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THIS ISSUE IS DEDICATED TO THE CLASS OF 2015
WE'LL MISS YOU

[TERMS]

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MAYOR OF TIVOLI RESPONDS TO YOUR COMMENTS

EXPLAINS THE “MILKY ASS” WATER

In the April issue, we sat down with Tivoli Mayor Joel Griffith to talk about the ongoing relationship between Bard and Tivoli. It got a lot of you talking. We sent Mayor Griffith, who received an MFA from Bard and whose father taught at Bard for 45 years, your online comments and asked him to respond. Here is what he had to say:

I sincerely thank the Bard Free Press for the opportunity to continue the discussion about the relationship between Tivoli and Bard. If anyone, ever, wants to discuss these issues at length I am available: mayor@tivolinyny.org.

Let me be clear in case there was any misunderstanding from the interview last issue: I love Bard College and Bard students. It goes without saying that the college and its students have enriched Tivoli economically and culturally for many years. My own biography is a living testimony of this. It is wonderful to have students calling our Village home, and many, many of them have settled in Tivoli after graduation and joined our community. But the sad news in 2015 is that the proximity of Tivoli to the college is not an unadulterated boon. Any Mayor of Tivoli who did not speak out on this would be a very poor Mayor indeed. The issue is simple: late-night noise.

The tiny residential Village of Tivoli (population 1,100) with densely placed homes, and a 10 p.m. noise ordinance, has in the last decade suffered from excessive late night noise from students partying in the Village. This phenomenon is fueled by the ever-increasing student body, the existence of the night-time shuttle service, and a constriction of on-campus partying in the same period. Little Tivoli cannot absorb the late-night party needs of so many students. We are a residential Village with a 10 p.m. noise law and residents (including other students) need to be able to sleep through the night in their homes.

The answer is also simple: Be quiet and respectful after 10 p.m. Imagine you were outside your own family's home. Don't disturb your neighbors! I think you can figure that out. But if it's not possible for you to do that you need to find another place to do your thing. And don't get mad at Tivoli if you don't like this. You should get mad at Bard College. Although it may be a financial and legal challenge for the college, they should give you a space to have your late-night fun. It IS really fun to dance and scream with 30 of your friends all night, but Tivoli is not well suited for it, people live here and we have to go to work in the morning.



photo by brendan hunt

Facebook:

Comment: This strikes me as a bit disingenuous, since Bard students, faculty and parents probably contribute more than anyone else to the Tivoli economy.

Response: The short answer to this is “so what?” None of the economic and cultural benefits of the college brings to Tivoli justify, excuse, or legitimize this late-night noise and disorder. The shops and restaurants are not open at midnight and our residents, their children, and other student renters need to sleep. I reject any version of a “you gotta take the bad with the good” argument. We can enjoy and be thankful for the good and labor to remedy the bad. But further, those voicing variations on this comment are essentially saying economic might makes right. You spend the money so you can do what you want despite its negative effects on others? If that's what was meant, that's a repugnant notion.

Comment: Tivoli Mayor: 'Bard brought you to Bard'
Bard Student: 'But Tivoli brought me to Tivoli'

Response: Not quite sure what this means but I'll respond that Bard college accepted and invited each and every student to this corner of Dutchess County and is therefore ultimately responsible for their needs and well-being. If Tivoli brought you to Tivoli, perhaps you liked Tivoli and decided to be here. That's nice, Tivoli is a special place that many Bard students have discovered and enjoyed and contributed to over the decades.

Instagram:

Comment: Tivoli isn't my campus, it's my home.

Response: Great! Its my home too. It's a charming, beautiful, pleasant place to live. It is full of wonderful people (students and alums included). A great place to be with your friends and write a senior project. Everyone is welcome to make Tivoli their home. But we have laws and standards of decency and a quality of life we aim to preserve. So when 50,100, 200+ students need to whoop it up after 10 p.m., it's just too much for the Village. I think a 600-acre campus might be a more suitable place. Bard just put on the Spring Fling, and it was a nice quiet weekend in Tivoli. I did not receive a single noise complaint.

Comment: Can you interview him again and like ask about garbage services and the milky ass water

Response: This is a very good comment, I would welcome the chance to talk about the details of the several garbage collection options in the Village and especially the Village's greatest challenge: a 77-year-old water system. Like the much of the USA, Tivoli's infrastructure is old and aging and decades of deferred maintenance have brought us to a daunting present moment where Tivoli needs about \$11 million and our annual total operating budget is about \$750,000. Think about that! This little Village will have to compete with thousands like us for State and Federal grants to get anything done.

Comment: Would like to comment on why I can't be reasonably sure I will wake up to potable h2o on a given morning

Response: Because our water system was put in with the help of Eleanor Roosevelt in 1938. There has been only limited maintenance and replacement for three quarters of a century and the results can be seen, for example, in our nearly monthly water main breaks. The Village conducts microbiological tests on the water every month and this report is delivered at every board meeting to make sure there are no health concerns with our water supply. Also the annual water quality report will be posted to the Village website in June if you want to learn more.

Online:

Comment: Red Hook is mad chill. Relationships built on respect and love. Come hang. <3

Response: Red Hook is a lovely community, a fabulous place to live. The Town and Village of Red Hook have many amenities Tivoli does not offer. I sense an implication in the comment, that perhaps Tivoli is not “mad chill,” or a place of “relationships built on respect and love.” If that is the implication, it is as foolish as it is false.

I'd like to venture a comment of my own. When you're walking down the street in Tivoli and you pass somebody who may not be a student, say “Hi.” Do it a few times and you might strike up a conversation, learn something, and make some friends in the community. It would be good for all of us if we did that. Good for Tivoli and good for Bard. Thank you.

NEWS

CHARLIE HEBDO DRAMA STARS BARD PROFESSORS WE'RE KINDA PROUD

BY NAOMI LACHANCE

Everyone loves hurling insults on the internet, but when Salman Rushdie calls you a pussy, you know it's about an argument worth taking seriously. Six writers, including Bard professors Francine Prose and Teju Cole, were the targets of this epithet. The issue at hand? The line between free speech and hate speech - in this particular case, Islamophobia. The six writers were boycotting the annual gala held by PEN American Center, an organization that supports literary freedom, where satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo was to receive an award.

Cole has been vocal in denouncing celebration over Charlie Hebdo, the French satirical magazine that was attacked by Muslim extremists in January. He wrote in the *New Yorker*: "in recent years [Charlie Hebdo] has gone specifically for racist and Islamophobic provocations, and its numerous anti-Islam images have been inventively perverse... It is not always easy to see the difference between a certain witty dissent from religion and a bullyingly racist agenda, but it is necessary to try."

Debate over freedom of speech is by no means a new idea, but the Charlie Hebdo attacks shook the Western world because the violence usurped what is cherished as an unalienable right. The PEN gala debate, then, is a perfect storm, pulling together high-profile figures into a tense confrontation over how the literary world is supposed to respond when conflicting beliefs intersect. For Annandale

in particular, this debate sets the important example that it is possible to have an intense debate on the Internet while remaining civil (maybe Salman Rushdie excluded). Those on their Facebook-driven soapboxes should take note.

Following the six to withdraw from the gala - Rachel Kushner, Michael Ondaatje, Peter Carey, Teju Cole, Francine Prose, and Taiye Selasi - 200 more PEN members signed an online petition against the award. The gala went on as planned. On Tuesday, May 5, about 800 guests gathered at the American Museum of Natural History in Manhattan. The meal cost \$1,250 a plate, a major fundraiser for PEN.

PEN found new table hosts to replace the missing six, tapping Art Spiegelman, Azar Nafisi, and another Bard professor: Neil Gaiman. He told the *Free Press*: "I was glad to see that when authors dropped out the cartoonists and fellow comics folk, like Art Spiegelman and Alison Bechdel stepped in - I suspect because we have all had personal experience with being banned, with having our books removed from shelves or having publishers threatened with imprisonment for publishing our stuff, and we tend to see free speech issues as less nuanced than some of our more respectable contemporaries."

When Teju Cole was asked if he thought the Charlie Hebdo controversy had any lessons for the Bard community, he said it did not. He declined further comment. I disagree. Violence happens when an individual feels that

they have lost other potential modes of agency; it hardly goes to say that if the Charlie Hebdo attackers had just written an angry letter, they would not have gotten the same attention.

Bard is a breeding ground for aggressive debate, whether it is about race relations, economic inequality, military endeavors, transgender rights, or sexual violence. Speech protected under the law is not the same as speech protected from consequence, and at the very root of the right to free speech is the understanding that we must be held responsible for what we say. The Charlie Hebdo staff understood this, as did their attackers - but they were playing by different rules.

At the PEN gala, the two Charlie Hebdo staff members were greeted with a standing ovation as they accepted an award for "freedom of expression courage." It was a festive night. Glenn Close was there, as was Tom Stoppard and Roz Chast. The Natural History Museum's iconic whale hung overhead. Charlie Hebdo's top editor, Gerard Biard, who was in London at the time of the attacks, gave a speech that captured where, in modern Western consciousness, freedom of speech is supposed to extend: "Growing up to be a citizen is to learn that some ideas, some words, some images, can be shocking," he said. "Being shocked is a part of democratic debate. Being shot is not."

illustration by pansy schulman



SHERRILYN IFILL IS OUR COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

THESE OTHER PEOPLE ARE RECEIVING HONORARY DEGREES

BY MADI GARVIN

The Commencement Speaker:

Sherrilyn Ifill

Ifill is the president and director-counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. She is a public intellectual and a major advocate for civil rights. Ifill once worked at the ACLU. She was also once the chair of the board of Open Society Foundations, alongside President Botstein. The Open Society Foundations are a grantmaking network founded by multibillionaire (and donor to Bard) George Soros. According to a 2013 National Journal article, she's a self-proclaimed "lover of art and theater," and "is happiest when reading and writing." She seems great. One caveat: she's a Vassar grad.



