

1966-03-11

EDITOR

Rick Badzik

TYPISTS

Jack Hirsch
Matt Franckiewicz
Don Uhl

MIMEO

Paul Zilber

MAILING

Jim Lanyk

BAKER LETTER MARCH 11, '66

ARTICLES DUE TUES. 7 PM

BAKER HOUSE FRESHMAN COUNCIL

Tuesday, all Baker House freshmen started receiving minutes of the freshman council meetings. We hope that this will increase interest and participation in council activities, and we invite any freshman to come to the meetings (MONDAY, 10 P.M.) to express his opinions or offer suggestions. Right now we need help for our APO Carnival booth. If you are interested, see Mark Rockoff in room 211. Thanks.

Bill Berry (605)

ANYONE FOR ADDIS ABABA?

In connection with International Week at MIT, a campaign is being held by the committee for Ethiopian Literacy. For a pittance (\$1.00 U.S.) you may purchase a ticket for a raffle which has as its first prize a round trip to Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia. (Be the first on your block.) Funds which the Ethiopian students in the U.S. obtain through the raffle are to be used to help defray the cost of a massive campaign against illiteracy in Ethiopia. Literacy is a major variable in economic and political development; while the costs of such an effort are tremendous, the cost per person is much less in the long run. Your support would be much appreciated. If anyone is interested in helping to canvas Baker House, please contact me. Incentive awards are available.

This is not a joke and is completely above-board.

Erik Jensen (242)

FROM UNDER THE PRESIDENT'S WIG

I'd like to devote this week's column to elections---past and future.

The future elections are for positions on InsCom subcommittees, particularly the Secretariat. In the past, there have been almost no Bakerites on Secretariat. Perhaps this is a result of ignorance of the openings. If so, consider yourself informed. Within a few weeks,

people will be chosen to work on Secretariat; so if you're interested, let me know. A large amount of the work is hack, but they undertake some interesting projects---and Secretariat is a good way to get ahead in Institute politics.

The past election in Baker House contained a poll on House hours, the results of which are presented below. With this data in hand, I hope to speak to the Administration, either through Dormcom or independently, to try to get our House hours extended to conform with the extended girls'schools' curfews and our wishes as demonstrated in the poll. I'll keep the House posted as to progress in this area.

Monday- Thursday

4P.M.--10P.M.	71
4P.M.--midnite	91
noon--midnite	146

Friday

4P.M.--1A.M.	38
4P.M.--2A.M.	93
noon--2A.M.	181

Saturday

noon--1A.M.	36
noon---2A.M.	272

One last word----the Ad Hoc Parking Committee is looking for volunteers to keypunch some data this weekend. No experience is necessary. If you are able to help, see Ken Howard (415)

Jeff Wiesen (140)

SOCIAL COMMITTEE WORKINGS

The Ides of March party is in full swing now. Over 35 people have already been fixed-up. And our contacts at Simmons, BU and Emerson have more attractive, fun-loving girls available. See Bill in 319 if interested.

The party will start at 8:00 Saturday night. Be neat without jacket and tie. Girls wear skirts. Wishing well is in operation---see the Social Pole for operating instructions.

We need help Friday night and all day Saturday decorating the dining room. Even if you can help for only an hour, please do so. Anyone with any artistic ability is desperately needed to paint walls. Please contact us.

J + B (433, 319)

P.S. The Master Suite worked well. Let's hope there is as much co-operation at the party.

RANDOM DOINGS FROM THE V.P.: SCEP, SECRETARIAT, S.E.X.

With regard to re-establishing SCEP Seminars in Baker House: I now have five people who have expressed an interest in talking with Prof. Watson of the Humanities Department. Prof. Watson is one of the defendants in the much publicized Loyalty Oath Case. Before I can ask him to lead a series of seminars, I must be assured that a sufficient number of people will attend. This means that we need about four more to make it definite. Please contact me if you are interested.

Institute Secretariat will be holding interviews for freshman members (sophs too, but only if you are really gung-ho) in the near future. This is a good opportunity for underclassmen to learn about the

workings of Institute politics. More information will be forthcoming.

