OBSERVER

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OPINION



Please don't cut our

budgets

Recipes from a long-dead philosopher

Volume 97, Number 3

Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504

February 16, 1990'



The new ValiDine system now in service in Kline Commons

Food for thought Is DAKA on its way out?

by Edward Eigerman

The new semester has ushered in several changes in Bard's food service. The most noticeable of these has probably been the addition of the ValiDine system in Kline Commons, which uses a magnetic strip on the back of an ID card to keep track of student

According to Jim Huskie, Director of Food Service, the system is still in a testing stage, but in the future it will provide him and the college with much better statistics about how many students are eating meals in Kline.

Dean of Students Steven Nelson spoke to The Observer last semester about the installation of the ValiDine system, and said that the system will lead to a greater variety of meal plan choices. In a recent interview, he indicated that as early as next semester several new meal plans will be available to resident and non-resident students. In addition to the 15 and 19 meal plans that are available now there might well be a 12, 13, and/ or 10 meal plan available.

For the time being, the biggest impact of the new system for most students is slightly faster lines getting into Kline. That may not be the only effect in the future if the magnetic strip on the back of the meal card is moved onto the standard Bard ID. The system could then be extended to work in the bookstore and the library as well as in the dining hall.

Huskie pointed out that one of the biggest problems with the new cards is that students have been losing them. When a card is replaced, a new photograph must be taken and the card must be entered into the computer, which is a time-intensive task. The cost for replacing the new meal cards is \$10.

Food Changes

Another noticeable change in Kline has been the elimination of the self-serve deli counter at lunch. Sandwiches are now being made by the dining hall staff behind the counter. Huskie cited sanitary conditions as the primary reason for the shift in policy, but he also said they would now be able both to offer a greater variety of items and to keep deli foods stocked throughout the meal.

Huskie said that most of the feedback concerning the loss of the self-serve has been positive; most students are happy with the improved conditions and the greater variety of sand wich stuffs. There has been a small number of people who have complained that there is no longer a faster way to get lunch than standing in line.

Renovations Planned

Tied into the proposed changes in food service are planned renovations to Kline Commons, which would radically change the interior but not greatly extend the parameters of the building.

If a proposed \$1.4 million renovation plan is approved, work could start this June to alter Kline sufficiently to switch to what is continued on page 9

Angry voices rose in protest of the proposed budget Tuesday night before it passed by a 65 to 61 vote by the Student Forum. Although the vote was not immediately challenged, the leaders of the Coalition for Choice indicated they would try to obtain a revote.

by Amara Willey

Coalition leaders made an impressive presentation to the 260 students present, complete with graphs showing why they should receive more money, and how they came up with the reallocations which they were proposing. They proposed a hostile amendment to cut money from the budgets of Dance, Entertainment, the Observer, the Outing Club, the Recording Studio and Trowel. The amendment increased the allocations for BLAGA, the Psychology Club, and Saferides. The groups who would benefit from the amendment banded together with the Coalition to support it.

Their main argument for more funding was their large number of supporters and their many activities. The Coalition's leaders cited a membership of 55% of the student body, though later one of them admitted that "the figure

might be a bit high."

The increase in funding, if it had passed, would have allowed the Coalition to cosponsor a \$3000 performance group (Women of the Calabash) with the Women's Center. It would also use money to fund programs with Poughkeepsie Planned Parenthood and to purchase condoms.

People questioned what Women of the Calabash had to do with the Pro-Choice Movement. The Coalition answered that it stands for human rights and diversity in general.

Planning Committee Chair Matt Kregor commented that condoms were not funded because of previous experiences with strangely shaped balloons deposited all over Kline and condoms that had been filled with Kline food. Besides, he added, condoms can be obtained from the bookstore, health services, BLAGA, and the AIDS Committee.

Responding to the Coalition's accusations that there had been unfair bias against their club, Kregor said, "Whether the activities are, in our eyes, good or bad should not affect funding."

The large number of students continued on page 2

Money stolen from Kline

by Jason Van Driesche

Sometime during the night of Friday, February 9, an undetermined amount of money was stolen from the cash room of the Kline offices. While most of the money was in checks, the cash would have been used to begin operation of Kline the next morning. According to Jim Huskie, Director of Food Service, "we experienced some major difficulties starting up on Saturday."

There was no sign of forced entry to the safe that held the money. Since many of the people

who work in Kline know the combination to the safe, Security is interrogating all Kline employees.

In addition, there were a large number of students in Kline on Friday night at a concert of the band "Go to Blazes." However, Huskie refused to comment on whether he believed the theft was committed by a Bard student or by an outsider, saying that "we do not have enough information to go on as of yet."

The Dutchess County Sherriff's Department has been called in to assist Security with the investiga-

Bard College's News & Arts Weekly

Alumni Career Mentors Program a success

by Jason Van Driesche and Keightie Sherrod

As participants in the Alumni Career Mentors Program over January intersession, fourteen Bard students got a taste of what a day on the job is like. Each spent a day shadowing selected alumni on the job, learning a little bit about what the real world is like.

The program was coordinated by Harriet Schwartz, Director of Career Development, in conjunction with Stuart Levine, Dean of the College, Steve Nelson, Dean of Students, and Susan Mason, Director of Alumni Affairs. Schwartz initiated the program early last semester with a questionnaire sent out to targeted alumni in the New York City area. Then, at the beginning of last semester a meeting for all interested students was held, and fourteen signed up for the program. As there were fewer mentors than students who responded, Schwartz called other alumni to make up the difference. Eventually, almost all the students who signed up were matched with a mentor.

The program itself took place on January 25. It started out with aday-long "shadowing," in which the students participated in some way in the work day of their



Harriet Schwartz, organizer of the Career Mentors Program

mentors. "Although we provided some suggested guidelines, the content of the day was left up to the mentors," said Schwartz. "The possibilities varied from pair to pair, and depended mostly on the nature of the field and the preferences of the mentor." The fields covered by the program included law, medicine, broadcasting, scientific research, finance, education, and music.

Senior Nicole Fanarjian spent the day with Nina Drooker, who is the coordinator of the Artistic, Gifted, and Talented Program for Community School District No. 1 in New York City. The pair spent one half of the day at a small private school and the other half at an inner city school.

Fanarjian told the Observer that the program was "really great." Though her career plans had included teaching at a small private school, she had not had any experience with such an institution prior to her participation in the mentor program.

Regarding her private school visit, she said that the classes were small and stimulating, but added

that she was "turned off" by the fact that the school was predominantly white. She also disliked the institution's lack of substantial financial aid and its \$11,000 tuition.

Her experience of the Lower East Side public school that she and Drooker also visited was different. Fanarjian noted that the classes were big, with a sizable number of immigrant students and students from under-priveleged backgrounds in them. She also observed that the school's teachers tended to be overwhelmed and disillusioned, and that the students received little positive reinforcement from their parents.

Fanarjian remarked that her experience in the mentor program caused her to plan on a career in educational research rather than inteaching, so that she might work to "close the gap" in the quality of education between the two types of schools.

Unlike Fanarjian's experience, junior Autumn Bingham's experience did not change her career continued on page 9

Albee and Robbins renovated

by David Biele

When the residents of Albee and Robbins returned three weeks ago to their dorms after January intersession, they had the pleasure and, for many, the surprise of seeing many much needed renovations completed in their living quarters. Albee bathrooms were given total make-overs, and the kitchen and common room also had work done on them. In Robbins, B&G made extensive refurbishments to the lounge.

According to Courtney Lee, the current Albee Peer Counselor, the bathrooms were completely retiled, new plumbing was installed, and new sinks were put in the bathroom and washroom. A new carpet was put in the common room, and new cabinets were installed in the kitchen.

Regarding the bathrooms, Amy Rogers, Albee's former PC, said they used to look "atrocious. There would be mold on the shower curtains and the plumbing was archaic." Both she and Lee agreed that the renovations were "long overdue." Rogers had asked Shelly Morgan and B&G on several occasions on behalf of her dorm members for something to be done about their condition, and was pleased to see some results to her inquiries.

Lisa Bornstein, a junior and resident of Albce, said "the bathrooms look like human beings can live there now. We now have enough hot water and the water pressure is under better control."

At Robbins, major changes were made to the common room. B&G installed new carpeting, refinished the floor, painted the walls, reupholstered the couches, and put in track lighting similar to the lights in Olin classrooms.

Says Dan Sonenberg, a sophomore resident of Robbins, "It used to be a slum. The carpet was vomity, but now the room looks fabulous. It makes Robbins feel less like a motel and more like a

continued on page 8



FORUM

continued from page 1 present made a vote by the normal hand-raising procedure impossible, so the motion to pass the amendment literally divided the Forum as those who agreed or disagreed were told to stand on opposite sides according to their votes, facing each other with angry glares across the room.

After the amendment failed, a discussion ensued about the budget and then a vote was taken. Kregor then announced that the budget had been ratified by a margin of four votes. Discussion then turned to the rest of the agenda.

The Coalition for Choice made an effort to overturn the Planning Committee's budget, by calling for a recount of the vote. Kregorat first refused to do so, because many of the voters had left the meeting and also because the Coalition had waited for a period of time before objecting to the vote. Later, however, Kregor compromised with the Coalition's leaders; he told them that if they could obtain the signatures of 15% of Bard's registered students by 11:30 p.m. Wednesday, an emergency Forum meeting would be scheduled for Thursday evening at 8:30 p.m., at which time the budget would be voted upon once again.

