

OBSERVER

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THE BARD OBSERVER

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BARD COLLEGE
ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON, NY 12504

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CEA Proposal Sparks Controversy in Red Hook

by Brenda Montgomery

A Critical Environmental Area (CEA) proposed this spring has been a recent source of controversy in Red Hook town meetings.

A CEA requires that all actions that may have an impact on the stream or its banks be subject to environmental review. The Conservation Advisory Committee of Red Hook is proposing a 200 foot buffer which will extend from the center of the creek, to ensure that development along the Sawkill is controlled and does not pollute or silt up the stream.

The Sawkill provides drinking water for the Bard campus. Silting of the stream would lead to cloudy water which would prevent the growth of aquatic plants that now are the source of food for the stream's fish.

Clearing of the land would expose the stream to more sunlight, encouraging the growth of algae. The algae would create unpleasant odors, deplete the oxygen in the stream, and because of this oxygen deprivation, create an environment that would not sustain native fish and aquatic life.

Local farmers are worried that this designation will only create more red tape and bureaucracy to muddle through. At a town meeting on October 4, Cheryl Griffith, speaker for the Conservation Advisory Committee, addressed those concerns.

Griffith assured the crowd that the CEA designation is not a law and brings with it no new regulations. The CEA will work as a "tag for administrative offices, calling their attention to the Sawkill," said Griffith. "A CEA tells the Department of Environmental Conservation that we feel that the Sawkill is a special area that we want to protect."

Local residents were concerned that the designation would inhibit their rights to their lands bordering the Sawkill, or lower the value of the real estate. A common question was how this would affect the process of getting a house built on a plot of land that bordered the Sawkill. Griffith answered that the CEA would only affect that project if the land owners wanted to change the stream or cross it with a bridge.

"People always oppose



Bard has a permit to dump treated sewage into the Sawkill.

changes, no matter what is being proposed," said Griffith. "A CEA will just tell others that we think the Sawkill is a unique and exceptional area."

There was considerable discussion about the 200 foot buffer, and whether that could be changed. The size of the buffer was based on existing CEAs, a

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Students march on Kline

by Jason Van Driesche

As a result of the recent outbreak of salmonella on campus, combined with general discontent about the food and service at Kline, a protest and boycott of Kline took place on Wednesday, September 27. The protest was covered by a local television station.

About forty people took part in the protest, waving signs and chanting "Down with DAKA" and "We want hairless food," among other things. Reactions to the protest (which ran from noon to 6 p.m.) were mixed; many students ate at Kline despite the boycott. Eddie McCall, one of the protest organizers, attributed this reaction to the fact that "many students are afraid to get involved." According to McCall, "the mass of the students want change. I haven't met anyone who likes the food at Kline."

The students had many complaints about Kline's food and service. First of all, they found the sanitary conditions in Kline to be unsatisfactory. Stu-

dents have complained that there have been cockroaches in the hamburgers, cardboard in the soup, and hair in the entrees.

Also, according to Liza Inclan, another organizer of the protest, the plates, glasses, and silverware are often dirty, and the dish machine breaks down too often. "Kline needs to get a dishwasher that works," said Inclan. In addition, Inclan complained that the carpet in the main dining room smells because it soaks up spilled food.

Other student complaints concerned the level of student input into the workings of Kline. Inclan said that a suggestion box by the entrance and a work-study position of Student Kitchen Supervisor would be helpful in increasing student input and control in Kline.

A final complaint concerned the quality, quantity, and variety of the food itself. According to Inclan, the food at Kline is "too starchy, too watery." Also, too much pasta and fries were served at each meal, stated Inclan. "I know many people who feel sick when they eat at Bard, but who feel fine as soon as they go home." Also, Inclan complained that Kline often runs out of food before the end of meal serving times.

There was a great deal of student speculation concerning the quality of ingredients used in preparing Kline food. "We believe Kline uses either grade 'D' or grade 'utility' food," said McCall.

According to Donald Bennett, Director of Food Service, most of these complaints are being addressed. In response to complaints about sanitary conditions, Bennett said that an exterminator comes in every week to work on the problem.

In addition, beginning Wednesday, October 4, all the kitchen equipment will be dismantled and fumigated once a week to kill roaches hiding in the equipment. "We are doing all we can, but roaches are very hard to kill," said Bennett. As to student complaints about hair in the food, Bennett said that much of the hair was in self-serve items, and came

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Amendment restructures election process

by Amara Willey

A campus-wide election passed an amendment that will require the most important student government positions to be elected by ballot rather than at Forum meetings.

In the future the entire campus, not just those attending Forum meetings, will have the opportunity to vote for Education Policies Committee Chair, Planning Committee Chair, Student Life Chair, Student Judiciary Board Chair, and Board of Trustees Representatives.

Planning Committee Secretary Emily Horowitz collected ballots and recorded votes on Wednesday, October 4, as was specified at the bottom of the ballot that students received in campus mail.

The controversial amendment has raised many objections. Several people worry that elections will become a popularity contest based on name recognition or mislead-

ing campaign posters. Voting by ballot may also cause students to vote for people they don't know or whose views they are unfamiliar with, others fear.

At previous Forum meeting elections, students could make speeches on the spur of the moment, a process which favored the more articulate candidates. Now candidate question and answer nights can be held and a specific length campaign statement talking about the issues can be printed on flyers or in *The Bard Observer*.

Dean of Students Stephen Nelson thinks that the new election system has the prospect for helping student government by getting more students involved. "Any election that had more than 200 people voting would represent more people than the Forum meeting does," he said. "Running an election over two weeks, printing statements in the *Observer*, holding a candidates night, all have the potential for

drumming up a lot of interest."

Forum meetings are generally not attended by most students. Although the amendment will encourage greater participation in electing student leaders, Forum attendance may drop even lower. "The new system will discourage people from going to Forum meetings because they won't be voting there," Markus Olin-Fahle explained.

