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"Mr. Rogers,
We salute you"



Miranda
July brings
summer

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Move Bush, Get out the Way!

Half a million convene in NYC Streets

by Liv Carrow

"The whole world is watching!" This chant rose above the masses of protesters in New York City on February 15, as police blockaded and obstructed the paths of more than 500,000 people, led horses through packed crowds, and at times resorted to brutalizing and arresting hundreds of people in the streets.

Among the 500,000 were approximately 250 Bard students, according to SAC members Paolo Vidali and Jon Dame. 140 students took the school-sponsored buses at 7am to join the Youth and Student march from Union Square. More than 300 people were arrested.

Five Bard students were arrested in Times Square as police forced them onto the curb and they fell down. Many more uncoun- ted protestors witnessed or experienced police brutality, dangerous conditions due to crowded block- ade areas, or were endangered by the horses police used to break up crowds. "We didn't have any food or lawyers until 1 am, they had the air conditioning on in the cell, there were old people and it was freezing. There were people in there with their whole faces smashed," Ali Tonak, one of the

arrested students, said.

Obstinacy by the NYPD was decidedly a theme of the day's protest in New York, and many felt that the police presence was both frustrating and invigorating. The absence of marching permits and the illegality of the rally size also added to the general energy of excitement present in the city. "The denial of the permit...made it a very special protest, where people spontaneously created their own feeder marches, and unknowingly the government created more effective protest," Matt Dineen said at the SAC feedback meeting on February 20. Another arrested student, Bill McColloch, described his arrest in Times Square as a frustrating but important aspect of his participation in the protest. "This weekend was a really important step toward a world of sane politics. Getting arrested sucks, but I couldn't be happier with the way things happened."

For most protestors on February 15, the frustration of arrest was felt in a milder dose by the continual obstruction of thoroughways by police blockades. Anyone attempting to reach the rally point at 49th Street and 1st Avenue by any means was faced

with countless block- ades and motionless, frustrated crowds, which always meant long periods of wait- ing. The Youth and Student march from Union Square, which many Bard students participated in, was blockaded and cleaved into smaller sections by police in order to reduce its effectiveness and bar participants from reach- ing the rally in time. The march went from Union Square on 14th Street up to the rally point, but because the march was often blocked, most par- ticipants did not reach the rally area until much later than noon.

Despite attempts to block, stall and provoke protes- tors, the energy of the rally was overwhelming-- sentiment at the meeting was that there should have been more organization and leadership on the day of the rally. "We felt like sheep," a professor stated at the meeting. "I don't want to feel like sheep. It was the first demonstration in my life that I couldn't get to...I would like to be more organized in a march."



Protesters fill NYC streets and gated off eateries police to resist.

Another student commented "it's kind of stupid to go through the system to get permits to fight the system," while another said that everyone did in fact get to the rally, since the entire city was the site of the rally. Anywhere one went in New York, there was an atmosphere of excitement, resis- tance, and unity against the war. The point was raised at the SAC meeting that the rally in New York became anti-police instead of anti- war, since people were presented with the tangible enemy of the

In many other cities that held protests, police were minimally present, mainly due to the fact that other governments oppose the war. In Rome, almost 1 million people hit the streets to protest the war, yet there was little or no police violence. In San Fran- cisco, protestors were met with a fair-like atmosphere and police were comparatively permissive and agreeable. Some noted that the police presence addressed

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Strike Comes Full-Circle

by Rachel Atwood

On January 10, members of the Bard community received an email, notifying them of a wage strike by the Dutchess County Loop Bus workers that had been put into action the previous day.

According to John Webster, General Manager of the Loop Bus service, a conflict arose "between the private [bus] company and union-member staff." However, he was quick to add that "labor negotiations [between the two parties] have resolved this unfortunate occurrence."

Webster was unable to elaborate on the specific causes of



the strike or ways in which it was dealt with, contract pending, but did announce the advent of a new no-strike bill for the Union, which will go into effect 12/31/06.

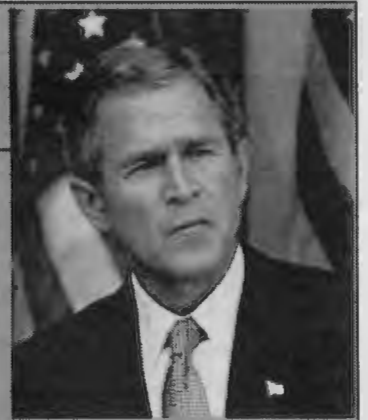
As the strike concluded on Wednesday, January 15 and the buses had resumed full schedule by the end of the week, most Bard students were not directly affected by the change in transportation scheduling. The cost is 50 cents each way with proper Bard ID.

Lawsuit Filed Against Bush

by Tosh Chiang

President Bush was recently sued on February 13 for violating Congress's constitu- tional right to declare war. Accord- ing to Article 1, section 8 of the U.S. Constitution, "The congress shall have power...to declare war." The lawsuit itself was filed in fed- eral court by Boston attorney John Bonifaz on behalf of six members of Congress, three U.S. soldiers and six parents of soldiers. The congressional plaintiffs include democratic Reps. John Conyers of Michigan and James McDermott of Washington. Listed as defendants were President Bush and Defense secretary Donald

Rumsfeld. Bonifaz commented to reporters, "The president is not a king; he does not have the power to wage war against another country absent a declara- tion of war from Congress." The lawsuit noted an illegality in the possible use of Congress's Octo- ber resolution which read: "this joint resolution may be cited as the Authorization for the Use of Military Force Against Iraq." The resolution is not a congressional declaration of war. An attempt to wage war under the resolution would therefore be unconstitu- tional. The plaintiffs also stated that congress needed time to



lackluster tyrant?

have a proper debate—to let the process ordained by the writers of the constitution, determine the course of the current conflict with Iraq.

Of course, many have cited past wars which have been fought without Congress's stamp of approval; the last legal dec-

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USA-Patriot Act and Bard

by Kate Crockford

On Tuesday, February 25, a panel of educators and students addressed a packed Multi-Purpose Room in a timely and densely informational event regarding civil liberties issues in the US. Most of the discussion centered around the USA Patriot Act, a more recent act euphemistically termed 'Patriot Junior', and the Total Information Awareness act. The panel, sponsored by the Bard College Information Resources Council, the Bard Human Rights Program and the Dean of the College, featured Tracy Mitrano, director of the Computer Policy and Law program at Cornell University, Bard professors Tom Keenan, Greg Moynahan and Daniel Karpowitz and students Vincent Valdmanis and Tavitt Geudelekian.

The event succeeded in providing two services to the community: speakers disseminated information concerning the document and its domestic implications, and stu- dents and faculty could begin to explore or think about ways that Bard College could and should react to the changes both nationally and in Annandale. Questions of student rights

pertaining to student records, the federal government, and the centralization of information were main themes throughout the discussion.

In the last few minutes of the program, Bard senior and panel contributor Vincent Valdmanis crystallized an evening of ominous warnings and disheartening information by informing the audience that in a few weeks all Muslim, male Bard students will be required by the federal government to get onto buses that will take them to Albany to be finger- printed.

Dr. Mitrano spoke first and used a power-point presentation to help outline her well-researched and wide-ranging lecture. A scholar well versed in constitutional and com- puter policy law, she began by providing some basic information about the USA Patriot Act. Passed on October 26, 2001, the USA Patriot act (short for: "Uniting and Strengthen- ing America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism

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Bard takes on the Patriot Act ...

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Acts") is "one of the longest pieces of emergency legislation passed in one of the shortest periods of time in American history."

Mitrano put the act in historical context. She spoke of historical reactions to crisis in the American political sphere, including the Alien and Sedition Acts of the

1790s, the suspension of Habeas Corpus during the civil war, silencing of free speech during World War One, and the Red Scare and the Palmer Raids in the post-WWII US. Other well known examples of government excess with regard to citizen's rights are FDR's New Deal, the internment of Japanese citizens in the US during WWII, the blacklisting and Congressional hearings that took place during the McCarthy era, and wire-tapping and general harassment of

activists during the sixties and seventies. Mitrano asserted that these were all historical examples of "highly unconstitutional searches and seizures...arrests and deportations." Having set the tone, she proceeded to discuss the latest in questionable government policy-making, the USA Patriot Act. Dr. Mitrano believes that two of the most important aspects of the document are often overlooked. First, a section in the document states that if one clause or section of the Act is found to be unconstitutional and thereby omitted, it has zero affect on the remaining clauses. According to Mitrano, such a statement is extremely rare and presents myriad problems

for defenders of the constitution. Second, she is extremely concerned about some of the document's (purposely?) ambiguous diction. One important clause states: "activities that involve acts dangerous to human life that

are a violation of criminal laws of the US or of any state; appear to be intended to intimidate or coerce..." The phrase "appear to be intended" begs question and investigation into the motivation behind such ambiguous language, Mitrano argues.

"You have to have an intent as well as a criminal act---the notion of appear is one of those things that I really hope was a mix-up in writing because if we began to prosecute for appearing to do something it would mean an enormous shift

in public policy and law making in this country, and have serious implications," she said. Yet perhaps most dangerous, most of the panelists agreed, is the government's outspoken intention to use this ambiguously worded, new legislation to sanction the collection and centralization of massive amounts of both personal and 'public' information about people living in the US. Bard professor David Karpowitz voiced concerns regarding large-scale shifts in both government policy-making and what is publicly acceptable among US citizens. He believes that "[the Total Information Awareness program] should be understood in terms of this administra-

tion's larger goals..." "One goal is the creation of a massive database containing" all of the information any government agency can collect on people living in the US, using sources as varied as census, commercial data, interaction with government agencies like the Department of Motor Vehicles and welfare offices, and even surveillance, he said.

Ominously, Karpowitz brought the issues closer to home when he closed by saying that "as the Bard community comes up with its information policy we must keep our gaze fixed on the government's desire for Total Information Awareness." Professor Tom Keenan, speaking after Prof. Karpowitz, exacerbated anxieties regarding student rights when he asserted that people in this country have reason to be paranoid. Yet while Keenan warned of a double-threat facing US citizens---one commonly referred to as "terror" and the other "that is supposedly anti-terror", i.e. US government "anti-terrorism" actions---he prefaced his portion of the lecture with a warning to the American left. "The left has been inclined to act as if 9/11 didn't happen...but something did happen, something unprecedented happened. Terror scrambles the distance between foreign and domestic, between civilian and military, and we have to behave and not act as if things are still the same." While he purported that some Americans, notably leftists, are now in a difficult position, caught between protecting liberties and recognizing that there are new problems that cannot be ignored, Keenan closed his short talk optimistically. "Resistance is possible," he said, through creating "zones of non-compliance." History professor

Greg Moynahan returned the discussion to less theoretical and more policy related issues and approached the subject from an interesting and valuable, namely historical, perspective. He discussed the differences between public policy and civilian rights in the US and in Europe, differences that he perceives as having shifted in opposite directions in the past twenty

years. Some of the most interesting of these differences lie in the disparity between definitions of private and public data. In short, what is intellectual property and to whom does it belong? For example, the Data Protection Act, passed in the EU in 1998, states that (1) everyone has the right to protection of data regarding him or her, (2) everyone has the right to that data and to have it rectified, and (3) compliance with these rules is assured by an independent commission (from outside the EU). There are no such rights afforded to US citizens. Moynahan also raised interesting questions regarding the danger of the federalization and centralization of commercial data in the US.

Tavit provided some relevant and, frankly, quite terrifying, information regarding how the government obtains the data that Moynahan and others warn is increasingly centralized and shared among federal and state agencies. The USA Patriot Act changed many laws regarding government surveillance of people in the US, in most cases making it easier for the government to collect information without a warrant and on fairly paper-thin evidence. The language used to describe the new surveillance methods is Orwellian at best. 'Trap and Track'

collects all of the information like phone numbers, time of call, IP addresses, etc. that comes into one's phone or computer. 'Pen Register' technology does the same thing except monitors and collects information on one's phone or computer regarding outgoing calls or websites visited. Roving wire taps can now track a person not only on a mobile phone or laptop computer, but the technology combined with less stringent privacy rights for people now allows for the government to track people who move from one ground phone/computer to another. In other words, if the feds want to, they can monitor your electronic activities on your home phone, and then follow you to the library, the computer lab, and to your friend's room across campus,



Prof. Gregory Moynahan

absorbing all of your technological output and input and organizing the data accordingly.

Perhaps most frightening of all, however, is a tactic the federal government calls 'Sneak and Peak'. Sneak and Peak allows the feds to enter one's home or business and examine, alter, remove or alter things in it without a warrant and without the owner of the home or business' knowledge. Only when the search and possible destruction are complete is the federal agency mandated to inform the victim.

The Human Rights Program at Bard

Human rights now a program which Bard Students can moderate into
by Julia Herman

Bard College has long been involved with the idea of human rights and with concrete action to promote these rights across the globe. Out of this desire for practical action came the Human Rights Project, lead by Thomas Keenan to create a human rights major, that would become a part of the college's curriculum.