Not everyone agreed that the budget should be voted on again. Planning Committee Secretary Emily Horowitz said, "I think the budget should be ratified. I think everyone said 'yay' and then left."

Several individuals and clubs thought the tactics the Coalition had employed were underhanded. Coalition member Joshua

Kaufman gave his personal view of the fight over the budget. "There seems to be a big feeling on this campus that the Coalition did something undemocratic. I disagree. We followed complete democratic procedure in presenting an amendment to the budget for a vote at the Forum."

Dean of Students Steve Nelson, who was present for the entire Forum meeting, commented, "I think they [the Coalition] were doing some classic politicking which is anybody's fair choice."

Other clubs simply disagreed with the method the Coalition chose for the redistribution of money. "Assigning money to clubs using an average percentage encourages budget padding. We need more money to put out the paper than other clubs need so we ask for it. If the Planning Committee said 'no' we'd takeour

lumps just like any other club, just like we have in the past. There are other ways of getting money besides through Convocation," said one Observer editor.

Seth Hollander, a vocal supporter of the Coalition at the meeting, said later that hethought the Coalition was "pandering to the masses" in trying to bring Women of the Calabash to campus. "Having a Coalition makes more of a statement than any individual action does. People want to see bands, and they equate how successful a club is with how much they are entertained."

The leaders of the Coalition felt that their budget allocation had been biased politically. "It makes me very unhappy that people will vote for one bad band and a couple of kegs while our rights are being taken away from us hand over fist," said Coalition leader Nina

DiNatale.

The meeting was made difficult by the fact that the original constitution has been lost over the years and then reconstructed from memory and partial copies. "The constitution as it stands is in shambles. We are in a state of anarchy. There are no rules...Student government will never be the same. But I really do love ducks," Kregor said after the meeting. He was referring to an outburst of quacking from a rubber squeaky duck during one tense moment at which time he had yelled, "Shut the duck up."

As of press time, Matt Kregor told the Observer that he will suggest a new position of Parlimentarian at the next Forum meeting. The position will be voluntary and the duties will be to work with the constitution as it now stands and rewrite sections of it. Also, the Coalition has decided not to challenge the ratified budget.

FEATURES

Math Requirements recalculated

by Tom Hickerson

During the next few years, the required course loads at Bard will be undergoing several changes. Included in these proposed changes is the Quantitative Requirement, or Q-Requirement, an addition introduced by the Natural Sciences and Mathematics division, which would strengthen students' math skills and quantitative reasoning.

"Students should realize that Q-skills don't just apply to sciences, that there are many uses for quantitative reasoning,", said professor Ethan Bloch, who developed the requirement with professor Matthew Deady. Instead of standing as a single course (like Freshman Seminar), the Q-Requirement could be satisfied by several of the current mainstream science, math courses or social science courses. A student would be required to take a one-semester course from any division meeting the O-Requirement to graduate, whether it was included in a physics, calculus or statistics course. This would take the place of the computational requirement currently required to graduate. However, this requirement would not be applicable to entering students until Fall 1991.

Also being developed in conjunction with the Q-Requirement is the Math Skills Center, which would be dedicated to helping students with weak backgrounds

in math. The Center would sponsor such things as skills classes, workshops, and extra instruction.

"Bard is a strong literature and arts school," said Ethan Bloch. "We want to strengthen another academic side at Bard. Math is a burden to most students, and it is a crime that most high school graduates are handicapped with low math skills." A new math test for incoming students would be introduced with the Center which would help determine the level of math skills for each Bard student. Any student who did not pass a specific cutoff point would be referred to the Center. This test would be simpler than the one now given to all incoming freshmen, on the same level as a 9thgrade algebra course.

With the introduction of the Q-Requirement, the NS & M division would be able to teach many of their courses at a higher level while encouraging students with weak backgrounds in math.

"These are things anybody should know before they graduate," added Matthew Deady. "We know students are suspicious of new requirements coming, and we knew we had to come up with a requirement that made sense and wouldn't just make students jump through a hoop."

The faculty will vote on the Quantitative Requirement this March. If it is accepted, a detailed plan will be finished by Fall 1990 and implemented by Fall 1991. □



Woerner stars as new P.R. director

by Andrea J. Stein

While the majority of Bard students were off campus this January intersession, there was a new arrival on campus. Danielle Woerner joined the Bard staff on February 2 as Director of Public Relations, assuming the position formerly occupied by Jamie Monagan.

Originally from Glenside, Pennsylvania, a suburb outside of Philadelphia, Woerner began her undergraduate studies at Barnard College in New York City studying music. After two and a half years, however, she found that she was unhappy with the many distribution requirements, and realized that she was gearing more towards performance and probably should have enrolled in a conservatory. She then left school to study jazz with Lennie Tristano, a well-known jazz musician and composer with strong classical background. After some time, she resumed undergraduate study and received her degree from Hunter College.

Woerner then entered the business world, spending four years at Newsweek where she acted as a liaison to foreign journalists and created a syndicated photo service. She particularly appreciates her experience at Newsweek as she was able to attend the weekly story conferences. This privilege provided her with a bird's eye view of how stories get in to a magazine, knowledge which is

extremely helpful in the field of public relations.

Woerner then went on to manage Woerner/Bobrick Associates, a public relations and concert management agency in the classical music field. Ironically, one of their clients was the Da Capo Chamber Players, which frequently performs at Bard. Woerner/Bobrick was influential in establishing the King's Singers, an English vocal ensemble, in the United States.

After closing Woerner/Bobrick at the end if 1988, Woerner went on to CBS, as one of several press representatives for CBS entertainment. Her position entailed publicizing as many as 20 different programs at any given time, a task she describes as "quite an experience." That comment is also apt to describe her professional life, in general, as, in addition to her professions in the business world, Woerner has been a professional singer for the last 10 years, performing in song recitals, chamber music concerts, and in her own concert series in New York City.

Regarding the motivation for her leap from the public relations business world to the academic world, Woerner explains, "I'd gotten to a point in my life where I know my craft very well...[now I asked myself,] 'what can I do with this that is meaningful to me and has positive effect on the world?" She realized then that what she really wanted to do was to work in education.

"The world is a healthier place when people are in touch with all

the different parts of themselves," asserts Woerner. She emphasizes the importance of an atmosphere open to experiences in the fields of music, arts and the humanities. "Likewise, when people have a sense of history, a sense of where they are in the larger environment, they are provided with a perspective from which they can be worldly in the best sense," she remarks.

"What I pictured as an ideal situation was to work at a very fine, small to medium, four-year liberal arts college with superlative arts and humanities departments," explains Woerner. She had very nearly applied to Bard when she was in high school, and now, in composing a short list of colleges she would like to work at, Bard was again near the top.

It was literally days after she had completed this decision-making process that she saw Bard's advertisement of the available position in public relations. "I visualized this situation and it appeared—not to be too glibly newage about it," quips Woerner.

Since her arrival on campus, the new public relations director has been very pleased. She explains that she was attracted to Bard because it was not an "ivory tower" institution, but a school which seeks to influence policy in education and has the wherewithal to do so. "I see Bard as an institution that has a real vision of what education and an educational institution can be in terms of what it brings to the student and what it brings out from the college in terms of useful information," states Woerner.

She also believes that Bard is under-appreciated in terms of the world at large, and hopes to use her position to broaden the appreciation of Bard's unique role in the world of education. Basically, her duties are two fold. First, she is responsible for publicizing as many events on campus as possible to the immediate community. Second, she will attempt to communicate Bard's unique nature to the outside world. This is important for fundraising as well as for determining the quality and type of students that are attracted to the college.

In many ways, Woerner has been satisfied by the Bard experience thus far. "There are so many different kinds of things going on here that are interests of mine," she explains. "I have never wanted to limit my focus to one field." She mentions the Masters of Environmental Science program, shows at the Blum Gallery, musical events, and conferences on

continued on page 5

COG motivates students

by Sarah Chenven

"There are three rules for community service organization," stated Jack Hasegawa in his inspiring speech to about 30 Bard students at last Thursday's COG meeting. Number one, "It's always harder than you think it's going to be." Secondly, "The real problems are never what you thought they were." And finally, "It's always worth it [in the end]." Jack Hasegawa's speech was a lecturediscussion sponsored by COG--the Campus Outreach Group. Along with Hasegawa (Director of Yale University's Community Service Program), 3 Yale students spoke in an attempt to encourage campus involvement in community work. Among Yale's student body, approximately 40% of the population is involved at some level in community service work.

After the presentations, everyone in the room divided into 4 groups of about 5 or 6 people. We discussed issues such as commu-

nity resources, what type of volunteer work was available, what things we could do as volunteers, and how we felt about becoming an active participant in the community.

The meeting concluded with short, individual presentations by each of the COG project leaders. COG, which is an umbrella organization for different commu-

"You have to show people something that affects them directly to alleviate apathy,"

---Mark Nichols

nity service projects, was created last spring by lan McGrady, Mark Nichols, Chris Riley, and Dave Rolf: Since its inception, COC has supported various projects. This spring, six projects (most of which have been underway since last spring or this past fall) are undercontinued on page 5

Lithuania frees itself...