Daphne Gottlieb agreed that the amendment will not solve the lack of attendance at Forum meetings. She thinks the amendment is basically a mistake. "Everyone is concerned at this point about representation in government. But if people are too apathetic or too busy to come to Forum meetings, they may not be that circumspect in their decisions."

Olin-Fahle felt that the flier explaining the amendment was misleading. It seemed to say that if you were against the amendment, you were against

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Amendment

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student choice, he said. "They should have waited [to hold the referendum] until the *Observer* could present both sides."

"The problem with the referendum just proves the weakness of the current system," said Cormac Flynn, author of the amendment.

Flynn hopes that if students don't have a personal relationship with the candidates that they will base their vote more on the issues. "It will make it less of a popularity contest," he said.

Nelson wondered what the exact definition of a popularity contest is. "You have to elect people on the basis of some series of judgments. What makes them popular — are they a pretty face, a nice per-

son, or a person with a certain agenda, philosophy, or ideas?"

Nelson added, "I guess I don't see any big risk. The current election process doesn't guard against popularity contests in any way that I see."

The amendment was intended to break the vicious cycle that previously existed. Few people would go to the Forum meetings until it was demonstrated that there was a strong student government that could get things done. Such a government could not get things done until people went to Forum meetings and gave their support. "The only real power in government is the support of the student body. As long as officers are elected by the 30 people in the room, there is no legitimacy and no power."

Kline Protest

continued from page 1
from the students themselves.

According to Bennett, there already exist several channels for student input into the workings of Kline. First of all, Bennett conducts "React to Management" six to seven times per year, in which he sits at the entrance to Kline and invites student comments and complaints. Secondly, a group of students from the Tenant's Committee meets with Bennett once a year to voice concerns. Finally, Bennett said that his "door is always open" to students with complaints or concerns. "The more input we have, the better," he said.

In response to complaints about the quality, quantity, and variety of Kline food, Bennett said that "the menu is determined by what sells. Students eat a lot of fries and

pasta, so we put them out." Bennett admitted that there have been times when Kline has run out of one or more food items, but "this semester is difficult because student tastes have changed dramatically since last semester."

Ralph Lembo, District Manager for DAKA, said that student assertions that food was grade "D" or grade "utility" were "totally ridiculous. These grades do not even exist." According to Lembo, meat and poultry are either "USDA Choice" or "USDA," and that DAKA always uses "USDA Choice." "However," said Lembo, "grade is solely a measure of type of feed and size of cut, not of subjective quality of product."

Nevertheless, many students feel that the food and the service at Kline leave a lot to be desired. As Rick Nacy, a freshman, said, "you can live on it, but it sure doesn't taste good."

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All-temperature Cheer

by Markus Olin-Fahle

In contrast to most other pay laundry facilities, many of the washing machines at Bard College have been purposely rigged to wash only with cold water, no matter what clothing cycle has been selected.

According to Chuck Simmons, Director of Buildings and Grounds, this was originally done during the energy crisis of the mid-1970s, when rapidly skyrocketing fuel prices and general inflation made operating costs unmanageable. At that time, laundry facilities were owned by the college itself and provided free of charge to the student body. When Gordon and Thomas companies began servicing the college in 1980, and as fuel prices and inflation dropped dramatically in the 1980s, the

decision was made to continue using only cold water in some of the machines.

I have not been able to personally test every washing machine on campus. However, by checking the waterline hookup in the back of each machine, I have determined that at least eleven of the twenty-six machines on campus receive only cold water. Of the fifteen machines receiving at least warm water, six are located in each of the ravine houses (all except Wolff), although Dick Griffiths, Director of the Physical Plant, said this is an oversight only one or two of them should be able to get warm or hot water. The five washing machines in Tewksbury and the Alumni Dormitories all, apparently, receive hot water. The new "Fagen House" in Cruger Village also

has a choice of water temperatures. The only other washing machines on campus with hot water are one machine each in Robbins, Manor House and the basement of South Hoffman.

Griffiths says the only reason washing machines in the dorms used mainly by upperclassmen receive only cold water is to save energy. "It keeps our operating costs down, and that hopefully keeps your [students] costs down." When Griffiths, who lives on campus in Kappa House, was asked if his family washing machine only gets cold water, he replied, "Of course, I'm no different from anybody else. My wife washes with only cold water, and I wear a white shirt to work every day. We never had trouble using only cold water."

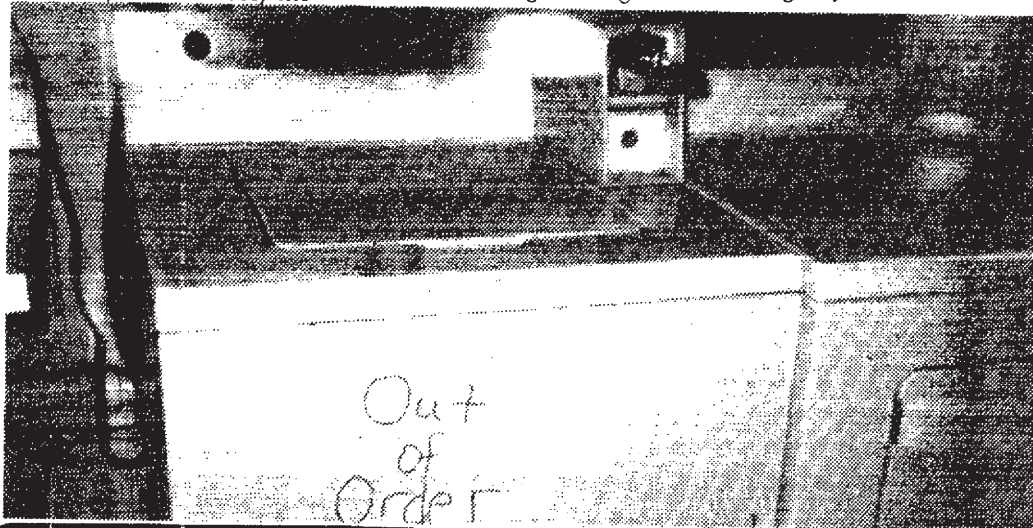


photo by Jen Anonina

Calendar

A support group for students with learning differences will meet next week. The idea behind this group is to bring together students with learning differences for discussion and mutual support. Contact Bonnie Marcus at ext. 472 or through campus mail for day and time.

