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Bard Opens High School in New York

New project presents NYC High School students with an education that would make Leon proud

BRYAN GUNDERSON

In view of the Urgent need to respond to the crisis in American secondary education, Bard College and the Board of Education of New York City have agreed to collaborate in creating a new four-year alternative to traditional high school called the Bard High School Early College (BHSEC).

The BHSEC, located on the fourth floor of a newly renovated, but quirky public school on 424 Leonard Street in Greenpoint Brooklyn, will open its doors to incoming 9th and 11th grade classes this week. In grades 9 and 10, the students undertake studies in an alternative high school curriculum that prepares them for serious college work at the outset of grade 11. Grades 11 and 12 consist of college work, for which students receive college credit. But unlike a college environment like Bard, the Early College has a much more traditional fixed curriculum. Students are required to take a 2 year humanities seminar, 1 year of non western history, 1 year of both math and lab science, a course all four semesters on making art, mandatory foreign language (either Chinese, Latin, or Spanish), and a course on the history of the Americas.

The school is an attempt to actualize the ideas articulated in Leon Botstein's fairly recent book Jefferson's Children, which advocates breaking the distinct line between high school and college. But the ideas driving BHSEC are certainly not new; Bard has made available a similar opportunity

available to students at its private, rural, Simon's Rock campus for the last 35 years. What is new is taking those same ideas that fuel Simon's Rock and porting them to an urban public school. Botstein, the school's primary philosophical architect, said of BHSEC that it is "arguably the most significant break through in urban high school education, in any city."

The 125 students of each class were each granted admission based on portfolio and interview, in place of any standardized examination. According to an official BHSEC statement, the salient criteria of a students application, "include grades, and evidence of ambition, imagination, and intellectual curiosity." Although BHSEC's admissions are competitive, it does not seek to be a prestigious magnet school like Hunter or LaGuardia. It is an educational experiment that hopes to show the real advantages of college at an early age. Bob Martin, Bard's new vice president of Academic affairs, recently stressed the fact that BHSEC "is not a 'Talented and Gifted' school." The school's purpose is "to show that the ideas in Leon's book make sense. It is trying to show that a large number of students are bored and could benefit from this type of education."

The entire idea of BHSEC differs very fundamentally from any of the city's private or magnet school. Where as admission to most of New York's better secondary educations is based on per-

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Mike Castillo

Campus-wide construction continues: Students found two new dorms on Campus Road and visible progress made on the Performing Arts Center and the Village Dorms.

Student Dark-room Reopens in Basement of Seymour

SARAH DOPP

This year even the non-photo majors will have the opportunity to develop their pictures. Dean of First Year Students John Kelly is heading the project of turning a room in the basement of Seymour into a student darkroom. Students who are not in the Photo Department will have first priority in using the facility. "I want people who don't have access to have access," says Kelly.

The room itself, which has two double-basin sinks and soon three enlargers, should be ready for use during the first week of classes. Kelly will hold a meeting mid-September for all interested students to discuss the ground rules of the room. He is currently working to establish a student government-run co-op that will provide developing materials to students at low costs.

Students can expect to find

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The Changing of the Guard

Bard administration restructures and adds three new deans

AMBER BUCHHOLZ

From a new dean to a new head of multicultural affairs, the face of Ludlow has markedly changed during the summer of 2001. While this may be a period of ambition and expansion for the administration, only time will tell how these changes will shape Bard in the future. There are "no secret agendas, no hidden plans. Everything is just a work in progress," explained Robert Martin, recently appointed Vice President for Academic Affairs. Commenting on the fluid nature of initiatives at Bard, Martin continued, "Bard is not a bureaucratic school, and this means that there are no canonized ways of running things here. Instead everything is built on tradition, which creates a unique climate for change."

As most students know, Stuart Levine, Dean of the College for over two decades, resigned last spring, and Anthropology Professor Michele Dominy stepped into the position. "I hope to create a climate for curricular innovation and enhancement," said Dominy of her new role. The College already has an excellent reputation in the arts,

but she'd like to see Bard attract more students to the study of science and social studies. Plans for enhancing the Mathematics and Natural Sciences Division have been in the planning for several semesters (one example being the recent partnership Bard established with Rockefeller University), and overall the Division is well on its way toward dynamic growth, especially in Biology and Computer Science.

Dominy is particularly interested in promoting social studies into a high profile role as well. She speaks of the importance of using education for a higher purpose, and would like to see more students working for a cause or goal which transcends the self, and doing so in a reflective way; the humanities provide the catalyst for this reflection, keeping politics and other social endeavors grounded in an intellectual tradition.

Dominy is also planning to look closely at a few of the hallmarks of the Bard education, including the advising system and moderation, strengthening these processes where necessary. Lastly, she seeks to promote new modes

of integrating disciplines, and has several ideas in mind. For example, she believes science and social studies can easily share common ground, in the form of courses that investigate the connections between science, politics and culture. She'd like to see these courses focus on emerging technologies, such as biotechnology and media, and explore the ways technologies are impacting our culture and transforming our world.

Julia Rosenbaum, the new Associate Dean of the College, will work closely with Dean Dominy, further honing in on the intellectual life of the community. Rosenbaum, who specializes in American visual culture, taught an expository writing course at Harvard similar to Bard's Language and Thinking Workshop, differing in that it took place over the course of an entire semester. She seeks to promote critical thinking and writing at Bard, and will also work closely with many of the new fellowship and grant programs.

While both Dominy and Rosenbaum are new to the roles of administrators, they are finding ways to incorporate their academic

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The Bard Free Press Mission Statement

The purpose of the Bard Free Press is to serve the community with a reliable and timely newspaper. We cover local and international news, arts and entertainment and opinions. News, with the exception of some national and international stories, is reported through investigation and interviews with the primary sources. We provide a forum of student voice, facilitating an exchange between students, staff, faculty and administration, be it through the sharing of news or the publication of individuals' opinions. We are, in a sense, a published bulletin board of news and ideas. In addition to being a means to create a campus-wide dialogue, we are also a news source, and we take pride in our ability to cover Bard events, break stories and publish interviews for the Bard community. We operate as a constitutionally-protected independent newspaper, free from the prejudices and opinions of the administration, our advertisers, and other media sources. Most importantly, we are a group of students who are learning about the reportage of news and opinions and the production of a newspaper.

Bard, NYC Board of Education Open New School High School

continued on page...

formance on standardized tests, BHSEC's application does not require any sort of testing. Similar to magnet schools, the advent of being public is that the school can afford not to seek out the city's wealthiest families, which assures that the class is not a matter of money, but rather a matter of factors of merit and desire. On the most basic level the school caters to those students who feel as if they will benefit from an early college education: this is an opportunity that is not only exclusive to the city's finer high schools, but to the nations high school in general. BHSEC is just plain different in its mission, structure, and student body than any high school in the country, public or private.

Consequently, ever since the school was finally approved and announced on June 7, 2001, it has received an enthusiastic welcome from the surrounding communities who, according to Botstein, are experiencing a real "momentum of improvement in urban education." Along with a favorable reception, has come a host of applications for the 9th and 11th grade classes. Mary Backland, the head of admissions at both Bard and BHSEC, has worked assiduously in order to pull together the school's first two classes whose backgrounds range anywhere from underprivileged Russian and Polish immigrants to students relinquishing

spots from some of the city's top private schools.

Although enthusiasm amongst teachers proved equally widespread, putting all the teachers at the school's seminar tables would be more difficult than the students. The idea of the school is to integrate the high school and college experience, while still maintaining some of the distinct aspects of each. The 9th and 10th grade are taught by qualified New York City public school teachers, where as the 11th and 12th grades are taught by real college professors with Ph.D.'s. Although around 400 applications poured in, the Teachers Union said that if the college professors were going to teach under the same roof, they would have to have the same certification as the high school teachers. Arthur Levine, the president of the Teachers' College at Columbia University has created a thorough certification program to be offered during nights and weekends that neither compromises the concerns of the union, nor ignores the position of the professors.

Other professors are being taken from the American Symphony Orchestra, and the Rockefeller Institute as well as former Bard professor Andre Assiman, who will be teaching a course on Proust, and Bard Professor Wilmetta Toliver who will conduct a seminar on African History. The involvement of the ASO, Rockefeller Institute, and

Bard Professors indicates what Martin referred to as an "institutional commitment." In that same vein, administrators have been gathered from both Simon's Rock and Bard: Patricia Sharpe of Simon's Rock is soon to be the dean of studies, BaWin, Simon's Rock's provost, will be the school's new Dean of Students, and our very own Ray Paterson, the former head of the Language and Thinking program, will take up the helm as the school's new principal.

The all-star line up of professors and administrators, opportunities and amenities has posed at least an initial and immediate financial concern. The Gates Foundation generously donated one million dollars to the school, after immediate enthusiasm, and a grant from the Carnegie Corporation for a yet to be determined amount is in progress. Nevertheless, a completely public school cannot subsidize of corporate grants for a prolonged period of time. BHSEC must prove self-sufficient in order to validate the philosophy behind it. To be a real success, the school's philosophy needs to be replicable at schools all over New York and essentially in any city. Botstein is confident that the school's philosophy is both sound



Just like Bard: At BHSEC, discussion is stressed.

and financially reasonable; he said that, "the state has an obligation to educate all of its citizens. One ambition of the school is to show that this can be done in a fiscally sensible way—quality is not a function of money."

BHSEC will certainly face stern criticism in the face of skeptics—as would any new idea—but the real problem facing the school is a problem tightly knit into realizing good ideas: can the project work, and can it be done with any real quality. Political and institutional cooperation, as well as an atmosphere of excitement are certainly favorable harbingers of success, but the school is still an experiment with inevitable kinks

ahead of it. In the eyes of the school's optimistic supporters, those kinks are just part of the process of trying to develop a more rich and educationally profitable option for American secondary schooling.

The general tectonics that led from the idea itself to the creation of BHSEC mark an institution that is taking a highly active role in actually seeking to serve the public. The ingenuity, passion and thoughtfulness of BHSEC should, According to Leon, "be a sense of pride for Bard undergraduates, knowing that their institution takes such a prominent role in the public interest."

Brown Student Works to Raise Awareness About American-Puerto Rican Relations

Emily Schmall

A half-white, half-Puerto Rican nineteen year old toting a backpack emerges from the gates at Grand Central Station. With documents in hand, Fernando Bobis looks like any other nicely dressed, middle class white kid from Irvington. But looks can be deceiving. Marking the April 28th anniversary of the death of civilian David Sanes, Brown University saw the coalescing of a group of concerned students which. This group focuses on the education of the campus and surrounding community about the Navy presence and subsequent consequences in Vieques, Puerto Rico. The leader of this small activist movement is Fernando Bobis - is an incoming sophomore impassioned with the desire to help.

Frustrated by the lack of consideration of the health and welfare of Viequeses, Bobis decided to take action. "We had given [Vieques] a democratic vote. [The U.S.] is forever claiming that it will fight tooth and nail for the rights of democracy, but the truth is, it doesn't matter," Bobis said, referring to the July 29th referendum: 68% voted the Navy out immediately. Nonetheless, President Bush decided to keep utilizing the area as practice grounds until 2003. Protestors are not satisfied with this decision, and many, including Bobis, are fight-

ing for a sooner date. He wanted to support something other than a strictly campus based cause. After visiting Vieques for the first time last winter break his eyes were opened to a whole new side of Puerto Rico. Due to the desolate state of water and land resulting from military contamination, Vieques has lost her two largest industries - sugar cane and fishing. The federal government denies all claims of causing any damage. Nevertheless, the Committee for the Rescue and Development of Vieques has participated in a three day military waste cleanup in an effort to lessen some of the more prominent destruction. Recently, volunteers removed missiles and other toxic wastes from sporadic locations along the beaches.

"It was incredibly beautiful, in that it was a contrast between really pristine beaches and the

oh-so-obvious land destroyed by the Navy." Bobis was surprised to learn of the discrepancies in the Puerto Rican landscape. "Unlike the rest of Puerto Rico, it was very desert-like, something you'd see in New Mexico. I couldn't believe in a place where unemployment is at 80%, the gas prices would be higher than in other areas." After gathering a coalition of 25-30 students, Bobis began organizing various social displays to attract students and faculty. His primary project was an art installation on the Green at Brown that included photographs, graphic art, and essays based on Vieques. Despite the group's efforts, attendance was small; Bobis blamed it in part on a general lack of coverage of minority events at Brown.

"People were interested to a point," Bobis said. He relied on adrenaline and God to keep the

organization up for the rest of the year while also facing struggles with his health. He did, however, manage to head a letter-writing campaign, spawning 530 letters, the copies of which he plans to send to both President Bush and Governor Sila Calderon. Adamant about continuing the education at Brown and surrounding Providence, Bobis has kept in touch with several lofty figures including Robert Rabin, "the 'man' from Brooklyn", and also the spokesperson for the Rescue and Development of Vieques - a prominent organization stationed outside the gates of Navy land. Also, Bobis has traded emails with Tito Kayak, an activist arrested for climbing the Statue of Liberty and hanging a Puerto Rican and an American flag at its peak.

Bobis is one of many United States students working through the power of awareness. To him, it is more than an issue of democracy; it is also an issue of civility. Coming from an upper middle class, mostly white suburb of New York City, Bobis knows what it feels like to be a minority. He was often dubbed with the term 'Nuyorican', signaling the disparity between state-side and mainland Puerto Ricans. In school, his identity was completely vanquished: "I was a Mexican without knowing it." Other main-land Puerto Ricans, or Puerto Ricans

who live in the States, have also run into similar problems when attempting to show solidarity. "It's a struggle for identity," Bobis explains. Since Bobis's greater involvement with the situation at Vieques, he has ventured more in the city, and even returned to Puerto Rico. Trying to recover a part of him which he feels is lost shows a microcosm of what is happening to thousands of Viequeses -- whose faith in their U.S. citizenship continuously decreases. "There is no common interest seen because it's so easy to forget that these people are U.S. citizens."

