

# OBSERVER

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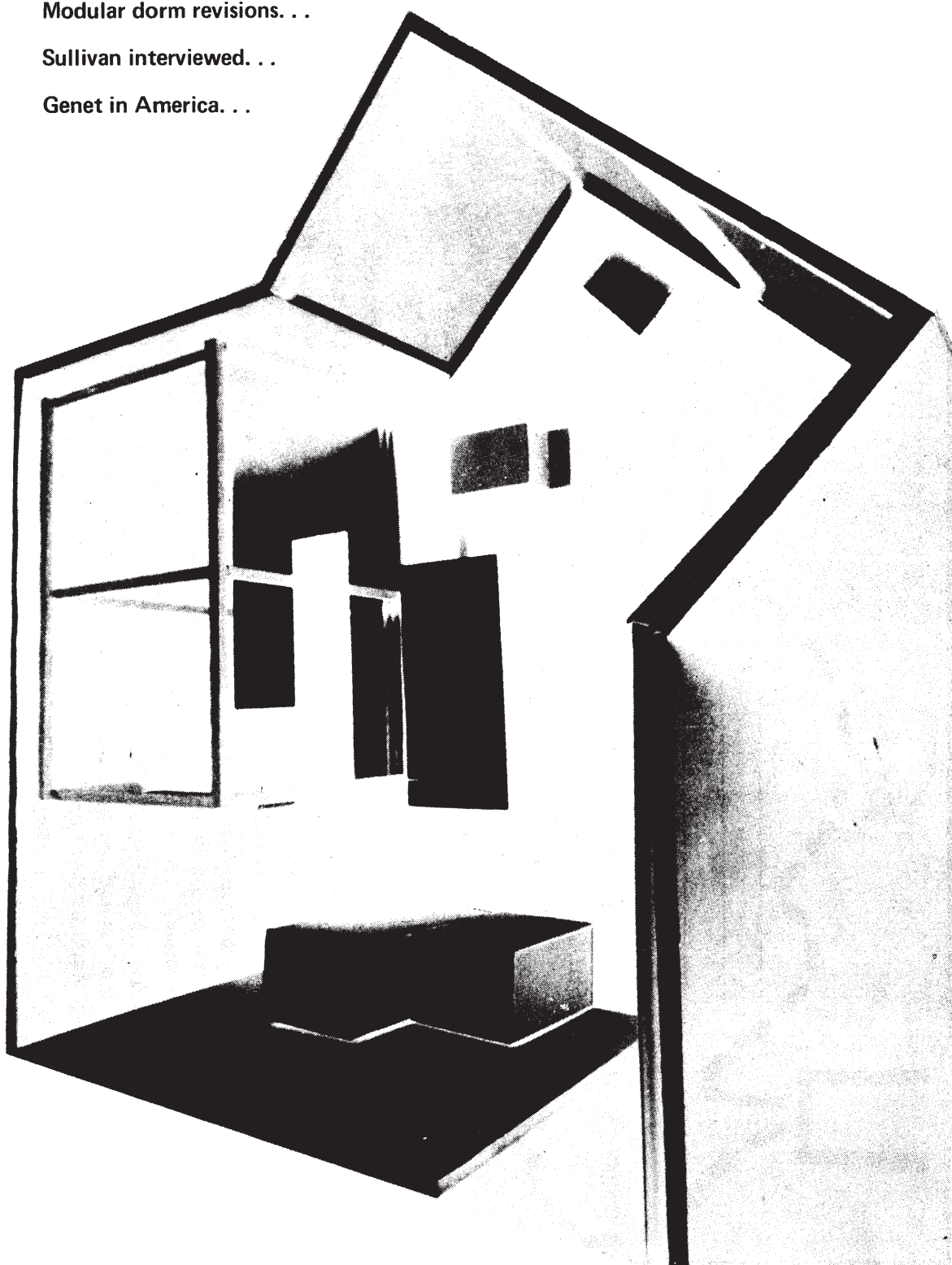
# observer

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Modular dorm revisions. . .

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# SISTERS UNITE:

from page 7

feminists who had organized the Conspiracy office and kept it functioning. Working for practically no salaries, those girls had made a valuable contribution of time and hard work, and without them that office would not have held together. They were hip and intelligent and they knew what the priorities were. They were probably doing the same menial office-type jobs they'd done before their 'liberation,' but they knew that they had organizational skills and experience that the male staffers lacked. They were the only ones equipped to run that office smoothly, they were needed, and the big difference was that here they were involved in something they believed in.

The thing is that the political role of the feminists seems only to be understood by the more establishment-oriented groups such as NOW and the New Feminists. Functioning outside of the radical movement women's organizations are most effective in direct confrontations with legislative institutions and other women. When they disrupt Senate commission hearings on the pill and demand to know why there are no women on the panel and among the speakers, when they speak out for legalized abortion, against marriage and divorce legislation, when they attack statutes denying parole for female convicts, they deserve support. Their disruptions of the Miss America contest is the only thing that makes that wierd pageant worth tuning the tube to every year.

When they call Judge Carswell a 'sexist,' they are serving a valuable function. Nobody really cares if Carswell is a 'sexist' or not... there's already enough evidence that he's a racist and that 58% of his decisions have been reversed in a higher court... but the feminists have added another voice in opposition to the appointment of Carwells to influential government positions. These are the important confrontations, these should be the priorities, for this is where the feminists serve both the public interest and their own. Whether its their intention or not, they also help the radical movement. Its really much hipper to be out there cowboying, boots and get dressed up, its much groovier to unleash all of that hostility and insanity underground that has enough of its own.



# design follows BOLD LINES...

After extensive modifications in the original feasibility study, architects Peter Blake and James Baker presented the finalized version of the new modular dormitory to a group of community members Wednesday afternoon, April 8. The meeting was also attended by a representative from the Ford Foundation, William Rovitch, who stressed that the concept of modular dorms being experimental in nature, far better expressed what he considered the nature of Bard than the structures already erected on the campus. He went on to say that the time element, the stress that the architects and concerned parties operated under, caused the design to follow bold lines of thought rather than wind up carefully considered and overdesigned.

He finished by asking faculty and administrators to avoid, in the design, elements that would limit the resident's own individual choices. This request proved to be the theme of the ensuing discussion as Peter Blake presented the new plans.

Starting from the outside and working his way in, Blake described the exterior finish as rough cedar with the option of finish left up to the school. The general design revisions affect the layout to the greatest extent, he explained, citing the change from a sixteen unit building to a twelve unit building as the major factor in this change. Whereas before there were four rooms in the center floor with two rooms on the

floors above and below, there are now three rooms per floor in each of the dorms with only two floors. Another change is in the placement of the social room, before on the central floor near the main entrance, it has been moved to the lowest level, and now possesses a great deal more access to the outdoors.

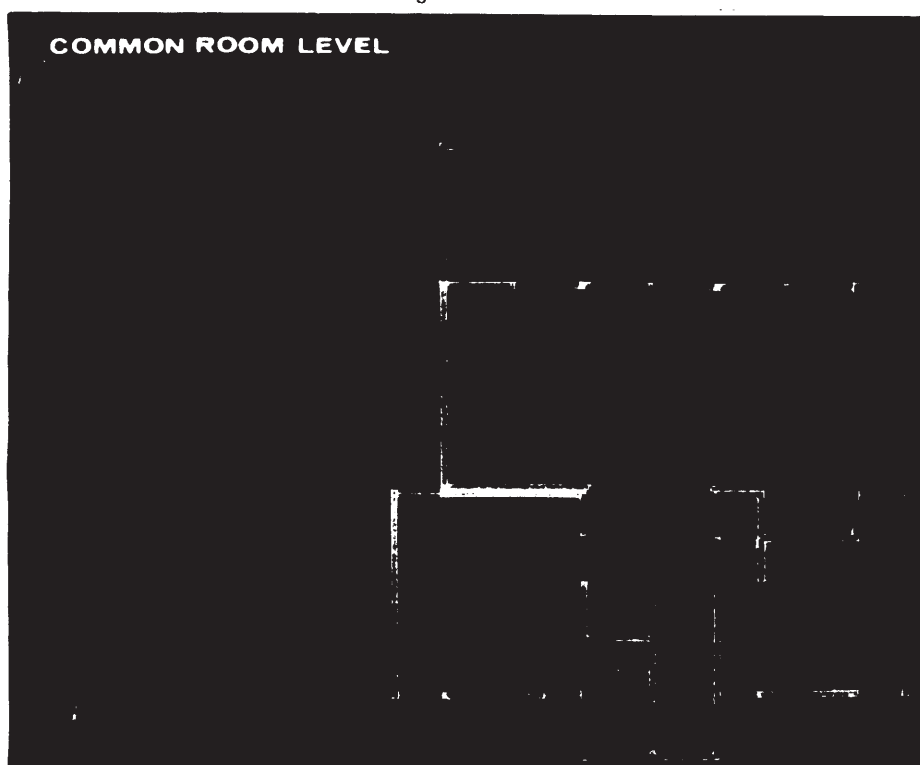
The rooms themselves are going to be 12' X 14' with more area added by a large 'bay window' area in one of the room's corners. The walls will be of overlaid plywood, extremely durable and hard. The floors will be covered by a special type of carpeting that will resist both wear and fire. The walls will have shelf standards built into them at intervals all the way around the room and each room will be equipped with shelving that the student may arrange in any manner he so desires. The tops of the walls will have a slight recess to facilitate hanging things on the wall if the occupant so desires. The windows in each of the rooms will cover two of the sides of the 'bay' with the electric radiant heater filling up the other wall. The heater in each room will be controlled by an individual thermostat to provide a climate that is suitable to its resident.