Amy Fenwick and Mark Nichols recently returned from a two week student exchange in the Soviet Union. They and forty eight other American students visited Russia and Lithuania from December 29 through January 11 as part of a group sponsored by the American Association of University Students, They have offered to share some of their experience with the Bard community.

by Mark Nichols

After more than forty years of Soviet oppression, Lithuania is breaking free of its chains. This is indeed one of the most dynamic independence movements that has challenged the Kremlin and is presenting Mr. Gorbachev with the threat of the possible break-up of the Soviet Empire.

Begun by Sajudis, the republic's leading reform organization, the movement to secede has since December assumed an increasingly rapid pace. On December 20,1989, in the face of repeated warnings and threats form the Kremlin, the Communist Party of Lithuania voted overwhelmingly to break away from the leadership in Moscow. Lithuanians warmly embraced the decision, but

"We here in Kaunus are very proud. We are 98% Lithuanian and have only 2% foreigners and almost no Russians."

-Lithuanian tour guide

warned that it was only the first in a scries of steps that most of them hope will lead to independence by the end of 1990.

Following other Eastern European countries in their moves to abolish the Communist Party's monopoly on power, Lithuania has officially recognized its four other political parties. The Communist Party, however, is still the most powerful force in Lithuania and will continue to be so for some time. The recent moves to secode, reform the party internally, and officially recognize other political organizations has only strengthened and given greater legitimacy to the Communists' own position. What the Lithuanians have adopted is not a multi-party system but a multi-political system, an open forum in which to debate the country's future.

In light of all of these changes, the Lithuanian people express great optimism and hope for the future. There is a tremendous feeling of change in all of Lithuania. It is as if anything can be accomplished, as if freedom and independence for the people of this tiny Baltic republic were merely within arm's reach. Many of the American students also

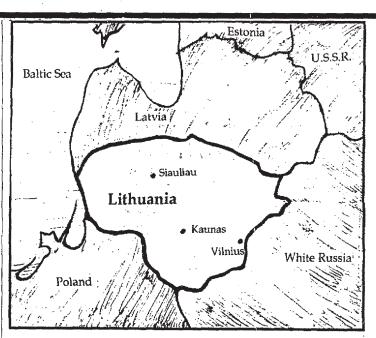
noticed an unusually rich and deep expression of Lithuanian culture and history.

Yet, despite all of the optimism in Lithuania, there is also a great deal of chauvinism and ethnic tensions. Most visible and pronounced is the hatred for the Russian people that nearly every Lithuanian holds. When we arrived in Vilnius wearing our traditional Russian fur hats, we were asked to take them off. The Lithuanian students who were hosting us that evening said that they were offended by our hats. We looked like Russians, they said and represented Russian oppression. The Russian language is also offensive to most Lithuanians. They take pride in their own language and generally condescend to foreigners, especially Russians, who reside in Lithuania but make little effort to speak Lithuanian.

Another instance which struck many members of our group was the intense chauvinism of our guide in Kaunus, Lithuania's second largest city. She said to us before taking us around the town that "we here in Kaunus are very proud. We are 98%, Lithuanian and have only 2% foreigners and almost no Russians."

The future of Lithuania is indeed a bright one with the possibility of independence just around the corner. But if Lithuania secedes, does this give the green light to other republics in the Soviet Union? Gorbachev has already expressed his hopes for the future of the USSR: a type of federation or union of independent republics. Yet, for Lithuanians, this still would not mean true independence. There is also the question of economic self-sufficiency. Lithuania has no raw materials and is therefore going to be very dependent on Russia and other Soviet republics for many of its goods. The fervent ethnic tensions are also something to be watched. They are in fact something which in the long run could be very detrimental to the future of the country.

This is without question one of the most interesting and dynamic independence movements in the Soviet Union today. Being part of it was truly exalting, and it was an experience that none of us will everforget.



...But not its women

by Amy Fenwick

The room was filled with the trappings of success yet despite the television and the VCR, a sense of the past pervaded the room. From the outside, the house I staved at in Lithuania resembled thehouse of a middle class American family. The family's attitudes, however, belied this similarity.

Rositta and Margarita, the two students I stayed with, were testimonies to an old-world sentiment. Both attended the University of Vilnius, majoring in English, and seemed to have high ambitions for their futures. However, when asked what they wanted to do in the future, Rositta replied that she would like most of all not to work and to raise a family instead. Margarita shared this desire. I hid my initial surprised reaction and asked why they were pursuing an education in English and how they planned to use their command of the language. They wanted to work as guides, perhaps for Sputnik, so that they could work in their hometowns and still have time for a family. I accepted that difference between myself and my two Lithuanian friends, but became more disturbed as I realized how discriminatory and restricting their attitudes toward women were.

In further conversations, women students told methat they thought men did better in school and that learning came much easier for them than for women. They said men made better leaders than women and that the few famous women leaders were merely exceptions. They professed the view that men are better suited for the workforce and women for the home. I could not conceal my amazement at these beliefs. They

seemed to be saying that women who became successful in politics, business, education, and other demanding fields were mistakes who had achieved these positions in the world of men, not through intelligence or perserverence, but through some error of nature. I began to wonder where those ideas originated.

One strong factor is the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church has been a strong influence in Lithuanian politics and has become an integral part of the culture. In Vilnius alone, there were thirty-two Catholic Churches before the Soviet regime closed the majority of them. When talking to women students, I received the impression that the Catholic Church supported the "women's movement." Ironically, the

"women's movement" did not mean the feminist movement, but the movement of women back into the home. Such an attitude was not only accepted by the students, but propagated by them as well. The most educated of the Lithuanian students were the same ones who believed that men were superior to women in education, politics, and other fields beyond the home.

Whatever the influences may be, it is ironic that despite the progress that Sajudis and the Lithuanian national movement have made, the women do not strive for more freedom or independence for themselves. The women I talked with were excited and hopeful about the freedoms that are emerging for the Lithuanian nation, but they want to contribute to this movement by child rearing instead of through political or educational work. Although raising a family is by no means easy, these women accepted it as their given task and gave no consideration to other

Despite the achievements of the Lithuanian people and the freedoms gained, the women are not participating in these successes. The women students I talked with did not dream of helping to create a free state, or striving to achieve a better future, but concentrated their aspirations on the age-old occupation of child rearing, I remember vividly that among the modern touches of the living room pervaded the sense of the past and its archaic limitations. As I sat in the living room, Rositta and Margarita displayed surprise as a continued on page 5

STUDENT SPECIAL! \$2.00 OFF ANY ENTREE A Landmark For 33 Years - Prime Rib Nightly ROUTE 9 Superb Continental Cuisine 3 MILES SOUTH OF (914) 876-4696 RHINEBECK, NY

Our Environment: The ebb and flow of estuaries

by Jen Anonia

We were stuck. I had just spent the afternoon with a group of friends along the railroad tracks near Cruger Island. We had been jumping in puddles, singing songs, collecting railroad ties, waving to trains, skipping stones in the Hudson, and generally escaping from books, lectures, dorms, and classrooms. The trail to the railroad tracks was a little difficult to traverse due to the puddles and mud caused by the rain the day before. But, we had managed, and we didn't expect too much trouble in returning. Were we wrong.

Coming back we met the same puddles before, but they had grown 10 times deeper. In order to get back to our dorm, we had to take off our shoes, roll our pants up and cross the deep "pond."

Why did the puddles increase in size? The Hudson River, at least the portion bordering the Bard campus, is an estuary, a water body that is a mixture of fresh water from the land and salt water from the sea. Estuaries are basically the point where a river meets the ocean, and thus, they are influenced by oceanic properties, namely tides. The Hudson

river is affected by tides as far north as Albany. Here at Bard, low and high tide are separated by about 6 1/4 hours. During the time my friends and I had spent on Cruger Island, the tide camein, increasing the size of the water puddles.

Estuaries are drowned stream valleys. They were formed by the ocean flooding the stream's mouth. Fresh water tries to flow into the ocean as the rising tides push in sea water, causing a slower movement of fresh water into the ocean. Bard is too far north to be affected by the salty sea water. Downstream from Yonkers, however, the Hudson is always salty.

This mixture of ocean and river creates a diverse population of animals and plants. Estuaries are characterized by their wetlands. They are also some of the best fishing grounds in the nation. Unfortunately, estuaries are located along the coast and often are neighbors to industrialized, urban areas. Because of this close proximity, estuaries are victims of terrible pollution. And because of the slow movement of fresh water out of the estuaries, the pollutants remain for a frighteningly long time. No wonder the Hudson is such a wastepit.

Tide Chart for the Hudson River

2/16	6:32am	4.2 ft	•	4.1 ft
	12:37pm	0.9 ft	4:55pm	0.7 ft
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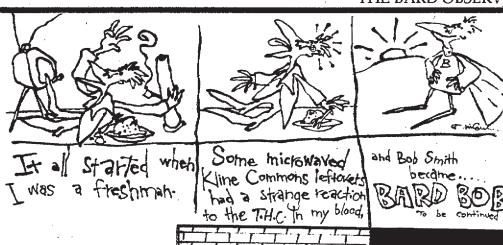
Danielle Woerner

continued from page 3 education as just a few of the Bard offerings that are "stimulating additional parts of my brain and tapping into interests 1 haven't had the time to delve into on my own."

Woerner also remarks on the interesting, committed, capable, and kind group of people she is working with. Additionally, the fact that many at Bard, including President Botstein, himself, seem

to be pursuing two careers makes her feel very comfortable. As both a singer and businesswoman, she isappreciative of the "understanding here that one is perfectly capable of doing two things very well." Once she has settled in at Bard, Woerner hopes to perform as a singer on campus.

