

OBSERVER

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THE BARD OBSERVER

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December 1, 1989

BARD COLLEGE
ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON, NY 12504

"The best newspaper
in Annandale."

Asbestos on Campus

by Edward Eigerman

In its September 24, 1985 and October 31, 1985 issues, *The Bard Observer* brought to light what was then the very real danger of asbestos in buildings on campus. It was reported that DEC-TAM, a professional asbestos removal company, removed "several hundred" linear feet of asbestos from Hegeman and the Albee Annex.

In an interview at that time, Dick Griffiths, Director of the Physical Plant, denied that there was a serious problem with asbestos in areas where students might come in contact with it. However, an employee of DEC-TAM said that there were pipe coverings that looked like they were asbestos in dorm rooms in Albee as well as in the basement and boiler room, where Griffiths claimed the problem was localized. *Observer* reporters identified similar pipe coverings in areas in Tewksbury and the Student Center, which



An asbestos-insulated pipe removed by DEC-TAM in 1985.

was at that point still the gym. Asbestos is a white fibrous material which, because of its incredible heat resistance, was used for years as a fire-proof insulating material until it was banned in 1973. The danger of asbestos comes from what is called friable asbestos, which can flake off in particles. In a 1985 interview with the *Observer*, Rhonda Kaplan of the New York State Health Department said, "Once you have asbestos fibers in your lungs, they never clear out." This leads to a disorder called asbestosis, a scarring of the lungs which

can be fatal. Asbestos has also been linked to cancer in various parts of the body.

In a more recent interview Griffiths said, understandably, that asbestos on campus was "the last thing" he wanted to talk about. As he announced in 1985, there has been an ongoing five-year plan to remove all the asbestos from campus. That plan is nearly complete and any remaining asbestos, Griffiths assures us, is only going to be in crawl spaces and basements.

Griffith points out that the Bard campus is, luckily, free

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Miller Runs for County Legislator

by Jason Van Driesche
and Valerie Scurto

In an effort to raise awareness at Bard about local politics, junior David Miller ran as a write-in candidate in the November 7 county elections. He challenged incumbent John Kennedy, a conservative Republican, for the seat of county legislator.

Although Miller received only 110 votes to Kennedy's 1,311, Nina DiNatale, Miller's campaign manager, considered the campaign a success because "it got Bard students involved in the community and made them aware of the issues."

Some of the issues raised during the campaign included Kennedy's opposition to sex education and AIDS education, birth control, and abortion. Miller's platform supported these issues; but more importantly, according to DiNatale, the write-in campaign confronted Kennedy and forced him to clarify his position on these issues. A recent interview with Kennedy in the Red Hook Gazette-Advertiser questioned the politician on his views, and "his answers were very vague. They

showed he was put on the spot," said DiNatale.

Miller's write-in campaign started when the Coalition for Choice, which had registered 115 Bard students to vote, found out that the Democratic party was not running anyone against Kennedy. "If the Democrats had run a candidate, I would not have run," stated Miller.

Miller's campaign emphasized three main points: first, to show that pro-choice voters, if united, can swing an election; second, to put pressure on Kennedy; and third, to "show that we are frustrated and want a political change."

Although Miller's campaign was launched only one and a half weeks before the election, he received 75 votes from Rhinebeck residents, most of whom were not part of the Bard community. All of the Bard voters cast their ballots in Barrytown.

However, many people who tried to vote for Miller had a great deal of difficulty in doing so. As a result, the Coalition for Choice has filed a complaint against the Dutchess County Election Commission with the State Board of Elec-

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Rape: An Act of Hate

by Valerie Scurto

"Rape is not an act of sex. Rape is an act of anger, violence, and domination. Rape is an act of hate," said Veronica Hammel in the film "Rape: An Act of Hate," winner of an Emmy Award and an American Women in Radio and Television Award.

The Psychology Club and the Women's Center sponsored Rape Awareness Week from November 13 through November 16. The week focused on attitudes towards sexuality, what occurs in rape prosecution cases, the psychology behind rape, and the statistics showing how frequently the crime does occur. A variety of films were shown, and a self-defense class was taught by Director of Safety and Security Art Otey.

Prior to the week, the Women's Center distributed surveys through campus mail to gather information about rape and sexual harassment from students. Forty-nine surveys were returned; eight of these were completed by men.

The following are the results of the questions asked on the survey. Some of the questions will be followed by examples in parenthesis.

-Have you ever been touched sexually against your will? -34
-Have you ever been forced

to go along with or respond favorably to actions, suggestions, or comments which made you feel uncomfortable because of your sex? --25

-Has anyone ever threatened to use force as a means of coercion towards intercourse with you? -10

-Has anyone ever used force as a means of coercion towards intercourse? -7

-Has anyone ever attempted to force intercourse with you because you were under the influence of alcohol or drugs? --20

-If you were forced to have intercourse, did you seek help? -2

-If you were the victim of sexual harassment, did you seek help? -3

("No, I thought it was common and wanted to forget." "I didn't want my integrity put on the stand." "I felt like I had brought it on and didn't think it would help.")

-Have you ever used force to

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Sexual Health at Bard

by Edward Eigerman

Recent revelations about the failure of the condom machines on campus as a method for distributing birth control to Bard students has brought the question of sexual health to the foreground for many members of the community.

Besides the non-functioning condom vending machines, there are two places to purchase condoms on campus. The college bookstore sells two kinds of condoms, both Trojans, one lubricated and the other unlubricated. Unfortunately, neither kind has the spermicide Nonoxynol-9, which has proven to be effective in reducing the risks of acquiring many sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS. The condoms come

only in three-packs and cost 89¢ per pack. The biggest problem about purchasing condoms from the bookstore may be privacy, as students may be embarrassed to buy them in a store crowded with fellow students and run by such a maternal staff.

The Health Center sells several different kinds of birth control, all at cost, including Trojan Plus 2 condoms, which are lubricated with Nonoxynol-9. They are sold individually for 30¢ each or for \$3.30 for a box of 12. They are slightly more expensive than the condoms in the Bookstore, but the Plus 2 condom is the top of the Trojan line, rated among the best for reliability by *Consumer Reports* magazine.

Most students seemed to be unaware of the fact that con-

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Rape

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make someone have intercourse? -0

-Have you ever threatened or brought up force to influence someone to have intercourse? -1

-Have you ever used alcohol or drugs in an attempt to influence someone to have intercourse? -8

-Have you ever tried to coerce someone into having intercourse while using alcohol or drugs? -7

-If so, do you feel alcohol or drugs played a significant role in your behavior? -3

-Have you ever used extensive verbal persuasion to convince someone to have intercourse when it seemed they did not want to? -7

-Do you find it attractive if the person you are interested in sexually seems resistant? -4

-While on campus, have you ever felt unsafe because of behavior you felt sexually threatening? -17

("There were several different occasions with different people whose violent behavior I perceived could be easily transferred onto me.")

Eight people answered no to all of the questions; four of these were male.

In addition to the examples already given, some students took a more flippant, ignorant approach to the survey, making comments like "It's part of the human experience," and "What are you trying to do—cause a full scale, campuswide paranoia?"

Responses like "I wasn't raped, but...I didn't want to have sex and when I wanted to stop, he wouldn't," showed definite confusion on the definition and subject of rape.

The definition of rape is very simple: rape is intercourse without consent. First degree rape is sexual intercourse by a male with a female through forcible compulsion, according to New York State law. Intercourse with a female physically incapable of consent, or with a child under eleven years of age is also rape. Acquaintance rape is by a person you know.

According to Nina DiNatale of the Women's Center, "Many people had a question of the definition of rape. People seemed angry that the survey did not say specifically what we (the Women's Center) were after. Therefore, they could not accept or dismiss the subject without much thought."

"The purpose of the survey was to think about the definition of rape and to question your own behavior and experi-

ences," concluded DiNatale.

In a 1985 survey conducted on 32 college campuses for Ms. Magazine by Professor Mary Koss of Kent State University, one in eight women said they had been victims of rape. One in every twelve men admitted to having forced a woman to have intercourse or tried to force a woman through physical force or coercion. Only 57 percent of the women who had been raped labeled their experience as rape; the other 43 percent had not even acknowledged to themselves that they had been raped.

There are three key elements involved in acquaintance or date rape cases. They are socialization, miscommunication, and changing sexual mores. According to "Friends Raping Friends," a pamphlet published by the Project on the Status and Education of Women, it is important to stay in touch with your sexual desires and to communicate these desires honestly and as early as possible. "Desires may be beyond your control, but your actions are within your control."

Nonverbal signs of willingness may conflict with one's words. Be aware of signals you send with your posture, clothing, tone of voice, gestures, and eye contact. One important distinction to make is that seduction involves no force.

For a copy of "Friends Raping Friends," see Nina DiNatale or write to her at Box 656. The booklet provides helpful facts about date rape and is a supportive guide if you have been the victim of sexual assault or rape.

"Rape: An Act of Hate," "Women must learn to define their limits, and men must learn to accept their limits."

Recently, a case was sent before the Sexual Harassment Board. If you are the victim of a forced sexual act, feel uncomfortable with a sexual situation, or want to talk about your behavior contact one of the following numbers:

Dean of Students: x454
Counseling Center: x488
Safety and Security Office: x460, emergency line x440
Other important numbers:
Rape Crisis Hotline: 437-0020
Battered Women's Services: 485-5550, 487-0101

Holiday Cooperative
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painted screens and chairs
11 Montgomery St.
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Fall Intergenerational Seminars offered at Bard

by Jason Van Driesche

The Bard College Center will be offering a series of intergenerational seminars to the community at large next fall. Students of all ages are invited to participate.

The seminars are offered each semester to bring together Bard undergraduates and Hudson Valley residents. Their goal is to provide access to cultural and educational opportunities for the benefit of all. Each seminar meets for a total of four evenings. This semester's seminars are:

--"Yeats Tower." Professor of English William Wilson will lead this seminar on *The Tower* (1928), a book of poems written by W.B. Yeats during the Irish Civil War. Mondays at 7:00 p.m., beginning November 20.

--"The Dynamics of Cultural Development." Conducted by

Computer Center Update

by Edward Eigerman

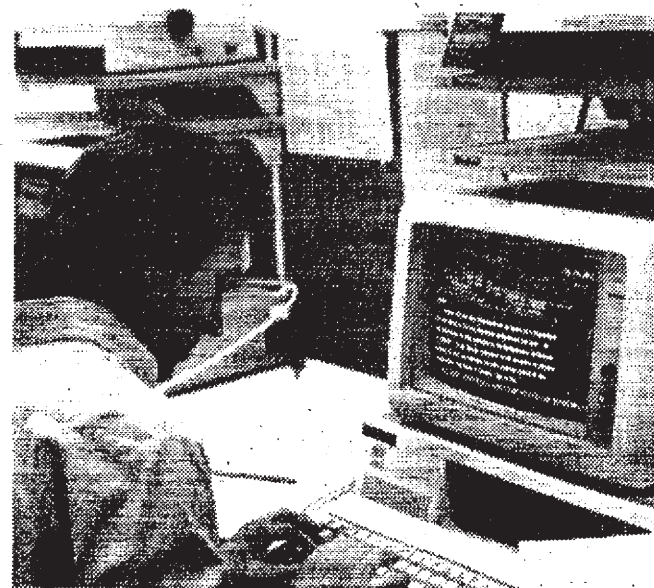
As reported in the Observer at the beginning of this semester, a much needed upgrade to the Henderson Computer Resources Center was postponed by budgeting problems.