The Democratic Socialists of America Bard Chapter will be meeting weekly. It is a multi-issue activist group. Contact Dave Rolf at 876-8397 for day

and time.

Friday October 13

Sukkah building and decorating 10am — 5 pm Main Campus. Bring fruit, streamers, artwork and/or supplies to help make our Sukkah beautiful!

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CEA proposal delayed in Red Hook

continued from page 1
recommendation from the Health Department, and a state guide for CEAs.

When faced with objections about the size of the buffer, Griffith explained that the CEA needed to have some sort of limit to establish the borders. Local residents asked the committee to return to another town meeting with a buffer based on the river itself. Although residents were concerned with

making the buffer smaller, a buffer based on the stream and its floodplains would be much larger than the proposed 200 foot buffer.

The meeting ended with the Town Board sending the Conservation Advisory Committee back to the drawing board, to include more details about exactly what actions would or would not be affected by this proposal, and an adjustment to the 200 foot border. Another

town meeting is planned for further examination of the controversial proposal.

A recent survey of the Red Hook area revealed that most of the 1000 people responding were in favor of protecting the Sawkill from the hazards of development.

If you are interested in helping to decide the fate of the Sawkill, write to *The Bard Observer* with your opinions. Any significant response will be communicated to the town board at the next meeting. □

Jocelyn Krebs wins research grant

by Tom Hickerson

Junior biology major Jocelyn Krebs, received \$7,000 for beginning a series of experiments this summer from the Barry Goldwater Foundation. The experiments will eventually become Krebs' Senior Project.

Krebs found out about the research scholarship when the Foundation sent applications to Bard. Several essays were involved, including a complete research proposal. She was nominated by the Division of Natural Sciences, and was one of the two people who were accepted by her home state of Nevada. She did not know she had been accepted until last semester.

Krebs' experiments deal with two types of the fruit fly *Drosophila*: a "jumpstarter" fly and a "mutator" fly. These two flies, when mated together, produce offspring that have high rates of mutation.

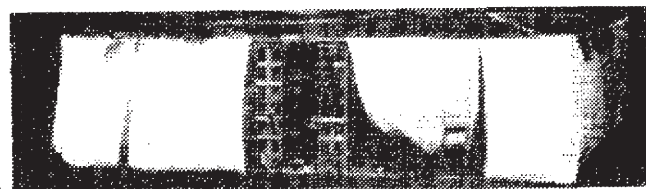


photo by Peter Ovington

Jocelyn Krebs researches the mutation of fruit flies.

Krebs plans to select a group of mutated offspring that interest her and clone them, basing her future experiments on these examples. "I don't have a specific question I'm trying to answer," Krebs said. "All I'm doing right now is going about trying to find the more interesting [mutations]."

Her experiments are conducted under the supervision of her advisor, biology professor John Moore. Krebs expects to spend about two years on these experiments.



The sukkah built last fall by the Jewish Student Organization

Celebrating Sukkot

by Sarah Chenven

When asked to write an article about the Jewish holiday of Sukkot, I thought 'sure — no problem.' After all, I have been Bat Mitzvah'd, and I lived through the Hebrew school nightmare that almost any Jewish kid can relate to.

O.K., O.K. So I haven't been to synagogue since I was thirteen, and true, my only memory of Hebrew school is David Steinberg shooting spit balls at the Rabbi during "buy a raffle ticket and win a 280zx in the name of the Sisterhood" day.

However, through my research for this article I have become acutely aware that part of what makes Hebrew High hell worth it, are times like Sukkot, when the Jewish community, as well as the community at large, comes together to rejoice and celebrate.

Sukkot marks the time of the "harvest," as it was originally celebrated in Biblical times. It is a joyful holiday meant for enjoyment and as the third holiday in a series of three, it tempers the two preceding holidays (Rosh Hashannah and Yom Kippur), according to one article, "with their somber mood of repentance and judgment."

The Building of the Sukkah, a hut-like structure, is an inte-

gral part of celebrating Sukkot. The Sukkah must be a three walled temporary building, not permanent; a symbol of the nomadic lifestyles of the Israelites who wandered for forty years in the Sinai Desert. The roof of the Sukkah must be made of organic material such as branches or bamboo, and should allow the stars to be seen through it at night. The Sukkah is decorated with fruits, nuts, branches, and other such things to contribute to the aesthetics of the holiday.

According to Amy Helfman, the Assistant Chaplain for Jewish students on campus, Bard students will be building a Sukkah on Friday October 13th between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. People are encouraged, says Helfman to, "help build and decorate the Sukkah." The Sukkah will be up for the eight days of Sukkot, and students will be able to sign their trays out of Kline Commons during that time in order to eat outside under it. On Friday, October 20th, services for Sukkot will be held under the Sukkah at 7:00 p.m., followed by Israeli dancing at 8:00 p.m.

Sukkot is a special time for the Jewish community world wide. It is a time for rejoicing, a time to work for peace or "Shalom," and a time to celebrate the beauty of life.

Austrian art professor teaches at Bard

by Amy Sechrist

Austrian Professor Patrick Werkner has come to the United States to join Bard's art history department this semester. Professor Werkner is an expert on the art of his country, and has published

frequently on the subject.

Werkner studied at universities in Vienna and Munich and at the Courtauld Institute in London, receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Innsbruck. He went back to teach at Innsbruck, as well as at Vienna and Graz.