Politicians, celebrities and even nuns have been some of the many who line the border dividing Vieques and U.S. Navy Grounds. Some, including the recently released Reverend Al Sharpton, Jacqueline Jackson, Tito Kayak, and Robert Kennedy Jr. have paid the price of their civil disobedience with up to sixty days in jail.

Bobis is not ready to press that far, but he will continue to do his part. "We are really trying to bridge a gap that has forever been a serious division. Of course, there are a lot of forces against the movement. People aren't going to stop fighting, and we can ask for nothing more than to be able to spread the word...this is what the movement is all about."



New Faces in Ludlow

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backgrounds into their positions. Rosenbaum felt optimistic about the change, and looks forward to making use of "a lot of innovation, a lot of possibility" in her new role. Both Deans and Vice President Martin plan to continue to teach, beginning as soon as next semester. Dominy will continue her role as an adviser of senior projects and first-year students, as well, and stresses the importance of establishing a connection with students. Rosenbaum echoed this sentiment, explaining, "I highly encourage any student to come and visit, especially those in their first year. Our situations are analogous, because we are new to the college, and trying to negotiate our way through an unfamiliar environment. It will be interesting to share that experience with students."

Robert Martin, recently appointed Vice President for Academic Affairs, will also work in partnership with the new Deans, toward the goal of strengthening academics at Bard. "Anything that's not purely undergraduate becomes my focus," he explained. As the former Dean of Graduate Studies, he has already worked closely with programs such as the Graduate Center for Environmental Policies, and the Bard Graduate Program in the Decorative Arts. Bard does not seek to expand its programs into traditional areas of graduate study, he stressed, because that would detract from the value of pursuing an undergraduate degree in a liberal environment. Should professors at Bard concentrate their energy on teaching to graduate students in

disciplines such as philosophy, math or writing, he feels the likelihood is that the attention paid to undergraduates would suffer. Martin believes, however, that the unique and innovative nature of Bard's graduate programs serve only to enrich our community, and he would like to see a greater integration of the two communities on the Annandale campus.

Also being launched this semester are two distinct but equally innovative projects in New York City, the Globalization and International Affairs Program (BGIA) in Manhattan, and the Bard High School Early College (BHSEC) in Brooklyn. Particularly interesting is the relationship Martin seeks to establish between BHSEC and current Bard students: Martin is planning within the next few years to implement a Master of Arts Program in Teaching, in which Bard students would spend a year pursuing graduate work in New York City and doing their student teaching at BHSEC.

The former of the two projects in New York City falls into the domain of Jonathan Becker, new Dean of International Programs. Becker doesn't see his new position as a dramatic change from his former one, and instead feels that he has now been "freed up" to pursue in depth the international projects he once juggled with a number of other responsibilities. BGIA is one of many programs Becker is now focusing on; others include Bard in China and the human rights program in South Africa, as well as continuing partnership with Smolny College in St. Petersburg, the first Liberal Arts institution in Russia.

Bard Welcomes New Assistant Dean and Director of Multi-Cultural Affairs

BETH GRAHAM

As the 2001-2002 school year begins at Bard College, returning students will see many new faces—not only in their classes, but also in the administration. One of these new faces is Jennifer Jimenez, the new Assistant Dean of Students and Director for Multicultural Affairs.

Originally from the San Francisco Bay Area, Jennifer is ecstatic to be at Bard. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Linguistics from the University of California at Santa Barbara, and upon graduation, served as an Assistant Resident Director on campus. After Santa Barbara, she attended the University of Maryland at College Park, where she received her Master's Degree in Counseling and Personal Services. While attending the University of Maryland, Jennifer served as the Coordinator for Student Involvement and Asian Pacific American Community Advocacy. In total, she has worked in some form of student services for the past five years.

So, why did Jennifer Jimenez wish to accept the position of Assistant Dean of Students and

Director for Multicultural Affairs at Bard? She said it was simple, and stated, "This job basically encompasses everything I was looking for in a profession. Multicultural Affairs has been a passion of mine since I was in college, and I wanted to serve as the Assistant Dean in order to have more administrative power to make decisions to better life at Bard."

Being the new assistant Dean of Students and Director for Multicultural Affairs isn't as easy as it may seem. Jennifer mentioned a few of the many tasks put in front of her. She stated, "I work with various people across campus, including the Diversity Board and Diversity Educators — committed students, staff, faculty, and administrators interested in enhancing understanding and awareness of multicultural issues across campus. I also plan multicultural events and programs on campus and facilitate trainings and workshops related to issues of diversity. Basically, I am here to help increase cross-cultural awareness and enhance cross-cultural communication."

While here, Jennifer hopes to accomplish many things. In particular, she mentioned, "I hope

to increase awareness through dialogue — create safe spaces where we can discuss issues surrounding social class, racism, sexual orientation, etc. — things that we see and know exists, but don't always talk about. I also wish to increase education in these areas."

Bard has definitely been an adjustment for her, from her sunny California home, but she is enjoying it. She comments, "Bard is definitely a unique environment. The people I've met are phenomenal and extremely friendly. The students and staff are great."

Jennifer lives on campus, in a student dormitory. Commenting on why she chose to live in this environment, Jennifer explained, "I chose to live on campus because I wanted to spend my first year getting acclimated with the school. I also want to make sure to keep with Nicole's plans and continue the great work that she began."

Jennifer is thoroughly ecstatic and is looking forward to the upcoming year. She really hopes to bring a new voice to the campus and bring a positive outlook on multicultural affairs. Her office is in the Ludlow basement, in the Dean of Students office. She summarized her vision as the following: "In particular, I wish to help others understand the many similarities that connect us and to value the differences that make us unique."



BERD's Recycling Efforts at Bard

LYDIA WILLOUGHBY

The Bard Environmental Resources Department (B.E.R.D.) has several new resources, events and facilities available to students, faculty and staff this year.

BERD will be hosting the east coast premier of Tree-Sit: The Art of Resistance Thursday September 20th at 8pm in Weis Theater. The film is an examination of the logging industry from California to Alaska; it includes a history, from before the ice-age to the present, of the Redwoods and their ecological importance. The film looks at the connection between forced ecological extinction and the genocide of indigenous peoples by settlement and expansion. Tree-Sit is told through the activist philosophy of Julia Butterfly Hill, which incorporates Native American spiritual beliefs of the Earth as sacred with non-violent political action.

Dutchess County Environmental Management Council (EMC) representative, John D. Calandrelli came to see Julia Butterfly Hill speak at Bard last spring, and was inspired by her lone stand against the logging industry. He later contacted Penelope Andrews and James Ficklin, the film's creators, and helped organize the premier at Bard.

Tree-Sit has been labeled controversial and radical for exploring the commitment and

sacrifice of individual activists and exposing information about the logging industry. The filmmakers Ficklin and Andrews will speak after the film, and Andy Bicking from Scenic Hudson will speak beforehand about local activism.

BERD would like to thank and congratulate everyone for decreasing the amount of waste sent off-campus and increasing the amount of on-campus recycling, saving Bard a lot of money and reducing our impact on the local environment. Bard has now moved past the 50% recycling mark of total waste, with the help of the very successful "Move Out" campaign at the end of last year.

Bard's solid waste weight decreased by 4000 lbs. and construction and demolition debris weight decreased by 6000 lbs. compared to the prior year's weights. Recycling weights from Move Out include some 4,800 lbs. of clothing, 6,390 lbs. of books, and 8,000 lbs. of paper.

BERD will help revolutionize the act of printing at Bard, as Bard's next office and departmental copier paper purchase will replace the 30% pbst-consumer waste paper with a 100% PCW

copier paper. This switch would not be possible without Kevin Parker, Controller, Susan Barich, Business Manager and Elizabeth Shea at Central Services. BERD also now picks up, or accept drop-off's of Toner Cartridges from printers.

BERD is also running the Salvaged Office Supply Room, or SOS, now open from 7am to 3pm Monday through Friday. SOS is available to stu-

dents, faculty and staff, and is a place that accepts discarded but reusable office supplies and distributes FREE offices and school supplies, books and artist's paper.

BERD is also hoping to transform the act of shopping at the Bookstore; with plans for replacing the plastic bags currently used and replacing them with cloth bags that could be kept for a nominal fee around \$1 or returned with a reimbursement of the fee to the Bookstore.

BERD is located in the basement of Brook House, extension 7868, email recycle@bard.edu. The Premier of Tree-Sit is Sept. 20th at 8pm in the Campus Center. Any student wishing to help out with making delicious food for the Premier, please give BERD a call at x7868.



Mike Castillo

Preach it: L & T Nostalgia photo # 1

The Budget Forum Low-Down

HASAN FARUQ

The Budget Forum, which will be the first Student Association Forum of this semester, will be held in Kline Commons at 8 PM on Wednesday, September 12th. Student organizations, which submitted a budget request to the Student Association Treasurer Dumaine Williams on Thursday September 6th and have defended their budgets before the Planning Committee 48 hours later, will have an opportunity to request further funding from the student body and their representatives should the allotted funds fail to meet their expectations. Thus, student clubs are under an obligation to attend the Forum in their best interests; also, we expect the first year students to be interested in this event, since this will be the first student government event they will be witnessing at Bard. Therefore, in light of the upcoming Forum and the expectations, we intend to highlight some of the major aspects of the Budget Forum so that all those involved or even slightly interested will have some sense of it beforehand.

The Forum will start with a call of attendance for the student government members and will be followed by an announcement that the Committee is now accepting hostile amendments to the budget. The amendments are called "hos-

tile" because they are hostile to the budget the planning committee proposed, or are hostile to some other club's budget (Friendly amendments are strictly prohibited by the Constitution). In other words, clubs which are unsatisfied with the amount of money they received from the planning committee may raise this amendment to secure funding either from the emergency fund, a fund kept aside by the planning committee for unforeseen and exigent situations, or from another student club. Once this announcement for hostile amendments is made, another announcement will also be made regarding the elections (bear in mind that the hostile amendments will be dealt with upon completion of the election and other matters at hand).

In this Forum, there will be election for three positions in the student government. Two positions are available in the Educational Policies Committee (EPC) in the Division of Arts. To be eligible to run for these positions, students should be moderated into the Division of Arts. Once elected, these representatives will be responsible for collecting evaluations and hearing oral testimony for tenure-track professors. This is a great opportunity for students to interact closely with the Dean and other members in the academic section and to voice their concern about

the quality of academic life at Bard.

Election will also take place for a position in the Board of Governor's Representative. The representative can even be a freshman or a first year student (although everybody is encouraged to run), which gives members of the freshmen class a great opportunity to be a part of the student government. The student representative will serve as a liaison between the Board and current students and will meet with the Board four times a year, one of which occurs in New York city.

Those who want to run for the positions must attend the forum, benominated by a second person, and give a brief speech to all present. Voting takes place by hand-raising. Once the elections are over, the Treasurer or the Planning Committee Chair will begin business by reading the amendments in the order received and propose that this is the order they will be dealt with.

The amendment will then be defended by the author(s), after which anyone present at the Forum may ask points of information/inquiry etc. A list of the speakers will then be set up for more people to defend and attack the amendment. Everyone who raises hand is added to this list, which is usually set up as having two people for and two against the amendment,

at minimum. However, there may be time limits and limits on the number of speakers. After debate, all amendments must come to a vote and must pass by 2/3. Once all the amendments are dealt with, the close of the Forum will be announced.

In closing, we would like to offer a few words about the interruptions that speakers sometimes face during a Budget Forum. Since we all respect the concept of freedom of speech, it is unreasonable to ask random questions and interrupt the speakers. Common sense suggests that one should wait until it is his/her turn on the list, or express his/her opinions under the guise of points of inquiry - a term often misused and misunderstood by many. Do understand that it should only be used for a genuinely specific and pertinent inquiry, not as an expression of random thought that often ends up interrupting the speakers. While we realize that many people want to bring beer to the Forum and have a good time, it did not and still does not, justify frequent interruptions and aggressive behavior. We have to realize that only when we will allow the others to speak will they lend us their ears.

All of those from the Student Association Government hope to see you at the Forum.

Student Darkroom takes shape

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tight security with this new facility. Horseplay and misuse will not be tolerated at all. Years ago, Bard had a student darkroom that was open for anyone to walk into. "It turned into a crack alley," says Kelly. Broken glass, crack pipes, and syringes covered the floor. Kelly is not going to let this happen with the new darkroom.

The exact guidelines for darkroom use are still being established. One idea is to require students to check in with security before use to obtain a key. They also may require students to leave their ID cards with security. The darkroom will probably be by sign-up only, with a mandatory orientation before use.

Other people involved in this project include Stephen Shore and Ben Ruggiero of the photo department, and students Imran Ahmed and Nicole Novak.

If the new student darkroom is a success, Kelly hopes to extend it into a larger room. He will also work toward getting video and music editing facilities for students.

New Program Seeks to Make Community Outreach More Accessible for Bard

AMBER BUCHHOLZ

The 2001-2002 school year will see the launching of a new program, led by Paul Marienthal and Jenny Fowler. The dynamic pair are coordinating the opening of the "Office of Community Service and Social Action", a project whose goal it is to make community service accessible to everyone on campus.