According to Keenan, the major is intended for "people who are temperamentally inclined to do good things"; the basic idea is to turn vague sentiment into the application of a rigorous critique of ideals in the world today. He hopes that the major will establish a more structured and more honest framework in which to view the world's human rights issues and to apply those observations within the "real world." It is his hope that students' political and ethical energies are harnessed into something with substance and meaning; too often they remain thebardfreepress.vol4.issue4

unfocused and unused, deprived of any kind of intellectual structure to bridge the gap between action and inaction.

Keenan has found that a significant number of students, including many first and second-year students, wish to moderate into a Human Rights Program. The students come from many different fields, but most are from the social sciences, literature and from the arts. He also emphasized the fact that the Human Rights Program will be based primarily in programs that already exist at Bard, and will draw mostly from existing faculty and from courses already in the curriculum.

Crucial to the basic make-up of the major, is the insistence that students "acquire serious familiarity with a traditional field of study"—teaching human rights in this way, based in a discipline, allows for a better conceptual framework, better analytical skills

and better "habit of mind" for what they are learning. Keenan wants to emphasize the intellectual bent of the major, rather than the "fad of human rights"; he wants to encourage students' sensitivity to the philosophy governing human rights, not simply students' too-easy and impulsive actions regarding those rights. The program will "engage critically and deeply with history and the actuality of the idea, teach students to explore its trajectory with attention to the arguments over its meanings, the passions it

arouses, and the extent of its influence and effects." Keenan intends for the major to emphasize the effects upon the world at large as well as the effect and relationship that human rights have on more specific places and people.

Bard College has always asserted its strength as a platform for intellectuals and artists and scholars

The program will engage critically and deeply with history and the actuality of the idea, teach students to explore its trajectory with attention to the arguments over its meanings, the passions it arouses, and the extent of its influence and effects."

These lectures, such as David Cohen's lecture on "The Indonesia Trials on East Timor" and "Portraits of Genocide (Rwanda, after 1994)", a photography exhibit by Robert Lyons, the two occurring this past year, illustrate both the breadth of

the topics regarding human rights and the sheer globalization of the violation of human rights.

The Human Rights Program is simply a concrete realization of what Bard students and faculty have been discussing and thinking about for years; it comes at the culmination of many years of informal study and informal desire for change, for an affectation of policies that better society and the whole of humanity.

**Saturday
[rock]
Red Room
Fiesel, Mini-
watt and the
broken bottles
9PM
Brought to you
by the red room
and the rock and
roll society**

Slavery in Western New York?

by **Emily Price**

A pending legal case says that is does

It is midnight in Orleans County, NY. Javier, Sergio, Josue, and Roberto listen carefully, awaiting the sound of movement outside. They can only open the door to their labor camp trailer--the cramped, seasonal home they share with ten other workers--once they are sure that the night guard is asleep. Breathing deeply, Roberto looks to the other farmworkers one last time, peers out, and in one quick movement, four bodies sprint toward the woods at the edge of the labor camp's property. They hide, low to the ground, glancing up into car headlights, flashlights, and crunching footsteps of the men who are looking for them. They sleep on nearby train tracks, but are not found. With the sun, the workers come to a town and notice a woman who appears to be Latina, and go to her for help. In such a small community, she could easily have been a family member of the contractor from whom they were running, or an acquaintance of the farm owner, but in a stroke of luck she doesn't turn them in. She knows of an organization called Farmworker Legal Services New York, which she immediately contacts, and the workers, having suffered six years of abuse, finally reach safety.

What could they have been running from? How does the system of illegal migrant labor operate in the U.S.? If you don't know the answers to these questions, you are part of the great majority of Americans that eats their tomatoes, slices their apples, and drinks their orange juice unbeknownst to the cruelty implicated in the harvesting of these products.

A quick overview:

Mexican, as well as Central American citizens, impoverished and unable to find work or make a farm profit in their own countries (largely in part to the devastating aftermath of NAFTA and other free trade agreements), find their way to the northern border of Mexico. Once there, they use a coyote, a person familiar with the routes used to cross the border, who takes them into the U.S. For most, crossing the border is a harsh and terrifying journey, where they face the possibility of severe dehydration, freezing to death, getting shot by renegade border patrols, arrest and incarceration in a border detention center, where they

could be held indefinitely.

If the immigrants do make it across unharmed, they are brought usually to some kind of run down hotel or house, hidden in the desert (there are many like this in Texas and California, for example,) where they wait. Contractors, people who find workers and match them with U.S. farm owners desperate for cheap labor, arrive at these locations and recruit. Quite often, the contractors were once farmworkers themselves, who are familiar with the processes of forced labor and have now discovered a way to make a lot more money at it.

Migrant farm workers, of which there are approximately 47,000 in New York alone, often migrate or perform seasonal labor

Run-down farmhouses, trailers, and bunkhouses crammed with up to 50 workers are usually dirty and cold, often unsafe, and entirely in violation of state standards. The workers are overcharged for rent, food, and transportation—all of which they rely on the contractor for—ensuring that regardless of how long or hard they work they will only accrue more debt, and essentially be entrapped as slaves into a cycle reminiscent of that of sharecropping. In total, it can cost the workers \$1500 to \$2000 simply to work the season, a sum potentially equal or greater to their earnings.

Farm labor is hard work. Consistently ranked within the top three most dangerous professions, the workday ranges from 8 to 16 hours, often without a weekly

that these disparate placements were attributable to random factors. It is certain that gender discrimination runs unchecked by the U.S. government.

The four laborers described in the first paragraph, along with six other migrants who escaped under various circumstances all from farms in Western New York, are now the plaintiffs and witnesses in two groundbreaking legal cases challenging the human rights practices within the industry of agricultural both federally and locally. For the first time, the contractors who exploited these workers are essentially being tried as what they are—slavetraders. In leaving the labor camp, these workers risked the possibility of assault, arrest, deportation, and potential

harm against their families in Mexico (all of which had been direct threats made by the traffickers they were working to payoff,) and were losing their only source of income in a foreign country where they could not speak the language. Now, they are potentially helping to reform the conditions in which migrant workers live throughout the nation, and calling attention to the cause.

The federal criminal case, U.S. v. Maria Garcia Botello, indicts a team of six

contractors for their flagrant violations of the Federal Forced Labor Law, a statute essentially reflecting what was at the heart of the 13th amendment—abolishing and condemning slavery within the United States. The other, a class action civil suit filed on the part of the workers, titled Javier H. v. Maria Garcia Botello, will sue both the contractors indicted in the criminal case, as well as local growers who employed the workers as seasonal labor. Among the charges are violations of the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act, Fair Labor Standards Act, RECO (anti-racketeering legislation), as well as personal injury, false imprisonment, intentional infliction of emotional distress, and assault, among many others. (Note: At the time of writing the names and sales practices of these growers were still

unavailable. Bard Migrant Labor Project is helping to research this information so students can be aware of which local products have and have not met fair labor standards.)

The civil case, being prosecuted by Farmworker Legal Services New York (FLSNY), marks a groundbreaking step in that growers and farm owners have been formally named in the charges of farmworker's grievances. Generally, the farm owners are allowed to wash their hands of human rights issues, saying they never knew that the workers were illegal, never paid them directly, and are not responsible for the conditions under which they live. The power of the Farm Bureau is a strong force in protecting these growers and ensuring that they will not be forced to pay workers the money they were cheated out of during the season. Race is also a factor to consider, as the contractors are generally Latinos, and the farm owners Caucasian American citizens. The state will jump at the chance to prosecute the smugglers, while it allows the people who hire them to walk free.

The outcome of Javier H. v. Maria Garcia Botello could be a key step in the ongoing call for legislative reform by farmworker justice and human rights activists. "This is the tip of the iceberg of these problems in New York State and around the country," stated Dan Werner, a lawyer with FLSNY. "Not to say that all cases are as egregious as this, but there are certainly many more."

Migrant farmworkers live in our community. Thousands of them. Many live under the kinds of conditions described here, while others are treated fairly well by their employers. Either way, it is the responsibility of the citizens and their representatives to ensure that labor practices are fair and regulated, not simply left to the whim of a person whose main goal is earning a profit. Many people do not realize that it would actually be cheaper for farm owners to pay laborers a fair wage, eliminating slave-like conditions, and that granting workers labor rights will not jeopardize agriculture. Justice is not secondary to profit. This is our state and our community—if we sit quietly, we say to our government that slavery is acceptable as long as we don't have to look at it in the face. Let's not be responsible for that.



on different kinds of farms, ranging from harvesting fruit such as apples, grapes and cherries, to work on dairy farms. While the National Labor Relations Act of 1995 entitles most workers to many fundamental labor rights, farm workers are exempt from this legislation and therefore are exempt from most labor laws considered standard for other industries in the U.S.

In the case of the workers mentioned above, working in Western New York, the contractor paid the coyote about \$500 per worker, a sum tacked onto the laborers ever-increasing debt once they arrive at their work destination. The laborers are assigned to a work site, potentially on an apple orchard, onion farm, or harvesting seasonal vegetables. They live in a labor camp in a different location, where they are constantly watched and guarded.

day of rest, and inflicts serious damage upon the workers bodies. Most farm laborers are only able to work a few years before they are physically unable to continue. Often the farms do not provide drinking water or bathroom facilities, the workers have no medical coverage if they are injured, and do not have the right to collective bargaining. If they receive H-2A or H-2B visas, farm laborers are termed guestworkers, which allows them legal status during the harvest season, and fails to provide them with the provisions of federal and state labor standards. Women's rights are a large issue here because they are never chosen by recruiters to come under the H-2A visa, which provides more protections, because farm owners are less likely to hire women. Using employment figures provided by a labor recruiter, there is less than a .0001 probability

Bush v.s. Constitution

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laration of war was WWII. Yet there have been Vietnam, Korea and the Persian Gulf. The lawsuit also parallels a 1990 action where 54 democratic Congressmen unsuccessfully challenged the then President Bush of skipping congressional approval for military force in Kuwait. The present lawsuit has a very simple point: George W. Bush is not operating under the law of the land, under the U.S. Constitution. And for many, it stirs debate concerning the legality of President Bush's recently amassed executive powers.

Other congressional plaintiffs include Dennis Kucinich, D-Ohio; Jesse Jackson Jr., D-Ill.; Jose Serrano, D-N.Y.; and Sheila Jackson Lee, D-Texas.

"The world says no to war" in NYC

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deeper issues of power structures, the oppression and ignorance of the public opinion, and the fundamental illegality of the police state New York became. Kiernan Rok commented at the meeting that "the objective flowered into something much more fundamental than war."

Despite the numbers worldwide, the national polls, and the increasing number of local, state and international governments that express opposition to war in Iraq, the Bush administration has not acted to halt the war or reconsider the course of it. Events are still being held locally and nationally to resist the war, and have as of press time included a march in Poughkeepsie, a virtual march on Washington when

people were asked to flood government offices with e-mail, phone calls, faxes and letters, and a march is being planned in Washington DC on March 15. SAC meetings are held every Sunday at 7 to discuss further action.

On March 5 Bard will participate in a student strike to oppose the war. Events will be held all day to discuss the war and further action that Bard students can take.

Kosher Down the Road



by Emily Barth-Lanzara

Early last week, frozen Kosher entrees became available for purchase at both the Green Onion and the Down the Road Café. These meals include meat, dairy- and non-dairy vegetarian, and vegan options to accommodate the widest range of dietary preferences possible. The availability of Kosher food on campus is a huge improvement for Jewish and Muslim students who keep Kosher or Halal, and is beneficial also to strict vegans and vegetarians who want to be assured that their food has not come into contact with meat at any point in its preparation. These meals, however, are only the first visible result of a three-year project spear-headed by student Nili Chernikoff to bring Kosher food to campus. The project's ultimate goal is to offer a Kosher/Halal meal plan on the premises of Kline Commons, with separate cooking and serving facilities, but in such a way that the integrity of the campus's communal eating space is preserved, and no students are segregated out from the larger community. Recent communication with both Chartwells and the administration on the creation of this sort of facility has been both positive and very productive. Although they are not yet available, administration has approved the sale of Kosher sandwiches (meat, dairy, and vegan) in the Campus Center and is discussing the possibility of finding a way to offer other Kosher/Halal food options in the Café -soup, maybe, or some other cooked food. Keep your eyes peeled for future updates! (The eggplant parmesan is really yummy, by the way!)

Health Services Update

by Micki Strawinski

The Student Health and Counseling Services thank you for your patience, tolerance, and The Student Health and Counseling Services thank you for your patience, tolerance, and good humor during our painting and flooring renovations this semester. Our improved appearance is just one of the exciting changes we have made to increase the quality of services.

We are also pleased to announce the hiring of an additional nurse practitioner in the Student Health Service, Lisa Pearlman. Lisa received her bachelor's degree in biology from Oberlin College and pursued her graduate studies as a Family Nurse Practitioner at the Yale University School of Nursing. Lisa will be developing and coordinating a student peer health education program. Interested students should contact Lisa at Health Services, ext. 7433.

The addition of another nurse practitioner will help meet the student need for greater availability of health service appointments. The Health and Counseling Services will also be adding an evening clinic on Thursday from 4 – 8 pm in the spring semester.

We appreciate the student input that helped make these changes possible. As always, we welcome constructive suggestions as we continue to work toward improving and extending the services we offer.