Honorary Degree Recipients:

Arthur Aviles '87

Dancer and Choreographer

After graduating from Bard in 1987, Aviles joined the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company. In 1996, he founded his own company, the Arthur Aviles Typical Theatre. Two years later, he co-founded The Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance (BAAD!), a performance space in the Bronx. In 2003, a New York Times review referred to him as one of the "great modern dancers of the last 15 years." He continues to be a bold member of the New York dance community.



Cori Bargmann

Neurobiologist

Bargmann deals with nematodes in a big way. She's done a lot of cool studies on the species *Caenorhabditis elegans* (say that three times fast), and even discovered that the creature has a sense of smell. Her lab at Rockefeller University "is studying the relationships between genes, experience, the nervous system and behavior in the nematode *C. elegans*," according to the University's website. Bargman is also a member of the National Academy of Sciences, and has won a plethora of other prizes for her work as a neurobiologist.



Anthony Grafton

European Historian

Grafton is one of the foremost authorities in European History, and was the president of the American Historical Association from 2011-2012. Now he serves as a professor at Princeton and writes for publications like the New York Review of Books, The New Republic, and The American Scholar. According to his faculty biography, he is undertaking "large-scale study of the science of chronology in 16th- and 17th-century Europe: how scholars attempted to assign dates to past events, reconstruct ancient calendars, and reconcile the Bible with competing accounts of the past. He hopes to reconstruct the complex and dramatic process by which the biblical regime of historical time collapsed, concentrating on the first half of the 17th century."



Kiki Smith

Artist

Smith is German-born, but raised in the United States. She creates sculptures, prints, and drawings. Her work has been shown at the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, among other prestigious institutions. She is also a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.



FORTY YEARS A STORYTELLER

MARK LYTLE RETIRES FROM BARD

BY MADI GARVIN

Mark Lytle is a man of stories. And after teaching at Bard for four decades, he has a lot of them. It's a fitting quality, since Lytle is a professor of historical studies. His love of storytelling often blends with his passion for history. When he talks about the past, he can't help but intersperse his lectures with personal anecdotes. After all, much of what he teaches he's lived through, from his formative years in the 1960s to as late as the 2000s with the Iraq War.

The time period in which one lives can affect one's relationship to history. "You're in this class, War and Peace, so when we're doing World War I, it begins a century ago. But when I started teaching at Bard, World War I was a little over half a century ago," Lytle explained to me. "We were still much closer to it, and there were a lot of World War I veterans around. World War II had ended 30 years before. Now [the Vietnam War] ended 40 years ago."

The Vietnam War ended during Lytle's first academic year at Bard: 1974-1975.

Bard was a lot different back then. It was a year before Leon Botstein assumed the presidency. According to Lytle, "It's been part of Leon's project to get rid of, wipe out, that phase of Bard. Particularly the idea of Bard as the little red warehouse on the Hudson - hippy and druggy - and recreate it as a serious, progressive academic institution."

After asking him how Bard has changed over the years, Lytle related the changes to the physical plant. "Well, if you think of the security building as the gym, compared to the [Stevenson Athletic Center], and the library as just the classical structure...Olin didn't exist, [Warden's Hall] was a dormitory." The campus was a lot more sparse because the student body was a lot smaller, about 620 people, by Lytle's estimation.

During Lytle's tenure, the quality of the student body has reflected Botstein's mission to 'recreate' Bard. The student population now numbers about 2000, and they are a lot more driven. Lytle attributes this improvement to Botstein's implementation of programs like the Excellence and Equal Cost scholarship and the Immediate Decision Plan. "Ever since then, the quality of the student body has really progressed," said Lytle. "And it makes it more fun to go into the classroom, more challenging in the sense that students demand more, but also more fun because you get a higher quality of response and reading essays is not quite as difficult."

Lytle expressed his enthusiasm for his students through his stories. He recounted one tale of a self-proclaimed "ditz," whom he advised for the second half of her senior project. The senior became engrossed in her project and did an excellent job. The process was transformative. "It was like she was a different person," said Lytle. "There are those moments that are somewhat inspirational."

Even with less serious students, Lytle served as an understanding and amiable mentor. "My first or second year [at Bard], one of my first senior project advisees was a young woman with relatively low expectations for academics, and she came into my office one day and said, 'I was so worried about what I was going to say to you about my senior project, because I haven't done much,' and she said, 'I really got stoned before I came in,' so I looked at her and smiled and said, 'I'll talk really slowly and I won't say anything important.'" He ended the anecdote with a laugh.

Interacting with people seems to be one of Lytle's favorite aspects of Bard. It is not limited to students; some of his best memories of Bard come from his colleagues. When he started teaching at Bard, the Historical Studies program boasted three professors. In the years since, Lytle has enjoyed working with professors such as Richard Aldous, Myra Armstead, Christian Crouch, and Rob Culp. Lytle considers Culp a "prize success," as he helped recruit him as a member of the Bard faculty.

In addition to his pride in the Historical Studies faculty, he has also been heavily involved in the Environmental and Urban Studies program, teaching environmental history. He actually started the

program in the 1976-1977 academic year, in collaboration with some other professors (now retired). "I consider that to be my prime legacy at Bard," said Lytle.

He has also team-taught courses with approximately 10 other professors. "I learn a lot from them," said Lytle. "It's tricky, but it's almost always worked really well. Where my colleagues and I disagree, we do so with good nature, sort of teasing each other ... So that's been a nice part of it."

The tradition of recruiting exciting history professors will not cease when Lytle retires. By the 2016-2017 academic year, a new professor will fill Lytle's position as Lyford Paterson Edwards and Helen Gray Edwards Professor of Historical Studies.

Meanwhile, Lytle will have more time to do independent research. Currently in the works is a book about consumerism in the post-World War II era.

However, his retirement will not mark the end of his relationship with Bard. Lytle said that he might come back and teach a class here and there, and advise the occasional senior project. He will continue living in Rhinebeck, but may also get involved with Bard's abroad campuses.

Undoubtedly, his foray into retirement will mark the beginning of new chapter in the ever-expanding collection of Lytle's stories.



photo courtesy of bard.edu

BARD'S TEMPORARY DORMS TURN OUT TO BE ACTUALLY TEMPORARY

BY ACACIA NUNES

Much to the dismay of all who know them, the most aesthetically pleasing dormitories on campus are coming down. Just kidding, they're not that attractive. But they are leaving campus. According to Nancy Smith, director of housing, Catskill and Hudson, affectionately referred to as "the trailers," will be returned to their manufacturers this summer.

As there are no plans to use the dorms for summer conferences, Smith explained that they will be dismantled sometime in June or July. The process, however, is more than just taking the furniture out. "You have to dismantle fire safety systems, the plumbing, all the electricity, and work with the companies in order to stop the contract and do all the dismantling in a relatively short period of time. It takes some organization to do that on time," said Smith. Furniture from Catskill and Hudson will be repurposed for other dorms on campus that have metal bed frames and older dressers.

About eight years ago the college faced a large increase in enrollment. Lack of beds forced them to rent the two trailers, which were leased with the intention of return. "The plan all along was for the dorms to be temporary, which they are, they're modular, until permanent structures could be funded and built." Reslife also had existing plans to expand into the Village.

"It was a matter of physical planning and moving forward," said Smith. After the tragic death of Bard first-years Sarah McCausland and Evelina Brown last February, the College decided to honor their memory with the naming of the two new dorms: McCausland and Brown. The new residences will replace the number of beds in and Catskill and Hudson. "Sometimes in colleges temporary housing ends up being permanent housing," said Smith. "We're fortunate that we're able to replace them with permanent homes."

The removal of the dorms will also be financially beneficial. "If you're leasing buildings it's not as financially sustainable long term because you're not owning the property obviously," said Smith. "So financially it's not sustainable to rent buildings long term, but a lot of colleges end up doing that when they're in a bit of a crunch." In the event that Bard receives an extremely large first-year class and faces the need to accommodate more than our projected bed space, the college might consider keeping them for another academic year. However, this is "certainly not the plan if our numbers and the amount of students admitted are our normal class sizes," said Smith.

Framed by Catskill Mountain sunsets, the twin boxes made of beige tin overlook the Bard Farm and house almost 90 students on campus. These temporary dorms are often the subject of much criticism by their residents, who resent the paper-thin sheetrock walls, stark linoleum floors, and plastic showers.

"Most people will get to come back to their old dorms and feel nostalgic, but nobody will believe us next year when we talk about how decrepit and ugly they were," said first-year Isabel Snodgrass. Senior Levi Shaw-Faber spoke candidly about his disdain for his first-year dorm. "I'm really happy that they're coming down. They were a blight on a beautiful area that has been further enhanced by the addition of the barn and the farm. Now that they're gone the area will be even more beautiful," he said. Sophomore Avery Mencher went as far as to say that it stresses him out to even walk inside the trailers.

Despite the palpable negativity toward the trailers, they provided a deep sense of camaraderie to students who lived their first year of college in the notorious dorms. Though the buildings themselves will be gone, they will exist forever in the memory of those who experienced them. "It's a nice legacy that we get to be the last generation [of] freshman to live in the trailers," said Snodgrass.



photos by miles lim

DON'T FUCK WITH THE TIVOLI FIRE DEPARTMENT THEY'RE WATCHING YOU



photo by brendan hunt

BY GRADY NIXON

In front of the Tivoli Fire Department, there is a sign that announces community events. Soon, in front of that sign, there will be security cameras. Due to a string of vandalism that went beyond changing announcements of the fireman's ball to announcements of the fireman balls, the Tivoli Fire Department has invested \$1,600 in security equipment to deter future vandals. Failing deterrence, the Fire Department has plans to charge the first person caught vandalizing the building or its sign with three counts of criminal mischief.