"Thanks in part to people like the Trustee Leader Scholars [TLS], Tom Keenan, and Joanne Fox-Przeworski, there is a lot of 'activist energy' among students on this campus," explained Paul, "and an increasing number of students are taking the initiative to be active in the community. In fact, the Liberal Arts ethos includes creating a sense of connection with the world.

We seek to reaffirm that connection for students by facilitating the process of creating and imple-

menting community service projects. We are here to provide students with the resources they need to get involved, everything from brainstorming ideas to helping with practical matters, such as transportation and assistance with grant writing."

It is important to note that the title of the new office was chosen carefully, to acknowledge that not every project needs to be politically motivated.

"I want to stress that there is a difference between political action, and a simple act of kindness. We hope to make community service easy and accessible to all members of the Bard community. Projects don't have to be huge, they don't have to be hyper-left. Although I acknowledge the legitimacy of those who hold that every act is a political act, and we are also interested in supporting positive political action, I don't want people to

be intimidated. The core of community service is helping people, and being enriched by the experience yourself."

Once Paul and Jenny get the Office off the ground, they hope to begin holding workshops for the community. Some workshops will focus on building concrete skills, such as grant-writing and media relations, other workshops will be "ideas" based. The two also hope to seek out social activists who have been particularly effective leaders in the world, and bring them to Bard to facilitate student action.

Any member of the community who is interested in engaging in community service or social activism is highly encouraged to take a look at the updated list of ongoing TLS projects, which will be included in a display in the Campus Center within the next few days. If you would like to begin planning and implementing your own project, stop by and talk to Paul and Jenny. "There are innumerable and varied opportunities for any student willing to invest a little time and energy," said Paul, "and we're here to help everyone find a project that's right for them." The two can be found in the TLS office in the basement of Ludlow, or reached by phone at x.7056. Paul's email is marienth@bard.edu, and Jenny's email is fowler@bard.edu.



Come on in: An exuberant Marienthal and Fowler beckon.

Regular Shuttle Service

Fall 2001-Spring 2002

Weekly Runs:

Tuesdays:

Lyceum - Red Hook
6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Fall 9/4/01-12/12/01
Spring 2/5/02 - 5/21/01

Wednesdays:

Hudson Valley Mall / Super K-Mart
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Fall 8/29/01 - 12/12/01
Spring 1/30/02 - 5/15/02

Thursdays:

Upstate Films - Rhinebeck
6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Fall 8/30/01 - 12/13/01
Spring 1/31/02 - 5/16/02
NO TRIP ON 11/22/01

Saturday Mall Runs:

Hudson Valley Mall/Super K-Mart

6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Fall 2001: 9/8, 9/15, 9/29, 10/13, 10/27, 11/10, 12/1
Spring 2002: 2/9, 2/23, 3/9, 3/23, 4/6, 4/20, 5/4

Poughkeepsie Galleria

1:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Fall 2001: 9/8, 9/22, 10/6, 10/20, 11/3, 11/17
Spring 2002: 2/2, 2/16, 3/2, 3/16, 3/30, 4/6, 4/20, 5/4

Crossgates Mall

1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Fall 2001: 12/8/01
Spring 2002: 5/18/02

Sunday Church Runs:

These runs will be incorporated with the Red Hook/Tivoli/ Campus Shuttle. Consult your shuttle schedule and plan accordingly. You are advised to let the shuttle driver know what church you are going to and when the service is over.

Inclement Weather: If you are in doubt whether the Red Hook / Tivoli / Campus shuttle or any of the above runs are scheduled during bad weather (ice and snow) you can either contact Security at x. 7460, or the Transportation Office at x. 7007.

Brought to you by the Transportation Office

After the Coup: Reflections on a Russian Revolution

DARIA SOLOVIEVA

Mikhail Gorbachev heard a knock on his door. It was August 18, 1991. For months, his friends and advisors had been convinced that Gorbachev had lost his way. Eight months ago Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze had resigned. "We are going back to the terrible past," he warned, "Reformers have slumped into the bushes. A dictatorship is coming." Close advisors warned Gorbachev of a possible plot, but Gorbachev thought "they wouldn't have the courage to mount an attack against me." Not waiting for an answer from the other side of the door, Valery Boldin, Gorbachev's chief of staff, and Yuri Plekhanov, a top KGB official, entered the room. Boldin stated their demand: Gorbachev must sign a referendum declaring a state of emergency in his country, which would authorize a number of reform measures. Gorbachev refused to cooperate, vowing silently to commit suicide first.

Gorbachev was still swimming in the ocean of love of the good Soviet people -- a love of the blind for the ray of light, a love of the thirsty for a drop of water, a love of people exhausted by retrograde rigid Soviet-style politics for the energetic Southern accent of Gorbachev. This was the love that was there when he was the first political leader in Russian history "to step down," go in to the midst of the Russian population, and simply talk to poor old Russian people. And the media

was eager to follow him everywhere he went. One episode was shown on TV over and over again. Gorbachev standing on the corner of a busy street in St. Petersburg wrapped in the crowd of pregnant women, old babushkas, men in suits, and workers. A begging voice addressed the person who was the only hope of Russian democracy; "Just be closer to the people, Mikhail Sergeyevich, just be closer." "The only hope" answered with a radiant smile (so surrounded by people, was he, that he could not even stretch out his arms): "Can one be possibly closer?" Everyone on the street laughed, and their faces spoke of endless admiration and hopes for the one who would lead them out of the night of the Soviet mess into the bright happy day of Russian Democracy.

It is this admiration and certainty in himself that prevented Gorbachev from questioning what he is doing, and caused him to reject "the 500 days plan" that was aimed at converting centralized economy to a market orientation. He forgot all about the "uskorenie" (acceleration) program he once advocated and didn't see the fact that it was time for him to go. Since Gorbachev wouldn't cooperate, the president of the "Emergency Committee" took contro

Her nose smashed into the car window, a little girl watched the birch trees fly by. Usually she couldn't acknowledge being aware of growing up, but today she could. Today the little girl sensed from worried looks on grown-ups' faces that something big, important, and terrible was happening to her country but she didn't know what it was. The new feeling of uncertainty entered her orange childhood world and settled there, uninvited. She moved closer to her mother and cuddled under her arm where everything was simple and safe, hoping that uninvited guest of uncertainty didn't visit her mother and that she knew and understood everything. But the girl's mother didn't know what was happening either.

The next day the news agency TASS announced that the newly formed "Gang of Eight" had assumed command of the government because Gorbachev had "serious health problems" and could no longer govern. The Gang of Eight

showed some determination when they banned all strikes and demonstrations, and took all media under official control, but when they appeared on television the Emergency Committee appeared nervous, and nothing in their plans was certain except for one thing: the gang's terrifying solution, dictatorship. Needless to say the Russian majority, who had just begun to recover from almost seventy years of iron Soviet rule, did not support them.

This is when Boris Yeltsin came on the stage of Russian politics. Yeltsin played the part of a good strong Russian guy standing up in opposition to "the gang of eight". He denounced the coup as unconstitutional and declared that he was the "Guardian of Democracy". And when Gorbachev's phone lines were downed,

Yeltsin was receiving calls from around the world, and even ordered food from Moscow's Pizza Hut. He also went outside and climbed atop of a tank in front of 20,000 protesters of the coup's faces and called for a general strike. And the protesters' faces were lit up with desperate hopes that he'd be the one to lead them out of the night of the Soviet mess unresolved by Gorbachev, and into the bright happy day of Russian democracy.

The crowds listened. Soon the number of protesters grew to well over 100,000. Afghan war veterans erected barricades in front of the White House. At the staircase one organizer with a megaphone cried, "All those courageous who are willing to defend the building, come forward!" The building was surrounded by people from all walks of Russian life, from students to defecting soldiers to priests and pensioners. One 72-year-old woman cried, "Give me Kalashnikov and I'll kill the scum myself!"

The little girl had been dancing around the kitchen to the music from "The Swan Lake" ballet that was playing on TV in the living room. Her dad moved to the living room in the morning to study and to guard the TV in case they showed any news reports. But they didn't. "The Swan Lake" was all they could see on the TV screen. The little girl kept dancing. Later that night they showed "the Gang of Eight" to the whole world: they were undereducated, nervous alcoholics with shaking hands. "Are they the people to whom we want to entrust the future of our country?" the little girl's parents asked, and felt embarrassed for their country.

Next morning the crowds of people started to raise the old Russian flag, with its white, blue, and red colors. Rostropovich, the famed cellist, even flew in from Paris and played music in the Parliament building. Later in the day, those in Parliament heard that tank divisions were headed their way. Protesters swarmed everywhere to protect the area; two people were shot and one person was crushed by a tank. But the tanks retreated.

The little girl was staying in Crimea at a health resort. It was impossible to call Moscow that day. The health resort had no TV's

and only one radio. Everyone was walking around trying to figure out what had happened already, what was happening at the moment, and what would happen next. Later, it turned out that one of the protesters who had been killed was a friend of the little girl's dad.

Three days after the attempted coup, Yeltsin sent officials from the Russian Republic to bring Gorbachev back to Moscow safe and sound. The shaken president returned by plane with his family early the next morning. All eight members of the State Emergency Committee were

arrested. Crowds were cheering for "the country's savior" Boris Yeltsin. Communism, the greatest Satanist parody on religion of all times, had fallen with a coup. The statue of "iron" Felix Dzhzhzhinsky, founder of the secret police after the 1917 revolution, was toppled from its pedestal. A Russian flag was put in its place.

Seven years later, the little girl was at Ukrainian school studying Ukrainian history in Russian. Nothing changed for her.

Officially, the Soviet Union ceased to exist in December 1991, but all the groundwork for this was laid out in August. The greatest experiment of all times failed, and proved that communism, no matter how good it sounds in theory, does not work in practice for a large group of people. The "unbreakable" Soviet Union fell, nine days short of its 70th year. "One state has died," said the Russian television, "but in its place a great dream is being born."

On August 2001, the little girl's mother read the morning newspaper on the anniversary of the fall of the Soviet Union and she felt ashamed. She was not scared of her memories of violence, uncertainty, or the feeling of being an insignificant granule of history. She felt ashamed of the fact that ten years ago she had asked herself a thousand times what her country was going to do, and she had never questioned what she and her family would do. She felt scared of the fact that there can be political systems that can leave such imprints on human mentalities that it takes years to notice. The little girl's mother looked at her grown daughter who was ashamed of nothing and cried.

"Memories are the soul of the impressions."
-Vladimir Nabokov

"One state has died," said the Russian television, "but in its place a great dream is being born."



"Too often in today's media Russia is portrayed as a society in decline. However, I think the opposite is the case, and not because Russia is necessarily following an 'American' model of democratic development, but because it is slowly negotiating a course based on its strongest native traditions and a consideration of international alternatives."
-Prof. Lindsay Watton



"One of my friends called his relatives in Moscow, to ask if they were okay. Russian television had been playing Swan Lake all day, and although my friend's relatives knew something was not right, they had no idea what was going on. Then they turned on CNN and saw tanks driving down the very same street in Moscow which my friend's family lived on."
-Prof. Marina Kostalevsky



"I was fifteen the summer of the coup. I was in the country, where my granny lived. My granny and I were watching TV during the whole day. Everybody said that it would be a new war in Russia. My granny felt very upset, but I was okay. Maybe I wasn't mature enough to think much about politics. I had just fallen in love for the first time that August."
-Alia Yagodova:

Drill AK Full of Holes!

TODD JOHNSON

George Bush wants to open the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska for petroleum drilling, and I say: Go for it, Dubya.

I say this because I'm an American, and drilling in Alaska is a truly American enterprise. It is Americans exerting their remarkable power over... everything, with little to no regard for anything beyond that which makes them happiest quickest. It is easy. Short-sighted, but easy. The easiest way they could dream up to get their hands on the oil needed to balance out the American market, where demand is ever increasing and supply is ever more limited.

The Bush administration has tried to defend its position by saying that this oil is necessary for Americans to continue the lifestyle they've grown accustomed to. That's a statement standing on shaky ground, at best. The refuge is, by the government's own estimation, likely to produce 3.2 billion barrels of oil. Just less than half of that America consumes in a year. Of course, the oil isn't meant to be America's sole source of petroleum, that 3.2 billion barrels would probably sufficiently supplement the American oil supply to bring gas prices down a bit. But then, the oil won't be available for use until 2010. Eight years

is a long time for a move driven by current economic trends. Eight years is a long enough time to phase in restrictions that would make the oil unnecessary.

Harper's Index reported earlier this year that America would save much more gas every year than will be produced in Alaska annually if every SUV on the road got 3 more miles per gallon. But the House of Representatives, in the same day that it voted to allow drilling in Alaska, voted down a bill that would have required higher standards in SUV fuel-efficiency. Because drilling is much easier. Drilling creates jobs, and oil companies and gas companies and unions all love it. Tighter restrictions mean losing the political endorsements of America's (ailing) car companies. And because foreign car makers are light years ahead of American ones in terms of fuel efficiency, low-emission vehicles, and no-emission vehicles, these restrictions would deal a significant blow to those American car manufacturers. Of course, Bush has also proposed removing the government subsidies that allow automobile manufacturers to sell low-emissions vehicles for far less than the cost of production. He would replace them with a tax-break for the purchaser, but the price would go up far more than the tax break, and the cost of production for such

an iffy product would discourage manufacturers.

The American populace is not a big help. The amount of whining over the possibility of gas hitting two dollars a gallon, still far below what is paid anywhere else in the world, raised a public outcry scarcely rivaled in recent history. Americans like SUVs and cheap gas to their heart's content. And it is far easier for a politician to cater to the spoiled American populace than to try and make it grow up a little.