The furnishings in each of the rooms is a matter that will be brought up in a meeting Thursday evening, 6:30 in Albee Social, where the three different plans for furnishings that the architects presented will be discussed. The first plan calls for conventional furnishings with the

traditional narrow bed, bureau, and wardrobe. It winds up being the most expensive of the three. The second approach looks towards modular furniture that the student can easily move, with a bed that has storage facilities under it. The third plan, which is also the most inexpensive, calls for a bed with a 'Uni-Strut' frame around it as the central element of the room. The bed here would be wider than usual, 48", and the frame would form the supports for such suspended items as the desk and shelving. With this plan, called by one of the architects 'a room within a room', a student would have great freedom of design with not only horizontal freedom, moving the furniture around on the floor, but vertical freedom as well, being able to move the bed up and down within the frame. In case the frame is not desired, it can easily be knocked down and stored compactly, thus providing the student with the maximum amount of design freedom he could design but not imposing a design upon him.

There will be a mock-up of the room on campus within a month in order to show students what they are literally getting into, but the meeting tomorrow night is important because many elements of the design will be finalized at that point. The architects expressed a great desire to mold their designs to student needs and desires, and in great part, this revision is in response to student opinion garnered from the first meeting with them in February.

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# observer

Phone (914) 758-3665  
an alternative newsmedia project

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janet auster, louise link

The forming of a Film Department at Bard is an obviously important event. One that will shape a lot of future plans for expanding the 'Bard experience'.

Students should have a large say in the formation of the new department (and we hope it will be a separate department), especially in the areas of reviewing and selecting films, determining the location, and planning the general emphasis of film programs.

Perhaps a meeting of President Kline and students interested in the film situation would speed up the process of starting such a program.

As money is probably the prime hang up in this area, students should decide whether or not they would be willing to support a fledgling department with additional funds, and also be aware of the moral implications of a program available, at least initially, only for the rich.



## letters

believe that lengthy discussions have failed to lead to a reasonable agreement.

I am convinced that the Bard spirit about which I have written is still alive enough to lead to discussions about any matters which any individual or group proposes. If it is not we better start the process of revival quickly.

Now a few words about the "Moderation strike" of the sophomores in the Government Department. It came out of the blue sky without any previous warning. Dr. Koblitz and I had in fact taken the initiative, as we had done in previous years, to call a meeting of all government majors with an open agenda which included a discussion of Moderation. At this meeting, to which two of the "protestors" did not come, we had the upper college students tell the others about their experience at Moderation. Should this opportunity not have been used by the sophomores to bring up any misgivings about the Moderation which they might have had, or, if they did not want to do it at that time come to us and talk about it? Furthermore Dr. Koblitz and I have for years practiced the Bard spirit by asking our students both formally and informally to make suggestions and have acted upon them as much as it was humanly possible for us. I should add that only one of the protestors has been at Bard for two years.

After the first meeting with the government sophomores, which was reported in the Observer, one of the students did the "Bardian thing" and discussed the issues with me. We had no difficulty in agreeing that the impasse had been reached because the students had thought of us as authoritarian father figures rather than as individuals ready and anxious to discuss matters. This cleared the atmosphere and I hope led to a fruitful second discussion which I hope will also be reported by the students.

I hope very much that the sophomores realized during our second discussion

### SOME REFLECTIONS ABOUT "LOWER COLLEGE OF BARD UNITE!"

To the Editor:  
Before I say anything about Moderation let me make a few general remarks. Confrontation tactics should be out of place at Bard. Why? Bard has had an EPC for about 30 years as well as a great many other bodies set up to encourage and facilitate student participation in the affairs of the College and college-wide discussion (Community Assembly, Community Council, Student Senate and College Advisory Board, to name just a few). These bodies were and are an expression of the basic belief that students have the right to be heard and the ability to make valuable contributions. The Bard spirit was: no document is sacrosanct, no method is infallible, if you have an idea about improvements let's discuss it rationally, and dispassionately. I am not saying that the faculty can be absolved from all responsibility for the fact that this Bard spirit has broken down, but I would strongly suggest that it is also in part due to the fact that many students are frustrated by the recent inability of EPC and the Student Senate to operate as intended.

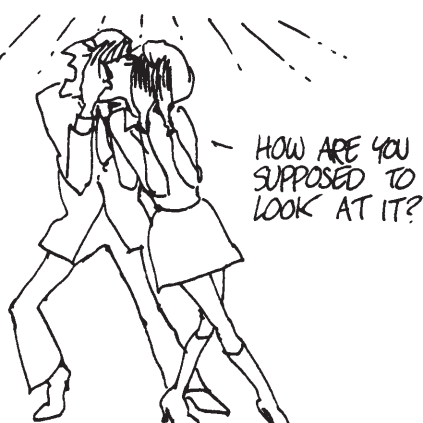
The outside environment plays a role too, perhaps the major one. How about the unrealistic desire for instant gratification? How about the fashionable belief that older people do not understand younger people? How about the influence on us of the confrontations at other colleges and universities? I would very strongly suggest that these confrontations in the other institution were caused by the fact that they did not have the Bard spirit, that the presidents' offices were closed to both faculty and students and that the faculty were inaccessible to the students, etc. How about the confrontations staged by the Blacks? Did they not start only after they had tried for years, rather decades, to get a hearing for their legitimate grievances? How about union strikes? They do not take place at the beginning of negotiations, but only after the unions

## FEIFFER

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THE TRUTH!



YOU POKE A HOLE IN A GOVERNMENT PRESS RELEASE -



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AND LOOK AT THE NEWSPAPER WITH YOUR EYES CLOSED.



BUT YOU DON'T SEE IT!



BUT YOU DON'T GET BLINDED.

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# interview

## "...LOOK AT OUR MEASURING STICK"

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The following is an interview with Jim Sullivan, acting chairman of the Art Department in Matt Phillips' absence.

What is the Art Department in the Bard community?

It is important to understand that producing art has more to do with perceptions and less to do with applying paint on canvas than is generally realized.

An art department should not be a place where the sole purpose is making paintings. (This does not mean we don't expect tangible results, we do.)

It should be a place of intense activity and work trying to understand the conceptual basis of creativity

The intuitive part of the art process seems to me at this point to be less teachable despite its importance. I think the function of an art department is to analyze as much as it can of the art process. It takes less than four years to learn how to paint. An art course that values intelligence, perception, learning to see and to think, is as valuable as any course. The Bard Art Department is to be truly a place an artist can come out of. It has to be a place where present ways of perceiving things can be understood with the possibility of seeing things in a new way.

Simply to learn how to paint is inconsequential. A Bard art course should be of value whether or not a student goes on to be an artist. At least he's been exposed to a process where clear conceptualization has been a priority instead of craft.

At the best we are laying the groundwork for students to become artists. That is, people who will make meaningful challenges to the existing order; not just make beautiful paintings, but get involved with art that sees ahead. That way there is value to four years of college education beyond simply learning a craft.

How does the rest of the Bard community feel about the Art Department?

The Bard community looks at art no differently than society in general looks at art. The problem is more general than local. People get upset when art is redefined, and artists are always doing that.

Adding to the problem is the fact that the Art Department is growing, as are all college art departments. This has created problems for Bard in trying to keep an exact student level and a student-teacher ratio.

There seemed to be fewer and less troublesome attitudes concerning the Art Department when it was smaller

and less aggressive. There are myths society holds about artists and Bard is no exception. The Art Department has to confront these myths. It has to present a clear indication of what it is doing. By this, we hope for more community understanding. It won't be easy.

