

Two Bryn Mawr Juniors, Jeckle and Hyde, took their final for a 300 level math class together in a designated exam room. While grading their exams, Professor Jane noticed that many of the errors that the two students had made on their exams were striking in their similarity and unlikely to have occurred without collaboration. Professor Jane therefore asked Jeckle and Hyde to contact the Honor Board.

In their statements to the Honor Board, both students maintained that they had not cheated on their exams but that they had studied together, which could have been the source of the similarities on their exams. They also stated that they were very close and did everything together, and as a result they tended to think in very similar fashions. Professor Jane, however, did not believe that, even with two such close individuals, such unusual mistakes could have been made without collaboration on the exam itself.

The Honor Board reviewed the evidence that Professor Jane presented and found it compelling but insufficient. The students were instructed to take their final exams in separate rooms in the future and told that they were responsible for seeing to it that they did not take any more exams in situations that could be considered suspect. The students were also advised to study separately more often, as their study sessions would seem to have compounded their errors instead of correcting them.