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Special Registration Buses Your Friends Upstate

by: Fariha Zaman

Since the events of September 11th, there have clearly been a number of legal changes with regards to national security and civil rights. Documents reflecting the government's response to the attack on America display a willingness to part with constitutional regulations when deemed necessary. One such example is the infamous Patriot Act, which validates the suspension of certain civil rights, in certain situations, in the stated interest of security. Those who are most affected by this type of legislature are the nation's legal aliens, temporary residents of the United States. Unprotected by the laws that govern American citizens, nonimmigrant residents have been in an awkward position even before the fear of terrorist attacks.

Now, and ever since the impending war on Iraq, legal aliens from mostly Muslim countries that

are considered hostile or in some way threatening to the United States are required to undergo a process known as, amusingly enough, Special Registration. The first countries to make the illustrious list are known as "Group 1" and consist of Iran, Iraq, Libya, Sudan, and Syria. Over time the list has been expanded to include Group 2, Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Eritrea, Lebanon, Morocco, North Korea, Oman, Qatar, Somalia, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen, Group 3, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Group 4, Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait. The actual Registration process involves nonimmigrant males from the aforementioned countries between the ages of 18 and 45 reporting to the nearest INS office to be fingerprinted, photographed, and interrogated. Make no mistake, this is a large-scale, nationwide act of enforcement that has

received little press and has therefore gone largely unnoticed until recently, even on a campus like Bard's, where students pride themselves on their political activism.

Special Registration can go unnoticed no longer. As more and more international students at Bard get to join in on the INS fun, more and more of the student body becomes aware of the situation at hand and what it means for nonimmigrant America and the nation's civil rights in general. A total of 8 Bard students have made the trek to the INS office in Albany, but perhaps more will soon have the pleasure of doing so as the list expands. The Free Press spoke with these students in order to gain whatever insight they could.

The INS reached the men required to register through their school or office. This information

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NYC Protest Fills 40 City Blocks

by: Kate Crockford

This weekend the cops in New York beat up a lot of people who were trying to tell George Bush to settle his scores without bombing children. The crowd—about a quarter of a million people—was typical of the post-democracy rallies the broad and diverse peace movement has attended in the past few months: there were elderly people with walkers and elderly spouses (I saw a woman who had to be at least 75 with a "Fuck Your

War" sticker on her tiny chest); there were young people and yuppies with their even tinier little people; all kinds of people brought animals donned with signs like "Pups for Peace" and "Bones not Bombs"; I saw Americans of all colors and European tourists joining the ranks, I am sure thankful to find an American crowd, misrepresented by corporate media, filling the streets of Manhattan from 34th to Washington Square to voice their

opposition to Bush's war on Iraq.

The organizers, United for Peace and Justice, were also responsible for the last major demonstration in New York City on February 15th. Approximately 250 Bard students attended that rally and filled four school buses that the president of the college helped to finance.

Unfortunately, this weekend's march came at a more difficult time for many Bard students: mid-

terms, moderation performances and general feelings of impotence about the current bombing campaign prevented many of those students from returning to the city to again voice their opposition to war. Yet even so, approximately one hundred and twenty Bard students attended the march this weekend, rising bright and early and hopping on two god-awful yellow school buses to head southbound on a beautiful and sunny day.

According to indymedia, the crowd filled 40 city blocks during the height of the march. The signs and costumes donned by protesters keep getting better and better as people have apparently gotten into the swing of protesting illegitimate wars directed by fake presidents. Practice makes perfect and this crowd seemed both clever and mad as hell.

As usual, however, the

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B & G Seeks Affordable Health Care

source: Buildings and Grounds

Buildings and Grounds (B&G) workers on campus are currently unable to afford the costly premiums for family health insurance that the College presently offers its employees.

"All workers on campus should be able to afford family health insurance, and we as B&G employees are no exception," said Tom Hoi-lund, a carpenter on campus. "We

are committed to attaining this [health insurance], and are excited that the campus community is behind us."

In addition to not being able to afford family health insurance, B&G workers' wages are \$3.00-\$4.00 per hour below the level of area colleges. The Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 200 United

bargaining committee is committed to seeing that all B&G workers, as well as the rest of the campus community, have access to affordable family health insurance and wages in accordance with area standards.

Contact Richard Drucker at seiu200@hotmail.com for more information.



Smoke 'em While you Got 'em

by Christine Neumann

ployment of restaurant status (read Kline Commons) must be smoke free. Furthermore, due to some mystic "grandfather clauses" all new public buildings must also be smoke free. This applies to the "New Old Gym" and public dorm space as well.

Representatives from the Dutchess County Health Department visited Bard during the first week of the spring semester. They returned two weeks later to find Bard still in noncompliance. The Board of Health comes to the campus every semester and also makes surprise inspections. Bard's Erin Canaan told the students present at the Smoking Forum that the College has been working out a

"compromise" so that it would begin adhering to the new law at the start of L&T this August. She suggested that the College research a possible public smoking policy of its own and that more picnic tables might be placed in the small field in front of Kline to accommodate the, as reported by an SLC survey, 50% of the campus' population that smokes.

Back in the day, the smoking section at Kline was called the "Paranoids" and was closed off into three separate rooms. Chartwells employees tried to enforce a non-smoking policy because they suffered the fines for such incidents. However, the students really did not receive the

employees warmly. This time around, the Dean of Students Office and Security will also try to enforce the policy and fines may be shifted onto student accounts.

Several proposals were made at the Forum considering other possible spaces. The Red Room and Root Cellar are out, says the Student Life Committee, because of severe lack of ventilation. The Root Cellar, although not licensed, is considered a restaurant of sorts. It is a cohesive smoke free student space that offers a small variety of vegan foods but is not an ideal location. The Old Gym proper could be used during the day to create a clean student space that is different from the dining hall but not exactly just a smoking space. It might

include sofas and chairs that would be moved out at night. Of course, the Old Gym would also need a heating and ventilation system installed and the threat of second-hand smoke to the Security Office must be accounted for. The idea here would be to keep the smoking aspect "below the radar" and to focus on a new "White Rabbit-esque" space that would offer students a place on campus to relax and maybe, just maybe, get a cup of coffee.

All of this, says Erin Canaan, will need to be student run. The Student Life Committee agreed that this could not be a committee problem and that smokers must be committed to finding their own space and be pre-

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The rumor that has held us all in suspense for over two semesters has now become a reality. At the close of this semester, the cherished Kline Smoking Room will be just another Bard legend. The new Dutchess County Board of Health law has been in effect since January 1, 2003. This law stipulates that any place of em-

San Francisco Protest HEADLINE

source: SF indymedia

11:39AM: Fruitvale BART closed due to protests in Oakland.
 11:35AM: 1500 people heading west on Market, crowd is growing.
 11:31AM: People are being beat at 4th & Market
 11:25AM: SFPD beating heads at federal building and at 4th and market .
 11:00 AM: SFPD beating at 3rd and Market 1st and howard blocked. 20+ CHP on far side of bryant. 25 cars trapped between. Post and grant people are pushing cars into the street. 1500 people leaving fremont and howard and headed towards first to sit down.
 10:35AM: BB at 4th and Mission 1st and howard blocked. 2+ CHP on far side of bryant. 25 cars trapped between. Post and Grant people are pushing cars into the street. Montgomery and Market-hundreds of people, cops moving in to arrest them
 9:50AM: 1000 at Mission & 1st headed towards Market to meet about 1000 people that have taken over Market & Montgomery and have formed a liberated zone.
 9:42AM: 600 People at Fremont & Howard. 30 CHP are on the scene.
 9:15AM: Haight and Buchanan. Traffic blocked up as far as eye can see.
 8:55AM: Barricades at Stockton and Grant. Channel 2 says If you dont have to be downtown, dont go. and "As soon as protesters are arrested, more sit down. This looks like it will go on all day" and we have a BIG mess commuting" Woo-hoo!!!! It's working.
 8:55AM: Twenty people locked down at Transamerica Bldg. Market and Davis blocked- 100 people. People are trying to get to the Federal Bldg.
 8:50AM: Police say half force on street. Officers normally undercover reported to be out in riot gear. Protests taking place all over the city. Police say at least 15 intersections blocked. Worst traffic jams ever. Report that at Montgomery and Clay police filling barricades with water to prevent cars from driving into the building. Gay Shame is holding Gough and Market- 200 people
 8:41AM: A Jaguar just tried to run over some protesters at Montgomery and Clay. Pigs setting up water hoses .
 8:30AM: Lockdown on Van Ness near Market. People locked to big cement blocks. Police are sawing people out. At Pine and people are blocking street with newspaper racks. At Oak and Gough intersection blocked by people with pink flags. Third and Market blocked by about twenty people, no cops there yet.
 8AM: Arrests beginning.500 people (police say 300)blocking Market at Sansome. Cop violence reported outside UK consulate and outside Bechtel
 7:55AM: Intersections being blocked 3rd and Eolsom, 5th And Mission, Mission and Van Ness, Fell and Franklin (arrests about to happen), Fell and Van Ness, Bush and Powell, Market and Sansome, Recruiting Station at Davis St., Bechtel at Market and Beal, Harrison and Fremont freeway ramp (300 people)
 7AM: Dozens of actions are planned in SF's Financial District which vow to shut down the city. Thousands will plan to "call in sick" when the war starts to help disrupt capitalism from steamrolling on. action plans and targets
 9 AM: March from Hunter's Point to downtown.



police handle a situation on Market St.



Roe v. What???

by Liv Carrow *Partial Birth Abortion Under Fire*

With the nation's attention directed to war with Iraq, terrorism, the Israel-Palestine conflict, and the failing economy, women's rights have suffered numerous blows throughout the Bush administration's standing.

The worst is on its way. On March 14, the Senate voted 64-33 to ban late term or "partial-birth" abortion. The House is set to vote on the bill in April and Bush has promised that he will sign it into law if it passes. A ban on late term abortion would be the first serious, national limitation on abortion since Roe v. Wade was passed in 1973.

Though Congressional measure is being taken now, the president has taken several personal measures to outlaw abortion. On December 24 2002, Bush appointed questionably right-wing and religious David Hager, M.D., to head the FDA Reproductive Health Committee. Hager is anti-choice, anti-birth control, and is even questionable to other anti-choice contingencies and other Republicans.

Bush's global attack on reproductive rights has been in progress since his presidency began. In 2001 he declined funding to the UN for any health-care providers who perform or even suggest abortion to their patients. Bush does, however, invest staggering amounts in sex-ed programs based solely on the teaching of abstinence, and excludes mention of abortion as a reproductive option.

Bush does not show any signs of ceasing his "War on Women" any time soon. Doubtless he will rely on general public fear and concern for the

war in Iraq to distract the public from the dire straits abortion rights are faced with. The budget proposed for 2004 has not increased money allocated for women's health, despite the increase in demand for women's health services and family planning. Also, an amendment was made to the budget which forbids any federal money from providing reproductive services (i.e. abortion counseling, abortion services, birth control) to women in prison or under the care of the government.

Congress is also in the midst of a filibuster to oppose consideration of Bush's appointment of anti-abortion judge Miguel Estrada. If Bush has the opportunity to appoint Supreme Court judges, he hopes to appoint Estrada and Priscilla Owen, both known for their anti-choice stance and right wing politics.

Both the UN contingencies and the bill just passed in the Senate lack any exception for the safety of the woman or instances of rape or incest. In other words, partial birth abortion could be banned in all instances, without regard to the conditions of each case. The gag rule, where doctors cannot suggest abortion to a woman as an option, is already unofficially in effect in many areas and will be gladly implemented by the anti-choice element of the government.

"Freedom requires constant vigilance." Evidently the freedom to choose is under heavy attack from many sides of the federal, not to mention

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WHO DO YOU CALL?

get your opinion heard

Call the American Opinion Line from 9-5 Monday through Friday at 202-456-1111

Call the President at 202-456-1414 or 1-202-456-2580.

Email him at president@whitehouse.gov

Call the Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121

Call 800-839-5276 and ask to be connected to a Congressman from your home state.

Call Senator Hilary Clinton at 212-688-6262

Email her at clinton.senate.gov/email_form.html

Call Representative Maurice Hinchey at 331-4466.

Call Senator Charles Schumer at 212-486-4430.

Call Representative John Sweeney at 876-2200.

Call Representative Sue Kelly at 897-5200.

Call Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle at 202-224-2321

Call Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist at 202-224-3344.

Call Senate Majority Whip Mitch McConnell at 202-224-2541

Call Senate Minority Whip Harry Reid at 202-224-3542.

Call Governor George Pataki at 518-474-8390.



Aliens Gain Legitimacy

by Emily Schmall

Undocumented Mexicans are one form closer to civil liberty. Artia Nagira, an employee at La Malinche, a grocery store on Tito Puente Way, traveled from Mexico to New York City planning to stay for only a visit, but upon receiving a new ID card issued by the Mexican government, prolonged her trip indefinitely. The card gives her confidence that she can establish herself safely. "I can prove who I am here and why I came," she said.

Last year, the Mexican government issued the identification cards to over a million Mexicans nationwide, urging businesses and government officials to consider them legitimate credentials of residency and origin.

Hope escalated in Mexican communities across the nation when President Bush showed public support for amnesty, but expectations were abruptly quashed when September 11 security concerns flooded the White House. When progress towards an immigration accord came to a halt, the Mexican government ushered in an alternative: the matricula consular, what is now being seen as a de facto acknowledgement of U.S. residence.

