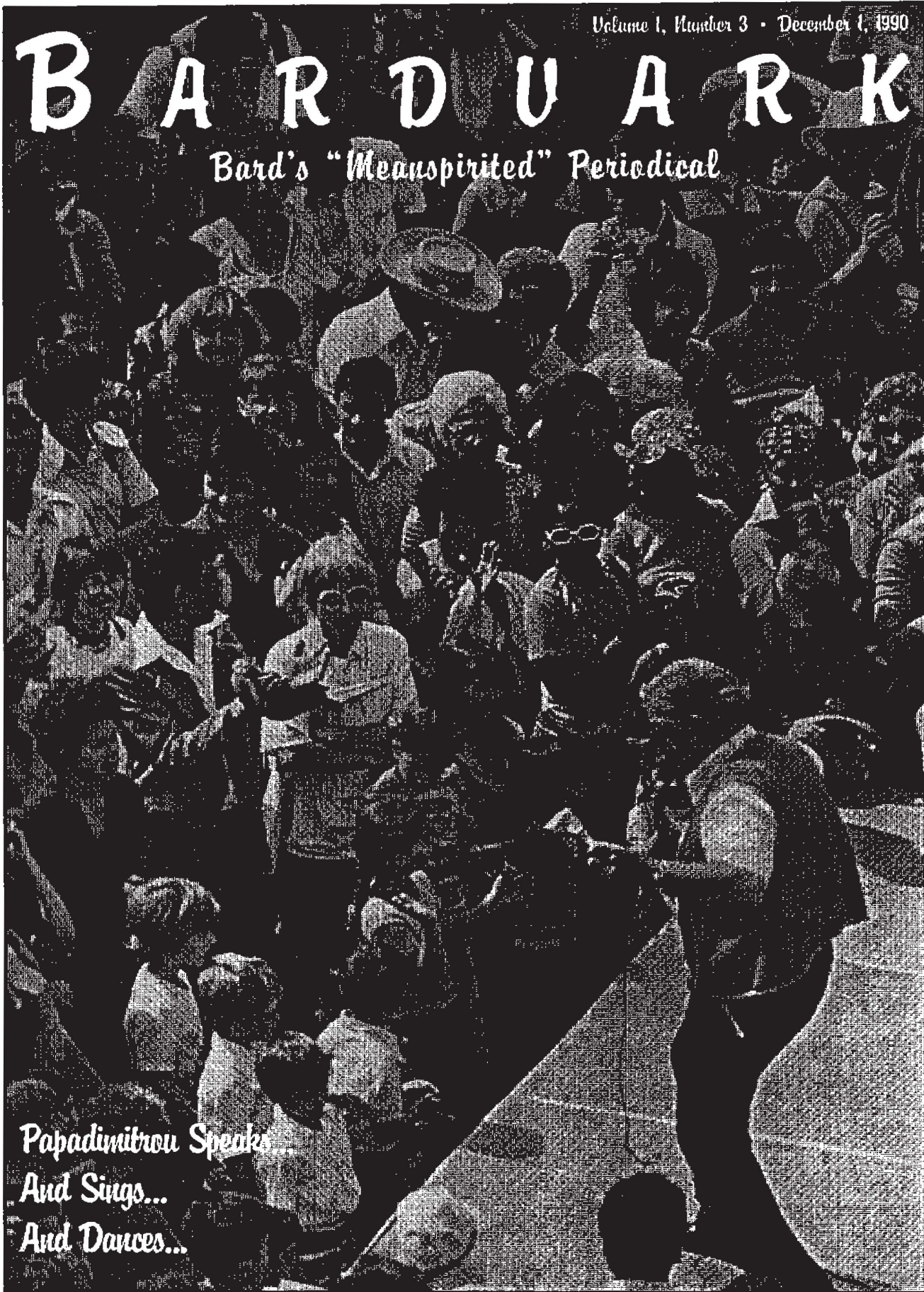


Volume 1, Number 3 • December 1, 1990

# BARDUARK

Bard's "Meauspirited" Periodical



*Papadimitriou Speaks...*

*And Sings...*

*And Dances...*

# From the Editors

# EPC

Beware average students.... Administrators and student groups are showing themselves to be inordinately thin skinned this season. Apparently the new style is to be nice no matter what: that way we can all walk around with happy hearts and smiles on our faces, appropriate to the holiday spirit.

Satire is not considered to consist of mindless jokes, and we certainly don't try to be randomly nasty. But there is a point to all this effort on our part (outside of the mindless joy of being sniped at on campus and seeing our names in print); this is all conducted to initiate **attention** to issues that may not be getting the alternate perspectives of some keen minds, hearty wits, incredible intellectual... anyway, things that we like to fantasize that we offer.

