

# T H E G A D F L Y P A P E R S

A weekly journal of comment, criticism, and satire  
concerning the activities of the Bard College Community

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## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"This is to inform you that the Tony Marzani Memorial Basketball will no longer hold air!"

Charles Patrick, Athletic  
Director

## COUNCIL CONTINUES RED BALLOON SUBSIDY; PATRICK REQUESTS ACTION ON VANDALISM

Community Council Monday night voted to continue its \$20 per/week subsidy to the Red Balloon for the balance of the semester, provided that matching funds are forthcoming from the administration.

James Fine, co-proprietor of the Red Balloon, explained the situation as follows: "At the beginning of the semester we got a subsidy of \$40 per week, half of which was to be provided by Council and half by the administration. The subsidy was intended to compensate Steve Tremper, Bob Levinson and myself for running the Balloon, but so far it has gone for operating expenses. We are running at a deficit, and we are asking for a continuance of the subsidy for six weeks more. We're not making any money for ourselves, but we want to keep this thing going. We've cut all our expenses to the bone; we can't cut them any more."

Councilman William Lensing read to Council a letter from Bard Athletic Director Charles Patrick in which Mr. Patrick asked Council to consider the problem of vandalism on campus. The contents of the letter follow:

"Gentlemen:

This is to inform you that the Tony Marzani Memorial Basketball will no longer hold air! It seems that one or more of our creative students have been using the ball for purposes other than basketball. They have invented a game whereby they kick the ball against the wall; the result being fatal to the ball.

It would seem to me that vandalism would be a good problem for council to tackle. I don't know how prevalent this condition exists on the rest of the campus, but I can say that in my eight years at Bard this has been the most trying. The following is a list of what has happened in the gym.

1. My office has been broken into twice.
2. Six pool cues have been destroyed.
3. Missing or stolen, etc.
  - a) basketball
  - b) volleyball
  - c) volleyball net
  - d) cue tipper and cue glue
  - e) 3 broken doors
  - f) many broken windows
  - g) broken water pipes
  - h) stolen clothing
  - i) broken billiard rack
  - j) broken squash rackets
  - k) slashed screens

I realize that most of our students are not responsible, but we do have students who have no respect for property. Perhaps you could apply to the government for funds and introduce "Operation Head Start" for this group of culturally-deprived students. You might also be able to trade the car you have purchased for a "paddy wagon" and use this to take the offenders to the Red Balloon which can be converted into a Maximum Security Prison. I read the "Gadfly" the other day in which some student criticized B&G for their lack of work. All things considered, I realize that everything at Bard is not perfect, but often wonder how the B&G crew keep their sanity. With six hundred acres of grounds and many buildings to take care of, it would seem to me that they are doing as much as can be expected--especially when they are continually called upon to clean up or repair damaged property caused by these same cultural-deprived students. The author of this article should have stated that students bear

responsibility in this matter.

There should be something that we can do about this relevant problem. It may even be of more importance than discussions that lead to condonation of L.S.D. or narcotics. Students insist on freedom, but many of them shirk the responsibility that freedom entails. As an experimental project we might convert the student government into a dictatorship so that students would learn what freedom means when they finally achieve their revolution.

These are just a few suggestions that I'm sure all honorable councilman will consider. Having served as a member of this distinguished body myself, I'm sure that you will take the time to deliberate on this problem.

Sincerely,  
Charles Patrick"

P.S. I have the Tony Marzani Memorial Basketball in my office and if council will give me the authorization, I'll have it gold-plated and inserted in the Bard College Athletic Trophy Case with the following inscription:

I came                      I saw                      I stole"

Councilman Lensing added that he would be interested in knowing what percentage of the college budget goes toward repairing the results of vandalism.

Chairman Livingston said he would speak to people and ask them to stop wrecking things, and added that the purchase of a kickball might alleviate the damage to volleyballs and basketballs. He also said that perhaps a reciprocal arrangement could be worked out whereby Council would do what it could to eliminate vandalism if Mr. Patrick would consider leaving the gym open later at nights.

Councilman McCune then moved to allocate a maximum of \$20 towards the purchase of a kickball for the gym. An amendment to name it the Craig Livingston Memorial Kickball failed 3-4-3 with Mr. Livingston voting to break the tie. The main body of the motion then passed by a vote of 5-4-1.

Council voted that the \$200 allocated to the Gospel Club revert to the Council treasury, since there will be no Gospel singing this semester.