There is also the environment to consider. Bush supporters are right when they say that almost no one ever visits the refuge. And many of those that live near it don't see why we want to keep it so badly. Tree huggers want to save it because it is there, and there's a certain validity to that as well. But, unless you're a zealot, it is not hard to understand why some people have such a problem with preserving trees for the sake of having trees, especially when weighed against such things as the unions' expectations of hundreds of thousands of jobs to be created by exploitation of the Alaskan reserves. But I think it's necessary to see this issue with a broader perspective, to see the protection of this reserve as part of a larger move toward treating the world about us with respect. Rather than beginning the process of building

an implementing a program for the eventual, inevitable depletion of petroleum resources, Bush and company prefer to do what is politically and socially easiest. The problem is that it is barely going to do any good in the short-term, and is ridiculous when considered in the long-term.



Alaska has melted! After all this drilling, once snow-covered land has become lake!

How close is Bush to crippling reproductive rights?

RENATA RUTMAN

Many of us may not be surprised that since President Bush took office, he has led a precise and coordinated assault on the reproductive rights of women, both in this country and abroad. What we may not be aware of is that he may be closer to reaching his goal than we supposed. So what would it take to make people respond to the attack that is currently being launched on reproductive rights when our President pledges to do "all that is in [his] power to restrict abortion," reinstates the global gag rule on his first day in office, and appoints anti-choice extremist John Ashcroft as attorney general (all within his first 100 days in office)? The anti-choice agenda of the Bush administration to limit or turn back reproductive rights may not be so far from becoming a reality when in the last six years alone, Congress has voted 116 times to restrict access to family planning, sex education, and the right to

choose, and the Supreme Court, in *Stenberg v. Carhart*, upheld the principles of *Roe v. Wade* by just one vote.

Because many of the laws and procedures which threaten the reproductive rights of women are rarely commented on in the evening news or found in the front pages of the *New York Times*, most people are unaware of the threats that family planning services are faced with both on state and federal levels. In the rare times that people do hear the name of the law mentioned, its wording may be too obscure or misleading to set off an alarm in an untuned ear. The use of coded language by anti-choice officials often masks the ulterior motive of a proposed bill and, as a result of the bill's low visibility, allows it to be passed without serious opposition. Recently, a House Judiciary Committee in Washington had sent to the House the "Unborn Victims of Violence Act" which would make it a separate federal crime to kill or injure a fetus, at any stage of

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All About BRAVE

LAURYN PETERSON

B.R.A.V.E. (Bard Response to Rape And Associated Violence Education) is available 24 hours through our pager (382-0818) or via security. We have new office hours which will be posted within the next week, and our new office is located in Sottery Hall Room 104. Our office number is still ext. 7557.

B.R.A.V.E. is a volunteer organization of trained students available for peer counseling, survivor support, or information on issues such as sexual violence, domestic violence, sexual identity, health, and relationships. We sponsor events throughout the year

including presentations, movie series, speakouts, marches, and a clothesline project.

There will be an application process in November if you are interested in joining BRAVE. It will require a written application and an interview. All new members will go through 40 hours of training in the last week of Inter-session. Once trained, the members of BRAVE are committed to three semesters. In BRAVE one can either function as a counselor or educator. We meet once a week and continue our training throughout the semesters with a once-a-month in-service on Saturdays.

A Summer of Homeless Activism in Las Vegas

BRIAN YANITY

This past summer I had the privilege of feeding the homeless in one of the most commercialized and greediest places on Earth: Las Vegas. More specifically, helping out with the fledging Las Vegas chapter of Food Not Bombs. I was in Las Vegas for most of the summer doing an internship, and I happened to discover a small, yet growing, community of dedicated activists. Yes, there are vegan anarchists in Sin City, contrary to what you might expect. Let us start with why Sin City is a particularly important place to do activism for the poor.

The Las Vegas strip, officially known as Las Vegas Boulevard, is home to nine out of ten of the largest hotels in the world. The Strip kind of epitomizes everything I am not about, though in a very interesting and impressive way.

Perhaps nowhere else is American capitalism so blatantly a sham, and nowhere else so cheesily amusing. Everything is flashy, brightly lit, and plastic looking. Even the classiest casinos (a couple of the new ones cost at least \$1 billion a piece to build and routinely earn \$1 million A DAY in profits!) end up having a pretty tacky feel. All along the sidewalks there are distribution boxes for stripper catalogs and people distribut-

Perhaps nowhere else is American capitalism so blatantly a sham, and nowhere else so cheesily amusing.

ing flyers for brothels and "entertainers." Hidden in the shrubbery are enough security cameras to make Orwell proud. It is simply amazing much energy is wasted on all the video billboards, neon, and spotlights. And don't even

get me started on the water wasted by all the fountains, golf courses, and pools.

The strategy of the past decade or so has been to build hotel-casinos that are more like theme parks. In the name of diversity, Las Vegas is trying to become a family vacation destination in order to distance itself from the sleazy golden age of gangsters and the "rat pack." Big corporations such as MGM Mirage and Hilton have displaced the mafia as the main players, but the seedy underside of prostitution and addiction definitely still exists. All in all, the result is something akin to Disneyland on crack.

Off the strip, Vegas looks pretty much the same as Los Ange-

les or Phoenix: palm-tree lined boulevards, littered with sprawling strip malls and billboards, that stretch off towards the desert. Nevada is the prime example of right-wing libertarianism: while prostitution (though not officially in Clark and Washoe counties) and gambling are legal and there are no state income or corporate taxes. Any form of social safety net or public-sponsored public welfare services is practically unheard of. And of course there is miniscule regulation on zoning and suburban sprawl. The area's population is 1.3 million, and largely due to retirees it is the fastest growing metropolitan area in the country. The suburban sprawl is pretty gross, and you can imagine how pedestrian unfriendly such an unplanned mess would be. The land around Las Vegas is so parched dry and infertile, as the city gets only 10 cm of rain a year,

that not even cattle can graze on it. So when the last housing development stops, it changes instantly to desert wilderness. Which is kind of nice, because the beauty of the nearby mountain and desert scenery more than makes up for the commercial blight in town.

I should probably stop trashing the place, because I hope not to offend any of my friends who are born-and-raised Las Vegans. As is true of all communities, there is plenty of wholesome human activity here if you know where to find it. A couple blocks from where I was living, I stumbled into a record and book store called Balcony Lights, located on Maryland Parkway just north of Tropicana Boulevard. Owned by a hip couple named Frank and Karoline, both native Vegans, it is the hang out place for the small percentage of local bohemian-indie-

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CLASS OF 2005 SURVIVAL GUIDE

Greetings Class of 2005! By now you must be fairly familiar with the campus and the Bard lifestyle, and settling in to your classes after the (hopefully) not too traumatic process of registration. This special insert is designed with the intention of helping you through your first semester, and to give you some perspective on a few aspects of Bard life you may not have already considered.

Courses and Distribution

The issue nearest and dearest to your hearts right now is probably your academic schedule. As the bruises and emotional scarring of registration day slowly heal, and drop/add period draws to a close, you are settling in to the final reality of what your life is going to look like for the next three months. If you got into all the classes you wanted, or you seem satisfied with the way things are working out for you, congratulations, that's a huge success. Many of you may be left with one or two lingering resentments, however, there are a few things to consider.

Primarily, the thing to remember is to approach every situation with an open mind. Although juggling distribution requirements with moderation requirements might not seem to leave much room open for the famed liberal arts experimentation that everyone likes to rave about, being 'stuck' with a class you didn't think you wanted just might be an excellent opportunity to discover something you never even knew you were interested in, or else it might introduce you to ideas that you find connecting with and enhancing your understanding of subjects in your main field of interest.

Also important to keep in mind, however, is that if you find a situation truly awful, there's no reason to keep silent about it. All professors have office hours, and you can usually make an appointment to meet with them if their office hours conflict with your schedule. Try brainstorming a list that pinpoints exactly what bothers you about the class, and try to come up with some creative solutions to your problems. If you approach a professor with concrete complaints in a constructive manner, most professors will be willing to work with your suggestions, or help you to understand their methodology if they are not open to change.



Advisers and Moderation

The advising system exists specifically to help students plan and navigate their education. You should meet with your adviser as often as you feel is necessary, but at least twice a semester, especially around midterms and before selecting classes for the next term. If you are not able to establish a rapport with your adviser, or you find that he or she is not helpful, the best thing you can do for yourself is to find another professor who will be more beneficial in these respects. There is no reason not to aggressively seek out an adviser who works best for you, and no reason to stick with an adviser if you don't think he or she is any help to you. Ideally, a student should not leave their first semester at Bard without having found an adviser they feel can best assist them at least through the process of moderation.

To change advisers, simply approach a professor with whom you have a good relationship with, and ask if he or she would be willing to serve as your adviser. New advisers will have to sign a form available in the Registrar's Office. Your former adviser does not have to sign this form, so there is no need to be concerned about facing an uncomfortable situation.

Also worth considering is that professors and administrators are usually more than happy to set up an appointment with you to discuss any questions you might have, regardless of whether or not they are your adviser. Sometimes the best thing you can do for yourself is to get a variety of opinions on a subject or decision you are having trouble with, and the Bard faculty provides a rich and diverse resource for this type of dialogue.

To the casual observer, Moderation may seem like a giant paper hoop to jump through, and more than a little intimidating. It might be helpful to see Moderation from a different perspective, however: think of it as a tool for self analysis, which requires you to sit down with respected academics in your field, and get what is perhaps the first genuine and in-depth analysis of your strengths, weaknesses and potential for growth. Many Moderated students have seen the process as a reality check, an opportunity for self-reflection, or a tremendous source for encouragement and direction.

Safety and Security Issues

One of the hardest things to remember in a community like Bard is not to take your safety for granted. As you become closer to the people in your dorm and around the campus, you may find yourself tempted to make decisions like leaving doors unlocked, valuables unattended and the front doors to your dorm propped open. However, there are a few things that are important to remember. Primarily, Bard is not a closed campus, and therefore not everyone on campus at a given moment is going to be a member of the Bard community. To a professional thief, a college campus might seem like a field day, with cars, computers, stereos and other valuables for the taking. It's also important to remember that not every member of our community is as honorable as we would like to think. Even if you feel comfortable making the decision to prop open a door or leave a door unlocked, you are taking a chance on behalf of everyone in your dorm. While this is a relatively crime-free area, theft, violence, and even rape and murder have all occurred in the nearby area in recent years, and you can never be too careful about protecting yourself and the people in your community. Besides keeping dorms closed and valuables locked up, there are other precautions to take. If you are walking somewhere at night, alone or in a small group, call Security at x.7460 and request to be escorted by foot patrol. If you see someone or something that looks sketchy, don't hesitate to call Security and report it. Trust your instincts: if a situation creeps you out or you get a gut feeling that something is wrong, believe yourself and get out of the situation or call for help.

In an emergency, call x.7777. Bard EMS is on-call 24 hours a day, every day of the week. If you or your friend is sick or in need of any kind of medical treatment, the best thing you can do is to call EMS. Even if it seems like a better idea to drive a sick friend to the hospital yourself, you are really putting both you and your friend in danger. There is also a counselor on call at all times, so if you or a friend is having an emergency situation, don't hesitate to call x.7777 and ask for help. BRAVE counselors are also on call at all times, and can be reached a variety of ways: by calling their beeper at 382-0818, or by being connected through Security or the Emergency number.

It's important to remember that Bard is more interested in helping students than punishing them, so if you see someone passed out at a party, for example, the best thing to do is to call for help, no one's going to be concerned about 'busting you' for underage drinking, and you could be saving someone's life.



Special Shuttle Trips For Students Departing To / Arriving From New York City via Metro-North Railroad and Amtrack

Bard Shuttles will pick up students arriving at Metro-North's Poughkeepsie Station on:

Friday, January 25th, 2002

Arrival Times:

2:37 p.m., 5:37 p.m., 8:26 p.m.

Saturday, January 26th, 2002

Arrival Times:

2:39 p.m., 4:39 p.m.

Sunday, January 27th, 2002

Arrival Times:

12:39 p.m., 2:39 p.m., 4:39 p.m.

Bard Shuttles will pick up students arriving at AmTrack's Rhinecliff station on:

Friday, January 25th, 2002

Arrival Times:

1:27 p.m., 3:27 p.m., 4:27 p.m.

Saturday, January 26th, 2002

Arrival Times:

1:27 p.m., 4:27 p.m.

Sunday, January 27th, 2002

Arrival Times:

11:27 a.m., 1:27 p.m., 4:27 p.m.

Please note: The above is a schedule of when Bard shuttles will be picking up students at the train stations in Poughkeepsie and Rhinecliff. Students are responsible for arranging their own travel plans and arriving in Poughkeepsie or Rhinecliff in time to catch the shuttle at the times listed above.

Bard shuttles taking students to meet NYC bound trains, from Metro North's Poughkeepsie station:

Wednesday, November 21st, 2001

Leave Kline:	Catch the:
12:15 p.m.	1:42 p.m.
3:15 p.m.	4:30 p.m.
5:15 p.m.	6:26 p.m.

Friday, December 14th, 2001

Leave Kline:	Catch the:
12:00 p.m.	1:42 p.m.
4:00 p.m.	5:26 p.m.
5:30 p.m.	6:26 p.m.

Saturday, December 15th, 2001

Leave Kline:	Catch the:
12:00 p.m.	1:29 p.m.

Wednesday, May 22nd, 2002

Leave Kline:	Catch the:
12:15 p.m.	1:40 p.m.
4:30 p.m.	5:40 p.m.
6:15 p.m.	7:40 p.m.
9:00 p.m.	10:01 p.m.

Thursday, May 23rd, 2002

Leave Kline:	Catch the:
8:45 a.m.	9:40 a.m.
10:30 a.m.	11:40 a.m.
12:30 p.m.	1:40 p.m.