Paranoia aside, art at Bard is subjected to more unspoken questioning than most other disciplines. I think a healthier situation would be one in which these questions are verbalized in a straight and frank way

Like some other courses being experimented with at Bard, art courses do not use the conventional standards of written examination and appraisal. Because the measuring systems differ, some call the value of the course into question. If we are going to question the value of one course, we should question them all from A to Z. It becomes difficult to experiment in an environment that questions the value of the experiment because it is difficult to measure. Should we look at our measuring stick?

There has been some talk that the Art Department breeds destructive, inter-student competition. How do you feel about this?

I think competition for reward can be negative. A certain amount of competition is natural and desired. I think ours is that. I would encourage students away from secrecy and

toward sharing as much as they can. I can even see a place for more group projects. After this, competition becomes more of a personal thing and has less to do with the department.

There has been a charge that unless you paint in a 'New York City contemporary' style you can't make it in the Bard Art Department.

Ideally, if one is dealing with concepts, one can reach to any point in the past for study. Actually, most art students, after four or so semesters find themselves dealing with the aesthetic problems of the recent past. I encourage this because, very simply, I want them to know what is going on now. It's the key to the future. I might add a little braking power to the students' natural inclination to move into the present.

I would expect that those people with this beef are freshmen and sophomores who came to us expecting to be taught picture making based on limited aesthetic experience, and want to continue those limits. We want to open them up. We expect a little resistance—they're all normal. It's a fight we all win.

What is the most important need of the Art Department?

I wouldn't know which to put first.

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## DR. HIP POGRATES

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Several people have asked recently about the effects of cocaine so I've sniffed out some information for you.

Cocaine is a stimulant to the central nervous system, reduces hunger and, when applied directly to mucus membranes such as those lining the nose and mouth, produces anesthesia and constriction of blood vessels. The drug is derived from leaves of erythroxylon coca and, for centuries, natives of Peru and Bolivia have chewed cocoa leaves for their stimulatory effect.

An article on Argentina appearing in the current Braniff Airlines travel magazine recommends to adventurous tourists the local custom of chewing cocoa leaves after dining. Its author describes pleasurable tingling sensations of the mouth and tongue resulting from cocaine's anesthetic effects. Perhaps Braniff Airlines officials risk prison for using Madison Avenue techniques to promote pleasure through drugs

Cocaine was first used in medicine by a young Viennese physician named Sigmund Freud. Freud experimented personally with cocaine for some time and apparently developed many of

his theories of psychoanalysis aided by the drug. (Use of a drug to develop a drugless therapy is illustrated also by Synanon games, which evolved from an LSD experience.) Freud thought cocaine was a psychiatric wonder drug and prescribed it for virtually every mental illness. He rapidly became disillusioned with cocaine, though, when he discovered that his patients easily got strung out behind the drug.

Cocaine is similar to amphetamines in many ways. Tolerance (the necessity to take more and more to achieve the same effect) develops easily and high doses can cause a toxic paranoid psychosis. According to Goodman and Gilman's THE PHARMACOLOGIC BASIS OF THERAPEUTICS (the standard pharmacology reference),

"Unlike the user of morphine, whose drives are decreased, the cocaine user is stimulated and may act in response to his persecutory delusions, carrying weapons and using them on his alleged persecutors. The stereotype of the 'depraved dope fiend,' so inappropriately used to describe the opiate user, is not entirely unjustified when applied to the cocaine user who develops toxic symptoms."

An overdose of cocaine may cause convulsions and death.

Intravenous use of cocaine seems rare today but sniffing the drug is in vogue once more. Cocaine sniffers frequently develop perforations of the nasal septum (the cartilage between the nostrils) due to constriction of local blood vessels resulting in tissue damage from lack of oxygen.

Cocaine is usually classified as an addictive drug though withdrawal doesn't cause the abstinence symptoms seen in junkies.

Cocaine withdrawal causes symptoms similar to those seen in withdrawal from amphetamines — depression, fatigue and listlessness.

Don't want to sound like a pundit, but dangers from cocaine aren't to be sniffed at.

### ANOTHER DANGEROUS DRUG

Investigators of the University of Florida College of Medicine have found that toxic agents in tobacco smoke, especially cigarettes, cause the body to generate a substance which

greatly reduces oxygen transport by red blood cells. Reduced oxygen transport may contribute to heart attacks.

Blood from donors who smoke is probably less useful therapeutically than from non-smokers. When the Florida researchers incubated red blood cells from a non-smoker in blood plasma of a tobacco fiend, the cells showed a decrease in their oxygen handling capacity. Robert Eliot, M.D., who led the investigations, said, "These changes are apparent even in a young person who smokes more than 12 cigarettes a day."

A report in the journal of the AMA of 3/30/70 indicates smokers not only have eleven times more lung cancer than non-smokers, but that heavy smokers develop a more malignant form of the disease than the lung cancer seen in light smokers.

The same issue refers to Philip Roth's PORTNOY'S COMPLAINT in quoting from the MEDICAL BULLETIN ON TOBACCO:

"Handling things can be satisfying, but there are many ways to keep your hands busy without lighting up or playing with a cigarette."



THE SUMMER THAT  
WASN'T... OR WHO IS  
THAT MASKED MAN?

## CAT OF



## TAILS

The Nixon administration is guilty of many things that make one angry. They have had the audacity to nominate two racists to the supreme court, they have continued the war in VietNam, with no appreciable change in outlook, they have done nothing about ecology, save turning it into a political question, in short, they have done nothing that is of any use to anybody except the big businesses. This of course, was to be expected. Nixon knows on what side his bread is buttered, but now they have overstepped themselves. What I have the misfortune of reporting is probably the single greatest travesty of justice that has ever been perpetrated on the American people. On the opening day at RFK memorial stadium in Washington, D.C., the president allowed his son-in-law, David Eisenhower, throw out the first ball of the 1970 baseball season, instead of Nixon himself doing it.

This is unheard of. Never before, since baseball became the national sport, has anyone except the president thrown out the first ball. And the audacity of Nixon to let his son-in-law, an untried, and unproven young upstart, if you ask me, throw out the ball, is simply amazing. I thought that I was alienated before. Now, why, my blood is curdling in my veins.

Even a professional athlete would have been a better choice. He would also have had the opportunity to get in a few cuts at sportswriters, who he undoubtedly thinks are as bad as the rest of the journalistic profession. He could ever have made some remark about football players being effete snobs. Or Pat, she could have gone out and wowed all the fashion writers with her new, pink, spring wardrobe. Or Tricia, and she could have said something about how she deplores the youth of today, and how she feels that they should return to God, Republicanism and that old take me out to the ball game spirit, that she herself seems to be so fond of. But David, I mean, it's too much.

What also rankles me is the fact that Nixon apparently is trying to set up some kind of dynasty. It is almost as if he was giving David practice for when he is president. This concept of keeping it in the family is also too much to bear.

And anyway, what has Nixon got to do that is more important than throwing out the first ball? He certainly isn't working on some master plan to get us out of Vietnam, nor has he got anything else up his sleeve that deserves his and our attention more than the baseball season. Why, in one fell swoop, he has wrecked the whole year. What good will it do now if the Mets make an incredible comeback to win the pennant? The other teams can always contend that the season should be invalidated because it was never started properly. What good will it be if someone breaks the home run record, it will have to go into the books with an asterisk, because it took place in the season that never was. Nixon has destroyed the one stable thing in America, the one thing that everyone could turn to and point at with pride, the one thing that equalized everyone, black or white, hippie, yippie, and conservative; the baseball season. This year the season will be played in a kind of twilight, a never-never land, because of one man's foolishness.

Try to imagine the truly sweeping nature of Nixon's action. If this man is capable of wrecking the baseball season, then imagine what else he is capable of. Why, no one is safe. He could do any number of things, no tradition is above his violent hand. Imagine yourself, one night, in the sanctity of your own home, and David Eisenhower knocks on the door with a presidential order to the effect that he is taking over for you tonight, and you have to blithely sit by as he ravishes your girlfriend. Or wake up some morning and discover that it is David Eisenhower who is going to take you to work to see the Pentagon. Instead of you yourself. Or at four-thirty in the morning, you are awakened by a knock on the door, and to your initial relief it is not Sheriff Quilan, but David Eisenhower. Imagine your surprise when he says "You're under arrest..."

## Fraud— ulphant ad by NIMH

WASHINGTON—(CPS)—You've probably seen the television commercial put out by the National Institute of Mental Health which shows a haggard man "strung out" on speed.

The ad said the man is 21-years old and that he had started taking speed in pill form and later graduated to shooting methedrine. The headline under the picture reads, "Happy 21st Birthday, Johnny." "Most people take him for about 35," the ad goes on to say.

