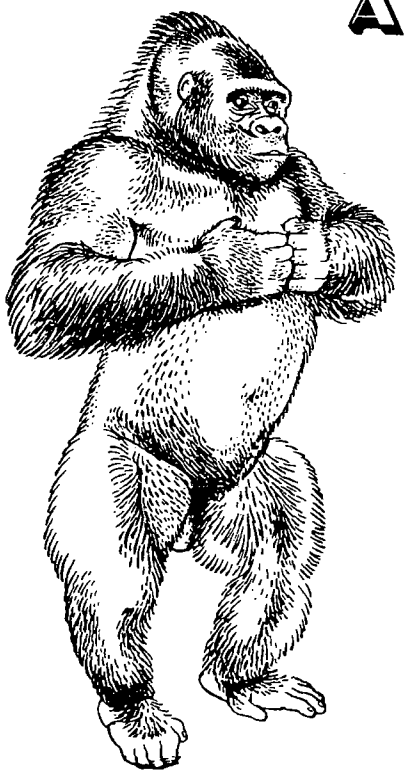
JOIN THE

FRIENDS OF A. I. CARTWRIGHT



THE TECH TROGLODYTE

VOL. XVI
SPRING, 1978

UNCLE BILL

CAST:

Lor Windle Editor Extraordinaire

PRESIDENT

Edward "Diddly-Dip" Devine

VICE-PRESIDENT

Charles "Upchuck" Shorten

SECRETARY

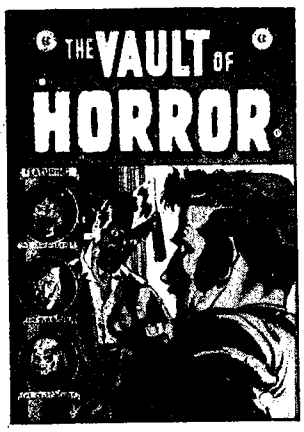
Jeannie "Peter Pan" Nye

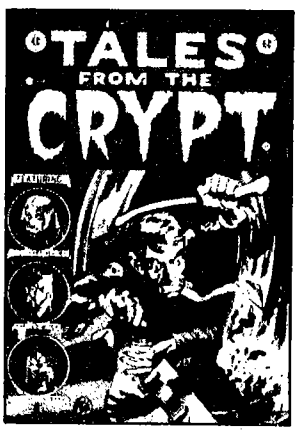
TREASURER

Richard "Boo" Croft

Trogs .75¢ per copy or by subscription. Contact Editor, V.P.I. Grotto, P.O. Box 471, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060. Since a new editor will be taking over after this issue, look for possible policy changes in the next issue of The Tech Troglodyte.

TALES OF TERROR





Comments from A. J.

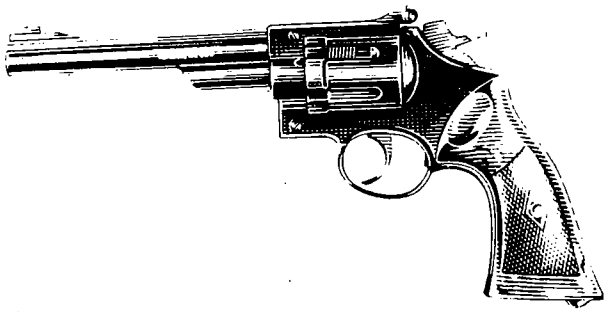
Due to a number of circumstances beyond the control of the editor, the president was unable to give any insight into his upcoming battle with apathy and all that. So it came to pass that the editor approached me in the underground haven that I call home that is known to you as Clover Hollow. The editor appeared to be a reasonable chap even if he kept addressing me as "Mein Fuerher". Well, he convinced me to talk to you all in place of the absent president. So O.K.

First off, I am becoming concerned with the way that the Cavers have been dwindling in this area. Sure, there are lots of so called "wild-cat cavers" running around, but they lack the organization that is so important. And that is what worries me. The VPI Grotto is losing so many members that they are going to find it rough to get somebody for every job. And once people start doubling up on jobs then the quality goes down. So I need to exhort all of you to take out the potential members and bring them into my domain so they can see my wonders and be converted into the true troglodytic faith. Once underground, I can dazzle them with my antics and The Great Black God Chernobog can impress them with his awe. But we need to get them underground and only you can help. So take them where we can get at them and don't overwhelm them with your great parties and gatherings (because somehow some people get scared by too much greatness). Just bring them to me and I'll see to it that we keep our underground in good hands.

Keep on Troggin',

A. J. Cartwright

Reflections



Its spring, 1978. And here is anotner Tech Troglodyte. Did I hear someone say, "Big Deal"? Maybe. But for me it is something of a big deal. I know I didn't manage to get a songbook out, but its hard to work unassisted without becoming demotivated. This is also an important point because this is my last Trog. This is notice of resignation for me as editor effective as soon as this issue is dispersed. I wish my successor luck.

This being entitled reflections, I feel entitled to make said reflections. I stumbled my way through five years of college and two degrees. Except for the first week of my freshman year, I have been a member of the club. I have been Parliamentarian for four years, Program Committee Chairman for three years, Trog Editor for three years, and Club Chaplain for two years. All these posts shall be vacated this spring. I was also Secretary for one year and Vice-President for two years. I also was the last caver in 3072 Pritchard. I nicknamed Cornhole Carter (by accident), created the D.T.C., and created Nazi Magoo. I have been a Trainee of the Year and a Reckless Driver. I have caved with the great (myself), the near great (Don Davison), and the not-so-great (Tuna).

But all horn-blowing aside, it has been a rich period in my life. I have met many interesting people, learned how to handle myself in curious situations, and had one hell of a good time doing so. I know how ridiculous all this sentimental B.S. sounds, but I do believe that in the cave of my heart the stalactites shall drip tears at the thought of leaving.

Concluding, though, I would like to admonish the club to take care. The club is supposed to cave and it is therefore imperative that cavers are in the club. This means either present members must continue to cave or new cavers must be brought in. Viewing the turn-over rate we have, hopefully both actions will be taken. If we (and that means you-all) can get our act together and not scare trainees because of wild parties or emphasis on partying and keep them around by active caving (even trips to tough caves like smokehole or link's would help). I know it is possible; it's just a question of doing it. Again, good luck.

Signing Off,

LOR M. WINDLE

There are many kinds of years. There are calendar years and fiscal years and academic years. Here at VPI we don't care about that sort of nonsense. All we care about are good years and great years. Well, unfortunately, it was only a good year this time. But here you have it...it's called

Grapevine '78

All right then, let us consider what makes it a good or great year. Traditionally, I have started this column out with a bit of information concerning old A.I.'s throbbing heart: The romance of the membership. Well, we got a few live ones this time. First off, Richard Cooper (once perennial trainee, finally turned member) has taken another big step by going from perennial dirty old man to happily wedded husband. It is a frightening story. Her name is Debbie Massa (now Cooper, of course). He met her just before Halloween and she bewitched him. They were married March 18 in Blacksburg. Robyn Loud upheld tradition by getting sick on the way to the wedding. But the ramifications of this event are even more frightening. Jim Bearden and Carol Godla announced that they were getting married July 1 in D.C. Also following this wave was Phil Sica who proposed to his girl friend in the furnace room of the VFW hall where Banquet party was held. Not to be left out of things, Dave Bell grabbed the nearest available trainee and fell in love with it (fortunately, it was a her). Her name is Jeannie Nye.