Bard shuttles taking students to meet NYC bound trains, from AmTrack's Rhinecliff station:

Wednesday, November 21st, 2001

Leave Kline:	Catch the:
12:00 p.m.	12:46 p.m.
2:00 p.m.	2:46 p.m.
3:00 p.m.	3:46 p.m.
4:00 p.m.	4:46 p.m.
5:30 p.m.	6:16 p.m.

Friday, December 14th, 2001

Leave Kline:	Catch the:
12:00 p.m.	12:46 p.m.
4:00 p.m.	4:46 p.m.
5:45 p.m.	6:16 p.m.

Saturday, December 15th, 2001

Leave Kline:	Catch the:
12:00 p.m.	12:46 p.m.
4:00 p.m.	4:46 p.m.
5:45 p.m.	6:16 p.m.

Wednesday, May 22nd, 2002

Leave Kline:	Catch the:
12:15 p.m.	12:46 p.m.
4:15 p.m.	4:46 p.m.
5:30 p.m.	6:06 p.m.
7:00 p.m.	8:11 p.m.

Thursday, May 23rd, 2002

Leave Kline:	Catch the:
8:00 a.m.	8:46 a.m.
9:00 a.m.	9:46 a.m.
10:00 a.m.	10:46 a.m.
12:00 p.m.	12:46 p.m.

Bard College Airport Shuttles Available for the 2001-2002 Academic Year:

Thanksgiving Recess, November 21st, 2001

Shuttles leaving Kline to JFK/LaGuardia airports at 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Your student must sign up for these shuttles at the transportation office in the physical plant no later than November 16th, 2001.

Winter Recess, December 14th, 2001

Shuttles leaving Kline to JFK/LaGuardia airports at 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Winter Recess, December 15th, 2001

Shuttles leaving Kline to JFK/LaGuardia airports at 9:00 a.m. Your student must sign up for the above three Winter Recess shuttles at the transportation office in the physical plant no later than December 8th, 2001.

Spring Recess, March 29th, 2002

Shuttles leaving Kline to JFK/LaGuardia airports at 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Spring Recess, March 30th, 2002

Shuttle leaving Kline to JFK/LaGuardia airports at 9:00 a.m. Your student must sign up for the above three Spring Recess shuttles at the transportation office in the physical plant no later than March 22nd, 2002.

Last Day of Classes, May 22nd, 2002

Shuttles leaving Kline to JFK/LaGuardia airports at 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

First Day of Summer Break, May 23rd, 2002

Shuttle leaving Kline to JFK/LaGuardia airports at 9:00 a.m. Your student must sign up for the above three summer break shuttles at the transportation office in the physical plant no later than May 17th, 2002.

Miscellaneous

There are a few other things that might be helpful for you to know, about the campus as well as the community at large. Here are a few of my recommendations for students getting to know the local area:

Banking: Although its location is slightly more inconvenient for those students without cars, Rhinebeck Savings Bank is by far the superior choice, for many reasons. For one, it is a local company, which makes it a better choice for political reasons. Also, there are no fees for a basic checking account, and you can keep a \$0 balance, unlike at Key Bank. Lastly, there is an ATM located in Tivoli, which is convenient (if not a little too convenient at times).

Telephones: As you've probably noticed, Bard students are given exactly zero choice about which long distance company to use. For reasons that may or may not make sense, AT&T has a monopoly on this campus. You don't have to accept their uncompetitive rates, however. Calling cards are a viable option, you don't have to pay a monthly fee and dialing out is no more convoluted than with the AT&T system. If you shop around, you can usually get a good deal. One card I recommend, for students with a debit or credit card, is the net2phone calling card, available for purchase online at www.net2phone.com. They offer reliable service, and great rates, especially for international calls.

Books: Many Bard students are unsatisfied with the Barnes & Noble bookstore we have on campus. Books are expensive, even when bought used, and the buy-back policy stinks. Keep your eyes open for an up-and-coming student run textbook co-op, which should significantly reduce the purchase price of many books. If you can get in touch with your professors early enough and get a syllabus in time, you can also investigate the options for online book purchase. A few websites worth checking out include: powells.com, half.com, and allbooks4less.com.

Shopping: The nearest grocery store is IGA in Red Hook, on Rte. 9, easily accessible by Bard Shuttle. IGA stands for Independent Grocers Association, a group of small-town grocers who work together to collectively purchase merchandise, so that their prices can remain competitive with chain grocery stores. IGA is a politically conscious alternative to chains such as the nearby Stop & Shop or Hannaford, but unfortunately it has a limited selection of organic foods and fresh produce. Other good stores in the area include Red Hook Natural Foods, also on Rte.9 and very close to the center of town, or Rhinebeck Health Foods, on Garden Street in Rhinebeck. The latter has an awesome selection of organic foods, as well as a delicious (but a bit pricey) café.



Campus Resources

One of the biggest misconceptions that incoming students have, is that the Dean of Students' Office is the equivalent to the Principal's Office in high school. All of the Deans are more than happy to meet with students, to address any of your concerns, help you in any way possible, or just to get to know you and find out what you are about. If you haven't done so already, head down to the basement of Ludlow or call x.7454, and set up an appointment to meet with your Deans, just to introduce yourself.

Another great resource is Academic Services. If you need help writing a paper, doing your math homework, keeping up with a foreign language, or any other conceivable academic problem, head down to the basement of Stone Row or call x.7811 to get connected with a tutor or assistant who is right for you.

Next to Academic Services is the Career Development Office, x.7539. This is a great place to go if you are looking for an on-campus job, work or internship opportunities for the January intercession or summer break, or if you need help planning your life after Bard. You can set up an appointment, or pick up some great pamphlets to assist with everything from resume writing, to job searching, to practicing your interviewing skills.

If you are feeling overwhelmed by college life in general, or you are dealing with a specific issue that you don't feel like you can handle on your own, don't be afraid to set up an appointment with a counselor, at x.7433. Everyone in the Health and Counseling Services is incredibly kind and eager to help students. Asking for help is not something many people find easy to do, but you might be amazed at what a relief it ends up being.

Last but not least, don't be afraid to take advantage of the library. Not only is the library a great place to study, but it is also a great place to take a nap when things are too hectic in your dorm.



Regular Shuttle Schedule Fall 2001 – Spring 2002

Weekly Runs:

Tuesdays:

Lyceum – Red Hook

6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Fall 9/4/01-12/12/01

Spring 2/5/02 – 5/21/01

Wednesdays:

Hudson Valley Mall / Super K-Mart

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Fall 8/29/01 – 12/12/01

Spring 1/30/02 – 5/15/02

Thursdays:

Upstate Films – Rhinebeck

6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Fall 8/30/01 – 12/13/01

Spring 1/31/02 – 5/16/02

NO TRIP ON 11/22/01

Saturday Mall Runs:

Hudson Valley Mall/Super K-Mart

6:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

Fall 2001: 9/8, 9/15, 9/29, 10/13, 10/27, 11/10, 12/1

Spring 2002: 2/9, 2/23, 3/9, 3/23, 4/6, 4/20, 5/4

Poughkeepsie Galleria

1:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Fall 2001: 9/8, 9/22, 10/6, 10/20, 11/3, 11/17

Spring 2002: 2/2, 2/16, 3/2, 3/16, 3/30, 4/6, 4/20, 5/4

Crossgates Mall

1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Fall 2001: 12/8/01

Spring 2002: 5/18/02

Sunday Church Runs: These runs will be incorporated with the Red Hook/ Tivoli/ Campus Shuttle. Consult your shuttle schedule and plan accordingly. You are advised to let the shuttle driver know what church you are going to and when the service is over.

Inclement Weather: If you are in doubt whether the Red Hook / Tivoli / Campus shuttle or any of the above runs are scheduled during bad weather (ice and snow)-you can either contact Security at x. 7460, or the Transportation Office at x. 7007.



Food Not Bombs and Homeless Relief in the City of Sin

...continued from page

punk-underground types. Balcony Lights is a pleasant surprise, as it is one of the few places in Nevada comparable to Bard's Root Cellar and Student Action Collective: big comfy couches, a zine library, and an impressive selection of vinyl and political-leftist AK press-type literature. Quite an anomaly in Sin City, but that is precisely what makes it that much more important. Its purpose is like that of a monastery in the dark ages preserving illuminated manuscripts.

At Balcony Lights is where I ran into the folks starting up the local chapter of Food Not Bombs. Food Not Bombs, formed in Boston in 1980, is an international movement dedicated to the redistribution of surplus food to hungry people. With more than 100 autonomous local chapters in North America alone, the volunteers of Food Not Bombs protest poverty, violence, and greed by serving free (usually vegan) food to those in need. Though loose-knit, the independent collectives that make up Food Not Bombs share certain defining, unifying principles, including food recycling, nonviolence, non-hierarchical organization and consensus decision-making.

Las Vegas, ever increasingly defining the line between the haves and the have-nots, was briefly home to its own active chapter of the movement three to two years ago. The group disbanded for unknown reasons, though lack of necessity probably didn't figure into the equation. Sara Liberatore (no, that isn't a stage name), an environmental activist and yoga

instructor, was disappointed to see the lack of community support for the hungry. Recently returned to Las Vegas, Liberatore decided to look into getting the Food Not Bombs movement in Sin City moving once again. After making the right contacts and meeting the right people, plans were made and the first meeting was held in late June. The ragtag group of a couple dozen or so young activists now meets regularly on Saturday evenings at Balcony Lights. Meetings are always open to anyone and everyone, as is volunteering time and resources to the group.

"We are just feeling out Vegas," Liberatore says, "finding a place to serve regularly, and getting the word out there that we are back on the streets." The group has started off on the right track, combining efforts with existing local charities and businesses.

Despite some potential for interference from the police at public areas such as parks, downtown, or the strip, the newly rejuvenated Food Not Bombs seems to be getting a welcome reception from Las Vegas. Donations have started coming in from several local food service establishments and grocers. A benefit compilation album of local bands is now being assembled, as well as an all-ages punk show. A website for the group (fnblv.cjb.net) was started in mid-July, and collection jars and fliers are being put in spots around Las Vegas to build support and financial backing for further activities.

During the week of July 22-28, a local Franciscan priest

and homeless activist David Buer organized seven consecutive days of vigil-demonstrations to protest the lack of support the city government and casinos give to the community that supports them. Brother David has been working with MASH Village, a collection of tents for the homeless near downtown that was recently shut down by the city government. Our goal was to get the attention of the big casinos, who earn billions of dollars a year in profits, throw away tons of unused food from those all-you-can-eat buffets, yet don't do squat to help the poor, oppressed, and downtrodden. They are too busy busting unions and manipulating the political system, as they are the most powerful force in the state.

On the night of Saturday the 28th of July, we held the week's concluding demonstration for the homeless in front of the MGM Grand casino, the largest hotel on the planet. We set up the vigil in front of the largest bronze statue in the Western hemisphere, a gigantic lion like the one you see roaring before each MGM movie begins. Earlier in the week, demonstrators endured harassment by casino security guards, but the local ACLU got involved and straightened things out. About half of the people gathered for the vigil (myself included) were of the under-25 FNB set, the rest being a few older people working with the homeless shelter, in addition to a few homeless folks who had recently been kicked out of MASH Village. Brother David was wearing a brown monk's robe, and the rest of us stood out only

slightly less from the throngs of tourists and high rollers. Although most of those walking by seemed completely oblivious, a few people here and there seemed genuinely interested, and we even made it on to the eleven o'clock news.

Towards the end of the vigil, a few of us went up to the Aladdin casino, where the jam band The String Incident was playing that night. It was odd seeing so many hippies hanging out in the lobby of a casino, but it appeared that we were among potential allies. We wanted to hand out FNB fliers to everyone waiting around to get in. To our chagrin, it appeared that absolutely no one in the crowd was actually from Las Vegas, as they were all touring around with the band. A couple of my comrades had a change jar with them in case anyone wanted to donate a little bit to help buy food to serve. We weren't asking for much, only some spare change, but what did we get? Absolutely nothing... Not a single person claimed to have any money that they could give!!! How did they pay for all those concert tickets? Not to mention to cost of burning all that fossil fuel to travel hundreds of miles from show to show? Most likely it all went on daddy's credit card. All those bright and colorful hippy clothes didn't look cheap either. A screwed up sense of priorities no doubt, for why it is so important to see the same band thirty times in a row is beyond me. But what do I know? Apparently, a few days later a few FNB comrades brought the change jar to a local punk rock show and raked in something like \$50. Hooray for

punk rock kids!

The next day, we had a feed at Circle Park, up Maryland Parkway near Charleston Boulevard where at least a few homeless people are sleeping at any given time. It was a joint effort of both FNB and brother David's crew. In a nice touch of irony, within plain view was the Lady Luck casino in downtown Vegas. We had some yummy vegan bean soup and a bunch of donated pastries and juice, with about twenty homeless folk showing up. In gratitude, one of the homeless guys who had a guitar played us some songs that he had written. Overall, it was successful enough that feedings in Circle Park are now weekly actions.

In retrospect, the experience of working with the Sin City chapter of Food Not Bombs this summer has made me more optimistic about our society's promise for progressive or even radical change. Just you wait, in not too long, Vegas will be an activist hotbed... for the seed has been planted. Pessimists would argue that trying to turn somewhere so renown for avarice and corruption into a radical hotspot is a futile struggle. Spitting into the wind, so to speak. I, however, see it as a community with much potential. If the antigreed corps can't make any progress in Las Vegas, then where?

Part of this article was adapted from a piece by Saab Lofton in the August 16th issue of Las Vegas City Life.