Thomas Crisci Sr., the president and one of the directors of the Fire Department, explained that the primary purpose of the cameras will be "to protect the sign, the parking lot, [and] other spots around the building." While this is true, he added, the decision to purchase cameras was "mostly because of the sign."

Crisci said that the Fire Department has "had the letters stolen, broken, wording changed around." The company's number, part of a permanent metal sign attached to the building, was also torn off. The sign's letters alone cost around \$300 a set, according to Crisci.

In addition to the cameras, the Fire Department has also purchased fencing that will surround the sign to protect it from would-be vandals. When asked who he thought was to blame for the vandalism, Crisci said that he had no doubt Bard students were responsible. "We know it's students," he said, explaining that Fire Department members had asked Bard students about the vandalism and they knew who had done it. Crisci said that the students

were no more specific than confirming that Bard students had vandalized the sign.

As for the consequences for the next person to rearrange the sign, Crisci explained that whoever is caught on camera, "that's going to be the guy who ends up falling for whoever's doing it." Three criminal mischief charges have already been filed with the Sheriff's department, Crisci said, and "if they catch them, the complaint is already out there."

Crisci seemed, more than anything, disappointed with the fact that this is a problem the department has had to invest money and energy into solving. "We would think we would have adults in the village who would know not to touch it," he said. Unfortunately, this is not and has not been the case. Crisci said that the department had a similar issue in the past, but the new generation of students has yet to learn to respect village property. Crisci explained, "We don't mind you coming in walking through doing whatever, but when you start doing criminal mischief...it's too much."

He concluded with a reminder that when it comes to punishing the person who gets caught, the Fire Department plans to "press the charges all the way." Keep this in mind next time you plan to shift around the letters on the sign. Not just that you might get in trouble, but that the village many of us adopt as our home has had to spend thousands as a direct response to vandalism committed by Bard students. It's shit like this, guys. It's shit like this.

THE CLASS OF 2019 HAS A FIELD DAY ACCEPTED STUDENTS DAY WAS SWELL

BY JOHANNA COSTIGAN

On Saturday, April 25, I assumed the identity of a high school senior who had been accepted to Bard. I crashed a tour and nodded alongside everyone else, feigning ignorance about the campus that has been my home for almost two years.

Around noon, I checked my schedule and found it was nearly time for lunch. I walked to The Stevenson Athletic Center with some prospective students and their parents. They seemed to be very impressed with Bard, which made me feel something akin to school pride.

I walked into the gym and made a beeline towards the table of free snacks and Pure Leaf iced tea. I then remembered that if I really were an accepted student, and still living in the comfort of a home with a kitchen and a pantry, the complementary nature of the soggy sandwiches wouldn't entice me as much as it did. I slowed my pace, trying to fit in with the rest of the accepted students, who were too engaged with the Student Life Fair to care about eating.

Student representatives from a variety of clubs were present, explaining their clubs' goals and achievements to accepted students. I spoke with one accepted student, Olivia Jankoski, who was very struck by the participation of current Bard students at various activities throughout the day. She appreciated that though Bard isn't a "rah-rah school spirit" kind of institution, students definitely seemed to be engaged with their school. At least they cared enough about their interests to show up to a club fair on a Saturday and talk to accepted students about Bard.

"The students all seemed genuinely excited to be meeting us and helping out," she said.

Jankoski has known she is going to Bard since January, so for her the day was more about placating her and her mom's nerves about the upcoming transition. She said the Academic Life Panel was the most useful part of the day to this end.

"They made the process for next year less intimidating by answering questions about the curriculum, and emphasizing that every freshman will be in the same boat. My mom expressed a lot of concern for next year, but hearing what the teachers and dean had to say calmed her down. It made it a lot less daunting."

Jankoski had the chance to speak with some other accepted students, and told me about their processes as well. "I met some people who were unsure, but throughout the day they became more and more certain of the school and that's what they wanted," she said.

One accepted student, Esmé Forbes, fits this description perfectly. She arrived at Accepted Students Day on the fence about going to Bard. But her uncertainty dissipated over the course of the day.

The atmosphere at Bard seemed so much more relaxed than any other campus I'd been on," she said.

She continued, "I was able to picture myself at the school once I started walking on the campus and seeing students interacting. Once I talked to the professors, I got the sense that they care about the students a lot and made me feel like I'd be able to create personal relationships with them."

Jankoski said that most of the accepted students she spoke with

were excited and enthusiastic about Bard. "Bard is where I want to be, and it seems like my classmates are gonna have that attitude going into it next year. It didn't seem like a last resort."

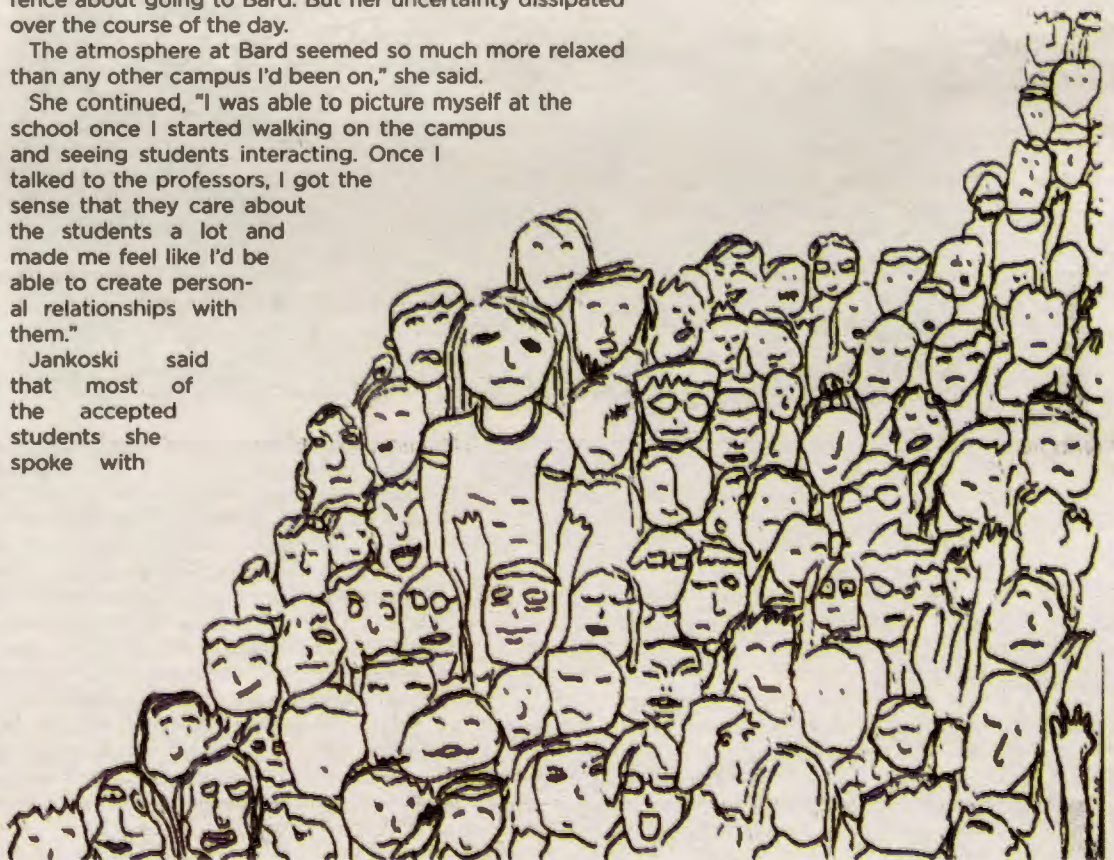


illustration by jody wissner



Why champagne ?

photo courtesy of bard archives

As seniors get ready for Commencement many are asking themselves important questions: What am I going to do now? How the fuck will I pay these loans back? New York or Philadelphia? Some even may be thinking Detroit? But still, others are left with a much more pressing question: What champagne am I going to pop on graduation day? This month the Free Press has put together a crack panel of the best sommeliers this college has to rate some of the cheapest champagne the Hudson Valley has to offer.

None of this is Champagne:

Before we dive into the bubbly abyss we first need to clarify that this review features no Champagne. Champagne, a style of sparkling wine, can only be produced in the Champagne region of France. It's like Bourbon and Whiskey, a difference you learned about in your first year at Bard that still confuses you. What we are reviewing is domestically-produced sparkling wine.

How we did it:

Using a panel of six judges, the Free Press rated five varieties of sparkling wines. We used a three pronged grading system: The pop-ability of the bottle, the drinkability of the wine, and the lingering aftertaste. These factors were each rated on a 10 point system to accumulate a 30 point maximum for each wine. Thus, the final rating is a composite score of the six judges' individual ratings. Below are the top five wines in ascending order.

THE FREE PRESS CHAMPAGNE SPARKLING WINE REVIEW

BY CHARLES MCFARLANE



#5 - Le Petit Champignon Cuvée Imperiale - \$7.99 61/180

With the most French sounding name and label design, this bottle could make a good gift to a professor you didn't care too much for but feel the desire to thank anyhow. This wine was arguably the most complex in taste of the five, with a pungent nutty brie aroma. Unlike many of the other wines, the Cuvée was dry and unsweetened with the perfect amount of bubbles. The wine lost serious points for being a screw top, rendering it incapable of being used to "pop bottles." For some of the panel, the wine gave too much of a bleachy smell. As one judge said, "your stepdad would mock you for wincing at the taste."



#4 Viva Diva Moscato Raspberry flavored - \$5.25 84/180

With a plastic artificial cork, this Moscato had no pop, but what it didn't have in pop it made up for in sickeningly sweet taste. Drinking this artificially flavored (and colored) wine is like knocking back cups of apple juice, making it ideal for making small children complacent during commencement. The taste is something like the smell of a tropical Febreze aerosol. All of the judges agreed this would do well at basic brunches. Besides its lack of pop, it was the foreseeable head clanking and gut wrenching hangover it would cause that sank this bottle down to fourth.