The glossy, official-looking card shows a photograph, address and date of birth of the carrier. Although the cards do not establish the immigration status of individuals, it proves that their home government has registered them. It was not

until January of this year that the ID card began to be accepted in New York State. In New York City, the Mexican consulate has seen continuous lines of people waiting for their identity to be confirmed.

The matriculas may be for many the first forms of identification they have possessed. To open a bank account or to register for a driver's license usually

requires the showing of at least three forms of ID. Mario Balbuna, who has owned a restaurant in East Harlem for ten years, sees the IDs as keys to greater opportunity. "If we don't have anything to show, the door is closed to us. We need it to be able to save some money, to put it in banks instead of having to send it to Mexico. We can't build a life here without ID."

When attempts to continue the discourse on amnesty with the U.S. government failed, former Mexican Foreign Relations Secretary Jorge Castañeda turned to U.S. banks. Although the matricula had been issued for several decades, just recently have banks begun to accept it, and this success has increased distribution to unprecedented levels. In 1995, 2,437 IDs were issued in New York, compared with 2,296 in one month of 2002 when Citibank opened its doors in April. "The FED has produced a document that proves it's better for banks to accept the matricula because Mexicans are a major source of investment in this country," said Mexican Consul General of New York, Salvador Baltran. "Mexicans should have a proper channel to send money home, and a proper account instead of storing it under a mattress, as many people do."

An estimated \$16 million dollars is sent by nationals to Mexico each day, through transactions that cost \$40 a piece. Establishing bank accounts will allow nationals to send ATM cards across the border for use by family members, and will encourage people to reallocate their daily wages to U.S. banks, said Baltran. Several chains including Citibank, Bank of America, Wells Fargo and Fleet Boston see accepting the IDs as a cost-effective endeavor, and have allowed nationals to open accounts. 800 law enforce-

ment agencies, 13 states and 74 banks now accept the matricula.

Jackson Chin of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund believes the IDs facilitate normalization into a society of which the Mexicans are already a part. "The matricula allows a greater sense of equity and a lifting of the burden of law enforcement. It allows these people to contribute over-ground without fear of apprehension."

Still, without a Social Security number or U.S. immigration documents, undocumented Mexicans remain social aliens. The New York State Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and the New York Police Department are among the most prominent institutions that refuse the ID as substantial certification. "Maybe it works in other places, but here it's not possible to get a driver's license or to get a job at any place that requires a Social Security number," said a student and Mexican national, Ignacio Acevedo.

Opponents see the matriculas as an attempt of the Mexican government to undermine U.S. immigration laws. "The only foreign nationals who have any need for such a card are illegal aliens, people who lack IDs issued by the U.S. government. The Mexican government is aiming to make illegal immigrants invisible to immigration law enforcement, and to effect a stealth amnesty," said Paul S. Egan, a spokesperson for the Federation for American Immigration Reform.

Citing the U.S. Code of Criminal Justice, U.S.C. Section



waiting for the ID

1325, critics contend that foreign nationals who enter the United States illegally are criminals and therefore should not be allowed to bypass the law and enjoy greater privileges.

Proponents counter that illegal immigration will continue according to the laws of supply and demand, and illegal immigrants should be rewarded, not punished. "The economic reality is that the sector of undocumented Mexicans is very critical to the quality of life that we are accustomed. These are not the kind of people who would jeopardize national security—they are here to work," said Chin.

At dusk in Spanish Harlem, Artia Nagira is happy for her home, her work and her friends, elements in her life that right now seem secure. Of the matricula's increased acceptance, she reflects: "This is a great thing for Mexican nationals, and I think they will be valued more in the future. Having a Mexican ID proves that I am una persona fisica, a good worker. If employers see where I am from, they'll think I have a certain capability, and know I have come to this

country to work."

For undocumented Mexicans, proving ethnicity has never been so wise. Most importantly for some is that in an atmosphere of increased security, Mexicans can distinguish themselves from Arabs. The Legal Aid Society of New York, a not-for-profit organization that represents immigrants, reported that Mexicans mistaken for Middle Easterners have had increased difficulties with the INS. The United States Patriot Act gives immigration officers greater freedom in arresting anyone who appears suspect with less obligation of justifying a cause. But similar to biometric scanning, a process that reads individuals' records from the imprint of a finger, by scanning a bard code on the new identification cards, the records of Mexicans can be examined through Mexico's Secretary of Foreign Affairs. "With this card, we are doing our part to identify and document the Mexicans who live here, and to secure the Mexican who has it," said Consul General Beltran. The consulate anticipates surpassing 2002's distribution of 27,700 by May.

Iraq: a Humanitarian Disaster

by Kate Crockford

The most recent news (as of 3/23, 2:00 pm EST) about the situation for civilians in Iraq provokes sadness for the plight of Iraqis and anger toward the US news media for the lack of coverage on the devastating conditions caused by US bombs.

According to www.iraqbodycount.net, a website run by people who study about fifty international news sources in order to derive casualty figures---"where these sources report differing figures, the range (a minimum and a maximum) are given"---a minimum of 135 and a maximum of 209 civilians have been killed.

Tragically, however, direct civilian murders are only one of a host of the problems for Iraqis living through this war. According to the International Committee for

the Red Cross, water and electricity in Basra have been cut off for more than two days, threatening a humanitarian crisis the extent of which is unknown.

Electric cables powering the major Wafa al-Quaid water plant, one that serves over two million people, have been destroyed. According to an article in today's Edinburgh Evening Herald out of Scotland, ICRC staffer Florian Westphal said:

"Sixty per cent of the local population are still without access to a regular water supply - this could develop into a humanitarian crisis. We are really, really going to try and gain access to the supply and do anything we can to repair it."

Ronald Huguenin Benjamin, of ICRC Baghdad, told

reporters that the lack of water was causing serious problems and preventing doctors from performing necessary operations.

"There is no water running," he said. "People will very soon be without the possibility of operating in hospitals or anything else for that matter. It is a humanitarian emergency that they should be given access to clear water. We definitely need to be able to send our engineers in there as soon as possible."

In other news, Human Rights Watch has today issued criticism of the Egyptian government for beating, torturing and illegally detaining anti-war protesters. On Saturday morning, at least three prominent anti-war activist students from Cairo were arrested on their way to a demonstra-

tion. According to Human Rights Watch observers, "one of them, who was pregnant, was reportedly beaten, bound and blindfolded, and her whereabouts have still not been established." Egypt is a close US ally. Leaders of many Arab nations, including Jordan and Yemen, had warned the US administration of the potential political catastrophe a war in Iraq could cause for them, propelling the Middle East into a state of unrest and sparking anti-statist sentiment among the masses. Arab sentiment tends toward anger at the United States government because of its unflinching diplomatic and financial support for Israel's illegal occupation of Palestinian lands.

In fact, while an Israeli Defense Force bulldozer recently

ran over and murdered and American peace activist named Rachel Corrie in Gaza, the Bush administration, ardent supporters of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, has yet to confront their close allies about the incident, let alone ask for an apology or cut off military aid. The US government's reaction (or lack thereof) to Corrie's death has sparked global outrage because it demonstrates clearly US hypocrisy with regard to foreign diplomacy. If the Iraqis had murdered an American peace activist a week ago, many argue, Bush would have dropped a nuclear bomb on the country.

March 5th Strike Against War

by **Christine Neumann**

"Books, Not Bombs" started off as a student walkout campaign advocating education funding over military spending. Then the idea swept the country and became a national day of resistance. Business owners, clergy members, laborers, students and professors broke away from daily routines to demonstrate that when war begins, America stops. I am proud to say that Bard College participated in this historic event.

Although Wednesday morning found many of us standing in the rain, there was hot coffee and free donuts waiting in the Old Gym as the first speaker Joel Kovel began the day's events. Starting at ten in the morning, lectures and workshops continued nonstop through out the day and ended with a panel discussion in the MPR at seven. Highlights included Peter Lindebaugh's inspiring talk on petrolarchy and the well-attended talk by Jonathan Becker concerning the media's influence on war. The workshop on student movements and strikes since 1968 stopped the flow of traffic through the campus center as at least two hundred students listened to their peers talk about the methods of dissent in other countries. Students ran films in Weis and in the SAC room, played

drums and junk bands around campus, held an incredible anti/pro war debate at Kline, and at the Bard During Wartime panel the students became impassioned enough to form an anti-war resolution that - sprung from the idea that institutions of higher education have a political and intellectual responsibility to provide education and speak out against the war, (i.e. NOT quite in accordance with Botstein's comment that the institution is a "hollow" concept that cannot satisfy all dissenting voices) -was subsequently passed at the Student Government forum on Wednesday March 12.

At every lecture held in the Old Gym almost all two hundred seats were full. The final panel featuring Matt Dineen, Chinua Achebe, Leon Botstein, Justus Rosenberg and Peter Lindebaugh was also standing room only. But the most inspiring moment for me was the Kline debate. I'd never seen so many kids in Kline before not even for the Budget forum. Every person who came in expecting a quiet dinner was greeted by two crowded entrances swarming with students intent on hearing the arguments made by Alex and Ty (pro-war) and Bill and Kate (anti-war). I was pleased to see everyone taking the debate so seriously. There was no shouting or interrupting. There were

no obnoxious retorts. People came up to the microphone with valid questions and concerns that made me grateful once more that I go to such a consciously diverse school.

The strike was a great success. First, it was awesome that Bard College stood in solidarity with students in high schools around the country and abroad. More importantly, it created an atmosphere on campus that allowed dialogue to flow more freely. The communal spirit on campus had never been so high as students stopped to ask each other which lectures they had attended and what workshops had been the most inspiring. It was like a holiday or vacation with the most important of themes.

The strike was not just a walk out from the classes we all pay over two hundred dollars a pop for. It was a day of important alternative education. Everyone I saw that day learned something new. Everywhere people went, they thought about war and its implications. My gratitude goes out to all the professors who spoke or conducted class discussions. My greater esteem goes out to all the students who helped make the day possible and those of you that took the time to participate.

Bard College Anti War Resolution

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need for genuine multilateral and international action to eliminate biological, chemical and nuclear weapons world wide,

WHEREAS, the international community, both governments and peoples, supports UN weapons inspections and overwhelmingly opposes war as a means to achieve Iraq's disarmament,

WHEREAS, a US military attack will have immediate and devastating humanitarian consequences for the Iraqi people,

WHEREAS, a US military attack on Iraq will provoke further atrocities on and off US soil against the people of the United States,

WHEREAS, most cities and states in the US are suffering immense fiscal crises wherein the existence of important social programs that benefit the working people and the economically poor is threatened by severe budget cuts,

WHEREAS, according to a study conducted by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the war in Iraq could cost American taxpayers upwards of \$1,900,000,000,000, an amount that would well exceed the education- and health-based needs of all American citizens,

WHEREAS, a war in Iraq will put American service people at risk to exposure of depleted uranium, among the other horrors of war, not least including premature death,

WHEREAS, past military actions in the area have resulted in serious environmental destruction, the effects of which have not yet been mitigated nor fully understood,

WHEREAS, past military actions in Iraq have resulted in wide-spread human suffering, including destruction of civilian infrastructure and the subsequent economic sanctions that prevented reconstruction and, according to UNICEF, caused the deaths of at least 500,000 Iraqi children under the age of five due to preventable diseases like diarrhea,

WHEREAS, neither the UN Charter nor international law sanctions attacking another nation that poses no direct threat, and there is no credible evidence to prove that Iraq poses such a threat to the US,

WHEREAS, the climate of fear and war hysteria in America today is distracting Americans from important government actions regarding the environment, health, surveillance, civil liberties, and the depressed economy that has resulted in the highest level of unemployment in recent history, and

WHEREAS, the overwhelming majority of Bard College students, who make up the Student Association as voting and active members, oppose a unilateral invasion,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Bard College Student Association urges the Bush administration to further pursue multilateral diplomacy and condemns a US attack on the people of Iraq in place of such diplomacy.

Poll: Agree with the Resolution?

On Wednesday, March 12 over forty students attended the Student Government forum to participate in the passing of an Anti-War Resolution for Bard College campus. Admittedly, before this resolution was passed a consensus of opinion within our community should have been administered. If you feel that our college should aim to project a unified voice against the war, or if you wholeheartedly disagree, please take a moment to fill out the following poll and send the reply to mail stop 1207.

Check the one that applies:

I agree with the resolution.

I do not agree with the resolution.

I would agree with the resolution if the following amendments were made.

Sac Events & Schedule

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 (B-EAC) meets Tuesday nights at 6PM in the SAC.

The Animal Rights Group (ARG) meets Thursday nights at 7PM in the SAC.

SCHEDULE:

4/26-4/27: Equal Rights for Farmworkers March.

