



WE'RE SORRY.
- THE EDITORS



BARD TIMES

VOL. I NO. H

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE BARD COLLEGE COMMUNITY

NOVEMBER 19, 1981

PAGAN RITUAL BECOMES CARNAL NIGHT- MARE!

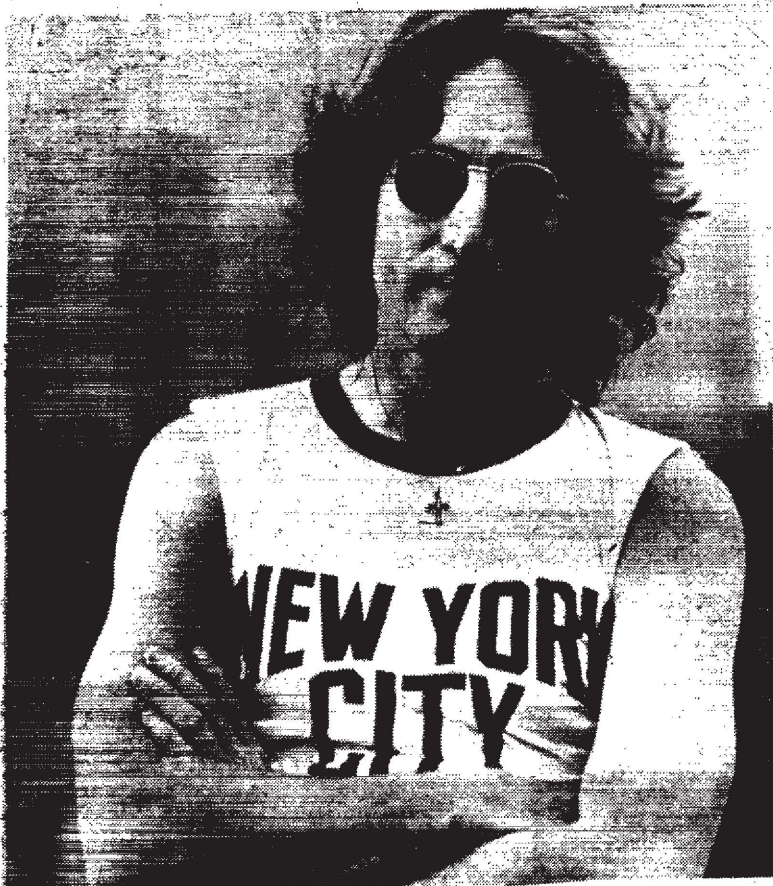
SEE STORY
AND PHOTOS
PAGES 6 & 7 !!

THIS IS IN REALLY BAD TASTE! WE'RE
SORRY. NEXT ISSUE WILL BE GREAT!
The Editors

Photo: Harold Enright



COLLEGE CO-ED FOUND BOUND AND GAGGED



LENNON IS ALIVE!

Uh, we were going to write a pretty funny story to go along with this picture and headline - you know, something like it wasn't John who was shot it was Ringo, or it was yoko, or something like that - but when we thought it over we realised that he really is dead and so it's not very funny and we'd get a lot of people very understandably upset. So, we kept the picture in there anyway because we have to fill in space. we're sorry if we offended any one.
THE EDITORS

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS....

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Dear Editor,
I have been an avid reader of the Bard Time/Observer/Times. I must admit that during the regime of Msrs. Hambleton & Lintner I was not as coherent as I was my first, blissful freshman or this year that I am now spending in what some call 'The Big Apple.'

Since moving to 'the apple' (sic) I have acquired quite a fet ish for toilet paper, yellow/brown, journalism. I buy every edition of the Post and read The Daily News, daily. Day after day I read about girls who were raped, bludgeoned, and then thrown out the 2nd story only to be impaled on the picket fence below. Or else I read about some revolutionary war heroes up in the Bronx called the Yankees who are obsessed with 'Billy Balling'.

By way of a friend and through word of mouth I now understand that E Pluribus Bardum has been influenced by the scholar himself; Rupert Murdoch. I understand that The Times is back! Hurrah! Hurrah, bravo, good deed, Decent! I am pleased to hear that you and your staff have resorted to creating and finding your own sensational stories. Bravo! Marvelous, I heard about how you guys built a synagogue at the dump then pissed on it and burned it. That really sent me!

Just got finished watching Pil Donahue talking about University co-ed bathrooms- a subject you and your journalistic staff might hook into.

Enclosed are pictures of the band-give 'em to Swindler. The Pictures of GQ are for your mother and her bankrupt estate. Please send me \$ or my fighter planes will attack you and your mother's pipe box.

I love you decently,
Harold Enright III

To all concerned,
I'd like to apologize for all the uneasy feelings you might have been confronted with, concerning the bon fire party, on the dump field. I was one of the four blacks who had attended this gathering and yes it was a little difficult for me, to pass through the woods, in the dead of night, only to be confronted with a huge cross, up front, and wild flames, and rowdy voices out back, behind the tall trees. I'm only human, therefore I would think it would go without saying, that of course, I felt some emotions, but this is 1981, and I wasn't about to let my emotions trigger an attitude without first knowing why! This alone is my only reason for wanting to go further into what ever might be going on inside and not because of this, or that reason.

I observed what was happening and although I might have had fixed ideas, I honestly didn't see anything to confirm this. This by no means suggests that I do approve of such a distastful setting, only that I always felt parties were to get people together not to push them further apart.

I would like to go further, and say to all, that I honestly believe, if this party was to have any suggestions of foul thoughts or ill feelings it had to be unintentional

because they were not expressed on the exterior of the people, I knew to be there. I also would like to say, that it was very unfair for anyone who was not at the party to have incorporated any opinion in the minds of others and all of you goody goody bullshitters, who did should feel shame, about all the negativity you shot through our community. And furthermore, if you felt any of the things you might have been thinking; maybe you, yourselves in fact, ought to examine your own pastimes on the matter. Because if you did have a problem maybe it was more internal than external, and you just wanted a reason to be heard. I would like to conclude that just in case our community is ever confronted with such a problem, it might be best if we began to think about initiating a student government, which was expelled some years back. I believe this would give us the students the power to handle our own affairs, without falling subject to those in the administration, because that little group that supposedly represents us seems to always fall short in results.