Other exciting news includes the fact that Donnie Carter has picked up a new (and larger) car. The corncob-mobile has been replaced with the cornhusker. John Mosely (once cornhole's roomate in Pritchard) has made motions towards becoming the new Nixon-Boy! Lor Windle is flying again and warns the world to beware.

But all is not roses in the world. The VPI Grotto is going to suffer some fairly heavy casualties this year. Carolyn Lewis is departing to Oregon and Doug Olsen. Lor Windle, Phil Sica, Carol Godla, Donnie Carter, and Jim Bearden are all graduating and leaving. Bill Koerchner, though graduating, will stay on as a grad student in order to supervise the conquest of (hopefully) much more underground passage.

So it looks like old A.I. Cartwright is going to have to make it alone does it? Well, not completely. There are still plenty of die hards still around pushing passages and such. Bill Koerchner and Paul Kirshman (known by many as the "Kirch Brothers") have grunted their way through toil and trouble and have emerged with over three miles of passage in Spring Hollow. They also claim it to be the deepest in the county (and are rumored to be digging for the world title). Don Anderson has worked with Tom Vines and the Caver Certification Program. Don's son, it is told, is going to pull some ears with the connections he has made at the governor's ball to try to get the cave conservation act into some semblence of order. Speaking of order, we had elections this spring and wound up with a new crop of officers. Ed Devine has secured the presidency except for this Spring Quarter when Vice-President Chuck Shorten will preside. Notes will be taken by pert, young Jeannie Nye acting as Secretary, and our gold will be scrupulously hoarded by Treasurer/miser Richard Croft. For inaccurate representations of them, see the first inside page.

We have, of course, manages to drag some poor, innocent, screaming victims to the alter of membership. Actually it is not as bad as it sounds, but the sparse collection would seem to indicate some sort of stigma to that effect. Since last Trog three more members have struggled up the ladder of motivation and entered the sacred fold. These are Richard Croft, Ben Johnson, and Jeannie Nye. Their membership numbers are 201, 202, and 203 from Ben to Boo to Peter Pan (as Ben, Richard, and Jeannie are nicknamed). It is hoped both by the Honorable Cartwright and by the Author that this indication will be sufficient incentive to get the members off their respective gluteal's and into the speleo region of "caving". It is my personal opinion that there are a number of anal openings that need to have bilateral orchidectomies performed on them...Figuratively to members of the feminine gender also!

So much for politics. As far as that goes, so much for what I have to say. And thus so much for the Grotto Grapevine...And so much for the Trog...and the Club, and the world andlife and [illegible]

LORD WINDLE

Staying Young Together

If you marry a caver (I'm a she and it, I mean he's a he), you will certainly go caving with him among other things. Caves, I am sure you have noticed, have varying passages, most often composed of crawls if you end up living in West Virginia as I have. After many mean unprintable comments and divorce decrees while crawling, you realize that something must be done or you will soon be single again and will find yourself with only one income.

My reccommendation to hold this marriage together is--**KNEE PADS**! Yes, knee pads. They saved my marraige.

Take one pair of coveralls, split the crotch seam open from bottom of right leg to bottom of left leg. Cut out an ensolite pad to fit from side seam to side seam and length as desired. Sew on inside of one leg and then the other. Resew inside leg seam.

There you have it! Knee Pads! They are great. Everytime my husband and I go caving and crawling he raves and rants about how great a marriage we have.

Thank You Knee Pads and other things.

USELESS

D. T. C. NEWS

Dave Donison
c/o D.T.C.
P.O. Box 471
Blacksburg, Va. 24060

The D.T.C. is still here. Admittedly, we have not been able to oversee all drinking accidents in the N.S.S. There have also been several serious reports of injuries within the Virginia Region. It is rumored that there is an occassional puke near VPI Grotto, too. So we must all face up to the facts that we are not the image of perfection we wished ourselves to be. I'm close, but still may have a fault or two.

Work progresses slowly with the D.T.C. One of the biggest problems is financial support. We are working on a program to educate novice party-goers to tools that can be found at home that help with parties. This is the Party Utilization of Kitchen Equipment (or "PUKE" as it were). We also need donations to the Beer Analysis Research Fund (called "BARF"). Any contributions should be mailed to us at the above address. Also research has ended on the ultimate drinking vessel (see the report on this page). It should be noted that this is a report and not an advertisement. As such, we accept no responsibility on the product itself.

Pukes and Near Pisses

1H: EARLY IN THE MORNING AT A VAR, I WAS DRINKING BEER. I WAS DRUNK, BUT I STILL FELT GOOD. I WAS CAUTIOUS, THOUGH. WHEN I LOOKED DOWN INTO MY CUP I THOUGHT "IF I DRINK SOME MORE, SOMETHING IS GOING TO HAPPEN. I HAD ANOTHER TO FIND OUT WHAT. I NEVER DID FIND OUT BECAUSE THE NEXT THING I KNEW I WAS OUT IN THE GRASS, FEELING POORLY, WITH PUKE IN MY HAT. SOME OTHER POOR SUCKER HAD THROWN UP NEAR THE FIREPLACE. IT WAS ONLY FOUR DAYS LATER THAT I FOUND OUT THAT THAT OTHER POOR SUCKER HAD BEEN ME.

It should be fairly obvious from this tale that the adage about "Curiousity killed the cat" holds true in many numerous situations.

2H: WHAT IS THE BEST THING TO DO WITH ANY ALCOHOL THAT IS LEFT OVER AFTER A PARTY?

Drink it. If you are up after a party you obviously still need a drink. If you have revived after the party then you will need the drink to recover.

SuperMug

Mfg. under patent number 3,013,917 in U.S.A.

What does it take to make a superior style of a drinking vessel? It should be large, but light. It should be well insulated to keep your drink at the optimum temperature. It should be strong enough to withstand rowdy drunks and rolling Toyotas. It must be a comfortable grip to handle. In fact, two handles would be ideal. The lip of the mug should be contoured to fit your lip. Now, after much research, here is the SuperMug, which has it all.

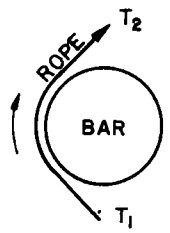
This has definately got to be hailed as a true-to-life miracle of technology. Made out of machined aluminum, this mug is designed with an airspace in between inner and outer layers. This hollow construction gives lightweight characteristics to a large and durable product. The hollow space also creates a superior thermal capacity, which means your liquid will stay cooler longer. Twin handles are designed to fit your grip and the edge will fit your lip. It weighs only .9 pounds, but will hold 16 ounces. The SuperMug has been tested to 10,000 pounds axially and 5,000 pounds laterally. The handles have been tested to 7,500 pounds. Finally, it has an adjustable flow depending on the vertical axis angle. It is very much worth it. Watch for future sales notices.