In an interview at that time, Michael Lewis, Director of Computer Education, said that the center's plans to purchase various pieces of new equipment were rejected by the budgeting committee. The new equipment would have included Apple Macintosh computers to replace the obsolete Apple II computers in the computer center and a

Professor of Foreign Languages and Literature Justus Rosenberg, this seminar will examine the assumption that all ancient and contemporary civilizations owe their birth, growth and decline to a similar set of circumstances. Civilizations to be covered include ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome, the Dark Ages in Europe, the Moslem Empire, and the current western world. Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m., beginning November 21.

--"Computers: Fact and Fiction." Director of Computer Education Michael Lewis will lead a series of talks on such issues as rights and responsibilities in the "Information Age" and the impact of computers on the way we live. Thursdays at 7:00 p.m., beginning November 23.

--"China at the Crossroad."



mainframe computer which could be used to network student and faculty computers both on and off campus. At that time Lewis said that the computer center would be looking to outside sources, such as grants and donations,

Bard Center Fellow Kang Hongjin of the People's University in Beijing will address such issues as the deteriorating status of women, the mentality of the younger generation, the challenges of Chinese political and economic reforms, and the democracy movement over the last decade. Wednesdays at 7 p.m., beginning November 22.

--"International Economics" Dr. Kurt F. Flexner, professor emeritus of economics at Memphis State University, will examine the effects of the Cold War and perestroika on the U.S. and Soviet economic and political systems and the economic outlook for young and elderly Americans. Mondays at 7 p.m., beginning November 20.

All those interested must pre-register for the Intergenerational Seminars by calling (914) 758-7424. A \$15.00 fee is charged to help defray the program's costs. □

Library Computers Stolen

by Amara Willey

On November 24, two computers were stolen from the library. Three were recovered early Sunday morning from behind the nursery school after an anonymous phone call to security.

Two intruders, possibly students, forced entry into the technical services office on the first floor of the library at about 4 a.m. Friday by breaking a window. They took two computers, an IBM PS2 and a Wyse PC 286, and left tire tracks, footprints, and two good sets of fingerprints at the

scene.

When recovered, the library's computers were apparently intact. The dampness and the cold may have caused internal damage, though Director of Security Art Otey wasn't too worried. "I don't think they were in the cold more than 20 or 30 minutes," he said.

Security has been working closely with both the Dutchess County Sheriff's Department and the New York State Police. They expect to be interrogating suspects within a couple of days. If the culprits are stu-

to make the purchases.

In a more recent interview, Lewis said that there were no new developments in the situation and that students who were waiting to use up-to-date facilities just have to wait at least until next semester. □

dents, they will be prosecuted and possibly dismissed from school.

Although Otey thinks the probable cause of the theft was to resell the computers, Head Librarian David Tipple is not so sure. "The fact that it [the computer equipment] was dumped on the other side of campus makes me feel that it was malicious."

Security has determined that the library computers did not produce offspring, so if you are the owner of the third computer that was found, contact ext. 460. □

Features

As the Berlin Wall crumbles...

by Jonah Gensler

On Thursday, November 9, one of the most highly fortified borders in the world came down. Bard Student Jonah Gensler, who is a participant in the International Honors Program, was in Berlin for that historic moment. He sends us this news analysis from Universität Witten/Herdecke in West Germany.

On Monday, November 13th, I joined thousands in one of the biggest symbolic events of the decade--the breaking of the Berlin Wall. The party at the wall had been going on for three days and within that time tens of thousands of East Germans had already flowed into West Berlin and West Germany, many for the first time in their lives.

Having felt the tension of the Berlin Wall only one month earlier, I shared in the frustration and disgust toward

this monument to the Cold War. I recalled struggling with uncaring East German border guards because they wouldn't let my Polish friend Asha return to West Berlin after a day's excursion into East Berlin. The Polish embassy eventually got Asha through the next day after some heavy diplomacy, but the lesson was clear--in forty years East Germany had founded a police state. These compassionless border guards seemed to hate out of fear--fear that their power was based on intimidation and force, and that they were resented by those on both sides of the wall.

As I chipped away at the wall with a hammer and chisel to get my piece of history, I realized how changeable the world can be. At this point things in East Germany will happen at a quicker pace with only one certainty--that the East Germany of yesterday is falling like the wall that sym-

bolizes it. But the change will not happen smoothly. When I scrambled to the top of the Wall in front of the infamous Brandenburg Gate, an East German soldier came over with an outstretched hand. I reached out to shake it and to my surprise, he used it to force me off and back into the crowd. But like most of the other soldiers, he had a "just doing my job" attitude. Soon his "job" will be redefined. Perhaps he will oversee the destruction of the Wall he once protected.

The feeling on the crowded streets is that those who once held absolute power should become absolutely powerless. Just as people react negatively to the Wall--to put it mildly--they have clearly rejected the system it was built to protect.

But what should now happen in the wake of the crumbling wall is unclear to most. All of a sudden the smoldering "German Question" begs

for an answer. And, having vehemently pushed away Communism, East Germans are waiting to embrace the promise of Capitalism. The West portrays it in terms of capitalism's victory over communism, implying that they have won the Cold War, rather than dissolved it. Clearly, central planning has failed, but has capitalism really succeeded?

There are essentially two questions at hand: the German question and the East German question. The German question is not whether the two Germanys will work together, but how. Non-cooperative separation is not even an option at this point. Reunification is a real possibility but would justifiably frighten the two countries' European neighbors. The question is how will the three Germanys work together (Berlin playing a unique role as the third Germany.) Peace re-

searcher Johan Galtung has suggested confederation of the three German states in which there is a free flow of people, shared culture, cooperative but distinct economic systems, and separate defensive military systems. The U.S.S.R. should take all troops out of East Germany, and East Germany should become neutral, perhaps modeling itself after Finland's strategy for the next few years.

East and West Germany should, of course, cooperate with each other, promoting such things as joint ventures and cooperative trade agreements. The three states should maintain their own separate pluralistic governments, and the confederation would be a voluntary one.

Total reunification, as opposed to a cooperative confederation, poses a real threat to Europe's balance. Economic domination, already possible by West Germany, would be compounded greatly by a

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The California quake: being there

by Fernando Luera

Fernando Luera was an undergraduate at Bard last year. He is now enrolled at Stanford University in California. The following is his personal account of the earthquake that struck Wednesday, October 17, 1989. -ed.

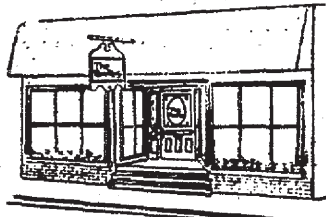
O.K., so I'm in class and I've just given an oral presentation and it's gone well and the students are participating and the professor is taking his time expressing himself like he always does and then the windows start to rattle and the table is bouncing and the walls are swaying and the floor is making this gentle roll. The professor says we should get under the table and I don't really want to but everyone is already down there, so I huddle in next to a girl who is whimpering, but softly. I know the procedure is to face the center of the table and protect yourself from flying objects

and shattered glass, but I want to take it all in so I keep on looking out. If the windows start to break, then I'll cover my face. There will be plenty of time for that. So I look out and I'm waiting for the "real thing" because this all seems so preliminary and nothing has really happened yet. I want to see it, to feel it, to take it all in and somehow record it. And this is my first time and I've only heard about earthquakes and read about them and sometimes seen them in movies, but this is the real thing, supposedly, and what is it gonna be like. Then I wonder if this will be THE BIG ONE, the one where we all fall off into the ocean and form a separate country, if there's anyone left. But before that happens, this building will collapse on us here under the table. Will it hold up under the weight of timber and plaster and roof tiles? What if the floor gives way and we all go down with it and through it, through jagged edges and

screams and crushing together? Then the fun will be over, because so far it's been kinda' fun. But nothing is happening. It's happened. That was it. It seemed so short. The professor says it's over and we all stand up and he laughs and says that was a rough one and the first time in thirty years I've gotten under a table. We should go outside, he says, in case there are after-shocks and the building is damaged. So we walk outside and I've got sea-legs like after I've been out sailing all day. I'm reeling. I can't stop smiling because no one ever told me about this and now I've been through one and no one was hurt and I can tell about it. There are some jocks out playing volleyball in the field across the street and the professor says "like typical Californians." I'm still smiling and I get this giddy rush kinda' like an afterglow and I want to say it was orgasmic. It makes me laugh out loud and everyone else is nervously chatty

and relieved yet anxious about possibly more to come. If another one comes, maybe I'll be more prepared and know what to look at because I think I missed so much this time. Like what were the others doing while I was looking out, and what was the ceiling doing (which I couldn't see because of the table-top). And the house is not really furnished so there was nothing light enough to go hopping by, or knock-knacks to topple over and smash. And how about outside? If you're outside, do you see the earth move and the buildings sway and what do the trees do through all this? How else will I know if I'm not there? Because people don't tell you much--like about the sea-legs and how short it lasted and how one keeps expecting something to happen. So we all go home and alarms are going off in every building and everyone is milling about on the lawns, but nothing has toppled or collapsed. Back at the trailer, a

lamp has fallen off the desk and the bulb shattered. Books have fallen off the shelves and are strewn all over the floor. I clean up in two minutes and I do my homework and go to bed. There are several little shocks throughout the night and I'm awake for the one at 2:30 a.m. and I get sea-legs again. In the morning I show up for my 9:00 class, but the building is closed pending inspection. The entire campus is closed. So I pick up a newspaper and then watch some television and find out what REALLY HAPPENED. □



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Student literary works featured in Bard publications

by Tom Hickerson

Being a diverse campus, Bard benefits from a variety of student publications produced on and off campus, by students and alumni alike. During this semester, the Planning Committee sponsored four student-run magazines, while two other magazines are being produced without funding.

One of the publications not funded by the Planning Committee is one of the oldest publications on campus, *Bard Papers*. The beginning of the magazine dates back to around the 1950's. However, due to several production problems, the last issue of the magazine was published back in 1987.

Interested in restarting the publication, Bard College began soliciting applications for an editor for this year's issue of *Bard Papers*. Senior Suzin Hagar was finally chosen. An Anthropology/Literature ma-

jor, Suzin hopes that her work on the *Bard Papers* will serve as good preparatory work for any future career she will have. "It's been interesting for me just learning all the details about taking care of the technical aspects of laying out the magazine," Hagar said. "So far, I've really enjoyed editing and working with authors."

Submissions dealing with nearly any subject may be sent into the *Papers* for consideration. "We'd like to have a cross-section of work representing all of the divisions here at Bard," Hagar said. "I would like the *Bard Papers* to make work done for a class or outside of class available to a broader audience." Hagar hopes that the magazine will be sent to several surrounding colleges, establishing an exchange of writing between Bard and other colleges.

This year's issue of the *Bard Papers* can be expected to be published by March. Also helping Suzin Hagar is Michelle Thomas, Kim Miller, and Andy Maloy.

One of the more recently founded magazines at Bard is *Trowel*, edited by Jennifer Klein. Originally begun with the working title

Private Language, the title *Trowel* was inspired by a story submitted last year.