It certainly seems that Danielle Woerner is capable of doing many, many things well, and will be a great asset to the college as its Director of Public Relations.



YOU GONNA GIVE ME

YER LUNCH MONEY, OR DO I HAFTA GIT ROUG

Lithuania

male American student helped them clear the dinner dishes. I turned to watch the tape they had put into the VCR, and realized that it was of Margarita attending a school where they taught her to prepare the national dish, to do the national dance, and other useful skills such as how to set a table properly. Though the Lithuanian state is approaching independence, the Lithuanian women seem satisfied with a subordinate role within the boundaries of the

COG continued from page 3

'.

These projects include 1), a Literacy Program in which trained Bard students will tutor members of the surrounding community who, for what ever reason, would like to learn to read, 2) a Community Friends project which deals with mentally ill people who could use a volunteer as a friendly companion to help them make a smooth transition into society, 3)volunteering at Northern Dutchess Hospital working once or twice a week with elderly people, 4) soup kitchen work in Kingston, 5) tutoring Red Hook high school students, and 6) working with the Columbia County Youth Project Program to provide support for underprivileged children in the Hudson area.

COG is a very important group on campus which would like to see greater participation from the Bard student body. According to Mark Nichols (on the subject of active volunteering), "You have to show people something that affects them directly to alleviate apathy." If Thursday's meeting symbolizes anything, it shows more students are becoming concerned about the community in which we live, and most importantly, it reflects their willingness totry to make it better.

Classifieds

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DIVERSIONS

Glory: not so glorious?

by A. Denison

Glory, the latest "respectable" movie to come out of the big studios, has been touted as the big black experience breakthrough. A film to remind America of a piece of history it would soon forget were it not for such films as this.

It stars Matthew (Ferris Spewler) Broderick as Robert Gould Shaw, the leader of the Massachusetts 54th regiment.

What reality underlies the concept of 'God'? When is it simply a wish-fulfilling illusion, as Freud suggested?

What did Jesus actually mean when he said things like:

"I am in the Father and the Father is in me:"

"The kingdom of God cometh not with observation ..., for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you;"

"As the lightning, that lighteneth out of the one part under heaven, shineth unto the other part ..., so shall also the Son of man be;" and

"Wheresoever the carcass is, there will the eagles be gathered together." What will happen as old modes of thought and behavior fail us? To what extent are 'New Age' ideas reality-based?

How are you, even now, being affected (and is it for better or worse) by psychic phenomena?

Read about this and more in:

Letters On The Way

-- a penetrating, radically demythologized, practically applicable statement of *very* relevant truth.

The author grew up in India and has degrees in Physics, Teaching & Psychology from Williams, Harvard & Columbia. Hiswriting is artfully disciplined -- while bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience to bear on his subject, it is always on-target and to the point; extraordinarily communicative because of skillful use of analogy.

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M. Barry White, M.Div.,
Princeton Theological Seminary

'David: I have just finished reading
Letters On The Way over the last few
days and it will please you to know that
my being (not just my mind) is clearer
from the touch of your perspectives.'
Wilson Alling, M.A. Psych.,

Columbia University
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The Way, send \$7.00 to:

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Queens, NY 11372

The film traces the history of this first all-Black regiment in the U.S., The two big names in the depiction of this first all black regiment are Denzel Washington, star of A Soldier's Story, and Morgan Freeman, currently seen in Driving Miss Daisy.

The performances given by Broderick, Washington, and Freeman are all as good as any in a halfway decent war flick, like *The Longest Day* or *The Sands of Iwo Jima*. They all die in the end, right? They're putting their lives on the line. Presenting a morally flawed, hopeless bunch goes against the Hollywood style of the virtuous. It's not like they were gonna enjoy plugging their old cracker master. You gotta love 'em. But hell, I loved the Dirty Dozen for the same reasons.

Unfortunately, it is just another classic Hollywood war movie, this time with blacks as the grunts. If treated as such, it's a good one. The battle scenes have the authenticity that only big money \$tudios can buy, and it's a sweat to watch them. From what I've heard and read about the violence of that war, though, they didn't go far enough. Men still go flying up in the air when a shell goes off underneath them. Pekinpah would have seen it done right.

In terms of this being a black experience movie for the nineties it isn't successful. The first question is, why Broderick? Not just in terms of his career, but in terms of the focus of this movie. The obvious protagonists are the soldiers themselves. A dirty trick is played by dissolving the original identities of the soldiers and replacing them with phony composites while

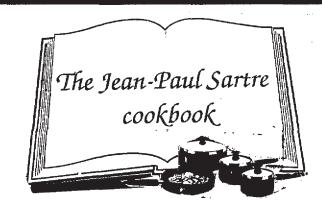
remaining true to the main white character. Whose film is this anyway?

If you want to see a movie that is totally faithful to the point of revealing a piece of Black history check out some the classics 70s blaxploitation flicks. Sweet Sweetback's Baaadassssong (1970 dir. by Melvin Van Peebles) and Superfly (1972 dir. by Gordon Parks, Jr.) were written, directed, and performed entirely by blacks. They at least remain true to the cause of educatin' the brothers while entertaining them as well.

I suppose Glory deserves some credit for even trying to sell a movie about a black regiment. But the real point of the film is in the title. Why Glory? These men met no particular glory on the battlefield. They displayed courage, as much as any other regiment, but I don't see the glory of having your heart garroted by a bayonnet. The only glory these men met was the glory of the hereafter.

Instead of bettering white America's understanding of the contribution of blacks to our history, it sells out to the low goal of proving the valor of the 54th. In terms of its relationship to an entire race, at least it isn't detrimental to the image of Blacks in this country, unlike some other films.

If it's a solid war movie yr in the mood for, Glory is the one for you. The battle scenes and competent storyline make this a \$3.50 picture. Don't pay more. Although at the time of this writing Glory has not arrived out here in the boondocks; Hoyts of Kingston and Poughkeepsie are slated to get it some time soon.



by Marty Smith

The Bard Observer has been fortunate enough to discover several previously lost diaries of famous French philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre stuck in between the cushions of the couch. These diaries reveal a young Sartre obsessed, not with the void, but with food. Apparently Sartre, before discovering philosophy, had hoped to write "a cookbook which will put to rest all notions of flavor forever." The diaries, to be published in full by Alfred A. Knopf next month, are excerpted here for your perusal. October 3

Spoke with Camus today about my cookbook. Though he has never actually eaten, he gave me much encouragement. I rushed home immediately to begin work on a set of recipes. How excited I am! I have begun my formula for a Denver omelet.

October 4

Still working on the omelet. There have been stumbling blocks. I keep creating omelets one after another, like soldiers marching into the sea, but each one seems empty, hollow, like stone. I want to create an omelet that expresses

the meaninglessness of existence, but instead they taste like cheese. I look at them on the plate, but they do not look back. Tried eating them with the lights off. It did not help.

October 6.

I have realized that the traditional omelet form (eggs and cheese) is bourgeois. Today I tried making one out of a cigarette, some coffee, and four tiny stones. I fed it to Malraux, who puked. I am encouraged, but my journey still is long.

October 7

Today lagain modified myomelet recipe. While my previous attempts had expressed my own bitterness, they communicated only illness to the eater. In an attempt to reach the bourgeoisie, I taped two fried eggs over my eyes and walked the streets of Paris for an hour. I ran into Camus at the Select. He called me a "stupid shit" and told me to "go home and wash my face." Angered, I poured a bowl of bouillabatsse into his lap. He became enraged, and seizing a straw wrapped in paper, tore one end of the wrapper off and blew through the straw, propelling the wrapper directly into my eye. "Ow! You continued on page 9

Too good to hang

by Seth Hollander

Bauhaus: <u>Swing The Heartache/</u>
<u>The BBC Sessions</u>. Beggar's Banquet/RCA. 67 minutes.

There are good and bad ways to do everything. Take being English, mopey, punk-influenced, disco conscious, Bowie respectful, unblinkingly depressed, and dressed in Black. A bad way: become a band called Joy Division. A good way: stay away from drummers that revere robots and become a band called Bauhaus. Take selling the band's tenth anniversary to Americans swayed by the vapid "So Alive." A bad way: release Best of Bauhaus 1979-1983 as an overpriced domestic box with lots of Anton Corbijn photos but no previously unreleased material. A good way: release a wonderful collection of mostly unreleased material, linked by a common heritage of having been recorded for BBC radio (in Britain, the government will foot the bill for new Rock And Roll to come to your ears; over here the government successfully censors RnR for "drug" and "sexual" references. That's true, I read an article on it in something...)

Well Joy Division did unfortunately exist, but of the marketing packages mentioned only the BBC compilation exists, much to RCA's credit. The bad road would have been both more profitable and easier for them. Oh happy surpoises

The compilation draws on five separate sessions, roughly spanning Bauhaus' existence (79-83). Of the total 18 cuts, only five (according to the liner notes, but I suspect this "God In An Alcove" is a sixth) have been released previously, though not all on this side of the ocean. Of the remaining thirteen, two are songs not previously in Bauhaus' catalog. Of the remainder, many are versions of songs not on any of the U.S. Bauhaus releases, i.e. three of their Beggar's Banquet LPs.