#3 Cooks California Champagne - \$9.25 - 122/180

Cooks fought its way to the third spot on our list through its sheer mediocrity. The pop was the only shining moment for the bottle. When a First Troop Philadelphia Cavalry saber was used to open the bottle, the force was so great that the cork injured a member of the panel. Salty, but also sweet, the bottle was easy to drink and left everyone feeling in higher hopes.



#2 Andre Sparking Wine- \$6.99 131/180

Coming in just above the Cooks, Andre was able to distinguish itself since the panel was already feeling the effects of the previous bottle. But, they still were able to deliver gems of wisdom on the flavor profile, with one judge stating "it tastes like soap I would want to drink" and another describing it as the perfect luxury for a dog on their birthday. Overall incredibly easy to drink with a nice dry finish and fruity aroma, making it extremely unoffensive. Perfect for special occasions.



#1 Miller High Life - \$1.75 for 24 ounces - 148/180

The winner of this contest, while not a champagne per se, appealed to everyone's taste buds and wallets. We originally worried the pop-ability would sink the High Life, but when opening the beautiful golden bottles, the hiss and snap of the escaping seal was too powerful to ignore. The taste also exploded off the charts, incredibly carbonated to the last sip with a flavor profile our sommeliers described as "not too much like bread." There wasn't one among the judges who disagreed that of all the bottles to split with Botstein on graduation, this would be the one. After all, it is the champagne of beers.

WAS BARD COOLER IN THE '70s?

I graduated with the Class of 1973. Bard was then impoverished, unsightly from years of deferred maintenance, with bad food and worse dorms.

It also had brilliant, dedicated teachers. The curriculum was classical, rigorous and there were distribution requirements.

My friends, who were all smarter than me, were serious and hardworking. We were, mostly, hippies. Mostly white, privileged, mostly from the East coast. We read like demons. We played music on LPs on turntables propped on Stone Row windowsills so everyone could hear.

There were films screened five nights a week in a Quonset hut. On weekends bands came and played in the (old) gym, and most weeknights you could hear live music in the Chapel or Bard Hall. We all ended up at Adolph's around ten to drink and eat gorgeously greasy burgers, and dance. At midnight a fellow called "The Sandwich Man" stood in the front door of the dorms and sold peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and sodas for fifty cents each, seventy-five together.

Cigarettes cost 35 cents a pack. There was one phone on the wall in each dorm from which we called each other and home. We had a small cafe at the end of Stone Row where we drank vile coffee and read our mail which was conveniently distributed in a dripping basement directly below.

The science labs could double as sets for a 19th century costume drama. Music classes were conducted in a 'temporary' building the size of a trailer together with Bard Hall. The theatre burned down. The only class larger than ten students was a mind boggling non-majors lecture in Physics. Annually, in the first class of the semester the professor convinced twenty five of us that the sun revolved around the earth. We spent inordinate amounts of time with our teachers, demanding attention that was almost always freely and graciously given.

Blithewood was a dorm.

We were required to complete several 'field periods' during winter semester break in work related to our fields of study. Moderation was tough.

Eric Kiviat was always out on the Hudson in a Kayak, and on April 22 of 1970 we celebrated the first Earth Day by helping to rebuild the stone walls along River Road.

There were about 500 undergraduates on campus. We didn't have a gym or Phys. Ed. but we biked and walked everywhere and occasionally indulged in team sports but not as if we really meant it.

Sexual norms were relaxed and friendly, and a broad range of gender identity and practice was tolerated if not celebrated.

A few hardy independent types rented decrepit houses in Tivoli, Germantown and down River Road. Others simply moved into abandoned buildings and did just fine, sometimes for years. There was a student building a concrete boat in an abandoned Church in Tivoli who was never seen without his tail coat, top hat and spats.

We liked to party. Every spring the local constabulary raided a dorm causing attorneys up and down the east coast to celebrate their good fortune: charges were always dropped. We marched nearly every spring in DC and Poughkeepsie and Kingston against the war, and benefited from two finals-canceling Moratoriums.

We harbored draft dodgers and enrolled Vietnam vets who extinguished any doubts we had about the real costs of that war.

Today's Bard remains way way down the list of campuses with 5-star dorms and food courts, but we do have labs and Concert Halls designed by Starchitects.

But by my reckoning three quarters or more of Bard's investment since my graduation has been in our core asset: teachers. Good call. There are about five times the number of students in the college, and 100% more graduate students. They are the same kind of serious, lively people I remember from the 70's, although far more diverse economically, ethnically and internationally. There is a vastly richer curriculum but it skews to the same themes and foci, and it's taught in intimate settings by teachers who value students not as equals, but as potentially equal and deserving of attention.

The calendar of events on campus today could only be matched in my day by visiting the City. Today's campus has lighted paths and arboretums and public art and sports fields, dozens of new classrooms, studio buildings, a student center, library, and gymnasium that somehow have not altered the sense of the place as small, beautiful and ours.

What has changed the most is Bard's brand. When asked where I went to school people always thought I'd said 'Barnard'. The one big difference between the old and new Bard is our public reputation as an important college with outsized ambition, a world-class faculty and extraordinary creative, entrepreneurial energy. And I think that's a good thing, especially as it has enabled us to grow, to attract students and philanthropy, and to scatter campuses across the country and the planet. But as much as the world knows and celebrates us today, we knew then that Bard was a very fine and important school, and I'll bet the Class of 2015 feels the same way in 2057.

Barbara Grossman is a trustee of Bard College and Gilda Gross's mom.

BY BARBARA GROSSMAN '73



1978: bard band the twilites play a show outside of blithewood. photo courtesy of bard archives.

I'M HERE FOR THE SPREAD

MY WEEK EATING ONLY FREE FOOD

BY NIALL MURPHY

Julie Duffstein, Amii Legendre, Bethany Nohlgren, Brian Mateo; names that circulate through our Zimbras so frequently their emails often become ripe for relegation into our trash folders. But taking a moment to peruse this ceaseless stream of Bard Daily Mails, SPARC Weekly Events and Wellness Updates reveals a cornucopia of screenings, lectures, Senior projects, free massage clinics, club fairs, and environmental conferences. Of course, more often than not these happenings are supplemented by the feature so often tied to the on campus event: free food. Stroll through the campus center on any given Tuesday evening and there's a fair chance you'll stumble upon vegetable dips, Two Boots or Dunkin Donuts Cronuts laid out by the front desk or tucked away in Weiss Cinema or the MPR. Free food is so pleasantly abundant one can often economize their Bard Bucks and meal swaps by dining at a Political Science talk or Moderation info session. Perhaps then, if one was vigilant enough of the events radiating throughout Annandale they could sufficiently nourish themselves without ever swiping at DTR and Kline or wrangling past Donna's clutches.

For the week leading up to this year's Spring Fling, this was the hypothesis at the center of my experiment. Through the aid of Bard Daily Mail and posters strewn on the walls of the Olin staircase, my goal was to question whether one could adequately feed themselves by only going to Bard events. In other words, I wanted to spend a week eating only free food and see if I could live to write this article.

Sunday

Having been raised moderately Jewish I tend to keep moderately Kosher. So although I don't have a Rabbi bless every crumb that graces my plate, I tend to pass on Lobsterfest and Baconators. However, in the scavenger hunt of free food that quickly became my life, I soon realized that there was little room left for religious doctrine. Never was this more apparent than at my first event: The Bard Provisions Spring BBQ. Bard Provisions is a food publication started earlier this year and it was thanks to their immense generosity that I was able to sit on a Tivoli Park swing set, eating delectably seasoned wild boar and disappointing my Mom. The promise of free treif led to a great turnout, beckoning not just Bard students but Tivoli families and their accompanying small fries, and the bridging of the two communities meant the pork and macaroni salad were gone within an hour and a half.

Thus, I was off to a good start, and after eating my weight in pig I headed to Blithewood for a cool down. On my walk though, I encountered a classmate from my History class (I forget his name) who, in a moment of unprompted altruism, bequeathed a tray of dorm-made shortbread to me, asserting he had made too much. I spent the remainder of the afternoon on the Blithewood lawn, watching the sun go down over the Hudson, contemplating the philanthropy of my classmates, and eating my dessert.

Monday and Tuesday

My admirable start, however, only instilled false hope in me as the next couple days became a ravenous struggle. Nevertheless, I survived by taking Psych studies to earn cupcakes and and from the bucket of animal crackers tucked away in the TLS office. Of course, the roasted almonds I stole from my roommate in moments of journalistic weakness didn't hurt either.

Wednesday

This bleak period of momentary famine ended in a cloud of meat smoke outside Ludlow. That Wednesday was the deadline for Senior Project and as a congratulations, staff members offered them a celebratory BBQ that included Burgers, Hot Dogs, Doritos, Iced Tea, Vegetable platters and me, swiping meat to try and nourish my body with something other than animal crackers. Congratulations Class of 2015!

Later that night, I attended a Peer Health sponsored talk titled "Moregasm: Babeland's Guide to Mind-Blowing Sex". Once my initial discomfort at the sight of multiple dildos on a table in the Faculty Dining Room wore off, the talk was super informative and fun. I got to play with a vagina puppet and watched as the instructor masterfully put a condom on a vibrator with his mouth. While it turned out there was no free food, they did hand out free vibrators!

Thursday

Finding myself languishing outside the doors of the dining hall, I encountered a blessing in the form of a Chartwells employee brandishing an untouched pizza which served as my first meal of the day.