Klein, a senior Creative Writing major this year, originally began *Trowel* because of an experience she had while at another college in Boulder, Co. "I realized that we had nothing at Bard where writers could display any of their work," she said. "We're trying to expose good work of every style, not just those who fit the norm."

Klein makes a point of being very selective and unbiased about submissions to *Trowel*. "We're at a point where we're contemplating whether or not we should ask for revisions," she said. "We've got some stuff that's good but could be better."

This semester's issue of *Trowel* should be published by the first week of December. While Klein states that there is no central theme to this issue, the title is, "My Dog Died Twice".

Among the publications at Bard, the *News of Music* caters to the broadest range of writers; while most are Bard students, submissions are received from alumni, professors, and other college students from across the nation. *News of Music* is distributed not only around the Bard campus, but around other colleges and libraries both near and far.

News of Music, which originally began in 1982, is edited by Bard alumni Penny Hyde '84, senior Tildy Bayar, sophomore Saul Pittlinger, sophomore Paul Winkler, and Dan Sedia, secretary for the offices of Music Program Zero.

Unlike other publications, *News of Music* does not operate on a strict deadline; in-

stead, submissions can be sent in at any time to the Music Program Zero offices. "We always are receiving things. Readers are always submitting things," said Hyde. "There is a long-standing invitation to submit." The five editors also develop different projects that go into the magazine, from descriptions of music to a series of entries from old journals. "The magazine is really committed to finding and presenting forms that express voices so that each piece in it is performed in the way that it looks," said Hyde.

The next issue of *News of Music* will be printed in January or February. □

Don't Drive Drunk

Call Saferides any Thursday, Friday, Saturday nights from 12 a.m. to 3 a.m. Call 758-7460, ext. 460, or just call the switchboard.

Dissection: An avoidable killing . . . or a necessary evil?

by Sarah Chenven

Two years ago Jenifer Graham went to court to protest a requirement set up by her California high school that forced her to dissect animals in her biology class. By refusing to dissect a frog, and pursuing her right to do so, Graham sparked the passage of a bill in the California State Legislature that gives students throughout the state the right to object to the dissection of animals in their schools. Graham maintained that dissection, to her, was abhorrent and strongly conflicted with her personal morals.

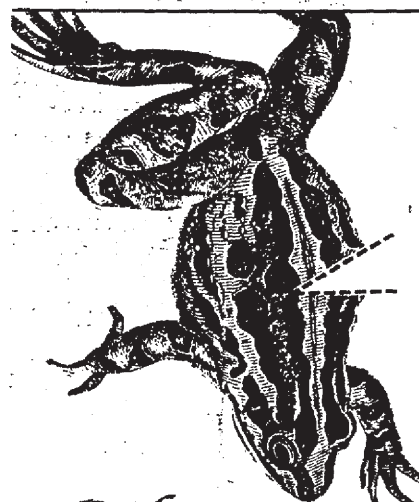
Graham set a precedent in 1987. Since then, groups such as the Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF—which is composed of approximately 300 lawyers who support and work for animal rights) have made the California court decision an integral part of their own cause. Others have joined Graham's fight as well. Pat Graham, Jenifer's mother, has set up a hotline for "students against dissection." The "Dissection Information Hotline" was set up to answer calls from students across the country who for whatever reasons wish not to dissect animals in their science classes. Graham and the ALDF state that biology is a "life" science, not a "death" science. These groups fight specifically for the lives of animals used for dissection in science courses. Members of

the ALDF are available to answer questions high school or college students may have about their rights to object to dissection.

The hotline (1-800-922-FROG) provides alternative ways for students to learn about animal anatomy without the use of dissection. Pat Graham, who is Director of the Dissection Hotline has also put together a "College Student's Handbook" which outlines reasonable ways for a student to object to dissection in a class, publishes letters from college students who have done so, and provides alternatives to animal dissection. The pamphlet provides suggestions for teaching students about animal anatomy by means such as computer, plastic, or drawn diagrams. Graham (and those who helped to publish the booklet) believes such alternatives are humane and perhaps more accurate for learning exact anatomy than dissection.

The ALDF, which has been a non-profit organization since 1979, works in coalition with the hotline. Among other animal rights activists who are working strongly to protect and support students' objections to dissection, actor River Phoenix is a spokesperson for the campaign. Animal rights are exceedingly important to those who fight to maintain them, and emphatically oppose dissection.

For those curious about Graham's personal plight to legalize her right not to dissect a frog in biology class, CBS ran an afternoon "School Break Special" on October 17th of this year titled: "FROG GIRL: The Jenifer Graham Story." Watch for reruns. □



Before you
dissect...

...reflect.

For more information
about humane alternatives
to animal dissection
in classrooms,
CALL TOLL-FREE

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1-800-922-FROG (3764)

A student outreach project of the
Animal Legal Defense Fund

by Amy Sechrist

"It's very difficult to non-destructively explore living material and still have a serious expectation of learning anything." This was the main point of Professor John Ferguson's argument when asked to give his thoughts on animal dissection in the classroom. Ferguson defended the practice of using small animals as part of the scientific learning experience.

Although dissecting is not part of his courses, he feels that in higher biology courses, dissecting is a good instructional method. "If one does not take living things apart, one is limited to observing an intact organism, which is like learning to be an auto mechanic without taking apart a car," he said. "You can learn a lot that way, but you can't learn everything."

About the claim that students can learn about organisms from books and films, Ferguson stated, "The appearance of a fresh organ is very different from that of a preserved organ, which is very different from a drawing or photo. Drawings in books are abstract, simplified, and cartoon-like, and photos are even worse. I certainly would argue that the experience [of using a living animal] is very different."

Ferguson explained, how-

ever, that scientists do not enjoy their roles as destroyers. "All of us go into [biology] because we are...excited by living things, yet paradoxically it is nearly impossible to study without destroying," he said. "There is no biologist who has not consciously wrestled with the problem."

Ferguson used the example of food choices to illustrate a biologist's dilemma. "Most people have lines that the draw when deciding what to eat," he explained. "Some people, vegetarians, will not eat animals, which seem genetically too close to them. They will eat plants, which are genetically pretty distant. Others eat animals but not people, and still others eat humans, as long as they are not part of their immediate family. Every culture has its limits. Biologists do the same thing. Each biologist defines his or her limits and decides what he or she will not kill." Ferguson prefers not to kill mammals, but has no problem with using fruit flies and bacteria in his classroom.

Here at Bard, professors are very flexible about the dissecting issue. Biology Professor Bill Maple, for instance, does not insist that his students participate. For, as Ferguson said, "Physicians in training must dissect, but for the Biology 101 student, if they can't tell a liver from a pancreas, well, that's not the end of the world." □

Indoor Tennis Raises Serious Questions

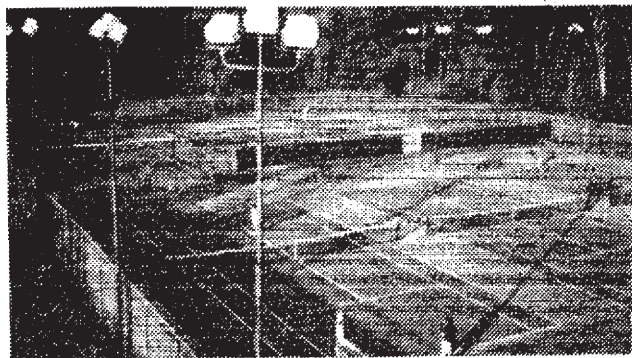
By David J. Geil

Indoor tennis has come to Bard College, but its arrival has raised some serious questions about the use of student facilities here.

Different from other facilities at the college, the indoor court carries with it a \$20.00 per hour fee for students as well as all others. The court, an \$8,000.00 system of mats and a net, is put up weekly, taking up one side of the Stevenson Gymnasium's basketball court.

And unlike other facilities at the college, the indoor tennis court was not purchased by the college directly. Instead, it was bought by a group of six investors, made up of faculty members and outside community members who pay to use the Stevenson Gymnasium. The investors, headed by Mark Lytle, a Professor of History at the college, each paid \$1,000.00 to facilitate the purchase of the mats and net. Two more investors are still being sought. Mr. Lytle explains that in return for their investment, "the donors," which he prefers to call them ("investors is overstating the case"), "each receive one hour of free court time every week for the next two years."

In a memo, issued recently by Joel Tomson, Director of Athletics for the college, the schedule of available court time was outlined. The courts are open for use a total of 27 hours over Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays, according to the memo. During three hours on Mondays, between 1:00 and 4:00 P.M., students are allowed to use the court free of charge. Stephen Nelson, Dean of Students for the college and an investor in the



Usage fees from the new indoor tennis court will be used to repair Bard's six outdoor tennis courts.

court himself, explained that, "we wanted to have some amount of free time when the student who has no money could use the court."

But most students interviewed by *The Observer* indicated that those three hours of free student use time did not represent complete fairness to the students. One student, who is a member of the Student Life Committee expressed his discontent with the policy stating that, "students should be able to use the court free of charge any time it is up."

Mr. Nelson feels that complete free use by students is unlikely, but that, "the current schedule is still flexible." "We may allow students to use the court at \$10.00 per hour, instead of having the free time, if we find that would work better," he said. Both Mr. Nelson and Mr. Tomson stated that the gymnasium's main function is to serve the students. But Mr. Tomson views the court as an "extra." "The college had no plans to purchase the court," he adds. Mr. Tomson assures the Bard Community that, "the tennis court will not take away from student use of the basketball court." "One-half of the court

is still available even when the mat is up," he says.

Final approval of the proposal for the mat's use in the gymnasium was made by Dimitri Papadimitriou, Executive Vice President of the college. Mr. Tomson felt Mr. Papadimitriou would never have approved the measure, "unless he felt it was fair to everyone." Mr. Papadimitriou, due to his busy schedule, was not interviewed on the matter.

"The money raised by the fee," explains Mr. Nelson, "will be placed in a special fund and go toward the repair of the outdoor tennis courts." Mr. Nelson said the courts are, "badly in need of repair and this money will help." Mr. Tomson indicated that he expects the repair on the outdoor courts will cost about \$140,000.00.

Mr. Nelson admits that, "most students will not be able to afford the \$20.00 per hour fee," and adds that, "we expect the majority of the paying users of the court to be private members of the Stevenson Gymnasium."

But for students at Bard, who are used to not having to pay anything for such activities, "the fee is unfair," one student said.

best bet, but not an easy process in the light of the European union. Hope lies looking toward other Eastern and Northern European nations, not part of the European Union of 1992.

The cataclysmic events in East Germany are a great thing, but now is the time to encourage the building of something new, not just the destruction of something old. There are many whose knee jerk reaction is to gloat about capitalism's victory. They are the same ideologues who will be so caught up the the left-right scale that they will fail to consider what is actually best for East Germany.

One of the most striking images I saw in West Berlin was a long line of East Germans waiting for their 100 West German deutschmarks offered to every East German who visits

the West. The line stretched in front of a huge sex bazaar inside which nude showgirls and explicit pornography could be found. These newly mobile East Germans were coming from a society where freedom of expression, choice, and movement were sharply curtailed, and the standard of living was far too low. They had come to a place where the structure of the free market and unlimited consumerism created the concept of women and sex as a commodity. We must envision a world that goes beyond these realities. People are beginning to say that both the heavy hand of highly centralized communism and the invisible hand of free market capitalism have fallen far short of their promises. There are many more walls which must still come down.