All our best wishes for a safe and restful intercession.

- Bard Health and Counseling Services staff

No current plans to demolish the Old Gym!!!

by The Student Life Committee

The Student Life Committee (SLC) met with Jim Brudvig to discuss the future of the Old Gym. Jim gave us important information: **the gym may be around for a lot longer than we all thought.** We know this because as of yet, no attempt has been made to find a contractor for the construction of the proposed science building, the building we all thought would replace the Old Gym.

Translation: RESPECT the Old Gym. It is a valued student space that unites the Bard population and so much more. Unfortunately, student spaces on campus are quickly disappearing. We, as students, cannot afford to lose another space. When we destroy the Old Gym via vandalizing and otherwise disrespecting it, we are only hurting ourselves.

Where will we go if we continue to destroy the Old Gym?

Alan Greenspan, Hardware and Biochemical Warfare

by Emily Schmall

Alan Greenspan might think that tensions over Iraq are bad for business, but Paul Friedlander, owner of Friedlander Enterprises on the corner of 54th Street and Broadway in Manhattan, might disagree. Since the new Department of Homeland Security issued guidelines on how best to prepare for biological or chemical attack, sales in security supplies, such as duct tape and plastic sheeting, have been booming.

"We're all sold out and our wholesalers are all sold out," owner Paul Friedlander reports. At the Hardware Mart near Union Square, the situation is similarly critical.

"Oh, you have no idea!" says saleswoman Anita Zonin. "Tape is literally flying off the shelves. That and plastic." Most customers purchase five to six rolls of duct tape, and now both she and her supplier are drained.

In departments other than duct tape and drop cloths, business at Friedlander's has been slow. The sole customer approached the register to purchase some nuts and bolts. He didn't want any duct tape. He had purchased plenty yesterday. Friedlander says that most customers bought five or six rolls of thirty-foot tape. "One thing this has certainly done is to stir up the plastic economy," he says jokingly.

The store has adjusted itself in other ways to what the owner interprets as a cultural change. "Right now we're full-service in security," the owner boasts. Customers can order employee security checks, surveillance cameras, and even an armed guard for protection while traveling. The store's shift reflects a growing industry devoted to personal protective equipment. 3M, a worldwide provider that services many hardware stores in the city, offers eyewear, respiratory kits, sorbents, and "breathe easy" rubber hoods.

Although Friedlander doesn't complain about the recent burst of business, he admits to finding it a trifle unnecessary. The government is recommending that people tape up their windows to fend off contaminants from a chemical attack, but he says, "you can't seal yourself in. It's a good precaution but depending on where you are, you may not get it up fast enough."

He believes there's a greater chance of a bomb detonating on a subway than of the invisible terrorist of chemical warfare invading people's doors and windows. Even then, he says, precautions may be futile. "It might be helpful to have a gas mask in your pocketbook, but who's going to think to use it in such chaos?"

Friedlander doesn't own a gas mask, nor does he intend to tape up all the windows in his store. He likens it to the story of the shoemaker who has no shoes. "I really believe that whatever happens in going to happen. Living under the threat is sometimes scarier than the actual event itself."

Banking on the War

by Charlie Schultz

If you're not banking on war these days you'd better invest. Why not? We live in a democratic capitalist country. Besides, everybody who knows business and politics best have already invested, scored, and are, in the interest of greed, looking for a bigger pay-off soon. Let's break down our Bush/Cheney administration, who apparently 'know' politics. But do they 'know' business?

Prior to the latest election campaign where our dynamic duo triumphed over dangling chads they were commonly known as Texan oil barons. One was the governor; the other a CEO of Halliburton corporation, an internationally acclaimed pipeline service vendor. Between them is ENRON. Common knowledge already knows ENRON not only supported the Bush campaign but was also the largest financial donor, contributing upwards of \$500,000. Additionally, ENRON's CEO and President Bush's personal friend, Kenneth Lay, contributed an extra quarter million out of his own pocket and helped organize and run the most successful fundraiser in history; the Bush campaign gained 21.3 million dollars. (Mr. Bush is also notorious for borrowing Enron executive jets.)

So what did Bush do to earn such a loyal friend? He passed legislation with money in mind. While serving as governor Mr. Bush extended the 1971 "Texas Clean Air Act" under a new title dubbed "C.A.R.E.". This Clean Air Responsibility Enterprise waived the necessity of pollution permits IF the said corporation (ENRON) volunteers to cut emissions. Who the hell was monitoring that one? Bush extended the clause further in 1995 signing an act that protected any polluting corporation that preformed internal environmental or safety audits, ENRON conducted five audits and filed for immunity from prosecution for violations of pollution acts several times. (Note: Houston, base of ENRON, has more smog per "sky acre" than any other city in America.)

On the other side of this ENRON debacle is UNOCAL, one of the two biggest international petroleum importers. Both companies have used Cheney's Halliburton to build pipelines in international soil. On December 17, 1997, the British newspaper Telegraph reported the Taliban, "a rising power in an unstable nation", was on the brink of a two billion dollar deal with "American companies" to construct a pipeline from the Caspian Sea basin (which holds the largest

oil fields—worth about five trillion at today's prices) through Afghanistan into Pakistan. The pretenses were roughly, "they build it, we fund it". It is also noteworthy that the acting Afghan president, Hamid Kazari, was a paid UNOCAL consultant. Unfortunately, for our capitalist heroes, 9/11 ruined any hope of easily going through with the deal.

However, even global catastrophe can't stop the best capitalists from bringing in big bank. George Bush senior along with other top-level government officials from the Reagan and Bush administrations started a private equity group known as Carlyle Corp. in the late eighties. Although they have expanded operations their biggest niche is buying military and aerospace supplies and selling them for profit. This is manageable since they own United Defense Industries and U.S. Marine Repair. They are the biggest U.S. defense contractors as well as a major force in global telecommunications. To boot, they are also work as financial advisors to the Saudi Government—another country whose wealth in oil must be recognized. Charles Lewis, executive director of the center for public integrity, said, "George Bush is getting more money from private interests that have business before the government, while his son is president. And, in a really peculiar way, George W. Bush could, some day, benefit financially for his own administration's decisions, through his father's investments".

It's called inheritance Charles, and as long as the Republicans keep the democrats from inheritance tax I'd wager our President will do quite nicely when daddy passes on. Another investor of Carlyle Corp. that seems unusual is the bin Laden family. The Saudi bin Laden group, a five billion dollar construction business run by Bakr, Osama's half brother, invested two million at the start. On Oct. twenty-sixth Bakr liquidated his share for 2.2 million due to public criticism and a mutual decision between Carlyle execs and Bakr.

All this leads to one conclusion: This war isn't about killing civilians, liberating the oppressed, or expanding democratic ideals. No it's much simpler than that. It's about stabilizing a financially beneficial area of earth so the rich can get richer and gas can go cheaper.



Duct tape.



Alan Greenspan.

5 points on the Student STRIKE

by Ali Tonak

I have been trying to talk with as many people as possible to understand the campus reaction to the strike. While there are many people who are in support of it, there are also people who are against this war but think that the strike is a "stupid idea". Their arguments are centered on;

1. "Books not Bombs? How does a strike translate into Books not Bombs?"
2. "How is this effective?"
3. "Why don't we just do it on the weekend or on an evening so we can go to classes and to the events?"
4. "Bard is irrelevant for a strike, we are not a state university that receives federal funding."
5. "I'm paying thousands of dollars to go to this school, I can't not go to class."



1. "Books not Bombs? How does a strike translate into Books not Bombs?"
As put eloquently in the Q&A for the strike "This strike is not against education, for what will truly disrupt education is another war." First of all the strike is being organized in such a way that education at Bard will continue, but not through regular classes and instead through teach-ins and discussions, many of them conducted by faculty members.
Regardless, when we look past the day of March 5th it is easy to see that war and education are incompatible. Truth is the first casualty of war. The implications of the Patriot Act have already given us a taste of how a perpetual war state will silence the free minds of today. If you think that this is inapplicable to Bard right now, just ask any student from the Middle East if she or he would feel comfortable expressing anti-war opinions publicly.

In addition to this we must also look at the future of education at places other than Bard. The planned war against terror has already cut the budgets of many state universities and the public school system. The effects of war on social programs and education are not that distant from us. To learn more about the economic effect war has had on the education of American children I recommend Konner and Maggie's teach-in "Money for war, but what about Poughkeepsie?" on the day of the strike.

2. "How is this effective?"
Imagine that on March 5 life as usual came to a halt at Bard College and at hundreds of other colleges, universities and high schools around the US. Such a unified opposition to a planed war would send a clear signal to the current administration that their policies will not be tolerated by the American public.

Apart from acting in solidarity with educational institutions around the nation, a successful strike will have an immense effect on the local level. It will send a message to the community that as an integral part of this region we are not silent in our opposition to the war and are willing to act against it. Media coverage is undoubtedly a crucial element of this and that is exactly one of the fruits that the strike will bear.

If you have any doubts about how a powerful student movement can shape to policies and public opinion of a country I urge you to attend the presentation and discussion on "the student movements of 1968" on the day of the strike or to remember the constant references to the importance of the student movement in stopping the Vietnam War.

3. "Why don't we just do it on the weekend or on an evening so we can go to classes and to the events?"
This seems to be the most common argument against the strike. In fact some students are planning to go to their classes and then go to events with whatever time they have left. It is important that the strike disrupt the progression of routine daily life in order to illustrate the potential power the anti-war movement possesses. Colleges and universities are an vital part of American society and I have no doubt that a successful rehearsal now for a larger and longer strike during an "actual" war will send a clear warning to the government.

The hesitation is partly because students are afraid of missing class and partly because some students don't want to miss class. On the former argument it is important to remember that if we do not go to class there will be no class and nothing will be missed. The second argument is ultimately an issue of sacrifice. Are you willing to sacrifice one lesson of Spanish, Intermediate Macroeconomics or Painting in order to create a day of resistance and discussion within the Bard community? In making this value judgment we need to understand the catastrophic consequences this war will have here at home and abroad; check out, <http://www.zmag.org/CrisesCurEvts/Iraq/IraqCrisis.htm>.

4. "Bard is irrelevant for a strike, we are not a state university that receives federal funding."
Even if we were to disregard the many federal scholarships (i.e. work study) Bard students receive, the war does have a direct effect on the resources available to Bard College. Ask and head of a division at Bard and you will hear them tell you that their budget is the lowest it has ever been in years. Hundreds of cities around the nation (including Chicago, Philadelphia and Atlanta - <http://www.ips-dc.org/citiesforpeace/resolutions.htm>) have passed anti-war resolutions citing that this war is unreasonable with the current economic crises we are in. As an educational institution it is a bit more complicated for Bard to pass such a resolution but we as the students, faculty and staff of Bard College can make our opposition and dedication visible through this strike.

5. "I'm paying thousands of dollars to go to this school, I can't not go to class."
A college education is not like a calling card. We are not here to buy minutes of class-time in whatever subject that you are interested in. A library will also serve the same purpose. Higher-level education and being a college student is more than passively absorbing or even participating in class. As a future generation that will be shaped by the events we are experiencing right now we have an obligation to act out in our opposition and to transform Bard into a voice of reason against this war.

In ending this letter I would like to reproduce a section from "No More Unto the Breach" by Jonathan Schell from this month's Harpers Magazine. Schell draws parallels between the period around World War I and today:
"These are times that call for exceptional vigilance, because what is at stake is not just who will win and who will lose but the rules by which everyone will have to play from then on. What is decided then, whether by accident or design, will be decided for a long time; what is founded then will endure; and what disappears then will likely be gone forever."

TOGETHER WE CAN STOP THIS WAR!

NATIONAL DAY OF STUDENT STRIKE

by S.A.C

Questions and Answers

-What is the National Strike Against the War?

A national day of student solidarity against the Bush administration's proposed war in Iraq. Organized by National Youth and Student Peace Coalition, thousands of schools across the nation will be participating in this day of resistance. The strike is not a disruption of education, for what will truly disrupt education is another war.

-Why strike at Bard? What is happening?

If Bard does not strike, what school will? The war could start tomorrow, what will you do today? The relevance of the strike is heightened by your individual participation and each school's involvement. The strike will work to bring education and greater awareness regarding the war through discussion, multimedia events and workshops. These events will serve as an alternative to your Wednesday-as-usual.

-Why should I participate?

This will not happen without you. By participating in the strike, you can involve yourself in dialogue with your fellow students, create strength in numbers, and raise one unified voice in opposition to the war. It is also an opportunity for you to become conscious of what another war would mean for the people of Iraq, the United States and the world.

-What roles are my professors playing in this?

All Bard professors are aware of this strike. It's up to you whether your professors will hold class. Many of them are supporting the strike by canceling classes, holding open class discussions about the war or giving teach-ins open to all on issues surrounding the war.

TOGETHER WE CAN STOP THIS WAR!

SAC EVENTS AND SCHEDULE

Compiled by Christine Neumann

The Student Action Collective meets Wednesday nights at 7PM in the SAC—located behind the Red Room in the basement of the Old Gym. The Anti-War Working Group meets Sunday at 7PM and Wednesdays at 6:30PM in the SAC. The Earth Action Collective Group (EAC) meets Tuesday nights at 7PM in the SAC. The Animal Rights Group (ARG) meets Thursday nights at 7PM in the SAC.