Professor Werkner's extensive knowledge of Viennese art has made him an important member of the "Arbeitsgemeinschaft wien um 1900,"

a group specializing in the study of turn-of-the-century Viennese culture. He has also played a role in the organization of several exhibitions of Austrian works.

Patrick Werkner, who has a class called "Austrian Expressionism in the European Context," is teaching in the United States for the first time. Next semester we will lose him to Stanford University, but he will return to Bard in fall of 1990.



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Bard club explores the great outdoors

by Tom Hickerson

For the past year, the Bard Outing Club has sponsored camping, hiking, and other outdoor-related events. Now in its third semester, the Outing Club hopes to strive towards gaining more visibility in the Bard community and increasing off-campus activities.

The Outing Club began last year, started by Jocelyn Krebs and Amy Bernard. While they had problems defining the club as an athletic or academic part of the campus budget, it was quite successful during its first year.

During this year, the Outing Club has already sponsored three events; a trip to the Renaissance Fair, a hike in the



photo by Tom Hickerson

Bard students enjoy lunch on a recent outing club hike.

North Lake area of the Catskill Mountains, and an overnight camping trip in the Catskills. Both Krebs and Bernard plan to lead at least four more hikes and another camping

trip, but they are anxious to find other people willing to lead trips as well.

The Outing Club is also planning an apple-picking trip on Saturday, October 21st, and a horseback riding trip on Sun-

day, October 29th. While some things have been planned, Bernard says, "We're always open to new ideas. If someone has a good idea for an outing, we'll try to respond to that."

This semester the Outing Club was given a budget of \$250, which will go towards entrance fees to parks, used camping equipment, possibly a used canoe, and other special outings, like the horseback riding trip.

There have been offers to lead outings, and the Outing Club hopes to have more hikes and other outings as a result. "I'd like to see a diverse group that could grow to accommodate all levels of experience and all sorts of outings," said Krebs.

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Fine dining at the Culinary Institute

by Amy Sechrist

For anyone needing a change of pace from the food and service at Kline Commons, the Culinary Institute's St. Andrew's Cafe pampers its customers with royal treatment and fine cuisine. Not only does the cafe, staffed by students of the Institute, rival many great restaurants, but the menus are created using strict nutritional guidelines. St. Andrew's is part of the school's nutritional center, and all meals are low in cholesterol and sodium.

The atmosphere at the restaurant is very formal. The host, also a student, leads you to your table and pulls out your chair for you. (Which I, personally, have always had trouble with. I'd rather just do it myself.) Then a waiter comes around with assorted homemade rolls which they pluck from the basket with silver tongs.

The menu is a la carte and since, as we found, portions are small, larger appetites require more than one course, which can get quite expensive.

Appetizers, soups and salads

run to \$3.75, while entrees range from \$7.50 (Wood-fired lobster and jalapeno pizza) to \$11.75 (Charcol-grilled lamb with mango chutney). We got the lobster pizza and the Scallopini of Chicken with mushrooms. Both were good, though small. We didn't get dessert because they don't serve chocolate, only fruit, with names like Summer Melons with Warm Caramel Sauce, and Raspberry Bavarian with a Minted Fruit Salsa. Our waiter was extremely friendly and was happy to talk about the school. He seemed to know that we weren't used to eating in restaurants of this kind, (I don't know how), and tried to put us at ease.

Throughout the meal approximately four other waiters stood with their hands behind their backs at strategic positions in the dining room, waiting for customers of their own. We felt as though every bite we took and every social faux pas we committed was being scrutinized by them, because they obviously had nothing better to do.

Our waiter, though he must

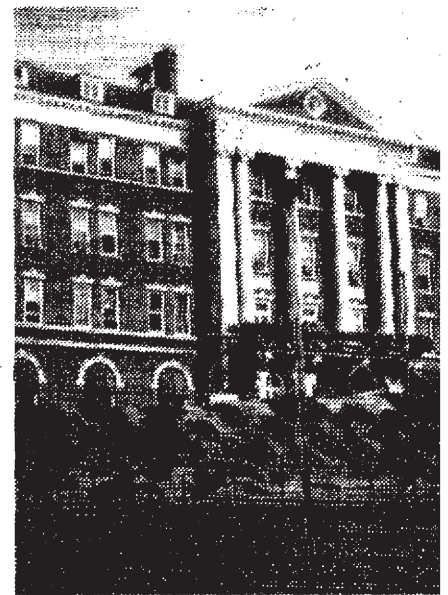


photo by Bron

have known by the many furtive glances we gave him, made us ask for our check, which arrived intricately entangled in a linen napkin.

Though the food was interesting, we were glad to leave the stiff atmosphere behind. Having experienced our culture for the evening, we stopped at Grand Union on the way home for a package of chocolate fudge chip cookies. We didn't worry about using the right silverware, and we giggled all we wanted.

Culinary Institute Excels in Hospitality

by Amy Sechrist

When driving through Hyde Park on Route 9, a stately group of buildings can be seen on the Hudson. These house the Culinary Institute of America, known as the best school of its kind in the United States. It supplies the hospitality industry with many well-trained professionals.

The Institute was originally founded in 1946 in New Haven, Connecticut, as a culinary school for World War II veterans. The school was moved to Hyde Park in 1972 when the campus was purchased from Jesuit missionaries. The school utilizes many of the original seminary buildings: a Jesuit chapel and cemetery still remain.

New students enroll as the previous class graduates every three weeks, keeping the enrollment at around 1,850. The 21 month program earns the student an associate's degree in occupational studies. Many then further their education either at another school or by participating in the Institute's own Continuing Education Program. Food service professionals attend the courses offered under this program, such as Sauce Workshop and Professional Catering to improve skills and learn about new ideas in the field.

Regular courses are short, lasting only 14 days. One class involves working at one of the four campus restaurants open to the public. Half of the class waits on tables and does other "front of the house" duties, while the other half actually prepares the food. After seven days they switch

jobs. Professors grade on competency in such areas as table waiting, braising, sauteing, broiling, and roasting.