With a Little Help from my friends

by David Biele

I think what first got me thinking about high school friends versus college friends was a letter I received the second week of classes from a friend from my alma mater, good old Somers High School. Writing after her first week at Haverford College, she said, "I'm still having dreams about Somers people. It's gotten to the point where I told one of my new friends the other day 'Yeah, everything would be perfect if only my friends were here.' Then I realized how that sounded. But she knew what I meant."

About a week later I was comparing the quality of friends made in college and those made in high school with a dormmate. He was saying that high school friends are always better than any friends made in college. "In college, the only reason that you're together is because you're all here to learn," he said, "but your friends from high school went through one of the most important times of your life with you. There's more of a bond."

Although I argued with him about this at the time, as the days went by and the separation from my Somers friends began to sink in, I started to see what he meant-- my friends from high school understood me so much better than did anyone at Bard.

One day when I was feeling particularly home-sick for them, I felt this incredible urge to let someone here at Bard know how important these people are to me. I somehow had to express my love for these people and talking about them was the only way I knew how.

That day a letter arrived from Eileen, one of my favorite people in the world. It was so typical Eileen that it made me laugh out loud. So when I found someone to talk to, I started telling him all about Eileen--her future bid for the

presidency, her problems with bug spray, her chasing after headlights while driving...everything. I even went so far as to make him read the letter she sent me, although subconsciously I knew that, not knowing Eileen, he would find it unbearably boring, which he hastened to inform me ("I can't read this!!!" he screamed. "This is so boring!!"). But as I spoke of Eileen that night, my distant friend felt more real and more important to me than anybody I had met in the past month-and-a-half.

I went back to Somers during Reading Week, and one night I had Eileen and Susie, another very good friend, over for the evening. It was just like "old times," the only difference being that instead of talking about Somers people and Somers things, we talked about college people and college things. In fact it was so similar to any day of the past summer that it seems almost as if this was still one of those carefree nights, and that Bill and Anne, the absent remainder of our fivesome, were not there simply because they had made other plans; it did not seem at all that they were off at college, hundreds of miles away, which made me very happy.

As I told Eileen and Susie about Bard, I went on and on about the people I knew here--there was so much I had to tell them. I wanted them to know about Charlotte, who can stick her fist in her mouth, and Joshua Ephraim Isreal Abrams, who can make the sound of a Chinese man as he falls down a flight of stairs ("O!"). Sometime that evening, I realized how much I really wanted Eileen and Susie to know about my college friends. I wanted them to know these things just as much as I had wanted my dormmate to know about "Eileen for President."

It was then that I realized that these people at Bard are important to me. Not only did my trip to Somers make me realize that I was now a part of Bard, and that it really was "home" to me, but it made me see that the people at Bard are also part of my life and thus mean something to me.

True, as of yet I have not made any friendships as strong as those I have with Eileen, Susie, Anne, or Bill, who are still four of the most important people in the world to me, but I now realize that there are many Bardians who I do care about. Sooner or later, I know that among my closest I will be able to count several people from this school because, just as my high school friendships took time to develop, so too will my friendships at Bard.

Arts & Entertainment

Jackie Mason lets loose the laughs

by David Biele

It's kind of hard to ignore Jackie Mason these days. Oh, sure, for twenty years after that infamous night when he was seen giving the finger on the Ed Sullivan Show insiders tried to brush him under the carpet and pretend he didn't exist. But as they say, it's hard to keep a good man down, and Mr. Mason has proved it in the past few years with his triumphant return to the national spotlight. His Tony Award winning one man show *The World According to Me* broke box office records and was national broadcast on HBO, his album of material from the show was a best seller, he appeared in *Caddyshack II*, and this season had his own television show with *Chicken Soup*. He even entered the political forum as a spokesman for New York City Mayoral candidate Richard Guiliani. And so, with all this attention, the Dutchess County Community Center could not have picked a better box office draw than this King of Comedy for their benefit for their imperiled Center.

"An Evening With Jackie

Mason," as the show was billed, was performed on November 18 at the Mid-Hudson Civic Center in Poughkeepsie. Before the show began your intrepid reviewer approached Mr. Mason as he went to his dressing room in hopes of obtaining an interview. Upon being stopped, Mr. Mason immediately asked "What? Do you want a fight?" Although unable to be interviewed then because he was due on stage in a half hour, he promised an interview after the show.

The show opened with an amusing skit in which one of the benefit's organizers pretended to call up Mr. Mason and convince him to do the show. After a brief musical interlude with singer Lynn Gerb, also an integral organizer of the show, and another mock telephone call, Mr. Mason came on stage to resounding applause.

Dressed in a stylish suit and tie, Mr. Mason was comfortable and self assured and wasted no time in breaking out the laughs. He spoke first of his ill-fated foray into politics in the Guiliani campaign by commenting, "I said the same things for two years on Broad-

way and they gave me a Tony." He also added, "I would never think of being racist more than I would think of being a murderer or a pimp."

Mr. Mason's material was polished and pure "Masonian"—loud, brash, and to the point, but always, always pointing out the essential humanness that ties us all together-- and although he promised all new material, almost anything he said would have fit perfectly in with his Broadway schtick. His material ranged from politics ("I liked Reagan a lot better than I like Bush... he stayed out of politics-- he knew it was none of his business."), to Doctors ("All Doctors are crooks. All they want is your money. Why do you think you can't read their prescriptions-- it's because their message to the pharmacist says, 'I got my money-- now you get yours.'"), to Poughkeepsie ("You've proved one thing in this town-- that the look of the building don't count. It's the spiritual essence that matters."), to his favorite topic of Jews versus Gentiles ("You can always tell the Gentiles after the show. they're the ones who are say-

ing 'It was good. It was not so good. It was funny. It was not so funny...' The Jews are all saying one thing: 'How old do you think he is?'"

Mr. Mason loves to go into the psychological makeup of people and find what is so funny in our mixed up minds. He discussed at length the mind-set of Jewish people and their pride in their heritage versus their dislike of appearing "Too Jewish." He found the humor in this by noting that "Jews are proud of their heritage until you tell them they look like a Jew. A Jewish girl would rather be seen shopping in K-Mart than be told she looks like a Jew."

Much of Jackie Mason's humor is not for everyone. It requires a good knowledge of all that is "Jewish," and how Jews perceive the world. But when he takes that mixed up mind-set of his fellow Jews and applies it to the rest of the world, or when he talks about other subjects such as politics and current events, the laughs come in machine gun fire knocking you down one by one until you are a helpless pile of quivering jello (But a very content pile of quivering

jello). And on this night Jackie Mason succeeded in making lots of jello.

EPILOGUE: After the show was over your intrepid reporter attempted to gain access to Mr. Mason but was stopped by a burly security officer who steadfastly contended that there were no interviews. Upon your reporter's request to speak to his superior, the officer reluctantly complied. He returned after a good wait with the Manager of the Radisson Hotel which is attached to the Civic Center and in which Mr. Mason was staying. He dully insisted that interviews were against hotel policy and that Mr. Mason must have meant he would be willing to talk "out on the street or in a bar or something." Your reporter then asked if he could speak to Mason and was laughed at.

And so, defeated but not humbled, your intrepid reporter marched out of the main lobby (which is quite tackily decorated with putrid pastel colors, if I might deign to mention.) and vowed "As God as my Witness I shall never go to The Radisson again." And with that he was gone with the wind. □

Visiting professor lectures on the golden age of photography

by Jen Anonia

Ellen Handy, visiting Assistant Professor of Photography, gave an inspirational talk on the *Golden Age of Photography* on Wednesday, November 15. The photography club sponsored the lecture to commemorate the 150 year anniversary of photography. Handy, who has done graduate work and written articles on 19th century photography,

presented photography as an art and as a science.

She explored the works of six English photographers, first talking about William H. Fox Talbot. Talbot reputedly invented positive/negative photography because he could not draw. In the 1830's he surveyed all the uses of photography including the photograph as a means of art reproduction, for botany studies, and even for duplicating documents-- the forerunner of x-

roving. He also experimented with artistic photography, staging scenes of daily occurrence. Talbot considered his photography as "quite a little bit of magic realized."

Handy next discussed the works of David O. Hill and Robert Adamson. Hill was a painter who along with Adamson, used photographs as studies for painting portraits. In the process of creating a painting of over 200 clergy-

men, however, Hill and Adamson realized how much more interesting the photographs of the individuals were than the paintings. They were some of the first to create portrait photography.

In the 1850's-60's, the public demanded documentary photographs of exotic places. One of the forerunners of documentaries was Francis Frith. Frith's photographs are now more admired for their striking lucidity and unique com-

position than for their subject matter.

Henry Robinson's photographs resembled the Victorian paintings of the day. He was one of the first to use different negatives pieced together to create one photograph. Robinson was also admired for the dramatic staging of his photographs.

Julie Margaret Cameron, the only woman covered in the lecture, was in love with the effects of the camera. She could turn any figure into an allegorical subject matter. Through Cameron's lens, her cook became Ophelia. She considered any photograph, even ones out of focus, to be correct because it was something the camera had created.

The last photographer, and probably the most interesting, was Peter Henry Emerson, a man in love with nature. Emerson was a key figure in both art and science, considered a generation ahead of his time. He was a strong proponent, at least for a while, of differential focus, having only one subject focused in

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Forgotten in the Flood

Nick Lowe/Rockpile 16 All Time Lowes. Demon (U.K.—probably not available on a U.S. label), 1984. c. 46 m.

by Seth Hollander

Punk wasn't the whole story in '76. It had a comrade with a beer belly: "Pub Rock." Rooted in a love of U.S. fifties music, particularly Southern Rockabilly, "Country," and R&B, the music was light-hearted, no matter how bitter or wry the lyrics tended to be. The earliest exponents of it were Brinsley Schwartz and Ducks Deluxe and the genre's very own super-groups (a la Asia or Cream), Dave Edmunds and Nick Lowe's Rockpile. Lowe was also in Brinsley, which begat Graham Parker and the Rumour, with Lowe producing. Parker and Elvis Costello would reach the clearest heights, the former's lesser known *Squeezing Out*

Sparks being every bit as much a definitive work as the latter's better known *My Aim Is True*.

Meanwhile, Lowe and Rockpile put together a bunch of records that sometimes recall the Shondells, but most obviously forecast both Squeeze and R.E.M., not to mention the occasional Greg Kihn style cut (the cheezy "Cruel To Be Kind" in particular).

This retrospective of the '76-'80 recording heyday of Lowe and Rockpile (considered to have peaked in Rockpile's *Seconds Of Pleasure*) lays out 9 Rockpile cuts and 7 Lowe tunes, all with Lowe on lead vocals and the bulk of the songwriting.

From "Marie Provost" about the Donner Pass cum Cupo end of a silent movie starlet, to "Little Hitler," perhaps about the manipulateness of children, Lowe serves up word-play, insight and wit. On the

Rockpile cuts he plays bass along with Dave Edmunds and Billy Brenner (briefly a Pretender in '83) on guitars and Terry W. Chams (who joined Dire Straits in late '82) in a tight unit reminiscent of the Beatles, Creedence Clearwater, and the Shondells, and akin to the Rumour or R.E.M. in their retro-garage-pop mode (most closely on *Life's Rich Pageant*).