EVENTS:

3/5: NATIONAL MORATORIUM TO STOP THE WAR ON IRAQ: The Next Phase of Conscience

and Resistance to Stop the War Before it Starts. SAC is organizing events to last all day long! We'll have workshops and teach-ins, anti-war resolutions, speakers, theater, music, critical mass, anti-war poetry slam and much more! Today students have the option of not going to class and instead doing something to speak out against war and the funding that should be used on domestic programs. Events will take place in the Old Gym, Kline, the Campus Center and anywhere else! If you or your club would like to participate please contact SAC at B-SAC@yahoogroups.com. It's gonna be rad!!
GET INVOLVED! WE NEED EVERY CLUB REPRESENTED!

3/7: Party for the Nicaragua Project. This will be the best party of the whole year - "even better than Drag Race!" Be at the Old Gym from 10PM to 2AM. Get there early for refreshments!

3/15: HUGE LOCAL RALLY! On the 15th, thousands will rally at the White House. Support this local march and rally in the area if you can't make it to D.C. Come by SAC for updates.

March of Shame for US War on Iraq: The day the bombing begins—if it does—there will be a large protest in Times Square, NY at 5PM. If the bombing starts after 5PM, the protest will happen the following day. There will also be a local rally at 44/55 W. Market Street in Poughkeepsie.

4/26-4/27: The Migrant Labor Project is helping to organize a 330 mile Farm March. The march will pass right through Bard!

SATURDAYS: Weekly Silent Vigil in Red Hook. 1-2PM. Meet at Kline parking lot to car pool at 12:45.

3/24: SAC Movie Series! Stop by Wels at 9PM to see a film addressing the Onelida Reservation in upstate New York. Other films/documentaries will also be shown on the following Monday nights: 3/7, 3/24, 4/21, 5/12, 5/19.

If you or your club would like to have a listing of upcoming events printed in the next issue of the Free Press, please send them to freepress@bard.edu

Red Hook Vigil

by Christine Neumann

Every Saturday from one until two o'clock, a local chapter of Women in Black Host's a silent vigil in downtown Red Hook. Three weeks ago, as the spring semester got back into swing, members of the Student Action Collective met at Kline parking lot and carpoled to the vigil. Some of us dressed in black, some of us brought signs and some of us handed out fliers promoting peace and the February 15th rally in New York. There were so many of us that, even while it rained, the number of people present at the vigil was doubled. Patti Smith, one of the head organizers of the vigil, which has been held every Saturday for almost twelve weeks, was delighted to see Bard kids in attendance.

As the hour progressed, I was pleased with the number of cars that honked and responded to our presence with "thumbs up" and peace signs. Yet, I was even more intrigued by the people who drove by shaking their heads in disgust and yelling out "Go Home, Hippies!" My sign read "War Kills" and in response, one clever driver yelled out "Drugs Kill Too!" I suppose he had a point.

Then, from across the street, a man in his mid-twenties walked up to one of the participating men and spoke to him rudely. When the man silently handed him a flier, the guy spit on it, crumpled it up and

threw it back at him. A few Bard kids saw this action and went to try to start a dialogue with the individual who introduced himself as "Suck my dick." Although this guy was upset and rude, his views, outside of our liberal Bard bubble, are probably representative of views held by many Americans.

"What are you doing out on the street? Do you really think anything will change just because you're standing out in the rain? You can't change anything. Nothing you can do will change anything. We're going to war no matter how much we may not want to." The dialogue we wished to have with him didn't turn out so well, as he continued to swear, ignore and finally went inside and slammed the door.

As much as his behavior stays with me, and in the following week was reaffirmed as he drove by our vigil splashing up water from the street on some peaceful sign holders, it is the large degree of apathy and disempowerment that he expressed that really got to me. Why do we stand out on the streets? What do we think we can accomplish? These are valid questions and perhaps I am too much of an optimistic idealist to address them adequately.

To me, getting out into the streets and making a visual, peaceful, presentation is a positive action that helps to educate and inform others.



Along with all the cars whose drivers made peace signs and the cars whose drivers made other less appropriate hand gestures, there were the cars whose passengers actually looked out, read our signs, and asked for fliers.

I am out on the street to let others know that I am not fooled. I continue to believe that the future of our country is in the hands of the people and not the elite ruling class. I continue to believe that we can make our own future if we can escape our own cynicism. We have the free right

to assemble, we have the free right to exercise speech, and if we can strengthen these rights, I believe in them with renewed force, and use them in new, more powerful and more committed ways, the people can become a force to be reckoned with. I went to New York with a huge number of Bard kids, which by the way was fucking awesome, to show to the world that the people can and do have a voice and that it is strong, united and capable of making great change.

The vigil is held at the main intersection in Red Hook. It is open

to all who would like to participate. People are asked to dress in black as an expression of mourning for the tragic despair that results from aggressive warfare. Interested students can meet with members of SAC in the Kline parking lot at 12:45 every Saturday afternoon to carpool. When the weather gets warmer, look out for the SAC walk to Red Hook as we plan to gather together at Kline with banners and music and walk to Red Hook as our own contingency. Email b-sac@yahoo.com

What the hell is SLC (St. Lawrence Cement) And Why Should We Care?

by Jivan Lee

St. Lawrence Cement is a subsidiary of the giant Swiss multinational corporation Holcim. Around the world Holcim owns and operates cement plants in seventy countries; in North America, Holcim/SLC owns fifteen cement plants and has a history of environmental negligence longer than leg hair at Bard. At a majority of their thirteen U.S. sites, Holcim has repeatedly been fined hundreds of thousands and even into the millions of dollars for failing to meet already lax environmental regulations.

In the late nineties, the lovely St. Lawrence Cement applied to construct and operate a dry process cement manufacturing plant within the bounds of the 1,800 acre parcel near the city of Hudson, New York, about 15 miles north of our quaint little community. Bard's entire campus is about 540 acres. Included in the design of the facility is a raw mill site, kiln feed blending silo, preheater/precalciner tower, rotary kiln, clinker cooler, and finish mill system (for more information on the cement process see www.portcement.org).

To call the proposed plant large is an understatement; it is more aptly characterized as monstrous. Forty acres of forests and wetlands would become a city of forty story tall buildings, giant furnaces, daily seismic blasts; the 400 foot tall (more than double the height of the Statue of Liberty) smoke stack would spew out 55,000 pounds of toxic pollutants a day and eighteen wheeler diesel trucks would make 120 trips back thebardfreepress.vol4.issue5

and forth across the Hudson daily, each truck carrying fifteen tons of cement to St. Lawrence Cement's Catskill facility for further refining.

The proposed Greenport facility has understandably been, and still is, a subject of ongoing debate and major import to the citizens of the greater Hudson Valley as well as residents of neighboring states. The scope and depth of community awareness in the potentially affected locales is lacking, however. On campus, for instance, most students are unfamiliar with St. Lawrence Cement altogether, and if a student has heard of SLC, he or she rarely knows more than what a few billboards or lawn signs shout.

Simply put: this is surprising. Maybe even shocking when one considers that Martha Fuller Clark, Assistant Democratic Leader of New Hampshire, Maine Governor Angus S. King, Jr., and Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal have all written New York Governor George Pataki regarding possible approval of the SLC proposal and expressed concern over the resultant pollution and subsequent health risks that will become an inescapable aspect of daily life in the entire Northeast. Inarguably, SLC Greenport far oversteps the 32 mile demarcation between "local" and "distant;" toxic pollution is pervasive and oftentimes permanent. The Greenport cement plant would in one year produce approximately 20 million pounds of nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxides (Both compounds react

in the atmosphere to create acid rain-- try fishing in an Adirondack lake.), lead, mercury, dioxins, cadmium, and arsenic, while creating one new permanent job in return. Last year all of Columbia County industry produced 113,000 pounds of toxic pollutants.

In the meantime SLC would be mining/destroying 1222 acres of forest, wetland, and mountainside. Historical sites (Like Frederick Church's mansion Olana) will be threatened, aesthetic appeal will drop, real estate value will decline; in a very real sense, the already shaky economy of Hudson will be rattled further by SLC's expansion. All this is an added bonus to the serious health and environmental liability an overgrown industrial city would be.

Active education and opposition in local communities is indispensable in the fight to stop SLC from building the presently proposed 40 acre, 40 story tall Greenport industrial complex. We have all heard of or seen the phrase "think globally act locally." It is certainly clichéd but nonetheless worthwhile advice; now there is something local that needs community support. We all will be breathing the toxic pollutants. We all will be watching the diesel trucks run their way up and down 9G and Route 9; we all will see the 750 foot ships traveling up and down the Hudson, carrying toxic waste and processed cement. The six mile plume of airborne pollutants will stretch out in the grayish, sometimes blueish sky above our heads, and will fill

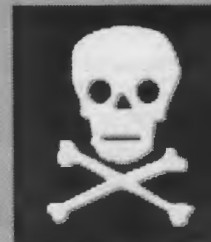
the lungs of children attending elementary school a few miles away from the Greenport plant. Holcim and their subsidiary SLC targeted Hudson, specifically Greenport, for a reason: the community is poor and the company's 1800 acre property is rich in resources. They have been selling lies and half truths from day one; conveniently omitting and emphasizing whatever elements of the story they deem useful, and promising wonderful things for the city of Hudson. Community awareness is a must.

A friend suggested I contrast the impressive campus involvement in anti-war protesting with this issue. I think she has the right idea. We all know the world outside of Bard is riddled with puzzles and challenges; oftentimes I feel overwhelmed and am not alone in this. But feeling overwhelmed doesn't much help, and trying to do everything leads to burn out. I felt encouraged by the show of people in NYC and the world, millions gathered globally in protest. Now there is a serious issue in our backyard, one tied directly into corporate injustice, environmental racism and classism, a disjointed bureaucracy, and it seems to me, much of what inspired the mass demonstrations on February 15th. It took half an hour for me to research enough historical and current information regarding SLC and the Greenport plant to realize uniting in opposition to the Greenport plant is a worthwhile cause; establishing a precedent here will help others fight similar battles

elsewhere throughout the country and world.

Educate yourselves. Keep reading; look for the next installment on SLC. Visit www.Scenichudson.org or www.friendsofHUDSON.org; explore St. Lawrence Cement's homepage, www.stlawrencecement.com, and read first hand their (eh hem... bullshit) headlines of joining the "Climate Leaders Program." Then learn about their terrible environmental record, their racial and class targeted placement of plants....And no, you won't be seeing a new cement plant in Rhinebeck anytime soon. Maybe not in Greenport either.

If you would like to talk to someone on campus who is working on the SLC case, email JL799@bard.edu.



The Root Cellar
-Organic Snacks
-Coffee and Tea
-We hate the Hudson's SLC
-NEW PINK WALL!!!
-Kelly Berry's Snapshot exhibit
-mix tapes welcomed

Open 1-12pm, everyday
"home of the rock and roll society"

a Good Afternoon in the City...

by J. Akins

My friend and I felt nervous at the Poughkeepsie train station, which seemed funny. Two forty-year-old men worrying about a day trip to New York City. The 8:33 train was abuzz with animated people and all twelve cars were full of protestors. We guessed most of the tourists realized that February 15th might be a difficult day for shopping or a show.

Two older women on the train bolstered our mood by showing their photographs of the recent Washington anti-war protest march. Later, while at the New York Public Library waiting with everyone to rally or march or whatever the Bloomberg-appropriate term was for what we were

about to do; I witnessed thirty or so ancient war veterans from the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. Eighty and ninety year old warriors singing and pleading for peace. Seeing the many older Americans braving the absolutely bitter cold to make their voices heard was invigorating! I thought, maybe collective democratic expression can and will work. Maybe we will be heard and the White House will slow down this rush to war?

Marchers filled the sidewalks and streets from the lower 40s up into the 70s; marching simultaneously along three whole avenues. To put it in perspective, I have seen the ball fall in Times Square five times and that New Years silliness

fills a single avenue with 8 to 10 blocks of people that Dick Clarke estimates is between 200,000 and 300,000. So I would estimate at least 500,000 protestors were in NYC at one o'clock on Saturday because although they were more loosely packed than the New Year's revelers a massive area of the city was occupied. My estimation is probably too low, however, considering people were coming and going like this for hours.

An awkward question filled the air. Most marchers seemed to ponder the same thing. The Vietnam Vet sitting next to me on the train home to Ossining posed this confounding question most simply. "Do you think we are making a dif-

ference?" I was shocked. Here was a purple-hearted warrior who witnessed hundreds of thousands of Americans successfully protesting and changing the course of a politically corrupt American military action. He was wondering if today's protests would affect Bush.

"Yes.", I answered. "I feel better that I've expressed myself. And I did so representing my wife and two daughters who could not attend." And suddenly I realized that for each actual marching soul there were probably another 5 or 10 people who almost went but could not because of some family obligations or they thought it was

too cold or too risky or whatever. So there could easily have been millions more people protesting and that thought was overwhelming.