In reality, reports the HARVARD CRIMSON, Johnny is a 30-year old actor from New York City who wore make-up for the commercial. He says he has never taken speed in any form, and he signed a release stating he knew in what way the picture would be used.

He was paid \$150 for appearing in the ad, the CRIMSON reports.



## letters

from page 2

that we were not "assuming the role of apologists for the present moderation system," but that we tried to point out to them that the purpose of the two features to which they most strongly objected differed from their conception: that the "long" paper was not asked for so that three people on the board could pick it to pieces which could be done by the advisor all by himself in a private conference, but that it was there to serve as a focal point for a wide discussion in which the student could show that he not only had some mastery of the subject but that he understood its implications and its relation to other related fields? and that the three members of the board were not there to harass them, but to help them look at themselves and their work from several different points of view and cancel out whatever prejudice, both positive and negative, the adviser might have. In short, we tried to show that these two features are positive rather than negative and that the three member board is actually of advantage to the students.

I have realized over many years that many students go into a Moderation with a great deal of anxiety, even some of those who do not have to fear its outcome and have, in fact, been repeatedly assured that they would go through with flying colors and find it a valuable educational experience. I have talked to many generations of students who have gone through the "ordeal" and almost all of them have assured me that their fears had been unnecessary. In view of all this I have been greatly puzzled for many years why this anxiety keeps reappearing. My answer, fragmentary as it may be, is that 1. some upper college students try to enhance their status by talking about their moderation as a great accomplishment against almost insurmountable odds and that 2. some of those who failed or were deferred talk about severity, unfairness and even prejudice. (I do not mean to imply that we do not make mistakes in evaluation during moderations — BOTH ways.)

The government sophomores are not opposed to some evaluation at the end of the second year. They will formalize proposals for consideration. We expect that they will come up with good proposals and we hope that we will have the opportunity to experiment with different procedures.

My final plea: tell us about things that bother you, tell us about your ideas. How else are we to know? We are not mind readers! We are human beings just like you.

—Heinz Bertelsmann

To the Editor:

Mr. Roberts is a helpful asset to the Bard community. When he was notified by Mary Suggat that the yellow strips containing pesticide could perhaps be dangerous, he immediately removed them from Dining Commons and the coffee shop. His cooperation should not go unnoticed by anyone. These yellow strips have been recommended by the State Health Department and are in wide spread use in

New York state and other parts of the country, without enough research as to what kind of effects the pesticide could have on the food we eat. For those who are interested in the harmful effects of pesticide, Rachel Carson discusses it in her book Silent Spring.

We thank Mr. Roberts for his sensitivity towards ecological concerns.

Bard Earth Action

Dear Editor:

Upon further consideration I have completely reversed my position on Women's Lib. After specifically stating I will not tolerate visits to the Deserted Village I find more and more Bard students venturing forth. A great majority of these have been females. Therefore, I have, because I always will, and I did not.

After a careful examination of the situation I now realize that this overflow of palsied pupils into the D.V. is not the students' fault but that of Reamer Kline. Kline is exploiting the students. In the last eight years he has increased the school's population almost twofold and miraculously has not in that same time constructed one new structure to house, educate or recreate them (except of course for the news stand).

Right on Reamer!

I feel it is bad enough that Reamer follow this disastrous policy of increasing the size of the school but at least if he is going to follow this bullshit policy he must first create the facilities. Last week I put on a disguise and swooped down on campus to see a film at Sottery but alas, was unable to even enter, let alone find a seat, because of the large crowd. Solution-less students or a bigger building. If this situation is not resolved I will resort to a method of persuasion. I will kill.

Contemptuously,,  
The Bardian Wild Man  
(Class of '36)

Wildmen of the World Unite.

To the Editor:


After long and arduous considerations, involving schemes whereby life at Bard could be improved physically, intellectually, and spiritually, I discovered that there is indeed only one solution that would immensely improve our life-style. The many false starts and dead-end streets which I encountered in these reflections only served to indicate just how far off I was from the most obvious and most tried and tested method that has without exception always succeeded in creating solidarity and life within a community. I was so foolish as to believe that the way to cure social, political, and physical ills was through social, political, and physical interactions and dialogue. I had so fallen prey to the venom and pollution of my technological environment that I could not see the forest because of the trees. From now on in, I declare an end to circular reasoning and intellectual co-option. We must embark on a new direction for Bard, using the oldest technique available!

Let us return to the land!

The earth indeed is our mother. We no only draw from her the prerequisites of physical survival, but, also, the essentials of emotional well-being. Here at Bard we boast of an acre/student ratio of about one to one (far better

can't page 6





# RAMBLER

## midnight

The United States spit more metal into the universe this weekend. Three sterile-looking humans are flying through space risking their lives for the peace and betterment of mankind. Really, what value do these space missions have at a time when human dignity is so low on earth?

Originally the space race was intended to be a major prop in the cold war. The Russians were a threat. The United States had to prove it's technological superiority. Well how about its sociological superiority? The Russians made fantastic gains in space until they became wise to the plight of the starving comrades around them and were forced to discontinue their program. In contrast, the United States has plowed through with tremendous success, undaunted by the impoverished cries of its oppressed citizenry

General Motors tells us that a pollution free engine will be impossible to develop until at least 1972. And yet we can send men to the moon. If General Motors had the interests of the public in mind instead of their unscrupulous greed for money they could have developed a pollution-free engine before the first satellite. General Motors and the United States could better have proved its technological superiority by showing the world that they protected their people from the hazards of air pollution. Producing a model automobile for the world could have been and still can be an impressive show of technological strength.

I am told that every American is proud of the fact that we were the first to land on the moon. We achieved a great technological feat. Yes, I am proud. But I am ten times more ashamed of the fact that polluted air is imposed on me by someone who profits off this assault. As an

## paperwork swamp for draft system

WASHINGTON -- (CPS) -- The New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam has devised a plan to inundate the Selective Service system in paperwork and thus beat the SS at its own game.

Proceeding on the assumption that 'Selective Service just cannot stand up, administratively, to absolute obedience of the draft law,' New Mobe is urging everyone to comply so completely with the law that the nation's 4,100 local draft boards become hopelessly tied up in paperwork.

The plan, which is part of the New Mobe spring offensive, requires that male registrants inform their draft boards of every change in their address, religion, mental attitude, health, occupation, and marital status. Selective Service law already requires such notification, but boards, because of the paperwork involved, rarely keep close checks on all these matters, particularly on every change in mental attitude.

New Mobe's major focus will be to

American I am ashamed of the fact that we are so technologically inferior as to be unable to develop a clean engine.

Americans, perhaps unconvinced themselves, seek spectacular scientific achievements to reassure them of the fact that they are the most advanced society ever. So we shoot men into space and mathematically plot their survival. Certainly, scientific discoveries might be made that could change the face of the earth. But scientists tell us this is highly unlikely. What nerve we have to explore the universe when we have done so little to explore the earth. We know less about the sea which covers most of the earth than we do about that large rock circling above us.

What bothers me even more is the amount of money being wasted in this venture. How many new and decent apartment buildings could have been built in Harlem at the expense of the space program? Why doesn't the United States government create an organization like NASA using the funds for just this purpose? How many oppressed people have we denied the right of living a humanly dignified life by sending three men off to the moon? How do you think the poor masses of people in America feel about the moon mission? I think that they are very upset they have once again been deprived of the necessities of human existence.

Apparently the problem is that the United States functions around a scrambled host of priorities. How can we afford to spend one thousand dollars per second in Vietnam while our cities decay and crumble around us? How many times can we ejaculate men and money into an unreal universe while in reality many Americans walk the land unable to put a roof

recruit the 18 million men in the 5-A classification (over-age) into the 'paperwork war.

Although the law requires every male born after Aug. 30, 1922, to be registered and carry his draft card, local boards generally pay no attention to their over-25 registrants. If local boards were suddenly forced to pay attention to the oldies, they would quickly find themselves armpit-deep in paperwork.

New Mobe spokesman Mrs. Trudi Young says, 'We want everyone to take this law so seriously that they inform their board of every single change (in their status), even if they're over-age or have already completed their service.'

A local board must place in a registrant's file all material the registrant requests placed there. If several hundred books a registrant has read, for example, change his mental attitude or religious beliefs, the books may be placed in the registrant's file.

over their heads and food in their bellies? I mean, I just don't get it. What is the rationale? What is this illogic?

\* \* \*  
For the first time since I have become aware I saw something which instilled a bit of confidence in me for the American government. The people rejoice at the defeat of Carswell as another Nixon blunder comes to light.