Council also voted an additional allocation to Students for a Democratic Society of \$12 to help pay for a lecture by Stanley Faulkner. A discussion followed on the amount of money left in the Treasury. Councilman Shute said, "I'm not sure it's a good idea to go voting money on the assumption that money is going to start coming back."

Councilman McCune said that there was enough money in the Treasury to grant this request, and added that he would give a full Treasurer's report next week.

In line with this, Councilman Bernstein asked Councilman McCune to get in touch with all club chairmen and ask them to submit reports of how much money they expect to have left over in their budgets for this semester. Mr. McCune agreed.

Council appointed the following members of the Community to a committee to search Council minutes for precedents, procedural motions, and any other actions which would be of value to future Councils, and to compile an index of them: John Goodman, John McDonald, William Sherman, and Jeffrey Mortimer.

Councilman Krieger offered for approval the constitutions of the following organizations: Psychology Club, Chapel Committee, Jazz Club, Economics Club, Music Club, Jewish Services Committee, Bernard Iddings Bell Conservative Society, and the Film Society. He said that approval of the constitutions of the Psychology Club, Chapel Committee, and Jazz Club was contingent upon those organizations adding a clause to their documents providing for amending them.

Chairman Livingston reiterated that clubs that had not submitted constitutions would not be permitted to receive money from Council until they did so.

Upon request of Councilman Lensing, Councilman McCune agreed to submit a Treasurer's report every week after the reading of the minutes.

Council delegated its authority to choose the chairman of Orientation Committee to the committee itself, with the final approval of the chairman resting with Council.

THE CASE FOR MICROFILM

In the interest of presenting both sides of the controversy, and also for our own information, we went to see Mr. Aaron Fessler, director of the Library, and asked him his views on the subject and his answers to the objections raised in the last issue of The Gadfly. While the following is not a verbatim copy of the interview, we hope it presents substantially the questions we asked and the answers we received.

Mr. Fessler: I recognize that there is a dispute as to the relative usefulness of microfilm and bound periodicals, but what does the word usefulness mean?

I would say that if you had at least two copies of every single journal, you could have more than one person looking at each. Then our case for microfilm would have been much weaker than it actually was. However, we had only one copy of each journal, and some individual copies were relatively inaccessible. Also, sometimes we didn't have a particular journal at all.

If you measure usefulness by the number of people who can use the resources of the library, we were operating under a severe handicap. Many volumes were inaccessible or not available.

Gadfly: Wouldn't it have been possible to simply fill in the gaps in the collection with microfilm?

Mr. Fessler: Yes, entirely possible, if we had had the money. I recommended that we use the \$3,000 gift from Council to buy microfilm. Half of it would have gone to fill in the gaps and the other half to buy the machines to use the film. The copier, you know, makes it possible for more people to use the journals than before, since you can make endless copies from one film.

Gadfly: Wouldn't the cost of making individual copies be prohibitive to the students?

Mr. Fessler: Nobody can force you to make copies. Are you any better off with bound volumes? It may not cost money to take notes from them, but it's very time-consuming. Microfilm projections are also sometimes easier to read than the fine print of bound volumes, since the machines we have magnify the image from the original.

Gadfly: Who pays for copies that are made of journals and then put on reserve?

Mr. Fessler: Copies that are made for reserve purposes come out of the library budget. You don't pay for them at all. I insisted on this arrangement. It wouldn't be fair any other way.

To get this microfilm, we had to pay a price. The price was giving up the bound volumes. Half of them were here, half of them were in the Blithewood basement, and many were in miserable condition. We would have had to pay approximately \$2,000 to supply the gaps in our collection. This way we gave up 1600 volumes and got 2,000 in return.

We have also freed the \$3,000 gift from Council for other purposes. Now, with the Higher Education Act of 1965, there is a very strong possibility that we can get matching Federal funds. We have less storage and maintenance problems with microfilm, and we'll have all our bound volumes since 1957 right in the Main Library. They can't take anything since 1957. I arranged to have it this way, since it's been my experience that these are the most heavily used volumes.

Gadfly: Are there enough machines?

Mr. Fessler: They've been here three weeks and I've never seen more than two people using them simultaneously. I've also had many favorable comments on the ease of use and the quality of the readers and the copier.