If I were in the midst of my normal dietary schedule, five slices of pizza eaten at 3 PM very well would have held me over until late in the evening. However, as the week continued, I became consumed by a beggar's mentality. In my predicament, meals were sparse and unpredictable, and whatever outlet food presented itself in I needed to grasp onto and hold for dear life. So with a stomach full of Kline pizza and against my better judgement, I made my way to the "PC-Hosted Central Campus Festival" at 4:30 PM. Another Barbeque meant another opportunity to consume whatever meat substance was placed before my face, and the village walkway feast became the first of a surprising number of instances where I actually felt overfed.

Later that night, I headed to SMOG where the promise of "free cake for every creature" turned out to actually just be the name of the band. Still though, Frankie Cosmos and Paul Baribeau were fun and I was still recuperating from pizza and hot dogs anyways.

Friday

By the time Friday came around, I felt as if I had officially made it out of the dark and into the radiance that was Spring Fling, which may as well be renamed Free Food Weekend. After starting my day with a breakfast of fruit roll ups I had taken from the PC barbeque the day before, I headed to the Muslim Students Organization Halal Barbeque outside the campus center. The line was long and the patty I was given was small and without a bun, but the morsel of halal meat was perhaps the best thing I tasted all week.

Little is needed to be said of the Chartwells Street Fair (actual name) that took place later that day. I'm not sure if the food was prepared better, made with better ingredients or it just tasted better knowing I didn't have to swipe for it, but the corn dogs and fried dough seemed to be of a higher quality than the typical Kline fare. I particularly enjoyed the skewered beef sticks, but felt guilty eating one at the same as petting the adorable day old dairy calf brought out for petting.

That evening, I enjoyed hearing of Montreal from a distance, but spent the majority of my time stationed in the First Aid tent dining on candy and Dunkin Donuts bagels. The latter were presumably intended to absorb alcohol in the overly inebriated, but they made my first night of Spring Fling none-the-less.

Saturday

The Bard College Meat Club has the distinct privilege of being the only club on campus to be featured on a BuzzFeed list

(see: "10 College Clubs You Won't Believe Actually Exist"), and it was with them that I decided to close the curtain on my journey. At their "Sports Booster BBQ", I stood in the sun by Honey Field during a Raptors home game patiently waiting for a grilled bratwurst dog. Just as I had started my week with pork, so to I would conclude it, figuring if I began with sin I may as well end with sin.

As I finished my sausage and fritos by the right field foul pole line, I considered what I had learned from my week of gratuitous nourishment. First of all, it isn't easy to feed yourself only through free food. But the only reason it was remotely possible at Bard was because of the magnitude of events that take place around Annandale everyday. Through this experiment, I was able to acquaint myself with a number of clubs and happenings I would have never become familiar with otherwise. In this sense, there are a number of reasons why opening your Daily Mail may be worth it every once in a while: as a means of breaking out of your bubble, meeting some new people, learning some new things and, in the end, maybe coming up on some animal crackers.



MAY'S SEASONAL SUPPERS

BY JOHNNY CHERICHELLO

It's May and it feels like summer! Emma and I had a picnic with two friends to celebrate the completion of their senior projects (and also because it's gorgeous outside, the days are dwindling, and Blithewood beckons us). It really feels like once the weather gets nice, the rest of the Spring semester just zooms by. There are pros and cons to that. One of the cons is that friends are graduating and leaving.... So there's no other choice but to shower them all with food and love! We invited some friends over and had a pizza party picnic complete with sangria and a delicious and light dessert of strawberry lemon-ricotta napoleons.

This time around, Emma and I shopped at Adams in Kingston for our ingredients. A ten to fifteen minute drive away from campus, Adams Fairacre Farms Market is a fusion between a farmer's market and supermarket - a lovely local spot to shop for your groceries, plants, chocolate confections, etc. The seasonal produce chart is right at the cusp

of shifting from March/April/May to June/July/August, so there is some spring-summer overlap. Strawberries, for instance, are just getting in season and they will last through June and July. For this May edition of Seasonal Suppers, we picked from the seasonal list to use fruits and vegetables like Vidalia onions, fennel, scallions, blue potatoes, strawberries, apricots, and navel oranges.

From there, we were thinking about making a meal where you could easily substitute ingredients. Pizza lends itself well, as the possibilities for pizza toppings are endless. We went with pizza two ways: a Fennel-Fontina Pizza with Vidalia onions, scallions, and Parmesan cheese and a Potato-Pesto Pizza with mozzarella. We bought our dough at Adams because they had it for sale in the bakery section. It was inexpensive and delicious. They also had options like whole wheat, garlic and pesto-infused. For pizza dough recipe from scratch, see below:



RECIPES BY JOHNNY CHERICHELLO AND EMMA RESSEL

Pizza Dough:

2 packets (1/4 ounce each) active dry yeast
2 tablespoons sugar
1/4 cup olive oil, plus more for bowl and brushing

Pour 1 1/2 cups warm water into a large bowl; sprinkle with yeast and let stand until foamy, about 5 minutes.

Whisk sugar, oil, and salt into yeast mixture. Add flour and stir until a sticky dough forms. Transfer dough to an oiled bowl and brush top with oil. Cover bowl with plastic wrap and set aside in a warm, draft-free place until dough has doubled in bulk, about 1 hour. Turn out onto a lightly floured work surface and gently knead 1 or 2 times before using.

My mom makes a fennel-fontina pizza every year for Christmas. She cooks the fennel down in Sambuca and adds a lot of stinky aged fontina cheese. I twisted the recipe for the spring, leaving out the process of grating hard odorous cheese and using anise-flavored Italian liquor. I also added some extra seasonal ingredients.





Fennel-Fontina Pizza

Pizza Dough

1 head of Fennel
1 Vidalia Onion
3-4 Scallions
Olive Oil
Salt and Pepper

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Slice Fennel and Onion thinly and evenly. Heat pan, add olive oil and the sliced fennel and onion. Season with salt and pepper. Stir until the vegetables become a bit translucent.

Meanwhile, place pizza dough on a cookie or baking sheet and manipulate with your hands to form into a shape...any shape you'd like: a circle, a square, a heart, free-form. Then, distribute the vegetables evenly onto the dough. Add some chopped scallions and a drizzle of olive oil. Top with soft fontina and Parmesan cheese (as liberal or as light as you like!)

Put on center rack in the oven until the crust is a light golden-brown, approx. 15 minutes.

For the next pizza, you could make or buy pesto. Making it is fun if you have a food processor but certain companies and stores have nice options. Some, like Adams, even make it in store. For a pesto recipe from scratch see below:

photos by emma ressel

Pesto

Basil leaves
Pine Nuts
Parmesan Cheese
2-4 cloves of Garlic
Extra Virgin Olive Oil

In a food processor, add basil leaves, pine nuts, parmesan cheese, garlic, and olive oil. Mix to a smooth paste. Consistency is really up to personal preference. Add or omit any of the above ingredients or anything not listed. Different herb and nut pestos are fun to try out. Last month, Emma made a cilantro brazil-nut pesto that was really really good.

The potatoes worked well with the pesto and mozzarella to form a potato chip/ potato gratin extravaganza of deliciousness.

Potato-Pesto Pizza

Pizza Dough

Basil-Pine Nut Pesto
Blue Potatoes
Mozzarella
Parmesan

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Slice blue potatoes with a mandolin or with a knife. Like the other pizza recipe, form dough onto a cookie or baking sheet. Spread pesto on the dough. Arrange potato slices and add mozzarella and sprinkle of Parmesan, if desired. Put on center rack in the oven until the crust is a light golden-brown, approx. 15 minutes.



Strawberry Lemon-Ricotta Napoleon

Puff-Pastry
Strawberries
1 Lemon
1 cup Ricotta
1/4 cup Powdered Sugar
Sprinkle of Salt

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Bake puff-pastry on the oven until golden and risen. Meanwhile, slice about 10-15 strawberries thinly. Mix 1/4 cup of powdered sugar into 1 cup of ricotta. Add the juice of half a lemon and zest and a sprinkle of salt, if desired.

Once cooled, separate puff pastry into sheets. Then, stack layers of puff pastry, ricotta mixture, and strawberries to form the napoleon.

Seasonal Fruit Red Wine Sangria

In the spirit of summer and the school year coming to a close, I made Sangria. Also, seeing as Emma and I are spring and summer babies (both turning 21 soon), we are perfecting our sangria recipe. Seasonal fruit is best in sangria to get the ultimate flavor. Again, like the pizza, substitutes can easily be made in terms of ingredients. I like to add some fizz to my sangria. It is completely optional but I added blood-orange soda for a refreshing a sweet taste. I've been known to also add Sierra Mist or Sprite (no joke, it's good.)

Red Wine
Strawberries
3-4 Apricots
1 Navel Orange
Blood Orange Sparkling Soda

Fill a large pitcher with chopped strawberries, quartered apricots, and the juice of 1 navel orange. Add red wine and about 1-2 cups of blood orange sparkling soda. Place in refrigerator if you want it chilled and Enjoy!

Finally, for dessert, Emma made a Strawberry Lemon-Ricotta Napoleon. It literally took under ten minutes to prepare. As more fruit comes into season, like blueberries and peaches, feel free to add to this dessert. The same goes for the sangria!

Thank you for reading and happy cooking, we will see you in September!

**With love, your seasonal cooks,
Johnny and Emma**

POLICY AND PROTOCOL TITLE IX AT BARD

BY ACACIA NUNES

illustration by pansy schulman

On April 28, just after 3:30 p.m., President Leon Botstein sent an email to the Bard community in response to a Poughkeepsie Journal report of an alleged rape by one Bard student against another that occurred on February 8 of this year.

Nearly four months after the alleged incident, students on campus asked the question: "why are we just hearing about this now?" Enter Title IX, a law passed in 1972, which states "no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance."

According to Bard Title IX Coordinator, Tamara Stafford, "sexual assault falls under Title IX because sexual assault is a form of discrimination or harassment based on sex and can create an environment that denies an individual from safely accessing their educational opportunities."