Therefore, I say to you my fellow students, lets put ourselves in a position where we can demand results and not have to request them into our rights.

Jeff Phillips

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EDITORIALS.....



Photo: Tracy Roth

VICTORY FOR EBNER

Over 250 students stormed Kline Commons one Wednesday evening. Their mission was to determine the fate of Mark Ebner, editor of the Bard Times.

P.J. Snyder, the mastermind behind the "dump Ebner campaign" addressed the forum, giving a weak ineffective and poorly constructed speech on the incompetence of Ebner. According to Miss Snyder the Bard Times is a "humorous magazine", not a newspaper of the bard community. "Since the aim of the paper is to 'please it's friends'."

Ebner, using his unique theatrical technique told the forum that anyone can contribute to the newspaper but unfortunately no one did or even helped with it.

The mood was very tense, people were yelling and shouting at random. After a long and hard fought battle, a vote was taken.

It seemed that Mark was doomed. Fortunately, the 2/3 majority did not win and Mark, with his charismatic personality, which surely saved him from impeachment, survived another obstacle in his attempts to produce the most controversial and widely read newspaper Bard has ever had. Quoting the words of a fellow student: "In other colleges this type of newspaper would be the underground one but at Bard it is the official newspaper."

The forum was a bad attempt to impeach the best thing that has happened to Bard, Ebner becoming editor of the Times. They were fighting a losing battle because nothing and no one will or could prevent Ebner from producing his "baby."

Jad Michaelson

THE TRIAL (AND ERRORS) OF MARK CHARLES EBNER

The first forum meeting I attended since my arrival to Bard was an interesting one. I was seated with a group of upper-classmen who had definite opinions on the first issue at hand; the impeachment of Mark Ebner. Being uninformed of any past events I entered the meeting with, in my opinion, an open mind. I proceeded to find that I was far more interested in the behavior of the student body than any issue that would be raised. I think I picked the perfect time to enter the scene. I have always let people have their say, even if I don't agree with the jerks.

Be that as it may, what I proceeded to observe was typical of the style of Bard in general. There seems to be a general apathy and lack of initiative in the community. Several people said they didn't submit articles because Mark Ebner was editor. That is ridiculous. Being the optimist that I am I feel that where there is a will there is a way. Idealistic you say? Perhaps. And perhaps I don't know enough of reality here to be sure that certain barbarians are open-minded and just, but I'll give anyone a chance.

I'll agree with the fact that the first issue of the Bard Times was a vehicle to satisfy "the enormous egos of the editorial staff", and it was written to "please our friends" as it was stated in Paul Spencer's

Statement of Purpose. I would also agree that it was an improper way to run a school newspaper, but what is the proper use, and how many people care enough to do something about it?

I would conjecture that a lot of people talk well, but when it comes down to actually doing something it's different case. At least this paper got some people involved, even if it was in a negative sense.

I personally found the paper amusing. If every paper published is along these same lines, however, I will be greatly disappointed. Sure these editors carry a little intimidation factor on their side, but should we assume that they don't care about anyone else? I say no, but then I'm just a lowly freshman and a product of Writing and Thinking '81.

On the technical side, the paper is definitely lacking. What are all these 'Ask Whats-his-face' and 'Dear-tell-me-your-problem' farces? One could be amusing but four gave me a headache. I can't say I really approve of misquotes, pointless essays, in jokes, or profanity for profanities sake. These are just points of style and taste, but I feel they are things that must be dealt with.

It is up to the students as a whole to put pressure, if they feel if necessary, on the editors to change things. If people are easily intimidated they should get someone who is not to do it for them. God knows there are enough pushy people around. The paper is for all of us and if there are further problems they can be dealt with. The editors now realize, I hope, that there are concerned and even outraged people in the community. If nothing changes in the next issues' contents I will be very disillusioned and possibly a candidate for some mental institution in Arizona. For now I'm just a hopeful, some say naive, student who can only hope for the best.

Diana Moser
Box 155

MARTYR AT THE PLATE

Late last fall some scholar wrote on the bathroom wall of the commons; "We are living in the year of the gun". I didn't realize at the time how true the remark really was. Violence is a part of American life that can neither be ignored or forgotten. It has been said that aggression unchallenged is aggression unleashed. What we are experiencing now at Bard is a cycle of social violence that is by its very nature aggressive. I am of course talking about the events relating to a party held at the dump some weeks ago.

What we have is a situation that is being twisted and taken out of context by a few but dangerous individuals. If you weren't at the party or are confused by the sordid accounts you may have heard, let me explain. I walked into the dump party at about 11:30 on the night of question. The first thing I noticed was a large bonfire with a group of people milling about and drinking beer from a nearby keg. Every now and then someone or a group of people would throw some refuse into the fire, be it a refrigerator or an old mattress from the late stone row. I myself participated in the aforementioned activities. Now towards the edge of area illuminated by the bon fire were two piles of garbage. But these piles had large crosses stuck in them. As I walked into the area of the party the atmosphere seemed to me to be one of a mock pagan or early christian ritual. No one seemed to pay the crosses any mind until people were fed up with scavenging thru the dump for trash to throw in the fire. It was then that this dreadful event that has sent this community into an epileptic fit happened. Now would you believe that someone took those crosses down from their lofty perch and actually poked them apart and threw them into the hell spawned fire? (an act against all of humanity.) Again it appeared to me that no one made a big deal out of throwing some more garbage on the fire. If anything people were disinterested. They expected the

big stuff, no one really cared about a couple of rotted two by fours anyway. What they wanted to see was some refrigerators and mattresses on flame as they gave off some damn pretty colors. Soon after one o'clock I left the party as I wanted to hit up Adolphs and pay for some beer that night, for some perverted reason. When I left the party was starting to fizzle away so it didn't really pain me to leave an almost full keg of Pabst Blue Ribbon.