Announcemnet - Announcement - Announcement - Announcement

Reduce - Reuse - Recycle

Check out this list for what can be recycled on campus. Please call BERD at x.7868 or recycle@bard.edu if you have further questions or concerns.

White Office Paper

Office paper/copier paper
Envelopes
Fax paper
Memo paper
Colored paper (not shiny)
Manila folders

All Other Paper

Junk mail
Magazines/manuals
Non-corrugated cardboard
Backs of legal pads
Cereal boxes
Notebooks
Pamphlets
Telephone books

Recyclable Containers

Plastic bottles marked with a 1 or 2 on the bottom
Glass bottles and jars
Metal and aluminum cans
Remove all lids, rinse all containers

Styrofoam Recycling

Peanuts
Put in a separate bag- we will keep them for re-use. Please call BERD @ x.7868 if you need bags

Blocks

Put in with the trash

Food Composting

Please don't put scraps in the trash
Return with your tray at Kline or put them in the compost cans at the café.
Finished compost is used in Bard landscapes.

Computer Recycling

Contact BERD for more information

Other Recyclables

Newspaper- clean and dry only
Color inserts are okay

Non-Recyclable Containers

Plastic cups and utensils
Deli containers
Light bulbs
Plate glass
Styrofoam
Automotive product containers

Special Services

Residence Hall 'Move-Out'
At the semester's end BERD will supply collection containers for books, clothing and

household items. These salvaged items will be given to local charities.

Office Clean Outs

Please plan ahead if your department will be generating extra waste material. Contact BERD for additional containers.

Special Events Recycling

When you are sponsoring a campus activity, athletic event or festival be sure to request recycling containers when planning your event. Please contact BERD to discuss particular recycling needs for your event.

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Voting in Dutchess: What You Should Know

A short history of student voting rights at Bard and in the region

MONICA ELKINTON

For the past two years, your fellow students have been working very hard on reserving Bard students' right to vote locally. Before 1998, Bard students, along with students at Vassar in Poughkeepsie and Marist in Hyde Park, were free to choose whether they wanted to register at their school or at their parents' home. However, in 1997, Democrat Kristin Jemiolo ran for County Legislature in the district that represents Vassar. She campaigned actively on and around campus, and registered many students that ended up voting for her. This angered Dutchess County Republican Elections Commissioner Bill Paroli, who was working to build and control a county-wide political machine for which he is now serving a federal prison term.

After the election, Paroli denied any further attempts at student registration from either Vassar or Bard. (No Marist students tried to register to vote during this time.) The Dutchess County Board of Elections, which only needed one out of two Elections Commissioners to object to a registration before it was denied, would sort out any registration cards that had addresses like P.O. Box 5000, Annandale (Bard) or 124 Raymond Ave. Poughkeepsie (Vassar). They would then send individuals at such an address an intimidating and personally intrusive questionnaire, with questions

like "What bank do you have accounts with?", "What address is on your driver's license?", and "Where do you keep most of your possessions?" At the bottom of the questionnaire, the Board of Elections threatened that failure to fill out the questionnaire would result in denial of the registration and that untruthful answers could land the respondent a large fine or a jail sentence. Even if students (or faculty who also tried to register to vote at college addresses) gave the supposedly "right" answers -- i.e. that all their possessions were in Annandale, that they had an account at the local bank, etc. -- their registration was still denied.

In the fall of 1999, Bard and Vassar students formed a coalition called SAVE, Student Activists for Voting Equality. We held a press conference and protest in front of the Dutchess County Board of Elections, and wrote articles in local and school papers. We contacted lawyers at the New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU) and prepared to sue Dutchess County. Jonathan Becker, Bard's Dean of Studies, wrote a piece for the Poughkeepsie Journal about our plight, and researched every other county in New York state to find that no other county discriminated against students like Dutchess did. Although the state law was unclear on the issue, subsequent court cases had interpreted the statutes and outlawed such blatant discrimination.

However, we never needed

to take legal action. Bill Paroli, our main opponent, was arrested in April 2000 for bribery charges completely unrelated to the student voting issue, and sentenced to 18 months in a federal prison. The new Republican Elections Commissioner, David Gamache, actively encourages students to vote, and even visited Bard last August to register students. We do not anticipate any more trouble registering to vote here in Dutchess County. But that might all change as soon as Bard students stop caring about the struggles we endured to secure our constitutional right to vote where we live. Most of the original SAVE members have already graduated, and pretty soon there will be no students left at Bard that remember our fight to vote. That means that you not only have to assert your rights here by registering locally, but encourage the Classes of 2006 and 2007 and all future classes to register to vote here too. The rights that we don't defend are those that are most easily taken away from us.

To register to vote in the local elections in November and all subsequent local and national elections, contact the Dean of Students Office at x.7454 or Dean of Studies Jonathan Becker x.7378 for a registration form. For more information about how you can help to register Bard students, contact Monica Elkinton at me573@bard.edu.

Combat the Conservative scourge!

The Town of Red Hook, which includes Bard, is a small rural community of about 10,000 people, made up of so many Republicans and conservatives that when 150 Bard students registered and voted here in last November's Presidential Election, Bard's District 5 immediately became the largest Democratic stronghold in the Town. Dutchess County, including Red Hook and Bard, is so

Red Hook and Dutchess County need your vote more than your home community does.

historically conservative that it was the only county in the nation that never once voted for Franklin Roosevelt during all four presidential campaigns, even though Dutchess also includes Roosevelt's hometown of Hyde Park. And the conservatism continues. This past spring and summer, the Republican majority in the County Legislature hurriedly passed a redistricting measure that targeted not only their Democratic opponent legislators, but all women legislators regardless of party.

What all this means is that

unless you're voting in a very conservative area already, Red Hook and Dutchess County need your vote more than your home community does. At the local elections this November, all Bard students registered to vote will be able to tell Red Hook and Pough-

keepsie that we want representation that will be good to students and good to the rural area around us. You live here for three-quarters of the year, and

you'll be here at least four years. Even after graduation, who knows, you may love the area so much you'll want to stay. The least you can do is show your support for those candidates that will protect the area and its people. After living at Bard for only 30 days, you can use your post office box for a mailing address and your dorm and room number as your residence to register to vote at Bard in all local and national elections for all the years you stay here.

-Monica Elkinton

NATO in Macedonia: Insulting and Outdated

JONATHAN HELFGOTT

After a hard but necessary separation, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has decided to revisit the Balkans after its smashing success in Kosovo and Serbia just a few short years ago. The occasion: a peace treaty between ethnic Albanian guerillas and the Macedonian government that would give the rebel forces increased influence in parliament, police forces, and educational institutions, and expands the constitution to include ethnic minorities.

To celebrate this peace, following seven months of armed conflict, 400 NATO soldiers arrived to administer the disarmament of the rebel forces, with thousands more on the way. These NATO troops are instructed not to initiate conflict with either side of the warring groups, their single purpose being to peacefully disarm the rebels, and leave within 30 days.

Regardless of intent, the symbolic message sent, that even in peace first world intervention is needed, is both insulting to countries attempting to resolve their conflicts, and outdated. Is there a need for an international police force such as NATO? Possibly.

However, thinly disguising a vessel for the capricious goals of United States foreign policy as a multilateral organization concerned with promoting world order does little other than reinforce the hegemony of the first world. According to Foreign Policy in Focus, NATO was created with three main purposes -- to keep the Americans in Europe, the Russians out, and the Germans down. Obviously, the second and third goals have become obsolete, and with the ever strengthening Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe taking hold, NATO's presence anywhere in Europe is unnecessary and simply holds Europe back from breaking free of U.S. foreign policy initiatives (which, admittedly, is exactly what we want).

This action in Macedonia specifically is misguided, in that it has no chance of real success. The goal of the NATO presence in Macedonia is to disarm the rebel forces within 30 days and then leave. Although Macedonian officials and rebel leaders are both publicly optimistic that the disarmament will in fact take place, there are still signs of conflict. The day the peace treaty was signed, there were shooting skirmishes just a few miles from Skopje, the

capital of Macedonia. Additionally, the peace accord requires amnesty for rebel forces, something strongly opposed by many Macedonian citizens (www.cnn.com).

So, into a shaky agreement comes the international peace-keeping force, which saw its last effort in the Balkans serve to significantly increase the amount of bloodshed and forced relocation of Kosovars in the area. The eventuality that bloodshed would significantly increase following NATO's involvement in the conflict over Kosovo was described by U.S.-NATO Commanding General Wesley Clark as "entirely predictable." It seems then that entering an area where a fragile peace has just been reached with the goal of taking away the guns of people who have been fighting for months can do nothing but escalate the problem. While the rebel leaders have every reason to want the disarmament to go through, individual people have no such incentive, especially without amnesty guaranteed. A combination of a mistrust of western hegemony, a delicate situation, and an order that one of the two parties involved in the situation forfeit the right to defend themselves is not the way to achieve peace.

Update from the Office of Student Activities

Welcome back. I thought I'd update you all on a variety of things from this part of campus.

The Office of Student Activities now has a great new web site with information on upcoming activity events organized by my office for the fall semester. Photos and links are built in as well as listings of events last semester with many great photos of students attending events last semester. Many of you will find pictures of yourselves, so check it out. Naimur Rahman '03 spent a lot of time this summer setting this up for me. Please take a few minutes to check out the site and see what a great job he has done. Go to: <http://inside.bard.edu/campus/departments/studentactivities> or you can go to the inside.bard.edu site and look under "Campus Resources" then under "Departments & Offices" for the Student Activities link.

The Ride Board that has been located in the west entrance to the Campus Center is soon to be replaced by a new online version located under the "Community Resources" area of the inside.bard.edu web site. In addition to ride information, this site will provide a venue for listing other types of information such as classifieds and rental information.

Students interested in displaying artwork in the Campus Center are encouraged to do so. If interested contact Kerry Downey at kd747@bard.edu or stop by the

Office of Student Activities.

Many of you have been asking about the mysterious swing set. The plan was to have it up before the end of last semester but the unfinished construction and landscaping prevented this from happening. A permanent location has been approved for the swing set to be erected. The location will be just north of the new Alumni dormitories where the old road was. In addition, the horseshoe pits, a picnic table and tetherball will also be located here.

For those of you who have club storage in the campus center, you should come in and make sure that you have keys for your file or cabinet. Storage space is made available to student groups on a first come, first served basis and there are only a few cabinets left.

On the wish list of projects is a plan to remodel one of the club-rooms into a more casual meeting space, complete with comfortable furniture, floor lamps, and plants. I hope that this will happen before the end of the semester.

As always, your feedback about Student Activities and the Campus Center is welcome. Send email, call or drop in with any questions, comments or concerns.

Allen Josey
ext.7099
studentactivities@bard.edu
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The Uncertain Future of Reproductive Rights in America

...continued from page
development, during a commission of a violent crime against a pregnant woman. While on its face this act purports to punish violence against women, in reality, the act's purpose may be to establish rights for the unborn through granting a fetus, embryo, or even a fertilized egg a status of "personhood" that is protected under the law, and which later could be used to undercut a woman's right to even a first trimester abortion.

Another threat to reproductive rights and women's rights in general that may not make the front headlines is the appointment of judges to federal courts. These appointments are crucial for several reasons, one of them being that the Supreme Court hears only a few select cases each year, and as a result, most federal cases are settled within the lower courts. Secondly, federal court appointments are important because courts have traditionally been used by public interest groups to achieve rulings in favor of the public good because court judges are public officials who are not elected democratically, and are thus not likely to be indebted to political elites. Because they are not elected, and thus do not need the support of political elites to stay on the bench, federal judges are more likely to be concerned with the protection of people's rights than with the protection of the interests of the people who supported them. However, if Bush has too much of a say in who the new appointments will be, he will likely appoint those judges who he knows will make

conservative rulings. At present, there are more than 850 seats on the federal bench, 98 of which are open. A bill proposing to add another 70 seats to the lower courts is likely to be passed under the Bush administration. Thus, in addition to any further vacancies, it is possible that Bush would be able to fill at least 168 seats in the lower federal courts, which means that nearly one out of five judges (not counting those already serving) in the federal courts, each of whom is appointed for life, may be a potential threat to women's reproductive rights.

However, if the potential threat in the lower courts fails to stir fear in most women, the sobering fact that within the Supreme Court, a woman's right to choose was upheld by the narrow margin of a single vote may do just that. In June of this year, the Supreme Court held in *Stenberg v. Carhart* that the Nebraska abortion ban was unconstitutional because it banned "partial birth" abortions without making room for such exceptions as the preservation of the mother's life. In ruling the way that it did, the Court made it clear that the State may not endanger a woman's health when it regulates the methods of abortion and that the Nebraska statute interferes with the physicians' ability to use their best medical judgement.

The 5-4 margin by which the opinion of the lower courts was upheld is important because the president is likely to nominate two more Supreme Court Justices enough to transform the Court on abortion. Out of the Court's pres-

ent 6-3 pro-choice majority, three judges are currently nearing retirement. If Stevens and O'Connor step down during Bush's presidency and are replaced by two anti-choice Justices, the current 6-3 majority in favor of choice would turn into a 5-4 majority in favor of overturning *Roe v. Wade*. Interest groups on both sides are currently preparing for the possibility of a Supreme Court vacancy and many predict that when this happens, a battle will ensue over the future of abortion rights. Planned Parenthood (plannedparenthood.org) set up a website, RoevBush.com, during the nomination of John Ashcroft for the position of Attorney General, which was perceived by many pro-choice supporters to be just the first staging ground in the struggle that is to follow.

