

# Politesse Politesse Politesse

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The DIJAGH-proclaimed Dale City newsletter of face-to-face D.C. Diplomacy serving the Middle East for a number of lunar cycles

Issue 5 March, 1983

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## GREETINGS

Is your Diplomacy set gathering dust simply because there's no one around to play the six other countries? Are your German pieces facing out of disuse? Last week, did you spend hours trying to assemble a quorum for a game only to fall one player short? Let's face it. Dip players can't be found under every rock. The 1982 hobby census identified fewer than 1,000 in North America. By publishing Politesse on a monthly basis, we seek to provide a method by which Diplomacy enthusiasts can readily identify potential opponents. If you wish to host a game, announce the date, time and place in Politesse. Want to play but can't host? We will print your name, carry game reports with supply center charts and end-game statements, and other items of Diplomatic interest.

Politesse is available at very reasonable rates. The rates are guaranteed to be reasonable, in fact, because you decide what you wish to pay. Simply send a check made out to Ed Wrobel to 3932 North Forestdale Avenue, Dale City, Virginia 22193 and specify the number of issues you are buying. You can receive the newsletter for free by mailing us a postcard with your name and address and the word "PoliNet" written on it.

## MARYCON

This is a special issue of Politesse, produced in cooperation with Mary Washington College and going out to a much wider audience beyond the usual MD-VA-DC area. The reason is MaryCon, a Diplomacy tourney to be held at the college in Fredericksburg, Virginia, June 4 and 5. Although a regional con, this will be a major league event with two rounds, one Saturday and one Sunday, overnight dorm accommodations with a meal plan and some unique awards. The cost is quite modest: Registration is just \$4.00, a room for Saturday night and three meals is only \$23.00 (includes registration). The attached flyer has all the particulars, and is suitable for copying and displaying in your window, local hobby store and Dipzine. (PUBBERS, PLEASE NOTE!!) Those of you living in Maryland, Virginia and D.C. may find that attendance at MaryCon this year will be an investment in the future. There is every reason to believe that Mary Wash College will host a tourney each summer if MaryCon '83 is well-attended. Wouldn't that be nice?

Ed Wrobel

## HADAGAME

Myers Game number 2/83C was held February 10 at Monroe Hall, Mary Washington College, Fredericksburg, VA. Your humble editor was so astonished to find himself sharing the lead at 8 centers in 1905 that he allowed "Coastal Crawl" Byrd to draw him into a dishonorable conspiracy. Be wary of men carrying Bibles and promising riches!

	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	
A John Thrall	4	5	5	6	5	2	3	3	
E Greg Byrd	5	4	6	7	8	9	10	11*	
F Mike Tennyson	4	5	2	1	1	2	0		*E/G draw
G Dick Warner	6	6	8	8	8	8	10	12*	
I	4	4	4	2	1	0			
R Dan Huffman	4	4	3	3	3	3	1	1	
T Ed Wrobel	5	6	6	7	8	10	10	7	

This game was designed to playtest the MARYCON site, but because we were a player short, it also became possible to try out the six player variant calling for two years of programmed moves for the missing Italian (See Politesse #2). Ed Wrobel, the variant's evangelist, gave up Italy joyfully in order to play Turkey, a power for which he claims to have a mystical attachment.

Diplomacy in the East was dictated by the Ottoman craving for Italian supply centers, for the Turk immediately offered Austria an alliance against Russia. With unity and dispatch Bulgaria, Greece, and Sevastopol fell to the Turks while the Austrians seized Serbia and Rumania. Germany came to Russia's aid immediately, allowing the Tsar to occupy Sweden and to utilize a German army in Prussia to shore-up defences. This pinned down Austrian and Turkish forces and was instrumental in slowing their offensive in Italy.

Diplomacy in the West was only indirectly affected by the "variant". Germany attempted to enlist France in a scheme to invade England, while England promised to neutralize the Channel and to attack Germany. Dazzled by Iberian and Italian supply centers, the French wanted the neutrality pact, but blew it by dragging out negotiations with Germany over the fate of Belgium! French avarice produced English anxiety, so as the Brest fleet set out for the mid-Atlantic, the London navy slipped into the Channel.

It was love at second sight as Germany and England supported and reassured each other. France fell rapidly. Britannia built navies, challenged the Infidels for control of the Mediterranean and Italy, and gained the upper hand there by game's end. The Huns built armies and seized all of the Russian homeland, except Sevastopol which was regained from the bewildered Turk on the last turn by the unforgiving Tsar.

As stalemate lines developed, England intentionally built to threaten Germany, and then approached the Turk with the old argument, "it's getting late", pledging to attack his ally in return for an Ottoman advance against Austria. The Turk stabbed perfidiously. Albion did not. Realizing his error, the Infidel frantically attempted to rebuild his disgruntled ally, only to get the counter stab that his treachery merited. It cost the Turk three supply centers on the last turn and lost him any claim to a share in the victory.

As this game was played, it appears that Konrad Baumeister's objections to the "variant" are groundless. His argument that the adjacent powers would gain advantage by somehow neutralizing Italy is idealistic. Their lust for Italian supply centers corrupted them, while the honorable alliance triumphed. Indeed, it may be an advantage to play a power not facing Italy in order to avoid temptation.