RACK ATTACK !

The intent of this article is to demonstrate the basic principles of the rappel rack and then to give some basis of comparison between different types of racks. For those who do not wish to read through the whole article, Figure 4 gives a good summary of the results.

For the first section, the rope is assumed to be very flexible so that it has no resistance to being bent. The next step is then to determine the friction caused by running a rope over a round bar. This proves to be quite simple, since most beginning statics books derive this basic relationship, which is:

$$T_2/T_1 = e^{au}$$



where:

T_2 = Tension in rope after rope goes over the bar.

T_1 = Tension in rope before rope goes over the bar.
($T_2 - T_1$ = friction)

a = Angle change over bar in radians.

u = Coefficient of friction (sliding, not static, coefficient).

Notice that nowhere in the equation is the radius of the bar required, only how far it goes around the bar in radians. So the same amount of friction would be generated by a 90° bend over a 3/4" bar as would be generated by a 90° bend over a 1" bar.

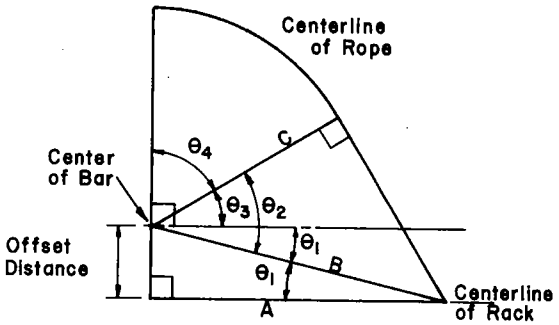
Next, the geometry of the rack must be taken into consideration. Since the spacing of the bars can vary a great deal on a rack, a few simplifying assumptions are made:

1) The rope leaving the rack and the rack are in line with each other,
2) The rope entering the rack and the rack are in line with each other (Note: For comparison purposes, the angle that the rope enters the rack will make no difference, since it will only add an additional multiplication factor.),
3) The bars are evenly spaced along the rack,
4) The rope is flattened over the bar so that the distance from the center line of the rope to the bar is approximately equal to 3/16",
5) The effect of wear grooves in the bars are neglected, and
6) U is constant.

To determine the angle change over the bars, the relationships in Figure 1 were used. Since the T_2 force of the bottom bar becomes the T_1 force for the next to the bottom bar and so on, the relationship for the system is as follows:

$$\frac{T_1 \text{ (top bar)}}{T_2 \text{ (bottom bar)}} = e^{a_1 u} + e^{a_2 u} + \ldots e^{a_n u} = e^{u}$$

In other words, add up all the angle changes for all the bars and treat that total angle change as if it were around one bar. Figure 2 shows the θ_4 (angle change around a bar) for 3/4" and 1" bars. Figure 3 shows total angle change for racks.



BLOW-UP OF FIRST BAR

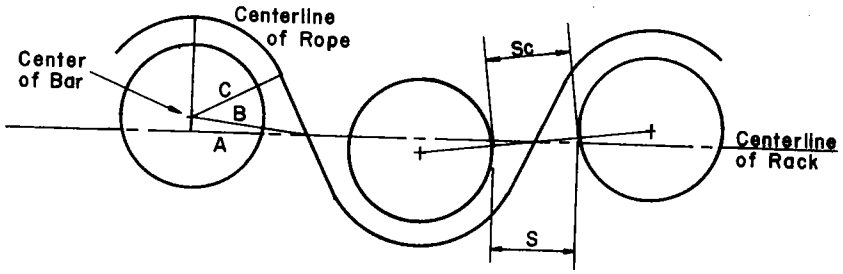


Figure 1

R = Radius of bar

S_c = Minimum clear distance between round bars--measured on axis between center points of bars.

S = Minimum clear distance between square bars--measured on axis parallel to the rack.

A = R + S/2

B = R + S_c/2

C = R + effective radius of the rope $\approx$ R + 3/16

θ_1 = Arc Sin (offset/B) used for round bars
= Arc Tan (offset/A) used for square bars

θ_2 = Arc Cos (C/B)

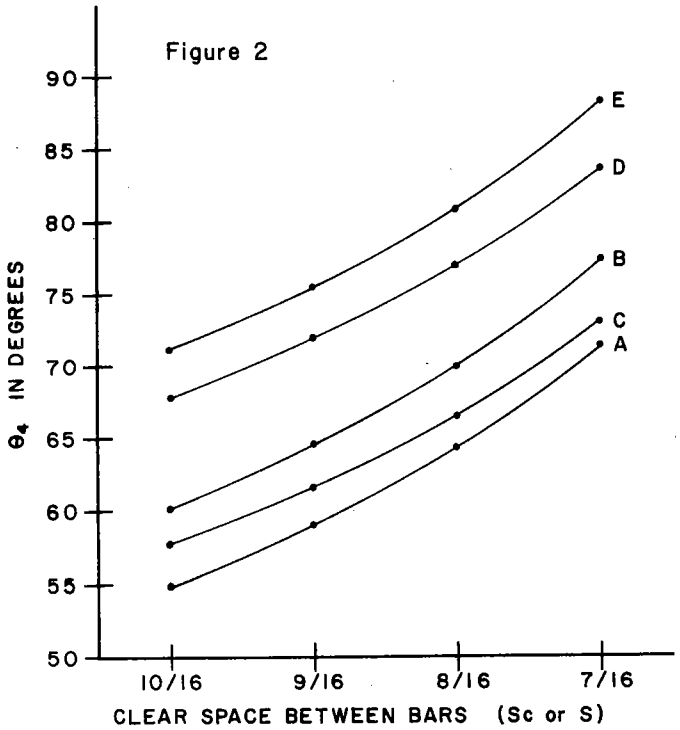
$\theta_3 = \theta_2 - \theta_1$

$\theta_4 = 90 - \theta_3$ answer in degrees

Angle change caused by exterior bar = θ_4

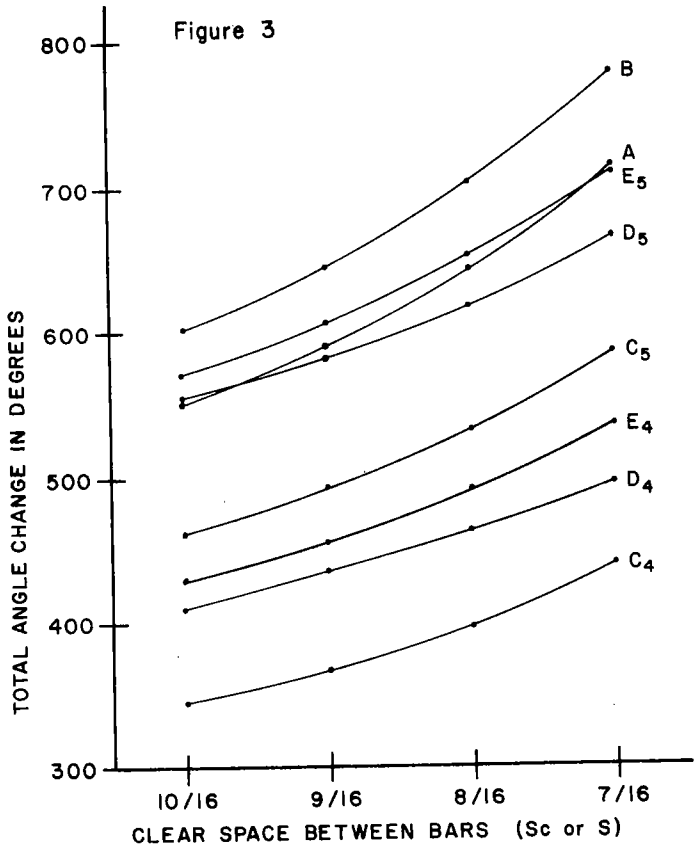
Angle change caused by interior bar = $2\theta_4$