Another major issue facing family planning this year is the amount of money that will be allocated toward the Title X budget, under which women receive key primary care services such as contraceptive services, breast and cervical cancer screening, prenatal care, and STD testing. Programs receiving Title X funds also reach out to young people through sex education programs, helping them delay sexual activity and avoid pregnancy. The current law guarantees that no Title X funds pay for abortion and that the federal money is spent on programs and services which would prevent unwanted pregnancies and abortions.

Although serious attacks on Title X failed to materialize while

Clinton was still in office, disguised attacks, such as the addition of an "Adoption Awareness" to the Children's Health package, which would steer funds to organizations which train family planning counselors to promote adoption rather than discuss abortion on equal basis with other alternatives, were not avoided. With the appointment of Tommy Thompson for his anti-choice views to head the Department of Health and Human Services, these kinds of attacks are likely to be more significant. The ideological composition of the present Congress and a vehemently anti-choice president will likely lead to many fights over the funding of Title X programs, and it is likely that many restrictive riders (such as limited access to contraceptive services for minors and physically separated abortion services from family planning services in clinics receiving Title X funds) will be proposed.

Although the threats to family planning services may seem distant because they do not yet seriously affect us, the possibility of teenagers being unable to access contraceptives without their parents' written consent is not a very far-fetched concept. Neither is the possibility of having to go to two or three different hospitals to obtain emergency contraception (which is extremely time sensitive) after a person has been raped, because the local hospital emergency room is not currently required to carry it.

The Bush administration is going to do all in its power to restrict minors' access to family

planning services and to limit the amount of money that is being spent on family planning clinics which offer abortion as another option, and if we do nothing but stand back and assume that a woman's right to choose is guaranteed, then what we may eventually see is the reversal of *Roe v. Wade*. Planned Parenthood, along with other pro-choice groups, has a lobbying group in Washington that monitors federal and state legislation affecting the reproductive rights of women. For up-to-date information, they have set up a site (www.plannedparenthood.org) on which pro-choice supporters can access information about legislation which impacts family planning and receive email alerts by registering with the "responsible choices" network. By responding to these alerts, a fax can be sent to your local representative with a letter stating why he/she should oppose or support a certain bill. Through this site, viewers can also email their local representatives, Congresspeople, and other elected officials to make their own positions known. By taking action and learning about current developments in the legislature that impact the reproductive rights of women, not only would you be making your own voice heard, but you would be doing something to ensure that decisions about your health are made by those in the medical profession and not the Bush administration.



Village Dorms

Mike Castillo



Keen North Scene

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The Von Bondies, *Lack of Communication*—Sympathy for the Record Industry

Hailing from a recently revived Detroit Rock City a la the Sympathy for the Record Industry label (oddly located near L.A.), The Von Bondies crank out honest rock and roll in its gritty entirety. Their songs follow the standard subjects of love, pain, heartbreak and drinkin' Nite Train (this album is produced by none other than Jack White). In fact, the quartet has a full and heavy sound reminiscent of your favorite rockin' bands from the 50's. The drums are punchy and the guitar work tasteful—like a cross between a Stray Cats era Brian Setzer and Japan's leather-clad Guitar Wolf. Singer/Guitarist Jason Stollsteimer also belts out

his vocals with an urgency and tone that demands you "rock out!" Carrie Smith's basslines anchor the tunes with a strong and driving patience.

The title track, "Lack of Communication," is a straightforward song that builds up from its bouncing bass intro into a determined example of a re-born rock and roll sound. Even more fast and gutsy is the juggernaut, "It Came From Japan," which begins with a heavy overdriven riff and then slams into a droning adrenaline rush; it even has a bad ass chorus that you can yell in your drunken midnight hours. On top of that there are slower songs to compliment the more energetic ones such as "Cass and Henry" and "In the Act." Every element of blues-rock is here but with wholly fresh feel to it—the music is in no way stale or dated.

Now my only problem with this album is the way in which the drums were recorded. Had they been cranked up just a bit more with deeper tone, then *Lack of Communication* would have been just that much better. But nevertheless, this is still one hell of a first album for a band to put out.



Plaid
Double-Figure
Warp Records

Okay, so when I bought this album, three of those hip snooty record store workers gave me thumbs up and encouragement. I had just returned the new Unwound on account of it being severely over-rated (My Bloody Valentine meets Led Zeppelin comparisons!) and seemingly boring to me. So when I received this enthusiasm, I became quite eager and excited.

Double Figure is not an impressively technical album (in the sense that Squarepusher's latest is) nor is it incredibly innovative; it is simply a great album. The duo of "Ed and Andy" manage to compose some extremely melodic lines and ditties while also throwing in some fresh samples. The tones and textures on the album are also of very high quality. Yet what sets it apart from many others is the way in which the album flows

with magical timing and turns. Most of the songs such as "Squance" have a very deliberate and meticulous feel to them. There are also many times on the album when a transition works out so well that you've got to hear it again to relish it—there's one vocal sample on "Sincetta" that I play over and over sometimes just to make sure its that good. If I could describe theirs songs as aural landscapes then I'd say that they're a dense and lush terrain full of surprise.

So overall, Double Figure is a really mellow album with plenty of wonderful little nuances—it's a great example of IDM/electonica minus the abrasive Drum 'n' Bass craziness—like a more contemplative and easy going Aphex Twin; in fact, a lot of it seems inspired from Squarepusher's "Iambic 5 Poetry" off of Budakan Mindphone. Also, you darn kids who love Moby might just love this album even more. It might have the expensive import price, but its well worth it. Of course, I do suppose that many of you just might take advantage of your trusty ethernet connections. TC



The Faint
Danse Macabre
Saddle Creek

The newest Faint album traffics at a flexible border between 80s New Wave and the pounding electronic beats and "hard rock" radio riffs of the pop goth-industrial scene it preceded by about 15 years. *Danse Macabre* finds the Faint's characteristically danceable synth-pop/punk rock melodies and beats in an atmosphere more oppressively dark and "hard-driving," underscoring the lineage that runs between bands like Depeche Mode and bands like Orgy.

This apparent pollution of the ultra-hip with the less-than-cool is perhaps hard to understand in the context of the intense image consciousness the Faint is so wrapped up in. The band's self-erected wall of black-clad hipsterism is not pure ornament but worked vitally into the experience of listening to them, by both their

sex- and nightlife-preoccupied lyrics and their intentionally anachronistic "New New Wave" sound (no anachronism, of course, to those who are in-the-know).

The Faint's previous album, 1999's *blank-wave arcade*, is a near flawless and totally unironic immersion in 80s retro built out of catchy dance grooves, high-pitched synthesizer squawks, keyboards and guitars. "Sex is Personal," the album opener, follows lead singer Todd Baechle's jaded narration of meeting a girl—nothing out of the ordinary for him, of course, except he might actually like this one—done to a perfect pitch of pompous-clinical smart aleck verbosity: "I'm caught in excitement, an unusual spell/ It's pure in a sense and abstract from our lives/ We talked a lot, abstraction came into focus/ Her tales of the tour and a hardcore life were unmatched by the pop subculture in mine/ We talked a lot and soon it would come into focus." What could a guy this cool ever be interested in talking about? we ask: the answer furthest from our minds is anything on the order of "the new Gravity Kills single on K-Rock," but it's made clear on *Danse Macabre* that maybe we should think again.

There's little chance that a single off of this album will be on K-Rock (New York City's major

FM alterna-rock showcase) any-time soon, of course. What's going on instead is an attempted transformation of goth-industrial from the property of one subculture to that of one infinitely (for now) more fashionable, placing it in a point of conversation with New Wave, Electro, and Bauhaus-era goth—and thereby stripping it of any unwelcome radio-friendly (or dork-friendly) connotations. This repositioning is given metaphorical space in "Glass Danse," where we find ourselves held at the perimeter of a dance club more morgue than party, in which effete and well-dressed corpses are concerned with how well you move and where you bought your shoes. Baechle is there, still our oh-so blasé guide: "Maybe I feel detached/ I may just look too shy/ It's a disinterest not that I'm a timid guy/ I call them bodies but they are attentive too/ I feel the social glare/ I feel the attitude."

Thankfully for any club (morgue or otherwise) that might spin the new Faint record, the band's appropriation of goth-industrial music staples (cheesy morbidity, testosterone, etc.) is not only counterbalanced by their punk and New Wave influences but, in a scene where straight synthpop bands like Fischer-Spooner and Ladytron are becoming increasingly ubiquitous, is in many ways a welcome counterbalance itself. *by Jonah Weiner*



Joan of Arc/ OWLS
How can anything so little be anymore? / s/t
Jade Tree Records

If anything can be taken from Bill Cosby's "Kids Say the Darndest Things!" specials, it's that getting kids to 'just be cute' on tape is a conceptually inexpensive and inevitably unwatchable means for 'spontaneity', 'freshness', 'cleverness', 'honesty'—whatever. That indie rock records are not exempt from this rule is an unfortunate lesson learned from *How can anything so little be anymore?*, Joan of Arc's final release. More than one track on the eight song ep finds us serenaded by an energetic little tike with an out of breath and out of key delivery—singing lyrics alternately penned by Tim Kinsella or fully improvised. Whatever interesting vocal and rhythmic idiosyncrasies arise are purely incidental, and more often than not annoying.

But on those tracks (and there are several) when the kid doesn't surface, this mini-outtake album (compiled from material recorded at the same time as *The Gap*) is a nice, though brief, goodbye to Joan of Arc. Perhaps the most telling mile marker here is the way electronic sounds are put to use, a long ways from the upward-spiraling and loopy beats of Joan of Arc's earliest two albums. When electronic music appears on *How Can Anything...* it is in the form of all-encompassing atmospheric/minimalist arrangements of lowly repeated sounds and hums. This makes for nice effect on the mostly instrumental "My Fight is Necessary" and "I'll Show You, I'll Show You All," both of which are brought to life by strange melodies created out of backwards-running samples layered one over another. "Ne Mosquitoes Pass" (the puns can get to be a bit much) is a more familiar-sounding Joan of Arc song, with two acoustic guitars playing in counterpoint in two different time signatures, dawdling over a 4/4 beat and accompanied by tremulous piano. The question that comes to mind is, what's next? and that brings us to Owls.

With some members gone for good and some new ones added, Owls are really only a stone's throw from Joan of Arc. That's not to say that they shouldn't have bothered chang-

ing their name (though the recent trend in pronoun-free animal names seized on by bands as different as Panthers and Gorillaz might have been a good reason—I would have liked Owls 182 better), but just that old fans will not be disappointed, and even older fans (circa Cap'n Jazz) might like them more. Much of *Owls* feels like the band took the more open-ended characteristics of recent Joan of Arc material and tightened them up: what on *Live in Chicago* would have been kept as a furtive and disjointed attempt at melody appears on *Owls* as a repeated hook; songs still meander, but their structures are far more traditionally defined. The result is something that manages to work within the auspices of familiar rock-song compositions while challenging them at the same time (without trying to tear them apart as some 11-minute Joan of Arc song might have). Many of the songs, characterized by fast and irregularly matched guitar and drum rhythms racing beneath Tim Kinsella's vocals, bring to mind, in their energy at least, Timbaland's signature staggered and hyperkinetically busy hip hop beats (see the new Missy Elliott album)—the intuitive common ground between two otherwise disparate kinds of music is jazz. JW

Degrees of Failure: Dialectics of Confusion, Desperation, and Grim Acceptance

TYLER STEVENS

As movie studios frantically battled to sop up the proliferation of teen dollars this summer, their cynicism, heavy-handedness, and isolationism became more apparent than ever. As far as summer movies were concerned—on both critical and audience approval levels—various degrees of failure were not only accepted, but promoted, released, and replicated. There were no films produced this year for a summer release that were not aimed specifically at teens, and it is obvious that if anyone knows what teens want to see, it is not studio executives, or professional filmmakers. Teenagers now confirm that going to the movies is by far their favorite pastime, beating out dating, surfing the internet, and sports. And since teenagers seem to have such good taste these days (just watch MTV), why were virtually all the movies aimed at them this summer so disappointing? In a year when it has become difficult to walk into a mall and see an R-rated feature film (simply because none seem to be made anymore), why is Hollywood continuing to produce and release pictures based on the baby-boomer politics of the 1980's? Back to the Future might well be a success were it released today,



but I fear that RoboCop or Valley of the Blue Lagoon would not...

Studios are unable to commit to major motion pictures that can be easily categorized. This trend seemed to start somewhere back in the early nineties when the 1980's cycle of small successful horror and sci-fi films (the Friday the 13th or Nightmare on Elm Street movies) suddenly became gauche. Genre films became popular enough to represent a substantial investment on the part of the studios. Tepid costume drama/romance/horror films like Coppola's Bram Stoker's Dracula were the result.

This created a decade-long limbo, during which nothing could be referred to specifically as anything, and from which we are just now emerging. Now everything—westerns, comedies, science fiction, horror, drama—can be called a "teen" film. Yet, despite this blunt unification, it is still tough to see a big movie by a big director that is willing to be categorized. And it's even more difficult to see any big movies that aren't completely schizophrenic and depressing as a

result.

Summer 2001 and its grim list of wishy-washy duds are a prime example. After the explosive debut of The Mummy Returns in May, the inevitable onslaught of dull crap began. Simon West's Lara Croft: Tomb Raider started things out with a whimper. Even Angelina Jolie's enormous popularity (and some strange Oedipal deflowering/gender codification allusions) couldn't save this lifeless, unforgivably shabby-looking blockbuster. West has made better, more daring films (Con Air comes to mind), but seemed hopelessly encumbered by the PG-13 rating he just had to have. Tim Burton's Planet of the Apes suffers from the same problem. After substantial success with what were essentially R-rated teen films—Sleepy Hollow, Ed Wood—studios still couldn't trust Burton with even a semi-adult summer release. The result is a neutered version of what



could have been a really terrifying science fiction/action picture, starring the stiff-as-a-board Marky Mark, no less. Jerry Bruckheimer's horrific Pearl Harbor confirmed what we've all known for years: Titanic was a fluke,

and no one, no matter how British they might appear, is as charming as Kate Winslet. Not even the sheer tastelessness of its relentless ad campaign could make this

three-hour behemoth more palatable.