Only a couple of the songs are noticeably different than their previously released counterparts; the strength of this release is more in its coherency as an overview of Bauhaus' career and phases. The



selection mixes their early high volume originals and passion for covering their heroes (Yes, their perfect "Ziggy Stardust" is on here. Now that's satori.) with later, more delicate and conceptual, cuts that reveal a dangerous amount of pretension. If you don't feel like spending a hundred bucks, this is the best way, this side of taping, to get to know the band that coughed up dem sneaky Love & Rockets guys. Now snap it up — move dem CDs.



A trip down memory lane: Six all-time great children's books

by Amy Sechrist

I'm browsing through Newsweek and I see a list of children's books (where else are you going to get advice on what your kids should read, right?) and I notice the titles, James and the Giant Peach, Island of the Blue Dolphins, etc. This wave of nostalgia washes over me; I love these books. As a nine and ten year old I devoured everything written by Roald Dahl and Judy Blume. And they're good the second time around, too. I realized, reading through some of my old favorites, that I've already begun to forget what being a kid is like, and I was glad to be reminded. I was also amused to pick up on $some \, of \, the \, humor \, which \, was \, lost$ on my younger self. So I've done your basic review, here. These books are classics and if you haven't read them, you should.

C HARLIE AND THE

CHOCOLATE FACTORY (RoaldDahl)

This is a delightful tale of Charlie Buckett, a miserably poor lad who wins a tour of Mr. Willy Wonka's famous chocolate factory. Many good villains in this book; nobody is better at creating nasty, disgusting villains than Dahl. They would seem to come from the demented minds of preteens rather than a grown Englishman. Also in the series, Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator (checked out but unfortunately not read by this reviewer). The author has also written a number of excellent adult books and short sto-

JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH

(Roald Dahl)

"...marvelous things will start happening to you, fabulous, unbelievable things- and you will never be miserable again in your

These words are spoken to the novel's hero, James Henry Trotter, by a strange old man in a dark green suit, and they seem to be the theme of all of Dahl's books. As in later works (this is the author's first) the main character is richly rewarded after a life of misery. James is freed from life with his two horrible aunts when he meets his new friends, six large insects. The book does move slowly, however, when the creatures break into two-page songs. But James and the Giant Peach still remains one of my favorites, possibly because we put it on as a play in third grade. I was the lady-

STARRING SALLY J. FREEDMAN AS HERSELF (Judy Blume)

Being the typical young girl that I was, I read all of Judy Blume's teeny-bopper novels, but this is

by far the best. Probably because Sally is too young for all of that dating crap. It's simply amazing how much Blume remembers from her childhood and her characters are incredibly real. Sally is very sweet; makes up stories in her head about starring in Esther Williams movies and is convinced that Adolf Hitler is alive and living in her building in Miami.

ISLAND OF THE BLUE **DOLPHINS**

(Scott O'Dell)

I read this book at around age eight and for years afterwards had dreams of being stranded on a tropical island, making fences out of whale ribs and catching fish with my homemade spear. This is a true story of a girl who is left alone on and island for eighteen years. Author's great-grandfather was a first cousin of Sir Walter Scott, and if that isn't incentive enough to read it, well, then I don't know what is.

SILVER ON THE TREE (Susan Cooper)

This is the last book in The Dark is Rising series, definitely my favorite set of books. They tell of the struggle between the Light and the Dark, two forces battling for control of humanity. Leaning somewhat toward science-fiction, the books are set in England and Wales, and are filled with many examples of the beautiful Welsh language. Cooper is clever and imaginative, as one critic writes, "The mounting excitement of the narrative is well-matched by the strength of the writing, which can be as rich and as eloquent as a Beethoven Symphony." Yeah, that's what I meant. Seriously, folks, if you never read anything again, at least read these books....Over Sea, Under Stone, The Dark is Rising, Greenwitch, The Grey King, and Silver on the Tree ..

Luis Garcia-Renart Performs in Concert

by Jeung-Hee Kahng

I have one thing to say and only one thing...February 28th, 1990. What's so special about that day? Well...let me tell you why. On February 28th, 1990, Luis Garcia-Renart will be playing an early Romantic program for cello and piano, with accompanist Todd Crow, in Olin at 8 p.m. The program will consist of the Chopin Sonata, the Schumann Fantasy Pieces and a Mendelssohn piece.

The program will prove Luis Garcia-Renart's ability to use his talent to the fullest. The first piece he will perform is the Chopin

Sonata. The seldom-played cello sonata has a somber, dark tone which is prevalent throughout the entire piece. Chopin's brilliance will be seen in the nuances of the cello sonata. It is Chopin's only cello piece, written at the end of his career.

The Schumann Fantasy Pieces have continually contrasting points throughout the piece. The somberness will also be there, followed by the different emotions Schumann writes into these pieces. The nuance of Schumann is like that of Chopin; it will definitely grab the listener's close attention. The final piece Luis Garcia-Re-

nart will be playing is by Mendelssohn. The program starts with a sad and somber piece but ends with an uplifting feeling. Unlike Chopin, Mendelssohn will leave the listener with a certain happiness which prevails throughout his other pieces.

Todd Crow, Mr. Garcia-Renart's accompanist, has played with him since 1969. The rapport between the two musicians will be evident through the entire program. It will be to anyone's shame to miss Luis Garcia-Renart and Todd Crow's incredible performance of the carly Romantic period.

There is absolutely, positively no smoking in the library.

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Rhinebeck theater group to stage Christie play

The Rhinebeck Theater Society will celebrate the 100th anniversary of mystery writer Agatha Christie's birth with a production of her classic murder/mystery "Ten Little Indians" at the Chancellor Livingston Elementary School in Rhinebeck. The play will run February 23 and 24, and March 2 and 3 at 8 p.m., with a matinee March 4 at 3 p.m.

The production is directed by Katharine Aldrich, and the cast includes Jane Brien '89 and Tucker Baldwin '91. The play centers around ten guests on an island off the coast of England, who-you guessed it-are being murdered one by one. Cliches about not spoiling the fun by revealing the ending seem to be relevant here. At any rate, I really haven't read "Ten Little Indians," and could not tell you what happens.

If you're on the edge of your seat wanting to know who is killing off the cast, tickets are \$8 to see the play. There will also be a dinner at the Beekman Arms Saturday, March 3; the price for reservations is \$35. Both tickets for the play and dinner reservations can be obtained by calling Woody's Furniture in Rhinebeck at 876-

To reach the Rhinebeck Theatre, turn onto South Street from Rt. 9 and go as far as the blinking light. Then turn right onto South Parsonage and make the second left onto Knollwood Rd.

If you have written or would like to write an article for the Bard Observer's Diversions section, call Robin Cook, Arts Editior, at 758-0772

Bard sweeps first tri-match in living memory

Monday night the men's volleyball team traveled to Bridgeport Connecticut to play against host Bridgeport and Yeshiva.

Bard opened the match beating Bridgeport 15-10, 15-6, then went on to equally trounce Yeshiva 15-10, 15-4.

"Both of the teams were at our level of play and they could have easily come away with the wins instead of us," said Bard coach Stacy Collier. "But the guys were pumped and played hard the whole time."

Co-captain Colin Clark led the offensive attack with 5 kills, and served for 9 points. Johnnie Elban | ing up four back-court players to

also played strong at the net with 6 blocks and 7 kills. Grant MacDonald had 6 service points and co-=captain Jody Apap controlled the middle of the court on defense with several digs and

"If we can keep playing at this level, we can hope to win several more before the season is over," said Collier. "But we have to keep working hard and improve our serves and perfect our defense."

"Stacy deserves a lot of credit for our new defense," said cocaptain Clark. "We now have only two players blocking spikes, freedig out the hits if they get by our blocks. Last year we used three blockers and this left to many open spots on the court, and we lost too many points because of it."

With the two wins, Bard improves its record to 2-3 after a disappointing day at the Vassar tournament this past weekend.

Bard dropped three straight matches after winning the first game of the season; they lost to East Montana St. 15-8, 11-15, 2-15; NYU 15-0, 15-8; and Baruch College 3-15, 6-15. First day jitters must have been a bit too much.

Colin Clark was named to the All Tournament team.

The Week In Sports

Saturday 2/17

Men's Volleyball vs Southampton and New Paltz HOME 1:00

Monday 2/19 Men's Basketball at Steven's Tech AWAY 8:00

Thursday 2/22 Men's Basketball vs Dominican HOME 8:00

Friday 2/23

Men's Volleyball vs Jersey City State HOME 7:30

Both men's and women's intramural basketball and indoor socco are planned to begin this week. All players on rosters will receive schedule in the mail, and others will be posted in the gym, post office and Kline Commons.

Music Program Zero's New

Performance space

If you need a place to perform music or any other medium

If the resources now available to you do not fulfill your performance needs or if you would like to experiment with other modes and ideas for social interface of your expressive output in sound, word, mark, object, film, video, mime, movement, scripted or improvised theater, or any combination of media

> Performance space is available every evening after 10 pm at Brook House

A schedule of each week's events will be issued, posted, and circulated

Anyone interested in scheduling a specific performance, group (rock band, chamber group, jazz group, theater group, dance group, improvisation group, etc.) or individual (recital, reading, exhibition, viewing, performance art, lecture, audio or videao tape playing, or whatever) should communicate with Benjamin Boretz at the Music Program Zero office (Brook House), via mail (box 42), or by phone (ext. 272) to discuss possibilities.