And now for the heart of this article: the proposal of a Sex Education experiment. It has come to my attention that there are a large number of people in Baker (even Seniors) who would appreciate some informal discussions with various professional people on such topics as dating techniques (sigh), sexual techniques (pant), sexual morality, student marriages, etc. To get more specific: some time in the near future, we will invite some noted person to talk on one of these topics at a buttery and then continue the discussion with a smaller group of people. I would appreciate any suggestions as to a preliminary topic and as to what field the speaker should be in (e.g. psychology, medicine, sociology, etc.). Please contact me if you have any ideas or comments. The success of this project depends upon your interest.

Jerry Grochow (118)

(Editor's Note---Knowing how he feels about this project, I think Jerry has grossly underplayed his presentation. In a slightly modified form this type of program has been carried on very successfully in Burton House. And I've heard nothing but praise about it. For the benefit of all you would-be wolves out there: this is not a "Seduction in Three Easy Lessons" course. It is an attempt to give you some insight into the multi-varied aspects of relations with the opposite sex. If you have some understanding of the thoughts and desires floating around in the dusty corners of the average female's mind, then you'll be better able to act in a considerate, responsible way toward her. Also, you won't be as nervous as if you were facing the totally unknown. Finally, although not a seduction course, it won't be a Sunday School approach to sex either. I understand that Jerry's proposal will be discussed at the Wednesday, March 16, HouseCom meeting. Plan to attend to show your interest in a very worthwhile idea.)

JOCK'S CORNER

Baker House II beat Chinese Students by a forfeit in volleyball last weekend. However Alumni+Dan Allen lost.

Softball looks good for Baker House this year with about six teams being fielded. We're looking forward to a winning season and possibly a first place. The ping pong schedule will be posted soon. We have three major, one minor and one bush league team entered.

Several complaints have been made about the condition of the ping pong equipment (mainly there is none). Please rest assured that new ping pong paddles will be in soon.

A major part of the Baker House Intramural program depends on the captains of the teams, since the responsibility rests with them to make sure that members of their teams are informed of the time and place of games so that enough players will show up. The captains were chosen because we felt they could do this job effectively so, captains, do your stuff!

Jack Anderson (306)
Jerry Seveck (424)
Arturo Rosales (506)

OUT OF THE KLEIN BOTTLE

Last week's problem was unfortunately misinterpreted by several persons due to my hazy statement of the question. The puzzle was to correct the fallacious matchstick equation VII=I by moving just one

matchstick, thus producing a true equation. (as opposed to a true inequality). There are only two correct answers known to me at this time which are

$$\sqrt{1} = 1 \quad | \sqrt{1} | = 1$$

(The latter equation is read, "the maximum of one and one is one.") Correct solutions were submitted by Dean Brown, Hank Howarth, Steve Chang, Fred Heutink, Bob Eisert, Charles MacFarland and Matt Franckiewicz.

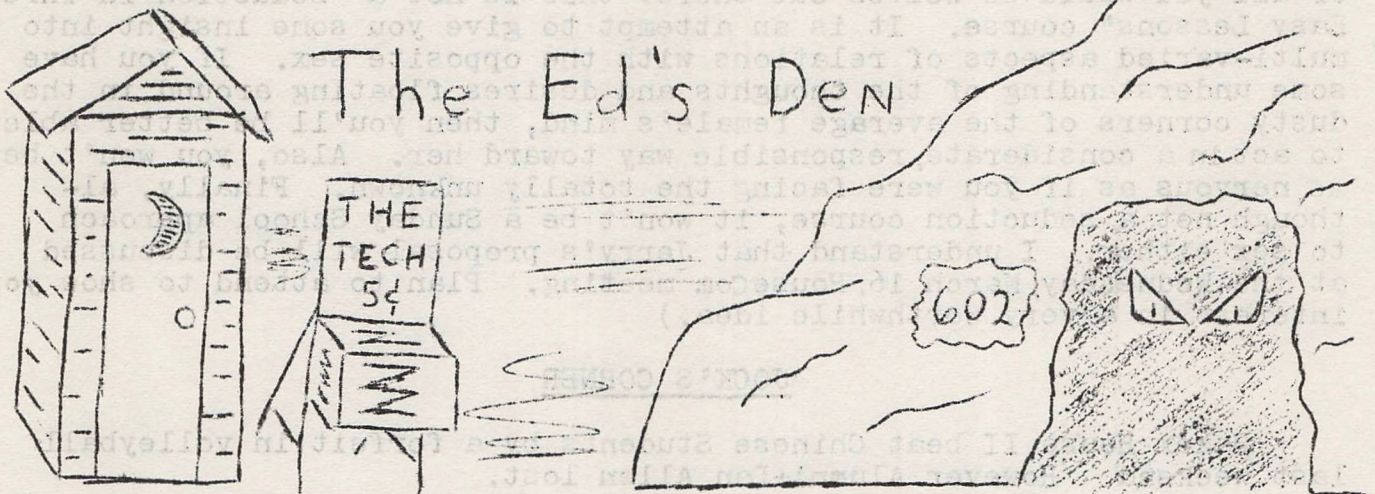
Here is a letter arithmetic problem from The Bent, an official publication of Tau Beta Pi:

TROIS
DEUX

—
ZERO

Additional information: DE is a cube.

Quent Klein (132)



SHORE IT SCRATCHES... BUT YA' DON'T GOT NOTHIN' ELSE!!

To the Baker Letter:

The editor of B*L complains, in the March 4 issue, that The Tech has introduced a new tactic in the recent political campaigns, which he labels the "smear". He remarks, concerning the people responSINle (sic. Freudian slip perhaps? Emphasis mine.—ed.) for the article in question, that "they'll probably be walking around with their hands in their pockets so people won't see the mud and muck on them and recognize them for what they are." I suggest that the editor himself examine his own hands a little more carefully, particularly after a remark like that. His remarks about The Tech make up a perfect smear in themselves, as well as being an offense against good writing. If the "smear" in the pages of The Tech is reprehensible, then this smear is doubly so, for the editor has committed the very fault which he is complaining about. This is one case where fire cannot be fought with fire, at least not in good faith.

Except in this point, the editor of B*L has shown both ability and an admirable willingness to serve in what will almost certainly be a

thankless job. I hope that he will not allow any more lapses from his generally entertaining articles, and that in the future he will be more careful about watching his own responsibilities when he is challenging the responsibility of someone else.

Print that if you dare!

Charles MacFarland (536)

And my father can lick your father, Mr. MacFarland. What a perfectly childish way to end an otherwise well-written and, I suppose, well-intentioned letter. Am I supposed to cower in a corner from your mighty pen? I take strong offense to your intimation that I haven't the "guts" to print your little bit of criticism; I guess you don't know me very well.

My remarks in the March 4 issue stand as they are, with an apology that they fall short of my true feelings since the Deans receive copies of B*L. If you read a copy of "Extracts from Burton House Reflector", dated Feb. 27, you'll see part of the reason for my outburst of indignation. I don't have the space or time to repeat what it contains; use your own time to borrow a copy and this time try reading it.

As for my hands (Where are yours, Mr. MacFarland?), if there's any mud on them it was acquired while rubbing The Tech's face in its own mess of misinformation and misrepresentation. I'm afraid I see little similarity between my article and The Tech's in intention or accuracy. I didn't misrepresent facts in order to sway voters. There actually was a case of misreporting; and as you can see, I have given people who may disagree a chance to be heard (as evidenced by your own letter). In fact, I refused to print someone's personal endorsement for Giorgio because it questioned the abilities of one of the other candidates, and his supporters would not have had an opportunity to answer before the election. If a little nothing like B*L has some ethics, The Tech should be able to manage a little too, especially in something as important as UAP elections. I can't begin to express my contempt for The Tech's stealth and lack of morals in printing such an article just before elections even if it were true, which it is not.

In its never-ending pursuit of truth and excellence in journalism, The Tech has now moved into the realm of personal insult. I quote The Tech of March 2, 1966:

Frank's victory over his nearest competitor was doubly significant because it showed future politicians that the voters will elect a serious candidate who wages a clean and truthful campaign.

Note that with the same lack of responsibility characterizing their previous statements, they have neglected to offer proof of their accusation. I rather doubt the ability of The Tech to judge in matters of mud-slinging and truthfulness in any case.

As for my challenging the responsibilities of The Tech, it seems that I would be pawing thin air, for apparently it has none, judging by its actions during the campaign. What right do the people who work on The Tech have to use the students' newspaper to promote their "chosen one" and tear down his opponents? The Tech is the only MIT newspaper and so it reaches a large percentage of the student body and has quite a bit of influence. Which candidate gets this support? Do the editors get together and pick someone? Or does the whole staff hold their own little election to decide? Is this fair? How can The Tech know it has chosen the best man--divine inspiration maybe? There are other people

who believe just as strongly that their candidate would do the best job, but they don't happen to be in a position to shout his cause around the campus as The Tech can. What makes The Tech's choice so much better and therefore more deserving than theirs? Is he actually better? It would seem that The Tech should endeavor to present an accurate picture of all candidates without bias and let each student take his pick, rather than attempting to make his choice for him. Please note that B*L endorsed no one, but printed all campaign material turned in (with the one exception mentioned above) and even went as far as running a B*L Extra so everyone could have his say.

