

FEBRUARY 7

the dark disease of  
Mt Vesuvius claims  
its 59th victim

A Norse penny is  
found off the  
coast of Maine

it goes to 38 below  
in Devil's Canyon  
North Dakota

blood dissolves in  
the clay near Spook  
Rock Road Photographs

you took of me  
flatten like a fossil  
The light dazes

as glass must have  
when the deer crashed  
thru the A & P

starved for water

#### POETRY READING BENEFIT

There are the ladies  
in navy blue suits  
who leave when some  
one says prick in  
a room where you can  
hear it It's 45°  
and there's cold  
cups of apple juice  
The Indian pulls  
a blanket close a  
round him There is  
always a long haired  
pale thin woman in  
a rose flowered dress  
who pulls her arms  
close around her  
would even under a

90° sun One poet  
listens for lines  
he can use and jots  
them down on a boot  
heel None of the  
poets have watches  
the mike hums and  
buzzes and splats  
like a vest of bees  
a giant stamps on  
There is more pain  
than there is apple  
juice The poet  
who talks about  
splitting wood and  
seeing his breath  
over a desolate  
frozen stream has  
written a thirty one  
part poem about  
this Someone  
listens sniffing  
patchouli for  
something to do She  
writes a dream down  
The poet who is  
building his body  
takes off his  
clothes and reads  
a poem about how  
people prefer  
wrestling matches  
to poetry readings  
and for the first  
time so far the  
audience under  
stands what's said

#### SOMETHING IN ME

like my handwriting  
becoming harder to  
read I don't know  
if it's to make you  
read more closely  
spend more time or  
so you can't