Early Saturday afternoon (the morning after the party) I heard rumors of unrest and gross lies coming out of peoples mouths who weren't at the party. I didn't know that the crosses were flaming crosses, for if they were than I'll give up drinking.

Now in the days that followed a certain member of the Bard student body took it upon himself to get the guys who committed the act and to try and blow the affair into a full blown K.K.K. meeting. If indeed the party can be viewed as a gathering of hatred then I didn't know how many people there hated me and in fact hated themselves. As far as I know the Klan hates not only blacks, and hispanics but also jews, catholics and any non-white group on the face of the earth. I would venture to say that the above group was well represented

at the party. Now lets just say for the sake of an argument that indeed the party was an act of hatred then my bones start to shake and my blood runs cold. As a jew I am scared of anti-semitism having been called Christkiller many times in my life. Granted more recently that has been by choice to illustrate a satirical point. I believe that a sense of humor is vital for survival. Well as I was saying there is an event that takes place almost every spring without fail, that congers up visions of Nazi Germany, perhaps the worst time period for a jew in modern times if not all times. What I am talking about is of course the senior project burning that usually takes place in May in the fields in front of the Mods. Most, if not all of the senior projects burned are in book form. Is there a not so latent traditional anti semitism at Bard? If there is then I haven't seen it. Maybe Stuart Levine, Leon Botstien, Peter Sears and the authors of numerous memos floating around the campus could investigate it for me. The decision to suspend Paul Spencer is not an isolated incident and neither is the refusal of tenure to Doug Baz and Steve Andors. These are symptoms of a sick community. There is a cancer upon Bard. The cancer is Stuart Levine and people like him who promote fear, hatred, stupidity, ignorance and restrict ones freedom. How can I feel safe if a peer of mine is going to be suspended for organizing a party? Who is to say who'll be next?

Has it all come down to the fact that we are a community which can not and will not cleanse ourselves. Are we too blind to see the truth? Must ignorance and stupidity lead the new order? If that is the case I shudder to think of the future of Bard and I am glad that I only have until the end of May here. - Ivan Stoler

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I DON'T GET IT. - The Editors

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**BIG
FOR TODAY**

by... Debbie Boss.

This is not a Comedy Article!

By Art Carlson

Hello?Hello? Does anybody actually read the Bard Times? I mean really read it? I realize that Hermeneutics and semiotics are a dying art around here, but aren't people at least cynical enough to read between the lines? Or capable of reflection? I mean, anyone who takes at face value Ebner's assertion that the Bard times is a humor magazine is not someone who reads very carefully. Anyone who thinks that a humor magazine is furthermore incapable of reflecting the community concerns must be pretty far removed themselves. Submit some serious pieces and see if they aren't funnier than the 'comedy' material. You know, it is quite appropriate to laugh at the most serious things. Often that is the best way to get at them. People who divide the world into 'serious' and 'non serious' camps generally miss the point of everything.

To misconstrue is your right as an American. How you interpret things is your business. But the dump party is an amazing example of knee jerk politics, the manipulation of people by language, and an illustration of how far from reality language and politics can become. Now suppose you heard about a cross burning in your community. Deprived of any other information, you would become incensed and rightly so. A thing like that threatens everyone. Nazis and KKK? I will personally help you kill them. But we were not dealing with the image, created by rumor of a cross burning, and it was precisely the fact that this was an image in

people's minds rather than a reality that made it so pervasive and hard to dispel. Real Nazis we can beat the shit out of. Mental images create fear and distrust. Here Jerome Bass deserves alot of credit. He did as much or more than anyone to plant th symbol of burning cross' firmly in people's minds. Jerome, I don't know why you did it but you sure did a good job and I would love some time to hear your version of these events. At no time did you come forth in public to explain yourself. Why was it so important that people be made to believe absolutely that a racist attack had occurred? I agree very strongly that people should be aware that the sicko forces of hatred and repression are

at this moment organizing against us. Paul Spencer is naive or uninformed when he says there are no Nazis in Dutchess County. But goddamit, aim your guns at the real enemy. You persecute Paul Spencer and go home satisfied that you have done a good days work. You better believe there are real racists around and they are laughing at your ass, laughing long and hard and oiling up their guns to go shoot some niggers and you haven't affected them at all except to make them stronger by weakening your people with false alarms.

It was almost funny that to the students involved in the party itself semiotics were so important, that is, what symbols were used and how were they used. They proceeded as though if they could prove that these symbols were not used in a harmful way the problem would disappear. For Jerome and the others, there was no semiotic 'Problem', they 'knew' what symbol was used and what it meant.

After a point reason no longer was even applicable because of the power this symbol holds in their minds. They didn't care what really had happened, the point was this symbol was sprung loose and there was no putting it back in the box. It wouldn't have mattered one bit to them even if Spencer had been able to prove that the dump party was a tea party where the participants listened to old Beatles records and politely ate toast. Of course it was wasn't, but it didn't matter what it was, or whz t the intent was.

And one reason is Bard's new mania for punishing people. I do not advocate nostalgia, but it is historically relevant to note that putting people on social probation is a very recent development. For years and years people have been acting very similarly to the way they act now. Rowdiness, saying and doing things that might be 'misconstrued', getting shitface drunk, etc. are nothing new. It is only in the last two or three years that the deans have decided that this type of behavior is anti-social and needs to be punished. And Bard did just fine all those years without punishment. When I first came to Bard in 1975 a big point was made of the fact that Bard had almost no rules and that a wide range of behavior occurred socially. I

guess Bard wants to straighten its image up. We didn't have peer counselors then either.

