to the starting team members there is Sue Albrecht, Irene Foley, Michelle Langley, Kathi McAndrew, Diane Alesiewica, Sandy Smith, Helene Stair and Diane Wolsin.

Fans are welcome to all games. Monday games are held at Memorial Hall and

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## PUCK LUCK

by Mark Repka

Despite many rumors that it would never happen, the 1979 version of intramural floor hockey has begun. Not wanting a repeat of the chaos of last year, the six team captains met with league organizer, Mark Repka, to work out new rules and regulations. It is hoped that with better organization and control an entire season can be completed without multiple reschedulings and more importantly without any serious injuries. Quicker whistles, strict enforcement of the high sticking rule and fewer chances for make up games should go a long way towards accomplishing these goals.

In early action this season, strong goaltending by Afternoon Delight's Bob Barsoti and Backrow's Rich Heckert keyed their teams to 2-0 starts. Both are independent teams composed of players with prior floor hockey experience. Phi Alph opened their season with a surprising victory over AKK and are

currently in a second place tie with Phi Chi at 1-1. Freshman Steve Pearson, could be an important figure for Phi Alph. As for AKK, a pre-season favorite with returning regulars, Mike Kornhauser, Dave Fishman, Steve Myrick and others, things have not been going so well. An 0-2 start here can be attributed to an inability to put the puck in the net. Scoring problems have also plagued Nu Sigma Nu, who have been shut out in each of their first two games. Nu Sig is solid on defense with Vince Viscomi and Mitch Rivitz, but to be really competitive they will have to come up with a scorer. Phi Chi has been a real mystery team this year. Without having played a game they are still in second place. Maybe one of these days Roy "Gump" Maynard will get to prove that he can indeed play goal. Overall there is amazing balance in the league this year. This should make for a very interesting and competitive race for playoff spots.

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