On his solo cuts, Lowe plays guitar and bass with various extras, mostly members of the Rumour and, on a few cuts, various Attractions (including Costello's voice in the background). His Squeeze persona dominates in these settings. These cuts vary from the sweet, glossy, airy feel of "Little Hitler" to the semi-rockabilly, semi-Stones roar of "Heart Of The City." And I'm out of time... One to think about...

Black Dahlia--Not Delilah

by Robin Cook

It was a sunny but chilly afternoon. After grabbing some brunch, Black Dahlia's John Robinson (bass), Don McKinnon (vocals), and Rob Brunner (drums) congregated in the coffee shop. Another of the newer Bard bands, Black Dahlia ("Everyone thinks it's Black Delilah, and it's not," says Robinson) has played together for about one month, and, while they have not yet entered the Rhinecliff Hotel rat race by booking themselves into that famous hang-out for Bard bands and music lovers, they've played gigs at some of this semester's most monumental shows, the very first of these being an opening slot for the band Mayfirst at the Student Center.

The personnel at that show was as follows: Robinson, McKinnon, guitarist Carlos Luna, guitarist Nick Mitchell, and drummer John Milici. Robinson says that he disliked playing at the Student Center because of the poor acoustics. "They were the worst acoustics. They're really bad. Kline is much better," says Robinson.

After that first show, Milici and Mitchell left, and Brunner joined. The remaining four members—Luna, Robinson, McKinnon, and Brunner, played their first show together at the Sturgeon in Kingston, with Liquid Wrench (see last issue for more on that band).

Black Dahlia have some unusual memories of the Stur-

geon gig, particularly of their staff. "They were wearing prison outfits—seriously," recalls Brunner. "We overheard them say they'd never hire another band without hearing a demo tape. We're not really wine bar material."

What was the difference, the interviewer asks, between Bard crowds and the locals at the Sturgeon?

"They exist here," answers Brunner, "whereas at the Sturgeon they aren't real."

"We were too much for them to handle," concludes Robinson.

However, that night, one of Black Dahlia's fondest wishes came true—the wish for a fog machine. "That's the only good thing about the Sturgeon...they had a fog machine. That was one of our dreams...to have a fog machine. But we never thought we really would," says Robinson.

Of Liquid Wrench, McKinnon says, "I'd like to say that Liquid Wrench was nothing but a bunch of cheap dime-store punks, and I say that with the utmost respect, because they are a bunch of class individuals."

Voicing the band's opinion of other Bard groups, Robinson says, "We get along with them; they're all our pals."

"We definitely support all the Bard bands wholeheartedly," states Brunner.

What about the band's music? How would they describe it?

"We're more like Swedish reggae," offers Robinson.

"It's not about girls; it's not about people...it's all personal," says McKinnon.

"The music is very hard to classify. I'd say it's very moody," states Robinson.

The band's greatest love is performing live. "We just really love live performance," says Robinson.

"We'll play anywhere anytime for free, as long as we can get some beer out of it," McKinnon insists.

"Whenever we have a live show, it's pretty mental," Robinson states. "Me and Rob hold the fort down in back and Don and Carlos just go mental."

McKinnon has been known to perform in a black dress, as he did at Black Dahlia's most recent show, on November 17 in the Tewksbury lounge, "because it's a cheap and easy way to get attention."

"Everyone says that Don looks really hot in a dress," says Brunner.

"He's got the legs for it," Robinson adds.

What about Luna's musical contributions? "He gets us endorsements," answers Robinson. Turning serious, the bassist says, "Carlos is the group's sound. We could never play with another guitarist."

The band is currently trying to add to their personnel. "We're looking for female vocalists, because we think it would add something different to our sound," McKinnon explains. "We heard this opera

Continued on page 9

Dance Theatre IV, 1989

by Max Guazzoni

I've been sensing some strange and frightful vibrations lately, and I don't exactly know how to describe them except as... ummm... a separation? between me and the people of my department, because I've been writing reviews and commentaries on the Drama and Dance productions? I've never wanted that, I don't like it. I just wanted to share with the rest of the community something that rightly deserves to be shared, something that you, the good people of this department, should, and I expect do, feel very proudly about. I don't want any of this weirdness going on, like I said, you're good people, and very talented, you have a lot to offer, and... I need you. So, from here on in, I've resigned as 'critic' or someone 'here to review.' I just won't be covering any more Drama/ Dance productions, at all. I'm sorry, I don't know what to say... except this is my last review, and thank you, for reading.

But, don't worry, we've got this new guy working for us here at the Observer, his name's Jack, he's a freshman majoring in athletics and sociology, and, well, enough said, we're in good hands. Here's what Jack has to say about Dance Theatre IV, 1989.

"Fucking incredible, man! If you saw it, you know what I mean, if you missed it, that's a gosh darn shame because I just can't begin to do it justice."

My emotions ranged from shock, to awe, to this fullness of happiness, to this falling out of my chair laughing—which really impressed me since I was sitting on the floor. I thought the dances were arranged very well, the first half up until the intermission was a constant juxtaposition of one mood to the next that held together well and built to a climactic Night Vision, choreographed by Albert Reid, and I swear I would never have believed such synthetic fabric could come to life with such organic forms.

But somehow, Albert, and don't get me wrong, it's not that you had too many dancers in that space, because I thought what you had worked and worked well, but, perhaps, and I say this hesitantly, but, perhaps... perhaps that space is a little too small to accommodate your incredible vision for dance. You did have a great number of dancers on stage, and a lot was going on in each of the little groups that was active, alive, and interesting; and didn't interfere with the stuff going on in the other groups but played off them well, ...I don't know, maybe I just wanted to see ten, twenty feet between them, maybe some on elevated platforms, with that music going and those lights? And for an audience member like me to be able to walk freely in and out and amongst them, I don't know. What do you think of the Stevenson Gymnasium? It's an OK floor, and there would be much more room for the people to come and see, I mean, the studio was a little on the crowded side a couple of nights ago... Great piece, though.

Highlights of this dance concert included Let Me Sleep Beside You, (Deidre Egan) and, let me say right now that I loved this dance beyond...anything I could come up with, and I'm not being lazy, I've devoted a lot of time and energy to this comparison or metaphor or whatever the hell, I don't know; I never studied the shit. But, short of quoting Othello, I loved (that dance) beyond...words. It was nice, it was innocent, and childlike, it was a surprisingly graceful, but, thank God, still Eric, Eric Dyer paired with a perfect playmate Deidre who is simply, wonderful. I loved it, I loved the hell out of it, the music, the motion, the expression, the message, more than anything else, that is it: I really related with the message.

Christopher Gilbert and Rob Kitos also did some excellent work for this concert. Together, they choreographed and performed Musical Chairs. Funny, funny, funny. Well placed, and full. Perfect attunement to the music, these two crazy, zany businessmen went on with their affairs in their chaos, papers, and chairs. Rob Kitos also choreographed Windplane, the word OMINOUS, I think could be used to describe this ever present mood. Time slowed down for me, to the point where I began to wonder where I was that night, and I looked around at the walls, and people's faces,

and at my hands, and decided everything was pretty much the way it was supposed to be, thank God, so, that was OK. Very Ominous piece, very controlled, very effective. Very nice work.

Aileen Passloff also did work in the Ominous spectrum. In her piece Artemis in a Thunderstorm Encountered Over the Ocean, Jubileth Moore portrayed a sometimes frightened, sometimes raging character in and out of a rocking crib, as a larger than life sheet of thunder rumbled and roared with its reverberating resonating room filling omnipresence. In another piece, entitled From "Houses," Aileen surprised us with the beauty and power of language and theatre. We were witness to the power behind suspense, the force that opens the doors in our bodies and lets us feel the emotions in our hearts. If we first allow ourselves to, to give ourselves over to it, so to speak. With Pintor-like minimalism in English, and Hawk Hawksson's eloquent fluency of the very musical and flowing Scandinavian tongue, it all came together and happened, and I had tears in my eyes.

Susan Hamburger contributed two very interesting pieces to this concert. One, Photos from the Attic, a modern exploration of a classical form, made good use of the four dancer canon. An interesting ah, convention first pioneered by, ummm...OK, I'm bullshitting now, but, it was good. And the other, Pas de Ducks, was very, well, I wrote: "No, it was very cute" down on the program next to it, and, so, that's what I was thinking at the time. I'll choose to ignore the Kermet the Frog connotations of that word and say, yeah! It was funny, entertaining, colorful, and cute.

And then there was the intermission, and we were blest with the soul filling spirit of righteous and belting live gospel singers. And prostitutes, or, what we thought were prostitutes but were actually part of the second half. (Damn!) And then: Janine Williams brought us Courage to Heal.

I have a lot of respect for Janine, I think she is an excellent dancer and choreographer, and we all know this, we've seen what she can do. I think she has and will continue to use her God-given talents well, and go on discovering her new and varied talents, because I believe she knows the simple secret to life and happiness: to believe in yourself, and to love everyone.

Furthermore, I think Janine Williams has more backbone and more — OK, I'm gonna say it, BALLS! than ninety percent of the people — male and female — on this planet. Excluding, of course, idiots placed by other idiots into position of authority wielding clubs and the like, that's different, that's bullshit backbone and bullshit balls.

Excuse me, I've gone off track. I enjoyed Courage to Heal. I saw it twice, and I have no problem respecting it as the pretty major senior project it must have been. I think Janine went out for a good stretch in her explorations and came back with it successfully. I hope she continues with her work in the theatre.

I heard someone commenting on their way out something to the effect that: "when dancers do theatre, they tend to swing the pendulum way too hard," and that may be true, but that is very easy to do. Drama is very delicate; the best works in little ways. Big, very BIG, like dance, but big in little ways all along, all through out, all connected moment by moment, from start to finish. And drama is very deep, there's a lot, a lot, a lot going in to doing theatre together, with other people. It just has to be learned, experienced first hand, and appreciated. Also, I think, if you are ever in your life, going to do vocal work, use your voice at all for anything, try checking into voice classes. It makes a big difference, if you're serious about it, the difference between having a voice that fills the room with your presence, and having words trickling out of your mouth.

I'm glad you did it, Janine, and I know it was an incredible experience for you. Keep doing it, these two mediums are being mixed more and more, and I think there's greater potential here than in all the nuclear warheads in Grenada. So Good Luck! God bless, and God be with you, Janine! You've come a long way, baby.

This is Jack, signing off."

This is the Sports Page

Bard Basketball opens season with Winning Record, 3-1

by Jody Apap

Yes folks, it's true, the men's basketball team has its first winning record in living memory. Bard opened the season with a win against Albany Pharmacy, and since then has not dropped below .500.

Albany Pharmacy 11/14

The game against Albany Pharmacy was a thriller, with Ernest Reese winning the game with a three-pointer with five seconds left in the game. The shot incidentally gave Bard its first lead of the game.

The Blazers had to battle back from a 19 point deficit at halftime to come up with the victory against a team that Bard has never beaten.

Maritime Tip-off

Tournament 11/17-8

On Friday and Saturday, Bard traveled to New York City to play in the Maritime Tip-off Tourney. In the opening round, Bard drew Maritime while Webb played Mt. St. Vincent.

Bard lost to Maritime 87-85. The team was led by co-captains, Ernest Reese and Chris Hancewicz, with 13 and 12 points respectively. Of his thirteen points, Reese sank three 3-pointers.