The tips received by the waiters are spent on graduation jackets, tickets, and sometimes parties. All other profits go back into the Institute to purchase food and equipment, among other things.

The four restaurants, listed here, are all on main campus. They are extremely popular in the tourist season and therefore require reservations.

The Escoffier Room: Modern French cuisine, named after Auguste Escoffier, father of French cooking. Open Tues.-Sat. Lunch 12-1, dinner 6:30-8:30. Entrees range from \$11.50 to \$20. Jacket and tie required.

American Bounty: American cuisine. Open Tues.-Sat. Lunch 12-1, dinner 6:30-8:00. Formal dress.

Caterina de Medici Dining Room: Italian cuisine. One seating only at 11:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Formal dress. Meals are *prix fixe* (set meal at a set price). Lunch is \$16 and dinner is \$20.

St. Andrew's Cafe: For the health conscious. All meals are low in cholesterol and sodium, without heavy cream or egg yolks. Open Mon.-Fri. Lunch 11:30-1, dinner 6-8. Entrees start at \$6.

Reservations can be obtained by calling 471-6608 between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Gift certificates are also available. Unused portions can be conveniently refunded. For a vacation from Kline Commons, all four restaurants are good places to take visiting parents.

ertainment

Local artists and Bard unite for a good cause

by Nancy Seaton

Friday October 20 will bring a night of jazz and folk to the Auditorium of the Franklin W. Olin Humanities Building. From 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., jazz violinist Betty MacDonald of WDST and her band (Peter O'Brien on drums, Joe Beck on guitar, and Anthony Cox on bass), and the acappella folk-blues duo Amy Fradon and Leslie Ritter will perform for the benefit of the YWCA Battered Women's Services of Northern Dutchess. The concert will be presented by the organization in cooperation with the Bard College Center, the Bard Women's Center, and the Women's Studies Program.

Tickets will be sold at Kline

Commons for \$10. The Bard Women's Center is willing to subsidize half the price and sell tickets to students who do not choose to pay the full ticket price for \$5. For information, contact Nina DiNatale or Amie McEvoy through campus mail.

Betty MacDonald studied classical music at the State University of New York at Fredonia and has been playing jazz since 1969. Both a vocalist and a violinist, MacDonald is a prolific performer, and hosts "Sounds of Jazz" on WDST 100 FM in Woodstock.

Amy Fradon and Leslie Ritter have an eclectic style of music, which includes blues, folk, rock, and gospel. They write much of their own music,

which is sung in harmony

The YWCA Women's Services of Northern Dutchess County aids in informing women of their rights and finding help for them and their children. Support groups, counseling for women and children, emergency shelters in safe houses, and a 24-hour hotline crisis/counseling service are just some of the facilities the organization provides. The Center is located on 30 West Market Street in Red Hook.

All involved hope to make this benefit concert a success, as this is the second year it is being held, to help in the continuing success of the YWCA Battered Women's Services of Northern Dutchess County. □

stupidartalbum

by Seth Hollander

The Blue Airplanes. *friendloverplane*. Fire (UK)/Restless. 1988. c.38 min.

Walking through Harvard Square I met these guys, you see. There were, oh, eight of them. One carried a cello, so I knew they were trouble. The others toted guitars, Anglo-folk instruments, brass, and a real organ. The leader flashed a walkman as if it were a strat.

As you'd figure, being rather sharp of mind, they were real beat-nickies, serious bohos — blackout sunglasses, solemn all-black outfits, the whole schtick. Art schoolers who "dabble in drama" on the side while coveting bleak philosophers and mid-priced wines. They even had a dancer in their ranks to "interpret" their thoughtful sounds.

They had their US debut LP in their hands. As half of it is culled from various UK less-than-LP-length releases, many people no longer in the

band had played on it. Five members of the current (?) lineup appeared on the album: The main music-writer is no longer in the band. Besides an endless list of who played what, the back cover features a clumsy stream-of-consciousness babble built around the album title.

They've just finished touring Europe, opening for (ta-dum-media coup!-ta dum!) REM, in support of their first (UK-only) album. The REM connection makes unfortunate sense. (I will mention REM often, as they are widely known, and thus an intelligible reference, and widely influential, therefore often applicable. REM, the writer's tool; don't review without it.) Some real Mike Stipe types here. But no Berry/Buck/Millses in the bunch, at least not on the LP. (Their current lineup includes a guitarist and a bassist not on the record. Press releases: see above, "REM".)

I guess that's why they suck. ART! ART! Oh, art! Oh, give me a fucking break! If you'll take a Henry Rollins reading over a Black Flag show, or a Ron Wood exhibit over a Stones album, you might really like this record.

These guys have no similarity to Joy Division musically or lyrically, but if you dug what up-tight, unrocking (negarocking!), nerdy, self-conscious art students did to punk and disco, you'll probably enjoy what these cool cats do for that postpunkfolkpoprock style (Obviously, this is translated from German).

If you're a rocker, maybe you should buy the new Neil Young album instead: Hell, maybe you should buy any Neil album instead. Eh?

(See the *Rolling Stone* — oh, happy coincidence! — with Roland Gift on the cover for an opposing mini-review in the "Cutting Edge" column. "Cutting Edge," like, uh, "120 Minutes." Come back, Elvis — save us from the intellectuals!) □

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photo by Mike Muschamp

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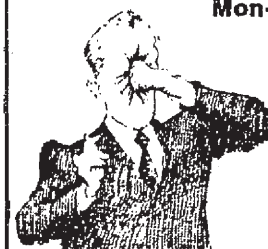
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Huguette plays it again for the Bard choir

By Amy Sechrist

Not only is Huguette van Ackere, pianist for the Bard Community Chorus, an utterly charming woman, she is totally committed to the activities she is involved in. Lately, Professor van Ackere has been accompanying the choir with her foot in a cast. She broke the foot six weeks ago, but has been faithfully traveling the distance from her home in Poughkeepsie each Thursday night.