I wish to extend my gratitude to those who have called to thank me and my staff for our work at our "thankless job", as Mr. MacFarland calls it. On the contrary, Mr. MacFarland, if I have but one more opportunity to set some poor misguided soul straight, I will have been thanked enough.

In closing, Mr. MacFarland, an apology will be graciously received; my box number is 6021. (I did dare, Mr. MacFarland, didn't I?)

Although this editorial is attaining rather huge proportions (for which I apologize), I still haven't thanked John Cook and Ralph Brown for their help in stuffing B*L last week. I suppose Ralph wanted to make certain that the pages were well fastened, but I think he got carried away with the stapler. I'm using some of those copies for paper weights and doorstops now.

It would seem that conditions are rather crowded over at McCormick. Rumor has it that the overflow is being moved into Baker House's halls, heralded by the appearance of a McCormick bed on the first floor. It seems like a good idea, especially the sign-up sheet taped to the bedpost. After all, we have House Tutors in every other subject; why not...?

Rick Badzik

(602)



Rick tells me that people are bitching because I haven't been. Well, give me time; aguy's got to get warmed up a little before the fur can start flying. Last weekend I had a beautiful young thing up in my room (????- ed.). The lights were turned down low, and soft music was playing. As I poured her a glass of champagne (Dom Perignon '46), she gazed soulfully into my eyes and... "Help! God damn you bastards; what the hell do you think you're doing!" came reverberating down the hall. It seems that some of the self-styled "cool" frosh on the floor were throwing one of their number into the showers. When asked what the occasion was, one of them explained, "Oh, it's just a hack." Well I think it's about time that certain people in this house were informed that such "hacks" are not appropriate for Friday or Saturday nights. When a name tag is up on a door, it means that the owner has a date in his room and doesn't want to be disturbed. This includes horseplay in the halls. It's about time we realized how childish certain forms of

hacking are and that in Baker House on Friday and Saturday nights they just don't go. Let's try to present a relaxed, informal image and not one of a house full of hell-raising, grubby tools. If nothing else, just remember that maybe that girl you grossed out or that guy you disturbed will be fixing you up for the next party.

I was quite shocked a couple of weeks ago while walking through the first floor when I came upon a puddle of water outside a room. (???- ed.) It was explained to me that while the occupant was in the room with his girl, a "friend" placed a bucket of water against the door in such a way that it was impossible to leave the room without getting flooded. Then on some pretext, this unfortunate soul was made to open his door. The result was inevitable and certainly must have ruined the evening for the couple involved.

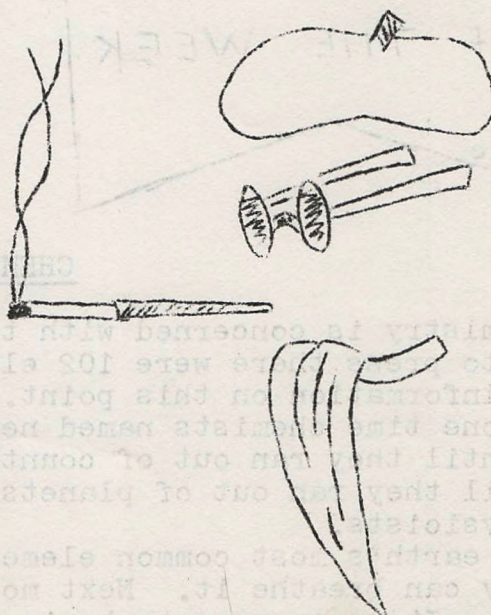
As I was going through the second floor again on a weekend night, there was evidence that some sort of perpetual water fight is going on up there (2nd floor yacht club perhaps?- ed.). The other floors are no better. I say let's grow up. If there is so much untapped energy in this house, why not put it towards house athletics and other constructive projects instead of making it unpleasant for fellow Bakerites. Our House Hours are limiting as they are without having the evening filled with interruptions from unthinking people out in the hall.