"These are the facts in the matter," Botstein's email stated. "Immediately after the accusation was filed in February, the College followed the federal Title IX procedures. The matter was placed under investigation. The initial result of that investigation is now being appealed and the appeal is due to be completed tomorrow [April 29]. The accuser was told at the outset that she had the right to contact the police and file a criminal complaint, which she did last week."

The email came after a post had been made in the popular Facebook group "Overheard at Bard." Following the Poughkeepsie Journal article, a student uploaded a link to the story. Within hours, hundreds of responses flooded the comment section. In general, two central debates were more prevalent than others. The first: whether or not the post should have been made in such a public setting. The second: intense frustration that the school did not inform the students earlier. In both disagreements the main argument seemed to be that those against posting the link and being told by the school said it was a private issue and should be treated as such. Those in favor of the post and upset at the school's silence argued that the student body had a right to know about an alleged rape of one of their peers.

On May 6, Ken Cooper, director of security, sent out an email informing the community of a possible sexual

assault. This alleged incident, like that of February 8, also involved a Bard student. The differences are crucial, however. First, the alleged assault happened on campus on May 2. Secondly, the accuser was "incapacitated" according to Cooper.

There are certain circumstances that require a school to send out a notice to the community, according to Stafford. "In this recent situation, due to limited information regarding this possible assault and the identity of the alleged assaulter, it was our responsibility to alert the community," she said. "A notification of this nature is sent as the responsibility of the institution to inform the community under certain circumstances and is not required for all reports of sexual violence."

Additionally, much of the student uproar following the

reacted as it did, and what the next steps would be. After interviews with Botstein and Stafford I learned the following about alleged sexual assault cases at Bard: There are two types of reports a student can make. The first is an Institutional Report to be filed with the College and would initiate an investigation into whether or not a Bard policy has been violated. According to Stafford, "the standard of evidence is 'preponderance of the evidence', (burden of proof used in civil law) meaning more likely than not a policy has been violated." This kind of report can be made by contacting Stafford or going online to <https://public-docs.maxient.com/incidentreport.php?BardCollege>.

The second is a Criminal Report to be filed with the police department, which would initiate an investigation of whether a law has been broken, and may result

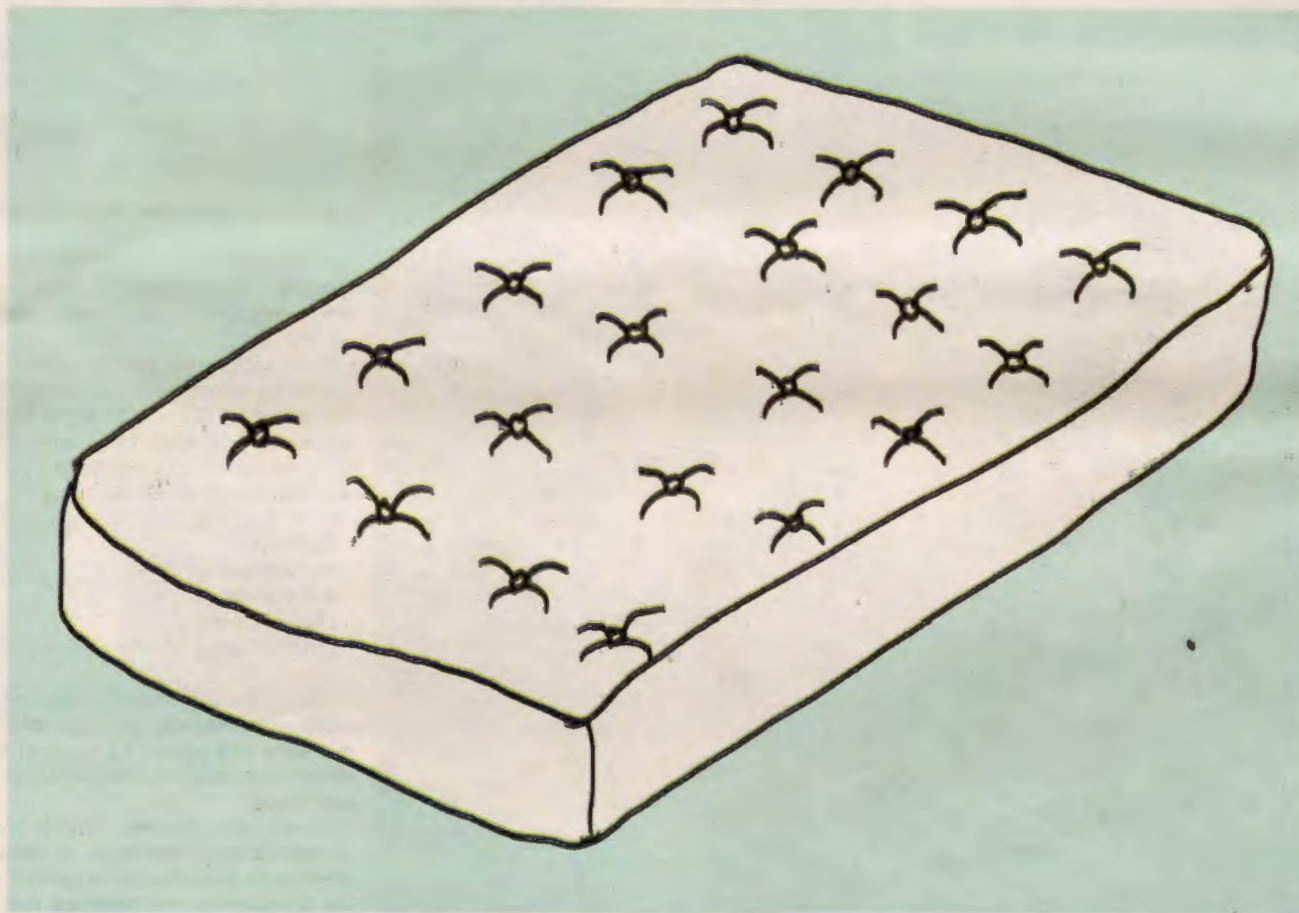
in an arrest and criminal charges. In the case of the February 8 incident, enough information was found in the Criminal report to arrest the accused. While the Title IX office can aid a Criminal report, only the survivor can file it. "The law of the state of NY (Education Law section 6434) does not permit the Office of Title IX Coordination to report to the police, unless the survivor has requested our assistance in doing so," said Stafford.

Stafford noted that the reasons for this legislation can best be summed up in the survivor's quotation, "When I reported to campus officials, I was not ready to press charges and if I had been forced to report to the police I wouldn't have been able to do it. I wouldn't have told anyone because I would have felt like I had even less control of myself. Having the decision be my own and on my own time made it a lot safer and healthier."

Botstein commented

on the accuser's right for both an institutional and criminal investigation, stating that, "since the penalties in the college are to be expelled, not to go to jail, or suspended or disciplined in some other manner, the expectations of the standard of conduct are sometimes higher than what might be prosecutable in a court of law," he said. "Which is why any victim has the right to do both: to pursue a criminal proceeding and a disciplinary proceeding at the college."

Once a report has been made, the Office of Title IX Coordination completes an official intake and records a statement. An investigator is then identified. "The College has been using an outside Title investigator for many years [and] is now moving to the exclusive use



press release was in regard to whether or not the school coerced the accuser into not going to the police.

"She was told that it wouldn't get very far with the police," said sophomore Morgan Evans in an ABC News story about the case. In the same story senior Jordan Bodwell stated that there's "a very clear pressure not to report, at this institution, to the police." Following Botstein's email Cooper sent one to the community as well. In it he wrote, "The student who notified our Title IX coordinator did not report the incident to law enforcement until this month. She was consistently advised to do so."

I sat down with Botstein shortly before he sent out his email in order to better understand why the institution

of an outside investigator for all Title IX investigations," said Stafford. The role of the investigator is to work as a neutral fact finder. This entails interviewing the student who filed the complaint, the individual against whom the complaint was made, and any named witnesses. According to Stafford, any additional evidence (e-mail, text messages, social media contact) will also be requested and can be voluntarily submitted. The College is unable to subpoena information, and is thus limited to information that has been handed over willingly. After investigations, the selected investigator comprises a report that is sent to the President of the College for review and determination of outcome. Both parties are notified when the investigator report has been submitted.

Once the President has reviewed the report, he determines the outcome, and, if appropriate, sanctions are put in place. The President's decision is shared with the Office of Title IX Coordinator, who then contacts the parties involved to relay the outcome of the investigation. Both parties have the right to appeal and the details of the appeal process are explained in their notice of outcome. The investigation results of the February 8 incident were appealed and have since been determined. However, due to privacy rights, the details of the decision cannot be disclosed. "I did decide on disciplinary sanctions as a result of the appeal and the case is now closed," said Botstein.

Throughout our discussion, Botstein emphasized that Bard is primarily a teaching organization, not a punitive one. "The very fine line is to respect the individual's involved and to limit the harm that was done and could be done. And to have a primary eye on the safety of individuals on the campus," he said.

He noted the difficulty in deciding a final disciplinary decision. He questioned how much damage over a lifetime

an egregious mistake should exact in a hypothetical situation where the facts are indisputable. "The extremes are very easy," said Botstein. "On the one hand there's a misunderstanding. On the other hand there's overt violence. Everything in the middle has to fit the particular case and has to consistently send the message that sexual violence and harassment won't be tolerated. And therefore these decisions are, except in the extremes, hard to make."

However, the President also made clear that Bard has never been lenient on its policy on any form of violence. "The college has been unambiguous about its intolerance of violence and sexual harassment," he stated. "The college has never failed to act promptly and according to the law, and in fact the college has never been cited for failure to do so, and has actually been in the forefront of investigating and prosecuting these cases."