I can only say that Carswell must have been bad and really bad for Congress to reject him. After being beaten once Nixon refused to meet the test. Nixon blasted Congress by accusing them of "sectionalism" in their negative vote. He has obviously insulted every Congressman who voted against the nomination by giving them no credit for their reasons. They made their decision based on the man Carswell and not because he was from the South. Any moron knows that. I would venture to guess that those Congressmen who voted for Carswell were the ones guilty of sectionalism. Several brave people ignored immense political pressure and found it in their heads to vote according to their conscience and not according to an order.

Nixon then gave Spiro a chance to foam at the mouth. He relished at the chance to blast the press. And blast he did with his main criticism revolving around his opinion that the press gave unfair coverage of the candidate so as to influence the ballot. I'm afraid Spiro won't be satisfied until he is allowed to edit all the copy (which might come someday soon). I thought the coverage in New York was rather shaded. But nothing could shade the embarrassment of the populous over Nixon's unworthy candidate. Nixon can surely find SOMEONE who is at least close to being worthy of the job. With all the ranting and raving by the administration I think what they really need is a crying towel to help them get together. Nixon is sinking deeper and deeper into trouble and that towel will come in handy furing the next few months.

Dicky's popularity has taken a sharp decline in the past two months according to the latest Gallup Poll. He dropped 13% from 66% to 53% between February and April. And this decline does not reflect the response to the Carswell disaster.

Next month's poll will reflect the response and I'm rubbing my hands together in anticipation of a record breaking decline in popularity. Our President has been doing so many things wrong it's hard to keep up with them all. This next bit of news won't help his image much either.

Nixon's personal doctor, while he was vice-president in the fifties (ah, remember the good old days), recently won the president's backing of a campaign to give every child between the ages of six and eight a psychological test to predict their violent and homicidal tendencies (I dare Nixon, Agnew, or Mitchell to take the test). If a child fails the test he is sent off to a rehabilitative "camp."

The implications of this program are very serious and should not be treated lightly. Would you submit your child to this test? How do you feel about allowing the government to take your innocent child away for "corrective treatment?" The best test that they could put together would have a range of error that could reach 50%. How many innocent children and their families would face this trauma? I want no part of this new program and wouldn't let my child take the test. Of course I would have little to worry about because I'm a white man and I see this plan as a way of locking up or indoctrinating the whole black colony in America. The possible threat of a systematic obliteration of a race of people here in America is consistent with the Nixon regime's continuous attempt to promote facism at every turn.

The full force of the blunder Nixon has made in promoting this program is presently hitting him right in the face. Experts in the fields of psychiatry and sociology who have reviewed the plan formulated by Nixon's personal doctor are astounded. It turns out that this doctor is NOT certified as a medical specialist in psychiatry and according to the medical director of the American Psychiatric Association his proposal does NOT "have any support whatsoever within the profession of psychiatry." This group of experts maintain that "social environment" and not personality is the principal cause of delinquency. They further stated that the plan was "ridiculous" and 'absurd and ignorant.' Mr. Nixon must have been high on pot or something to be crazy enough to sponsor this.

---Michael Harvey

"The primary purpose of a college is hard intellectual labor... The chief end desired is that a student shall learn to approach problems rationally and without fear think them through independently, clearly and imaginatively for himself... Specific information...is of secondary importance. We must help students to think... No two students are alike. Therefore rules, curricula methods must be adapted to students, not the student to them. The essence of teaching lies in contagion of interest. This means that a teacher...must be himself vitally interested both in his own teaching and in his students...."

---Dr. Bernard Iddings Bell  
(President Bard College) 1927

quoted by Dr. Reamer Kline before the Dutchess County Historical Society  
September 29, 1962.



# Look at our Measuring Stick

from page 3

Space or a way to attract more qualified students. On the student situation some people think that portfolio review for freshman admissions is the answer. I don't believe it. Portfolios say nothing about a student.

I don't know a single way.

A generally better quality of student would help us. One argument against portfolio review is that most of the best students we've had so far haven't had any art training before Bard at all. In many cases high school art classes do more harm than good. They show little more than a predisposition toward art.

What about an art history major at Bard?

I think we should have one, for purely selfish reasons. The greater the art history offerings, the more informed the art student. There are strong student feelings for having an art history department here. It's

going to take a good dose of money for many more books and slides than we now have. I suspect that the department will come before the money does and the people in the department will have to push for their own needs.

Do you think film should be included in the Bard curriculum and how?

Yes. If it's going to exist it should exist as an independent department within the AMDD structure. Because of the money it takes to start a film department, the whole school should answer this question and not just AMDD.

I would really hate to see a film department set up at this school the same way some schools do, as a purely craft cum Hollywood situation.

Most film making now relies less on technique and equipment and more on the mind and eye. It would be more valuable to Bard in that form.

Even with this kind of emphasis it's going to take a lot of money.



## letters

from page 4

and more valuable, I feel, than the faculty/student ratio. But we have used the land as a foundation for buildings, and as a park in which to stroll. Adam was placed in Eden not to live an indolent life, but to till the land and keep the Garden. This was his paradise! Only through his scheming and philosophizing did we king the land become a burden and a curse.

There is a proposed "Outward Bound" program in the works at Bard. Each freshman would climb mountains, ford streams, and go fishing for a while. But why create an amusement park out of our environment. Let us plant trees, raise crops, and tend herds. I have never felt closer to my fellow man than when I see his hands caked with the same dirt from the same fields as are mine. Why make a game of it?

We can keep our books and papers while we push the plow and sow the seed. For these books and papers should reflect the same reality as does the smell of fresh plowed land. If they do not, they should be left behind or plowed under.

I am not proposing a four-credit course in agricultural engineering. We need no pass-fail criteria for this work, for those who reject the caring for the land and its proper use fail as responsible and aware creatures. There is no reason or excuse for not contributing at least 5 hours out of a 168 hour week to farming and tending animals. We may not be able

to feed ourselves completely, but we will have tried and kept on trying. Think of the kibbutz.

And in trying, we will have gained the respect of our neighbors, a respect for our environment, and regained the self and mutual respect that we lost when we drove ourselves out of Eden and into the world of abstraction.

We should begin by investigating what crops are feasible to raise. Our labor will be free, and I'm sure we could get a government subsidy. Then, we should, as a community, decide acreage allotments and work schedules. We will not insist that dining commons buy our fresh produce at the going prices. Our diets will immensely improve, and our appreciation for food will correspondingly increase. The monies from our produce sale will be plowed back into the land until the day arrives when we can sell our produce and distribute the earnings in the convocation fund.

"FIELD Period" will move into the summer time, and our vacation will be in the heart of winter. And field period will literally mean FIELD period.

This is only an appeal and a first proposal. I'm Bruce Diamond. If I'm wrong let me know. If I'm right, or at least moving in the right direction, please help.

Thank you.

—Bruce Diamond



## EARTH festival

## BARD EVENTS

You can participate: Wednesday, April 29, Dawn to Dusk.

You are invited to participate in the following Earth Festival Events (times are approximate):

Sunwatch -- Albee-Wardens lawn 5:30

Nature walk -- meet under the Procter pines 7:30

Campus clean-up and dump-in -- meet under Hegeman Elm 10:30 to pick up litter on main campus and deposit for study in a central location. Bring a bag or box.

Earth procession and dance -- 12:30 starting from the Aspinwall hemlock. Bring bells, drums, flutes, and beads. Wear Earth clothes.

Outdoors open poetry reading and sing -- 2:30 Albees-Wardens lawn. All welcome to read and sing whatever you bring.

Nature walk -- 6:30 meet by the Larch tree near road north of gym. For night sounds and sky lights.

(Note: free home baked good bread will be distributed on Earth Celebra-

tion Day. Anyone who would like to help bake the day before, whether you know how or not, contact Linda Leigh via campus mail. We may also have a tree-planted -- for this, contact Mary Zimmerman.)

Please bring you friends and neighbors. Bard Earth Action wishes you a joyful day and a natural life.

Think peacefully about your place in the land you live on. Take this day to do something you really enjoy in harmony with others and with the Earth...

Get up early  
Go outside  
Play games  
Read a book  
Take a walk down to the river  
Sit in the sun or in the rain  
Touch someone you like  
Look at a flower without picking it  
Don't use electric lights, machines, or cars unless you really need to  
Write a poem with a pencil  
Eat some natural foods  
Take off your shoes  
Enjoy the Earth!



# SISTERS UNITE: but without your bullshit

by renfreu neff

Saturday, 7 March was proclaimed International Women's Day by the Women's Liberation movement and a rally was held in Union Square Saturday will probably be more widely remembered as the day of the first total eclipse of the sun since 1925.