It bothered me to see this new friend somewhat saddened after his day's effort so I tried these parting words, "Mr. Bush is a politician and he lives or dies within political realities. Dubya knows that winning an election in 2004 is severely complicated when millions of Americans are angry because he snubbed them in 2003." And he smiled.

It was a pretty good afternoon in the City.

Lies

by Kate Crockford

A friend and I were discussing the legitimacy of the upcoming war in Iraq. Neither one of us thinks that such a thing exists: Saddam Hussein is awful, but many other people have done awful things and Hussein is virtually powerless. We agreed that the US government is trying to scare the American people into believing that the war is not about oil in order to establish more US military bases and 'friendly' regimes in the region...

Then my friend said something that startled me. She was responding to my inability to believe that some Bard students were actually going to stay on campus on the 15th, that since most Bard students are probably opposed to the war and since we are so close to the city I couldn't believe anyone would miss the historic event.

She said, "Well, I think that more people support the war than you think. You should have been at the bar the other night and heard some of our friends talking about it."

I wasn't sure how to respond. I don't want to tell people that they are stupid for having different opinions, or that they are heartless, lacking foresight or selfish should they have the facts and still opt for a bloody invasion. She continued.

"I think that some people just genuinely want to, and so do, believe the President when he tells us that we should be afraid of Saddam Hussein."

Wow. Wait just a minute. This was too much for educated people.

Believe the who? The President? Perhaps it's just me. Maybe I have been reading too much history in my short lifetime. But wait a damn minute...believe the President?

I guess people often want to believe one another. Unfortunately, however, the cynic has been historically correct in questioning the motivations, public rhetoric, and actions of people with lots of power.

What amazed me most about the fact that many Americans trust their government is that it doesn't make any sense, logically speaking. Governments

can only function the way they do because they lie to their people.

In case you don't believe me, here is a list of lies that the American people have been fed by successive governments, dating back years and years (some of them are still regarded as virtual axioms of political history---the implications of this phenomenon should be obvious):

- Truman lied about the reason for using the atomic bomb in Japan during WWII. He said, "The first atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, a military base. That was because we wished in this first attack to avoid, in so far as possible, the killing of civilians." The truth is that Hiroshima was no military base: it was rated a low military priority by the US military and hadn't been bombed until then precisely because it was a mostly civilian city. (140,000 civilians died immediately, others suffered ghastly nightmares for years following due to radiation.)
- JFK lied about a Cuban invasion. He told the American people that "the US intends no military intervention in Cuba." A day after Kennedy said that, a US pilot on a bombing mission was shot down over Cuba. Castro held onto the body---frozen---for 18 years as proof of US involvement in the deaths of over 100 Cubans exiles, 14 Americans and an untold number of Cuban civilians during the bombings. This not to mention the Bay of Pigs invasion that was fully funded by the CIA.
- Johnson lied to Americans about the Tonkin incident during the Vietnam era. "As President and Commander in Chief it is my duty to the American people to report that renewed hostile actions against United States ships on the high seas in the Gulf of Tonkin have today required me to order the military forces of the United States to take action in reply." The truth? There was no attack on US ships in the Gulf of Tonkin. He simply made it up.
- Reagan lied to the American people about the Iran-Contra scandal. "We did not -- repeat -- did not trade weapons or anything else for hostages -- nor will we." Reagan approved the sale of over 2,000 anti-tank missiles in exchange for the release of



American hostages. He then used this money (illegally) to support the Contras in Nicaragua because the US Congress had banned military aid to them. Lots of innocent Nicaraguans (about 70,000) died during this war.

That is an extremely short list of government lies and only mentions some presidential lies. Other government employees and agencies lie to the public on a regular basis, as well.

The Bush administration has done its fair share of lying to the public. In fact, after doing just a tiny bit of research (it took me about two minutes to find this stuff), I found quite an extensive list of lies. Here are just a few:

- The Lies: "The evidence indicates that Iraq is reconstituting its nuclear-weapons program. . . . Satellite photos reveal that Iraq is rebuilding facilities at sites that have been part of its nuclear program in the past," so says Bush. Bush and Blair met on September 7th and referred to a "new" report from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) that found Hussein attempting to reconstruct, as Blair put it, his "former nuclear-weapons sites." Bush went on to purportedly cite an IAEA report, saying that Iraq was "six months away from developing a weapon." He goes on, in full throttle, cowbelian style, "I don't know what more evidence we need."
- The Truth: The IAEA responded: not only was there no new report, "there's never been a report" stating that Iraq was six months away from acquiring nukes---not in 1991 at the end of the last Gulf war and not in 1998, the last time inspectors worked in Iraq.
- Colin Powell is a pathological liar, too. According to Reuters news service: "Blix again denied an allegation by Secretary



of State Colin Powell that inspectors knew of cases in which Iraq had moved banned items around before inspectors arrived on the scene. "I am sure that Colin Powell speaks on the basis of notes given to him, but this is not correct. Our inspectors have not seen that the Iraqis were moving anything away from the sites that we are visiting," he said." In other words, Colin Powell has been lying.

- During a debate with Gore in 2000, Bush claimed that he was in favor of "equal" rights for gays and lesbians, just not "special" rights. Funny. According to Salon.com, "Bush has supported a Texas law that allows the state to take adopted children from gay and lesbian couples to place the kids with straight couples."
- It's important to remember that states only exist because we, the citizens, grant them that power as a direct result of our citizenship and our exercise of voting, our payment of taxes, participation in censuses, etc. Thus, presidents can only be presidents if we recognize them as such.
- Finally, history tells us that elected officials, and especially presidents, come from elite, wealthy, predominately Anglo-Saxon communities and seek to represent the interest of that demographic minority. Thus, acts of state are often directly contradictory to the interests of the citizens within them, and serve only to benefit the elite, simultaneously disregarding important, universal

issues like the environment and natural resources. Since Bush's plans, like many who came before him, are not likely to win even 5% of the population's assent, his only option is to lie. In other words, if people knew what he was really up to, they would not agree. Who wants forest elimination, air pollution, nuclear weapon proliferation, poor education, poor health care, and water full of arsenic?

He has lied about the tax cuts. He lies about the deficit, the recession, education and health-care.

He lies about the environment. He lies about the military. He lies about cocaine laws and he lies about his own history of drug abuse.

So. Why would you believe what he has to say about Iraq, knowing that Donald Rumsfeld, his big buddy at the Pentagon, started talking about an invasion into Iraq only four hours after the planes hit the trade center?

I believe that the words "power", "oil", "domination", and "empire" have much more to do with the war than "weapons of mass destruction" and "links to Al-Qaeda" (another lie).

Asian Cinema Blitzkrieg

by Liv Carrow

"Attack the Gas Station." "Battle Royale." "Tampopo."

These are just a few titles that the Asian Film Club will grace the Bard community with this semester, thanks to several students with the philanthropic desire to expose Bard students to the cinematic wonders of Asia, as well as some connections with Hong Kong, England, and New York's Chinatown.

The Asian Film Club began when junior film major Mike Lerman did a screening last year of the films of Takashi Miike, and was approached by fellow student and Asian film lover Jinmo Yang. Between them they had enough access to a selection of hard-to-find Asian films to begin the club.

This semester is taking it to a whole new level. With the recent formation of a seven-day lending library, access to new

titles, a request service and the incorporation of Bollywood films and the promotional publication of the Asian Film Times, Bard students can expect at least one film per week researched, written about, imported and screened by this fledgling club.

The club faces constant trials with finding titles requested by students, however.

"Attack the Gas Station," this famous off-beat Korean film, is [really hard to get.] This shitty company Mai-ah put it on DVD in Hong Kong but it's not widescreen and it's a piece of crap. "Ricky-O" is about a guy in prison with supernatural powers, but I'm dealing with E-bay to get that.," Lerman described.

This semester Lerman is excited that films from all over Asia will be incorporated in the screenings, branching out from

the usual films available in America. Screenings this semester will include films from India, Nepal, Korea, as well as Japan and China, and the club hopes to acquire films from Malaysia and other countries with harder to find films.

Lerman also noted that professor Micheal Raine has been indispensable to the club, by showing him how to subtitle films and sometimes translating and subtitling films himself.

This weekend the club will screen Battle Royale in Olin Auditorium, since last time it was shown in Preston, the theater was overcrowded with fans.

Other plans for the semester are a screening of 'food movies', "Tampopo" and "God of Cookery", a tribute to late director Fukasaku, a screening of Nepalese documentaries, a screening

of "Kaante", the Bollywood version of "Reservoir Dogs."

Despite the difficulties of obtaining some of the films, the Asian Film Club is growing. Screenings are every week, every other Tuesday in Weiss and opposite Tuesdays in various other campus theater locations.



poetry

by Matt Dineen

Cover up Guernica!
The secretary of state has to make his
case for war
and this painting will distract the viewers
at home

Cover up Guernica!
If people see this image
of screaming women, screaming children,
screaming animals
escaping the horrors of war
then they will not accept his lies

Cover up Guernica!
Just like Powell covered up
the My Lai massacre
lips sealed, as the Vietnamese blood
dripped from his hands

Cover up Guernica!
Just like he covered up
thousands of Iraqi deaths
during the (first?) Gulf War
as he and the first Bush dreamed
of cars that ran on blood

Cover up Guernica!
A small Spanish city
decimated by Nazi bombs, April 26, 1937
one third of its population dead
inspiring outrage and art

And a print of Picasso's masterpiece
still hangs from a room in the United Nations
but on the day that the secretary of state
made his case for war someone squealed...

Cover up Guernica!
It's inappropriate
like the exposed breast of the Venus statue
playfully floating above John Ashcroft's head
as he sternly made his case for "homeland security"

Cover up Venus!
Cover up Guernica!
Cover up your lies
and cover up the gruesome reality of war
as they call for yet another Guernica.



Cover up Guernica!
Just like Powell
covered up the My
Lai massacre
lips sealed, as the
Vietnamese blood
dripped from his
hands



The Bard Free Press

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Learning to Love Miranda July

by Maria Anika



Thursday February 27th internationally acclaimed video, performance, and sound artist Miranda July stopped at Bard as part of her short east coast tour. She lectured about her history as an artist and shared video, sound clips, and other work, including her current collaborative online project (with Harrell Fletcher) "Learning to Love You More." At the end of the lecture she asked Bard students to participate in an assignment from the website, asking them to draw pictures of an image they found sexually arousing.

Many students participated in the project. Their drawings were displayed in Robbins' lounge at a hoppin' reception held later in the evening. Despite initial sound problems, Bard students and professors, along with Miss July, did not hesitate to get down to the sounds of the Ladies' Misbehavior Society DJs. The drawings will be exhibited online on the website www.learningtoloveyoumore.com.

Miranda July grew up in Berkley, CA where she started out performing at punk venues. She moved to Portland, OR where she currently resides and in 1995 started Joanie 4 Jackie, an independent distribution network for women film and video makers. Her work has been featured at MoMA, the Guggenheim, and last year's Whitney Biennial.

July's work promotes collaboration with other artists and with the community at large. The project Learning to Love You More realizes this aim to heighten the public's involvement in the creation of art.

"People really are interested in other people's lives," she stated.

On the website, July and Fletcher hold your hand. They encourage, "You are known for your tenderness. The critics have said that you move them deeply, and your parents have always believed in you. Your latest work draws on all of your past successes and the successes of the entire human race. Even wild animals love your art. It's a whole new way of life and the best part is that it's so simple. You make it seem so easy. We are learning to love you more and more and more every day. Now go to it."

Some of the assignments on the website include making a field study of your neighborhood, making a shadow poster, giving a lecture series, writing your life story in one day, recreating an object from someone's past, and hanging a wind chime on a tree in a parking lot.

The evening's events were organized by the Ladies' Misbehavior Society, with the help of Professor Jacqueline Goss. It was funded by the Mellon Grant, which allows students and faculty to collaborate in hosting events with the intention of increasing academic presence in the dorms.

WXBC: Going Strong

by Eli Lerhoff

For the first time in Bard college's history, an article about the Bard Radio station does not focus on "finally working" or "will work soon". WXBC has now been going strong without major problems for an entire year with no problems in sight. The radio is broadcasting stronger than ever on 540am. And on a really clear day one can hear the station in their car as far as the Kingston-Rhinecliff bridge or the Black Swan in Tivoli. Beyond that, the station's pride and joy is its successful internet broadcasting. Bard students are now regularly listening to their radio station and enjoying what they hear. To tune into WXBC, log on to wxbc.bard.edu and follow

the extremely simple instructions.

In the coming days WXBC will be installing a lower resolution stream to allow those users on slower internet connections to more easily listen to WXBC on. The executive committee of WXBC would like to thank its DJs for the hard work they've put in and the wonderful radio they are creating. Keep up the good work.

Listen to WXBC on 540am on your radio, and at wxbc.bard.edu on the internet. For a schedule of shows, check out the website. Rock.