Raising awareness seems to be a popular word recently, but don't forget that it has a meaning broader than the puddles in Kline's parking lot. It can mean cryptic signs on the walls of Hegemen, lots of scheduled meetings that accomplish nothing; self-righteous publications(?) or pointless media gestures, plastering Kline's tables with pleasantly colored leaflets. When it's done well, you get applauded by the politically correct segment of society, and then quickly forgotten; poorly and you get the backlash of all the people who haven't tried to do anything, ever.

Point being, we are not going to apologize for hurting anyone's feelings, ever; because our intentions are not personal attacks. They are simply observations; and how hard they hit depends on how close they are to home. So, Shelly, take a hint. We still think you're nifty... and besides, what do our opinions count for, anyway?

# EHE

A forum vote has sent a message to the world, and that message was "If we can't have things our way, we don't want to be in your dumb country any more. Nahhh, nahhh." Yes, that's right, democracy is only good when things go your way, otherwise it's despotism. When our elected officials in Washington do things that we don't like they become fascists and it becomes important that only 60% of the voting populous showed up to elect them. Of course it's never important that only 10% of the voting population of Bard was present to vote on the secession resolution. You see, our system works. The United States, however doesn't. You see the logic there.

Well, anyway, here we are our own separate nation. I think the first thing to do is send Leon to Iraq and see if he can't talk old Saddam into pulling out of Kuwait. He's talked enough people into pulling out of Bard. I know he has that effect on me. Then, maybe we can open up diplomatic relations with a few of our Neighbors, like Poughkeepsie, personally I favor a close alliance with Bev-Way.

Our government will be simple, we'll just keep the forum. If it was good enough for Bard the College, it will be great for Bard the Nation. Besides that's how countries are supposed to be run, special interest groups exerting disproportionate power to force decisions on the apathetic majority. After a few days of that maybe we'll see some more secessions, like maybe The Republic of Cruger Village, The Kingdom of The Ravines, and, of course, the Peoples Democratic Republic of Ludlow. That is, after all, the way to solve problems.

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"Bard College is a hot college."

-Dimitri Papadimitrou



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Bardvark is published when it suits us at Bard College, which is a four year institution. Funds are provided by the Bard Student Association and the generous donations of some other folks. Shelly, by the way, has to sign all the checks. Pretty harsh, huh?

# Letters to the Editors

To the Editors,

In general I really liked the last issue of your publication. I even understood one of the jokes on page 5. I practically laughed. However, for reasons which I can only articulate in a series of disjointed meaningless statements, many including words such as "stereotype" and "inappropriate", I found your little joke about HEOP students really offensive. I don't actually understand the joke, and I've only read half of it, but if you don't want to be continuously harassed by a bunch of self-seeking political lackeys, I suggest you give us all your future issues for approval before publication. Wait a second, you know, now that I've actually read through the rest of this, it doesn't really bother me anymore. Never mind.

-Politically Correcter Than You  
Annandale, NY

To the Editors,

Goshy, that's one keen magazine you've got there. We want you, at the Bardvark, to know that we, over here, think you're. We welcome the competition, but'll you'll never be as funny as we are, in that our funniness is greater than that funniness of yours. Some advice: More pages and more issues means better quality. It worked for us. And how about some more stuff on Phish!

-The Staff of *The Absurder*

To the Editors,

At first I was a little taken aback by the rather harsh personal criticisms of me in the editorial section of the last issue of your publication, but then I realized that it is in the interest of everyone to allow for the public criticism of college administrators. I except what you have to say in the spirit of humor that it was said and while I certainly don't agree with it, I don't take it personally. Psyche! This is a fake letter!

-Shelly Morgan  
Deanette of Students

To The Editors,

I.. ah... don't... ah... ah... shall we say... talk... ah... ah... like... ah... that. And... ah... I... ah... ah... don't... ice... ah... ah... skate.

-Stuart Levine  
Former Bass Player, Booker T. and the MGs

To The Editors,

There isn't really a joke here, but it seemed silly to do a fake letters column without doing a letter from me.

-Leon Botstein  
Conductor

To The Editors

I liked your last issue, but why not have more jokes about plankton?

-The Bottom of the Sea Guy

To The Editors,

I'm a conservative and I'm proud of it! No one at Bard is going to repress me. I'm pro-life, I'm pro-Bush, I'm pro-development, I'm anti-gun control, I'm anti-welfare, I'm anti-taxation, I'm the NRA. I will not be silenced!