Figure 2



A = 3/4" bar 0" offset
B = 3/4" bar 1/16" offset
C = 1" bar 0" offset either cut
D = 1" bar 3/16" offset square cut
E = 1" bar 3/16" offset round cut

Figure 3



A = 6 3/4" bars 0" offset
B = 6 3/4" bars 1/16" offset
C_4= 4 1" bars 0" offset either cut
C_5= 5 1" bars 0" offset either cut
D_4= 4 1" bars 3/16" offset square cut
D_5= 5 1" bars 3/16" offset square cut
E_4= 4 1" bars 3/16" offset round cut
E_5= 5 1" bars 3/16" offset round cut

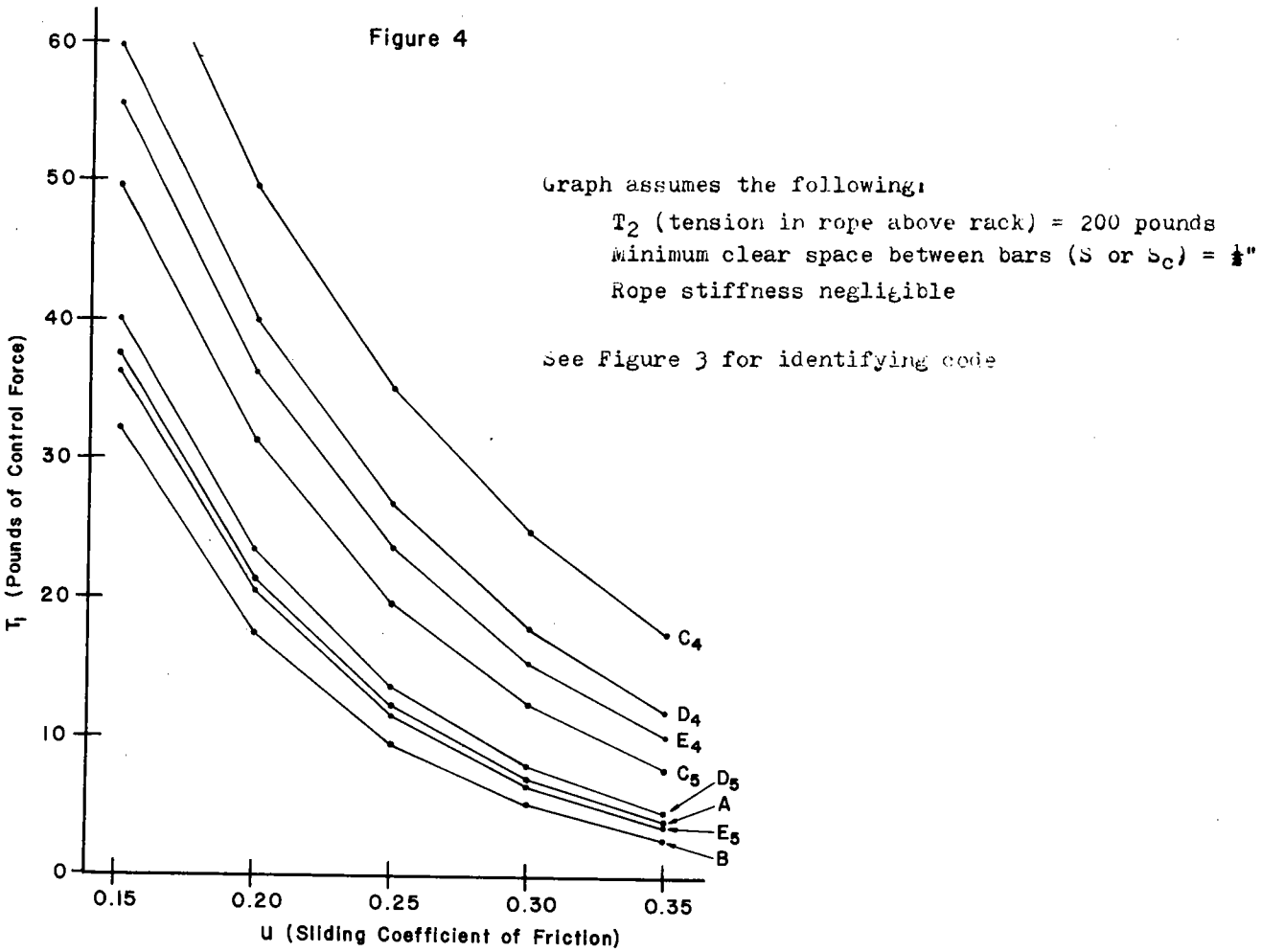
Note for the case where there is no offset, the 1" bar has a larger O_4 than the 3/4" bar with no offset, which means it will generate more friction. But if the 3/4" bar has a 1/16" offset, then its O_4 becomes larger than the O_4 for the 1" bar with no offset. Figure 3 shows clearly that even if the 1" bar generates more friction on a one-to-one basis with the 3/4" bars, the four 1" bars would not equal six 3/4" bars.

In an attempt to increase the amount of friction a rack using 1" bars can generate, a few modifications were plotted in Figures 2,3, and 4. On the basis of a 3/8" hole, leaving 1/8" metal at the bottom of the bar, a 3/16" offset is tried. Note that a square cut and a round cut bar with offsets have different O_4 for the same spacing and offset. This is because the square cut bar must be spaced further apart along the rack than the round bars to give the same minimum clear space.

This may not seem to be a fair way to compare round bars to the square cut bars, but if round bars with offsets can be pushed closer together and still give the same minimum clear distance to prevent pinching of the rope, then this is an attribute that should be considered.

To give a feel for the magnitude of the frictional forces generated by the different racks, Figure 4 was developed. In this graph, T_2 (tension in the rope leaving the rack) is held constant at 200 pounds. The resultant T_1 force is then equivalent to the force required to maintain a constant rate of rappel. The U factor is the sliding coefficient of friction (sliding coefficient is generally 20% less than the static coefficient of friction in other common engineering systems). For this graph the minimum clearance was held constant at $\frac{1}{8}$".