Come to

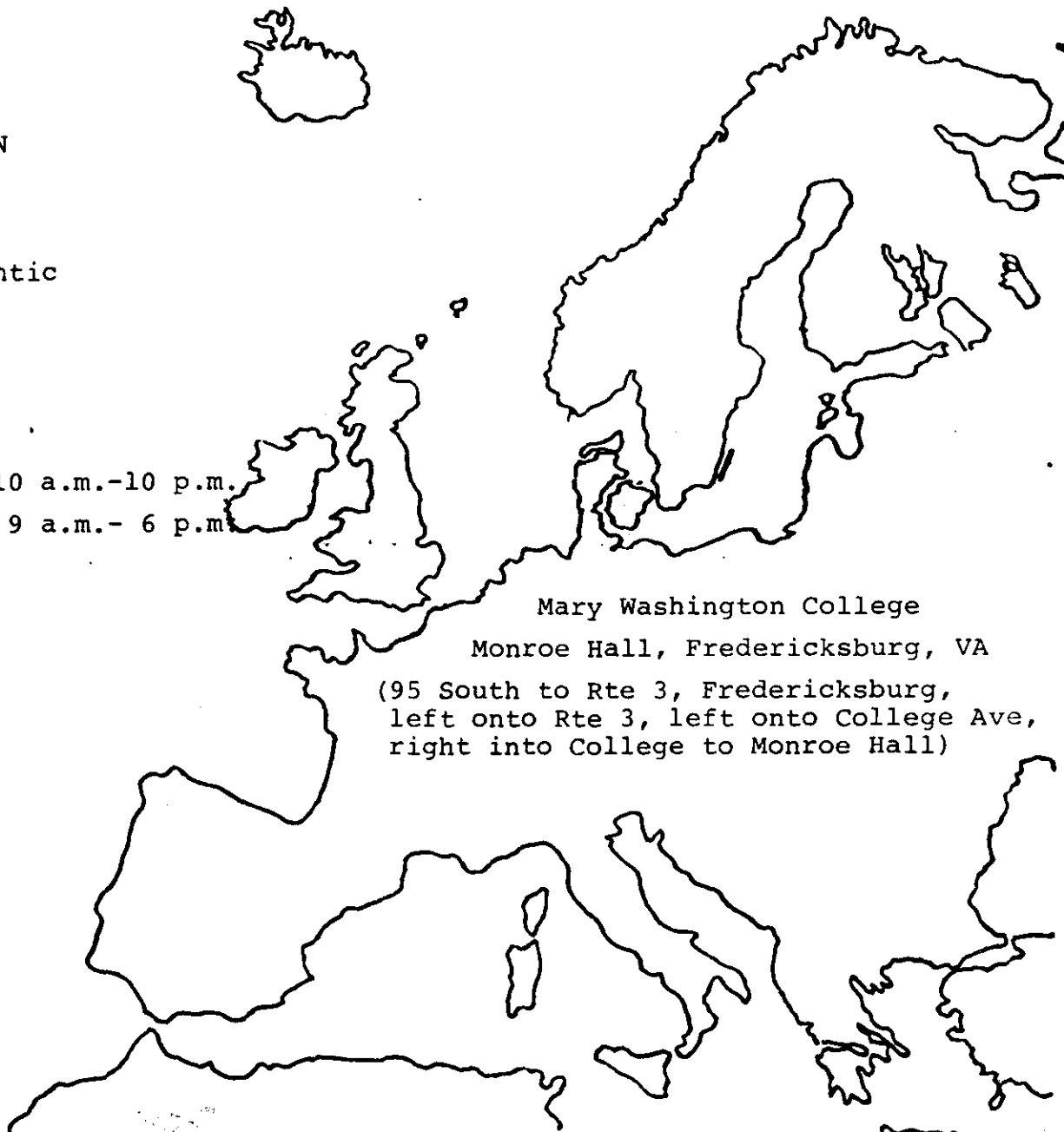
MARYCON

The Mid-Atlantic  
Regional  
Diplomacy  
Tourney

Saturday, 6/4, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.  
Saturday, 6/5, 9 a.m.- 6 p.m.

Two Rounds

Awards for  
Top Players



Mary Washington College  
Monroe Hall, Fredericksburg, VA  
(95 South to Rte 3, Fredericksburg,  
left onto Rte 3, left onto College Ave,  
right into College to Monroe Hall)

Sign me up for MaryCon!

Mail to:

Jeff Breidenstein  
P.O. Box 4791-College Station  
Fredericksburg, VA 22402

Enclosed is my check or money order, payable to  
MaryCon, for:

\$23.00 (includes registration, a dorm room  
for Saturday night, Sat lunch and  
dinner, Sun breakfast,

OR

\$4.00 (registration only)

My name and address are correctly shown on  
the reverse

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

HAVAGAME

We regret the typographical error which occurred in last issue's announcement of The Fool's Game, namely the misplacement of an apostrophe. A minor error, you might say. Alas, no. A Fools' game is a game of fools, while a Fool's game is a game held on the Fool's Day (or thereabouts). So there are still a number of openings in this game, destined to become a Dale City annual classic. As noted last issue, we hope to recruit seven players so that your editor will be free to act as gamesmaster and reporter. Thus, we will capture a bit of the negotiational action to supplement the usual end-game report. The game will be held at 3932 North Forestdale Avenue, Dale City, VA, beginning at noon on April 2. (Phone number is (703) 670-3489).

WHADJAGET

Thanks to all who commented on the proposed MaryCon scoring system. There was some sentiment for awarding points for a four-way draw as well as some concern about decreasing the number of points awarded to a winner if there was a strong second. Your opinion would be greatly appreciated. The system is as follows:

- Winner (no strong second) 34
- Winner with strong second 24
- Two-way draw 17 (each)
- Three-way draw 11 (each)
- Strong second 10
- Each survivor (including winners/drawers) 01, per supply center

At least ten centers are necessary to qualify for a textbook strong-second. A concession to win/strong-second can be made but must be unanimous, same as a draw. There will be limitations on who can be voted win/strong-second, to avoid concessions to weak powers, perhaps the two together must control 18 centers. Changes will be made based on the somments you make.

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SUPPORT MARYCON  
June 4 & 5  
Fredericksburg, VA