-Name and Address Withheld By Request

To The Editor,

It was with great sadness that I opened the last copy of the student publication you sent home.. The Observer, I believe it was called? Honey, I'm so sorry that you have to go to a school where the only newspaper published is completely ineffectual, and absurdly insipid. . You are my bright and shining little apple, and if you were to run the newspaper it would be so much better. Please don't pay any attention to those who would claim that it is well written ... as they obviously don't realize how incredibly painful it is to be subjected to poor attempts at journalistic endeavors, week after week.

Mr. Champ, sugar daddy

To The Editors,

If I had known they were going to put it on the cover of *The Bard Observer* I never would have said it in the first place. Besides what I meant was, "I may not agree with what you say and if you say it again I'll kill you."

-Voltaire  
Only mostly dead

To The Editors,

I don't know about you, but boy am I ever glad they cut all that dumb Greek philosophy junk out of Freshman seminar, I'd hate to have to learn anything about ethics.

-The Collective Freshman  
Obreshkove

To The Editors,

I may be talentless and unpleasant, but I have tenure.

-No One In Particular  
Annandale, NY

To The Editors,

Could you please ask that no one on campus ever mention our names again.

-Chevy Chase and Donald Fagen

To The Editors,

I am Enigmatic, I am, I am, I am... And I can turn invisible and walk through walls and cut funding! Wanna' see my cape?

-Dimitri Papadimitrou  
Here one moment, gone the next, like the wind.

To The Editor,

This is just a small letter to convey my feelings about the issue of the campus publication that you sent home to Grandma and me. Actually, we would have expected no less of you, sweetheart. You always were an obnoxious self centered little... and you never cleaned your room, either!! And what you wrote about that poor Shelly Morgan! I'm sure she's a very nice person... and how do you suppose her mother felt?!

Mommy Eigerman

## Five Things You Can Do to Get Rid of *The Bard Observer*

There are always some problems that everyone cares about, but no one knows what to do to solve. *The Bard Observer* is one of these problems. What can one person do to help wipe out this blight on the face of journalism? Well, if we all pull together maybe there is something we can do. If everyone just follows the simple steps below we could see the end of *The Observer* in our lifetimes.

1) Don't read it. This is simple enough and if you're like most Bard students you've been doing it for years.

Be sure to let everyone know that you're not reading it. Bring it up in conversations, mention it in class, drop a note to the *Observer's* editors.

2) Don't take your copy from your mailbox. After a few weeks of shoving yet another issue into that small space the post office will give up all together and stop giving them to you. Better yet, instead of taking it, give it a shove. Imagine having to trudge through two feet of unread *Observers* just to deliver a memo from Stu.

3) Beat up the editors. Attacking journalists is tried and true method of criticism.

4) Pretend not to know anything about it. When people mention *The Observer*, ask them what it is. When off campus claim that Bard doesn't even have a paper.

5) Whine and complain. An incredibly popular tactic, though its success is questionable. It does have the advantage of not requiring much effort.

## Bard Publications Compared

|   | <i>Bardvark</i> | <i>Annandale</i> | <i>The Observer</i> | <i>Trowel</i> | <i>The Bard Papers</i> |
|---|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| Have Published An Issue   | ✓               | ✓                | ✓                   |               |                        |
| Is Funny  | ✓               |                  | ✓                   | ✓             | ✓                      |
| Is Intentionally Funny  | ✓               |                  |                     |               |                        |
| Has Articles About Phish  |                 |                  | ✓                   |               |                        |
| Requires All Editors To Wear Special Rubber Suits                                     |                 | ✓                |                     |               |                        |
| Has Brought Shelly Close To Tears   | ✓               |                  |                     |               |                        |
| Is Read The World Over By Those Interested In Future Literary Trends                  |                 |                  |                     | ✓             |                        |
| Isn't Read At All By Anyone   |                 | ✓                |                     |               | ✓                      |
| Is Sent Home To Your Parents To Give Them A Really Twisted Idea Of What Bard Is About |                 | ✓                |                     |               |                        |
| Owens Its Own Car   |                 |                  | ✓                   |               |                        |
| Is Named After The Town Bard Is In  |                 | ✓                |                     |               |                        |
| Should Be Burned At Mass Rallies  | ✓               | ✓                | ✓                   | ✓             | ✓                      |
| Is Something You Can Be Proud Of As A Bard Student                                    |                 |                  |                     |               |                        |

Barnes and Noble  
Presents  
The Bard Bookstore

*It's A Steal Sale!*  
Going On All Semester  
(And Probably The Next One)  
Check Out These  
Great Prices!

- Pens ..... \$Free!
- Film ..... \$Free!
- Books ..... \$Free!
- Paper ..... \$Free!
- Art Supplies ..... \$Free!
- Bard Memorabilia .... \$Free!
- Gum and Candy ..... \$Free!
- Condoms ..... \$Free!