This event, sponsored by Centro Independiente de Trabajadores Agrícolas (CITA) and the Justice For Farmworkers Coalition - and our own Migrant Labor Project - will draw attention to the plight of the state's landless farmworkers who are denied a day of rest, overtime pay, disability insurance and collective bargaining protections. Their main demand is to be treated with respect and equality. Two marches will correspond from Eastern and Western New York to meet in Albany on April 30 for a large rally. A solid core of walkers will trek the entire route. Supporters may walk for a week or a day or just an hour. The Eastern march will start in Harlem on the 20th and will be passing through Rhinebeck and Red Hook on April 26th to return that night to Poughkeepsie for a Solidarity Dance. On April 27th they will pass through Germantown. For more information call (845) 485-8627 or email the Migrant Labor Project at Bard at the following addresses: ep433@bard.edu ba974@bard.edu

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

MARCH:

3/25: "TAKE BACK THE HUDSON VALLEY" - MARCH ACROSS THE MID-HUDSON BRIDGE.

Walk in solidarity with victims of sexual assault and take a stand against sexual violence. Contact Perri Rainbow at the B.R.A.V.E. office (x7557) for directions, etc.

3/26: "Take Back the Night" March in New Paltz.

This march wishes to create awareness about sexual assault. The day starts at 2:00 pm in the Old Main Quad on SUNY New Paltz campus. There will be speakers, entertainment and poetry. The candle light march will begin at sunset, go through the town of New Paltz, and reconvene in the Old Main Quad for a Survivor Speak Out and Gathering until 2 am.

APRIL:

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month!

4/10- 4/15: IMF and World Bank Rally in DC. There are events happening all week ranging from trainings, conferences, rallies, marches, etc. The focus of this year's demonstration will be the unjust U.S. intervention in Latin American and Caribbean affairs. Sign up at the SAC Board in the Campus Center, look out for details or call (212) 234-3440.

4/19: Earth Fest!! Party on Earth Day outside the Campus Center. 11:00 - 4:00. Cider Bandits to play. SAC Movie Series! Political films/documentaries will be shown on the following Monday nights a nine o'clock in Weis. **4/21, 5/12, 5/19.**

4/26: Operation Free Fall is "the biggest, boldest and most exciting way to take a stand against sexual violence!" The event is sponsored by the Ulster County Crime Victims Assistance Program and will be held in Gardiner. To pledge support (per mile of drive) or register to jump!! Call Cynthia Craft at (845) 340-3446.

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

Gehry Building Picketed

by Andrea Muraskin

If you don't live in Manor or Robbins nor happened to pass by that stretch of North Campus on Thursday March 6th or Friday the 7th you might not have been aware that all work had stopped on that nascent jewel of the Hudson Valley, the Fisher Performing Arts Center. Instead of the constant construction, workers formed picket lines, in which all of the workers from various unions came out in solidarity with the carpet layers union.

The carpet layers picketed against their contractor, Landmark Floor Covering (LFC), a company base out of Albany. The union has been pushing to make LFC a union shop, as well as calling attention to a dispute that the union had with LFC's work on another site. Grievances directly related to work at Bard concerned the pay scale of the carpet workers at the PAC. Bard chose LFC, a low-price bidder at the outset, to do the carpet laying for the new Performing Arts Center. However, LFC had bid the labor at a non-union scale. The carpet layers union launched the picket to compel the LFC to pay union scale for their labor on the Fisher building.

LFC and the carpet layers union reached a settlement the following Monday: Although LFC would not become a union shop, the workers would be paid union scale for their labor at Bard. Everybody returned to work.

So, was Bard responsible for the workers' grievances? No. "Do I think he'll [CEO of LFC] come asking me for money?" said Bard VP of Administration Jim Brudvig. "Yes."

Bard In the News

by Peter Bixler

When Bard is in the news, oftentimes it is in the image of one individual, its president since 1975, Leon Botstein. The profound growth that our college has experienced in the past 25 years is often attributed to our exalted president and on many occasions is considered newsworthy. In 2001, when Leon Levy helped double the school's endowment with a 50 million dollar donation, the New York Times ran an article in which Bard's chairman, David E. Schwab II, hinted at the key to Bard's success: "There is no doubt that Botstein is magic."

In October of 1992, an article appeared in the New York Times entitled: "The Most Happy College President, Leon Botstein of Bard." Its author, Anthony DePalma, praises Botstein as "a kind of intellectual Bo Jackson," citing that he "can do so many things so well." Botstein responds: "What I'm doing is not in the least bit exceptional. It's unusual for the late 20th century, when people are compartmentalized and bureaucratized." Such a figure as Botstein is bound to attract students and induce trustees, but is Botstein's image an accurate representation of Bard itself? Is Bard, as represented by the students, and Bard the institution, as represented by Botstein, synonymous? Since Bard in the news is Botstein in the news, one would certainly like to think so.

SPRING BREAK!!!

SLC Spy Solicits Smokers

by Free Press Staff

It was just another Tuesday night staff meeting of the Free Press in the Kline committee room. Greg from The Dirty Hearts came in unexpectedly and announced that a representative from St. Lawrence Cement was passing out and tricking people into signing cards which pledged support for the SLC plant; a cement company that is pending construction in Hudson.

Due to concern for the historic regional environment and atmosphere, opposition to the plant's construction runs high in the Hudson Valley region. Evidently, support does exist in the form of this particular "volunteer" who came to Bard to solicit signatures for postcards in support of the plant addressed to Governor George Pataki. Blue information cards outlining facts and figures very contradictory to those of the media and anti-SLC activists were handed out as well.

This particular student claimed she was not an employee of SLC, but simply a person who believed that the Hudson Valley needed the jobs and economic stimulus the plant could provide. She addressed the questions of the many students who became aware of her plans by defending her position as a volunteer, a student, and a local resident.

However, the student was not a Bard student and was not legitimately present on the Bard campus. She had not registered with security and did not have a table set up for her purpose. All of her supplies were in her handbag, and she would not let the students keep any of her propaganda or signature cards as a sample. She did not divulge her name or her college major (she was a "grad student") and left hastily, repeating the same arguments and defenses.

If she was not sent by SLC, and was not being paid, why would she risk trespassing in Kline to promote the SLC plant? And more, how would she know to approach students at the end of dinner in Kline smoking section? The world may never know.

The kids of the Free Press would like to emphasize that if approached by any solicitor, students should make sure they understand what they are signing. For more information on the St. Lawrence Cement Plant please visit scenichudson.org.

The History Of Anti-War Student Strikes

by Matt Dineen

Those Bard students who were skeptical of the March 5th strike against the war on Iraq were reminded by the strike's organizers that it was a part of a national (and international) strike that would make history. As thousands of college students in the United States, Australia, Sweden and other countries organized alternative events opposing the war, and thousands of courageous high school students walked out of their classes to say "NO," the strike truly was a historic moment.

What most Bard students did not understand, however, was that this action continued a rich history of student strikes against war around the world, and specifically at this college. The legacy of this form of direct action has been seen throughout history when governments wage unpopular, unjust wars that intelligent college students naturally oppose. Two examples of anti-war student strikes in which Bard students have been involved include: the 1935 international student strike, and the May 1970 national strike against the Vietnam War. A look at this history will help put into perspective the importance of our strike earlier this month and any future strikes to stop this war on Iraq.

April 12th, 1935: No War! No Fascism!

The first major anti-war student strike in the United States after the end of World I occurred on April 6th, 1934. It has been described as a "spontaneous walkout" in which 25,000 students at various Eastern colleges walked out of their classes to express their opposition to war and the growing specter of fascism in Europe. These grave political conditions affected this college, which had changed its name to Bard the same year, as "distinguished European émigrés" joined the faculty after escaping fascist Europe. The new Bard faculty included painter Stefan Hirsch, political editor Felix Hirsch, violinist Emil Hauser, philosopher Heinrich Bluecher, economist Adolf Sturmthal, and philosopher Werner Wolff. However, Bard students did not have an opportunity to participate in this historic strike as the college's "Spring Recess" occurred from March 28th to April 9th. The Bardians returned to Annandale three days after the strike took place.

One year later, on April 12th, 1935 a more organized, international, anti-war student strike took place at colleges across the world. Bard's student newspaper The Lyre Tree ran the following headline a week later: "125,000 American Students Strike Against War." Other sources estimate up to 175,000 participated in the strike in the United States. Students in cities across the country walked out at 11:00 am, meeting at "various strike centers." Despite two confrontations with authorities in Chicago and Los Angeles the student strikes were "orderly." The Lyre Tree reported on the diverse actions held across the nation: "In most cases they were not the parades that characterized the affair last year, but mass meetings with speakers drawn from students, faculty, and prominent outsiders. In some cases the strike was a complete fiasco. The most prominent instance of this was at Harvard where the Mullins Chowder and Marching Club very effectively burlesqued the strikers' activities." The largest event of April 12th, 1935 was held at Bard's sister school in



Bard Students Marching to Red Hook on 9g



Red Hook Police Racing to 9g



Students arriving at the New York City: Columbia University. There were 3,000 students there "crowding the gymnasium" to hear a number of speakers from Columbia and other city colleges. CUNY and NYU both had large strike gatherings featuring 2,500 and 1,200 participants on their campuses respectively.

Unlike this March 5th, there were no anti-war strike events at Bard in 1935. However, a number of Bard students joined the Vassar strike where a total of 900 students paraded from Main Hall to the chapel. Here, "they heard three speeches and unanimously passed an anti-war resolution." One of the speeches was given by a Bard student named Arthur Kent, which emphasized "the necessity for a strong youth movement in this country and outlined several objectives for such a movement." Throughout the evening a "catchy" song from the 1934 strike was sung called "Baa-baa Bombshell" with the refrain:

"We shall spend every cent
We can to prevent.

An imperialistic war."

There are a number of parallels to be drawn from this historic anti-war student strike and the current events surrounding our struggle for peace and justice. From the imperialist nature of the current invasion of Iraq to the oppositional tactics of student strikes and anti-war resolutions the comparison is almost eerie. But to put this in a more solidified framework we must turn to an editorial in the same issue of The Lyre Tree entitled, "A Student

Vigil with police escort Anti-War Movement," which may provide some insight into our current anti-war movement. The editors believed that the strike and similar activities:

"...will be more justified if they contribute in any way to the building up of a will power strong enough to enable college men and women to say "No" in the face of impending war...Knowing that there is a strong anti-war sentiment on almost every campus will break down the fear of rebuke from friends if they refuse to go to war. Whether or not this peacetime spirit will be able to resist the charm of military music, the glamour of uniforms and the journalistic appeal of jingoism will probably be apparent within the decade."

May 1970: No More War! No More Academic Routine!

Last week the Bush administration began their long-awaited, illegal invasion of Iraq. Just hours after our "fictitious president" made his pseudo-declaration of war on March 19th, the evening the Bard Dean of Students' Office sent out a community announcement. Released two weeks after the campus-wide strike, the announcement urged students that: "With war declared, it is imperative that we go on with the work of the college, that we attend classes, write papers, perform or act, if, for no other reason, than to serve as a reminder of the power of education, social action and the arts."

Oh, how times have changed...

By 1970 America was on fire, as the resistance to the criminal continued on page 7...

Letter to the Editor: Special Registration for Arabs

by **Ramy Hameid**

What you get and what I get is different. American media does not announce what the American government announces to me and to all those from Arab and/or Muslim countries. Most Americans do not know that the U.S. government has implemented a new system of tracking non-immigrant visa holders in the United States through a process known as **Special Registration**.

This regulation has recently been expanded, and will likely change again in the future. Males of ages 18 - 45 will be fingerprinted and photographed by the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (BCIS) and will be required to appear in person at a local (BCIS) office to report changes in address, employment, educational institu-

tion, or other criteria outlined by the BCIS. Special Registrants are required to notify a BCIS officer when they exit the United States. At the time an individual appears for Special Registration, he will be provided with a list of ports to use when departing the United States. All Special Registrants **MUST** depart **ONLY** through one of these designated ports of departure. For example, if I go home this summer, I will have to go to Terminal 4 in JFK then go to a designated room for the purpose of further questioning. When I return, the Visa Officer in the airport has the right to reject my entry based on personal judgement. There are more facts and more laws to follow now, which you could know about by emailing intbard@hotmail.com

This letter, though, is

to address you as my friends from college. This is not an informational board, so allow me to express my personal thoughts on the subject. Before September 11th people would ask me where I was from, and when I'd answer, they'd say "Wow! The Pyramids" Now I hesitate to answer. Now my passport is like the Star of David for the Jews in Germany when Hitler was the leader. Now my face is Black in "Rosewood". Now I am the "other" race, the "other" religion. In this country of freedom of speech and liberty, I am being categorized and treated based on my last name and my history.

The FBI has the right to deport me to "maintain national security". The procedure of **Special Registration** in itself is not frightening to me. After all, I will

just go to an office and submit information. However, I am scared because this is not a new thing in the world. Although everyone identifies the Nazis as a specific extreme group, I identify the present through the past. And in relation to the past I find no better example than the Jews being photographed, fingerprinted, measured for height, weight and questioned by officers. I am not expecting a train ticket from the government to go and "do work"! But I do expect these procedures to worsen by the day. I came to Bard like some of you go to Europe or somewhere else for a Study Abroad program. I am studying art and I just want a good college education-- that's it. I do not know if this is worth what is happening. I am not sure it is worth the risk of my sudden imprisonment by the

FBI to get released after a month or more like hundreds experienced this after Sep.11th.

All the other students and I should remember the history that we now study in books. The history of black people, the history of anti-Semitism, the history of all forms of discrimination. Now we are living in a new history with a new form of discrimination. The black people marched, the Jews marched, the women marched. Let's march in our own way. Let's not let this be the government secret that is discovered after decades, and make it the reality that people know today.