Freshman Sean Alford added another 13 points and

grabbed 12 rebounds.

In the consolation game on Saturday, Bard took revenge, trashing Webb, 100-45, in a one sided game in which Bard foreshadowed what might be upcoming this season.

The team showed its depth by having six players with over 10 points, and excluding one player, everyone scored. Hancewicz and Price Mason each scored 14 to lead the Blazers, and Dave Sochet led the outside scoring with two 3-pointers.

St Joe's of Brooklyn 11/21

Bard pulls its record up to 3-1, not bad considering they won only 7 games all of last year.

Matt Taibbi chewed up the Bears defense with team high 19 points. Noah Samton and Taibbi led the team with 10 rebounds each.

Supporting the scoring attack

were Brian Krex and Price Mason, each with 14 points. Samton dumped in another 12.

Coach Bob Krausz is encouraged by the Blazers fast start, but admits that they now have a stretch of nine games against teams that all beat Bard last year.

"I think we can win one or two of them," Krausz said. "This bunch of games will tell us how much we've really improved."

Compared to last year, the Blazers have improved greatly. Freshmen Sean Alford, Roger Scotland are definite additions to the team. Noah Samton will have improved greatly since last season, and will be much more of a force

**Home Game
Tuesday
BE THERE!**

Squash Tournament at Bard

On the weekend of Nov. 18-19, Tom Burhoe organized a double elimination squash tournament for the Bard community that was met with much enthusiasm.

The tournament was divided into three divisions, Men's A, Men's B and Women's B.

Carl Berry won the Men's A

division, beating Warren Replansky in the finals. Meanwhile in the B bracket, Ben Lackey came out on the top of the sixteen entrants.

In the Women's bracket, Rona Diaz easily handled all the competition, beating Susan Phillips in the third round for the championship.

This Week in Sports

Saturday 12/2

Men's Basketball at Utica College 2:00 AWAY

Monday 12/4

Tuesday 12/5

Men's Basketball vs Nyack College 8:00 HOME

Wednesday 12/6

Intramural Volleyball Finals 8:30 Center Court

Thursday 12/7

Men's Basketball at Post College 7:30 AWAY

Friday 12/8

Please Note

Intramural indoor soccer will most likely begin this week, but at the time of printing, the schedule was not complete. Schedules will be mailed to all players on rosters, and will be posted in Kline, the gym and the Post Office.

Fencing in the Spring

by Tom Hickerson

A new addition to Bard's athletic program is in the works for the spring semester as the Fencing Club begins to train for competition. The new fencing coach, Hope Konecny, has had considerable experience with the sport of fencing and hopes to create interest in the sport at Bard.

"Fencing's a wonderful sport. It takes a lot of timing, disci-

pline and patience, and also you have to use your head." Hope began fencing when she was eleven years old, and has won many honors in her long career. She was on the National Collegiate Championship Team for four years in a row, and has competed successfully in international competitions in Rumania, Canada, and France.

During her fencing career she has worked with Olympic fencing coaches Csabo Elthesh and Mike D'Asara, and Olympic fencing gold medalist Witold Woyda. In 1981, Hope was ranked second in the nation's fencers, and since then she has taught fencing at Trinity, Juilliard, and the Fairfield County Fencers' Club.

Hope came here in the spring semester to replace her husband, Joel. Currently, she is giving individual lessons and teaches two fencing classes on Thursdays, from 7:00 to 8:00 and from 8:00 to 9:00. Next semester, she is going to begin a more advanced class and start spring competition against neighboring colleges, including Vassar and SUNY.

"Fencing takes a long time to excel at," Hope said, "but not many typical athletes are into fencing. Many people who aren't usually the athletic type are often excellent fencers."

Although this semester's class is drawing to a close, she encourages anyone who is interested to come and watch. "People can really learn a lot just by observing," she said. □

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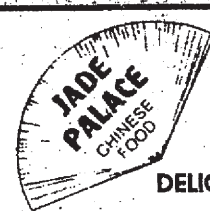
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Sexual Health

continued from page 1

doms are available from the Health Center. In fact, Marilyn Skiba, Director of Health Services, said that the Center had not sold a single condom from the beginning of the semester up until the time of her interview with the *Observer*. Privacy may be an issue in this case as well, but students who have dealt with the staff at the Health Center know them to be friendly and extremely discreet.

Also available from the Health Center are diaphragms, sold for \$14 each, and Skiba pointed out that the fitting, which could cost a lot more, is free at the Health Center. The Center stocks most sizes, though some students have not been pleased with the type of diaphragms they carry.

The Nurse Practitioner Marsha Rial Davis, can also prescribe birth control pills to interested students. Prices range from \$15-\$17 a month, depending on which type of pill the student chooses. Birth control pills are also available from the Planned Parenthood offices in Red Hook, who can sell them for as low as \$6 for a month's supply because of their huge buying power. Their offices are at 10 Prince Street and they can be reached from any campus phone at 758-2032.

The condoms available from the condom machines, when they are functioning, are "Caress" brand and are lubricated with the Nonoxynol-9 spermicide.

The Health Center has, according to Davis, fitted a fair number of diaphragms this semester and has put about fifty new users on birth control pills, and even more students have been going to Red Hook to get pills from Planned Parenthood.

She also stressed that these days there are two compelling reasons to use birth control: the prevention of pregnancy and the avoidance of STDs (Sexually Transmitted Diseases). The only means of birth control that is truly effective to stop the spread of STDs is the condom. "Condoms should be used all the time, any time. If I were between 15 and 29, I would not have a sexual encounter without a condom," said Davis.

The big risk to Bard students today is not AIDS, according to those at the Health Center, but rather Chlamydia and Condylomata Acuminata (Venereal Warts). Chlamydia (pronounced clah-MID-ee-uh) is currently the most prevalent sexually transmitted disease in the United

States. It can cause inflammation of the urethra in men and eventually sterility and Reiter's syndrome, which resembles arthritis.

In women, the disease can be even more severe. Approximately 11,000 women become sterile each year from it and another 3,600 have tubal pregnancies caused by the disease, about 10 percent of which are fatal. Pregnant women with the infection have a much higher rate of stillbirth and spontaneous abortions and run the risk of giving the disease to the child when it is born. A child born with the sickness may develop conjunctivitis, a serious eye infection, or pneumonia.

The biggest problem with Chlamydia may be that 60 to 80 percent of women and 10 percent of men who have it show no symptoms. Often the disease is not detected until serious complications develop.

The symptoms, when they are present, are painful urination and a watery discharge from the penis in men; itching and burning in the genitals, vaginal discharge, dull pelvic pain, and bleeding between menstrual cycles in women.

Genital warts are second in number of cases to Chlamydia, but are on the increase. There has been a substantial increase in cases in the past few years and it may become the most common STD in the near future. The warts are caused by a group of viruses called Human Papilloma Viruses (HPV) and appear as soft, generally painless growths around the genitals or anus. If left untreated the warts may get worse and block the urethra or complicate child birth. More importantly they can contribute to various forms of cancer, including cervical cancer. The treatment for genital warts is described by Davis as being "frustrating and very expensive."

If you show symptoms of either disease or any other STD, contact the Health Center immediately.

Davis points out that while there have been more pregnancies on campus so far this year than she would like there to be, STDs are a much larger problem. At the beginning of this month she gave a talk on sexual health, including birth control and STDs, but only two students attended. If there is interest, she would be willing to give another talk next semester; otherwise, there will not be one until next year. She stresses that she would welcome the opportunity to talk to students individually in her office. The Health Center's extension is 433. □

Photography

continued from page 6

the entire photograph. He believed that differential focus was the only way to present nature, expressing rhythm and harmony in the landscape.

Ellen Handy's lecture was both informative and entertaining. The slides presented were beautiful, and as one student said, "I was impressed with her breadth of knowledge. I learned and retained so much just from that one lecture." □

Classifieds

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WANTED

Spring Break 1990 — Individual or student organization needed to promote our Spring Break trips. Earn money, free trips and valuable work experience. APPLY NOW!! Call Inter-Campus Programs: 1-800-327-6013.

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Attention: Hiring! Government jobs — your area. \$17,840-\$69,485. Call 1-602-838-8885 Ext. R 18624.

Professor Elizabeth Frank is looking for a student baby-sitter for her two-year old daughter, Jan. 1-31, in NYC. Flexible hours, 4-5 days a week. Will pay NY rates. Please call 212-505-8632 or leave a message through campus mail.

HOUSING

Housemates needed for second semester, in two story 5 bdrm. hse. 5 miles from campus, on Rte. 9. Huge yard, wash/dryer, cats, etc... \$230.00 + deposit and utilities. Pls. call Paul or Katherine at 758-4561.

Housemate wanted (male or female) to share lakeside house in Elizaville next semester with 2 females. \$175 per month plus utilities. 12 mins. from Bard. Pre-built loft included. Contact Deena 756-2944/Box 645.

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Black Dahlia

singer in the Ravines, and we're gonna try her out."

As for the group's eventual plans, McKinnon says, "We wanna tour with Iron Maiden, or Judas Priest. Or New Kids on the Block."

Editor's note: Black Dahlia will play with the Fo' Pas December 8, at the opening for Sara Taggart's senior project exhibit in Proctor, and at the Bedrock Club in New York City December 15. □

David Miller

continued from page 1

tions. Their complaints stem from problems with both the write-in capacity of the voting machine in Barrytown and the delivery of extra paper ballots to the voting place.

The write-in capacity in the Barrytown machine broke down at about 9:30 a.m., and was not fixed at all that day. The voting place ran out of write-in paper ballots around 12:30 p.m., and did not receive any more from the central office in Poughkeepsie until three hours later. During this period, people wishing to vote for Miller were unable to do so, and many who tried to use the broken voting machine found that doing so made

them ineligible to vote with the paper ballot.

"They didn't even put up a sign saying that the machine was broken," said DiNatale. "Lots of students lost their vote."

Other complaints stemmed from County Election Commissioner Walter Jablonski's response to concerns about election proceedings. DiNatale said that when she called Jablonski on the night of November 7, he told her, "Why do you care? You didn't win."

The result of the complaint filed with the State Board of Election is still unknown. However, "the number of complaints the Coalition has received from voters is very encouraging," said DiNatale. □

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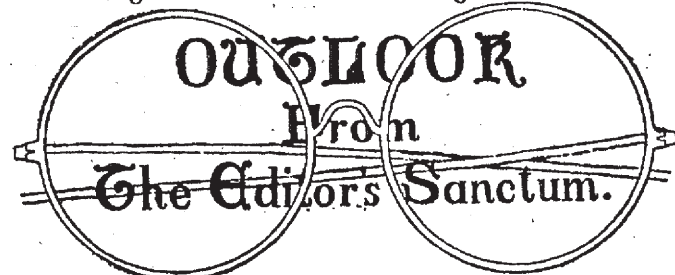
Change is needed in the Bard condom policy

The goal of a campus condoms distribution system should be to easily and discreetly get as many condoms as possible to students who need them. For students who became sexually active in the years when AIDS and AFRAIDS were suddenly added to the risk of sexually transmitted diseases and good-old-fashioned unwanted pregnancy, condoms should be accepted as an automatic part of any sexual relation. But we cannot assume that all college students are fully informed or aware of the risks, nor that all students are comfortable enough with their sexuality to openly buy condoms.