Figure 4



Graph assumes the following:

T_2 (tension in rope above rack) = 200 pounds

Minimum clear space between bars (S or S_c) = $\frac{1}{8}$"

Rope stiffness negligible

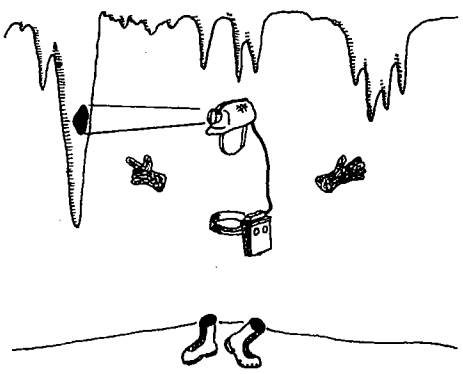
See Figure 3 for identifying code

Up to this point only the effect of friction caused by a normal force over the brake bar has been considered. At this time perhaps a word or two on some other frictional types of forces is in order.

If the bars are pushed too close together, the rope is pinched between the bars, causing the rope to bind at those points. With the possible exeption of the two top bars, which sometimes have spacers anyhow, I don't believe that this type of resistance will be very great. As the bars get closer together, the angle of departure from the bar begins to approach a perpendicular andle to the rack axis. This means that the force caused by the rope to slide the bars together drops lower and lower. At the same time, the force that pushes the bar against the rack frame increases, which in turn increases the friction between the rack frame and the bar. The result is to decrease the net force that could force the bars into a pinching action.

Another very important frictional force is caused by the rope's resistance to being bent. If the rope is very flexible and has zero resistance to being bent, this force would be zero. In rope like new Bluewater II or III, which is very flexible, I believe the resistance caused by the many bends would still be small. To get a rough idea of how large this resistance is, clip a rack onto a piece of rope and pull it through, being sure not to apply any tension on the rope feeding into the rack. Of course with an old stiff piece of rope, this resistance can be very large. I believe this bending resistance would be related to the sharpness of bend (not how far it is bent, but what it's radius of curvature is) and number of bends it has to make in a rack, i.e., the sharper the bend and the more bends there are, the more resistance would be produced. From this point of view, six 3/4" bars should generate more resistance than four 1" bars. But still, as flexible as some of the braided ropes are, I believe that bending resistance should be neglected in determining the capabilities of racks. If a stiff rope is encountered, bars can always be taken out or spaced to accommodate the additional resistance.

It is not the object of this article to conclude which type of rack is best, but only to give some basic idea of how they will compare in ability to generate friction. But one thing can be easily observed; if five square cut bars with a large offset are used to make a rack, this rack should have similar capabilities as a standard six 3/4" bar rack. This new five-bar rack might possibly be less susceptible to rope stiffness which would give smoother control on old rope that has sections of variable stiffness.



GARY
MOSS

Vampires!

Specialization in the Digestive Tract of the Vampire Bat

The Vampire Bat resides primarily in the warm climes of the world. As its name from legend implies, the Vampire drinks the blood of its victim. The manner in which this is accomplished, though, differs radically from legend. In fact, in order to perform its own life-sustaining processes, the Vampire Bat has evolved characteristics different from the rest of the Chiroptera order. I shall view the digestive system in the Vampire Bat and show how it is specialized to perform its functions.

The skull of the Vampire Bat is broad and the rostrum is greatly reduced in order to accomodate the large tooth structure. Of the twenty teeth the Vampire Bat possesses, only two have a distinct purpose. The two large upper incisors are curved and sharp. They are used to gouge a wound in the skin. There is some dispute as to what the canines do. One source said the large upper canines are only used for defense.[1] Another source stated that the upper canines were beveled and were used to shave off layers of skin and hair with a sidewards motion of the head.[2] The two lower canines and the four lower incisors are much smaller than their upper pairs and have no specific purpose. There are also ten molars that have no function in the blood-drinking bats and is considered to be of a vestigial nature. This tooth structure is for the Desmodus rotundus, the common Vampire Bat. Its two rarer relatives have a similar arrangement although possessing 22 and 26 teeth, respectively. The lower lip of the Vampire is cleft and the tongue can be curled downward to form a tube-like arrangement. Blood is primarily drawn up into the mouth through tongue contractions similar to peristalsis. Other means include capillary action and some lapping actions of the tongue. Additionally, "As the blood flow lessens, the tip of the tongue is used gently to agitate and thus stimulate the welling fount."[3]

The Vampire Bat has more than just teeth and tongue to aid him in seducing a victim. There are anti-coagulant enzymes in the saliva. The Vampire has been seen to lick its victim prior to biting him. This may be a method of applying the anti-coagulant or it may just be a means of testing the victim's alertness. It is also possible that the licking may apply an anesthetic enzyme, too. This conjectured enzyme has not yet been proven to be produced by the Vampire Bat, but it is suspected to be a possibility. Another possibility is a depilatory enzyme designed to remove hair from the wound. Still more room for speculation is in the purpose of the unique Buccal gland that produces a foul odor. It may be that this odor keeps the victim in a sleeping state while the Vampire Bat finishes his meal.

A normal Vampire Bat will drink 15-16 milliliters of blood per day. This can be from one or several sources. An average meal will take about twenty minutes and can fill the bat to a state where he can barely walk, much less fly. To accommodate this large intake, the Vampire Bat has altered its internal digestive features as well as its external ones. The primary digestive tract consists of a T-shaped gastroesophagealduodenal junction and an elongated tubulat stomach. The cardiac end of the stomach is drawn out into the shape of a long tube which folds in onto itself in order to pack away in the body cavity. During feeding, both the stomach and the intestines distend and stretch the skin until a gorged Vampire Bat looks bloated and nearly spherical in shape. There is no appendix or caecum off the intestines. Due to the shape of the Vampire Bats stomach, scientists believe that they may have a clue as to the evolutionary process that has created the Vampire. "Such a modification of the stomach might easily have been derived from the type seen in some of the fruit-eating bats in which the cardiac end is already enlarged, so that one might suppose that the vampires were first fruit-juice eaters and later learned to puncture the skins of animals to secure their juices."[4] One of the major functions of the T-junction digestive tract in the Vampire Bat is that it is designed to facilitate several purposes at once. During feeding, the blood flows down into the intestine and then overflows into the stomach. The stomach is the primary site for the absorption of water into the system. Thus, the Vampire Bat can simultaneously handle the immense liquid diet through both its stomach and its intestines.

The Vampire Bat can so fill up its digestive system that it has been estimated that it can consume as much as thirty to forty percent of its own weight in a single meal. To handle such a massive volume, especially of liquids, the Vampire Bat has altered its urinary tract as well as the other alterations. One means of handling the increased liquid is via diuresis. The Vampire Bat begins diuresis two or three minutes after the feeding process starts and reaches a peak several minutes after feeding has ended. The diuresis is extremely high reaching a maximum output of four milliliters per kilogram of body weight per minute. This quantity is four times the maximum output found in laboratory rats. It is an high indication of the specialization of the system since it is usually only found in animals with high water intake. The variable urine flow is characteristic of the Vampire Bat and is related to the need to increase extracellular space.