But what is really upsetting to me is that this whole hubbub about the dump party was just an elaborate way of people not talking about race and the racial situation as it exists in real life at Bard. Here is where we run into a language problems again. Most racial discussion, at least in public

consists of very cliched and typical political talk. People don't think the thoughts, the thoughts think them. People use certain words with no reflection on what they mean, but out of the habit of conventional usage where the certain words go in certain slots and stand for a certain realm of experiences and after a while the experience may become many different things while still being relegated to its linguistic slot. Reality becomes subordinated to language. Like the word 'equality.' You ask any group protesting anything: 'What do you want they say, 'equal rights' or 'justice', which implies equality under the law. You ask anyone, you want equality, they say yes. So you really want to be equal, have a good job, make money, not be defrauded at every turn. And become a stifled ole white man trapped in a rank job with a wretched sex life and no hope, who dies of cancer because he can afford to stuff himself with lots of processed food and everything else. You want equality? No, obviously you want to be better. You don't want to be granted these rights merely to become like the people who now control you. But our political language does not really have a way to say that, and it is suspect to come out and say you want your group to live better than the way another group lives. (As well it should be). So equality ends up being the word that you use to cover all those feelings, but by now, what does 'equality' mean?

Likewise 'racist' is a big catchword. You better be careful when you say the word racist in a group of white liberals or you might get it from one of those knees-jerk-ing. Our political language does not presently contain a way for one to deny being a racist without sounding like an even worse

racist. You can say 'I am not a racist' and this time it sounds slightly more desperate, and so on. You certainly can't say you have black friends. The use of a word like racist tends to end the thinking process rather than begin it. People are reluctant to examine the situation and come up with some words that might describe their lives. There are plenty of situations at Bard that are racial but not racist. Racism is an ideology of systematic hatred and I don't think that really exists much at Bard, but there are things that happen because of the different outlooks and expectations and values people hold which are, in part influenced by what race they are and their experience of being that race. Class is also a factor. To some people, going to college is a way of starting to 'make it'. To people that come to college having already 'made it' college is more like a place for experimental behaviour and lavish self expression. To someone concerned with making it, lavish self expression is usually a hindrance, since they are trying to fit into the old society which lavish self-expression shows it's ass to. This is partly a factor in the dump party; some people were more appalled that these people would devote so much energy to having their fun in such a ridiculous way than what they were actually doing when they were having this fun.

Of all the flood paper generated by the dump party, the SJB's

letter was best. It said what it had to say politically but also spoke to reality. Stu Levine, on the other hand, issued a purely political document, 100% bullshit, demonstrated once more his Al Haig like ability to completely strangle the English Language. C-, Stu. Sorry. Maybe he needs a writing and thinking course.

One interesting suggestion was for a series of seminars on race. This could be an excellent thing provided they were not drivers ed. type classes about the history of racism or knee jerk reiterations of our rhetorical mode. There are alot of thing right here and now, to talk about. Why do people act the way they act? I'd be willing to listen to anyone who's got ideas.

Bard Times Bosses Battle Left and Right

Bard Times Editors Paul 'kick me' Spencer and Mark 'Martyr' Ebner were taken to the cleaners in recent weeks by a host of resentful lunatics, reactionaries, and the manipulated and misinformed masses in an unprecedented attack on students rights.

The fun started when students sought to replace our editors on the grounds that the paper 'wasn't serious and didn't serve the interests of the Bard community.' This allegation turned out to be nothing more than a political attack on the paper and the world view that it represents. 'It was a ghastly thing,' said one student. 'The whole issue boiled down to a personality contest. If you like the editors and what they say, you vote for; if you happen not to like them then, against. It has nothing to do with

any mismanagement.' Thankfully the majority of the students either liked them or saw the need for fairness, because the hero editors won.

The next order of business was the now famous 'Cross Burning' Party.' Those who were actually at this event were appalled at the way in which rumour poisoned the minds of the entire campus. 'At first I was amused and then sickened by the way the administration stripped Paul of any due process, assumed him guilty, and adamantly ignored the fact. Friends of mine stood on tables and basically said 'I don't care about the facts, I feel this way or that.' Another observer said, 'It makes one really wonder when students serve the interests of the power structure and turn ag-

ainst one another. If anybody is on the side of freedom, and against fascism and racism it's Paul Spencer and those who went to the party.'

All in all hysteria ruled for several weeks and threatened to overtake campus life at anytime. Because of what happened to Paul people will think twice before any symbol is mocked and fear is as tangible as school work. The collaboration of 'Leftist' students and evermore right wing administration against the 'marginals' is a lesson for all anarchists and those who want an end to oppression. One observer noted, 'whatever you do don't use my real name. Stu Levine is out for blood and anyone who differs is going to get stepped on. But let me say, this whole episode stinks of the sort of thing that the F.B.I. would do in the 60's-use misinformation to divide and conquer the movement. Makes you wonder don't it?

Note: The author refuses to use his real name because of current atmosphere of repression.)