If you want to know more or do something about this, email: intbard@hotmail.com

Pro/Anti war Media Tangle

by **Jeff Akins**

Does the number and eloquence of editorials in newspapers reflect that the majority of readers oppose Bush's war with Iraq? I find it interesting that while millions in America and billions around the world plead that Bush learn patience and diplomatic multilateralism ... at least his father knew that much ... I read so few letters to the editor from Bush supporters about how right and moral and necessary this war with Saddam is and why Americans should support it. Maybe local publications should try an Internet or other poll?

There was a delightful radio advertisement by a Berkshire area NGO that explained the best way to support American troops is to bring them home safe and sound without war. The Pope, the Dalai Lama and hundreds of religious leaders are against war. The majority of countries including China, Russia and "old Europe" are against unilateral American aggression. The majority of Spaniards and Brits are even against war but their political leadership also ignores their con-

stituencies. Bush could care-less about the anti-war voices and that is arrogant and shameful. Americans are protesting by the millions each weekend, even with the convenient "Code Orange" alerts during large, planned protests.

But I will not give up hope for a better future. I look forward to a "One Term Bush" and I will let him know my displeasure by voting him a common citizen in 2004. He knows that and unfortunately feels that "winning this just war" is the only way to win American confidence while he degrades our economy with record-setting deficit spending, under funds our education and removes environmental legislation for cleaner air and water-- all while promoting astronomical military spending.

There are some Americans who vehemently scream for blood revenge and war as a remedy for violent actions in the past. I understand their personal conflict and their need for justice but blood-letting never makes people agree with your opinions. I offer this small perspective on

security and war by considering Tibet and the 1950 Chinese invasion. Some one asked the Dalai Lama "Why didn't you fight back against the Chinese?" The Dalai Lama looked down, swung his feet just a bit, then looked back up at us and said with a gentle smile, "Well, war is obsolete, you know." Then, after a few moments, his face grave, he said, "Of course, the mind can rationalize fighting back...but the heart, the heart would never understand.



what would the D.L do?

Then you would be divided in yourself, the heart and the mind, and the war would be inside you."

War is not a solution. Unilateral American aggression may very well make marginal individuals around the world feel hopeless and turn them into future "terrorists," whatever that word

means. I ask anyone to explain to me the philosophical, moral or ethical difference between "pre-emptive regime change" and assassination. Let us not promote chaos by letting Bush set dangerous international precedents. Please give peace a chance.

Olde English: I wish I were black

by **Isak Mendez & Dave Dash**

While viewing the Olde English comedy show on Saturday march 22 we were particularly taken aback by the skit of a white male's dreams of being Black. Although the sarcastic undertone was apparent the monologue was extremely offensive to African-Americans. As a largely white student body, we need to be particularly sensitive to issues of race at this college. When a white male uses the

word, "nigga," the history of the word needs to be taken into account no matter what the situation. The word is inextricably connected with slavery, segregation, discrimination, and inequity. While many African-Americans use the word freely today, it is a sign of THEIR self-empowerment. Not only was the use of the word inappropriate, but also the subject matter of the skit had many unclear intentions. The

"white male" wanted to be Black so he could "drink forties", "live in the ghetto" and be a "rapper". We often failed to grasp the humor indicated by these stereotypes. We left befuddled at what was humorous about the skit. Was this making fun of the ignorance of White people? Was this skit only contributing to, exposing, and exacerbating our ignorance? Was this asking how a White person could want to be

Black when all they do is rap on street corners and drink forties? And most importantly, would the White actor have dared to perform this monologue with a few more Blacks or other minorities in the crowd? We think a line needs to be drawn between a parody on stereotypes and purely offensive material. Not only was the material generally offensive, but the overall tone of the actors voice was mocking Black culture. It was hard

to see the difference between this skit and a blatantly racist joke. It seems that both only perpetuate these stereotypes. It is true that White people are rapidly taking to aspects of Black culture, but a more sensitive and positive approach would have been more appropriate. All in all the show was mad funny, but in the future we would advise that more care is taken when dealing with touchy subject matter.



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Deconstructing the Legitimization of War

by Professor Tabettha Ewing

War, as La Bruyère offers, has in its favor its very antiquity. It is like an old noble family, fortunate in generation. And in its good fortune, over time, it has become self-justificatory. War in effect gives legitimate birth to itself. It produces in its martial image men, acts, arts and letters, and information. Its patrimony is a varied wealth, from monuments to victory and human loss, from gains in territory and access to new resources, from reason to culture and history itself. In the 18th century, war was the legitimate issue of the ruler who lent it his (or her) name. Those bastardy acts that did not bear the name of a sovereign ruler were excluded from its patrimony and defined as if "illegitimate" children, as passionate, untamed, primordial, endemic, inevitable.

Two weeks ago, I would have written about the cultural origins of this distinction, its implications in the making of news and the writing of history, and about how the illegitimacy

of violent acts was codified in the era of European and American con- had not begun. Today, I have to say that the trial of the United States

modern writers, humanist or enlightened, ever questioned the necessity of war. We must. Neither blindly nor

time gives the acts that occur within it a new, purportedly legitimate name ("Operation Iraqi Freedom"). Through the mechanisms of the complicit media this newness is reemphasized by manufacturing surprise and awe; manufactured, surely, because the most dramatic signs of wartime—bombs and the breach of civil liberties—are nothing new. American bombs have been dropping on Iraq for several years and racial profiling inside this country has occurred for many more years. This war is nothing less than the enactment of U.S. bid for world suzerainty and the escalation of violence that ensues.

What could be more real than the exercise of our right to demystify this special time? The destruction of human bodies and of the human arts has been sanctified by a falsely universal righteousness, obscured by the smoke of honor, and glorified by the trick-mirror of patriotism.

Tabetha Ewing is Assistant Professor of History & Chair of Gender and Sexuality

Certain arts, such as astrology and what is called alchemy, were banned by law because they were too close to fraud and were generally managed by trickery, even if it were possible for a man to practise them honestly. This would be far more justifiable in the case of wars, even if some of them might be just – although with the world in its present state, I am not sure that any of that kind could be found, that is, wars not caused by ambition, anger, arrogance, lust, or greed. It often happens that the leaders of men, more extravagant than their private resources will allow, will take a chance to stir up war in order to boost their own finances, even by pillaging their own people. This is sometimes done by princes in collusion with one another, on some trumped-up pretext, in order to weaken the people and to strengthen their own position... taken from *The Education of the Christian Prince* (1516) by Erasmus

stitution-making. I would have urged students to urge their families and friends to read texts by early theorists of international law written in the age of kings, still influential in our age of democratic institutions (such as Vitoria, Grotius, Hobbes, Pufendorf, and Montesquieu).

Two weeks ago, the war

government's right to war and to preemptive strikes, and of the correct processes to declare war will have to wait for its end. Instead, the necessity of peace – or for those who speak in terms of nations and rights, of this nation's right to peace – must be the grounds on which we act urgently as citizens. The truth is, few early

naively, but as realists. Not the realism, or so-called machiavellianism, of many political scientists. Our realism, instead, would recognize "wartime" as the invention of the powerful. Wartime creates a fiction of newness so that the persistence of violence within and between our societies goes unknown or is known by another name. War-

Nuclear Power Plant Deemed Unsafe

by Christine Neumann

Tell the Governor and Senators Clinton and Schumer that the time has come for each of them to stand up and call for and work towards the closure of the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant. James Lee Witt has said that evacuation plan for Indian Point doesn't work – it may never be able to work. Security guards at Indian Point admit they cannot defend the plant against a terrorist attack.

In his first press conference since he issued the final Governor Pataki-commissioned, he report concluded that Indian Point's evacuation plan is inadequate to protect New Yorkers, James Lee Witt sat down

with reporters and expressed doubts that the evacuation plan could ever be improved enough to save lives.

During interviews with the New York Times and the Journal News, James Lee Witt explained that his recommendations would have to be adopted, and then an exercise would have to be conducted to see if a new plan could work. "I am not saying that if those recommendations were made, the plans would work effectively. I don't know if an effective plan could be developed (for Indian Point)."

Witt also explained the

particular danger that school children are in under the current plan. "There is difficulty in saving school children," Witt said. "Clearly, there needs to be an improvement in those areas of evacuating schools and day-care centers and even nursing homes and other facilities."

In 2003, Governor Pataki hired Witt, the country's leading expert in emergency planning and former director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, to evaluate whether Indian Point's plan would save lives. At every time, Pataki promised New Yorkers that he would "look at every option,

including closing down Indian Point."

White Pataki remains silent, other elected officials, even those from other states, move to ensure the safety of New Yorkers. For example, on Monday, March 10th, Congressman Chris Shays (R-CT) hosted a congressional hearing in Washington about Indian Point and the safety and security of a nuclear power plant post 9/11. Members of Congress from New York, Reps. Sue Kelly, Elliot Engel, and Nita Lowey have all called for either a temporary or permanent shutdown of Indian Point. In addition, eight members of Congress have called for a closure.

For more information

regarding the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant please visit www.closeindianpoint.org.

Please contact Governor Pataki at 518-474-8390. Ask him to call for closure and make good on his campaign promise of 2003. Ask the Senators to hold hearings and call for the closure and decommissioning of Indian Point.

Senator Charles Schumer: 212-486-4430. Senator Hilary Clinton: 212-688-6262.

Legacy of Striking

continued from page 5...

war on Indochina reached its pinnacle. Students protesting the war at Kent State University in Ohio had just been shot dead by National Guardsman inspiring international outrage. At Bard, students held teach-ins about the crisis abroad and at home. On May 5th, 1970 students demanded serious action to this disturbing reality. The Observer reported:

"Yesterday, a community meeting was held in front of the gym to respond to the grave situation which the Nixon administration and its co-thinker have thrust upon the American people...It was decided that the Bard College community suspend the regular functioning of this institution in

order to examine the basic issues that have been raised as the outcome of recent events in America and Southeast Asia."

In solidarity with hundreds of campuses across the nation the students, faculty and administration of Bard College scheduled educational workshops to address the political crisis and passed a resolution that: urged the withdrawal of all American troops in Southeast Asia, condemned the Kent State killings, urged other colleges to sever all ties with military institutions, and condemned the domestic repression of political dissenters. A strike communications center was established in the base-

ment of Albee. During this time Bard students and faculty also participated in a local anti-war protest in Poughkeepsie of 3,000 and the week culminated with a national demonstration in Washington DC on Saturday May 9th which approximately 200 Bard students attended.

The strike itself lasted for one week and, again, was part of a national anti-war strike inspired by Nixon's invasion of Cambodia and the May Day rally of 20,000 in New Haven to demand the freedom of Bobby Seale, chairman of the Black Panther Party, who had spent a year in prison after being framed by the FBI along

with the other "New Haven 9." During the strike at Bard, "Dining Commons operations were reduced so that the money saved could help pay for buses for the Washington demonstration." When students returned from the May 9th protest another community meeting was held at which: "Faculty offered to be permissive about academic requirements, in order to allow students more time to be politically active. The faculty resolution on student options for the rest of the term was passed overwhelmingly by students."

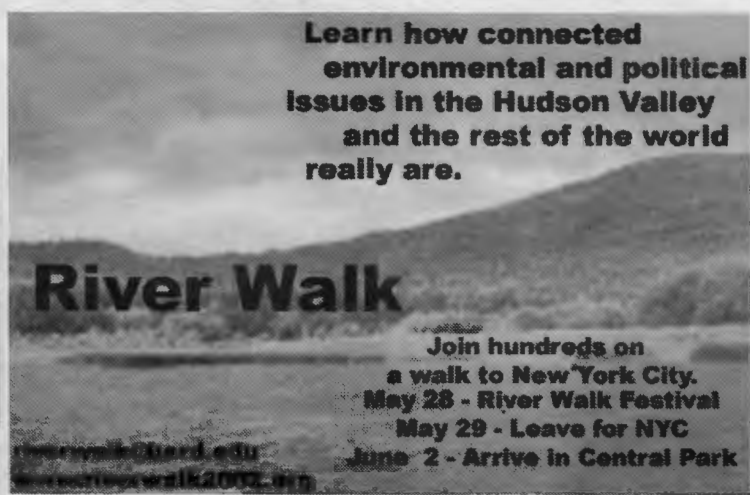
Looking Back, Looking Ahead...

The current situation in

Iraq is just as urgent. Yes, we do need to express the "power of education," but we must not be complicit to the atrocities committed in our name by an illegal war that the whole world is against. The March 5th Strike at Bard proved that we can resist Bush's madness while furthering our education. It also continued the historic legacy of student strikes at Bard and around the world as a powerful message to oppose war. Hopefully those skeptical students now realize that they were part of a rich history. Stop the war!



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 May 28 - River Walk Festival
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Ryde the Lightning

by Andy Ryder

I'm writing this assuming that you're opposed to the war. I'm writing this imagining that you know what it feels like to watch this long, slow process that becomes more and more absurd and horrifying as it progresses. We thought we could treat this with some sense of humor, that George Bush just wanted a war to impress his daddy. Did we think this was comical? Did the sheer quiescence and sycophancy of the corporate media and the Democrats just seem like one more proof that the mainstream caters to idiocy, like bad corporate rock or Jerry Springer?