Not only does the Vampire Bat have to contend with a large liquid diet, but due to the fact that it consumes nothing except blood, the diet is low in carbohydrates and fat and extremely high in nitrogen content. This high nitrogen level is balanced by the fact that the Vampire Bat can concentrate its urea. This concentration of urea is found to be higher in the Vampire Bat than in any other mammal tested. The purpose for the urea is to minimize water loss through urine and more rapidly and effectively reduce the nitrogen content. The Vampire Bat lives in an environment that is often not conducive to life-forms that require an intake of water on a regular basis. The Vampire Bat, therefore, lives on a strict water budget. It does not compensate for this water need by drinking and storing available free water, but rather restricts water loss by having the kidney concentrate the urine.

In conclusion, it can be clearly seen that the Vampire Bat has developed a number of specific characteristics in order to best adapt to its particular needs and environment. These adaptations range from external factors such as teeth, tongue, and lip to internal structure such as stomach and intestines to internal functions such as diuresis and urea concentration. These factors have combined to create a very effective digestive system that functions in an unfriendly environment. Moreover, the system works on an all-liquid diet of blood.

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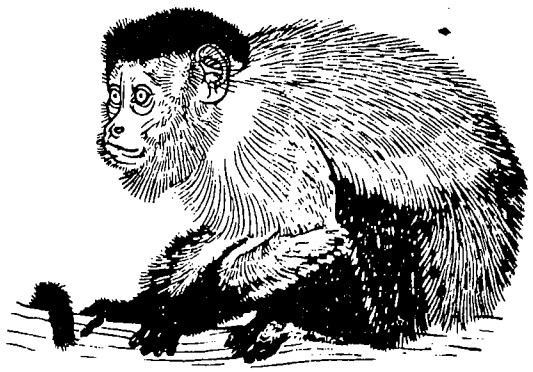
END-NOTES

1. Novick, p. 120.
2. Mohr, p. 56.
3. Peterson, p. 152-153.
4. Allen, p. 144.

Helen
Hamilton

The Polish Dog Barks



(Apologies to Marty Robbins)

To the town of Blacksburg drove a stranger one hot day.
Hardly spoke to folk's around him, didn't have too much to say.
No one dared to ask his business, no one dared to make a slip.
The stranger there among them had a beer mug in his grip.

It was early in the morning when he drove into the town.
He came driving from the southside, slowly looking all around.
He's a drunkard who's been drinking, came a whisper from each lip
And he's here to do some chugging with the beer mug in his grip.

In this town there lived a drunkard by the name of Caver Ed.
Though men tried to out drink him, all these men were gone and dead.
He was vicious and a puker and a punk of twenty-four,
And the notches on his beer mug numbered one and nineteen more.

Now the stranger started talking, made it plain to folks around,
He was a West Virginia drinker, wouldn't be too long in town,
He came to out drink puker Loud, alive or maybe dead,
And he said it didn't matter, he was after Caver Ed.

Wasn't long before the story was relayed to Caver Ed,
But the drunkard didn't worry, men that tried before were dead.
Twenty men had tried to drink him down, twenty men had made a slip,
Twenty-one would be the drunkard with the beer mug in his grip.

The morning passed so quickly, it was time for them to meet.
It was twenty passed eleven when they walked out in the street.
Folks were watching from the windows, everybody held their breath,
They knew the redneck drunkard was about to meet his death.

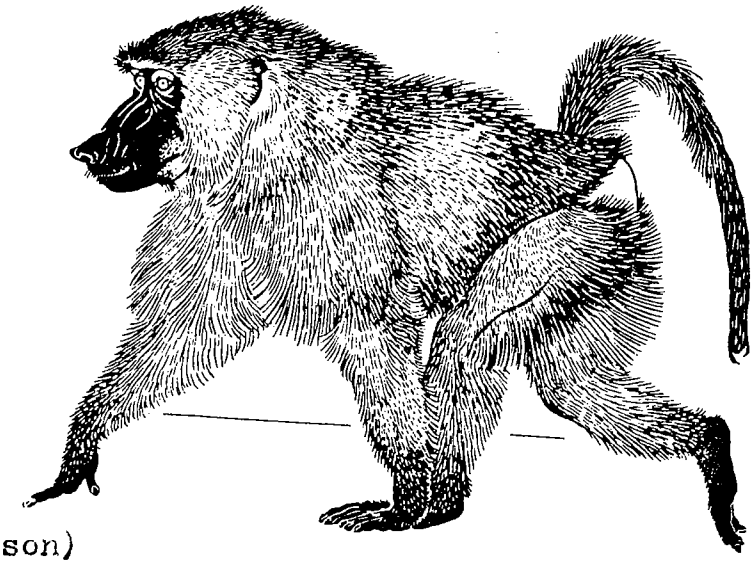
There was a keg between them when they stopped to make their play,
And the swiftness of the stranger is still talked about today.
Caver Ed had not yet lift his mug, when a belch was heard to rip.
The drunk had chugged his first one down with the beer mug in his grip.

A look of fear crept in Ed's eye, but he hadn't started yet.
He chugged one down and plenty more, his match he had not met.
The nausea, the shakes, the sick, came from the rotgut lager.
Up came the puke, a dead cold sweat, and Ed began to stagger.

It was over in a moment and the folks had gathered round.
There before them in the puke and muck lay a body on the ground.
Oh, he might have gone on living but he made a fatal slip
When he tried to match the stranger with the beer mug in his grip.

MARK SLUSARSKI

Drunken Bum



(sung to "Pendulum" by Don Davison)

The first time that he saw the keg, the tapper was a-flowin',
Foam sat heavy on the beer, but his thirst was growin',
Filled up with a thirteen-ounce with brown and yellow foam;
Six point four type Miller trying to get him home.
Six point four type Miller trying to get him home.

Drinking up that liquid near the beer kegs stead,
He's drinking up the slack and now he's drunk off his head,
Alcohol slams his brain cells, inhibition's driven down;
Food goes out, Beer comes in, and dizzy all around.
Food goes out, Beer comes in, and dizzy all around.

Ten gallons still before him, that he cannot think,
Slowly putting down the beer--now piss, now pour, now drink,
From gulping down the gallons, to sipping down the suds;
Though slow and steady wins the race the liquor's in his blood.
Though slow and steady wins the race the liquor's in his blood.

He cannot count his drinks now, his concentration's poor,
Alcohol has robbed his body of the will to care for more,
His legs and arms hang leaden as he drinks that bev'rage down;
His mind it wavers feebly all around the town.
His mind it wavers feebly all around the town.

They tried to drink the keg with him, but he wouldn't let them near,
His gut was small, the keg was large, he could not drink that beer,
He puked there in between the toilet and the door;
You will not see him drinking in your campinggground no more.
You will not see him drinking in your campinggground no more.

LOR
WINDLE

Once upon a time there existed the nation of Nazi Germany. It was a corrupt dictatorship. It proclaimed that the "thousand year reich" was the ultimate form of power in the world. But the thousand year reich lasted twelve years only.

In 1967 the dorm hall named Pritchard came into existence. It was corrupted by masses of cavers. At its height of power, operating under the dominion of a caver leadership, Pritchard was proclaimed to be the greatest entity in the world. The strength of Pritchard lay in the mass community inhabiting the third floor. Unfortunately, like its analogy to Nazi Germany, Pritchard was not invulnerable. It lasted only ten years. This is a history of those years.