Jeffrey T. Mortimer  
Ilene Rosen

WXBC

On April 26 over twenty people expressed an interest in helping Glenn Pomerance (station manager), Bruce Atwood (technical director), Andy Krieger (public relations director), and Robert Rivlin (program director) and Aaron L. Fessler (faculty adviser) form and operate radio station WXBC. The station plans to file for its FCC license within the next few weeks after discussion with legal and engineering consultants. It will be an FM educational station with a ten-watt transmitter and two-gain antenna, thus giving it a reception radius of five to seven miles. This will include all student and faculty housing with the exception, perhaps of Schuyler House.

The exact location of the radio station which will include one large studio and a smaller control room is as yet uncertain. Proposed sites are the basements of the Library, Kappa House, and Ward Manor.

The station will be filling a gap in FM educational transmission between Albany and Poughkeepsie. This culturally depressed area is in need of such a station and it is hoped that this will be of some importance in the FCC's approval of the station.

The weekly program (which will be mimeographed in advance) will include a variety of musical presentations, among them classical, jazz, American folk and bluegrass, gospel, ethnic, and rock and roll. Among the discussion shows being planned is a two and a half hour forum on Sundays, much in the line of David Susskind's Open End. Mr. Rivlin also hopes to be able to devote a large amount of time to live airings of student talents--poetry readings, musical performances readings of senior projects, etc. It is also hoped that enough material can be gathered to present a series entitled Modern Poets on Poetry. The program will include discussions and readings by poets both on and off our own campus.

Do you have any suggestions for programs? Do you have any ideas as to where the station should be housed? Would you like to have a show? Do you have any experience in radio that should be valuable to us? Would you like to become a member of the staff anyway? Please contact any of the abovementioned persons or drop off a note in campus mail to WXBC, Box 56.

WXBC staff

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

To the Editors:

We are submitting the completed answer sheet to the quickie quiz which appeared as a joke in the last issue of Gadfly Papers. Although we have filled in the blanks to the best of our abilities, we have made no attempt to correct the logic, which seems to be of a different kind than the customary deductive variety.

#### THE USEFULNESS OF BOUND PERIODICALS

Several questions have arisen as to why we anti-progressives on the Gadfly are opposed to the replacement of little more than 1/5 of Bard's bound periodical collection with microfilm. The first point we should bear in mind is that bound periodicals must be of some value, since Academic Archives was extremely interested in getting them before many of them rotted away in Blithewood basement. It is unlikely that that organization would enter into an agreement that it felt was disadvantageous to itself, or that Bard would enter into an agreement that it felt was disadvantageous to itself.

The second point is that periodicals are far more useful in certain disciplines in the form of bound volumes than on microfilm, particularly in the fields of the social studies, literature, languages, and natural sciences. Students interested in investigating the worth of particular books for their purposes often use the bound periodicals to look up reviews of books, and can now look them up on microfilm.

There are also a large number of useful articles that have never been reprinted in anthologies and have to be read in the original journals in which they were published, and which can now be read on microfilm.

Many fields of interest, especially for major conferences, senior projects, moderations, term papers, and weekly assignments are areas that have not been adequately covered in books. Students find themselves doing all their reading in journals, in an attempt to piece together relevant information that cannot be otherwise obtained, and which can now be obtained on microfilm.

Finally, some professors give courses whose reading assignments are partly or wholly in the journals. It is not difficult to imagine the problems that would arise when a class of twenty or thirty has one week to use five microfilm machines, instead of one book, and the cost of having each student make a copy of the reading for himself would be prohibitive, even though the library has not decided to charge a fee yet.

We hope that the relative position of the Gadfly on this issue will not continue to be interpreted as one of negativeistic obstructionism. While realizing the benefits of microfilm, we also realize that there are drawbacks to its use, and that more careful

consideration of those drawbacks should have been given before little more than 1/5 of the periodical collection was consigned to the spools.

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We offer this in good humor and serious concern. The issue here is more than simply a question of what's going on with the microfilm. It involves the integrity of the Gadfly. The Gadfly is proud of its objective and intelligent presentation of Council activities, which it prints on the first page every week. It should realize that there is such a thing as intelligent journalism also, and we would like to see this carried out in its subsequent pages. Satirical anecdotes and personal opinions are more forceful and more meaningful when based on fact. Exaggeration must be based on fact. The article "The Usefulness of Bound Periodicals" reflected ignorance of any fact whatsoever. It might be noted, for the interest of the community, that none of the 3 authors of the Gadfly article had spoken, previous to writing the article, to the library authorities involved in the matter either to get the matter straight, or to better inform their own point of view. In case they are interested in the facts, we recommend an excellent article in the last issue of the Observer, which states them clearly.

M. Kathryn Rauscher  
Carole-Jean Smith