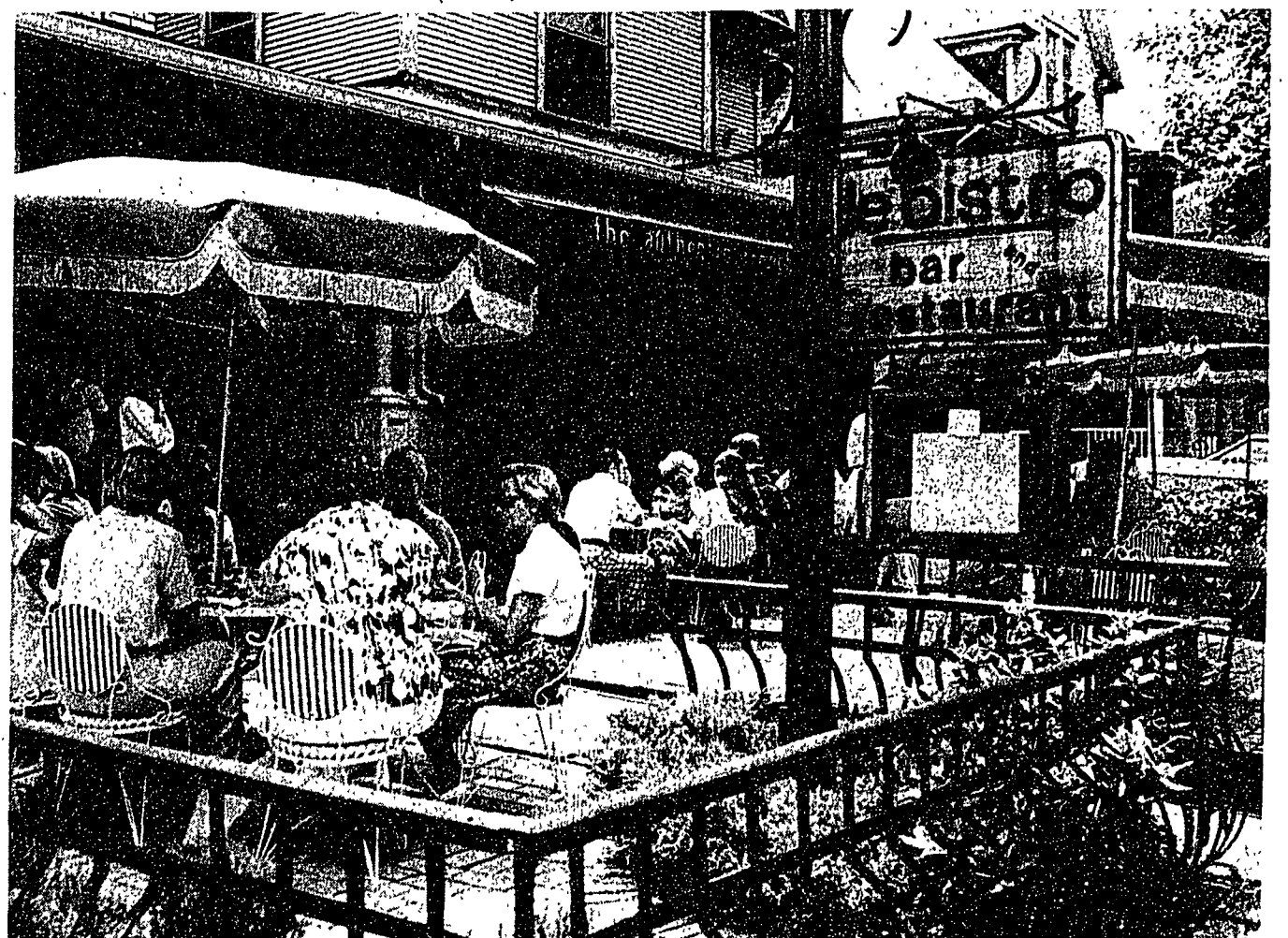


The sun streaming through the rafters above suggests a pensive mood at the Coffee Grinder; "Les amis" luncheon at Le Bistro and La Chaumiere.



## Sidewalk cafes' charm makes socializing easy

By LYNNE MARGOLIS  
Collegian Staff Writer

America finally is catching on to a concept that's been popular in Europe for ages—sidewalk cafes.

These outdoor restaurants have been springing up everywhere, and State College is no exception.

Walking down W. College Avenue, one can't help but notice the charm of La Chaumiere and Le Bistro. This restaurant-bar has taken a slice of life straight from Paris and recreated it in downtown State College.