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE 3RD FLOOR

Pritchard first opened in February of 1967 to handle the refugees from Campbell Hall, which became a girls dorm. Russ Peterson was in the initial assault on the 3rd floor, taking 3083. In Fall of '67 Pritchard was completed and Glen Davis and Ed Morgan established headquarters in 3072. Bobby Lewis semi-lived in the room also, even though he wasn't a student. When Ed became president and Glen vice-president this room began to become the focal point for activities. At this time the club had a bulletin board at the end of one of the wings where they kept the sign out sheet and other propaganda. Other residents included Danny Wright, Tom Roehr, Tom Vigour, Carl Eddy, Don Laffoon and others. Barlow replaced Morgan when the latter graduated at the end of fall quarter, but the room remained popular as a center of activities. Alan Armstrong used 3072 as a departure point for his mid-night runs to the Roanoke Krispy-Kreme Donut Shop. Spring Quarter was quiet as Davis decided to flunk out with Armstrong. But Pritchard was now popular and the influx of cavers gauranteed that there would come a reckoning.

Gary Moss replaced Glen Davis. As Moss relates it, he arrived before 3072 with no key and no idea what to expect. When he knocked on the door, he heard a growl and a thump as a body jumped out of a bunk. The door was thrown open and there stood Barlow stark naked. Moss says that he "almost got sick." Meanwhile, Frieders became Resident Advisor (R.A.--police action) in 3040, joining Lauren Huffman as a pro-caver R.A. Steve Hall lived in 3044, but moved in with Winston Harmon in 3047. Bill Park lived with Dennis Webb (before he became a caver) and the two constantly feuded. Their room was physically divided by a hanging sheet. Dennis complained to the authorities and Frieders was notified to do something. Frieders wound up getting Dennis interested in caving. Bill Park wound up flunking out. The year saw many roofing expeditions from Mike Hayes and Don Laffoon's 6th floor room. The two of them also regularly dropped water on Tom Roehr on the second floor. When poured water and then water balloons failed to hit their target they resorted to tying water balloons to their rope and swinging them out and through Tom's window. Bob Barlow tried to gas out Huffman on election night '68 by putting carbide down his own drain and plugging it up. The attack failed and Barlow had to play plumber to clear the air. Pete Schnaars replaced Moss Winter Quarter. Guy Turenne also appeared on the scene at this time. Spring Quarter was quiet but even more cavers were signing up for 3rd floor Pritchard at this time.

By Fall Quarter of 1969 there were over fifteen cavers on 3rd floor alone. In 3072, Barlow and Schnaars; 3040, Frieders; Loud and Turenne lived in the upper 3rd, Craig Ellenfield and Peterson lived in 3083, Douty, Hogan, Laffoon, Webb and others were around. It was at this stage in the developing saga of Pritchard that Don Laffoon, primarily as a joke, gathered up petitions nominating Doug Perkins, Ed Loud, and Bill Douty as vice-president, secretary, and treasurer, respectively, of the Lower Pritchard House Council. The house council was an internal organization of residents designed to provide open houses (visitation of the opposire sex), run projects, make money, and keep activities active. Most people were fairly apathetic about who ran the council and the vote would have been fairly even just owing to luck. But the preponderance of cavers swung the tide. To everyone's amazement, the cavers won. Fortunately, the President of the council thought like a caver or could be persuaded to think like one, even though he wasn't a caver. Very quickly the various committee chairmanships were distributed out--to other cavers, of course. Peterson took charge of running the open house and who could be more perfect for discipline than Bob Barlow. Since all officers, committee chairmen, and floor representatives each had one vote, the control of the council by cavers was firm.

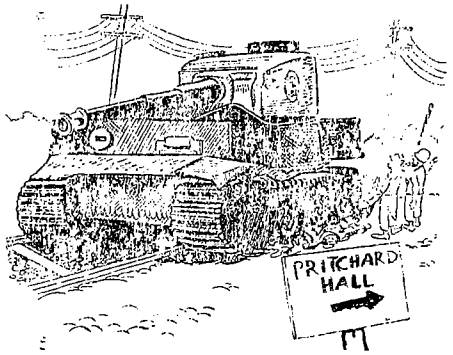


Figure 1:
From 1969 to 1971, the obvious high-water mark of Pritchard, all the world was fair game. Perkins instigated a right-wing policy that definately reminded one of a similar society.

Under the rule of the cavers, Pritchard flourished. Donuts were sold below cost during exams, open house was always held. Peterson would assign cavers as dorm monitors and no matter where they were they would sign forms stating that, to their knowledge, all had gone well. Every so often someone would still get caught doing something they weren't supposed to, though. It was then up to Barlow to find some excuse to have the charges dropped. Thus, Pritchard was the most trouble free open house dorm on campus. The council did not encourage any athletic support, but they did allow homecoming displays to be built by interested parties. The high point came when the cavers were able to convince the non-cavers on the council of the need for a mimeograph machine. So the obsolete mimeo Tom Roehr had bought some time ago for the Trog was sold to the house council for $50. The cavers ruled in Lower Pritchard with an iron hand and numerous policies reflected this. The Council voted against amnesty for those who demonstrated against the Corps of Cadets. A flier was put out in favor of the National Guard actions at Kent State. But eventually the year ended in a party at the Greek's Celler with $270 worth of food and drink. Sixty people attended (only one caver, though) and Bill Douty left $5 in the treasury for the next year.

Other events that became memorable was the water battle where Mike Hogan pulled out his penis and chased someone (thought to be Guy Turenne) down the hall with it. Ed Loud resigned from his position as secretary because he resigned from school. The position was never filled because they couldn't find another caver to take his place. Feeling low, Ed lead the drunken group to revelry at the Pizza Hut. He lived with Turenne in 3044 and would stagger home every night. One night, though, a crowd was hanging around as Ed tumbled into bed and passed out. A few minutes later though, he jumped up, pinballed down the hall, and puked his guts out in a bathroom stall. It used to be the Rocky Raccoon stall, but Ned Coleman spray painted "Another Ed Loud Memorial Toilet" on the entrance door and a legend was born. Soon the E.L.M.T. name spread and became famous. Loud resigned but would be haunted by his own legacy in years to come.

1970 was a year of conflict. Tuna Johnson and Pete Schnaars lived in 3072. Perkins, Ned Coleman, Stoutenburgh, Webb, McClevey, Douty, Cooke, Lutz, Harmon, Ellenfield, Hogan, Gross, Paga and Parrott all lived on the 3rd floor. There were other cavers on other floors. But things were in turmoil. This was the last year for Huffman, leaving the Pritchard Cavers at odds with the R.A.'s. The mimeo and lack of money in the Council account led to charges of mismanagement and having bought the mimeo for our own use. These charges were never substantiated (in fact, Pritchard won the award for third best house council the year the cavers ran it).

