

President Botstein Takes First Place in Presidential Roller-Dance-Off

NOAH WURTZ

Last week, Bard College President Leon Botstein took first place in the Presidential Roller-Dance-Off, raising over \$150,000 for Bard College.

It all began three months ago, when President Botstein read the sticky note on his refrigerator he had put there almost 33 years before, after he had first taken charge of the college. In crude handwriting, partially obscured by the stain of some ancient Chinese food, it simply read: ‘Dont ferget ndowment’.

“Every once in a while, when I’m scanning the interior of my refrigerator for a stimulating snack,” said Botstein, “I notice that old sticky note and think, hey, why not stick a couple extra bucks in there.” After grabbing a couple of pickles from the pickle shelf, Botstein immediately set to

work. sized roller rink he is rumored to have built in his basement. Indeed, students report hearing what sounded like Flashdance’s ‘What a Feeling’ drifting out of the President’s house until the wee hours of the night.

When the day finally arrived, a fleet of limousines and BMW’s pulled into the parking lot of the Fisher Center for the Performing Arts. Out piled the wealthy donors, twirling their moustaches and clutching handfuls of money to later be tossed at the bedazzled roller boots of their favorite college president.

Students bubbled with anticipation. “There’s nothing better than seeing our endowment get increased ever so slightly by desperately entertaining a few wealthy donors!” beamed one student. “I don’t

Mac. The audience was utterly enchanted. “It was like he was floating across the stage, he really captured something new, yet ultimately essential to the art of roller-dance,” said Bruce Chilton, Bernard Iddings Bell Professor of Religion at Bard College.

President Botstein managed to raise a total of \$150,000 for Bard College, after winning first place in the competition. Yet, Botstein tells us, the sticky note remains on his fridge--the Board of Directors decided to invest the winnings in a new turf field where Philosophy majors could think.

“Running a college requires many complex decisions, indeed, more than are immediately apparent. We put a huge amount into this effort, intellectually,

Lucky for him, the decennial Presidential Roller-Dance-Off, a fundraising event in which college presidents roller-dance for money, was only three months away. The President decided to seize the opportunity

The Board of Directors set aside a budget of \$12,000 dollars for costuming and wheel grease, and contacted Dance Department Chair Maria Sampson to aid in choreography. “Leon and his colleagues are a real pleasure to work with,” Maria told Bardvark, “Once they get out of those stuffy three piece suits, they really are quite lithe!”

Botstein and his Board spent the following week in his home, veiled in total secrecy. It is speculated that during this week they practiced Botstein’s roller-dance routine in the full

even care if our endowment gets bigger, as long as we have money to buy more cool stuff!” gushed another.

The festivities went off without a hitch. Elizabeth H. Bradley, the newly elected president of Vassar College, proved to be healthy competition for President Botstein. Bedecked in a spectacular Roman gladiator costume, she managed to land a perfect double kick spin to the tune of ‘Girls Just Wanna Have Fun’ by Cyndi Lauper. “It was really amazing,” said one observer, “and she managed to do it all while holding a gladius and iaculum!”

But nobody proved a match for President Botstein. Dressed in a simple blue leotard, Botstein delivered a heart wrenchingly emotional performance to ‘Landslide’ by Fleetwood

politically and emotionally. The endowment isn’t a priority,” Botstein told Bardvark.

For now, the endowment will gather dust alongside President Botstein’s roller skates. That is, until ten years from now, at the next Presidential Roller-Dance-Off.

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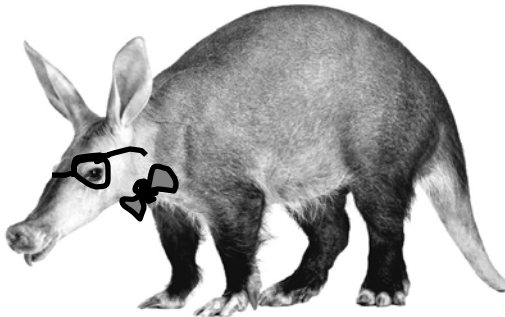
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Brad College

BARDVARK



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THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2018

Annandale-On-Hudson, NY

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NEWS, BRIEFLY

For those who do not like to read, but still know how to.