WXBC

BARD COLLEGE FREE FORM RADIO

Upcoming Shows Outside of Bard

The Roots
March 13, 6:45 pm
Roseland Ballroom, NYC
\$29.50

Television
March 21 & 22, 8pm
Irving Plaza, NYC
\$26

The Bouncing Souls
March 21, 8pm
The Chance, Poughkeepsie.
\$12

Wesley Willis
March 25, 8:30pm
The Knitting Factory, NYC
\$10

The Qualls, Aisler Set, Hella
March 28 10 pm
The Knitting Factory, NYC
\$10

the Notwist
April 4&5, 10pm
The Knitting Factory, NYC
\$12

Spoon
April 9, 8pm
Irving Plaza, NYC
\$15

The Vines
April 13, 7:30pm
The Chance, Poughkeepsie
\$17.50

Catch 22
April 17, 7:30
The Chance, Poughkeepsie
\$10

Ladytron
April 29, 8pm
Irving Plaza, NYC
\$18.50



World-Wowing "Shame of Enoch"

Proving its never too late to keep a Promise

by Eli Lerhoff

Over the course of a year Corey Sullivan slowly pieced together a masterpiece. He received help from his family and friends but when watching his film it is plain to see Sullivan in the work.

Yet to fully understand the film one must know a little history. During the two years prior to

his most recent film, Sullivan put together a "reimagining" of the film "The Poseidon Adventure". Starring his father, the wonderful Robert Sullivan; his brother, Ryan; and almost all of his friends and family. The work was slapdash and hard to follow but held an inner brilliance. Almost immediately following the conclusion of work on "The Poseidon Adventure" Corey started on its sequel, an intense and far reaching work entitled "The Poseidon Adventure II: The Shame of Enoch". After working months on a loose script with his brother, Sullivan began shooting. The script allowed for much improvisation from his actors, who were up for the task. A brilliant performance from Robert Sullivan, as Enoch Thisbey an evil world-domination bent pop star, shows just how deep set acting is in the Sullivan genes. A complicated, though effortlessly understood plot draws on themes such as love vs. lust, religion vs. faith, and good vs. evil. Sullivan manages to blend these elements so well that one does not notice them until repeat viewing. At the screening for the Bard community in the Campus Center MPR there was not a person present who wasn't amazed by the brilliance of the film. There were moments when the entire room, packed to the brim with well over one hundred fifty people, were laughing and crying with the characters. Especially appreciated was the performances of Andrew Gorey as the albino, and Jean Pesce as the camel.

Make sure to check out the DVD release of "Enoch" when it comes out later in the year, and look forward to Corey's next project: a reinterpretation of the sixties Batman tvshow a stage play.

music reviews. music reviews. music reviews.



* Tim Abondello [TA] * Tosh Chiang [TC] *



Lightning Bolt
Wonderful Rainbow
Load Records

The key to any Lightning Bolt review is to use the colloquial "fuck" a lot, but not too much. Without further ado buckaroos, the Bolt are fucking back like Iraq on their follow up to 2001's "Ride the Skies!" "Wonderful Rainbow" shines with 10 tracks of their patented brand of blasty, dancy, dynamic destruction. And fucking destroy it does! Bringing "heavy rock the Mohawk it needs", the band's reign is marked by an unlikely two-piece with a reputation as the loudest thing to ever come out of Rhode Island. Combine one part in your face bass that acid rains smoldering riffs from a mere 4 strings, hammered-out dense droning thunder against harmonic feedback metal shredding in simpatico. Where was I...fuck...yea and one part catastrophic drumming and partially digested vocals (mic in mouth) setting the pace on trucker speed. Backed by towering amps cranked to 11, this drum and bass combo modestly and consistently wipes the floor, never the stage, with any whispering fucks that stand in their way as headliners. If I were ever training for ESPN extreme sports, this record would be my soundtrack for sure.

The year spent recording Wonderful Rainbow, bringing them to both coasts, shows in its care to detail. Everything is more predominant, the vocals are more audible, but equally incomprehensible. The production here is more meticulous than their last effort, less muddled, and more murdered! With the more confident recording, the songs blare out of the speakers with further flamboyance. The third track, "Dracula Mountain", hosts as much of a melodic hook as you can expect out of this monster, with an Arabic sounding stringed lead that's quickly covered by a blanket of distortion and the tag team of Brian Chippendale's "talking drums". The powerhouse, "2 Towers", wields more epic force than a certain other sequel, burning through parts while maintaining an overwhelming sense of rhythm, and faster than Elijah Wood could bend over. "On Fire" wraps up the first side, bursting at the seams with searing pork chop guitars and vocals that sound like they were caught in the shower.

thebardfreepress.vol4.issue5

Fucking Pogo! Wonderful Rainbow is a whole lotta sonic spectrum, latent rhythms, and cardiovascular fucking force. But you won't have to wait till the end of this rainbow to find your pot of gold. Just turn it on, turn it up, and turn it out.

P.S If you dig the bolt, check out Suppression in the Red Room March 21st, for real. [TA]



Cat Power
You Are Free
Matador Records

Really really good in that enduring sense that many bands no longer have—"You are Free" is singer/songwriter Chan Marshall exemplifying her sturdy-built songs with precision and raw dirtiness—her voice is as keen and implode-delectable as ever and even more awake. Where as 1998's Moonpix was sleepy and melancholy-strung—resting in a twilight zone of raw sad clarity, "You are Free" is a jump from twilight to sunlight, from a closed-in nature to lightness in feel. And despite added studio production, the songs are certainly Cat Power songs and damned good ones at that.

Track 2, "Free," has a solid downstroke acoustic guitar feel that pushes and pushes until snare beats and guitar arpeggio-licks explode the song 'til it boils over in force. "He War" also has a punchy drum kick and rock-your-head-instead-of-dream niceness to it; it comes complete with guitar hooks and sing-to melodies. Most of these songs also have added piano and drums, even electric guitar. The tried and true Chan Marshall songs are here as well—such as "Fool," which resides mostly on a few acoustic chords and Chan's layered low-sung voices. Track 10, "Maybe Not," is humbling in its simplicity and dense conveyance of emotion; Cat Power has always been excellent at pairing simplicity with complex feelings, at producing a certain smallness of life which propels Marshall's grit and satin voice with tangible texture of sound. And as the first track began with piano, so too does the last track, "Evolution"—effectively framing the album in piano and ending the album with a repetitive slow night like feel. There is only one thing that annoys me: Eddie Vedder often does his moan thing in the background—

not that it's bad, and not that I hate Pearl Jam...it's just a little weird. The drummer is also Nirvana's old drummer—Dave Grohl of the Foo Fighters and Queens of the Stone Age. So it's certainly a star-studded album. But be assured, the only thing that makes this album great is Chan Marshall. Her songs can set you free. [TC]



The Microphones
Mount Eerie
K Records

All the anticipation surrounding The Microphones' follow up to the remarkable Glow pt. 2 has been hyped with rumors of its epic proportions and more teasers than a prom date, namely two remix EPs prior to the release of the album. After its release, Mount Eerie, or "ount erie" as the cover boasts (pardon the art fart) falls short of its thematic aspirations for what amounts to be five strong songs and a mess of over the top-heavy-handed filler (like so). In typical Microphones fashion, the record is chalk full of guest appearances, with Calvin Johnson in the role of the Universe, Karl Blau (Little Wings) playing Death, and all Phil Elvrum's other homeboys and girls filling out the rest of the larger than life cast on this five part tale. The linear storyline makes for an episodic listen, while the tracks unfold seamlessly, all recorded in one go on 16-track, making for one body of song and sounds. The story goes something like this: (Track 1) Elvrum is born and, taking flight from Death, runs up said mountain where he's watched by the sun... (Track 2) On his way up he stops and sings about his unrequited love... (Track 3) Johnson enters the picture to ask the traveler "intimate questions and sing..." (Track 4) Elvrum is killed and then eaten by vultures... (Track 5) Dead, Elvrum turns to the bigger mountain in the sky. The end. Certainly not a groundbreaking idea, or as profound as the story of a deaf, dumb, and blind pinball wizard, but you're in for more character and depth on this than your average indie pop outing.

It is hard to separate Mount Eerie from musical theatre or other rock operas, making this the first lo-fi pop opera I've come across since Neutral Milk Hotel's In an Aeroplane Over the Sea.

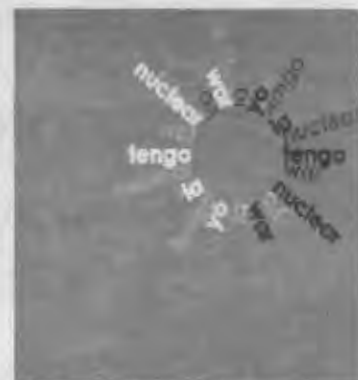
After a rocky 10-minute start of drum circle fluff (holy patchouli) the opening track kicks in with off kilter chords strummed against hesitant vocals and ominous soundscape. It is at the album's most theatrical moments where its conception manages to make itself felt. Elvrum announces "scary trumpets" and with the implausibility reserved for Musicals the trumpets sound in. In such instances, the story comes to life from a seemingly insignificant tagline that would read similarly to Sly Stalone's rock climbing thriller Cliffhanger. Such is the case at Mount Eerie's climax, which bears the same name, when hand drums and rumbling bass sound off Death's entrance, and Elvrum's murder; complete with gasps and groans and an entire exchange of lyrical dialogue. In the midst of story, and boring soundscape, that ties the songs together, are five of The Microphones strongest tunes to date. The lush psych textures remain in Elvrum's enduring songwriting, and his innovative recording execution has improved with the ambitious project. In the end, Mount Eerie demonstrates further creative growth for The Microphones, but no need to excessively press (release) the issue. If nothing else the experience/exercise that is Mount Eerie has reinstated my passion for rock climbing. [TA]



Mollie's Mix
V/A
Kill Rock Stars

Encompassing the current Kill Rockstars crew, Mollie's mix has a little bit to offer for everyone. The first track casio-pumps-it-up with Oakland's Gravy Train—whose song "Titties Bounce" is as danceably energetic as the title suggests. Stereo Total also makes it on with one of their good songs, "Kleptomane"—which bumps on the euro-kitsch groove in the language of the French. Another highlight is the Bang's song "I want more"—which I do... the song has the 4/4 blood pumping beats and the incendiary rock 'till you die urgency. S-K make it on with "Oh!" from One-Beat and Dearhoof has two of their oddly likeable tunes. Quixotic has an awfully Kleenex/Lilliput like song but then you realize that they

might do it a little better. The best surprise on the album is the "Everyone Else I know" by Slumberparty; its dreamy and cloud-like soft with droning softness. I do not like the Sport Murphy track. But the best thing about this 21 track sampler is that it's exactly like a real mix tape/cd...only you have to buy it. And anyways, if you just want a good feel for what KRS is all about, then you can't go wrong with Mollie's Mix. [TC]



Yo La Tengo
Nuclear War-EP
Matador Records

Even if this album sucked I would probably say that it was great but thank god it's amusing as hell. Nuclear War is a 4-track cover of jazz/space-cadet great Sun-Ra's rhythmic anti-war composition, "Nuclear War." The CD has 4 separate versions of the song ranging from the YLT version, to a more traditional version, to the eventual meltdown spaced-up freak-out version. Its got everything from children singing the merits of the bomb: "Its gonna blast your ass / so high in the sky" to Georgia singing "Its gonna blast your ass / so high in the sky."

Certainly none of the takes sound like YLT songs and that's what makes the album something to appreciate. But anyways, if you feel as though Sun-Ra sounds like some weirdo, or just can't deal with some YLT experimentation, don't forget that a new LP is soon on the way.

the go-betweens
bright yellow bright orange



The Go-Betweens
bright yellow bright orange
Jetset Records

This is a really warm album—toasty like bright socks and a cup of tea, the kind of music that can capture everyday moments of levity (think: "this is the soundtrack to your life"). It

continued on next page...

Red Room Rock!



(up)Tristan and Mike of the Noodles (below) Savannah belts it!



Belated Staffer Picks of 2002



Tim (Top ten of 2002 in no order):

Fucking Champs – V
 Supercharger – Singles Party
 Pg. 99 – Documents 12 & 13
 Melt Banana- 666”
 Sigur Ros – ()
 City of Caterpillar- s/t
 J Mascis & The Fog – Free So Free
 Lords of Light Speed – Centurion
 Sonic Youth- Murray St.
 Jesus of Nazareth- s/t

Tosh (Albums I liked):

Hot snakes-Suicide invoice
 Mirah-Advisory committee
 Cornelius-Point
 Foo fighters--One by one
 Guided by voices-Universal truths and cycles
 Pretty girls make graves-Good health
 Slater-Kinney-One beat
 The Capricorns- In the zone
 The Quails- Atmosphere (pictured)
 The Breeders- title TK

“Book One”

Comic by **Brendan Murray-Nellis**

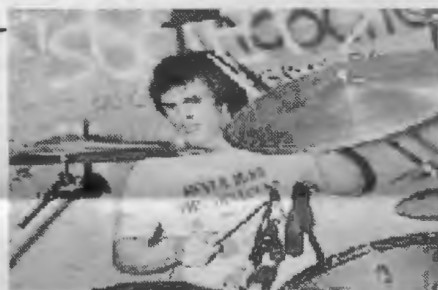
The Go-Betweens

kinda makes me wonder if I'm getting old—most of the album centers on reverie for the past, for remembering moments that mattered with that kind of hindsight that only comes twenty years after you screw-up. The instrumentation is strum guitars with a head-bobable, though not rockable drums. The best thing is of course Forster and McLennan's songwriting-- their easy-going harmonies and story told lyrics. Actually, the more and more I think about it I'm ideologically opposed to this album 'cause I think it sounds like music to give up to or listen to and remember the good old days whilst driving home from work and being utterly defeated in some way. That's fine if you are like the songwriters, but no, my heyday was not in the 80's and I'm still young and living the good old days. But wait, these are good songs and even though I'm too young to drink alcohol, I can still understand the intoxicating lushness of the album.