In addition to the prominent sexual assault debates that have dominated student conversations, news of the recent alleged cases has also underscored the importance of consent. Botstein stated that despite the numerous and frequent workshop and lectures the college holds defining consent, he feels a need to redouble efforts to inform students of what consent actually means. "Consent means explicit and unambiguous consent for every stage of intimacy no matter how advanced," he said. He later equated the process of consensual intimacy to paying highways tolls.

"Consent has to be at every step of contact that can be considered intimate. It's like paying a toll. You pay a toll. That only gets you a certain distance, then you have to pay another toll, and that gets you another distance. You can't say 'well I paid the first toll and that allows me to get to the end of the road, whatever that end of the road may be.' The coinage would be more than a 'yes'. The yes has to

be verbal, not influenced by substance. It has to be without the appearance of undue pressure. It has to be deliberate, and probably has to have more commentary than just a mere 'yes'. It has to show real understanding of what's being asked. A yes doesn't mean anything if you don't have the requisite information of what's involved," said Botstein. "Sex can never be confused with the exertion of power. It has to be fundamentally based on a clearly understood sense of equality."

Sexual assault exists on nearly all college campuses across the country. A sad reality, it is crucial to remember that the issue spans numerous states. At Bard, we are fortunate enough for news like that of February 8 and May 6 to be less frequent than other schools in America. "Sexual violence is a global issue and it is complex," said Stafford. "There has been a lot of positive change and there will always be work to do to promote knowledge of rights and safely and productively inform those whose lives have been impacted of the resources available to them."

Communication of the issue has not been ideal - no party is content with the way information has been shared. However, the details released and the protocols followed are due to policies set in place on a national level. According to Stafford, the implementation of Title IX to the extent it requires colleges to conduct investigations can always be improved upon and that is why our policy is constantly under review and revisions, with a goal to make it better and to reflect the ever changing law.

TITLE IX FAST FACTS ONCE A REPORT HAS BEEN MADE

What the college is legally required to do:

Legally we are required to review and offer assistance with all reporting options (criminal & institutional), survivor rights, accommodations and support resources. If an individual chooses to file an institutional report:

- Complete an initial intake and record statement (Office of Title IX Coordination)
- Identify an investigator
- Conduct interviews of accuser, accused, and any named witnesses (Investigator)
- Voluntarily submit any additional evidence (e-mail, text messages, social media contact); write report
- Submit the report to college president for review and determination of outcome
- Notify both parties of the report submission
- Put sanctions in place (if necessary) following review of the report and determination of outcome (President)
- Notify both parties of outcome of investigation at which point either party can decide to appeal the decision
- Notify student body of sexual assault cases to be considered to be a possible threat to the greater campus community; i.e. assault involving a weapon, repeat offender, unknown identity of alleged assaulter, etc. ("dangerous" due to limited information regarding assault or assaulter)
- If an individual does NOT want to move forward with a formal complaint, the threat to the Campus Community will be assessed through informal inquiry and an appropriate response determined. Bard College will make all reasonable efforts to respect the requests of the complainant. The Title IX office will only move forward in a formal investigation without the involvement of the complainant if concerns of a threat to the greater campus community is determined.

What the college legally cannot do:

- Subpoena information (during the initial) to support an Institutional investigation
- Report allegations of sexual assault on its own to law enforcement agencies



Emily Epstein and Maude

- half Boston terrier, half English bulldog
- a little over a year old, born on Valentine's Day
- had lots of social anxiety when Emily got her; various pet specialists say that bringing her to Bard and socializing her quickly may have saved her disposition by forcing her to acclimate to being around humans
- Maude was first brought into Emily's family by her father, who hates dogs
- Hard to deal with having a brand-new puppy while going to school, but worth it

CANINES ON CAMPUS

BY AVERY MENCHER & PANSY SCHULMAN

For many students, one of the hardest parts of college is leaving their canine friends behind. Since Bard does not allow dogs in the dorms, many have to go a full four years only seeing their pups on breaks scattered throughout the year. However, one amongst many advantages of living off-campus is that some landlords do allow pets. A select few students choose to keep a dog with them in their apartments in Tivoli or Red Hook. Though it is every dog-loving student's dream, the pets bring some hardship with them, considering the responsibilities associated with their caretaking. The Free Press caught up with a couple Bard dog owners to ask them about their dogs: the difficulties, and the benefits.

photos by henry biosfelds

Anna Peneva and Noodle

- Chihuahua
- almost five months old; "born on Christmas because he is the second coming of Christ"
- Bought her first dog from a crack house in Camden, NJ for \$50 with a kitten thrown in to sweeten the deal. Bought this one for \$250 in Staatsburg, NY
- Brings Noodle to class with her; no one notices because he's so small
- Considers Noodle a blessing and a curse, since people always come up to her and bother her about him





photo by austin higgins

WEAPONS AT BARD

A DOUBLE EDGED SWORD

BY GRADY NIXON

Ken Cooper is allowed to have a weapon on campus. You, however, are not. Recently Mr. Cooper sent out an email politely reminding the student body of this fact. After an Environmental Services worker reported seeing a student enter a dorm with a shotgun, Security searched the dorm and found that the weapon in question was a broken BB-gun, not a shotgun. Still though, instances like this are what keep Cooper on edge.

Despite having never found a weapon that seemed to be intended for use, every reported sighting of a weapon is taken seriously. Cooper explained that confiscated weapons are typically "bought out of ignorance, not nefarious stuff." Still, possessing certain weapons is against school policy, while others are outright illegal.

Cooper has a wide collection of weapons he has found in students' possession over the years. Some, such as a sculpture of a gun and a rubber band gun seem innocent. Cooper explained that it is often the way that the

weapons or props are used that concerns Bard Security. While a fake gun sculpture has no real ability to harm, it can put the entire campus on high alert if it is mistaken for the real thing. Cooper mentioned an instance in which a student was "sticking a gun out of a window" and a security guard called his brother, Red Hook's police chief. After stopping the car at gunpoint, the officer realized that the student was playing with a toy gun. But due to the way he used the fake gun, the student "was actually thrown out of school," according to Cooper.

Other weapons, such as a pair of Samurai swords, a machete, and a cane sword stick out in Cooper's office. The email Cooper sent out was in reaction to "the amount of swords [he] was collecting." Cooper explained that the majority of real weapons he finds are edged weapons, not projectiles. He picked up the machete, looked at it, and said "machetes are okay but, like, in the dorm room? I just think it's not really cool." He picked up the cane,

looked at it, and said "this is just a cane." He then pulled on the top. "Oh, it's a sword too."

Cooper went on to explain that owning a cane sword in the state of New York, no matter how cool, is a felony. Although students are typically shielded from criminal charges when the school finds weapons, it can lead to serious consequences, as with the student who was expelled for playing with the prop gun.

The school's weapon policy, which Cooper wrote, allows for pocket knives and little else. Small containers of pepper spray are allowed, too. No projectile of any kind is allowed. If a weapon that is against school policy - or a non-weapon is used in a manner against the spirit of the policy - security will confiscate it. But, Cooper said that any legal weapons can be taken back so long as they don't stay on campus. In fact, he said he wants you to. He doesn't have room for them all.

FEATURED ARTIST: HANNAH BEERMAN

BY ORI CARLIN

From a distance, Hannah Beerman's paintings are playfully juvenile; colors reminiscent of Fauvism, an air of expressionism and the spatial feel of a Rauschenberg. But a closer study reveals a different intent. The paintings become more complicated, exposing Fautrier-like textures. Hannah recently had her senior project show and will have her first independent show in Brooklyn this summer.

FP: Where are you from?

HB: Nyack, N.Y. The Hudson Valley, not too far away. My family lives in the house where Joseph Cornell was born.

FP: Which artists inspire your work and where do their styles appear in your paintings?

HB: Hmm. Pretty strange because I think of figurative painters as my biggest influences and most of my recent work is completely abstract. I love Dana Schutz's color, Soutine's physical rigor, Chris Martin's playfulness, Matthew Barney's creature-humanoids and everything about De Kooning. But then again, walking around Chinatown today I stocked up on red plastic bags that folks selling fruit bag their stuff in and a bizarre exercise ball for little kids. I like the cheap, the overlooked. Those are my favorite treats and gems, and people on the street doing daily chores with cheap plastic tools might be even more directly influence me in terms of materials and shapes, than paintings do. But who knows what's in my subconscious... a lot! So a lot of paintings from history are absorbed in there and I'm sure peek out unknowingly. I always have loud music going when I'm working because it makes less room for my senses to operate in a verbal, procedural or logical way. It pushes me into this space of extreme immediacy and removes me further from deliberation and rationality. It keeps me uncomfortable with my paintings and that's where I'm always wanting to be. I never want to stop developing or experimenting. I'm very scared of becoming comfortable with my paintings or the processes and materials I use to make them. Also I really like just workin in my underpants, feels like I'm a little kid, genderless and free. But there's also the whole problem with oil paint and toxicity...but with summer coming up and all...oh also Dubuffet! He's one of my favorite painters!

FP: What is the importance of found objects in your work?

HB: Right now, I see the found objects working primarily in three ways. Firstly, BUDGET.

Paint is super expensive and so is canvas, and the incorporation of non-traditional painting materials first originated with me a few months ago to overcome the challenge of making work without the proper traditional tools. Now, formally, I see them as pieces of paint and try to have them lose their thing-ness and function as color, form and shape. Content-wise I'm obsessed with the idea of matter out of place. For example, snot, saliva and pee are totally acceptable inside a body and as soon as they are expelled they become disgusting. For example, hair in the drain of a shower is seen as yucky, when that same hair on the person's head could be super sexy and alluring. But in an out of context place it can become very disturbing and go from seductive to repugnant. Right now I am working on a painting where I am stretching space blankets and bath mats over a stretcher.

FP: Do your paintings have a disguise?