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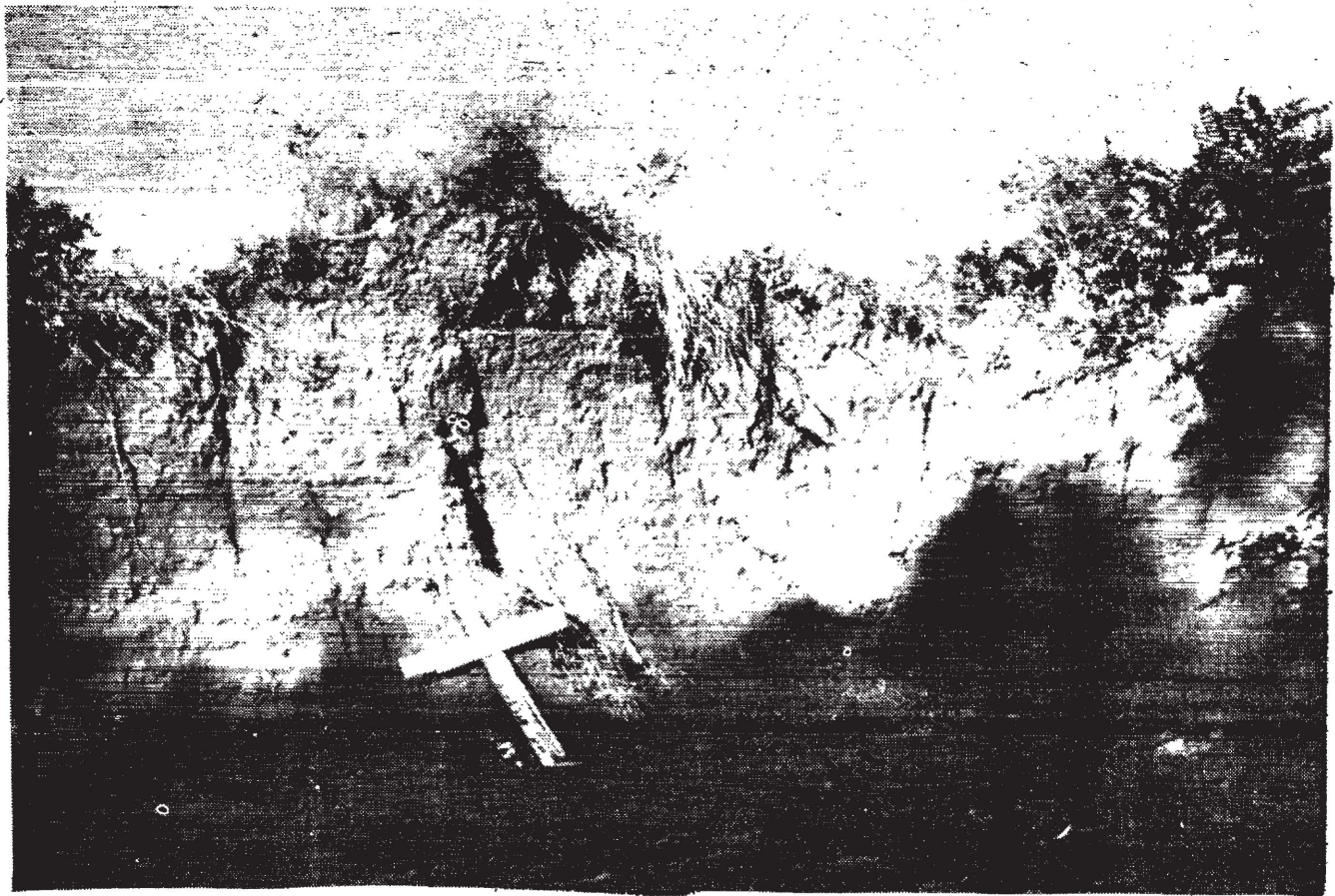
WHAT CAN WE SAY ABOUT THE ARTICLES ON THIS PAGE? THEY WERE WRITTEN BY TWO GUYS (ART&KIRBY) WHO DONT EVEN GO TO SCHOOL HERE. WE HAVEN'T READ THEM BUT THEY'RE PROBABLY ALRIGHT! IF YOU DON'T LIKE THEM GO TALK TO THE WRITERS...WE JUST HAD TO FILL SPACE! SORRY. The Editors

TRAGEDY STRUCK THE CAMPUS LAST OCTOBER NINTH, WHEN WHAT BEGAN AS "JUST ANOTHER PARTY" CLIMAXED INTO A BLOODBATH THAT LEFT FIVE STUDENTS DEAD AND AT LEAST AS MANY SERIOUSLY INJURED. SOME SEVENTY ODD STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN WHAT WAS DESCRIBED BY ITS ORGANISERS AS A SORT OF "MOCK PAGAN RITUAL". PARTICIPANTS AT THE PARTY REPORTEDLY CONSUMED LARGE AMOUNTS OF ALCOHOL, DANCED AROUND A BONFIRE, AND JUST GENERALLY ACTED LIKE "WILD ANIMALS". SOURCES AT SECURITY SAY THAT AS THE PARTY PROGRESSED, BEHAVIOR BECAME INCREASINGLY VIOLENT, WITH STUDENTS BEATING ON ONE ANOTHER AS WELL AS INVOLVING THEMSELVES IN SEXUAL PRACTICES DESCRIBED AS "EXTREMELY LEWD" IN NATURE. AT APPROXIMATELY 1:30 ON THE MORNING IN QUESTION, SIX MEMBERS OF THE BARD SECURITY TEAM ARRIVED AT THE SCENE. THEY ATTEMPTED TO DISPERSE THE CROWD, BUT WHEN MET WITH VIOLENT RESISTANCE, THE SECURITY MEN OPENED FIRE ON A GROUP OF ANGRY STUDENTS-KILLING FIVE, AND INJURING MANY OTHERS.

"WE WERE JUST HAVING A GOOD TIME WHEN THESE ASSHOLES FROM SECURITY ARRIVED AND STARTED SHOOTING LIKE THEY WERE AT THE J.K. CORRAL OR SOMETHING," SAID ONE PARTYGOER. ANOTHER STUDENT DESCRIBED THE INCIDENT AS FOLLOWS: "EVERYBODY WAS JUST HAVING A GOOD TIME. THERE WAS A LOT OF DRINKING GOING ON, AND SURE, THERE WAS A LITTLE EXPLICIT SEX HERE AND THERE BUT IT WASN'T ANY BIG DEAL. SO WHEN SECURITY SHOWED UP I DIDN'T THINK ANYTHING OF IT. I JUST FIGURED THEY'D TELL US TO QUIET DOWN AND THEN JUST LEAVE US ALONE. WELL, I WAS OVER BY THE KEG FILLING MY CUP WHEN THE SHOOTING BEGAN. I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT IT WAS AT FIRST. I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST PAINT CANS EXPLODING IN THE FIRE. NEXT THING I KNOW, PEOPLE ARE SCREAMING AND FALLING DOWN... THE GUY NEXT TO ME WAS COVERED WITH BLOOD. I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO EXCEPT HIT THE DIRT."