It must be stated out front that this reporter is not aligned with the Women's Liberation movement. The reasons for this will be dealt with soon enough, but for the moment I'll say that my feelings of oppression usually evolve around fairly simple things like having my bank account seized because I didn't pay taxes, not being allowed to re-enter from Canada with my tea strainer, and a whiff of Mace can bring on heavy feelings of oppression. But I don't attribute any of this to being particularly sexual in nature.

Not on my part anyway. Whatever the Feds have going for them is their problem.

The fact is, I don't believe that female liberation as it's emerging now within the Movement, encourages liberated femininity. Rather, it seems to have liberated female hang-ups and established the bug-a-boo of 'male chauvinism' as a convenient excuse. Psychologically and biologically, women possess an infinite capacity for self-induced oppression: 'After all I've done for you,' 'I'm only doing this for your sake,' 'I gave him the best years of my life'...repeat each one a hundred times and go fuck yourself.

If women are going to liberate themselves, they must liberate their minds first. The imitation of masculine behaviour and dress is an especially ludicrous affectation when its proponents continue to think with their ovaries. This ovarian paradox seems particularly symptomatic of feminist groups that choose to be identified with the radical movement. From the point of view of revolutionary change their priorities are counter-revolutionary: a bigger piece of the action, better employment opportunities, wage competition with masculine co-workers. If the movement succeeds, there will be no need for this sort of economic competition, and for it to succeed the various factions must work together toward the common objectives. Idealistic perhaps, but the end must be understood as being more important than the means.

Factions exist within the women's lib movement itself. Not surprising, given the natural temperament of women. But most of these differences seem to break down along the lines of sexual extremes: there are those who maintain that celibacy is the solution: others insist that male homosexuality is an adjunct to the solution; lesbianism is the answer, says another group, and so it goes. And Valerie Solanas, her pathetically twisted psyche being further distorted in the process, becomes the Eldridge Cleaver of the ladies' lib.

Therein lies another point of contention. Female lib loves comparing itself and drawing its parallels from the black movement. Once in the course of a discussion with one

particularly articulate feminist leader, I was told that there would be no racial equality until we had a raceless society, and by the same token she continued, 'We won't have sexual equality until we have a sexless society.' The argument had been convincing until that analogy shot it to hell. It occurred to me that there was an expression to the effect that behind every great man there was a woman. No one had ever ventured to suggest that behind every great man there was a spade.

Which brings up another question: it is too degrading for these feminists to cook free breakfast for ghetto children?

There is no question that Black, Latin and Indian women are oppressed, but that oppression is a symptom of the entire epidemic of racial oppression in America. The notion of white female oppression is uniquely American. White Americans are brought up to worship competition, and somehow feelings of social and economic inadequacy create a backlash of sexual hang-ups. In this country we have economic competition, social competition, and now biological competition that negates the natural right and privilege of the female to be feminine. The European woman is indeed subjugated to the lowest form of legal and political oppression. . .

The American male, taught to believe that a relationship must be 50-50, is misled later in life into a self-conscious striving to 'prove his masculinity.' And now the female demands a chance to prove hers.

Undaunted by Calvin Coolidge having been the first President elected after women got the vote, the new radical suffragettes stride forth in their masculine 'drag' proclaiming that test-tubes and drugs will ultimately eliminate any reason for the male to exist. Maybe so, but hasn't thalidomide and other 'miracle' drugs, the pill itself, taught us not to trust too much in our laboratories?

## in the control tower...

disastrous. I can't sit back any more and do nothing and then see a mid-air collision and know that I could have done something to prevent it."

And he brings home the real terror this can mean for the man with his responsibility by describing an incident that has been haunting him for six years. "I was controlling two planes at the same altitude. On the radarscope I saw they were going to converge. Twenty miles apart. I had only 45 seconds to separate them. All of a sudden my radio frequency went dead. I couldn't talk to either plane. They were coming closer and closer together.

"On the radarscope, the two targets actually merged. They became one blip on the screen. I thought, dear God, let me see two targets come out at the other end of this thing. My heart rate must have shot up to 140. I broke into a cold sweat, and just like that, the two targets separated.

"I learned later that the airplanes were 200 feet apart."

## 7

The Liberation of women is necessary, as is the liberations of all victims of oppression, imagined or otherwise, but by and large it has been trivialized by most of its own vociferous spokesmen who either misunderstand or misuse their own cause. It's all too easy for an observer to call them dykes or losers, for an observer to call them dykes or losers, to say that with such obvious hostility for men, they probably couldn't get laid anyway, and noting the preponderance of short feminists, to make jokes to the effect that they hate men because men have built the sidewalks too close to their backsides. It is easy to put off by such incidents as that happened one morning in Chicago while en route to the trial. Occurring as it did in an express elevator careening toward the 23rd floor, there was no chance of escaping a stident young lady who began, amicably enough, by telling William Kunstler that he looked terrible. Kunstler quipped that it was due to his usual 'Morning sickness,' a remark that instantly triggered a torrent of feminist rhetoric, some hair-brained theory evolving around impregnating men in order that they understand the problems of women, and by the time the elevator slalomed onto 23, she was into a riff about sterilization and/or castration of men as a merciful alternative. It was pretty heavy shit for a 10 AM elevator flight. I'd never seen such paranoia manufactured While-U-Wait before.

A couple of weeks ago Kunstler addressed a rally in New York. Vowing that dissent against war and racism must continue and that the struggle of all groups against oppressive forces must be supported, he specifically included the women's movement among the oppressed.

the elevator scene probably scoured from his mind, he was

undoubtedly regerring to the vital contribution of the young

contd on back fold

IN THE CONTROL TOWER (LNS)--- Most of America's 9,000 air traffic controllers are tired of having to regulate more than 6,000 flights a day on outdated equipment and with inadequate rest. But when the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) decided to transfer three activists in the controllers' union away from their jobs in Baton Rouge, La., about 1,000 controllers across the country decided to get sick.

The boycott began on Wednesday, March 25, hitting hardest in cities like New York, Minneapolis, Cleveland and Chicago. Jets waited on runways for as long as five hours waiting to take off, and for a while in New York fifty planes were circling the airports for two hours waiting to land. On Thursday afternoon, LaGuardia Airport in New York was closed to arriving planes as sixty-four jets sat on the runway waiting to take off, clogging up the terminals.

Air Traffic Controllers, like Postal employees, are federal employees and not allowed to strike. Last summer the controllers' union, the Professional

Traffic Controllers Organization (PATCO), was not allowed to strike. Last summer the controllers' union, the Professional Traffic Controllers Organization (PATCO), was stripped of its official recognition as the bargaining agent for the air traffic controllers and denied dues deductions from members paychecks (dues which provide the funds for lasting out a strike). The FAA made this move after a mass sick call-in by controllers to dramatize the strain and inadequate safety precautions in their jobs.

In a conversation with a reporter for the New York Post, air traffic controller Edward Ryan described the conditions which drove him to risking his \$15,000 a year job by taking part in the sick-in. Mostly it comes down to unbearable tension --- a combination of endless hours (six days a week, rotating day and night shifts) and faulty equipment.

"Our radar is broken down 10 per cent of the time," Ryan says. "The microwave system fades out. You're constantly aware that it can be

Sometimes the ending of the story is different. Sometimes the tension, fatigue and antique equipment result in tragedy. An investigation of a plane crash last December in Salt Lake City showed that the controller involved had only five hours of sleep the night before after having been switched to a different shift.

In 1968, the controllers first brought attention to the FAA's shoddiness by landing planes strictly by the regulation book and ignoring orders from their supervisors which would create potentially dangerous situations. The result was a nationwide air traffic jam.

The FAA began to make improvements after that, but the controllers claim it's not enough, that manpower and equipment are still inadequate to handle the huge volume of air traffic. The sick-in is their attempt to draw attention to the carefree attitude the FAA has shown in playing with the safety of the public.

"Up in the air I get uncomfortable," Edward Ryan says, "because I know what's happening on the ground."



# Not 'Brothers', But

## Jean Genet Talks About the in an LNS

*Jean Genet has spent half his life in prison. A decade ago he was sentenced to life imprisonment in France as an incorrigible criminal, an unrepentant burglar and social deviant. He is also a writer, a poet, a playwright, perhaps the greatest French literary figure of the 20th century. It took a long campaign by French intellectuals, among them Simone de Beauvoir and Jean Paul Sartre, to convince the French government to grant him a pardon. Genet recently visited the United States—illegally, because convicts are barred from our shores—on behalf of the Black Panther Party. The interview was conducted in French and translated by Mark Feinstein of Liberation News Service, in New York City.*

What is the purpose of your being in this country at this time?