So much for the commentary, now for some information. This should be a good weekend socially for Bakerites. Friday night supplies us with mixers at Regis, Cambridge City Hospital, and Fischer Junior College. Regis is out of the question without a car, but they have lots of mixers, so they must be horny. Hardly anyone has heard of Cambridge City Hospital; but if it runs true to form for nursing schools of this type, the girls may be fun-loving but very high-schoolish. Fischer girls have been reasonable at times, and I hear the band is really great.

The Stud Center Discotheque is Friday night, but at this time I know very little about it. Tech Show is on this weekend; and best of all, our very own social committee is providing us with a party Saturday that even I wouldn't want to miss. It looks very good, and hopefully there will be a sharp increase in attendance as well as a sharp decrease in financial loss.

Please send Rick Badzik (602) your comments on the Bitchin' Post.

"The \$tud"

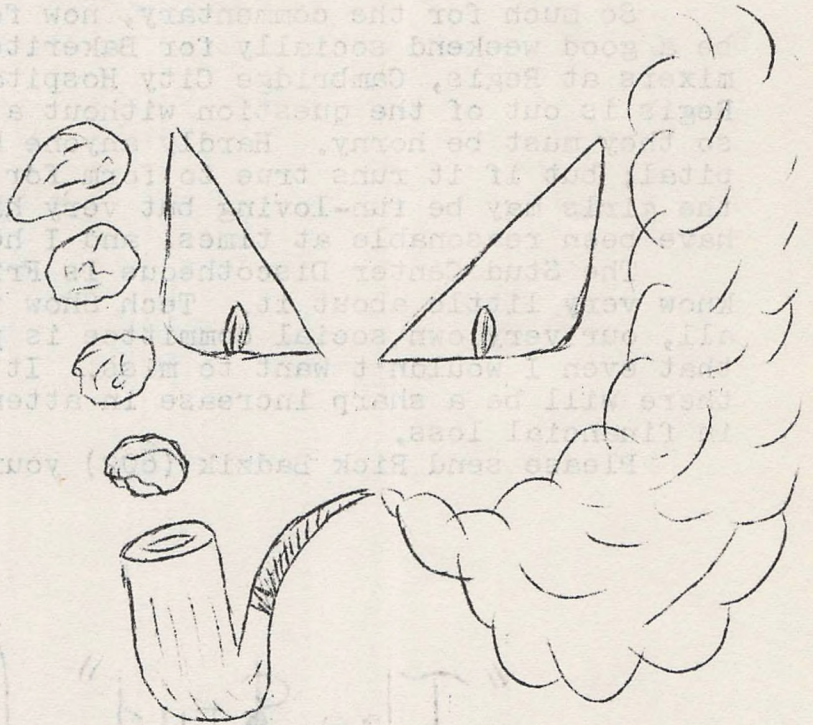


CHANGE, CHANGE, ALL IS FLUX!

Since so many people have been turning in their articles at the very last moment and since my typists have been plagued with tests with astounding regularity every Wednesday night, in the interests of my health and the health of my cum (If I'm going to flunk out, I'd rather be enjoying myself than working on B*L.) I'm going to have to move the deadline for most articles up to 7 PM Tuesday. If you have any gripes, I can always use another typist, so watch yourself!

I'm instituting (there's that awful word again) a new feature in B*L: each week a special award will be given to whichever one of you left-handed, spastic clods turns in the most illegible, unreadable, poorly composed crock of manure of them all. Start twitching early, since competition is extremely keen.

This week, I'm happy to announce that "JOCK'S CORNER" was absolutely the worst article I've ever seen (I can't use "read" in the real sense of the word). After all the work of decoding, I expected to be disappointed with a bright, interesting column; but whichever one of you clowns wrote (I use the word loosely) that bit of hen-scratching didn't fail me with a good article. Actually, I know which one of you is responsible---the one with both arms in casts.

CHEMISTRY

Chemistry is concerned with the elements and their compounds. As we went to press there were 102 elements. See your daily newspaper for further information on this point.

At one time chemists named new elements after countries. This continued until they ran out of countries. Then they named them after planets, until they ran out of planets. Chemists now name new elements after physicists.

The earth's most common element is oxygen. It is so common that everybody can breathe it. Next most common is silicon, which nobody breathes. It never pays to be in second place.