Authentic French foods and all types of drinks are served to patrons who leisurely watch the world go by from their white wrought-iron parlor chairs.

Of course, some people think it's the other way around— that passers-by are gawking at them.

One man said he didn't like people "watching me with my nose in a drink." Another joked: "The State College police come by every 15 minutes to see that everything is under control."

Fumes and noise from street traffic were cited as other problems for La Chaumiere. But the restaurant recently has devised an alternative for its customers— Le Bistro Bar Garden, which opened about a month and a half ago.

An enclosed, secluded area with dark wooden beams suspending lush green

plants, the Beer Garden is situated behind the restaurant.

Picnic tables offer more space for those who bring lots of friends. Beer, wine and simple mixed drinks are served in the Garden.

There also is an appetizing menu, and the dishes are prepared outside. The incredible aroma makes it hard to resist ordering a late-night snack while enjoying the warm air and conversation.

And that's what people said they like most about outdoor cafes. Warm, sunny skies or cooler star-lit nights are conducive to relaxing, socializing, or just having a good time.

The Trainyard is the newest offshoot from the Train Station restaurant, behind the main restaurant off E. College Avenue. The Trainyard functions mainly as a bar, but Cattle Car hoagies also are allowed (and encouraged) to be enjoyed outside.

Surrounding a raised platform-patio are several picnic tables, potted trees and an authentic flatbed wagon from the old railroad days. The patio's umbrella'd tables and yellow chairs seem to add an aura of sophistication to the open atmosphere.

That open atmosphere seems to be the main attraction of any outdoor cafe. Several people said they were appreciative of a chance to escape the hot, smoke-filled indoor bars. A Trainyard

patron said she was happier outdoors because "there's no obnoxious music."

"People seem more at ease outdoors," according to another Trainyard customer. "They can't kick you out," he added, "(because) you're already here." The nine-to-five workers said they were especially appreciative of the chance to unwind outdoors.

The Trainyard was cited as a favorite Happy Hour place by most of the patrons.

"When I'm not at La Chaumiere," declared one enthusiastic customer, "I'm here."

She said the Trainyard was a pleasant place to spend the afternoon or early evening, "before hitting the indoor bars."

"Release Valves," the famous Train Station drink, are quite popular outside. Frozen strawberry daiquiris run a close second. At Le Bistro, French 75's are requested often.

But the Trainyard is said to have the "most interesting drinks, like the "Big Ape," a very large apricot sour, named after a certain gorilla.

Drinks are by no means cheap at either place, although prices are reduced during Happy Hours.

So if you like to escape to the country, wet your whistle at the depot watering hole, or pretend you're in Paris, one of these places should be just right for you.



The Trainyard, on the "younger" side of town, attracts the student crowd.

Photos by Sally Hunter (top left) and Patrick Little

## Cohabitation:

### Couple views arrangement as 'marriage in spirit'

By DIANA YOUNKEN  
Collegian Staff Writer

(Editor's note: This is the first of a two-part series on couples who are living together).

"In my neighborhood we don't live too good

The rooms are small  
And the ceiling's made of wood  
I hear the neighbors talking 'bout you and me

I guess I've heard it all  
'Cause the rooms are small  
And the walls are much too thin."  
— from Randy Newman's "I Don't Want to Hear it Anymore"

People used to talk about only a brave, liberal few who chose living together over marriage.

But the number of couples living together these days has increased significantly. According to a March U.S. census report, some 1.3 million persons are sharing living quarters with an unrelated adult of the opposite sex— double the figure in 1970.

And they come from all walks of life, from celebrities whose lives fill the daily gossip pages to college acquaintances, from elderly couples sharing social security payments to the new couple next door. "Shacking up," "cohabiting" or simply "living together" has become a much-practiced and much-talked-about national phenomenon.

Perhaps in light of the "new morality" inspired by the Carter administration, some of the talk isn't favorable.

What once was called "living in sin" apparently still applies, although jokingly in many circles, to some of Jimmy Carter's own staff.

According to a recent National Observer article, Carter drew quite a few surprises when he openly disapproved of such living arrangements and urged them to stop.

"Those of you who are living in sin,"

he announced shortly after his inauguration, "I hope you'll get married."

Ironically, Carter's motion unintentionally served to glamorize a growing lifestyle that few are likely to relinquish in spite of reigning moral attitudes.

For many cohabitants however, particularly students, the pressures from family, friends, landlords and employers, make life relatively unglamorous and difficult.