Condom machines in the dorm laundry rooms and bathrooms were meant to provide a private manner of buying condoms. Unfortunately, not only were the machines pink, but they were neither well maintained, nor well built. Now only two remain. Fourteen of the original 16 machines have been destroyed by vandalism.

A new condom distribution

system is being considered by the AIDS committee in which all Peer Counselors would have condoms in their room to sell or give to students. But will a shy freshman be capable of looking his/her P.C. in the eye and asking for a condom?



There will always be the fear that on a campus as small as Bard, the P.C. will gossip and your condom consumption will become news of the day. Sex does not always occur at decent hours either and if hormones say now when the clock says 2:00 a.m. the condom supply will be locked behind the door of a sleeping P.C. Consider as well that several dorms do not have Peer Counselors, including Kruger Village with one P.C. for three separate dorms and Feitler and Gauha-

gan.

Another problem with the P.C. distribution is expense. In the dorms that have begun this program, the P.C.'s have to pay for the condoms originally. They are then expected to charge students who ask for

condoms. In practice, they are giving the condoms out free, which saddles them with the cost of someone else's pleasure. If the P.C.'s are expected to provide condoms, they should be paid for by a student fund (possibly Convocations, the Entertainment budget, or the Athletics department) and then provided free of charge.

The Health Center and Bookstore continue to sell condoms. But the Health Center hours are even more restrictive than a P.C.'s and they are

closed on the weekend, probably the time condoms are in highest demand.

Buying a condom in the Bookstore means waiting in line for up to 15 minutes with Trojans in hand, and then buying them from a grandmotherly lady. It is a process neither discreet, nor easy. Furthermore, the condoms sold in the bookstore do not have nonoxyl-9, a spermicide that deters AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

Ideally, condoms should be available in all those ways. Machines fulfill the need for discreetness and are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Sturdier machines (in a more dignified color) should be strategically placed on campus. We suggest the bathrooms in Kline, the Student Center, and Stevenson Gymnasium as well as the laundry rooms in Tewksbury, Honey House, Manor, and Robbins. Maintenance on the machines should be frequent and thorough, either the job of Buildings and Grounds or

of some private company.

Peer Counselors should also be provided free condoms to distribute on request. The advantage is it's within the dorm, cannot break down or run out, and does not require correct change. The Health Center should continue offering condoms and other forms of birth control along with instructions and advice when appropriate. The Bookstore should expand the selection of condoms to include those lubricated with nonoxyl-9. In fact, all the condoms distributed should use nonoxyl-9. We should use only the best in preserving our lives.

Additionally, condoms should be included in the "survival kits" given to freshman in August, both to males and females. With AIDS most often caught between the ages of 18 and 25 and Chlamydia and Venereal Warts spreading on campus, a condom is more likely to save a student's life than shaving cream. □

Letters

Bard Papers need editor

An open letter to Bard students:

The Bard Papers is now soliciting applications for the position of editor-in-chief for the 1990-1991 school year.

The Bard Papers, a journal dedicated to publishing excellent student work from all of the college's divisions, is published annually. The Bard Papers 1989-1990 will appear in Spring, 1990. Thus, the editor-in-chief for 1990-1991 will be expected to oversee the Spring 1991 issue.

An editor-in-chief is responsible for submitting a budget, selecting a staff, establishing the tone of the journal, overseeing layout and design, and supervising business arrangements. The editor-in-chief makes the final decisions regarding the selection and editing of submissions. The 1990-1991 editor-in-chief will be expected to work with the present staff during the final phases of production in the Spring of 1990.

Interested persons are asked to submit a letter explaining how (s)he would undertake the job of editor-in-chief of The Bard Papers. This letter should address the candi-

date's vision of such a journal. Finally, the letter should reveal why the applicant is suited for the position of editor-in-chief.

In addition to a letter, applicants should submit a curriculum vitae and at least one letter of recommendation from a faculty member (and former employer, when relevant).

Although The Bard Papers is funded by the college, the style and content of the journal is determined completely by the student editorial staff. Selection of a faculty advisor is optional.

Applications should be submitted to the Dean of Students office by December 15, 1989. Inquiries should be addressed to Dean Nelson or Suzin Hagar, Box 757. Applications will be reviewed by seniors on the editorial board, Dean Nelson, and one faculty member. Interviews may be held if a second round of evaluations is necessary. Suzin Hagar
Editor, 1989-1990
The Bard Papers

Are drugs really that great?

Dear Editor:

Until now I held a rather liberal view toward the use of drugs on this campus. However, today the story is different.

Today a very dear friend of mine died of a drug overdose. Until today I believed that what people did for recreation was their business. Now, I know that it's not only their business, but their responsibility.

I suppose it takes an incident like this—a tragedy that affects us personally—to make us fully realize the possible consequences of drug abuse.

I'm not writing this letter as a crusade against drugs. I only wish to urge you all to really think about what drugs can do to you, and what they can do to your friends. I hope that none of you, my colleagues, my friends—my family, has to suffer such a tragedy before you realize the heart-breaking consequences, not only of drug abuse, but tolerance of drug abuse.

Jesus, I sound like a Puritan. I don't mean to say that anyone should admonish or cast out a friend who uses drugs. I don't want to preach to you and don't encourage others to do so. But drugs are a problem that doesn't affect the user alone. If such a tragedy had occurred on this campus, I'm sure that it would have affected each and every one of us. I believe you all would have been as shocked and bewildered, as hurt and angry as I am right now.

I feel like shouting at my friend, "What the hell is wrong with you?" but he's dead now. I feel guilty because I wasn't there—you know, the "if only's": If only I'd been there... If only I had said something... If only... But it's too late for Greg, and I don't know whether I'm mad at him or mad at myself. He had so much potential, just like you, and it's all been wasted. So much for a good time.

And you know, I keep wondering if he's looking at us from wherever he is, and regretting having wasted his life for one good time that probably wasn't so good after all. Can somebody tell me? Are drugs so much fun that they're worth taking a chance on throwing away your life, your hopes, your dreams? Well are they? 'Cause if anything's that good, I want to know where I can get it. I just can't imagine.

I mean, you think it won't happen to you, right? Yeah, Greg thought that too. Thought he was invincible. Mr. Tough Guy, that was my Greg.

God, I'm going to miss him. Please, I urge you, think about what you're doing. I never want to have to say that about any of you.

Kati Gunde

Gee, Mr. PC, may I have a condom?

Feb. 8, 1:00 a.m.

"Hold on a second, baby, I'll get something," she whispered.

Knowing the laundry room machine is broken in the Cruger Village dorm, Sally pulls on her parka, socks, boots, scarf, earmuffs, mittens and hat before trudging through two feet of snow to the adjacent building. Once inside, she hunts for her PC's door, then tentatively knocks. It is late: no answer. She knocks again, a little harder.

"What?" a voice moans through a crack in the door.

"Um, do you have any?"

"What?" the PC repeats.

"Um...pens." Sally is met with a strange look. "Pencils? no, um...paper...no, hmm, cocoa, yeah, do you have any cocoa?"

She is met with a quiet, yet firm, closing of a door. If only they had replaced the machines...And what's worse, when Sally returns to her room, it is vacant except for the putrid smell of cigarette smoke. But that's a different story.

K. Bannon

Yesilada's defense of habit doesn't wash with reader

To the Editor:

I am so glad that Daniel Sonenberg's eloquent, reasonable letter defending the "Open letter to smokers" appeared in the same *Observer* issue as Attila Yesilada's idiotic, self-obsessed tirade against non-smoker "activists." I know that the best reply to Yesilada's brand of logic is mocking silence, but I just can't quite let this one go...

First of all, I would sincerely like to know how dipping (or even soaking) a penis in water and vinegar is going to change the taste of that particular penis' semen? I actually did find the sexually explicit passage in "Open letter to smokers" in rather poor taste—mostly because it was not written particularly well. But I absolutely agree with Daniel Sonenberg that the passage in question is apparently what it took to bring some attention to this issue and is, in that respect, justified.

As for Yesilada—let me assure you that I have absolutely no objection to your locking yourself up in a hermetically sealed container and smoking yourself cheerfully to death. At the moment, I find that a rather charming idea. Suicide is actually illegal, but we all have our little self-destructive impulses, and I am sure your uncle would be damned

proud of you for reflecting on his death in such a profound and sensitive manner. I apologize if I am coming on a bit strong, but I find your inconsideration alarming, and unfortunately I am too immature to resist fighting at your level. I just want to be able to breathe—that "pursuit of happiness clause" you cited applies to me as well—how could that not have occurred to you? The statistics about second-hand smoke are conclusive, and beyond that—maybe I just don't want my clothes and hair to stink and make me nauseous every time I venture outside my room.

I find it touching that you credit me with the moral inclination to interfere with your desire to do harm to yourself. I cannot speak for the other non-smokers, but my objection to your smoking is not really so noble. Just as I would not hesitate to ask you to turn down any Ozzie Osborne music you were blasting late at night, I will not hesitate to ask you to refrain from smoking in public areas. I hope that as a member of society you would be considerate enough to comply—I am not interested in obtaining government support (although I find it worth mentioning that, in the state of New York, I actually do have it.) I am sorry that you feel persecuted and threatened, but I believe that the non-smokers are simply asking the smokers, as one group of human beings to another, to show a little consideration, and I find your

smug reply unendurably insulting.

I am also sorry that you feel as though you have given the smoking-as-pollution issue "careful consideration" by concluding that you would "stop smoking the day our air is only polluted by cigarette smoke." Do I really need to go into moral parallels? Our government is criminally insane and is currently endorsing wide-scale murder (Nicaragua, for example), and still it is really awfully helpful if you can refrain from murdering anyone while we try to straighten things out. The Nazis probably wouldn't have been stopped by a single dissenter, and still—I hope I would not have been comfortable endorsing their actions. The corporations you speak of are indeed doing enough damage to make one corporation's environmental consciousness fairly ineffectual, and still why shouldn't someone take the first step in trying to make things better? Even if your smoking has absolutely no environmental consequences (which personally I do not believe) your let-someone-else-do-something-first attitude is apathetic and disheartening.

I wish there was something I could do to explain to you what it feels like to be a non-smoker in a smoking community. I am angry, I am frustrated, I am sad, and I am deeply hurt by the persistence of the smoking community's insensitivity. It is mostly an issue of convenience—I find it very convenient to be able to breathe, and I get annoyed when that right is infringed upon. There is, however, more to this issue. Max Guazzoni's column insists on perpetuating that his unfortunate addiction is "an acquired taste" that he has absolutely no need to re-think. Smoking is really incredibly inconsiderate—it is not only blatantly suicidal, but unlike drinking and other drugs, it affects everyone in the smoker's vicinity. Smokers ruin my clothes, my hair, my eyes, my lungs, my dinners, the movies I go to see; they laugh as they blow smoke into my face and tell me again and again about their right to hurt themselves sounding so much like heroin addicts trying to rationalize their behavior that it makes me wince; and then they write nasty letters equating non-smokers with "right-to-lifers or religious fanatics." Smoking is not a moral issue—you smoke because you like it or because you can't quit, and your justifications are idiotic. At this point I'm not even asking you to stop—I'm just asking you to stop condoning smoking as

the social norm and to stop presenting smokers as misunderstood martyrs and the last true supporters of the Constitution. Your smoking offends me, but even worse is the pride you take in your smoking. I hope your defensiveness stems from your insecurities about your addiction and not from a belief that smoking is truly a beneficial or harmless habit. The former is unfortunate, the latter, tragic.