To make people understand. To make them understand that Black people, and particularly the men and women of the Black Panther Party, are highly, highly evolved politically. The Panthers are not some fucked up, incomprehensible movement, but they're something very, very coherent.

And I want people to understand this, that when I see America I see an extremely *solid* America, with its big buildings and all that, with its presidents, its vice presidents, its Banks of America. Bon! But I also know that the British Empire in 1940, even in 1945, considered itself pretty hot stuff; the Queen was called the Empress of India and owned Canada, Egypt, India, Australia. But today England has been reduced to a tiny island. And it's more than likely, after all, that this huge American fortress, seemingly so strong, will crumble too. America is tentacular, it is everywhere; myself, a Frenchman, I am colonised by America too. France has been bought by America, Europe has been bought; Europe is an American colony. But I can't help thinking that this great extravagant power is on the very point of coming apart.

You entered the U.S. illegally, without a visa, in danger of being arrested at any moment. Do you see something symbolic in your situation, since it sort of corresponds with the situation of the Panthers, of 'hunted revolutionaries' in this country?

This isn't a situation I wanted myself, that's for sure. It was imposed on me by the American consul in Paris who refused my visa. So now I found myself in the situation of a "criminal." Which is interesting because America considers the Panthers criminal too; now the Panthers are being *defended* by a criminal. In fact in this society here, it's clear that anyone who sides with the Black Panther Party is going to be considered a criminal no matter what he does.

Would you give us your personal impressions of the Panthers, as you've gotten to know them while on your speaking tour here—as people, as revolutionaries?

Yeah. Well, there's a myth, a mythology about the Panthers; it's being spread in Europe, in France and probably here in America too. And this myth just doesn't correspond to reality.

You can describe it in a few words. It's the kind of *terror* that white people feel when they talk about the Black Panthers. But when you live with them day and night as I have recently, you realize that they are above all revolutionaries. Militants who are perfectly organized and particularly intelligent, whose politics are *coherent*. They are simply not what their mythical image pictures them to be. You know, gangsters. I have nothing against gangsters myself, but the Panthers are not gangsters in the sense that the middle class understands it. They are really political militants, in a particularly dangerous and particularly *original* situation.

They are a colony inside their mother country. They're a people spread out inside that mother country, and so they have a completely new kind of revolutionary problem to solve. That's to say the problem of people who are obliged to struggle against their adversaries without having recourse to a territory where they could find refuge. So they've been obliged to invent a form of struggle which is totally new.



Can you give us an example of the originality of the Panthers' politics?

Well, let me give you an example of how they have to live, in what context they do their political work. I was with them in New Haven, where they are trying to electrocute Bobby Seale. There were beds for four or five people in a room I saw, and next to the window there were rifles. You understand?

They're obliged to live under the protection of arms, their own arms; not against the people, of course, against the police. On a wall in a house they live in someone had scrawled "Fuck you!" in chalk; the walls were painted black. You see, they have a kind of disdain for something like a house, something so transitory. But at the same time they are wary of men, of the police. So they're forced to *defend themselves* with rifles. That's something new for black people. I *saw* them, these rifles, you know? And the doors and windows are barricaded, really barred, with fancy locks and iron bars. And then, in the same room, there were women and little kids. That's the reality of the situation they're living in. *That's* what everyone has to know about.

You've spent a good part of your life in prison; that's been the case for a lot of Panthers, too, who have lived as criminals outside the system because they're forced out. Do you think that experience has given you a special understanding of what freedom means?

There is that, probably, but there is something else I'd like to underscore. It's an observation I've made, maybe it's wrong but I'll say it anyway. I knew the Panthers for the first time in Chicago in 1968 at the democratic convention, and my first experiences with them really struck me. They are a poetic people. Black people in America seem to have a natural poetic sense, and the discoveries they've made about how to struggle politically lean curiously on a poetic sentiment about the world. Maybe I'm wrong, but I think those things are linked, politics and poetry. I think political reflection is integral to poetic comprehension and vice versa.



# 'Camarades de Combat'

9

## Black Panther Party Interview



It's something about the world black people live in; their political perspicacity comes out of looking at their world poetically. That doesn't surprise me too much. I wonder if Chairman Mao Tse-tung would successfully have completed his Long March, the revolution, and then the cultural revolution if he hadn't been a great poet. I wonder if it isn't because the black people are a Poet that they have been able to work so well toward finding a road to liberation in the same way, almost the same way that Chairman Mao found that road. As much in politics as in poetic reflection.

You've spent many, many hours and days with the Panthers in the past few weeks. Probably all of your time. How do you see your relationship with them?

Well, you can imagine how much I was shocked to learn about the determined repressive police campaign against the Panther movement. I first read about the attacks on the L.A. Panthers in the French press. Naturally my first feeling was solidarity. Yes, at that time I felt solidarity, and I guess I would have spoken of fraternity. But now that I know the Panthers personally, I can no longer speak of them as "brothers." I don't want to use that word anymore, it smacks too much of evangelic moralism. You know that kind. If I had to use a specific term to talk about my relationship with the Black Panthers, what white people's relationship should be, I would say that we are "camarades de combat," comrades in struggle.

In your books the problems of sexuality, of homosexuality are important. One aspect of the American movement today, an important aspect, is the women's liberation movement, fighting for economic, psychological, social, sexual liberation. The homosexual liberation struggle is quickly gaining ground too. What are some of your ideas about these movements? Do you think that sexual, psychic liberation as well as socio-economic liberation will come by political action?

Well, you know, I am a homosexual myself, which I prove in my books; I wasn't in prison for homosexuality per se, but I certainly try to demonstrate it whenever I can in my work. I even glorify it. But when you speak of liberation, you naturally have to observe an order of priorities. There are liberations which are immediately necessary. There is, for example, the black population in the country, dominated by whites, and inside that black population there is the Black Panther Party which is on the

verge of being massacred by the police. And inside the Party there are Bobby Seale and his comrades. *There* are some priorities. We have to act for Bobby Seale, for the Panther Party, and for all the black people here. I mean to say that when a people are oppressed bodily, physically, their liberation comes first. As for spiritual, mental liberation, I think that's the affair of each individual, not so much a problem of organization as much as a question of everyone of us liberating ourselves from taboos.

But as for physical oppression, well, you have to act quickly. There is, well, you have to act quickly. There is, well, to repeat it, an order of priorities.

Perhaps you can give us a little history. The last time you were in America was the time of the democratic convention in Chicago. Since then, the Conspiracy trial has happened, and a wave of important, militant violent demonstrations exploded all across the country. . .

Just a minute, I want to say a thing or two here, about the trial, the Chicago 7, the demonstrations. It's true that a lot of people, white people, demonstrated against the trial. But it's also true that they did *not* demonstrate for Bobby Seale when he was treated outrageously; I know just about exactly what was going on in people's heads, you know. . .they would demonstrate for other white people but not for Bobby Seale.

Well, Chicago was a kind of turning point. Black people have been subjected to massive violence against their communities for centuries now, so their political responses are of course very different. But starting with Chicago, do you see the beginnings of massive, brutal violence directed against not only blacks but whites too?

No! No! No! When I was in Chicago I crossed the border clandestinely, and then I found myself confronted by whole armies, cops, enormous numbers of cops; at the time people said there were thirty-five or forty thousand cops. But I was very sure of myself, very much at ease, because I knew that the cops would never, never shoot. Because this was one of those white, young, hippy, student protests; in sum, white. And I knew that in such a situation they would never open fire. I was protected by the color of my skin, by my white hair. I could do whatever I liked and be sure that the cops would never fire. If it had been thousands of black people there, as big a mass as we were, and if a similar situation had happened, I'm sure that the cops *would* have fired.

Since then, however, they *have* shot at white people. Scores of people were wounded at People's Park. James Rector was killed. Just a few weeks ago, the cops opened fire on a car during a demonstration at San Francisco State. Would you agree that Chicago was the start of a new level of intensity, of violence by the state against white dissidents?

But it simply is not the intensity of violence that there was in Watts, in Detroit. Yesterday I was in Boston speaking at MIT. In the hall there were a thousand, maybe fifteen hundred people, students, black and white, and teachers. All the time we were speaking, Douglas (*Doug Miranda of the Boston Panthers*) and I, I had the impression that everyone understood everything we were saying, even all the whites who were there. But once they had all left the hall, what was going on in their minds? I haven't the vaguest idea.