Avoid The Lines  
Steal Today, Before It's  
All Gone!

The Five Most  
Common Sights On  
Campus

- 1) Pathetic egocentric music majors playing guitars on the Kline Wall (surrounded by even more pathetic female groupies.)
2. Mark Lambert, training for the 1992 Olympic Walk-a-thon.
3. Annoying Kline sleepwalkers who are always standing exactly where you would like to be walking as they circle from the entrees, to the salad bar, to the soup tureens, until finally coming to rest permanently on the pasta line.
4. Self-selected campus D.J.s perched on their window sills as they select their personal favorites for the enjoyment of everyone.
5. Obstructive vendors selling products made by exploited third worlders to politically correct Bard students.

# Shocking New Evidence Dean Levine is Santa Claus

The Bard community may be in for a real surprise this Christmas season. Recent studies have revealed more than coincidental similarities between our very own Dean Levine and the celebrity of Yuletide, old St. Nick. Some of the evidence uncovered:

1. Dean Levine has been spotted sporting an "all-purpose" red coat, suitable for all weather conditions and climates.
2. The subject has been sighted in the backwoods of campus dodging bullets and running toward targets screaming, "Run Vixen, run!"
3. The subject has been known to seat students and staff members on his lap during private consultations and ask them if they've been "good" this year.
4. The subject has been found caught in the Ludlow chimney by Buildings and Grounds workers, six times since the beginning of November.
5. Subject has been known to horde Kline cookies, claiming that they were left out for him, leaving many trays of upside-down pineapple cake with pink frosting as the only dessert for the victimized and constipated student body.
6. Subject has repeatedly proposed a "multi-cultural juvenile recreational equipment design" class as a new offering at Bard, which would involve the study design, and construction of toys. Levine intends to warn prospective students that he claims the right to keep all toys. When asked why, by many members of the faculty and administration, Levine has repeatedly mumbled something about an "elf labor shortage" and wandered off in a jolly way.



# Additional courses being offered for the Spring of 1991:

|            |  |  |
|------------|--|--|
| MPZ 101    | <p><u>GETTING STONED AND LISTENING TO MUSIC</u> This course investigates the personal, inter-personal, and quasi-personal aspects of issues surrounding the activity of sound-listening and reception of personal expressive languages; participants are encouraged to create or compose sound-texts and verbal-texts which are crucial to an exploration in a non-rigidified, anti-hierarchical modality of sound-text listening issues. Bring your own dope.</p>   | Wed<br>2:00 Or When-<br>ever<br>Brook House  |
| Fud 301    | <p><u>SNEAKING INTO KLINE</u> (One credit) Intended primarily for off-campus students, this course provides the student with methodological tools useful in the acquisition of pasty, bland nourishment from the food service. The ethical dilemma of whether or not this is "stealing" is best pondered on a full stomach and will be addressed at the midterm. Also open to resident students who have gotten off the meal plan by pretending to be macrobiotic.</p>   | Mon-Fri<br>12:30 and<br>6:30<br>By the back<br>door  |
| Phil 666   | <p><u>STUDIES IN SATANIC PHILOSOPHY</u> This course gives the neo-satanist thorough background in the basic precepts of Satanic thought. We will be reading N. Beelzebub's classic testament of his conversion to Satanism, From Pentateuch to Pentagram. This course will survey various crucial topics: signing away the soul for wealth and power, hierarchy of the underworld, how to locate the sign of the beast on your parents, etc. Small lab fee required for purchase of sacrificial animals.</p>   | Sat<br>Midnight<br>Manor Sub-<br>Basement  |
| Whyn 403   | <p><u>NOSTALGIA SEMINAR</u> (Enrollment limited to 10 jaded seniors) This class provides a forum for superficially rational explanations of why Bard has gotten so much worse since you were a freshman. Convincing statistical studies and charts will be used to confirm your suspicions that you consumed at least 10 kegs a week during L &amp; T, that even the professors used to do bong hits in class, and that most of this year's freshlings belong to both the NRA and the John Birch Society. Students who call the old gym "the student center" will be expected to withdraw from the course.</p> | Thurs<br>3:00<br>Definitely<br>not in Olin   |
| Nat Sci 99 | <p><u>THINKING ABOUT PEOPLE WHO KNOW SOMEONE WHO USES MATH</u> Designed for the liberal arts student only recently introduced to the concept of numbers, this course focuses on the philosophical, rather than the practical, aspects of mathematics. Topics covered include: People who balance their checkbook, people who can tell time, people who know how much the bus costs.</p>  | Mon/Wed<br>When the big<br>hand is on<br>the six and<br>the little<br>hand is on<br>the two<br>Hegeman 105 |