If you don't get the point, you could be a winner

by Eric Lima

If you don't get the point, you could be a winner. I just returned from a visit to Columbia University with the Bard Fencing Club. Making someone else get the point is mostly what it's all about.

Bard students have an opportunity to be coached by one of the top fencers in the United States. Her students call her Hope and whoever is so unfortunate as to be in competition against her doesn't have any.

The club is forming slowly but surely and is armed with many beginners, as well as a few who are quite at home with a sword.

The practices are free and meet on Mondays and Thursdays from 4-6 in the afternoon. On Thursday evening there is another lesson from 7-8 for those who are busy during the afternoons.

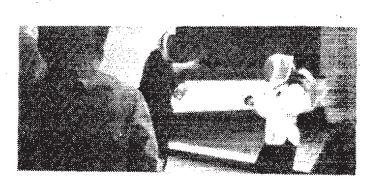
There will be a few trips to other colleges similar to the one at Columbia this past weekend.

To sum up the feeling I got both at Columbia and here at Bard, I would say that fencers may want to pierce your heart, but they seem remarkably friendly about it. Comejoin the club!

Robbins

continued from page 2 residence. We have a real living room now."

Of course, keeping in mind the notorious bohemian lifestyle of many of Robbins' residents, some people are wondering how long the room will continue to be so esthetically pleasing. But, as Sonenberg says, "So far it looks like people respect it."



Correction: The Campus Security Law article incorrectly attribtted the death of a 1987 freshman to food poisoning rather than ardiac arrest and untreated colitis.

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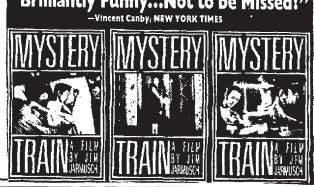
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ALSO: Sat. & Sun., 5, 7:30, 9:45; Mon. - Thurs., 7 & 9:15 Brilliantly Funny...Not to be Missed!"



Sartre cookbook

continued from page 6

dick!" I cried. I leaped up, cursing and holding my eye, and fled. October 10

I find myself trying ever more radical interpretations of traditional dishes, in an effort to somehow express the void I feel so acutely. For example, today I tried this recipe:

Tuna Casserole

Ingredients: 1 large casserole

Place the casserole dishin a cold oven. Place a chair facing the oven and sit in it forever. Think about how hungry you are. When night falls, do not turn on the light.

While a void is expressed in this recipe, I am struck by its inapplicability to the bourgeois lifestyle. How can the cater recognize that the food denied him is a tuna casserole and not some other dish? I am becoming more and more

Mentor program

plans, but rather reinforced them. Bingham, who plans to enter the field of medicine upon graduation from Bard, spent her day with Diane Sauter, the director of the residency training program in emergency medicine at the New York Medical College of the Metropolitan Hospital Center. She spent half of the day in the emergency room and the other half riding an ambulance.

Bingham said that her time among the personnel of the hospital was "pretty exciting, but there was no trauma," and added that, while she has always planned to attend medical school, her participation in the program"reinforced [her] ideas."

The day ended with a dinner at La Petite Auberge, at which each student spoke a few words about his or her day. "The dinner gave the participants a chance to compare notes," said Schwartz.

Reactions to the program were highly favorable. Both the mentors and the participants thought the day had been a very profitable experience. "The day provided a clarification of career goals for many of the students,", said Schwartz, Many of the alumni mentors have already expressed an interest in participating in future programs.

The Alumni Career Mentors Program will definitely continued next year, and may even be expanded to Boston and Washingion, D.C. Schwartz is also thinking about doing the program during spring break or reading week as-

October 12

My eye has become inflamed. I hate Camus.

October 25

I have been forced to abandon the project of producing an entire cookbook. Rather, I now seek a single recipe which will, by itself, embody the plight of man in a world ruled by an unfeeling God, as well as providing the eater with at least one ingredient from each of the four basic food groups. To this end, I purchased six thousand pounds of foodstuffs from the corner grocery and locked myself in my kitchen, refusing to admit anyone. After several hours of work, I produced a recipe calling for two eggs, half a cup of flour, four tons of beef, and a leek. While this is a start, I am afraid I still have much work ahead.

November 15

I have been working feverishly for weeks. I feel that I may be very close to a great breakthrough. I have been creating meal after meal, but none seems to express the futility of existence any better than would ordering a pizza. Heft the house this morning in a most depressed state, and wandered aimlessly through the streets. Suddenly, it was as if the heavens had opened. My brain was electrified with an influx of new ideas. "Juice, toast, milk..." I muttered aloud. I was, suddenly, on the verge of creating the nutritious breakfast! Loathsome, true, but filled with existential authenticity. I rushed home to begin work anew.

November 18

Today I tried yet another variation: juice, toast, milk and Cheetos. Again, a dismal failure. I have tried everything. Juice, toast, milk, and anchovies; juice, toast, milk, and cyanide; juice, toast, milk, and gin. Nothing helps. I am in agony. Juice, toast, milk, they race about my fevered brain like fire, like an unholy trinity of cruel denial. And the fourth ingredient! What could it be? It eludes me like the lost chord, the Holy Grail. I must see the completion of my task, but I have no more money to spend on food.

November 20

I have been most fortunate to obtain the patronage of a restaurant, "Maison de Chez Greg" which has consented to employ me as a fry cook. Here I will have the opportunity to experiment with breakfasts as much as I like, with the materials provided free of charge.

November 21

Camus came into the restaurant today. He did not know that I was in the kitchen, and before I sent out his meal I loogied in his soup. Sic semper tyrannis.

November 23 Ran into some opposition at the restaurant. Some of the patrons complained that my breakfast special (a page out of Remembrance of Things Past and a blowtorch with which to set it on fire) does not satisfy their hunger. What do they know of life? As though their hunger was of any consequence! They say that they are starving. So what? They are going to die anyway. I want my meals to eat themselves, and they want attractive garnishes. They make me want to puke. I have quit the job. It is stupid for Jean-Paul Sartre to sling hash. I have enough money to continue my work for a little

while. November 24

Last night I had a dream. In it, I am standing, alone, on a beach. A great storm is raging all about me. It begins to rain. Night falls. I am struck by how small and insignificant I am, how the entire race of man is but a speck in the eye of God, and I am but a speck of humanity. Suddenly, a red Cadillac convertible pulls up beside me. In it are these two gorgeous girls named Jojo and Wendy. I get in and they take me to their mansion in Hollywood, give mea pound of cocaine and make wild, passionate love to me for the rest of my

November 26

Today I made a black forest cake out of five pounds of cherries and a live beaver, challenging the very definition of the word "cake." I was very pleased. Malraux said he admired it greatly, but could not stay for dessert. Still, I feel

that this may be my most profound achievement yet, and I have resolved to enter it in the Betty Crocker Bake-Off.

November 30

Today was the day of the Bake-Off. Alas, things did not go as I had hoped. During the judging, the beaver became agitated and bit Betty Crocker on the wrist. The beaver's powerful jaws are capable of felling a blue spruce in less than ten minutes, and proved, needless to say, more than a match for the tender limbs of America's favorite homemaker. It refused to let go for some ten or so minutes, during which there was a lot of confusion and some loss of blood. Mrs. Crocker tried waving her arm around for a while, even though I told her it wouldn't help, and then calmed down and started cooing, "Nice beaver, good beaver," in a high, strained voice. Eventually paramedics arrived and shot the beaver with a tranquilizer gun and carted it off, over my protests. 1 tried to explain to Mrs. Crocker that this was a freak accident and should not reflect upon the quality of my recipe, but she was going into shock and they had to pick a new judge anyway, so I only got third place. Moreover, I am now the subject of a rather nasty law-

December 1

I have been gaining twenty-five pounds a week for two months, and am now experiencing light tides. It is stupid to be so fat. My pain and ultimatesolitude are still as existentially authentic as they were when I was thin, but seem to impress girls far less. From now on, I will live on cigarettes and

Changes at Kline

continued from page 1

called a "diminishing balance" or "straight ala carte" system. With such a system, students would have a computerized account witha certain number of "points" on it. They would select their meals as in a cafeteria, and each food item would have a different point value that would be deducted from the student's account. The computer would issue warnings when student accounts reduced to a minimum level, and students would then have the option of putting more money into their accounts. However, the declining balance system can not be implemented until the renovations to Kline have been completed.

Nelson did point out, though, that no firm decision has been made about the future of meal plan options and that the Kline renovations, as they are so expensive, may be delayed for a year or

Other companies considered

Bard is currently inviting bids from five food service companies, including the current one, DAKA, for the contract for Kline Commons. The representatives from the various companies have recently been speaking to students in Kline. One of these representatives, Norm Kvam, who works for Mariott, characterized Bard's food as average, and mentioned several changes his company might make if they took over the con-

Kvam was surprised that there was not more input from students into the policy formulation and daily operation of Kline. He was especially surprised that there was not a student food committee at Bard. Huskie echoed Kvam's sentiments, citing a lack of input from students as one of the main problems in his job.