As an outrageous experiment in really bad ideas, Steven Spielberg's A.I. Artificial Intelligence ranks as one of the more interesting summer failures in recent years. At least he has the courage to be risky. A.I.'s combination of Stanley Kubrick's cynicism and Spielberg's Hallmark card sentimentality makes for a truly jarring cinematic experience. Something like Hook meets Howard the Duck meets Dr. Strangelove on the set of Blade Runner. Frank Oz also contributed a daring R-rated release with his extremely odd The Score. Trying to court the recently post-teen set with a mid-summer release for grown ups, trailers for The Score never once even mentioned the inclusion of an aging wacko Marlon Brando amongst the cast, although Brando's character chews up the scenery in a number of key scenes. Apparently



The appearance of insane old Hollywood types is not thought of as palatable to the 18-26 crowd—or at least studios weren't willing to take the risk.

There is hope, however.

August has brought us a number of late, B-level releases from the people at Dimension, USA, and

Screen Gems films. John Carpenter's insane yet modest Ghosts of Mars plays with narrative strategies in the context of a routine Aliens-style Martian hunt. Jeepers Creepers and O promise yet more thrills.

At some point, major film studios will be forced to face reality and admit that teens (the only audience that really counts) do not want big movies. They want teen movies. Not huge movies with huge campaigns and huge opening weekends, just modest, appealing movies like American Pie, Final Destination,



and Wild Things. A glittering multiplicity of non-gender specific TV stars with recognizable faces and personality types, guided by music video directors reworking universal story lines with up-to-the-minute stylistic enhancement. We

want television, with commercials only at the beginning, in the dark, with other teenagers, without our parents.

Student shows appreciation for "dead composer"

JOANNA FIVELSDAL

Anywhere you walked on campus during the past few weeks you would undoubtedly spot a musician carrying an instrument off to practice. And if you didn't notice the musicians, you couldn't help but notice many young bicyclists new to the campus, the children of the many performers visiting Bard. What attracted these musical guests to the Bard campus? None other than the arrival of the 12th annual Bard Music Festival.

As has become a Bard tradition, a variety of programs and events centering on one major musical theme were scheduled for two consecutive August weekends. This year's theme was Debussy and the avenues pursued by French composers from the mid-19th to early 20th centuries.

Why, some may ask, should anyone be interested in exploring or re-examining the role of Debussy or any other dead composer from the 19th and early 20th century when we are now living in the 21st? The reasoning goes that, living in a new era subject to forever-transforming technologies, musical styles, ideas, and genres, it might be hard to detect the significance of "Debussy and his World," a world in many respects far removed from our own.

Yet it was one of the virtues

of the Bard Music Festival that the correlation between Debussy's world and our own became quite clear.

Claude Debussy lived and composed during the development of modern French nationalism, the transformation of France's painting, photography, and sculpture, and the appearance of modern poetics and the modern novel in French culture. In the quest to explore Debussy's music, as well as his contemporaries, the festival's program did not separate the music from the transient surroundings and era from which it emerged and was also able to shape.

Still, festival was able to tie site-specific concerns (for example, the relation of French music to politics after the Franco-Prussian War in the Third Republic), to more contemporary ones (a look at music's place in the context of radical nationalism).

These topics complemented the examination of Debussy's music while his career as a composer was traced. As someone who refused to submit to the rules of traditional musical theory and who later stated, "There is no theory," Debussy provided the festival with an opportunity to shed

light on French musical traditions and the creation of the "modernist" sensibility.

From the panel discussions, symposiums, and especially from live performances, it could be understood why the Bard Music Festival endeavored to reaffirm the ideals that evolved, molded, and were reflected in the music of Debussy and his contemporaries. The analysis of Debussy's music in relation to his world provokes today's society to analyze how the music of our own era goes beyond mere entertainment value and crosses boundaries of social, political, and cultural spheres. The festival's critical view of Debussy, who preferred understated effects in his music (drawing on the French impressionist painters of his time), demonstrated quite clearly the transnational and trans-cultural impact of Debussy, rather than emphasize on his aesthetic/entertainment value.

Tuesday, August 14th, I attended the rehearsal of Darius Milhaud's String Quartet No. 1, Op. 5, where Juliette King, Laure Smukler, Ira Weller, and Rober Martin answered questions of audience members. This session made clear that the Bard Music

Festival was having an impact on today's generation. The enthusiasm of the performers and the underlying depth of the work's musical history caused many in the audience to question their own experiences with music. One person present was so moved by the performance that he asked the four musicians at what age it was to late to learn a stringed instrument.

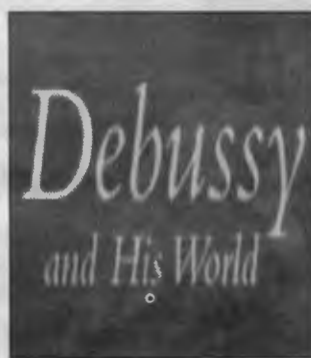
The enthusiasm and appreciation for the festival did not end here. At the last Saturday program of the festival, August 18th, I entered the 800-seat festival tent anticipating an evening of pleasurable orchestral music. What I experienced was much more. The theme of the night was "Stylistic Tensions in the Middle Years: Tradition and Innovation." This theme was well developed through the musical selections of the night. After a stirring Preconcert Talk by Marie Rolf that introduced the audience to Debussy's life experiences and establish him as a truly visionary composer, the concert began with a demanding Fanfare characterized by brilliant sounding brass and commanding percussion. This, along with a March, contrasted with the "Danse sacrée et danse profane," a slow and majestic work.

However, I was impressed not only by the music that I heard, but also by the visual aspects of the performances. One such performance that stood out in my mind

was that of Debussy's *Première Rapsodie* for clarinet and orchestra.

During this performance, the clarinet soloist, Laura Flax, almost appeared to be doing some type of dance with the conductor, Bard President Leon Botstein, as they both swayed back and forth to the music. What was truly amazing about this was that Flax's eyes appeared to be closed the entire time, giving the appearance that the clarinet was merely an extension of her own being. This moving performance did not go unnoticed by others. Rebecca Lira Gordenstein, a freshman at Bard, described the solo as, "a sunrise in a soft misty morning." Clearly, the audience felt the same as shouts of "Bravo!" were heard scattered throughout the crowd. The rest of the program proved to be of equal caliber, as young and old came together to experience and reflect upon music that has proven to transcend time and culture.

The very fact that the Bard Music Festival has proven to be so successful and continues to be a part of Bard's tradition demonstrates that we should care about its purpose and how it can affect us. In the end, you may find that you will relate to the words of Chris Lopez-Thomas, a freshman at Bard, after listening to the orchestra play he stated, "It was as if you could feel the peace caressing your very being."



Gather Ye Depressing Vibes While Ye May

RAFI ROM

There was a definite lack of 'vibe' at Gathering of the Vibes, a three-day festival held in upper Red Hook at the end of June. Maybe because you can't sell vibes, and selling stuff was all these pseudo-hippies, decked out in Abercrombie gear, were interested in. The attendees, who paid 60 to 90 dollars for the weekend pass, spent most of their time analyzing all the glass pieces for sale, instead of listening to any of the third-rate music that played sporadically (because of heavy rain all three days) on the main stage.

When people weren't ogling over pipes with triple-digit price tags, they were busy being entrepreneurs themselves. Shady people quietly chanting "nugs," "shrooms," and "Spidermans" (one clever capitalist monopolized the entire acid market with tabs stamped with faces of that masked super hero) wandered around the muddied path in a steady stream.

Others joined the food sector, selling hash brownies (two for \$5), goo balls (tasty concoctions made with hash oil, \$5), grilled cheese and two-dollar pieces of frozen pizza. And there were some who took to accessorizing the hippies,

with glow sticks (two for \$5!), hemp necklaces, and flower headbands (\$10).

Everyone had something to sell, very few people were interested in trading or giving things away for free -- it was like a giant mall geared to a demographic of young people who preach a wacked-out strain of the social ideologies of the 1960s without implementing any of the political ones. One person I camped with admitted it was like a mall, but stoically said, "It's a cool mall, where you can buy all sorts of illegal substances."

"Terrapin Presents," the group who organized Gathering, structured the festival like an amusement park. They simply replaced the faces of Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck with mostly dead 60s rock legends. I camped at "Woody," located off "9 Mile Skid" and "Penny Lane." If I wanted to I could have moved my stuff down "Highway 61" and camped at "Garcia," or headed a couple of blocks over to "Shakedown St.," the primary consuming area, and stayed at choice spots like "Lennon" or "Joplin." And the crowd, who so willingly fed the "hippie" stereotype, acted as perfect walking cartoon figures.

The nature of the festival might have been forgivable if the music had not been so terrible. Most of the bands sounded like acts that suburban towns would book for Fourth of July celebrations or some other community gathering. For instance on Saturday afternoon the once mildly famous Tom Tom Club, featuring members of The Talking Heads, played an utterly uninspiring mix of reggae and cheesy pop. Fronted by a very bouncy Jamaican man, Tom Tom Club sounded like a band from the early 80's that was still stuck in the late 70's. There is no excuse for the continues existence of that type of music.

Another supposed "highlight" of the festival was Blue Floyd, a band described in the program as a "pioneering" act that "endeavors to deconstruct the classic compositions of the legendary Pink Floyd into their primal, elemental form." What I heard them play were actually faithful, slightly simpler renditions of Pink Floyd songs, lacking any of the inspiration or insight the program purported. It was a very sad scene.

And the sadness did not end then. After hours without music because of terrible thunderstorms, the music resumed with "Terra-

pin 30 year jam," a two hour-plus event commemorating the deaths of Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin and Jim Morrison. After decades of new music, I find it hard to believe that the most amazing headlining act possible was a loosely put together jam featuring a cleaned up Ray Manzarek (organ player for The Doors), a Janis Joplin look-a-like and Buddy Miles (from Hendrix's Band of Gypsies). Sure Manzarek and Miles are talented, but poorly arranged compositions of songs like "Light My Fire," with an incredibly obese old man singing in Morrison's place and backed up by third rate musicians... well that's just depressing.

That a festival consisting primarily of young people (although because of the interesting local publicity job there were quite a few families present) could think of no one better to iconize [or diefy?] than a bunch of dead rock stars from our parents' age is not only depressing, but unsettling. It would be like if the hippies of the 1960's had marched on Washington to the tune of Frank Sinatra's "I Did it My Way."



CCS Features "Stuff" Exhibit

Artists Sarah Sze and Tony Feher tackle found art and string.

DANNY GIBSON

A preliminary need for any sort of successful art exhibit is some heavy-duty juxtaposition. It therefore comes as no surprise that the alert curators at the Center for Curatorial Studies Museum have chosen to feature a juxtaposition of works by two cutting-edge hipsters whose styles are complementary yet distinctive. Currently being displayed for our viewing pleasure at CCS are works featuring a variety of stuff positioned in a variety of manners.

As anyone with a shred of credit in the art community already knows, the two brightest rising stars in the expanding realm of stuff-arrangement are Sarah Sze (outside stuff) and Tony Feher (inside stuff). Both artists featured make use of what is called found art, as in, I found it. What is immediately apparent is that Ms. Sze finds a great many pieces of



individual stuff and arranges them in intricate, terrain-like dioramas, whereas Mr. Feher tends to find only one or two kinds of stuff, and arranges them thoughtfully in rooms.

Having seen zero exhibits by both Ms. Sze and Mr. Feher other than this one, I can only speculate as to whether or not these artistic tendencies are representative of

their complete oeuvres. Perhaps even the slightest bit of journalistic research on the part of this reporter would easily provide the answer to this question. But, back to the exhibits at hand!

We have established how these two artists are complimentary, in that they both find stuff that actually turns out to be art. Their individual distinctiveness lies in what stuff they each find and decide to make into art, and what stuff they (presumably) leave as just stuff. Investigators will here find that the tastes in stuff-discernment between S.Sze and T.Feher are vastly different! In order that we may better understand how art can be made with such an extensive variety of stuff, please refer to this elementary chart of artists and what sorts of stuff they use:

Sarah Sze: thumbtacks, funnels, alligator clips, 3-prong adapters, thermometers, plastic tubes, carnivorous plants, aquarium gravel, construction fences,

string.

Tony Feher: plastic bags, straws, blinking lightbulbs, powerstrips, blue tape, cigarette boxes, french-fry containers, plastic bottles, rainbow-colored water, string.

From this, one can conclude that a fundamental stuff item is, inarguably, string. Far be it for this reporter to make some sort of half-assed attempt at actually analyzing the artwork in an intelligent and/or interesting manner; if ye be in search of a weighty, thoughtful description of this exhibit, please refer to brochure notes by one Elizabeth Fisher, available at the CCS helpdesk. Therein you shall find such important words as loci, dualistic, brushstrokes, Matterhorn and visceral, which escape this reporters lexicon. If you, dear reader, wish to attend this exhibit, assuming you are not so busy bustling about in a frenzy of new-found inspiration to find your own



art, be sure to stop by the CCS Museum sometime before September 9th.

Editor's Note: Mr. Gibson was not aware, at the time of writing, that his article would be printed after the exhibit had closed.