Born in Belgium, van Ackere studied at the Royal Conservatory in Brussels. While in Europe, she performed both in various chamber groups and as a soloist, and now teaches

piano at Vassar College. She and her husband moved to the United States in 1960, when he took a position teaching voice at the college.

Professor van Ackere became acquainted with Bard a few years ago when she performed here for the student body. Through her long-time friend, choir director Luis Garcia-Renart, she became involved with the chorus group.

At one time the pianist for the Hudson Valley Philharmonic, Professor van Ackere now tutors privately in addition to her one night a week here, and periodically performs with chamber groups and other musical organiza-

photo by Peter Ovington



Huguette plays for the choir.

tions. The Bard community is proud to have Huguette van Ackere, with her extraordinary talent and quaint European accent, as part of the musical program. □

In Which: Pooh comes to Bard as a club

By Andrea J. Stein

"Wherever I am, there's always Pooh, There's always Pooh and Me," wrote A. A. Milne in *Now We Are Six*, the third book in the well-known Winnie-the-Pooh series of "children's" books. A group of Bard students has taken this verse to heart and has become known as the Winnie-the-Pooh Reading Club.

Pamela Hehlo and Valerie Scurto are the founders of the new organization. "We got the idea a few weeks into school," stated Hehlo, "We have a fas-

cination for the characters and then found that a lot of other people were interested, too."

The first meetings were held on September 27th and October 5th, and will now be held regularly every other Wednesday evening at eight o'clock, beginning the Wednesday following Reading Week. Approximately fifteen students attended each meeting, spending about an hour reading aloud from "Pooh" and from *The Tao of Pooh* (a book written by Benjamin Hoff in which Taoism is ex-

plained through excerpts from the A. A. Milne books), munching on cookies and milk, laughing and relaxing. At present, the club is planning to meet close to Halloween to watch a marathon of Pooh movies.

Christopher Robin, the little boy fortunate enough to live in the forest with Winnie-the-Pooh, Piglet, Eeyore, and the rest of the beloved animals, describes Pooh as "The Best Bear in All the World." It is probably safe to say that the members of the Pooh Reading Club agree. □

Our Environment: Water surrounds the campus

This will be a regular column on the ecology of Bard Campus. Look for it the second week of each month. -Ed.

By Jen Anonia

Swimming by the waterfall, walking along nature trails, wading in the bays and marsh lands, students and faculty enjoy the Bard campus. The aim of this column will be to explore some of the characteristics of our basically ecologically undisturbed campus.

One of the aspects so unique to Bard are the water bodies that surround the campus. The bays, streams, and estuary are also depositories for our treated waste, and support for the abundant wildlife surviving here.

All creeks and rivers on Bard flow to the Hudson. Here the Hudson is not a river but an estuary, a body of water influenced by the ocean's tides. For this reason, the water level in South Bay changes daily. High tide and low tide are about 6 1/4 hours apart. Water quality in this area of the Hudson is safe for swimming, and after treatment, is drinkable. Some pollutants do exist, particularly PCB which can be found in the fat cells of Hudson organisms. A General Electric plant in Albany discharged PCB for many years, polluting the

Hudson.

Many species of fish inhabit the Hudson, about 65 can be found near Bard. The Hudson is also a route for migrating birds such as ducks and warblers.

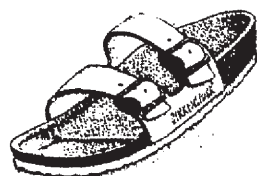
Cruger Island divides Tivoli Bay in two. The railroad stretching along the Hudson has filled the North Bay with sediment, converting it into an intertidal cattail marsh. At high tide, South Bay is navigable water, but low tide reveals its muddy bottom. Ospreys, great blue herons, and fish and ducks can be found in South Bay. Muskrats, marsh birds, turtles and dabbling ducks inhabit North Bay.

The last major water body on campus is the most visited: The Sawkill. The river is very dependent on climatic changes. The water flow can range from a trickle during dry periods to a torrential stream after heavy rains. The Sawkill has diverse and abundant growth, especially near the mouth at South Bay. Tree swallows, sandpipers, hummingbirds, water snakes, frogs, and turtles can be found there as well as eels, bass, the white bluegill, and the warmouth are found.

With time, we will see if the abundance of the Bard water bodies can survive in the face of industrial expansion and increased pollution. □



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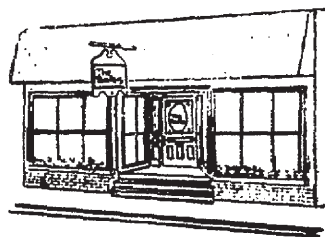
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Letters

Computer Center

To the Editor:

An editorial should be a well-reasoned, factually accurate presentation of an opinion. The *Observer* editorial of October 6, 1989 entitled "Computer Center or Typing Center" is inaccurate, misleading, and insulting to everyone on this campus who has anything to do with the development and support of academic computing at Bard College.

Academic computing has existed at Bard for just over five years. Each passing year has brought advances in the quantity and quality of computer hardware as well as in the range and sophistication of available software. Bard's approach to the use of computers in a liberal arts environment has been commended by EDUCOM, the major national organization dedicated to furthering the use of computers in higher education.

There are innumerable machines, programs, and services that it would be nice to have, and efforts are underway to bring some of them to Bard. However, these things take time. Educational, pedagogical, and economic decisions must be made regarding how and what to develop. These decisions are influenced by a variety of factors which include technological advances, product innovations, faculty research and teaching needs, financial support, and perhaps most importantly, the needs of the students.

All the more distressing, then, that an editor attempting to speak for the student body did not have the facts straight. For the record we will address each of the "points" mentioned in the editorial.