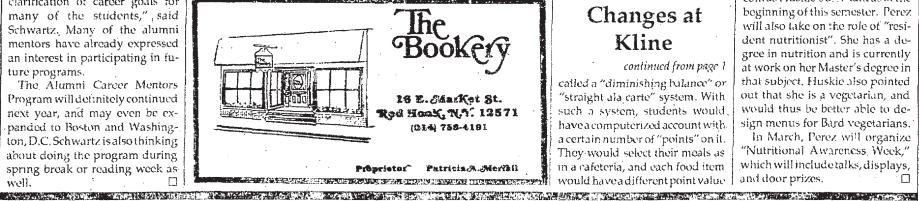
When asked about why he was entertaining bids from the other food services, Dean Nelson said guardedly that he was committed to maintaining the highest standard of living for students here and that, obviously, if they had been completely satisfied with the present situation he would not be looking at other services.

According to Nelson, there is currently no signed contract between Bard and DAKA. This means that, conceivably, Bard could change food services before the end of the academic year.

Personnel Changes

Sherry Perez replaced Mike Lincoln as Huskie's assistant as of the beginning of this semester. Perez will also take on the role of "resident nutritionist". She has a degree in nutrition and is currently at work on her Master's degree in that subject. Huskie also pointed out that she is a vegetarian, and would thus be botter able to do sign menus for Bard vegetarians.

In March, Perez will organize 'Nutritional Awareness Week," which will include talks, displays, and door prizes.



Democracy and courtesy a necessity

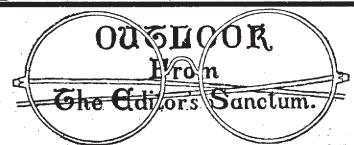
by Jason Van Driesche

The Forum meeting on Tuesday dragged out for an excruciating three hours before a decision on the budget could be reached, and in the end, it is doubtful whether anyone who attended came away completely satisfied. A wide variety of issues were. raised during the meeting, several of which are of particular concern to the Observer.

First of all, though, the Observer would like to compliment and thank Matt Kregor, Chair of the Student Forum, for the patience and tact he displayed in his handling of the meeting. What could have otherwise degenerated into a verbal brawl was held to a basically civil and democratic process by Matt's talent and effort alone.

The first and largest of our complaints concerns the actions of the leaders of the Coalition for Choice at Tuesday's Forum. The leaders of the Coalition spent a large part of the evening trying to subvert the democratic process, attempted to verbally intimidate the members of the Planning Committee in order to force their views on the Forum as a whole.

Unfortunately, their efforts were successful. The leaders of the Coalition were able to pressure Matt Kregor into retreating from his constitutionally-based decision to consider the budget ratified as voted, and the Coalition acted very unfairly in coercing him to change it. The constitution clearly states that "Immediately following any vote, a member may call for a referendum on the issue..." [italics added] (Section D5, Constitution of the Bard College Student Association). "Immediately" cannot be taken to mean after a large number of students have left the room, as was the case in Tuesday's Forum meeting. Any additional vote taken would be unconstitutional. A second complaint concerns the Coalition's persistent inability (or refusal) to understand the reasons given by the members of the Budget Committee for the committee's decision to determine the CFC's budget by secret ballot. The leaders of the Coalition insisted that the fact that their budget was the only one subjected to this sort of treatment constituted a form of discrimination. What they seemed to be unable to comprehend was that their budget was determined by secret ballot specifically to avoid the possibility of prejudice coming into play in the determination of their allocation. And in any case, it must be understood that the members of the Budget Committee are human beings, capable of committing errors and susceptible to human frailties. They should be commended for the care and effort they put into drawing up the budget they believed to be the most equitable of all possible



All student groups are created equal; none are less equal than others

Bard is on the verge of ceasing o be a viable intellectual community. As long as there are elemenis at Bard who will go as far as to censor those with dissenting political views, as long as those who hold views that go against the main stream of political opinion here feel that they can not voice their beliefs Bard will not be a worthwhile forum for any sort of intellectual discussion.

It is shocking that people who consider themselves to be defenders of civil and political rights are so quick to resort to the tactics of those they claim to oppose. Because of torn down posters, verbal abuse, and a general and total lack of respect for dissenting views, many Bard students feel that they must conceal their political beliefs.

Nothing can be achieved in an atmosphere where only a single belief or set of beliefs is tolerated. If Bard students have to choose between forcing themselves to conform or remaining silent it will cease to be possible to geta worthwhile education here.

Once our political leaders have decided that their own opinions and the goals that they have set are more important than the civil rights of others something must be done. The idea of "any means necessary" is a very old one and a very frightening one. In the past it has lead to many things, including the bombing of abortion clinics. If it leads now to an atmosphere where students who disagree can either shut up or get out, that may well be worse

Bard is a liberal school. We are taught this from the first moments when our beloved president jokingly mocks conservative beliefs in his opening address to the incoming freshman. The message from that moment becomes clearer and clearer as time progresses, it is repeated by students, faculty, and administration. That message is. Be politically correct or be quiet.

There is no doubt that Bard will remain a liberal institution, and that is a good thing, but it is important to remember that this does not mean conformity. The left is supposed to be the side of freedom, the side willing to die for their right to free expression.

Bard must cease to force "correct" attitudes on members of the community. Political organizations must respect the rights of all students to air their views, no matter how contradictory. There is no question that if the leaders of any student organization are going to practice brown shirt politics by censoring the opposition that those organizations should not receive funding from the college. Political and social dissent should be encouraged, the funding of opposition student groups should be given a high priority in the future. Bard must remain free ifitisto remainalive.

THE BARD OBSERVER

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The Bard Observer is published every Friday thile class is in session. Editorial policy is determined by the Editor-in-Chief in consultation with the editoria. 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 noon the Friday a week before the publication date. The Editor Classifieds: 25¢ for Bardians; \$5 for all oth-

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Letter

Apology demanded for slander

To the Bard community:

The most recent statement made by the Coalition for Choice is appalling in an intellectual community such as Bard's. The simple fact of the matter is that hearsay should not be used as support for objections to policy decisions. The term "conversations overheard" demonstrates that the information in this letter amounts to nothing more than that: hearsay. Naming two individuals on the basis of gossip overheard is not only reprehensible, but slanderous. Reference to the Soviet Studies Club was unnecessary and equally slanderous.

With regard to the assertion that refusing operating funds amounts to censorship, it is clear that no one's right to express themself is being infringed upon. The Coalition will have its First Amendment rights regardless of whether or not they receive a penny from the Student Convocation Fund.

The resignation of members of the Planning Committee with"personal and/or political bias" was demanded. It is clear that not only does every member have some sort of bias, but finding an individual on this campus without some sort of bias would be virtually impossible. Every member of the Planning Committee was democratically elected to

represent the students, and resignation due to personal opinions is both uncalled for and undemocratic.

On a final note, I would hardly calla\$1300 allocation "almost total defunding." Perhaps claims with regard to the budget should have been made after the budget was released.

There is no doubt that an official apology is in order from the Coalition for Choice to Emily Horowitz, Thomas Chase, and the Soviet Studies Club. Hearsay and gossip do not constitute valid information, and slander cannot be tolerated on an open-minded campus such as Bard's.

M. Brittany Shahmehri

Hearsay

Something one has heard but does not know to be true; rumor; gossip.

Hearsay evidence

Evidence based on something the witness has heard someone else say rather than on what he has himself seen or experienced. It is usually inadmissable as testimony.

-Webster's New World Dictionary



Letters to the Editor

Free speech and abortion

Dear Editor:

I was not going to respond to Ben Lackey's ludicrous and ignorant letter, but it is so littered with inaccuracies that I feel compelled to make some corrections.

Mainly, it is interesting that Lackey's alleged concern for first amendment rights leads him to champion the very groups that pose the greatest threat to this freedom. The combined lobbying efforts of Catholic and Evangelical Christian organizations has repeatedly been successful in promoting legislation that censors information about birth control, abortion, AIDS, homosexuality and other related issues. The most recent, successful efforts have led to the perpetuation of legislation that bans the word "abortion" from all literature and conversation within a family planning clinic that receives federal funding. In other words, clinics in poor neighborhoods that receive federal money will not be able to mention "abortion" at all - will not be able to offer someone the Yellow Pages because "abortion" is in it, or any contraceptive information that contains information relating to the procedure. These restrictions have been upheld in New York State's highest court and will probably go to the Supreme Court this spring. In anticipation of these restrictions coming into effect, pharmaceutical companies have removed "abortion" from the information provided with oral contraceptives that compares methods of birth control and number of related deaths per Instead "abortion", there is now "periodic abstinence".

Similar restrictions were leveled at AIDS clinics in 1985. Federal legislation was passed that prohibited any group that received federal money for AIDS from taking an affirmative or neutral attitude towards homosexuality. In other words, they were obligated to condemn homosexuality as a "sin." Many clinics lost funding, notably the Gay Men's Health Crisis center in New York City. It is expected that the restriction against the word "abortion" will be upheld and clinics in poor neighborhoods which depend on federal funding will close.

As of now, women and homosexuals do not have the same access to first amendment rights that you do, Ben, mainly because of the lobbying efforts (which are prohibited by tax exemption law) of the powerful Catholic and Evangelical Christian groups.

You are obviously uninformed about the issues surrounding free speech and abortion, AIDS, women, homosexuals, and the poor. Do not try to mask your ignorance by wrapping yourself in the flag.

Nina DiNatale

You're Not Funny

To the Editor:

There is something very, very wrong with headlining an article about a case of attempted assault (presumably sexual) with "humorous" headlines—"Curston, Foiled Again" and "Reach Out and Touch Someone." Please think about the message you are sending out...