Marianne and Ted have been living

"Rather than try to fool the man and get us kicked out in the end, I gave in and told him the truth," Marianne said. "But he didn't buy it."

Marianne decided to play it safe the next time she went apartment hunting and she lied. Her current landlord doesn't know she's rooming with Ted, hence their names are pseudonyms to protect them. However, "the resident manager's seen us and I don't think he minds," Ted added.

"We don't think we're wrong and yet society makes us play these games," Marianne complained. "I don't see why

little things that matter— getting up in the morning and being together during our meals most of the time, and him being here at night when we go to bed."

"We both thought we'd benefit from the experience any way you look at it," Ted said, "as something we could learn a lot of things from."

"For the first time, we're together because we want to be together," Marianne said. "We want this to work."

"We're having to make compromises we never had to before," she added. "All of a sudden if Ted does something that perturbs me, I can't walk out and

husband-role," Ted said, "and she sort of thought of me as a roommate."

After discussing the issue they now agree they're sort of "married in spirit," and "it's a lot more relaxed," Marianne said. "We're getting to know each other a lot better."

Marriage is a future possibility but "I don't think either of us are really ready for a commitment at this time," Ted said. "We both have a lot of school ahead of us and we both want a career. There's a lot of things that we want right now. If we're married it would stand in the way of a lot of those things."

do— as a chance to get to know Marianne."

"It seems like the guys who are really saying 'ah man, it's gonna be nice,' are those who don't have or have not had a close relationship with a girl," Marianne said.

"With my friends, I make sure they understand how I feel about Ted," she added.

Ted and Marianne's parents don't know they are living together and they don't plan to tell them.

"If they ever found out they might disown me," said Ted, whose parents are paying his tuition and rent. "They would be so shocked, it would be like I had let them down in such a big way. And I don't want to do that to them, but it would be like that in their eyes," he said.

Marianne said she has discussed the issue hypothetically with her mother and "I have a feeling that she has a pretty good idea that I'm doing something like this."

Ted's parents are pressuring him to allow them to visit, but he keeps making excuses, he said. "They're supposed to come up but I'm going to try to get rid of them. If they do come up, we'll just have to re-arrange the apartment a little."

Because of his parents and because Ted and Marianne were uncertain how successful their arrangement would prove, Ted's moving out in the fall. "We didn't know if we'd be able to put up with each other or not," Ted said, "so we just decided to do it for one term."

And Marianne added: "I think we thought it was a little too risky living together more than one term."

Ted said he dreads the move but they try not to think about it. They both agreed that the time spent together this summer is not a commitment but a way of enjoying each other while they can.

And even more importantly, Marianne added: "Our curiosity is being satisfied."

*"We're here during the day for the little things that matter — getting up in the morning and being together during our meals most of the time, and him being here at night when we go to bed."*

— Marianne

*"I don't think either of us is really ready for a commitment at this time. We both have a lot of school ahead of us and we both want a career. There's a lot of things that we want right now. If we're married it would stand in the way of a lot of those things."*

— Ted

together just three weeks, and under false pretenses.

According to Marianne, they were forced to resort to drastic measures to find an apartment.

"It's surprising how devious you can be when you want to," Marianne said, referring to her initial unsuccessful attempt to rent an apartment with Ted.

Hoping to avoid any complications, she first told the realtor her "female" roommate was away and couldn't come into the rental office to co-sign the lease. Eventually she changed her story.

two people who feel so strongly as Ted and I do need to be separated from each other."

They have been going together for six months but until now "we had no free time as such so we had to join some of our activities together," Marianne said. Most of their time together was spent studying, Ted said.

"This way we're together even though we still are separated a lot during classes," Marianne said. "We each have our own lives and we don't impinge on that."

"We're here during the day for the

leave it as 'well, that's the way my roommate is.'"

"It's like starting over, just being able to be together all the time, to let the little nuances in our personalities start to bug each other so (that) we have to sit down and talk about it. And it helps us to get to know each other better and to grow closer."

Although they were convinced they wanted to move in together, neither Ted nor Marianne completely understood their new roles at first.

"When we came into this apartment I thought of myself as sort of being in a

"I think we are very realistic," Marianne said. "But she's a little bit more realistic than I am," Ted added.

"If we can keep what we have now, I think everything will work out til we do get married," he said.

Ted said that after he told two friends in the dorm about his relationship, all of the males on the floor found out.

"A lot of them think I'm getting a summer full of sex," he said. "I don't really look at it that way, but I can't change their view. The people that count, my friends, see it the same way I