The computer center is open a minimum of 90 hours per week, and in fact during the previous academic year was open a greater number of hours per week than the library. The schedule is established ac-

cording to an appraisal of student usage pattern based upon statistical evidence gathered over the last four years, and is expanded during peak usage periods of midterms, moderations, senior project deadlines and final exams. At this time it would not be fiscally prudent to keep the center open for the occasional all night student even if we could find someone to work during those hours.

We are genuinely puzzled by the statement that "the center's best equipment is not available for general student use." Every device in the building is in some way dedicated to supporting academic computing. A powerful machine which serves as a file server in a network (supporting student use) cannot also be used as a student workstation. The two letter quality printers which exist in Henderson are currently available for printing of moderation papers and senior projects, and will soon be generally available through the recently acquired Novell network system.

Bard supports educational computer purchase agreements as a service to the community and as a means to alleviate access pressure on the existing college facility. Bard currently has such an arrangement with the IBM Corp. which offers computers to community members at a 40% discount off of the list price. Contrary to the *Observer's* assertions this is not an exclusive agreement. Bard's participation in such arrangements is reevaluated on an annual basis. However, these agreements require a minimum annual purchase which, due to the limited market, Bard would have difficulty maintaining. As for Apple computers specifically, there must be a strong commitment to service from a local dealer for each machine sold. There has not been a local dealer willing and able to deliver on this requirement.

The computer center is not a computer store. Therefore, it is not reasonable to demand that the

computer center workers possess technical information on hardware or that they know every software program. There are commercial enterprises in the area which specialize in these matters, and are better prepared to respond to such queries.

The job description for computer center student employees calls for them to distribute software, perform routine maintenance on the machines, and to support a fairly extensive list of commonly used software programs. Working in a composition environment and final production facility these workers must regularly deal with students who are under pressures of creative and deadline variety. Computer center employees often work under difficult circumstances. To criticize all of these people for the occasional lapse is to do them all an injustice.

There are numerous opportunities for students to become familiar with computers. Students are first introduced to computers at Bard during the Language and Thinking program. Each semester there are two sections of a computer literacy course offered for anyone who is interested. For those students desiring to go further, there is now a sequence of courses in computer science. There are also computer-based tutorials available for students interested in learning to use a specific software product.

Ultimately it is the responsibility of the student to take advantage of available opportunities and acquire the level of computer skills he or she desires. Whose fault is it when a student comes to the center three hours before a paper is due and doesn't know how to use a computer?

The argument (which you do not make) for the Macintosh machine is that the Apple Corp. utilizes an interface which is intuitively easy to use and is standard across all applications. It is, therefore, often seen as more "user-friendly" than other types of computers. In addition, there is a fairly substantial library of educational programs available for the Macintosh environment which we would like to make available here at Bard. As you may know efforts have been underway to bring such machines to the campus, efforts which to date have been unsuccessful.

The computer center is more than a "source of typewriter equipment". Indeed, if word processing, as powerful as it is, were the sole purpose of computers then a strong case could be made that the college has no obligation to provide access to such machines. The Henderson building houses general purpose computing equipment. The problem solving capabilities of these machines can be applied to numerous subject areas. Here at Bard computers are used in foreign language courses, in the electronic music studio, for data acquisition and analysis, statistical analysis, graphics, and more. The full potential of these machines in education is just beginning to be realized.

If what the *Observer* is trying to say is that it supports the development of more sophisticated computing facilities with greater technical support and 24 hour access then we would suggest that there are more constructive (and accurate) ways to make the point.

Bonnie Gilman, Director of the Henderson Computer Resources Center
Michael Lewis, Director of Computer Education

Computer assistant

To the Editor:

As an experienced and conscientious member of the Bard community, as well as being one of the alleged incompetent computer center technical assistants, I feel that the recent editorial printed in the October 6th issue of *The Bard Observer* prompts a rebuttal.

In observing the performance of such student-run facilities, not only the Henderson Computer Center, but the library and darkroom as well after 5:00 p.m., one must take into account the position of those students running it. Considering the lofty wage of \$3.35 an hour (less than a McDonald's cashier), I find our duty to be quite heroic. (And at least we can't be blamed for Salmonella poisoning). Also, I feel the accusations as to the constant instability of our hours are unfounded. Yes, on rare occasions a bad egg (no pun intended) might oversleep for his early morning shift, but are we all to be con-

demned for his somatic difficulties? As to extending the center's weekend hours, it is not advantageous to the Bard community, as the two or three technical assistants working will inevitably outnumber the students using the facility on a late Friday or Saturday evening. (Twiddling our thumbs is hardly a rewarding sacrifice after our week's toils).

I have worked during the finals' week where twenty students at once have demanded my assistance. I have, on numerous occasions, extended the center's hours as much as two hours without pay for students whose moderation papers were due the following morning. And may I go on to say how many times I've been the object of displaced anger when a student, in an attempt to rectify his own error, has lost part or all of his file? Indeed problems do arise which we are not equipped to handle but if we were all experts, what in the world would we be doing here?

Diane Schadoff



EDITORIAL

You get what you give

If you're not completely happy with the newspaper, read on. Complaints that *The Bard Observer* is too boring have been brought to our attention.

To address your concerns that the newspaper is too boring. Who in hell is stopping you from writing whatever you want for this paper? This paper is Bard: The editorial board remains neutral because the Bard community has so many opinions that it wouldn't be fair to print only one of them.

We more than encourage you to write, as often or as seldom as you want, to join the staff or just write an occasional letter to the editor, or anything in between.

We'll print any letter that isn't direct libel (which for those of you too lazy to pick up Webster's means "any false and malicious written or printed statement, or any sign, picture, or effigy, tending to expose a person to public ridicule, hatred, or contempt or to injure his reputation in any way" (italics mine)).

We also refuse to print lies or unfounded rumors, though we would be perfectly happy to try to find out whether a rumor is true or not (so if you know of any, be sure to tell us).