SECURITY'S ACCOUNT OF WHAT HAPPENED IS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF THE STUDENTS. "WHEN WE ARRIVED AT THE DUMP, THESE KIDS WERE CARRYING ON LIKE A BUNCH OF ANIMALS." SAID H., ONE OF THE SIX SECURITY MEN WHO KEPT HIS IDENTITY A SECRET.

Photo- Harold Enright



FUN & LAUGHTER TURNS TO SCREAMS OF TERROR AS...

Photo- Harold Enright





Photo - Harold Enright

BARD SECURITY GOES ON BLOODY RAMPAGE AT DUMP PARTY



Photo - Harold Enright

"WHAT WE SAW WAS A FULL-SCALE ORGY. HOMO SEX AS WELL AS HETERO GOING ON. AND THOSE PUNKS THAT WEREN'T SCREWING AROUND WERE COMMITTING VIOLENT ACTS LIKE BEATING ON EACH OTHER AND TYING EACH OTHER UP." THIS SECURITY MAN WENT ON TO DESCRIBE THE ACTUAL SHOOTING AS FOLLOWS: "WE TRIED TO BREAK THE WHOLE THING UP AND ROUND UP THE RINGLEADERS WHEN THE KIDS STARTED GETTING REAL VIOLENT TOWARD US. WE DREW OUR GUNS JUST TO, YOU KNOW, SCARE 'EM. NEXT THING YOU KNOW, THEY'RE THROWING ROCKS AT US AND SOME OF THEM WITH GUNS STARTED SHOOTING AT US. SO WE JUST FIRED. I, PERSONALLY, DIDN'T SEE THE GUNS, BUT I DEFINITELY HEARD THE SHOTS."

"THAT IS COMPLETELY RIDICULOUS," SAID ONE OF THE PARTY ORGANISERS. "WE DIDN'T HAVE ANY GUNS! SECURITY DID ALL THE SHOOTING."

DICK SPREEN, CHIEF OF SECURITY, COMMENTED, "WE ARE STILL INVESTIGATING THE MATTER, BUT AT PRESENT WE FEEL QUITE CERTAIN THAT THERE WAS AT LEAST ONE SNIPER IN THE SURROUNDING AREA WHO INITIATED THE INCIDENT BY OPENING FIRE ON THE SECURITY OFFICERS."

WHEN ASKED WHAT EVIDENCE THERE WAS ON WHICH TO BASE THE SNIPER THEORY, MR. SPREEN SAID THAT 30.06 CALIBRE SLUGS WERE FOUND AT THE SCENE ALONG WITH THE .38 CALIBRE TYPE USED BY SECURITY. "THE 30.06 IS A CALIBRE USED ONLY IN HIGH POWER RIFLES", SAID SPREEN. "SECURITY OFFICERS CARRY ONLY STANDARD .38 REVOLVERS."

MR. SPREEN WAS ALSO ASKED HOW THE INVESTIGATION WOULD BE HANDLED. "WELL, WE AT SECURITY FEEL THAT WE CAN HANDLE THE INVESTIGATION OURSELVES. WE HAVE ALL THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT AND OUR PERSONNEL IS TOPNOTCH. WE HAVE MOST OF THE FACTS ALREADY AND WE SHALL SOON COME TO A SATISFACTORY CONCLUSION OF JUST WENT ON AT THE DUMP."

WHEN ASKED IF AN INVESTIGATION BY SECURITY MIGHT NOT BRING ON SOME CONFLICT OF INTEREST, MR. SPREEN SIMPLY REPLIED, "NO, I DON'T SEE THAT HAPPENING."

We're not sure what to say about this. We aren't even sure if there's any truth to this story. We just printed it because it sounds exciting and it fills up a lot of space. We hope it's not too offensive - if so, it's not meant maliciously. Our printers really love the paper, for what that's worth. If you don't love it, we're sorry. Next issue will be incredible!

The Editors



RAMONES ROCK IN THE YEAR OF RONNY THE RAYGUN !

By Ivan Stoler



Torn blue jeans, Converse Allstars, crummy t-shirts and Japanese transistor radios. Empty cans of Rheingold beer on the IND express out of Jamaica motivating under the East river into midtown. The saga of Queens' finest. Who else but da Ramones? The time is ripe for world domination. Hit 'em hard and hit 'em quick before they know what wasted 'em. It is five years and six albums later, and it is about time the Ramones got the recognition they so justly deserve. Their new album, "Pleasant Dreams", is just the record the boys needed. "Road to Ruin", their third LP, was perhaps one of the finest records of the late seventies-but it failed miserably in the stores and on the airwaves. The last offering, End of the Century, was a desperate lunge at mass appeal and radio airplay that almost lost them any credibility they had. This new record, as mentioned, is the record. If this album doesn't

break the Ramones to the Amerikan heartland, then it's time to abandon ship. In a couple of weeks, one should be able to walk into Anytown U.S.A., and hear the Ramones on the local AM top forty station.