“Caroline and I” starts up with a playful guitar fumble then drops the song into full bass-backed tempo and then it all begins...the memories and a musicality similar to the Smiths and Soft Boys. “Old Mexico” kinda reminds me of the noodle's International Waters (ala the red room) and is probably the freshest song on the album. It's a solid effort but maybe not as good as the Friends of Rachel Worth? I'm not quite sure. Nevertheless, I'll probably find myself eyeing “bright yellow bright orange” when the colors seem to match the season.

[TC]

Dear Diary,
 so much has
 happened
 lately



We saved the Old Gym



we stopped the war



i changed my sheets,



and botstein got a toupee



and levy gave blithewood
 back



the cat population syrocketed



sea levels rose



and an ice age hit



and I went to NASCAR

I'm having a difficult time focusing
 I don't know if I'll be
 Moderating this semester.

The Underbelly of Bard's Empire

by Louis Project [class of '65]

Bard, Frank Gehry, Money and Power

The most recent issue of The Baffler has an article on Frank Gehry that prompts me to say a few words about Bard College, where the architect's latest project is under construction. (<http://www.bard.edu/pac/>) I would not dream of making esthetic judgments, other than to say that it looks like a gingerbread house designed by somebody on an acid trip. I am far more interested in expanding on some of the concerns raised in the Baffler article that have as much to do with power and money as they do with art.

Before getting into these questions, it would be useful to say a word or two about Bard College's president Leon Botstein, who has run the place for 27 years now. In many ways, it really has become Botstein College while retaining the old name. It is difficult to think of any other educational institution that has been so radically recast in the image of its CEO. For that matter, it is hard to name more than a couple of college presidents who have staked out such a high profile image as Botstein. Except for the braying reactionary John Silber at Boston University and the more circumspect but equally reactionary ex-World Bank boss Larry Summers at Harvard, one would be hard pressed to name any other college president so much in the public eye.

At first blush, Botstein's style and politics differs from theirs. He is the slick, postmodernist liberal who would never be found guilty of bullying an underling in the manner of Larry Summers calling rap singing professor Cornel West on the carpet. Then again, perhaps not everything is so placid on the Botstein estate. As reported in the October 10, 1997 Chronicle of Higher Education, "his actions have earned him a reputation here as authoritarian." Professor of Physics Peter D. Skiff is quoted as saying, "He does not fathom alternatives to his way of thinking."

Botstein comes across as a Renaissance Man. When he is not dictating to underlings like Skiff, he is out conducting symphony orchestras (albeit mediocly) or writing think pieces

on a variety of topics in the mass media. Lexis-Nexis revealed 24 articles, including one promoting the values of self-reliance and risk-taking in the July 5, 1982 US News and World Report.

With such a premium placed on risk-taking, it should not come as a big surprise that Botstein was able to line up financiers George Soros and Leon Levy as major donors. In a January 27, 1996 NY Times article, Botstein fawned over the deep-pocketed nabobs: "These are people who made their money by doing something new,

the counter-revolution full cycle. Claude Allegre, the former French education minister, expressed misgivings about efforts such as Smolny College: "That our students go and study in the United States and Britain is entirely desirable, but that the Americans install their universities throughout the world, all on the same model and with the same courses, is a catastrophe." Well, what can one say—that's just the voice of Old Europe once again. For the New Europe of Donald Rumsfeld, handouts from people like George Soros are eagerly accepted, especially since college professors in the liberated Russia republic average about \$65 per month.

Until today, I had little idea of how



not something old. They haven't clipped coupons."

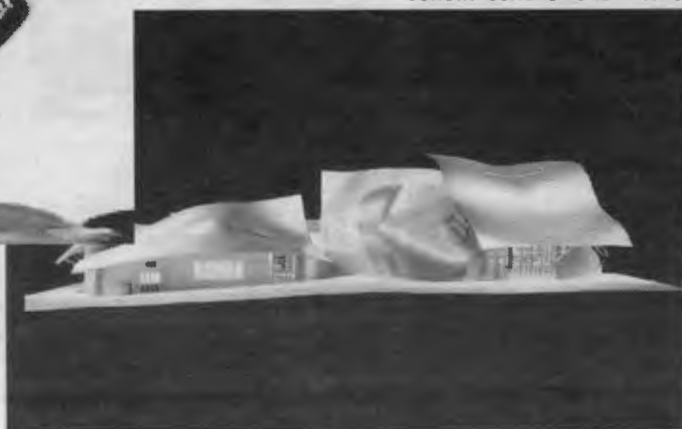
I imagine that everybody is familiar with the kind of new things that George Soros did in the 1990s, especially in Southeast Asia. It was widely reported that currency speculation carried out under the auspices of his Hedge Fund caused the Thai economy to crash. This led subsequently to financial failure throughout the region. A column in Bangkok's "Thai Ray" commented at the time: "In this new era, there is no need to use troops, warships, bombs, or weapons to occupy any country. Just send out one broker and the target will be totally destroyed. In a war of the present era, people are killed by poverty."

Botstein would seem to share Soros's missionary complex vis-à-vis the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. With money siphoned from developing economies like Thailand's, Soros has been able to foot the bill for Bard College's colonizing effort in St. Petersburg, namely Smolny College, which sits next door to the organizing center of the October 1917 revolution—thus bringing

Leon Levy put together his fortune. A few hours on the Internet revealed that he is what is known as a leveraged buyout artist. His Odyssey Partners put together deal after deal in the 1980s that left a string of bankrupt companies in its trail—with all the human suffering that entails. When the Levy family launched the Levy Institute at an old mansion called Blithewood, a trade union official representing workers who had been in a running battle with the management of a restaurant owned by the family, wrote the executive director raising some concerns, among which is the following:

"As you may be aware, Odyssey Partners is also a named defendant in shareholder litigation that arose in the aftermath of the infamous accounting scandal at apparel-maker Leslie Fay. In the early 1980s, Leslie Fay underwent two management-led leveraged buyouts. The second LBO, in

1984, involved Odyssey Partners, Merrill Lynch, and Goldome Savings Bank. In June of 1991, the company underwent its third initial public offering, raising \$40.6 million after expenses, all of which went to Odyssey Partners and/or to Steven M. Friedman, a former Odyssey general partner. In 1993, Leslie Fay's accountants discovered accounting 'discrepancies' and contended in a subsequent lawsuit that Leslie Fay's senior management conspired to conceal the true financial health of the company prior to and during the three public offerings. Odyssey Partners is a defendant in this lawsuit. Last year, Leslie Fay endured a 40 day strike over its proposal to close most of its domestic manufacturing operations (and to eliminate 1200 jobs), despite wage and benefit concessions workers had



shadow of its former self. Sales and profits are down sharply, and, according to Women's Wear Daily, the company 'now sits on the edge of oblivion.'"

Despite their rather aggressive moneymaking appetites, both Soros and Levy now position themselves as friends of the left. Given the state of the world, one suspects that they are simply using a hedging strategy to protect their long-term interests. If at some point down the road the long-suffering masses decide to rid themselves of their oppressors, Soros and Levy might plead that they were with the revolution all along.

Soros writes books and articles lamenting globalization, while his Open Society foundation lavishes money on various grassroots organizations fighting for social change, especially on the Internet. For example, altnet.org got a \$78,660 grant—and so on.

Meanwhile, the Levy Institute at Bard constantly issues press releases and other material calling attention to irrational capitalist behavior. Old Leon Levy himself occasionally writes something for the New York Review of Books with Jeff Madrick, an Institute fellow with impeccable liberal credentials—including the October 8, 1998 "Wall Street Blues". But to really show their "street cred", the Levy boys went out and hired themselves a bona fide Marxist, namely Anwar Shaikh of the New School. As a research fellow at the Levy Institute, Shaikh wrote hard-hitting indictments of the capitalist system while the Levy brothers were out stripping assets in the same manner as Gordon Gecko in Oliver Stone's "Wall Street" in order to pay for his stipend. We need a latter-day Bertolt Brecht to do justice to this sort of thing.

Turning now to the Baffler article ("Build It and They Will Pay" by Andrew Friedman), one understands completely why somebody like Leon Levy would write a blank check for something like the Gehry performing arts center. In 2001, when the Board of Trustees lavished \$120 million on Leon Botstein, \$50 million came from Leon Levy. From that gift, \$100 million was put into the general endowment, while the remaining \$20 million was set aside to endow capital projects like the college's new performing arts center. For Botstein's purposes, this would be money well spent since Gehry's name has instant cachet, like a Rolex watch or a Prada handbag.

Although Friedman's article focuses on the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain, the observations seem relevant to any Gehry project. He writes:

"No sooner was the thing built, however, than the Basques started to learn what Gehry's vision was costing them. In his book Chronicle of a Seduction: The Guggenheim Bilbao, Joseba Zulaika dissects the deal under which the museum was built. It's a story of uneven power relations, mortgaged urban futures, and fiscal chicanery, most of which cannot be told by official sources because their agreement contains a clause forbidding public

continued on next page...

The Split Knish Envelops Bard

by Liv Carrow



On the weekend of February 14th, aka "V-Day," the campus was presented with the first-ever Bard production of the Vagina Monologues. The program was run by first-year Elena Alschuler and directed by Jill Sunderland, and raised more than \$1850 for donation to the Dutchess County Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, as well as the Hudson Valley "Take Back the Night" project. The cast of thirteen women read monologues from Eve Ensler's acclaimed off-Broadway play. Ensler's V-Day organization supplies colleges with a production kit for the Vagina Monologues for free, provided they donate all proceeds to charity involving women's issues and that the play is entirely student-run.

Sophomore Mara Bond also contributed to the events by compiling a book of poetry, fiction, art and photography related to the vagina and/or women in general. The book was sold for \$1 and proceeds were also donated. The event was co-sponsored by BRAVE, whose members tabled and helped run things on the nights of the production. Bard's production of The Vagina Monologues was one of 670 schools and 375 communities in the US and more than 800 organizations and communities worldwide. V-Day events have raised more than \$14 million for women's charities in its five-year existence.

Pacifism, Bush and Jesus

Reporter Russell Mokhiber Prods White House Staff concerning the conflict in ideology

February 6th, 2003

Mokhiber: Ari, two things. A group of bishops and pastors from the National Council of Churches, the United Methodist Church, Episcopal Church, among others — sent a letter to the President last week. They said they want a meeting face-to-face with him because they're "uneasy about the moral justification for war on Iraq." Will the President meet with these church leaders?

Ari Fleischer: As always, we'll fill you in on the President's schedule. But I want to emphasize again the President is a deeply religious man, and there are many people in a variety of religions who are going to have different thoughts about how to keep the peace and whether or not to go to war with Saddam Hussein. The President will respect their thoughts, and he will act as he sees fit as Commander-in-Chief to protect the country.

Mokhiber: One question on that.

You just said the President is a deeply religious man. Jesus Christ was an absolute pacifist. How does the President square his militarism with Jesus' pacifism? [At this point, other reporters in the room challenge Russell's assertion that Jesus Christ was an absolute pacifist. One says "no he wasn't." Another says "How about the — at the temple with a whip, where he beat the hell out of those money-changers? Does that sound like he's an absolute pacifist, Ari?"]

Ari Fleischer: I think there may be a debate in the press corps about your question, Russell.

[Press conference ends, with reporters shouting. Ari walks out without answering the question.]

Tuesday, February 11th, 2003

Mokhiber: ...Second question. It was a question I asked last week and you didn't get a chance to answer, so I'd like to rephrase it. President Bush has said that Jesus Christ is his favorite political philosopher. He said that during the campaign.

Fleischer: Do you really want to open this door again?

Mokhiber: I want you to answer the question.

Fleischer: Where's Lester?

Mokhiber: You didn't get a chance —

Fleischer: Did you wait until Lester was gone to raise this today?

Mokhiber: I would actually like you to answer the question.

Fleischer: Okay, go ahead.

Mokhiber: President Bush has said that Jesus Christ is his favorite political philosopher. He said that during the campaign. Jesus Christ said — turn the other cheek. He said — the meek will inherit the earth. And he said — do violence to no man. How does the President square his militarism with Jesus Christ's pacifism?

Fleischer: One, I think your choice of words is inappropriate when you refer to President Bush's militarism. The President is seeking a way to provide peace and to protect the American people from a growing gathering threat in the hands of Saddam Hussein and the weapons that he has collected. The President approaches this matter for his Constitutional duties. And his Constitutional duties as the commander in chief — he is sworn to uphold the Constitution and protect the American people from threats to our lives. And that's the manner in which he approaches it.

He does view this also as a matter of great morality in terms of the serious judgment that any President has to make about risking lives to save life. And that's the focus that the President brings.