Sincerely, Elizabeth Speck

EPC can't do anything without student input

To the editor:

In view of the lack of interest and, therefore, response concerning faculty evaluations, this term students won't receive the typical letter by campus mail asking for comments on the professors being evaluated.

The Educational Policy Committee has found that it is an ineffective way of getting students involved in something as important as making decisions concerning the status of professors as faculty of this college. It is the common belief that such comments won't make a difference. Well, I don't have any solid evidence to prove the contrary. However, even if there haven't been any cases of student input which did make a difference, this is a good time to start. The thing is that if students don't tell the administration about their preferences concerning professors, about the things that professors can do to improve and offer us more, then what's the point of having a group of fellow students to represent us in this matter? The EPC is here to represent you, to make your opinions count on matters as important as having good professors who can TEACH, not just bring an image to the college.

Everyone should remember two things: it is not the students vs. the administration or professors, and the EPC is not your mother substitute. The EPC can try to negotiate with the administration as far as which professors we think contribute something to the student body, which don't, and how they can improve. But if we don't know what the students think, how can we negotiate anything? However, don't expect the EPC members to be chasing after you trying to find out. If you really care about your education you obviously would want the best, in which case you should take advantage of this opportunity to have it known what you think it is. Also, the professors deserve some kind of input too. If students give good evaluations, explaining what the faculty is doing WRONG as well as right, then they can have some motivation to do a better job. This would benefit everybody.

In any case, the decision is yours. Following is a list of professors being evaluated this term and who you should send your letters to. You don't have to send a typed letter, and you don't have to sign it. It would be better if you did both, though. As long as the letter is legible, any way you want to do it is fine. So, before you start looking for excuses not to write a few lines about those protessors being evaluated with whom you have had classes in the past (whether you liked them or not), spend ten minutes writing something, sending it out, and get it over with.

The deadline is MARCH 30, which gives you plenty of time, but please, don't wait until the last minute to do it. If you decide not to do it, I hope you remember your decision the next time you have problems in a class and need the help of the professor or the administration, and also the next time you have registration and can't find any courses you would like to take

ARTS EVALUATIONS contact Nancy Popper or Matt

Kregor
Peter Hutton
Christopher Markle
Michael Young
LAND LEVALUATIONS
contact Emily Horowitz or Bill
Sanders

Michele Robinson Rehiring
NS AND M EVALUATIONS
contact Gaving Milczarek or

David Steinberg
Matthew Deady
SS EVALUATIONS
contact Pam Goldstein or David

Myra Armstead Rehiring
Daniel Berthold-Bond Tenure
Ellen Sullins Rehiring
John Fout Senior

Thank you. Francisco Hirata

Soviet Studies Club incensed by CFC letter

To the Editor:

Thank you [Miss DiNatale and Mr. Miller] for your recent letter in which you tried to explain the unfortunate misunderstanding resulting from your earlier letter to the Planning Committee. I have communicated the content of your letter to the chairman of the club, Mark Nichols, and the following reflects our common position on this matter:

1. Regardless of what your intentions were in writing the letter to the Planning Committee, it indeed isolates and gives a wrong impression about our club. We want to assure you that the Coalition for Choice has never been a subject of any official discussion by the club members. We do not personally or by rumor know of any member of the club who would be opposed to the prochoice movement. We find the insinuations implied in your letter to the Planning Committee personally offensive. We agree that public statements of apology should be made to the club, and they should be made before any related to this matter. A statement at the tonight's meeting of the Student Forum before any discussion or voting on this matter and a follow-up letter to the Observer will be quite sufficient.

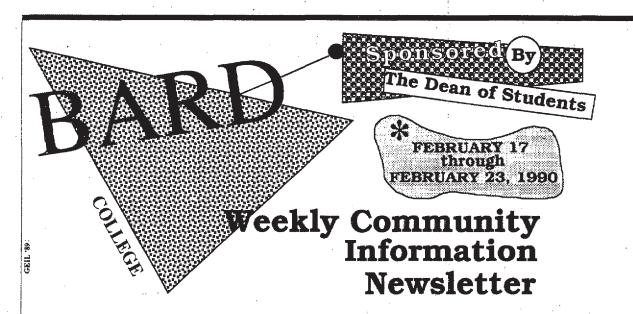
2. If indeed, as you have explained in your letter to Professor Shkliarevsky, your anger was directed at Thomas Chase, why then did the name of Emily Horowitz come up in your letter to the Planning Committee? Again, if your intention was simply to provide the context, it was an unfortunate attempt. Emily has had to pay an enormous emotional price for your mistake. Her life over the last few days has been disrupted unnecessarily. It is our view that, as a member of the club whose name was mentioned by association together with "other members of the Soviet Studies Club," she deserves an apology.

3. Wedo not know the nature of your conflict with Thomas Chase and what happened between the Coalition and him and in what context. We personally know that he is not opposed to the pro-choice movement. He has indeed expressed in the past some reservations about the tactic which has been employed by individual members of the Coalition, but, in all fairness, we believe that as a member of the Bard community, he is entitled to a personal opinion. As to whether his personal opinions interfere with his service on the Planning Committee, we believe that this is a matter for the Planning Committee to decide. We also find it very unfortunate and ultimately weakening to your case that you have to use private conversations "overheard" under unspecified circumstances as evidence against Thomas Chase. We have also been privy to rumors regarding our club, but as long as they were merely rumors, we have never attempted to use them publicly.

4. Over the last few days, many members of our club, including the faculty sponsor, have had to deal with the circumstances created by your letter to the Planning Committee. Their lives and academic work have been disrupted unnecessarily. A great deal of time and effort has been spent, in our opinion, unproductively, we find this situation, and we think that you will have to agree with us, very unfortunate and ultimately damaging to our campus life. We hope that in the future, the leaders of the Coalition for Choice will show more consideration and discernment in their public statements. We also hope that the leaders of the Coalition will now do which they have inflicted on our organization.

Respectfully, Gennady Shkliarevsky Mark Nichols

15.7



Career Development Office:

Karen O'Neil will discuss careers in independent school teaching on Wednesday, February 21 at 7:00 PM in the President's Room.

Beaver College Center for Education

Abroad. There will be an information table and Beaver College representative in Kline Commons on Tuesday, February 13 from 4 to 6:00 PM.

Powerhouse Theatre. A representative from Powerhouse Theatre will discuss summer opportunities with interested students on Wednesday, February 14 at 3:30 PM in the theatre. Northwest Mutual Life. On-campus interviews for positions with Northwest Mutual Life will be conducted on Tuesday, February 13. Interested students must submit a resume to the Career Development Office no later than Friday,

February 9, at 5:00 PM. More information is available through the CDO.

Peace Corps. A Peace Corps representative will visit the campus on Tuesday, March 6. He will host an information table in Kline Commons from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM and will then hold an informational meeting at 7:00 PM in Olin room 205. He will return to conduct interviews on March 21.

Ecumenical Worship Services:

Will be held at 6:00 PM every Sunday in the Bard Chapel. The entire Bard Community is invited.

Music Department:

On February 23, Music Program Zero and the B.B.S.O present a discussion with and performance by Bill Cole, writer on John Coltrane and Miles Davis, Professor of Music at Dartmouth College.

At 4:00 PM in Brook House, Professor Cole will present a videotape of a recent 60 MINUTES interview where he discussed incidents of race and opinion-related violence at Dartmouth involving a group of white students who physically assaulted him; he hopes to get some discussion going with students about the incidents. Later, in Music Program Zero's Performance Space Slot (10:00 PM) in Brook House, Professor Cole will present a concert of original music composed for African and Oriental instruments. The entire community is invited to come and talk with Bill Cole and hear his music.

The Musical Activities Group offers its weekly music workshare colloquium for presentation and discussion of music work in any medium or mode of presentation, live or on tape, every Monday afternoon at 4:00 PM in Brook House.

Blum Art Center:

Everyone is invited to help create a new work of art by joining in an old-fashioned social activity, the quilting bee, at the Edith C. Blum Art Institute. It's being held in connection with the current exhibitions—The Fine Art of American Folk and Parade of Japanese Crafts. Open daily 12-5, closed Tuesdays. Come on down! Refreshments are served.

What is Zionism:

In this five-week minicourse, students will learn the history of Zionism as a spiritual, cultural, and political movement. We will read excerpts from the works of major Zionist theorists and learn what they thought about the restoration of a Jewish homeland—how would it affect the Jews? How would Jews and Arabs live together in the same land? For further information, or to register for the course, please contact Amy Helfman, Bard Chaplain to Jewish Students. The course begins on February 16, 1990 and runs for five classes.

Calend	lar of Ex	rents	¥			
Saturday 17	Sunday 18	Monday 19	Tuesday 20	Wednesday 21	Thursday 22	Friday 23
-	6:00 PM Worship Service Bard Chapel 7:00 PM Features Meeting	7:00 PM News Meeting		11 AM Music lecture by Tom Johnson "Algorhythmic Composition" Annandale 110	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	4:00 PM Music/Race Re ations Discussio Brook House
	Aspinwall 3rd floor	Olin 3rd floor lounge		7:00 PM Independent School Teaching Lecture President's Room Kline Commons	·	10:00 PM Concert Brook House
- .						
			:			
						12:00 NOON Deadline fo Newsletter fo 3/2/90 issue