Retreating from last year's excessive and ponderous production, End of the Century, the Ramones have enlisted ex-Ten cc member and hit songwriter Graham "For Your Love" Gouldman to handle the production chores. Gouldman has added a few keyboard flourishes and a rejuvenation of the boyz' backing vocals without making the end product seem artificial and cold. Pleasant Dreams offers some of the most intelligent and exposing songs the Ramones have ever written. The message is clear, right off the beat, with "We Want the Airwaves":

"9 to 5 and 5 to 9
ain't gonna take it
it's our time
we want the world

and we want it now
We're gonna take it, any-
how"
- Joey Ramone, Bleu Disque Music inc. 1981

Last year at this time, Joey was singing "Do you remember Rock 'n Roll" and other ingenious diddies. The Ramones have tightened up and become more aggressive, without the 3 chord bombast they employed for so long. A while ago, even their fabled sense of humor had degenerated into worthless and vague meanderings-like their weak attempted comic version of the Heartbreakers' song, "Chinese Rocks". As quickly as they seemed to have turned off the path of righteousness, the gang has turned right back on it. The legendary wit is back in order with songs like the instant classic "The KKK took my Baby Away". The most startling song to get moralistic and take a stand. Stop supporting the dinosaurs that live off the fat of the land. Let's all hail da Ramones!

their instruments than they have in the past. How do the Ramones feel about giving up the fight to play Rock 'n Roll? The song title, "7-11", should be self explanatory-- the ultimate synthesis of blitzoidsugared poprock. This time it works like a charm, and there ain't no doubt about it. "You sound like your sick" and "You didnt Mean Anything to Me" echo my sentiments exactly. Now jest in case yer bginnin' to think that this is the best record ever recorded--excepting , of course, Percy Faith and 1001 Strings--don't be stoopid. There are a few flaws, being not with the record, but with the radio and the jerks who control it. Jesus-H-Christ, can you really believe that cretins like Pat Benatar and REO Spedwagon dominate the charts? Well, now is the time to get moralistic and take a stand. Stop supporting the dinosaurs that live off the fat of the land. Let's all hail da Ramones!

No joke. We mean this sincerely. Have a nice Thanksgiving.....a productive Thanksgiving, and come back rested and ready to work. We'll look forward to seeing you then. Thanks.
The Editors

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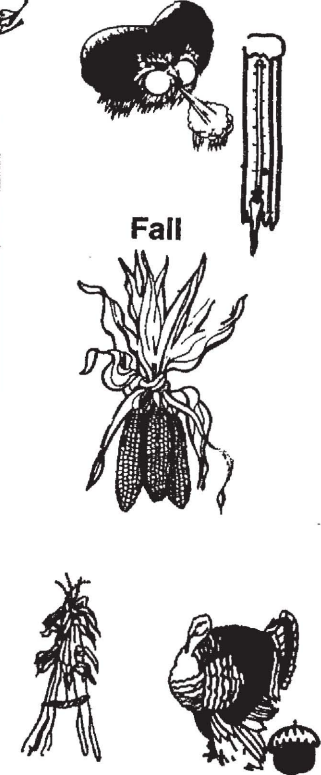
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An Interview w/Mark Ebner

Interview by Karen L. Lehmann

I was surprised and pleased to be granted an interview with the elusive Mark Ebner the other day. He is co-editor of the 'Bard Times,' and a prominent member of the Bard student community. Which is to say, everyone knows his name, and most of us are accustomed to his voice. When I had the occasion to talk to him, it was a beautiful fall day, and Mark was in a serious and sincere state of mind. (I think. He's a fairly good actor.) I loosened him up with a few simple questions, then got started on more serious topics.

K: What is your favorite news paper?

M: My favorite newspaper? Well, the most informative, for me, is the New York Times. But, I have the most fun with the New York Post. Lots of pictures.

K: As one of the editors of the Bard Times, what do you feel the main needs and concerns of this community are?

M: I think the main needs in regard to the newspaper...are to have a good laugh, a good time-laugh at yourself, laugh at others. I think that's important. People, especially those who are more academically inclined, need a break, need to get away from the academic realm of things, the tension. Take the Dump Party, for instance, the kind of party where people can go...knowing before hand that they can go hog-wild and release a lot of tension. It's good to place oneself in an environment whereby all the instincts which may otherwise seem destructive or vicious, can be let loose in a fun way. The same sort of thing applies to the newspaper-where one is free to express yourself as you please.

K: So this is the kind of thinking that goes along with the mock fighting, the seeming violence of a lot of these parties?

M: Yes.

Being totally reckless is doing something like sticking a needle into your arm-shooting narcotics or coke or something...You know you are destroying yourself.

K: Could you elaborate?

M: It's this whole slam-dancing thing. When people are in high-pressure situations from day to day; whether it's their academic life or their love life, whatever it is that's got 'em strung up, there's nothing like release...and that's what it's all about.

K: Do you think it's dangerous at all?

M: I think it's controlled danger. I think there are certain decisions that have to be made-I mean, you can't be totally reckless. Being totally reckless is doing something like sticking a needle in your arm and shooting narcotics, or shooting coke or something...you know you are destroying yourself.

But on the other hand, you take slam-dancing, for instance, when you hit someone,

when you knock someone in a mock battle, you gotta have the thrust, you gotta have the force to make that person fly, yet have that heavy hand behind them to soften the blow and soften the falls. So it is controlled, and calculated, though there is the aspect of danger-but that's important too. If I can say more about parties...

K: Sure.

M: You take a party that's held

in a place like Seymour, for instance-a dormitory party-there you get a classic example of institutional behavior. When you put a lot of people and a keg in a narrow hallway when people start getting drunk, and rowdy-what's gonna happen, if you're in the confines of these walls-in a dormitory like Seymour, which is as much of a slum as any slum I've ever seen...People are going to destroy, people are gonna write on the walls, and tear phones off the walls, because there's nothing in the environment that they can draw from or have their fun with, except the bare surroundings of a dorm like that. They wreck it. That's what's going to happen when you're confined by institutional walls, and locked doors, and telephones.

I don't want art. I want blatant stuff, even if it borders on being hardcore...I want reaction... I want people to be surprised by what they see, not necessarily shocked or offended, but I want them to see it all up front and overblown... and at the same time... beautiful.

K: I've got some more questions about the newspaper. Why did you decide, last semester, to take on the responsibility and work of editing the newspaper?

M: Well, frankly...I was upset and appalled by what went on last year, with the 'Observer'. I think it was a fraudulent use of the student's money. For one thing, the newspaper was put out, for the most part, using press releases

and not using the student's work. It didn't do anything for me, and it didn't seem to do anything for most of the people I know.