Report: You Could Always Transfer
P. 33

President Botstein Quietly Buys Eighteen Elephants, Deposits Them In Montgomery Place
P. 12

Shapeless, Ethereal Spirit Gives Best Performance SMOG Has Seen In Years
P. 67

Please, Tell Me More About Nietzsche And Your Sad Dick
P. 6

Ticks Confirm: “Yes, We Still Have Lyme Disease, And Very Much Want You To Have It Too”
P. 106

Bumbling Idiot Parent Can’t Remember Finer Details of Communist Manifesto
P. 49

OPINION

Migratory Birds Are False And You Can’t Convince Me Otherwise

That’s right, I said it. No way to take it back now.
SYLVIA BURTSWATTLE

Lookie here kids, I’m about to lay a big one down, and I hope you’re all ready for it. Here goes nothing: migratory birds are, indeed, false. You heard me correctly. All that time spent hoping for a glimpse of some ornithological beauty, has been a complete and utter waste. Not one bird migrates. I hate to say it, but it’s true. Sure, I’ll concede that birds can fly, but there’s not way that you can persuade me to believe that those feathered little guys will pack up and fly south for a lousy season. There’s just no way it’s possible. Not only are the motivations

for migratory birds iffy (at best), but so are the logistics. You’re telling me that an entire pack of birds will group together and cross an entire country, as an organized unit? There is something quite flawed in that thinking. Trust me, I love the idea of a bunch of warmth-loving fowl collectively deciding to take a vacay to escape the snow as much as the next person, but it’s time we wake up and smell the regionally stationary flowers. I hope you can swallow your pride enough to at least consider that fact that you might be wrong, and that I might (definitely) be right.

DtR Now Offering Live Chickens For Extra Early Risers

NATHANAEL J. MATOS

Down the Road Cafe has now decided to embrace the Bardian agenda of low-waste consumption. Starting next week, DtR will be having local chickens brought to their little corner of the Bertelsmann Campus Centre, where they will be euthanized for the consumption of their patrons. Not only will Bardians now be treated to having fresh, local poultry for all their poultry-based needs, patrons who arrive a half-hour before their doors open for business each morning will be treated to quite a show. Every morning, a designated worker will be selected to perform a ritualistic sacrifice of the first chicken in the dining area right outside the main entrance. This chicken, after

having been blessed by the Chaplain, Mary Grace Williams, will then be thrown in the ‘Pot of Destiny’ for the morning’s specialty soup -- beak, feet, feathers, crest, and all. Fret not animal lovers, the chickens will be killed humanely (with the exception of the one chosen for the morning’s ritual). New menu items will also be added to include every part of the chickens slain. Soon you will be able to top your early risers with grilled cloaca or have chicken blood sauce for your pizzas. One student, upon hearing this news, expressed his excitement, “Oh God.” I think his words can echo the sympathies of all members of the Bard community.

Campus Morale Low As Dinner Party School Ranking Slips From 1st to 4th

MEGAN BRIEN

Shock waves reverberated through the populace of Bard College this past week after an updated list of rankings hit princetonreview.com/college-rankings/ on Friday afternoon. Having held the coveted first place spot for five years running, Bard has cultivated quite the reputation for its rampant dinner party culture. First reported by Onion News in 2011, the school’s so-called “epidemic” reached unprecedented heights in the fall of 2015, when it is said that one could not walk through campus for more than five minutes without hearing the splash of pouring wine or the whoosh of salad spinners. Since then, the scene of

wining and dining toned down substantially after a student was sent to the hospital, their condition resulting from a harrowing incident involving a panini press and a “funky” batch of home brew. The school now sits at fourth place, filing in just behind Swarthmore College and Wesleyan University, and giving its previous front-runner space to Middlebury College. Despite this recent upset, the students of Bard are confident in their ability to push their way back to the top. “Dinner party culture is integral to Bard’s social scene,” says sophomore Cayley Ray, “It’s definitely not going anywhere.”

New First Year Requirement To Track, Kill, and Dismember a Fox Leaves Some Uneasy // BRIGID PFEIFER

At Bard College, students must complete many important requirements in their first year, including The Language and Thinking Program, Citizen Science and First-Year Seminar. However, the school's most recent addition to the First Year Curriculum has proven to be even more controversial than learning science over the winter intersession. President Botstein has announced that by the end of a student's first year, they must each present a mutilated fox to the office of registrar. When asked for the reasons behind this idea, Botstein claimed, "With class registration during Language and Thinking now taking place online, students may forget when those before them had to brutally compete with one another in order to get their first choice

classes. Hunting foxes will prove to members of the faculty that a student is a strong social climber." Naturally, not everyone is happy about this requirement. A student who wishes to remain anonymous tells Bardvark, "Bard College is dedicated to being eco-friendly. I just don't think it's best for the environment if foxes go extinct." Unfortunately for animal lovers, all students must be the ones to kill each fox. Cheating of any kind will result in expulsion without the option to transfer. While some are attempting to take legal action, Bardvark has reported that all attempts thus far have been as successful as the times off-campus students tried to sue their landlords. In other words, lawyers are still sick of Bard students complaining.

REVIEW

My Review of the "Straightforward Hotel"

LOLA BUNCHER

This afternoon, upon landing in New Jersey, I found myself spending a night at Newark's very own Straightforward Hotel. It met all of my expectations.

Normally I might have been discontented upon finding a blood stain in the carpet, but it was included in the advertisement, so I couldn't complain.

I was exceptionally pleased to find that my room lacked the globs of semen or the smattering of pubes that I

had been promised. However, I was quite disappointed upon realizing that the "Andes Mint" that was so kindly left on my pillow was, in fact, not a mint at all. In their defense, I should have carried my wits about me in regards to an unwrapped chocolate on my pillow.