About the only event of importance occurred in Spring of '71 when the freshmen were signing up for dorm rooms in the T.V. lounge. A gang of cavers lead by Huffman and Perkins marched in carrying clubs, chains, etc. Douty pulled the T.V. plug out and Perkins stood on a chair to read a list of unacceptable people: From the Unamerican Activities List!

Fall of 1971 showed the beginning of the decline. Tuna and Parks held 3072. Stringfellow and Snelling, Webb and Rolf McQuery, Coleman and Altman, Douty and Cooke all held the 3rd floor. Tuna was earning a reputation as his third year in Pritchard began. Stringfellow was to rival him in a short time. It was a quiet year. Perkins remembers one fine night when he passed out in String & Snellings room. He awoke feeling poorly, saw what appeared to be a grate on the floor, and threw up in it. To his amazement, the puke stayed there. It was only in the light of day that he discovered that he had mistaken the lines of design on a rug for a grate.

By 1972 it was apparent that the decline was serious. There were only around ten cavers in Pritchard. Tuna was still in 3072, but Redder would replace Parks in Winter Quarter. Cooke roomed with Slusarski, Stringfellow had Perkins, and Rolf picked up Tom Calhoun. The cavers were in a state of siege; both with the R.A.'s and with the jocks. Football tickets were publicly burned and displayed, all sorts of degrading comments were displayed on the doors. Perkins had the "Name the Nazi" contest on his door. Due to this intense war, Stringfellow rigged up a fire alarm in his room 3058. At the beginning of Thanksgiving break, before people were to be gone, an R.A. came by checking on the rooms. Sure enough, the 3058 alarm went off. Tuna, in 3072, heard it. The R.A. ran up the hall and begged him to turn it off. Tuna pulled out his hearing aid, walked into 3058, and unplugged the alarm. But Tuna was not a hero. This year the walls and stalls proliferated snide remarks about him. He finally confronted someone with an accusation and got in well over his head...and the accused was probably innocent. Tuna had other problems. One night he locked himself out of his room and crawled out another window to try to get back into his room. Perkins set up lights and spotlighted Tuna in mid-traverse from Lutz's room. All Tuna grunted was "Oh Goddamn" as he froze on the wall.

Elsewhere, Mark Slusarski roomed with Cooke in 3045. One night Mark got sick and puked out the window. Unfortunately, he knocked Cooke's alarm clock out and he threw up on that, too, as it dangled by its electric cord. Cooke was confused when the alarm went off the next morning. Discovering his clocks position and its unsightly condition, he unplugged it and let it fall. They both graduated that Quarter and Denton requested to be put in their room to restore order. Perkins not only got Denton in, but put Thor Brecht with him. One night Cheryl Jones ripped the Trog off of Denton's door and Denton, suspecting neighbors, spray painted their door. Having done nothing, they feared getting this misanthropoid upset; especially since he used to carry a mace around with him. Winter of '73 also saw Loud return to school and Pritchard. His roommate was awed by the fact that here was the man whom the stalls were named after; the E.L.of E.L.M.T.in person. In Spring of '73 Stringfellow's mother got him a private phone. She had called up and got the old "Pritchard abortion clinic--you rape 'em, we scrape 'em, etc" routine. The phone was forthcoming.

In '73-'74, the number of cavers dwindles to seven. Redder, Wood, Stringfellow and Mike Richardson held 3072 and 3058. They converted 3072 into a study lounge and 3058 into their sleep quarters. Thor, Benton, and Calhoun also lived on the 3rd floor. The days of glory were over and the cavers struggled to hold on. Mike Wolf took over 3072 in '74 and held it by himself. Donnie Carter moved to 3075 and Lor Windle revived the 3rd floor with Wolf in 3072. Retaliation was the order of the day as many doors suffered when 3072 was marred. Nightly music kept irritated residents up. "Convoy" blasted forth (with occasional "Green Berets"). Lor Also designed the "circuit-breaker breaker" to plunge the hall into darkness. Wolf left in Spring '77 and Ed Devine moved in. Though quiet, he helped. But it was all to no avail. In Spring of 1977 Lor Windle left 3072 and 3rd floor Pritchard after fighting for two years. The last caver was gone. Pritchard had fallen.

Pritchard's defeat has to be viewed in the light of other events. In the late '60's-early '70's off campus palaces like the Airport Road House, The Dump, and the Aux. Dump served as party spots. At first, this was good, but then these places became the meeting points and the dorms lost favor. More people moved off campus to have some place to party and meet. In the mid '70's VPI started a lottery system to see if you could stay on campus. Once people could not be guaranteed to stay in the dorms, the security and appeal were gone. So the dorms died out. It was society that ended 3rd floor Pritchard as a way of caver life.

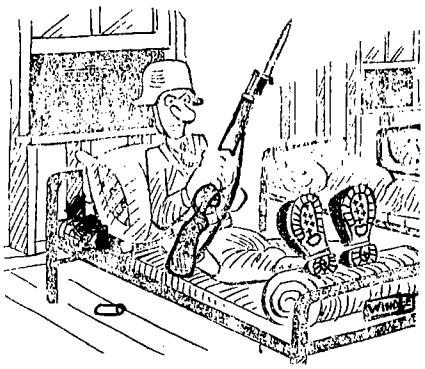


Figure 2:
By 1975 the end was in sight. But Lor Windle moved in and fought a bitter delaying action against both the R.A.'s and the residents. This lasted for two years. After ten years 3072 went down.

Year	3072	3rd Floor	Pritchard
1967	Glen Davis Ed Morgan (F) Bob Barlow (W&S)	Russ Peterson	Wright, Roehr, Vigour, Eddy, Laffoon
1968	Bob Barlow Gary Moss (F) Pete Schnaars (W&S)	Peterson, Frieders, Hall, Harmon, Park, Webb, Turenne	Wright, Roehr, Kayes, Laffoon
1969	Pete Schnaars Bob Barlow (F&W) Tuna Johnson (S)	Peterson, Frieders, Douty, Wedd, Loud, Perkins Turenne, Ellenfield	Laffoon
1970	Tuna Johnson Pete Schnaars	Perkins, Coleman, Webb, Page, Stoutenburgh, McClevey, Parrott Douty, Cooke, Lutz, Harmon,	Talmadge, Hamm
1971	Tuna Johnson Bill Park	String, Snelling, Slusarski Webb, McQuery, Douty, Cooke, Coleman, Altman, Lutz,	Talmadge, Page Parrott
1972	Tuna Johnson Bill Park (F) Jerry Redder (W&S)	String, Perkins, Cooke, Denton, Slusarski, Brecht, Calhoun, Redder, McQuery	
1973*	Jerry Redder Randy Wood	String, Mike Richardson, Brecht, Denton, Calhoun	
1974	Mike Wolf non-caver		Donnie Carter
1975	Lor Windle Mike Wolf	Donnie Carter	
1976	Lor Windle Mike Wolf (F&W) Ed Devine (S)	Cornhole Carter	

* In 1973-74, 3072 and 3058 were shared with 3072 being the study room and 3058 being the sleeping quarters.

This list is probably incomplete because many records are incomplete and many memories fail. I apologise to those I left out (although some may not wish to have been remembered).

LOR WINDLE