Jennifer Eisenman

An open challenge to Max Guazzoni

To the editor:

Someone's calling your bluff, Max. In November 17th's *Observer*, you spoke of smokers as "the more raucous party types." According to you after us non-smokers go home from the 7:30 non-smoking movie showing (presumably to go to bed I'm sure) the real folks will come in, drink beer, smoke, and "behave like stressed out college students on a weekend night." Interesting. Here is my challenge:

I will drink you under the table. You choose the drink. You choose the table. If I go under first, I will never again respond to any of the hopeless and dreary pleas you make in your little column. If, on the other hand, you go under first...the "Mad Max" column becomes a thing of the past (and we are all spared the agony of your frustrations and your defective prose.)

Let's make it public, Max. Why don't you propose a date and time in your next column. I'll be waiting.

Daniel Sonenberg
P.S. What does "raucous" mean? It wasn't in the dictionary.

Editor's note: Max Guazzoni read this letter before press time, and asked us in fairness to include this reply, as his column does not appear in this issue:

You are on, mother fucker. Kline Coffeshop, Tuesday night, since I don't have classes on Wednesday, or Friday, if you're more hip to that...Rum. Iced. Coca Cola on the side, let's be civilized about this.

But listen, I will never intend to jeopardize the purpose of my column. I feel it is very important for things to be said freely and responsibly. So, even after I kick your ass, I'll listen to your voice. Oh, and about the "defective prose." How about "journalistic poetry?"

Letters should be 300 words or less and signed legibly.

Holy smoke!

To the Editor:

I read with total disbelief the letter by Attila Yesilada in the November 17 issue of the *Observer*. I found this person's ignorance quite remarkable, and would like to address some of the "arguments" put forth in the letter.

I gave up on trying to preach to smokers long ago. If they don't care about their health, then why should I? I do, however, care about my own health and the health of others like me who are genuinely and, in some cases, severely allergic to cigarette smoke. I admit that I am annoyed by Ozzy Osbourne, but his music does not cause my eyes to become irritated, make me have trouble breathing, or give me the feeling that I have a hangover the next day even if I haven't had a single drink. I don't believe that smoking should be banned altogether (I am not a "self-righteous prig"), but a little simple consideration would be nice. For example, restricting smoking to certain areas of Kline Commons and having smoking and non-smoking movie showings would be great. It's not really asking all that much.

As for the comments about polluting the environment — if everyone quit smoking, the air at Bard would be a lot cleaner, especially in Kline, the student center, and most dorms. If everybody cared as much about the air they're breathing (and forcing others to breathe) as they do about such relatively abstract things as the ozone layer, we'd all be in a lot better shape.

I don't think that asking smokers to have some respect for the rest of us is unreasonable. In fact, it's quite necessary.

Loey Lockerby

THE BARD OBSERVER

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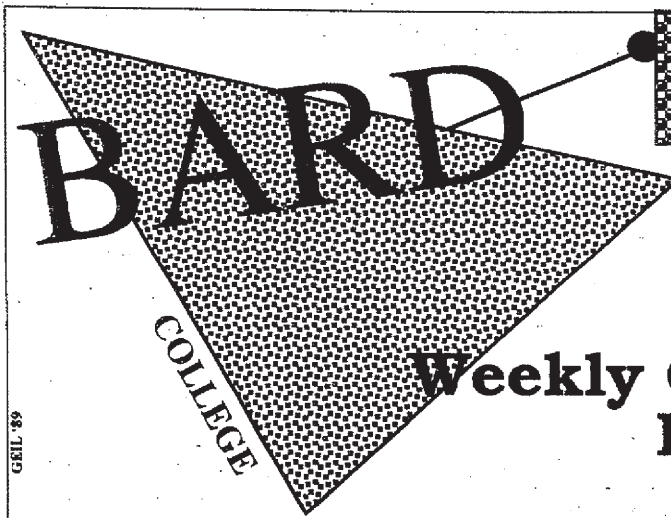
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The *Bard Observer* is published every Friday while class is in session. Editorial policy is determined by the Editor-in-Chief in consultation with the editorial board. Any opinions which appear unsigned are those of the Editor and not necessarily of the *Observer* staff. Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and must be signed legibly. All articles, cartoons, and photographs that are submitted by deadline will be considered for publication. Turn all material in at the front desk of the library by 8pm the Sunday before the Friday publication date. The Editor reserves the right to edit for style and space.

Classifieds: 25 cents for Bardians; \$5 for all others.
Display ads: Contact business manager

The Bard Community Chorus presents the Magnificat by C.P.E. Bach.

**This Sunday
December 3, in the
chapel at 8:00 p.m.**



Sponsored By
The Dean of Students

*** DECEMBER 2 through DECEMBER 8, 1989 ***

Weekly Community Information Newsletter

Public Relations Department:

The public relations office will publish 12,000 copies of a spring 1990 "Calendar of Events at Bard College" to be distributed throughout the college's mailing lists and at Hudson Valley tourists sites. The publication date is mid-January, and the submission deadline is Friday, December 15. Contact Jamie Monagan in Ludlow 310 for more information or to list an event.

Freshman Seminar:

Tuesday, December 5 at 7:00 PM in Olin Auditorium. Film screening of *Antigone*, a special preview.

Observer Meeting:

On Thursday, December 7, a meeting will be held in the Faculty Dining Room of Kline Commons for the entire staff of the Observer at 6:00 PM.

Women's Studies Program:

The last Women's Studies informal Faculty-Student Seminar this semester will take place on Monday, December 4 at 6:30 PM. Prof. Helen Dunstan, Visiting Assistant Prof. of History and Prof. Hongjin Kang, Bard Center Fellow will discuss *Women in China*. Prof. Dunstan will address informally the question: "Were Traditional Women Merely Chattels?" Prof. Kang will talk on women in contemporary China particularly women writers. The seminar will take place at Prof. Suzanne Vromen's house, Rives Cottage, Faculty Circle, on Monday December 4 at 6:30 PM. All Welcome.

Sociology Department:

On Tuesday, December 5 at 3:30 PM the filmmaker Myriam Abromowicz will present a videotape of her award-winning film: "As If It Were Yesterday." The film documents the little-known courage of the Belgian people who, during the Nazi occupation, hid over 4000 Jewish children, saving them for arrest, deportation and extermination. These "children" now grown, recall those experiences. The videotape will be shown for Prof. Vromen's Holocaust class and the filmmaker will be available to answer questions after the showing. Tuesday, December 5, in Olin 202, from 3:30 PM until 6:00 PM.

Club Art:

Club Art will meet every Monday at 7:00 PM in the Proctor Arts Center to discuss various art-related topics. Anyone is welcome, it is not necessary that you are an art major or have any artistic ability, just an interest.

Senior Concert:

On December 8 at 8:00 PM in the Bard Chapel, Senior Concert I will take place. Michael Hurley, classical guitarist, will perform works by Bach and others. Open to the Bard Community.

Photo Club and BBSO:

The Bard Photography Club and B.B.S.O. present "Black Photographers Bear Witness: 100 years of Social Protest." Thursday, December 7 at 7:00 PM in Olin 102. Lecture by Deborah Willis, curator of the exhibition that can be seen at the Schomburg Center at 135th Street and Lenox Avenue through January 2.

Blum Gallery:

"The Parade of Crafts from East to West," an exhibition of Japanese works of art spanning the 17th to 20th centuries and borrowed from the collections of three prestigious Japanese colleges will open on December 3 with a discussion of Japanese crafts at 1:00 PM.

Da Capo Chamber Concert:

The Da Capo Chamber Players will perform works by Bach, Mozart, John Harbison, and the world premiere of a new work written especially for Da Capo by Bard Faculty member Leo Smith. At 8:00 PM in the Olin Auditorium on December 6.

Claire Bloom Reading:

On December 9, Actress Claire Bloom presents: "The Feminist and the Novelist: The voices of Virginia Woolf." At 8:00 PM in the Olin Auditorium.

Drama & Dance Department:

On October 9 through 12 at 8:00 PM the Bard Theater of Drama and Dance will present *Top Girls*, directed by Deborah Nitzberg. A matinee will be held on December 10 at 3:00 PM. Avery Arts Center.

Community Acknowledgements:

To: The residents of the "Rhinebeck House" for carrying on the tradition of hosting fellow students for Thanksgiving dinner.

To: Dick Griffiths, Chick Simmons, Shelley Morgan and the students of the Environmental Club for their work in establishing on-campus recycling.

To: Susan Vankleeck and her staff for reinstituting and publishing the Student Directory.

Should you wish to suggest a Community Acknowledgement, please send names/situations to the Dean of Student's Office.

Classified:

Haircuts by Jackie Carnegie will be given on Friday, December 8, 1989 beginning at 2:00 PM in the Student Center. Inexpensive.

December 7, Vintage Clothing Sale. Kline Commons Lounge.

Food Coop will sell organic fruits and vegetables every Thursday 12:30-1:00 PM and 5:00-6:00 PM in the Student Center, across from the security office.

Friday's Movie:

A World Apart, directed by Peter Menges. Showings are at 7:00 PM and 9:30 PM. The 7:00 PM show will be non-smoking for the rest of the semester.

Calendar of Events

Saturday 2	Sunday 3	Monday 4	Tuesday 5	Wednesday 6	Thursday 7	Friday 8
10:00 AM Trips to Rhinebeck and Red Hook	5:30 PM Bard Observer-Features Section Aspinwall, 3rd floor	6:00-6:30 PM Bard Observer-News Section College Room Kline Commons	12:15-1:15 PM China Table College Room Kline Commons	6:00-7:00 PM Dr. Seuss Club Committee Room Kline Commons	12:15-1:15 PM French Table Committee Room Kline Commons	12:30 PM The Rabbi's Table Committee Room Kline Commons
11:00 AM Torah Study Group Committee Room Kline Commons	7:00-10:30 PM Vans to Rhinecliff Station	7:30 PM BLAGA meeting Aspinwall 300	5:00 PM Spanish Table President's Room Kline Commons	5:00-6:00 PM Environmental Club Committee Room Kline Commons	5:30-7:00 PM L.A.S.O. Committee Room Kline Commons	4:00-9:30 PM Vans to Rhinecliff Station
5:45 PM Hudson Valley Mall Trip	7:36 PM Pick-up at Poughkeepsie Station	8:30 PM Bard Observer Arts Section Coffee Shop Kline Commons	5:00-6:00 PM E.P.C. Committee Room Kline Commons	7:30 PM Alanon-ACOA Aspinwall 3rd floor	6:00-7:00 PM Amnesty International College Room Kline Commons	6:30 PM Van to Poughkeepsie Station -7:36 Train
	7:00 and 9:30 PM Movie in Student Center FIRST SHOW IS NON-SMOKING		5:30 PM Learning Differences Support Group Admissions Office (Ext. 472 for more information)		7:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous Aspinwall 3rd floor	7:00 and 9:30 Movie in Student Center FIRST SHOW IS NON-SMOKING
			7:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous Aspinwall 3rd floor	***** Registration Day. All Classes Cancelled. Memo to be put in boxes from Dean Levine's office with further information *****		