For the first time, today, this war made me afraid. Not of the newly upgraded "orange alert" status, which has to be one of the most crass methods of manipulating the public in history. I'm not so much worried of being killed by a terrorist attack. I'm afraid of being spit on by anyone outside our borders because I'm an American. I'm afraid that any work I do, any art I appreciate or any company I enjoy will appear obscene to

outsiders, like Eichmann listening to Beethoven. I'm afraid that the liberal democratic experiment initiated in this country two hundred years ago, our one contribution to world civilization, has amounted to this - a warmonger president distributing his governance duties among a cabal of businessmen and generals.

Have you turned on your television to watch the blatant lies coming out of the mouths of the pundits, to witness Democrats licking the president's ass, "commentators" encouraging infantile boycotts, tantrums because the rest of the world won't give us a gold star for our barbaric crusade?

A coalition of industrial, entertainment, and military interests have seized the state apparatus

"I just know I won't be buying any French wine anytime soon," says D-Indiana on Fox News. Once it was fun, in a rebellious and adolescent spirit, to see through the lies of those in power - it made us feel clever, different, and superior. The justifications for this war are so awkwardly pieced together, so irrational, that history will not be surprised that some of us were not deceived. It will only be surprised that we

obeyed.

We had a beautiful spring day today. I'm saying that in all seriousness, it was warm and bright and clean outside. I remember feeling the breeze against my skin, and I remember wondering if Iraqi men and women ever had such a perfect climate, such awareness of being alive, if the air felt like that in Baghdad today. Can you imagine it?

Living in Baghdad. This administration does not have secret plans - everyone knows the ideal of overwhelming force, everyone knows the policy of "shock and awe," it's publicly declared that tons and tons of ordinance will pour onto the city. Can you imagine looking at your home, the corner market, your parents, your grandparents, your brother, your sister, knowing some of them will be dead, knowing it will all be gone? Has the terror alert been raised to "orange" in Iraq?

I agree with the Bush administration on one thing - the time for debate has passed. It's not worth participating in this mockery of a discussion, which

pretends some semblance of equality between the interlocutors. We speak of "tolerance for other viewpoints" - is what we are discussing a matter of tolerance? Tolerance is my respect for my neighbor's choice of God to

Can you imagine seeing war like the Rose Bowl? Do the Iraqis see it that way?

worship or method of love-making or favorite pastimes. Tolerance is not discussing political murder as if it were a matter of differing preference in sports teams, or whether Hegel is more profound than Kant, or whether indie band X is superior to indie band Y, or if painting is a more expressive media than video art. Tolerance is a wonderful thing, but it is not an excuse for chattering about mass slaughter.

The question of whether this is a just war has been answered - it is not - and whether this is a relevant factor has also been decided - it never will be. A coalition of industrial, entertainment, and military interests have seized the state apparatus. We cannot debate them out of power. Neither can we vote them out. Right now, all the "realistic" candidates are "rooting for our side".

Can you imagine seeing war like the Rose Bowl? Do the Iraqis see it that way?

Everything should be seen as it is, perfectly clear. The matter is not being opposed to the war. Opinions are not relevant at this stage. The matter is how much we are willing to sacrifice, for ourselves, personally, in order to end it and to ensure that it never happens again.

"Ah what an age it is when to speak of trees is almost a crime for it is a kind of silence about injustice!"

-Bertolt Brecht



Brecht with cigar

Letter from a far

by Kate Grim-Feinberg

Kate writes to inform us about Brazilian politics and foreign sentiment toward the US/Iraq situation. Kate is currently studying in Chile and will return to Bard in the fall.

For those of you who don't know, I have been living in Brazil for the past month. I spent 2 weeks in Natal, in the northeast, where I also spent a few days visiting the lower class community where I did volunteer work for two months in 2001 with Amigos de las Americas. Now I am spending 2 weeks in Belo Horizonte, a big city further south. Next week I will be off to Santiago, Chile, where I will study at the Universidad de Chile for 1 semester.

It is somewhat refreshing to be outside of the United States and get outside perspectives on what is going on in the world, particularly the US-Iraq situation. It seems to be pretty much common sense here that a war with Iraq will only create more animosity towards the US, more terrorist attacks, more deaths, and higher gasoline prices. People think that Bush is crazy, he is starting a third world war only for oil. Most agree that Saddam Hussein is dangerous and probably has weapons, but dropping bombs on his country will not bring peace.

I have yet to find a single person who thinks that war with Iraq might be justified. I've talked to lower

class, poorly educated people, as well as people who are wealthy and well educated. These aren't people who I questioned, thinking they would share my opinions. These are all people who brought the subject up, curious about what an American thinks, wondering if I voted for Bush. I've been helping my friend Rodrigo teach English classes, and in one private class, Rodrigo asked his 11-year old student, "Do you like the world the way it is?" This is a boy whose parents have money, who leads a good life, and who is at the age where what matters most is whether his classmates think he's cool. He answered, "Yes." The Rodrigo asked, "Really, you don't want to change anything?" The student thought for a moment and said, "I want someone to kick the United States butt. They're starting wars everywhere, in Afghanistan, in Iraq. There's no motive."

Besides not wanting to see countless unnecessary deaths, Brazilians fear that a war with Iraq will send gas prices up dramatically, weakening Brazil's economy. Gas here is already nearly double US prices in dollars, and seven times as expensive when you consider that people earn in reais.

When the economy gets worse, Brazil will have to depend increasingly on US aid.

There are mixed perceptions on what public opinion is in the US. Sometimes the newspapers and TV say that the majority of Americans support Bush and his war. But many people have also seen news of protests, and some have talked to Americans who are against the war. They recognize that many Americans don't want to send their children off to war, and that it is not the children of the rich, i.e. the children of those in power, who will be sacrificed. One woman told me that she doesn't understand how in a country that is supposed to be the example of democracy, the government can go ahead and do something that the people are so overwhelmingly opposed to. Why can't we impeach Bush? Or have some kind of referendum against the war? I don't know how many Americans are for and against the war, and I'm not sure anyone knows, but you ought to have more than a simple

majority of the country behind you before you go and start a war. And frankly, you ought to have at the very least half of the world behind you before you go and start a war that will affect the entire world.

As far as national politics go, people seem to be generally optimistic about Lula, who was sworn into



the presidency on Jan. 1. It is hard to tell yet what he will do, but many people say that things can only get better. Lula's decision to appoint Gilberto

Gil, a musician known for his political songs and exiled under the military dictatorship, as Minister of Culture, has met with some criticism. People I've talked to say he is a great musician, but has no political experience, and there were several more qualified

candidates for the position.

So far, Lula has launched an anti-hunger program, "Fome Zero" that involves distributing money for food in needy communities. It has been criticized for "giving people fish instead of teaching them to fish" and for giving people money that they could waste on things other than food, but Lula defends the program saying that the situation is desperate and we must start somewhere. And people recognize that for the first time they have a president who knows what it is like to be hungry. He will not ignore the poor people because he knows what it is like to live how they live.

Here in Belo Horizonte there have been lots of heavy rains, washing away some favelas, where houses are built unsteadily on the sides of hills, and causing many deaths. It's not a danger for me, and others who live in steady houses, but every time there's a thunderstorm we know there are many struggling to make it through.

I hope you're all doing well. Um beijo (a kiss),
Kate"



Paranoids Illegal

But, if the idea were to be taken up by a group of smokers (hint, hint) a sort of "Smoker's Club" could be established that would be eligible for convocation funding and a budget to purchase furniture and maintain the space. If there were no volunteers, money could even be used to pay Work Study kids to stick around and take up shifts.

to fight for the Smoking Room at Kline because laws out of our reach have condemned it. Next semester, will students really need the DOSO, Security and Chartwells to come baby-sit us as we stubbornly refuse to give up? Either we need to think up something good or consider the quitting.

In the end, it is pointless

Abortion Attack

continued from page 2...

Evidently the freedom to choose is under heavy attack from many sides of the federal and state governments. Anti-choice lawmakers are taking advantage of the current international situation to cover their attempts to reverse decades of struggle to protect a woman's right to choose.

For information on how to uphold women's reproductive rights

and to learn more about Roe v. Wade, visit www.plannedparenthood.org or www.saveroe.org.



Migrant Labor

by **Diana Vazquez**

Have you ever worked a night job? Imagine working 9pm until 6am. Now imagine you are in high school and after work you run home to shower and go to school. And, after school you go to soccer practice and squeeze in some homework before returning to work at 9pm again. I don't have to imagine it; this is what I did my senior year of high school.

If that sounds rough, it's only half of it - the factory I worked in was an exploiter of undocumented Mexican workers, and they persistently shaved hours off of workers' timetables, including my own. I was working in the factory because my family was in a dire financial situation and as the oldest of six kids I felt a responsibility to help out. The factory hired the undocumented because they are easier to take advantage of. I happened to have papers and speak English. On my second day of the job I was promoted to an office position and asked to be a liaison between the

Mexican workers and Anglo managers.

Because I was one of the few bilingual people at the factory, workers relied on me to help them out. This is when I started to learn about the myriad of labor abuses that were occurring on a daily basis. Meanwhile, I shared an office with management, who underestimated me and took advantage of me because I was young - and, in their eyes, just another Mexican. It was hard to be in the middle but I was able to speak out for my people.

As I started to question the system, I began to be treated differently. The company began to stop paying me for certain hours. I demanded the money they owed me; the workers saw and took my lead and began to do the same.

It took many arguments but I finally received a check of almost \$2,000 in back pay. The workers were motivated by my success and

their demands for justice on the job increased. The company began to feel threatened and blamed me. They saw me as a troublemaker, an instigator, they felt I had organized trouble. As a result, I finally quit my job.

My education to that point had not particularly prepared me for the lessons I would learn on the job, but the Youth Arts Group (YAG) did. YAG is a group of about twenty teenagers who meet every Friday afternoon to discuss social justice themes. These students come from different high schools in the Hudson Valley to talk about issues that are important to us. We talked and learned about farmworkers, sweatshops, and concerns of immigrants here in the U.S. I got involved with this group because I needed to make change in my job. The leadership training I received from YAG and the opportunity to discuss an injustice in my daily life helped me understand how I could help my co-workers.

I gave the workers information on their rights and tried to motivate them to

stand up for themselves. After I had quit, the workers went on strike, but they couldn't survive without their incomes and ended up going back to work. To me, a lot of the problems in this factory boil down to the fact that the company did not respect the workers and that the workers had very little power.

This experience has been one of the main reasons why I am part of the movement for migrant and undocumented workers. The summer after high school and did union summer with the AFL-CIO and also worked for a year as a facilitator to YAG, educating teens about empowerment and making change.

At Bard, I am actively involved with the Migrant Labor Project (MLP). In addition to creating awareness on campus and in the community about the plight of migrant

workers (workers similar to those in the factory, but who do seasonal agricultural work) the MLP also helps migrant workers become familiar with their rights and available services. Sometimes it's difficult to remember the feelings I had on the job, but I am often reminded of them through my work with the MLP as I see and hear about the issues local migrant workers face.

If you want to take action and protect the rights of agricultural workers in Western NY, come out to protest with us April 26th and 27th as the 330 Miles Toward Justice labor rights march (spanning ten days) passes through Bard campus. Spend a beautiful day in the sun with friends, farmworkers, and organizers and show your support for the local workers who put food on our tables. Together we can better worker's lives.

Migrant Labor Project meets Friday at 12:30 in the basement of the Old Gym.

Red Hook High School Walks Out on War

by **Monica Elkinton**

Amid sleet, freezing rain, and threats of a 5-day suspension, 25 students at Red Hook High School walked out of their classes at noon today to protest the war. I was with them.

I had been invited by one of their history teachers, Linda Greenblatt, who I knew through work with the local democratic party. Mrs. Greenblatt walked with the students to the street corner, but returned because could not leave her classes unattended.

I sent out an email last night, around 11pm, asking other Bard students to join me at the high school if they had time. I only heard back from two, but eight showed up.

From the doors of the high school, the students marched west on Market Street (Rt. 199). They planned to converge at the stoplight (intersection of 199 and 9G) in the middle of town, and protest there until they would return to school as it ended at 2:11.

But between the high school and the intersection is Red Hook Middle School. As we approached it, cheers spread through our small crowd. There were close to 50 middle schoolers outside their school, eager to join our march. A principal and a security guard, both with walkie-talkies, seemed to be keeping them at bay. When the students saw us, about half of them ran to join our crowd. We kept cheering,

encouraging the other students to join their peers in resistance. (We waved and chanted at students watching

in the windows of the school, too.) Middle school administration was also threatening a 5-day suspension, but many of the high school students didn't believe either school would give more than one day of in-school detention.

By the time we arrived at the stoplight intersection, we could see that the Mobil station on the corner had been vandalized the night before. Red paint had been thrown on the building and gas pumps, apparently symbolizing the blood spilt for oil. At first, we tried to avoid that corner, to disassoci-



ate ourselves with the vandalism. But with over 50 people, including parents and local activists that we picked up along the way, that idea didn't last very long.

Although most of the high-schoolers had been prepared with jackets and even some with tear-gas bandanas, most of the middle school students were in t-shirts or thin hoodies. Because of the way the school day was structured, they hadn't had time to eat lunch, go to their lockers to get coats, or even put their books away before they walked out. Several were freezing and walked back early. It's amazing that they even stayed

as long as they did. One middle school kid asked me if it was ok if he went and got some food with his friends because they were hungry. I said I didn't care and that this was his protest. An older student next to me told him we weren't his parents or teachers.