K: Do you think politics, world politics, should be kept out of the Bard newspapers? Do you think that those things matter to the students?

M: I think they do, yeah... but I think world politics should be kept out of this newspaper.

Ivan Stoller's particular style of attacking world politics. It's mainly concerned with Bard. It's the Bard Times, about Bard times, about Bard people-what they're doing, how they're doing it...and, uh...if people aren't doing anything, the Bard Times will do something about that.

K: What do you see for the Bard Times in the future?

M: Well, for one thing, I'd like to experiment with different layout techniques, and get some more input-photography and things like that. I think photographs are very important-people love to see photographs...I don't want art, I want blatant-type stuff-even if it borders on being hard-core...I want reac-

tion-I want people to be surprised by what they see, not necessarily shocked or offended, but I want them to see it, all up-front, and overblown and at the same time beautiful...because it will elicit a multitude of responses. Which are more important than the reactions that the Observer got-y'know, the same old political garbage. Fuck that.

K: How about the actual written contents of the paper?

M: The content of the newspaper will be-except in certain editorial sections and letters and stuff-it'll be more geared toward sensationalism.

K: It's going to be more sensational?

M: It's going to be more sensational. I think that the last issue was taken too lightly...I think we must go one step further...beyond self-indulgence.

step further...beyond what people might pass off as mere self-indulgence.

I'm not going to discuss

what will be in the next issue, but I can assure you that... it will have the desired effect.

The only community feeling is the feeling within those people who feel free to do what they want.

K: Do you think that the reaction is going to be similar to the reaction to the last issue?

M: I hope people will begin to see the full fledged efforts at humor. It's going to be outrageous.

K: Is it going to be less offensive? I mean, the people who complained about it last time found it offensive-do you think it's gonna be-

M: well, that's a perfectly fine reaction...for people to be offended.

K: So you don't intend to tone that aspect down any.

M: Well...I think I want people to be outraged. I want people to just not believe that it could be done. I'm going to do the impossible with this next issue.

K: So what do you think that's going to accomplish?

M: It's going to rock the campus.

K: But-

M: Maybe reestablish a sense of humor on this campus-get people to think twice about their geekish conservative ways-get people to start, as Paul Spencer would say, trying sex in some way other than the missionary position.

K: Do you think that the new freshman class is much different than the classes before?

M: Yeah, I'd say they are, for one thing there's more women, and now that we have more women here, I think that's one indication of how Bard is becoming, as Ivan Stoller would say, 'Vassarized.' I think the tone is much more serious, much more studious, much more...conservative. Insecure. Much more paranoid. And I don't see much strength in paranoia and insecurity.

K: So you don't think that that's a positive change.

M: I don't see it as being positive

at all, no. I think that in the eyes of the administration, it might be a positive change in that when people like myself and others who they regard as being instigators and trouble-makers graduate, they see it as a weeding-out process. Y'know, everybody will applaud when they graduate but goddam we'll be glad when they're gone. I think they're groping for a sense of calm on this campus which has never been here before I mean, Christ! Things that we do now-making a little noise, a little hell-raising..they're not tolerated like they used to be. My freshman year here...the music of V; rus-the hottest band that's ever been on this campus, would be cranking' from Stone Row-there were bon fires in front of Stone Row, never mind the dump-I mean, there were things happening that were regarded as pranks, and taken as such, and enjoyed by many. And the reaction from the administration to these things used to be, 'Well, come over for wine and cheese and we'll talk about it.' Now they don't even talk, now the tools they use are disciplinary ones and the attitude they take is, 'Well, we're not gonna listen to you, we don't listen. You say what you want to say, I'm not listening-I've got your social probation slip in my hand...'

This kind of institutional shit they're laying on us makes Bard that much less of a community. The only community feeling is the feeling within those people who feel free to do what they want.

K: Back to the paper-how do you feel about the two new papers- The Union, and The Opposition?

(Mark laughs)

M: Well, all I've seen is posters. I saw this thing called 'Microcosm' and it's kinda this like fantasy-type thing-but it was too high-schoolish for me. It was these little cartoons-it was too passive, it didn't say anything, it didn't make me laugh, uh, I didn't like it. I have yet to see any other newspaper come out, and...I certainly do invite the competition.

K: Well, how long have you been here?

M: Four years-this is my fourth year.

K: What do you think you're going to go out of here with-do you think you've gained a lot by being here? That it's going to help you any?

M: Yes, I do. There've been times when I've felt like fuck this place, I wanna get out of here, what-why don't I have a job, why aren't I doing somethin constructive-and then I realize that it all is ultimately very constructive. Because I think that I will go out of here, first of all cherishing these four years very much, knowing that I'll never have the opportunity to take four years and enjoy them as much as this, again. I think that when I get outta here I'll be more prepared to deal with any situation that comes my way.

I'll be a great movie and stage actor. I know I won't settle for anything less than greatness.

Like Paul Spencer, I'd like to rule the world.

K: One last question, Mark. What do you think about World Affairs?

M: I dunno, I haven't read the 'Times' lately;

WE'RE SORRY.....AN EDITORIAL NOTE

We have just finished putting this paper together and looking back on it we can honestly say that it is a horrendous piece of shit. The articles, if they can be called such, are self-indulgent, poorly written, and, worst of all.....BORING. Believe it or not, we editors are a hell of a lot more disgraced with it than even you are. It's as much your fault as ours though. At the Forum meeting, when a lot of criticism was raised against the newspaper...we said "Fine, write something better and we'll print it." So everybody said "Okay." Did we get a lot of new writing? NO. And what we did get was atleast as bad as the usual stuff. Let's face it; you're all lazy, illiterate, and spoiled. You want everything done for you and you're not willing to get off your ass and do it yourself. Well, this is the result. You made your bed, now you sleep in it.

Sorry, THE EDITORS

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