I don't know what they were going to *do*. It's not simply enough to ask "What should we *do*?" The thing to do is to do something. Maybe the first thing is to understand this: it is an idea that white people find very, very difficult to accept. . .that black people are more highly developed politically than they are. I'm not speaking about all black people, naturally. Some black people are in the police. I'm talking about the realization that it is black people, especially the Panthers, who are leading the fight against that president of yours called Nixon, that vice president called Agnew. The Black Panthers are ranged together against those powerful men, but the Panthers are infinitely more powerful, infinitely more politically intelligent. And it's very difficult for white people to begin to accept this idea.



# access → to systems

Only a couple of items from the outside world this week:

1. a circular asking us if we want Jay Richard Kennedy to speak. He's the author of *The Chairman* and is being typed as an elderly radical by Royce Carleton. Have info on him if anyone's interested.

2. notice from Museum of Modern Art about Japanese film festival covering five decades of Japanese films, including some very rare silent films from the twenties. The program will last until the middle of July and will present 90 films. The schedule is rather lengthy but anyone is welcome to come by the office and peruse it at their leisure.

Onward. Over the last few issues we have slyly presented the community with a number of ideas that could radically change the nature of the Bard College community. However, I haven't heard reactions to any of them in my wanderings around the place, leading inevitably to the question of whether or not anyone noticed them the first time around. As a consequence, I'm going to mention them briefly here again.

First stunner of an idea was to have a student on the Board of Trustees. Any reaction to that? Or is "student power" just a convenient phrase?

We suggested the possibility of running an Outward Bound program here. Did anyone read that? Didn't anyone hate the idea enough to react, didn't anyone like the idea enough to say so? Or is it just that you didn't notice?

We ran the proposal for a new constitution in our third issue and received so much support that at this point there is no student government at all. I'm not even going to ask a question there.

Finally, in our first issue we ran an article on the new modular dorms which received such careful scrutiny that many people who were asked said such things as "I hope it doesn't look like Tewksbury," or "I don't want them to use cinder blocks."

If they had even glanced at the article, and it was on a topic that could conceivably affect them to a great extent, they would have seen that the plans presented an idea that was perhaps one of the major innovations in dormitory concepts in the last decade or so. Yet there was mostly just ignorant reactions.

This week we are running another article on the new dorms, this time presenting the final plans for the

structure. However the interiors await student approval. The architects have asked for student opinion, that is why there is going to be a meeting Thursday night, at 6:30, in Albee Social. The decisions made by the students that show up at that meeting regarding furnishings, colors, and carpets, will be the ones that decide what happens in the new rooms. One of those rooms could well be yours. Yet from past experience you won't show up, and neither will I because we are both members of the Bard community which means we do nothing at all.

Once again forward. Costs for last week's issue, this time a full twelve pages:

printing, \$169.50; Dr. Hip, \$15.00; LNS, \$15.00; photo, \$15.00; typists, \$32.50; pick-up and delivery, \$10.50; misc. (material, etc.), \$4.14.

total expenditures : \$331.24

balance: \$991.22

## WALTER READE THEATRES

MAYFAIR 338-1222 Rt. 9-W  
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## MIDNIGHT COWBOY

starts Wed., April 8th.

starring Jon Voight & Dustin Hoffman

COMMUNITY 331-1613 B'way.  
Kingston

Starts Wed., April 8th.

## john & mary

starring Dustin Hoffman & Mia Farrow

9-W DRIVE-IN 331-6333

starts Friday, April 17

## tick tick tick

ALSO starring Jim Brown

## THE DIRTY DOZEN

starring Lee Marvin

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## abbie hoffman

1. Do you know of any hustles, ways to cheat or fuck the telephone companies, airlines, General Motors, government, Jackie Onassis, etc.?

2. Write and tell us about any Free stores, Free museums, Free schools, Free food, Free anything, FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS, in the communities you live in.

3. Tell us about your shoplifting, hitching, freighting, scrounging, pan-handling, bumming methods you have used in this life and your past lives.

4. Write and tell us about your community's draft counseling services, break-fast for children programs, cheap stores free money, free sex, or anything you feel will help to make a better YIPPIE survival manual.

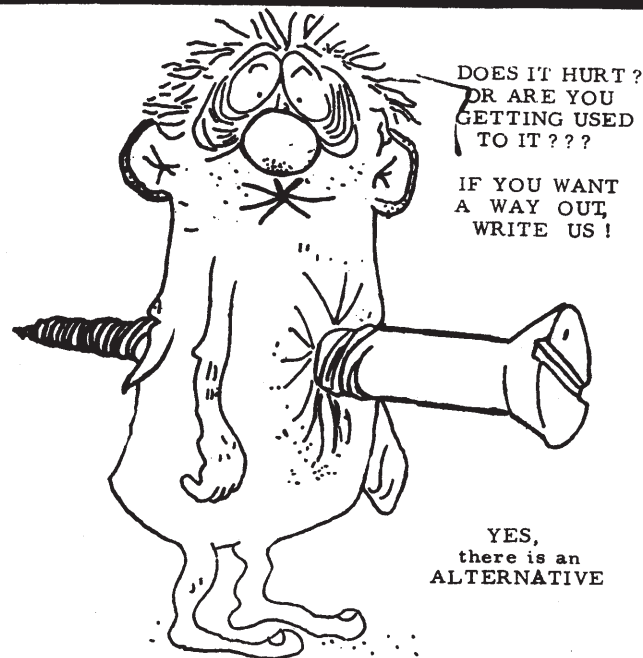
Also, if you send \$150.00 today, you will receive back \$300.00 after the fall of DECADENT CAPITALISM.

Send all detailed information to: Izak Haber, 3784 Tenth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10034.

Yippie!

—Abbie Hoffman —Izak Haber

[From LNS: We talked to Abbie about the above, and he asks all underground papers to help in this attempt to produce a new book which hopefully will be a nationwide versions of the Fuck the System booklet distributed in New York City and printed, in small type, in the back of REVOLUTION FOR THE HELL OF IT.



Alternatives! offers hope, vision, a glimpse of utopia, alternative life styles, people who are creating a better way for themselves NOW!

Write for free newsletter, or send \$1.00 for sample packet of magazine (The Modern Utopian), newspaper and newsletter:  
ALTERNATIVES- 1526 Gravenstein Hwy.  
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# April 22. Earth Day.

**A disease has infected our country.  
It has brought smog to Yosemite,  
dumped garbage in the Hudson,  
sprayed DDT in our food,  
and left our cities in decay.  
Its carrier is man.**

The weak are already dying. Trees by the Pacific. Fish in our streams and lakes. Birds and crops and sheep. And people.

On April 22 we start to reclaim the environment we have wrecked.

April 22 is the Environmental Teach-In, a day of environmental action.

Hundreds of communities and campuses across the country are already committed.

It is a phenomenon that grows as you read this.

Earth Day is a commitment to make life better, not just bigger and faster; To provide real rather than rhetorical solutions.

It is a day to re-examine the ethic of individual progress at mankind's expense.

It is a day to challenge the corporate and governmental leaders who promise change, but who short change the necessary programs.

It is a day for looking beyond tomorrow. April 22 seeks a future worth living.

April 22 seeks a future.

We are working seven days a week to help communities plan for April 22. We have come from Stanford, Harvard, Bucknell, Iowa, Missouri, New Mexico, Michigan and other campuses.

We are a non-profit, tax exempt, educational organization. Our job is to help groups and individuals to organize environmental programs to educate their communities.

Earth Day is being planned and organized at the local level. In each community people are deciding for themselves the issues upon which to focus, and the activities which are most appropriate.

We can help, but the initiative must come from each community. We have heard from hundreds of campuses and local communities in all fifty states. Dozens of conservation groups have offered to help. So have the scores of new-breed environmental organizations that are springing up every day.

A national day of environmental education was first proposed by Senator Gaylord Nelson. Later he and Congressman Paul McCloskey suggested April 22. The coordination has been passed on to us, and the idea now has a momentum of its own.

All this takes money. Money to pay our rent, our phones, our mailings, brochures, staff, advertisements.

No list of famous names accompanies this ad to support our plea, though many offered without our asking.

Big names don't save the environment. People do.

Help make April 22 burgeon.

For you. For us. For our children.

The Environmental Teach-In, Inc.  
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Washington, D. C. 20036

I enclose \$10, \$20, \$50, \_\_\_\_\_ dollars (tax deductible)  
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Address \_\_\_\_\_

National Staff: Denis Hayes, Coordinator; Linda Billings, Stephen Cotton, Andrew Garling, Bryce Hamilton, Sam Love, Barbara Reid, Arturo Sandoval, Philip Taubman