Red Hook is a town where the

police officer on duty is at the middle school every afternoon. That's not because, as I had thought, he's trying to catch drug dealers. It's because he's the crossing guard. The town only has three police officers, but they were all out for this protest, and they had called in the Dutchess County

Sheriff's Office and local State Police branch for assistance. The worst problems they had to deal with today were parking violations and jaywalking.

Protesters had learned many of the chants at other events: "Ain't no power like the power of the people, 'cuz the power of the people don't stop", or "Stop the war, this is what democracy looks like." However, the students also favored education or youth-themed chants like "When Bush's children go to war, So Will We" or "1-2-3-4, Money for schools and not for war", or "Books not Bombs".

As we protested today, the Pataki administration was fervently working on a state budget for next year. The budget is due April 1, a deadline that has not been met in 18 years. I heard a middle school student say, "If they don't give the schools money, we're not going to have chorus next year!" A high-

schooler agreed, "We might not be able to have our school play."

With protestors stationed on all four corners, cheers could be led around in a circle. Each corner could do a different part of "What do we want? Peace! When do we want it? Now!". After a sort moment of silence between cheers, anyone's unilateral idea for a new one was quickly supported by the crowd.

I heard one of the high school guys remark, "I feel like I'm on TRL." Apparently he's never been protesting before, and in fact, it's quite sad that he identifies marching in the streets mainly with MTV.

Around 1:15, after we had been protesting for than an hour, a local woman in a car pulled up and asked the police, "Weren't the kids supposed to go back to school?" The officer just shrugged and looked at us. At 1:45, a middle school boy brought two pizzas around to all four corners, because almost everyone had forgotten lunch. I suggesting offering any extra to the police officers.

At two, we walked back toward school. I was surprised when the march turned in at the middle school parking lot. We marched and chanted in front of the middle school, and around the side to where the school buses were waiting. The high schoolers thanked the middle schoolers and proceeded by the football field to the high school. I left them at the entrance as they were planning

to walk into the building silently and then march through the halls chanting.

As I was walking out of the parking lot, I heard a loud cheer at the front entrance. Maybe they hadn't been let back in, or maybe there were comrades waiting for them when they got there.

In any case, I was very impressed by the unity and organization of the students here. Someone had procured a blanket when we were still at the intersection, and she shared it with two of her friends on the way back to school. When I overheard one girl tell her friend she was cold, and let her borrow the one glove I had brought with me.

Sometimes I feel like I go into a caring and sharing autopilot at protests, like when volunteered to take the donuts to the striking PAC workers on March 5. Some students asked me today where I had gotten my buttons ("Choose Peace and Justice" and "No War on Iraq"). I told them I had found the second one on the floor, and automatically I offered it to one of the button-less students. She was happy to have it. I don't know know why I did that at all, and now I'm sorry I gave it away. The only explanation to me is that when I'm doing something good, I just go where my instinct tells me. It's so scary that our political leadership seems to have instinct for killing people instead.

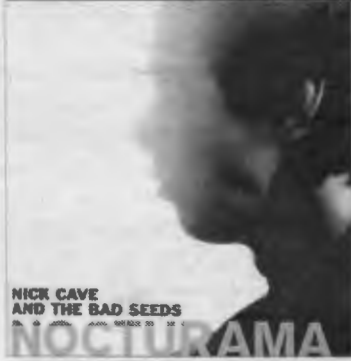
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music reviews.
music reviews.
music reviews.



• Tim Abondello [TA] • JW McCormick [JM] • Christine Nuemann [ON] • Captain Rock and Roll [RL]



Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds
Nocturama
Anti

Nick Cave's *Nocturama* is a return to form for this once punker from down under turned biting balladeer. Getting hotter than a Great White concert, Cave turns things up, dropping all the religious imagery that dominated *No More Shall We Part*, in favor of the loaded lust romps that gained him Kylie Minogue's back on *Murder Ballads*. A welcome shift indeed, *Nocturama* is a slow burner that takes its time to warm up, but doesn't soon go out. The first three tracks blaze the trail with quaint piano musings conducive to sleep, as the record title would have you believe. The fourth track, "Bring It On", is a promising VH1 hit, and the worst song Cave has ever cut. Its modeled _____ time signature and strummed chorus accompanied by a bel-lowing Chris Bailey (The Saints) brings to mind the Goo Goo Dolls or any other asshole Alterna band that receptionists are jamming in waiting rooms across the country. If the track wasn't incriminating enough, the outro guitar solo fade-out sends it over the top into the realm of Medicare aged cheese. On the rebound, the second half fully redeems and overshadows the first. "Dead Man in my Bed" opens with an incendiary bass lead and a swarm of guitar noise on overdrive; just in time to remind you how badass the bad seeds are. With a dirty laundry list that reps Birthday Party and Einsturzende Neubauten behind them, you know all parties involved are rotten at the core. Cave sharpens his wit on "Rock of Gibraltar" showcasing the pointed sarcasm that lurks in his lyrics counteracting the flowery chords. The album's closing caper "Babe, I'm on Fire" is an instant anthem, counting for a third of the album's entire length. A scorching classic, the fornicating organ and guitars, over big bass and thrashing violin (as only Warren Ellis can deliver) never lets up with the chorus dropping eight times. ("In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida" eat your heart out!) Cave takes to listing off everyone whose "on fire" and take my word for it, everyone and their uncle turns up; "The Chinese contortionist says it, the backyard abortionist says it, the poor Pakistani with his lamb Bhirriani says Babe, I'm on fire". Play the B-side thebardfreepress.vol4.issue6

on repeat, and get it on till the break of dawn. [TA]

THE ANGELS OF LIGHT



Everything is Good Here/ Please Come Home
Young God Records

Michael Gira is possibly the most prophetic and under appreciated songwriter in both recent and not so recent memory. Going into his third decade of musical out put, now with his assembled Angels of Light moniker, their junior release, *Everything is Good Here/ Please Come Home*, draws as much on mastered recording technique as the singer songwriter's immovable presence. After 15 years of fronting the deafly unfuckwithable Swans, Gira may be hard of hearing, but is every bit as hard hitting, albeit in a different light. The latola of NYC noise rock 'n rolla, Gira continues to push the boundaries of song-writing by leaps and bounds, and a whole lotta layers. Unnervingly intimate songs reveal a skeleton of acoustic guitar compositions and Gira's baritone bravado which are erected into visceral orchestrations toting an arsenal of baroque instruments running the gamete from numerous strings, horns, and percussion, to a children's choir and ethereal electronics. Hailing from left field in the context of modern music, Gira's songs release unabashed innovation with a timeless and unmistakable force. Driven by Gira's haunting vocal delivery and bleak subject matter, there is a masochistic evocation that occurs within his lyrics. While less blatantly personal than previous recordings, the tone is still biting from the opening track Palisades, "Do you see how they ruined your mind? Do you see how they wasted your life? Reasons won't come, and no one will regret that you're gone." The words on *Everything is Good Here/ Dare more cryptic*, but remain as nihilistic as ever (on "The Family God") and every bit as loaded until the end on the fatalistic closer, "What Will Come". The only relief to Gira's wounded lyrical shrapnel is in the form of glimmering instrumental interventions (imagine a lèss campy Spiritualized). Gira and The Angels of Light continue to be as affecting as music can aspire to be. [TA]



Fiesel
Ruins of This Life
Resony

I got it for free. It is the first "math rock" (?) cd I've ever had. Matt Dineen said Fiesel had played at Bard before, so I trusted him to stick around the Gym last Saturday night. Beside the intense feedback that kept my ears ringing until Monday, it had been a pretty awesome show. When the lights came on we kept dance-partying with (the band's?) life sized, 3D, independently standing Spiderman (no lie) while one of the dudes handed out about twenty of their self-titled albums. Had any of the songs on the album played in the Red Room? I have no idea; my ears were still ringing on Tuesday - but let's see what it sounds like right now. <Play> The first song "autoscan" is all over the place; the drum/guitar overlap is really hot. The second song "reservoir" starts with one of the dudes yelling. It sounds a little like the first song-- possibly because the mixed rhythms seem similar. I've noticed a minimal use of lyrics but when they are used the music drops out so the vocals act as a separate entity. The sort of screaming/three brains voice is awesome. I can't remember if the dude really sounded like that in the Red Room. Damn, the third song "happy sweet 16" —it's right now going through a pretty slow break down and... "happy sweet sixteen"... a little more slow break down with some guitar thrown in on top... whoa. Right in the middle of a chord chain, the band goes into another crazy fast riff and concludes with 16 hard rounds of hits. Oh wow, the fourth song "resonant frequency" has a vocal chorus with a clear rhythm. Nice drum breaks too. I think the fifth one "action destroys perfection" is the introspective ballad with its dah de dum dahh feel until the guitar takes off dahdededa ba dadededa ba and we're cruising way past 180 again. I guess the title was kinda appropriate. I'm really digging this group... is it a trio? <Looks.at... uh, pretty uninformative cd jacket and book> Made in Canada. (?) Dan Benoit, Jerry Sivret, and Jesse Thomas. "Vicksburg" just came on... it started with the drums doing this tt.t sound on the cymbal. It's cool. I'm glad I noticed the track had changed. Then "the fear set it" just caught that. There are about twenty completely different pattern changes in this song. The catchy breaks seem moody and restless but really carefully timed. The song ends

after a not-too-long-yet-not-quite-long-enough set of screams. The cd spins to a stop. <Pause> This album was



Hot Hot Heat
Make up the breakdown
Sub-Pop

Now that we are once again dead center of another "dance if you're cool" movement, you won't feel bad buying Hot Hot Heat's first great record (they've had previous albums, but all sub par). You can't help but get out of bed dancing with "oh, god-damnit" in your head when you go to bed listening to "Make Up the Breakdown". "Talk to Me, Dance with Me" fits in well at a party and the square-wave baseline drives your feet to dance. In interviews this Canadian foresome doesn't sound especially cool but it's possible the cool kids couldn't make music this fun.

Make Up the Breakdown was originally released last year but is being re-released on Sub-Pop this spring. [EL]



Frankie Sparo
Welcome Crummy Mystics
Constellation

To clear up any confusion, Frankie Sparo is not a Soprano, and the only ties he shares are to Montreal's Constellation collective. While Frankie's name conjures up Mafioso villainy, his voice awakens the weight of the celebrated crooners, a quality that has been all but lost in the Kitsch of recent male singers. After releasing his collaboration with the A Silver Mt. Zion's players on a live radio performance recorded while on tour with said band, Sparo has returned with a culminating release on Welcome Crummy Mystics. Garnished by strings and the piano and backing vocals of female counterpart N. Moss, the scope of Sparo's elegiac folk musings has broadened to incorporate fuller instrumentation, with drums and trumpets on the album opener "Hospitalville", and a piano and upright bass accompaniment on "My Sistr". Sparo's diverse sound is best realized on "Akzidenz Grotesk" with guitars

gone electric, compressed drums, and a Moss hummed melody over Sparo's layered vocals. The disjointed moods that comprise the album's 9 songs reach a boiling point on "Back on Speed" where Sparo's rasp is excreted with an unruly urgency amid discordant guitars and an off time chorus to create a cacophony of anti-music charm. A majority of the album however is sparsely arranged, employing withdrawn treated guitar, violin, piano, and midi percussion to craft ambient backdrops. Sparo's lyrical lullabies. On the whole, Sparo has benefited by recruiting his friends to fill out band nerd and backing vocal duties. But the album loses its fused momentum, after a promising start, to a sprawl on the final tracks. Sparo's lyrics have been praised as being up to par with Leonard Cohen and the like, but absent from the liner notes I cant vouch. Still, before bed Welcome Crummy Mystics is welcome in my stereo.

THE STRATFORD 4



The Stratford 4
Love and Distortion
Jetset Records

Rich with the kind of multi-layered instrumentation and sleepy vibe that put My Bloody Valentine on the map, San Francisco's Stratford 4 revise the space rock/shoe gaze formula with a more straight-forward, tangible approach to songwriting. Rather than giving the action away to the lush, fuzzy guitars that lend the typically blissed-out-in-melancholia songs their astral beauty, singer Chris Steng uses the masterfully crafted soundscapes to propel his sometimes humorously nasal voice toward pieces that actually go somewhere- that is to say, these ten gems are urgent and dynamic compositions never content to just drift about in the ether. Eschewing druggy, atmospheric obscurity for lyric-based psychedelia that might appear to Bunnymen and Spiritualized fans alike, the 4 manage to merge their stratosphere-challenged melodies with a more traditionally indie-rock sensibility. Free of the warbling pretension that sinks a bunch of these aerie-faerie type groups, Love & Distortion's best songs take full advantage of the swirling, unremitting instrumentation to deliver confessional lyrics of defiance, deviance, and just staying in bed. has to offer. [JM]

Katie Likes Hardcore, fuck off

Yaphet Kotto in the red room
by **Katie Jacoby**

Whether you like it or not, hardcore is nudging its way into the Bard "Scene." Yes, apparently some of us sophomores have more aggression inside of us than the rest of you Bard folk. Perhaps for some, the lack of enthusiasm is due to the music's lack of appeal. Possibly because it's difficult to discern what is actually said you shrug it off as noise, but that could be seen as one of the common misconceptions of this fierce genre seeing as though noise is a completely other genre of music.