White House reporter Russell Mokhiber is the editor of the Washington, D.C.-based Corporate Crime Reporter. He co-authors the weekly Focus on the Corporation column with Robert Weissman. He can be reached at: russell@nationalpress.com

March 5th Strike Events List

- 9:00 am-** Open meditation/prayer
- 12:00 pm:** Campus Center Lounge
- 10:00 am:** "The Causes of War," w/ Prof. Joel Kovel
Old Gym
- 10:30 pm:** Open Discussion w/ Prof. Tabetha Ewing
Campus Center Café
- 11:00 am:** "War, Empire and Revolution," w/ Prof. Peter Linebaugh
Old Gym
- 12:00 pm:** "Money for War, but What About Poughkeepsie?
War's Local Effects," w/ Bard alumni, Maggie & Konner
Root Cellar, (Old Gym basement)
- 12-1:00 pm:** Video Conference War Conversation, w/ Smolny U. Students
New Henderson Room 106
- 12:30 pm:** Anti-War Creative Chalk Art, w/ Ladies Misbehavior Society
Campus Center
- 1:00 pm:** Critical Mass on Annandale Road
Meet at Kline Parking Lot
- 1:00 pm:** "Student Movements and Strikes from 1968,"
w/ Ali, Rafi and Megan
Campus Center Café
- 1:30 pm:** "Media and War," w/ Prof. Jonathan Becker
Old Gym
- 2:00 pm:** "Attacking Saddam — The Next Installment in the...
Uninterrupted History of British-American Military Blunders in
Modern Iraq," w/ Steve Greenfield of New Paltz Green Party
Root Cellar, (Old Gym basement)
- 3:00 pm:** "International Relations and War Politics,"
w/ Prof. Sanjib Baruah
Campus Center Lounge
- 3:00 pm:** "The Authors of War," w/ Prof. Tabetha Ewing
Old Gym
- 3:30 pm:** "The State of the Kurds," w/ Rai Chiari
Root Cellar, (Old Gym basement)
- 4:30 pm-** Live Debate between Pro-War Students and Anti-War Students,
6:00: Moderated by Rafi —
open discussion with question and answer session to follow
Kline Commons
- 5-7:30 pm:** "What I've Learned About American Foreign Policy,"
Weis Theater
- 6:30 pm:** Sunset Candlelight Vigil
Outside Chapel of the Holy Innocents
- 7:00 pm:** "Bard During Wartime," Panel Discussion w/Leon Botstein, Chinua
Achebe and Justus Rosenberg. Multipurpose room
- 9:00 pm:** "Get Your War On," Political Theater by Brendan
Campus Center Café
- 9:00 pm:** "The Art of Seduction in Time of War," Bard..BbaAard
w/ Dr. Dave End and Associates (potluck to follow)
Manor Lounge

Ongoing Events include:

Four Square: Olin Atrium, Surrealist Circus Beach Party: Red Room

Olde English Comedy: TBA, Fantasy Action Experience: TBA

Special Exhibit highlighting war related books and films: Library

Film Screenings: Student Action Center (schedule will be posted in the Old Gym)

Gehry et. al

continued from next page...

disclosure. But it seems that after a year of secret negotiations, the Guggenheim stuck the city--which lost 40,000 jobs with the demise of its largest steel plant, and which still struggles with 25 percent unemployment--with a stiff bill. By 2000, Zulaika writes, the Basques were in for \$250 million--that's \$700 for each Bilbao resident. On top of that, the local government is committed to a perpetual public subsidy of \$7 to \$14 million a year."

My own prediction is that the Gehry building at Bard will

involve the same kind of waste, but as long as Leon Levy is sitting on such a huge fortune then the sky is the limit. This kind of overweening ambition seems oddly out of place both for the Guggenheim and for Bard. It is rather 1990s, so to speak. In fact, this kind of excess has begun to backfire on Thomas Krens, who is to the Guggenheim as Botstein is to Bard. Deep in debt, Krens resolved to solve things in the manner that anybody from the high-flying 90s would--he fired 80 employees, a fifth of his staff. There is another similarity between Krens and Bot-

stein: both are empire-builders. While Krens had ambitious plans to create many Guggenheims around the world, Botstein spawns seedling institutions like Smolny College and the Bard Decorative Arts Museum run by Mrs. Soros. What better architectural design to express this overarching ambition than Gehry's plastic, computer-generated postmodernist works, whose innovations, according to Friedman, "are better thought of as extensions of the logic of capitalism into the deregulated plastic economy of the Nineties."

Hence it was no surprise that Enron, that symbol of the roaring 1990s, would tout Gehry's work highly. As ex-CEO Jeffrey Skilling wrote for the catalog that accompanied an Enron-funded Gehry retrospective:

"Enron shares Mr. Gehry's ongoing search for the moment of truth, the moment when the functional approach to a problem becomes infused with the artistry that produces a truly innovative solution. This is the search Enron embarks on every day by questioning the conventional to

change business paradigms and create new markets that will shape the New Economy. It is the shared sense of challenge that we admire most in Frank Gehry."

(Originally posted to www.marxmail.org on January 29, 2003)

O.G. in Full Effect

by Kelly Berry & Matt Dineen

At the start of last semester the administration announced that the historic center of Bard student culture known as the Old Gym was due to be knocked down to make room for a new science building. This news ignited outrage and provided an uncommon rallying point for Bard students, filling those first weeks of the fall semester with an exciting feeling of unified purpose. But the immediate reaction of anger and passion and detailed three-point plans of action to save the student space of the Old Gym was soon deflated by the differing official stories reported by the members of campus authority. Near the end of last semester, if the large increase in numbers of holes kicked into the wall was any indication, the general attitude of the student body degenerated from frustration to viewing the Old Gym as a mere space to wipe its collective ass.

At the start of this semester students dismayed by the lack of respect and highly neglected state of the building founded the Old Gym Historical Society. The Society is dedicated to defending the Old Gym spaces and educating the Bard community about their importance to the Bard student experience. It was with this intention that the OGHS gave birth to "Reclaim the Old Gym Weekend," a two-day party held on the weekend of February 21-22nd after an intense week of beautification in which students repaired, cleaned and repainted all the downstairs spaces of the Old Gym.

The weekend's events began on Friday with a reception and zine opening in the Root Cellar. The zine, entitled "Old Gym Doomed?," was a short comic strip produced by the Rooftop Underground and Old Gym Historical Society. It's funny shit—check it out. The newly made-over Red Room soon came to life with the sweet tunes of Hillary Konrad, followed by Dylaina and Danielle with their electric debut. Both student acts were received with enthusiasm by the Old Gym faithful.

When Popsicle Riot began playing their infectious rock set the energy level grew, creating a fun danceable atmosphere despite a small group of testosterone-fueled hecklers, unfamiliar

with Red Room mores perhaps trying to compensate for the lack of male bands. Regardless, Popsicle Riot rocked the house. Broken Bottles capped off the night with a solid set that was temporarily interrupted by another group of boys that were looking to "fuck shit up in the pit." After some tense, confrontational moments with vocalist Drew Gray the dudes exited the room to a rousing applause, inspiring a new Red Room solidarity. The rest of the Broken Bottles set was lively, creating a playful mayhem of dancing in protest of an earlier statement by one the rejected boys: "If you don't wanna mosh git in the fuckin' back!" No, quite the contrary dude. The Red Room show was a good time overall and encompassed the true spirit of the Old Gym, as it set the tone for the weekend of reclamation.

Saturday's Old Gym events began in the early evening with a showing of the Lost Film Festival, which was traveling from Philly with its independent political short films. It was really awesome but served merely as an appetizer to the delicious main course that lay ahead as alumni bands from New York City returned to the Old Gym for the festivities, along with some additional alumni guests, making the evening an intergenerational event of seven generations, with members present of each of the classes from 2000 to 2006.

Saturday night also saw the opening of another student zine called "A Student History of the Old Gym." The show began with current Bard band The Ex-Jean Jackets and their melodic, Pop Rocks sound. They were followed by a spontaneous set by ex-Bard rockers World War XII which shook the house in a big way. Rapi and Carter of the former band played an equally engaging set as the crowd began to swell

the Old Gym. After they played, an alum named Johnny Cristol, Class of 2000, gave a speech about the significance of the Old Gym. The ex-entertainment committee head and overall big man on campus explained how no other school has a comparable space, and provided a brief history of bands that have played in the OG. It was a very educational and inspiring speech.

the Old Gym.

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The Young Hearts, who include three members of the Class of 2000, played a good hour of danceable country rock to a square-dancin' crowd, many of whom were reminiscing of their freshmen year at Bard, while dancing with the new freshmen class. Company finished the night with their unique sound that is two

parts grunge and two parts country-folk. They amazed the crowd and Security alike who turned the upstairs lights on them at 2:00 am. Company defiantly continued their set with two more songs as the lights slowly brightened. The circumstances and the power of their music gave the illusion that they caused the sun to come out at an odd hour. It was an unforgettable show that will surely go down in history.

The Old Gym Historical Society has more celebratory events planned throughout the semester, including an Old Gym-themed photography show to be held in mid-April. Submissions are needed for this show from everyone who has any kind of material from this or any year of the Old Gym: polaroids, snapshots, and more serious formats. Please contact oldgymvigilante@pirateloove.org if you are interested in submitting to the photo show or in joining the O.G.H.S.

If you haven't heard yet: Bard is broke, and plans to tear the Old Gym down have been delayed. The Old Gym Historical Society believes that Tivoli is the place to go only when you have nothing positive left to offer the world. Stay young in the Old Gym.



VOICES FROM SEVEN GENERATIONS ABOUT THE OLD GYM WEEKEND

Lou Thomas, 00: "The space is still alive with the energy of youth. It's the anti-institution institution of Bard campus, living in both worlds, the romanticism of history and the desire of the future, all in one building."

Stephanie Rabbins, 01: "It was pretty typical that we didn't get to play till 2 when everyone was drunk and tired, but its cool that kids are still putting on their own things. It was great to be back in the old gym."

Bradley J. Alter, 02: "It was a really great show but most importantly, last weekend proved that there's still a lot of vitality. The kids are still willing to come out and show support for the old gym. If the show on Saturday stands as any sort of indication, I'm confident that whatever the future holds in store for the old gym, rock and roll will continue to thrive at Bard."

Ella von Holtum, 03: "The old gym is amazing again, and I want to spend my last semester at Bard having all the perfect fun this space makes possible."

Rachel Abelson, 04: "The weekend was a lot of fun and the alumni were really hot."

Lola Pierson, 05: "I came to Bard for the old gym. It was nice to see it so alive, the way it used to be and it is great to know that the younger generation—my class and the class below—will be there to take care and defend the Old Gym as student space."

Nate Bush, 06: "That nerdy alumni guy who gave a speech was really cool!"

WOODS IS FOR FASCISTS

portfolio get snubbed? Are you too cool for the elite? Go to the student darkroom Down in the basement (Behind that crazy pipe fountain)

Sunday: 1-5 Wednesday 430-1a.m!
Monday 7-10 Thursday 10-4
Tuesday 12-3 Friday 12-4
Closed Saturday
(Longer hours if YOU become a monitor).
www.bard.edu

No Sex for the War Mongers!

by Matt Dineen

The Lysistrata Project Comes to Bard

On Monday March 3, Bard Theater presented a staged reading of Aristophanes' classic anti-war play Lysistrata. A group of students and faculty read a new adaptation by Ivanna Makepeace of the ancient story of the Athenian and Spartan women who denied their warring male lovers of sex until they stopped fighting in pointless wars.

The same day there were 1,004 other readings of Lysistrata in 59 countries around the world in a unified, creative opposition to the current Bush administration's threat of war on Iraq. The Lysistrata Project also seeks to raise money for organizations that work for peace and human rights.

thebardfreepress.vol4.issue5

After the reading in the multi-purpose room Monday evening a "peace hat" was passed around, collecting an appropriate \$69. The money was given to the Bard Student Action Collective who will decide at their next meeting which local peace organization to donate the money to.

The Lysistrata project is yet another inspiring example of this burgeoning peace movement recently catalyzed by the global February 15th actions. It also revealed the timeless nature of this great work of theater.

Bard Zine Library

"member of the rock and roll society"

REORGANIZED!

new shipments from Pander and Soft Skull Press
"Get Your War On" by David Rees (hot comic)
"Murdering of My Years"--activist/artist life
"What the Fuck"--the avante-born anthology
"Online Diaries"--Lollapalooza tour Diary
"Off the Cuffs"--poetry by and about cops

located in the Root Cellar

Saving the O.G. with Rock 'n' Roll



the ladies of Popsicle Riot drink up the Boone's (all '04)



Lou Thomas ('00)



Johnny Cristol '00



Carter Tanton's ('02) hair puts you to shame



Company



Jason Jones ('04) is a psycho drum-bot



Carrie, Annie and Chiara enjoying the scene (all '05)



Cristol and Shawn O' Sullivan ('03) in the hallway



Dylaina and Danielle ('03)



the ex-jean jackets ('04)



WWXII reunion



(above) [1] orifice-oriented signs, [2] Police on Guard [3] Pro-Bush Sign
(bottom left) Sophomore Claire Sandburg-Bernard
(below) Maya, Marie and Emma at Union Square for the Youth March