HB: I don't think so. I am interested in the process of making them and so I don't try to hide loose ends. But my paintings themselves are attempts at me transforming lots of scary imagery that I've been exposed to, seen, or had night terrors about. So in that sense the paintings are disguises themselves, allowing me to access the hard parts of life through digestible, sparkly gates.

FP: You work on multiple paintings at once.

HB: Does the attention you give to each painting at a given time depend on your state of mind? No. When I'm working, I enter a whole new space. Everything starts erupting out of me. It's sort of a manic desperation to attack and then be attacked by the canvases I have laid out everywhere. Overtime each painting develops, loses, and then hopefully develops again it's own separate identity. It's a super physical experience, running across my studio to the hallway to the trash can to get everything down, so my state of mind feels really safe when I am painting because in the studio I can get as dark and vulnerable and destructive and or as pathetic as possible and work it all out on by playing with canvases or terrorizing them.

FP: What are your plans after graduation?

HB: I'm super ridiculously lucky to be having my first solo show at Kimberly-Klark up during July in Queens, NYC. The opening is on June 27! For more details email me at hannah.beerman@gmail.com or the gallery at info@kimberly-klark.com. It's a great artist-run space! Would love people to come boogie at the opening and visit some new paintings while it's up! 788 Woodward Ave., off the M train in Ridgewood.









photo courtesy of bard archives

For the last month of the year, the Free Press picked sophomore men's baseball player Adam Carafotes and senior women's soccer/basketball/lacrosse player Joanna Regan. A starting first baseman and captain, Carafotes led the Raptors in hits, doubles, and home runs. He even led the Liberty League in doubles as well. His 50th and final hit was a home run to help Bard bury Skidmore, 18-7, in their last game of the season on May 3. A four-year, three-sport athlete, Regan was recently named Bard Female Student-Athlete of the Year. She was a captain in each sport, and she now holds the Bard record for most games played (232).

Free Press: What originally drew you to Bard?

Adam Carafotes: The classroom atmosphere really appealed to me. The professors I met all seemed really accommodating, and the Economics program specifically is really outstanding. I just thought that I would get great opportunities by coming here and majoring in economics.

Joanna Regan: I had actually never heard of Bard until about halfway through my senior year of high school, when my best friend was being recruited to play basketball here. Shortly after she told me about Bard, I got an email from the soccer coach Bill Kelly asking if I'd be interested in his school. I thought it was a bit odd that I had never heard of this school and then heard about it from two independent sources within a month. I decided to look into it a bit more, and I was really impressed with the caliber of academics here and the close relationships that students developed with their professors. The fact that I could also play sports was a nice added bonus.

FP: What is your favorite part about playing sports at Bard?

AC: This year it's just been incredible to be able to walk onto the new field every day and experience that. We also have two of the best coaches that I've ever personally played under.

JR: I really love the camaraderie that forms between a group of people that fight together. We all struggle through pre-season workouts together and we all celebrate a big win together. That feeling of knowing every single one of your teammates has your back on and off the court is truly inspirational. I really feel like playing sports has brought out the best parts of who I am.

FP: What is your best sports moment at Bard?

AC: Definitely had to be Game 2 of our Vassar doubleheader this spring. I shut them down for four innings [as a relief pitcher], and then I hit the walk-off double to make it two wins on the day. Just a terrific day all around.

JR: Oh man. So many - this is a really hard question. Maybe junior year in soccer when we beat nationally ranked NYU. We came in as the underdogs with nothing to lose and played our hearts out. It was surreal. Or my sophomore year in lacrosse we went out to Boston to play Regis College. It was back and forth the entire game but we pulled it out in the end. Our coaches were freaking out - it was hilarious - but we were just really proud of ourselves and our effort. Oh and then one year in basketball I had a half-court lefty buzzer beater, that was pretty cool.

FP: Do you have any pregame rituals or superstitions?

AC: I actually consider myself pretty superstitious, yeah. I wear the same athletic tape in the same spot every game, the same type of game socks that I wore in high school, and I alternate three different undershirts, depending on what jersey we wear. Finally, I always use the same bat for every game.

JR: For each sport I've kind of developed a different routine habit before each game. For soccer, I have a particular way of taping up my shin guards. For basketball, I tie my warm-up shirt around two chairs. For lacrosse, I always braid my hair the same way (it's a lax thing).

FP: What would you change about sports at Bard?

AC: Ha, tough question. If we had the money for it, a new gym would be great. New weight room, new locker room...they're all getting kind of old and cramped, and it would be a great morale boost and logistical help for everyone in the department.

JR: Obviously everyone would want more wins or a championship or something like that, but I've met such incredible human beings here that I wouldn't change it for anything. The women that I've had the pleasure of being on a team with are some of the most interesting and intelligent people I've ever met, I just hope everyone else will acknowledge and respect the amazing work that they've done.

FEATURED ATHLETES ADAM CARAFOTES & JOANNA REGAN

BY AVERY MENCHER



OPINION

OFFICE HOURS WITH ANNA & SIMONE

BY ANNA SINREICH AND SIMONE LEITNER

1) Why do I feel like a lesbian trapped in a man's body?

A, S, L

Anna: I'm not sure but everyone thinks I'm a lesbian.
Simone: Same.

2) I recently started dating a guy he does literally EVERYTHING for me hehe I know I'm so lucky. However, there's one thing that he refuses to let me do... He won't let me put my finger in his butthole. How do I convince him to let me put my finger in his butthole?

Acrylics, 21, Tivoli

Anna: Oy vey. I also have acrylics and my boyfriend also won't let me put my finger in his butthole. Suggest a strap-on but make sure that it's pink and glittery. Chic fingers, chic strap-on.

Simone: Maybe if you're patient and kind and loving towards him one day he will let you put your finger in his butthole.

3) I was going for a walk the other day and I stumbled across a little caterpillar walking along the road. I said "hello" to him and asked him why he was walking on the road. I felt so bad for him. I could tell that all he wanted was to be playing in the grass in the vegetation with all his friends. I could tell he missed his family. So I grabbed a stick and tried to guide him to the grass, to the vegetation, but he wouldn't budge, he just kept inching along his merry way. So then I grabbed another stick and the little guy climbed on it and I threw him into the grass, into the vegetation. Then I went to go check on him and wish him luck on his journey but upon finding him I noticed that he was dead. He wasn't moving. I was only trying to help. Did I kill him? Why does everything I touch die?

Super Blazed, 666, Community Garden

Anna: I don't get it are you high right now? I hate when people are stoned it looks so ugly!!!!!!!!!!!!

Simone: Well Super Blazed, sounds like you're SUPER BLAZED. Maybe hang out indoors and watch a movie. Get some pizza if you're feeling crazy. Stop touching bugs.

4) I farted on my boyfriend's leg while I was sleeping. I think he thought it was funny, but maybe he thought it was gross. Do you think he thought it was funny or gross?

Gassed, 18, Cancun's

Anna: Somebody once told me if you never fart, you're dead.
Simone: Honestly this is a problem we need to address. People

shouldn't have to run and hide to fart. Everyone farts (I think) so I would hope your boyfriend thinks it is funny. If he is grossed out by your farts then he deserves to be farted on.

5) Over Spring Fling I was grinding with this guy during Of Montreal. I think he was a senior and I think I'm in love with him. He's graduating and I don't think I am going to see him again. Last night I dreamt that we were getting married. I think he is the one. How do I make this work?

Lily, 17, Not in Antarctica (hehe alright Campus Center)

Anna: Why were you grinding to Of Montreal?

Simone: There are so few people in this world that would grind to Of Montreal. With this information, I think I can firmly say he probably is THE one. Profess your love to him publically, that's always fun to watch.

6) Help! Every time I buy a double espresso over ice I accidentally spill it all over myself. I think I am cursed. I am very wary of omens and like everything is going wrong all of the sudden. I am so tired. The other day I saw a black cat but I don't know if it was cursed or not because it had white paws. Am I cursed? I don't know.

Simone, 21, Office Hours

Anna: Simone !!! Why do you get to write a piece about yourself and I don't. When I write a piece about myself you tell me that it is self-promotion. What is this? I'm sad mad.

Simone: What?

7) I heard that OFFICE HOURS will send nudes if I write a like-somebardian about Anna and Simone. Does this offer still stand?

Mike, 56, Tivoli

Anna: Oops sorry it took you too long. Offer has expired. I would hope that I wouldn't have to bribe people to write nice things about me. I mean, look at me. Simone! Look at me.

Simone: I think that sometimes in life you reach a fork in the road where you can either sit down for a meal or order take out. Sometimes it is fulfilling to go down the traditional path, sit and eat your meal. Sometimes bad girls have more fun, take the food on the go. It's kind of like graduating. Welp. I'm sorry, I'm trying to give you advice but I'm really hungry. If you want to talk about this further could you pick me up some food? I just ordered from Another Fork in the Road. I'll pay you back I'm here now. Office hours.



RE: BARD TWEETS

Like Some Bardian @likesomebardian

re: "you are not white" - I think this is about me? can i get some more info?

Carly Krim @crlyk4

If I ever become a wealthy alumni, I'm gonna buy back the baseball field

kaitlin gleason @k8scooltweets

Lol @ having 2 b careful abt what u tweet bc @BardFreePress might put your most embarrassing throwaway tweet on the back cover 2 sabotage u

Bella Mazzetti @bellamazzetti

Found an article called 'Faust and Furious' ok I'm done with academia

niall @lil_nyquil

girl sitting outside campus center whos been drinking mikes hard lemonade and taking pictures with selfie stick for 30 mins

Mariana Sanchez @ok_bueno

my roommate got a chinchilla so now there's two of us on this fucking campus

Pat Kelly @patmikekelly4

Who's better "of porches" or "Montreal"

trash @yunggavery

hand me the aux cord in the safe ride

a friend @freshnmean

class registration is really stressful but also just like 5% arousing

Sabrina @sablurvsscience

happy mother's day dad! #gender