Overall rating: 3/5 stars.

I knew what I was getting myself into.

TOUGH TALKS // LOLA BUNCHER

Three reasons why Osmosis Jones is the better OJ.

1. Osmosis is cool and blue!
2. Osmosis makes germs look like a bitch!
3. Osmosis definitely did not slaughter his wife.

CULTURE

ABC to Air 'Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark Live!'

BRIGID PFEIFER

Tired of playing second fiddle to NBC or Fox, ABC will be live broadcasting the famously well received hit musical Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark this summer. It has been reported that the Broadway run of Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark

“People these days crave shows that portray the misery of others, like that Wipeout show or when Saturday Night Live mocks the government.”

resulted in many injured cast members—and executive producer Bono is looking forward to more of them, "People these days crave shows that portray the misery of others, like that Wipeout show or when Saturday Night Live mocks the government. I want this live

broadcast to make people glad that they're at least not getting irreversibly maimed while wearing some superhero costume." Like other recent efforts to make live

TV musicals more exciting, the show will take place in the actual streets of Manhattan. It is

said that traffic will not be cleared and no ambulances will be at the venue. The cast has yet to be announced, but Bono requests that those interested should not have a preference as to whether or not they are still alive by the end of the first act.

MAGIC

Wizard Trapped In Glowing Tower Outside Campus Center Unsure Why He Has Not Been Rescued Yet

JACKSON SPARGUR

For 300 years, the wizard Agroth The Wise has called a lonely spire his home, trapped in the confines of a bell tower by the cruel spell of the Arch-Mage Belsiphus. Luckily, situated between the Bertelsmann Campus Center and the Chapel of the Holy Innocents, in Annandale-on-Hudson, upstate New York, his tower would seem to be in the perfect spot for some intrepid hero to ascend the stony walls, clamber through the upper window, and recite the freeing incantation for which Agroth has been patiently waiting for centuries. However, we have learned that not even once has a young, dashing lad, clad in a wo-

ven tunic, even so much as tried to find some purchase on the rough granite stones of the outer wall. Bardvark spoke to Agroth in brief, from the base of his cursed prison: "It's not even that tall," he said, with apparent frustration. "Every night I work powerful magic to project glowing colors from the tower, from blues, to greens, to purples, hoping at least one adventuresome, nimble spirit might take the challenge of my rescue as their duty. None of them even seem that curious." At press time, Agroth had resorted to ringing the tower's bell.



Hey! You! Reader!

Think you've got what it takes to write for Bardvark? Wanna pet a real-life aardvark? Contact mb6046@bard.edu, and who knows what might happen. ;) :o

Clash of Giants: Ken Cooper and Cliff Face Off in Battle of Century

AKIVA HIRSCH

Last night, at approximately eleven p.m., several dinner parties were disturbed by the sounds of deadly hand to hand combat between two of Bard's fiercest warriors: Ken Cooper and Cliff. Cliff, recognized across campus for being the only security guard employed at Bard, drove a golf cart through the front door and up the stairs of the Old Gym before finally arriving at Ken Cooper's office. Security footage shows Cliff and Ken Cooper argued for a moment before Ken Cooper assumed a crane stance in the style of The Karate Kid, followed by kicking Cliff through the wall and onto the pavement below. Early reporters on the scene remarked that this only seemed to anger Cliff; he

then jumped to his feet, began levitating, and threw an energy ball at Ken Cooper. Ken Cooper has not been seen since, but rumor has it that he's hiding behind the one bulletproof wall in Olin. According to several students who wished to remain anonymous, Cliff had been considering taking control of the security department for weeks. "I remember him saying something like 'I could run this [expletive] show better than Ken [expletive]ing Cooper,'" one student recalls. Until an official decision regarding security department command has been made, Donna from Kline will be interim-director of security.

HOROSCOPES

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Be a little mysterious.

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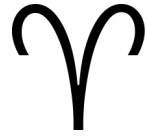
PISCES



Make someone melt today.

-DOVE

ARIES



Real friends share chocolate.

-DOVE

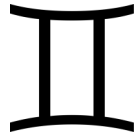
TAURUS



It's never too late!

-DOVE

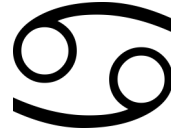
GEMINI



Trust with your heart, not your head.

-DOVE

CANCER



Love is the only true adventure.

-DOVE

LEO



Love and be loved.

-DOVE

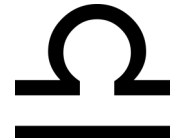
VIRGO



Love is closer than you think.

-DOVE

LIBRA



Hold hands firmly, hearts gently.

-DOVE

SCORPIO



Love rules, without rules.

-DOVE

SAGITTARIUS



Chocolate won't let you down.

-DOVE

CAPRICORN



It's definitely a bubble bath day.

-DOVE