If perhaps you did write a letter for the *Observer*, and it wasn't printed until a week after you sent it to us, then the reason was we had too much to print and not enough space. The choice for holding your letter rather than someone else's was made simply on the basis that your letter was the LAST ONE WE RECEIVED.

But since we have had an exciting response to our opinion section (i.e., we have lots of stuff to print), we decided to expand the opinion section to two pages of the newspaper. Next week we will have 12 pages rather than 8 to accommo-

date the interest the paper has stimulated this semester. I encourage you to write, if only to fill the space we now have. I believe the arts department is desperate. For those of you planning to write letters, PLEASE DO. But do try to keep them under 300 words.

It has also been suggested to us that we really ought to cover national and international news. We don't have the resources to do this; we can't afford a wire service like Vassar can. Fortunately, both the bookstore and the library carry newspapers that have all the news you can't find in the *Observer*. We will, however, cover any news that affects the community in any way.

We can't cover everything though. All newspapers are run on the basis of choosing what goes in and what must then be ignored. News happens every second, even at Bard. Some of it is totally uninteresting. Nobody cares that corn flakes were served for breakfast on Tuesday morning. But it's still a fact. We could write an article about it.

We don't owe anything to the administration, to the faculty or to the staff as far as content of the paper goes. We cover what we see and what we hear about. We are your paper, Bard students. You pay for us, and we serve you.

We need your help to make the paper what you want it to be. That means writing, and that means being responsible and working hard. After all, we are just like you. We may not think the same way or have the same habits. But we're just students. We don't hear about everything that goes on around campus. We don't know all the news.

So join the *Observer*. Work hard. And maybe it will become what you want it to be. □

THE BARD OBSERVER

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SPORTS

by Jody Apap

Spikers Sweep Up Saturday

Saturday, the women's volleyball team hosted the College of St. Rose and SUNY Purchase and came away with two victories.

The Blazers bagen the day losing the first two games of their match against CSR 15-8, 15-5, but then bounced back, winning 15-7, 15-7, 15-4 to win the match.

"We were asleep in the first half of the match," said the women's coach, Tony Bonilla. "But we came back."

Came back they did! They finished the day pounding SUNY Purchase 15-8, 15-6, 15-4, to up their record to 4-8.

"Today showed that when they want to play, they can!" Bonilla went on to say, "Volleyball is a mental game, if you're not prepared to compete, you can't win. We saw that early this season, when we just didn't have it together. Now we do, and it shows."

Bonilla went on to compliment his leading players, "Jade Bingham, Linda Halliday, and Morgan Cleveland are the leaders of the team, but leadership alone doesn't mean a win. They need the support of all the players on the court. We need intensity

from everyone on the team. As long as they want to win, they can do it, and they can, but they have to keep up the intensity, at every match for the rest of the season."

Bonilla stresses the "they" in the team, "I can coach them only at practice, I can only guide them during games. They have to have the competitiveness in themselves for us to win, for them to win."

Earlier in the week the Blazers dropped a match to Russell Sage 15-6, 15-9, 14-16, 15-2.

Women Running Close, Men Hanging On

Saturday, at Vassar's Octoberfest Quadrangle Meet, the women's cross country team beat New Paltz State, 15-45, but lost to Stony Brook, 22-35, and to Vassar, 21-34, while the men were swept by all three.

Betsy Richards led the women Blazers (12-11) finishing 5th overall at 20:30. The men, on the other hand are having a much more frustrating season, with their record dropping to 5-16.

Bard Gives St. Joseph's a Hand

The score is tied 2-2, the game is deep in the second half, in a sudden confusion in front of the net, Bard sweeper Chris Hancewicz pops a chip shot that is just out of reach of the keeper. A score!

The crowd erupts in a crazy celebration!

Well, not quite, Hancewicz scored on Bard's own net giving St. Joseph's the lead. I guess he was trying to keep the other team off-balance.

At home on Saturday, the Blazers (2-8) kept the game even on all levels until the last 15 minutes of the game. St. Joseph's (10-3) had two well played fast-breaks, and pushed two quick goals to give them the victory 5-2.

Torrence Lewis scored first for Bard from an assist from Colin Clark, and Clark, the team captain, scored in the second half to tie the score at 2-2.

Regardless of the score, the Blazers (2-8) played "One of the best games of the season," said coach Joel Tomson after the game. "Everybody has improved tremendously in the last couple of weeks. We are playing as well as we ever have."

At keeper, Grant McDonald played well with 5 saves and

THE WEEK IN SPORTS

Saturday 10/14;

X-Country at Hofstra Invitational 11:00
Men's Soccer vs. Albany Pharmacy 12:00 HOME
Women's Soccer vs. Georgian Court 2:00 HOME

Monday 10/16;

Women's Soccer vs. Post 3:30 HOME
Men's Varsity Basketball practice begins 6:00-8:00
Squash Club practice begins 8:00-9:00

Tuesday 10/17;

Men's Soccer at Nyack 3:30
Intramural Football Semi-finals 4:00

Thursday 10/19;

Intramural Football Semi-finals 4:00

Friday 10/20;

Intramural roster due for:
Waterpolo
Volleyball
3 on 3 Basketball

several important clears that could have resulted in a more lopsided score.

McDonald is the fourth goalie for Bard this season and has been improving every game since becoming the starting goalkeeper.

Women Kickers Lose to CSR

Wednesday, Oct. 4, the women's soccer team suffered another tough loss, this time to the College of St. Rose, 8-0.

"The score was definitely not indicative of our talent," said coach Steve Hubbard af-

ter the loss. "CSR is a very talented team, and we did our best with what we have."

The team has been plagued with injury and illness throughout the season, including losing Wendy Hutson, an all-conference player last year, to a back injury early this season. These problems have left the team to often play short handed.

"All we need is some full time devotion, with everyone giving 100%, not only at the games, but also at every single practice. With this, we going to see a victory or two before the season is over," Hubbard said.

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