But for me, what is said is an essential element of the music. If and when you can understand how politics and music combine and become active expression, you might find yourself stumbling across some new empowering state.

It is usually written off as angry performance, pointless and maybe even talent-less. But what

I would contend is that the experience of witnessing a hardcore band is worth just as much, if not more, than listening. Simply that's just it. Hardcore is passion, emotion and rage spilling out on to the audience, visually and audibly.

Yaphet Kotto's performance perfectly epitomized this to a t. You probably missed Jose ripping apart his drum set. His pensive, twisted facial expression complimented by his flailing approach to playing bared to anyone his passion for the music he plays. This spirit can be equally applied to the entire band. However, the performance barely breached the depth of this band. Back at Feitler Co-op there were discussions, passionate and educated, stories and experiences being had. I took members of the band Mag and Austin to the Black Swan for some Bard cultural experiences and had some of the best

debates I have experienced all year. I gained just as much from them as they claim they gained from me.

For the most part, my first "scene" experiences at Bard targeted my transitioning tastes but rarely did it foster these aggressive needs or political desires. Perhaps my tensions were released when Life During Wartime raised the par on musical talent. Or even more along my line, when The Haggard duo released an unstoppable dance party in Red Room. Undoubtedly, the hardcore forum is open, if it was not already lingering behind the indie rock and spur of the moment bard bands. But more importantly, how else are we going to satisfy our own musical tastes if we do not take things into our own hands, unless you're happy seeing Piebald. (Whom I know aren't playing but you could put jam bands in there)...



Yaphet Kotto's pretty bassist



Jose Palafox

Mathew Barney at the Guggenheim

by **Liv Carrow**



If Matthew Barney were god, the Guggenheim would be his temple.

At least, that's the feeling I got when I realized that the historically bland white spiral had been transformed into a near-psychedelic trip through the Cremaster Cycle and all its waxy, expensive glory.

In a mutually energizing partnership between the museum and the artist, Barney worked with partial funding from the Guggenheim to create his five-film cycle named after a muscle whose job is testicular contraction. The cycle's five films made their final spasm and exploded onto the floors, walls, speakers and screens of its financial master, the Solomon R. Guggenheim museum of New

York City in a show which will run through June 11.

Barney's work spans over many genres of art, and while film is the final medium intended

for public consumption, the focal points of the films are actually the sculptures, sketches, costumes, social innuendos, character portrayals, and imagery, which the museum beautifully blended, in an equally tight bond between corporate art and the raw edge of real modern artistic fusion. The Cremaster Cycle show at the Guggenheim is not a film screening; it is a full integration of one artist's work, a real insight to the production processes of the project and its meaning.

The show is also economical and convenient to see; there is a clear schedule of film screenings (Friday is 1-5 beginning at 10:30!), and a logical progression of the 3-dimensional pieces all the way up to the topmost corner, where the Richard Serra molten Vaseline piece is displayed in front of its own creation in Part Three on the screen above. The hanging pentagonal screens also show edited versions of the scenes in Cremaster Three which patrons are actually walking through.

Every detail of this installation is covered; the black ruffles on the walls of the Cremaster Five section, the reflecting pool and the white padding and ladders from Cremaster Three, and the see-through, almost inter-

active display of the cars from Cremaster Two.

The show really did induce a feeling of the surreal or the holy, because the direct environment was altered to fit with the images creating an altered reality of cast plastic, frozen petroleum, prosthetic beauty and historical name-dropping and rewriting that is the product of the Cremaster Cycle. Not all were pleased; fairy-tale organ surgery, suggestive use of materials, glorification of obscure art-stars and the single focus on the mind of a social climbing young genius are not for everyone. Some prefer less personal interaction and thought in their art of choice. Barney does not offer his viewers with that simple a route. Simply put, one must either desire to learn about his work to enjoy it.

But enough people enjoyed it to wrap a line around 86th street, a line which is worth a second or even a third wait. A first should be compulsory to anyone who remotely appreciates innovation and boldness which this show absolutely embodies.

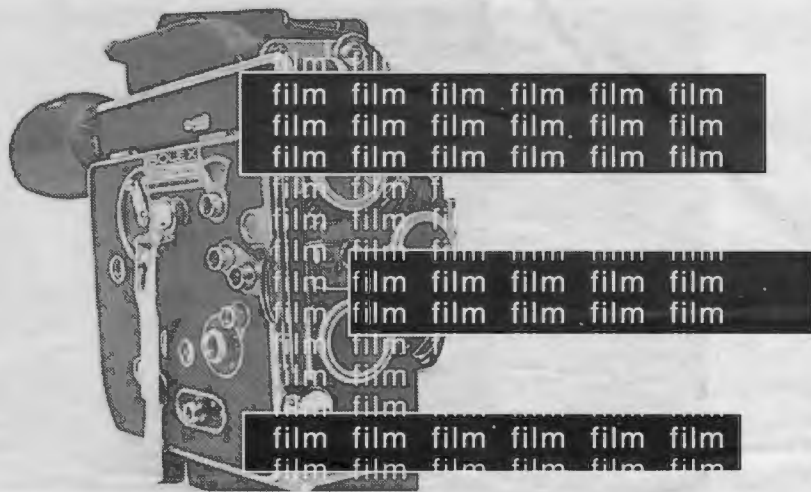


**the Rock and Roll Society
Fucked Your M.O.M.**

Score Card

Entertainment Committee Events
Groove Collective
2 Shirty Hip Hop Bands
Bad "Emo" Bands at the Four Square Party
And Loads of Unanswered Questions

Rock and Roll Society Events
12 Bands Since February
Lost Film Festival
Saved the Old Gym
And Unquestionable Answers



The Real Oscar Pics

by Mike Lerman

As of March 23rd, we have been basking in the glow of the 75th annual Academy Awards ceremony. While I enjoy the festivities as much as the next guy, I didn't necessarily agree with all of the winners.

1. Punch-Drunk Love - I remember when P.T. Anderson's second film *Boogie Nights* came out and there were reviews that said there had been nothing in his first film, *Hard Eight*, to prepare us for this follow-up. Since then, he has just gotten more experimental, pushing the limits of commercial cinema with his somewhat enigmatic (well, the ending at least) *Magnolia*. But, truly, nothing in his career could have prepared us for the subtlety, innovation and playfulness he exercises in his fourth film, *Punch Drunk Love*. There is not a shot or cut in this film that is not expressive in some way. Packed with interesting sound work (listen carefully for the talking pudding cups) and hilarious performances (serious, neurotic Adam Sandler), this film has surprises to put a smile on your face waiting around every corner. Some people have told me that the film left them unsure after a first viewing, claiming that the film seemed like a set of creative ideas haphazardly put together. After five times, I think I can safely say that that feeling goes away after the initial viewing and the pieces eventually seem to fall into place, revealing the film's subtle. If you aren't touched by the love story, than I would like to talk to you, because I always wondered what it was like to live without a heart or soul.

2. Sympathy For Mr. Vengeance - Heartbreaking retelling of the Macbeth story with echoes of Forster's *Monster's Ball* mixed in, this Korean film is a dark and in-depth portrait of what happens when two simple, honest men get push each other over the edge. A terrific follow-up to director Chan-Wook Park's much more commercial *Joint Security Area* (he's said to have made that film in order to conceivably make this one), *Sympathy* has a paranoid, idiosyncratic atmosphere that lures and terrifies the audience simultaneously. Parallel to this tension is the balance between the sweetness of the characters and Park's willingness to abuse them to the point where all you are left with is an extremely beautiful but painful feeling of emptiness. The colorful visuals and quirky side characters make for an always interesting, often sad, sometimes off-putting experience.

3. The Piano Teacher - Director Michael Haneke is back with possibly his most powerful film yet. After tackling psychological film violence in

Funny Games and then societal tensions in the beautiful, essay-esque *Code Unknown*, he is ready to get back to his roots of ultra-realism and human suffering. This is the portrait of a French, middle-class piano teacher who is so desperate to escape her world of propriety and her controlling mother that she turns to an abusive sexual relationship with an upper-class brat. The films relentless style is both shocking and gut wrenching, but its documentary-like honesty really gets under your skin in a way that only Haneke can.

4. The Kid Stays In the Picture - Somewhere between a documentary and an autobiography comes this brilliant film about infamous Hollywood producer Robert Evans (*Rosemary's Baby*, *Love Story*). Documentarians Nanette Burstein and Brett Morgen wisely choose not to use any primary sources besides the audiobook of Evans reading his autobiography, which is accentuated perfectly with digitally enhanced still photographs from Evans' life. Given the nature of Evans' work and the amount of showmanship with which he reads his story, the blurred glitzy backgrounds only added to the visuals, making the viewer feel as though they are actually living in his memories for an hour and a half.

5. Gerry - Getting back to the roots he never really had, Gus Van Sant directs (or should I say shoots), the most highly intelligent, plot-thin, dialogue-thin piece of improvisation to probably ever come to the big screen. This story of two men who get lost in the desert and gradually realize they will never return is an homage to the Hungarian director Bela Tarr, but also easily stands up on its own. Van Sant sets up a nice, even slow pace that lets the viewer seep deep into the movie. Then, once you think you've gotten used to the pattern, he'll change it slightly, packing the film full of little surprises more satisfying than any Hollywood surprise ending. The film also boasts beautiful desert scenery (on par with Shinji Aoyama's *Eureka*) as the landscape slowly disintegrates along with the mindscape of the characters.

6. City of God - Fast paced, beautifully shot, innovative and never repetitive in technique, this Brazilian epic about a young photographer and his relations with street gangs is a hyper-kinetic, extremely engaging experience. Co-directors Kátia Lund and Fernando Meirelles have an uncanny sensibility for treating their subject matter honestly (they don't leave out the reality of kids being shot by other kids, no matter how old they are), but also with a certain level of tolerability and humor. No matter how

bad the lives of these characters get, they realize that it is their situation, of their culture and they cannot simply revel in its sadness. Picking up where early Guy Ritchie work (*Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*) left off, *City of God* continues in the saga of multi-character driven, energetic, background-rooted crime films, and this is one of the best to date.

7. Spirited Away - Packed tightly in a category with American animal (or creature) films, this one managed to squeeze its way to the top and win the Academy Award for best Animated Feature. And with good reason. Director Hayao Miyazaki, was previously best known for his film *Princess Mononoke*. But he took the world of animation by storm this past year with his tale of a young girl who gets lost and stumbles into a dream like bathhouse, where humans are slaves and gods come to bathe during their journeys through the other worlds. She is held hostage by an evil witch named Rubaba who now owns her name (and will forever if she forgets what it is). Beautifully realized, well paced and with enough imagination to make Disney cream in their pants, this film is incredible family fun.

8. Chicago & The Happiness of the Katakuris (tie) - Forget *Moulin Rouge*. This year had the real return of the musical, with amazing entries from opposite sides of the world. The most worthy thing Steve Martin said at the Academy Awards was that Miramax did something with *Chicago* that he wasn't sure wasn't cheating. "They made a really good movie that everyone likes." For something that was written for the stage, this movie is chock full of good filmmaking. The editing and cinematography alone are enough to make you believe that Bob Fosse had film in mind, to say nothing of the fact that it makes normally mediocre actors like Richard Gere and Catherine Zeta-Jones really shine. On the other side of the planet, prolific Japanese director Takashi Miike (famous for his genre-exploding gangster films) was realizing the normal tropes that come within a musical and exploit them to the best comedic advantage. Remaking the Korean film *The Quiet Family*, Miike employed song and

dance to tell the story of a rural family who runs a hotel and can't figure out what to do with their perennially dead guests. Original and hilarious, this musical takes Miike's regular oddball schtick (usually equated with violence) and turns it into entertainment for all. The zombie chorus line is unforgettable.

9. The Good Girl - In what seems like a perfect, slightly more mature follow-up to their 2000 digital video comedy *Chuck and Buck*, writer Mike White and director Miguel Arteta tell the story of a small town girl who must choose between the torid love affair with a teenager and the not-quite-perfect but familiar marriage with a house painter. However, this plot really seems to be a subtext to the tale of isolation, loneliness and boredom in a small town. White, who understands the ethnography of various locations to a tee, creates a exhilaratingly funny cast of characters that demonstrates the claustrophobia and desperation that our main character is going through. Just on the surface, it's kind of depressing and kind of sweet. More subtly, it's kind of disturbing. But this dark comedy always succeeds at making us laugh rather than shocking us with insanity. As usual, White's writing works best when he performs some of his own comedy (seen here as the bible-toting department store security guard) and he is paired with Arteta (*Star Maps*).

10. Roger Dodger - Proving once and for all that assholes are funny, Campbell Scott is both charming and obnoxious in Dylan Kidd's writing and directorial debut. The film chronicles the exploits of a fast-talking, womanizing, aggressively confident advertising executive who gets thrown off course by being rejected by his sort-of-girlfriend (the beautiful Isabella Rossellini) and visited by his eager, earnest nephew. He originally tries to shoo his nephew away as quickly as possible, but when the awkward high school boy asks for advice on how to court the ladies, Scott's charming egomaniac can't resist this opportunity to shine and maybe get a little action to boot. A night of debauchery ensues. Practical lessons are

learned by all involved. Besides the incredibly well timed and well-acted dialogue, this film also uses a series of unique film techniques to portray confused and disoriented mental states and the frantic hub of New York City. It's difficult to find a movie that is simultaneously so touching, so energetic, and so brutally funny.

With all the praise being thrown around here, and the mention of *Sunday night's* Academy Award winners, I think it's important to discuss a movie which I have strong feelings about.

Bowling For Columbine - I know my views are not very popular here at Bard (and obviously not at the Academy Awards either), but I find this film to narcissistic, meandering and inconclusive to say the least. Though he does raise important issues, Michael Moore undermines any significant argument he may have made with his extreme focus on himself. As an interviewer who talks more than he listens, Moore proves his ego to be bigger than his body. Yet he has not grown as a filmmaker since *Roger & Me*. When he was dealing with large corporations closing down American factories in order to get cheaper labor, his ambush interview tactics were rather endearing, funny and appropriate to the situation, considering the CEO of the factory would not willingly grant an interview. But Moore failed to change these tactics despite the fact that gun control is a far more complex issue, and many of the interviews were willingly given, rendering his aggressive approach unnecessary and distracting. In the end, he builds a film so myopic that it does not even explore one whole side of the issue, not to mention the other "pro-gun" side. He truly is the leftist Rush Limbaugh. As great as it was to see cinema take an ultra-liberal viewpoint and take up these weighty issues, Moore's shock tactics pushes his own opinion so forcefully that the film simply boils down to propaganda on par with *Triumph of the Will*. Propaganda is still propaganda even if you like what it's saying.



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peaceful protest ended in violence as police attacked demonstrators who were lingering in drum circles at Washington Square Park. At least ninety-one people were arrested: in one of many violent confrontations, a group of demonstrators in a black bloc (protesters who wear black and cover their faces to remain anonymous) formed a circle with linked arms around a comrade who proceeded to light an American flag on fire.

Apparently an undercover cop busted through the crowd and wrestled the protester to the ground, at which point other officers began to make their way toward the ruckus, arresting and hitting people unaffiliated with the black bloc as they went.

A few Bard students were arrested for reasons unknown at the time of this printing. A few other Bard students were hit with billy clubs by police officers. Two withstood injuries to the head and one to the chest.

DO YOU THINK GEORGE BUSH SHOULD BE IMPEACHED?



House Representative Congressman John Conyers, a member of the Judicial Committee, is conducting an "Impeachment Tally." Fax or email him through his legislative assistant Alexia indicating whether you support the bringing of the impeachment proceedings against President Bush. Email john.conyers@mail.house.gov or send a fax to (313) 226-2085.

Also visit www.votetoinpeach.org and read over Ramsey Clark's arguments for impeachment. Sign his online petition.

The Bard Free Press

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Mission Impossible: Cast and Crew

Tosh the Black Clad Anarchist Chlang
Liv I Can Smell Christ Burning Carrow
Christine Am I On Coke Neumann
Eli Lehrhoff Every Tenth Member
Mike Dexi Lerman
Farihah Zaman Is Home On the Range
Drew the Dodgeball Target Gray
Kelly Subtle Issues with a Meat Cleaver Berry
Matt 5000 DIY Dineen
Tim Abondello needs an absantee ballot

Gaff boy= Jon Feinstein
Dolly Operator= Chris Downing
Asstronaut= Rafi Rom
Key Grip= Leon Botstein
Pyrotechnician= Princess Sarah Wong

We're Sorry that we couldn't publish all the submissions

Happy Birthday, as of 3/14, the FP is 3 years old!
Long Live the Rock.

Muslim Mistreatment

continued from page 1

was already available to them because of the presence of a regularly updated electronic database known as SEVIS. Janet Kettler, the school's International Student Adviser, notified all of the Bard students in question of the Special Registration process, organized a van to make the trip to Albany, and then chaperoned the trip. She also brought bagels and juice to make the 7:00 a.m. meeting time and unfortunate circumstances go a little smoother. Many of the students expressed gratitude at the school's facilitation of the process and Janet's personal dedication, which allowed them to make an appointment to speed up the registration (this is not allowed by individuals) and develop a sense of security about Bard as a supportive institution.

Upon reaching the INS office, each student had to fill out a questionnaire that confirmed the information that was already entered into the SEVIS database. These questionnaires were extremely detailed, but not as detailed as the interview/interrogation that followed. In addition to the average name/age/phone number one is used to in this sort of situation, the students were asked to provide information such as their exact dorm room numbers, height, weight, eye color and other physical data, and the contact information of their academic advisors. They were also asked to present an overwhelming amount of documentation including their passport, an official college transcript, I-20 forms, their visa, records of national entry, proof of home address, proof of school address, bank account and

credit card information, etc...

At this point the students were informed that they could be asked to return for further interrogation or have their phone, email, and financial transactions police monitored upon suspicion. The 'suspiciousness' of any given registrar was decided according to the subjective discretion of the INS worker. I heard a funny but sadly telling story about how some of the students, catching onto this emphasis on subjectivity and physical appearance, made sure to show up clean shaven. Not just to look presentable, but to specifically avoid fitting a terrorist's visual profile. I suppose our Bard boys made a decent impression because luckily, each claimed that their interrogation in one of the nation's quieter INS offices passed without incident.

The real question here is what the implications the Special Registration Act are. The answer is there are many. This is not simply a one-time registration process, done for the sake of bureaucratic paperwork. This is a complete alteration of how these individuals exist as American residents, a system by which the government can track their movements and invade their privacy at any time, for any reason. Every year, they must renew the registration with the INS. They are only allowed to travel in a specific list of airports. Before leaving the country, they must notify the INS. Upon returning to the country, they must completely redo the registration process with the INS, and may be denied reentry, again, at any time, for any reason. When traveling from one state to another, they must notify the local INS. If they so

much as change their major, they must notify the INS. Really, there's a pattern emerging here. An intimate tango with the immigration and naturalization services

An even better question is whether or not this procedure is worthwhile or necessary. Whether or not it violates the civil rights of these short-term residents. Whether or not it would be acceptable if some element were changed, if every nonimmigrant went through this process as opposed to just the US shit-list celebrities, if the registration process involved less year-round commitments. The answers are no longer self-evident. It is the opinion of this writer that the allowance to suspend civil liberties supposedly only if National Security is directly at risk, and the abuse that the terms of this allowance can lead to, indicate that the entire situation is out of hand and out of line. If you are opposed the Special Registration process, as I would venture to guess many Bard students are, or even just looking for more information on the subject, there are a number of places you can turn to for guidance and research, and ideas on how to proceed. Ramy Hemeid, one of the students required to register due to his Egyptian background, is trying to increase awareness about Special Registration, starting on campus and growing to include outlying regions in Hudson and New York City. He can and would like to be contacted at intbard@hotmail.com. To know more about the INS and the particulars, you can visit their website at www.immigration.gov.



How We Are Fucking Ourselves

by **Eli Lehrhoff**

Here's the history: On Saturday March fifteenth, a group of Bard students made the brilliant decision to destroy the drop ceiling of the Red Room in the Old Gym. The damage started when the band accidentally knocked a ceiling tile out of place. As the band tried to put the tile out of harm's reach, certain members of the audience had the realization that if that tile moved, then the others must as well. In almost no time certain elements in the audience had almost destroyed

the drop ceiling and were threateningly close to pulling down the light fixtures.

Here's the opinion: How is it that some of you can't have fun without destroying something? And how is it that the rest of you can't use your fucking brains and not follow the asshole who starts the destruction? If you walked into your living room and some prick was smashing your shit, would you join in or would throw him out of your house? You fucking live here, treat it like your home. Just

Destruction in the Red Room

because someone is paid to clean up after your lazy ass doesn't mean you should make a mess. And just because someone actually gives a shit about the space you happen to use, doesn't mean it should be up to them to fix your lame attempt to feel the thrill your upper-middle-class ass doesn't get to have normally. Treat the space you share with others as if you mom can't just write a check every time you have a creative impulse and you're too stupid to push into creation.

The Tuesday after the destruction of the Red Room, twenty-five to thirty students showed up to DIY fix the Red Room ceiling. Now I will admit that there were more than enough people to get the considerable damage fixed but there weren't nearly enough people there to forgive the destruction. Also, not nearly enough of the people who actually perpetrated the damage showed up to fix it. And on a final note, let me talk to the people who were there and

didn't destroy anything. Why didn't you stop the people who were destroying everything? I walked in near the end of the problem and I immediately stopped someone from pulling down the light fixture frame. If people are doing something you know is wrong, stop them. If you can go to a protest in NYC you can stop some asshole where you live.

Red Room Riot Revival

by **Drew Gray & Katie Jacoby**

Due to the Red Room events a few weekends ago (broken window, damaged ceiling) two main questions have arisen.

1. What is a student run space?

Something very special occurred the Tuesday night after the vandalism occurred. A group of students got together to fix the space up. A portion of the group knew electrics, another fraction construction, another studio arts... and so on. Between the talents and skills of these individuals the ceiling and window were repaired and brought to a safe condition.

The administration at this school has become more and more emphatic that a student come forward and take responsibility for this act and be punished in accordance to their own terms. The fact that this idea was addressed to an autonomous student organization is clearly ridiculous. Since when did punishment restore order? Often, it only incites more chaos. Students have taken responsibility for this act; they got together and fixed it by their own means with no charge to the school. It is the very

workings of a student-run space that its own collective take care of itself. Granted, what occurred in the Red Room was incredibly stupid. However being a student run space, we were able to discipline the individuals and repair it. Contrary to what the administration thinks, the students do care about it, because it is ours.

The administration's insistence that the space be closed temporarily, regardless of it being fixed, was, as seen this past weekend, very clearly an unwelcome impedance on the campus community. A show that was set to be in the repaired (safe) Red Room received permission to move to Bard Hall. At 5pm the day of the show, the organizers were forced once again to relocate because security felt that between the two keg parties on campus, they were not going to have enough resources to patrol the show. The fact that the school was more willing to support events based on alcohol then live music is repulsive enough, but regardless, the show was moved to Feitler Co-op. Not long after the show had started, the school imposed itself once again, closed the

show down, and made it move to a less fascist off campus location. All this trouble had to occur just so that the administration could show students that they are indeed in control, even when there is no need for them to be. Student spaces are wonderful, because they not only allow students to function as accountable people, but such spaces takes responsibility away from the administration so that they can spend more time on raising millions to keep the new performing arts center roof shiny enough for everyone in the country to see Botstein's desire to be their president.

2. How do the students rebuild the Old Gym?

Contrary to popular visual evidence, the administration actually did tear down the Old Gym. At the beginning of last semester, apparently the Old Gym was gone. Numerous reports were spread about the destruction of the building. The administration told the students it was coming down, and when we were upset, had us in direct communication with the architect of the "new Old Gym" as though we might have a

voice in the building of the replacement of it, as opposed to us having a voice in the destruction of our space. The majority of the returning students stopped caring for the space because it wasn't going to be around for much longer, and the first year students were given no reason to respect the space with some heritage that they could not understand. The condition of the space declined greatly, because there was seemingly no reason to care for it anymore, but then, mysteriously, all talk about the destruction of the space stopped.

At the beginning of this semester students began getting together and fixing up their spaces again. Suddenly the administration was saying the Old Gym wasn't being torn down for at least another four years, and due to this claim students were supposed to instantly respect the place? We are incredibly excited at the news that the Old Gym is staying, but it will take time to get younger students to respect the space.

The students in charge of the spaces are now faced with the daunting task of getting kids to consider the Old Gym as a building that is theirs to use, and a space that is the administration's to tear down. The vandalism that has occurred was incredibly inane, but can be expected in the environment that the administration fostered. It will take awhile before kids, once again, care for what is theirs. The most effective way to do this is not for the school to regulate the spaces through threat of punishment, but to show the students that the space is actually theirs and let them run it. Kids fuck up, but it is not the school's place to treat them as fuck ups. Rather, let them learn from each other and take responsibility for themselves, which was what we understood was the philosophy of this institution. You can't stop rock & roll.

the first year students were given no reason to respect the space with some heritage that they could not understand



Fixing
the
red
room



Wicked S.N.A.F.U

comic by **Brenden Murray-Nellis**

What would it be like not to worry about the world? To be in full support of U.S. action? By the time you read this... things will be snafu: Situation normal, all fucked up.



I support our president, Because we have the best military in the world. Killing Arabs will be like shootin' Indians or Mexicans. He has the expertise and leadership that our country needs to defeat terror.

We celebrate our history when we invade Iraq. Some say peace is patriotic, well so is genocide. Let's celebrate everything that our country stands for.



Today it's a little more high-tech. Let's celebrate the American values that we've improved and worked on since the 1700s. You'd better run kiddies, hahahahaha.

Buy your hat.

There are so many to choose from. That's what democracy is.



Bahgdad Jan. 10th 2003



What Powell and everyone in the Bush administration sees now is Ullman's vision for high-tech war. He calls it "rapid dominance," or "shock and awe." Ullman* is sure it will work as well in 2003 as it did in 1945: "You have this simultaneous effect, rather like the nuclear weapons at Hiroshima, not taking days or weeks, but minutes"

*Ullman is the Military Strategist of the National Defence University.