

OBSERVER

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FEATURES

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New periodicals in library

ANOTHER VIEW Is there an alternative?

ARTS

Bucky comes to the Blum

Volume 97, Number 6

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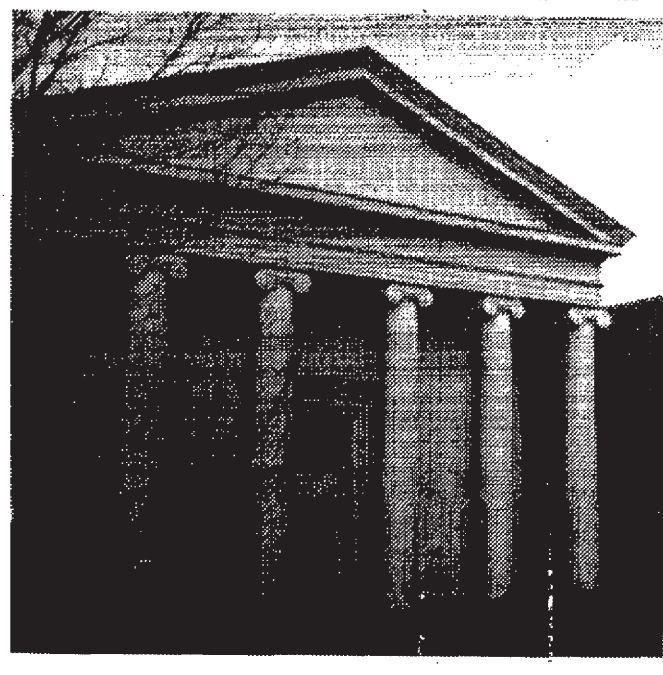
Where our campus is going:

Bard's long-range development plans

by Jason Van Driesche

Bard has been changing very rapidly in the last few years. Many of the buildings that are now considered essential parts of the campus - Olin, Stevenson, the Hegeman wing - have been built within the past five years. With this extraordinary rate of growth, it is hard to tell exactly what the campus will look like five or ten years from now. However, a talk with Susan Gillespie, Vice President for Public Affairs and Development, and Susan Van Kleeck, Director of Special Projects, can give a fairly good idea of what the possibilities are.

According to Gillespie, the first priority of the college is to press ahead as quickly as possible with the library addition. If all goes according to schedule, the college will break ground this fall. Hopefully, the new wing will be done



Hoffman-Kellogg Library, slated for immediate renovation and expansion

and the Hoffman and Kellogg Libraries will be completely renovated by summer 1992.

A more immediate priority is the planned renovation of Kline Commons. This is slated to take place in two phases, one this summer and one next. It is hoped that these renovations will give Kline the capacity and level of efficiency it needs to properly serve the needs of the students.

Another possible change that will accompany the renovations will be the introduction of a diminishing balance system, as described in February 16's *Observer*.

Another project scheduled for this summer is the relocation of of SMOG to make room for two or three more dorms and additional parking in Cruger Village. It is not yet known what SMOG's new
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Suspensions lifted at Simon's Rock

by Keightie Sherrod

Two weeks ago, the Appeals Committee of Simon's Rock of Bard College reduced the penalties of sixteen students who had been accused of harassment from suspension to social probation. This marks the latest development in the controversy, which began on Feb. 14, when those students (who called themselves a "defense guard") confronted several of the college's faculty members and students, delivering a rehearsed litany of accusations of sexual harassment to each and then leaving.

"Simon's Rock is an educational institution whose purpose is to teach students, not suspend them," the Committee said in a statement to the college community. "Its goal is to build a community of learning, not become a collection of fragments and opposing camps."

The Committee further stated that it considered acting Dean of Students Judith Win's suspension of the students to have been an appropriate response to the immediate crisis caused by those students' actions but that, upon deliberation, those suspensions should be modified to social probation.

The conditions of social probation imposed upon the group would be that the "defense guard" as a group dedicated to a strategy of confrontation must be disbanded, and that any of these sixteen students who again employs tactics that are viewed as confrontational or intimidating by any member of the college community would immediately have his or her suspension reinstated.

The main issue involved in the controversy has been the belief on the part of both the faculty and the administration that the students

had ignored the institution's policies and procedures for dealing with cases of sexual harassment, and simply took the matter into their own hands. As Dean of New Students Elaine Handley stated in a recent news release, "The policies and procedures of the college explicitly prohibit sexual harassment and provide a means for students to file formal or informal grievances against faculty members, administrators, or fellow students. The students involved in the events of the past few days have chosen to ignore those college procedures." It was this belief that originally provoked Win's suspension of the "defense guard" members.

In a memo to the Simon's Rock community, Committee Chair Bernard F. Rodgers, Jr. (who is also the vice president and dean of the college) emphasized that "In order for me or any member of the administration to act on a serious grievance — including a charge of sexual harassment — there must be an aggrieved person who is willing to come forward to us to report the harassment or misconduct, and to testify, at least in writing, to the specifics of alleged misconduct. The administration cannot reasonably be expected to act on hearsay or unsubstantiated rumors in matters of such gravity. At the same time, we have done everything that we can to protect the reputation and well-being of any student who has come to us with such allegations.... On the basis of the information we have gathered through this process, we have taken the action that we have considered just and appropriate. In response to verified instances of misconduct on the part of faculty members, the actions that I

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"What to do with a B.A." Day

by Emily Horowitz

On Saturday, March 10 the Dean of Students Office and the Career Development Office will host a Career Day in the Olin Auditorium at 1:00 pm. The purpose of the day is to address, in general, how a liberal arts education relates to careers. For many students, the connection between college and a career is unclear.

After a keynote speaker and a panel discussion, students will break up into smaller groups so that they can ask questions of the

panelists. The majority of the panelists will be Bard alumnae. The fields represented will be: Publishing, Advertising and Public Relations, Journalism, Teaching, Dance and Dance Therapy, Stage Management, Music, Museum Work, Small Business, Environment Work, Social Work, Writing, Photography, Town Planning, TV production, Arts Administration, and Law.

History professor Karen Greenberg felt that a Career Day was something that was needed by Bard students, who want to work

at rewarding jobs with their Bard B.A. as credentials. "I felt I had a number of very talented students, who did not necessarily want to go to graduate school now - or ever - and who should be attractive to a wide array of employers. It was my belief that exposure to former Bard students with creative, productive careers would benefit not only seniors but the other students as well."

Professor Greenberg suggested her idea to Harriet Schwartz, director of the Career Development
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THE OBSERVER

Bard College's News & Arts Weekly

Amnesty International group conducts death penalty survey

by Jason Van Driesche

Bard's Amnesty International group has compiled the results of a survey taken late last semester on the attitudes of Bard students towards capital punishment. The survey was in the form of a questionnaire prepared by Amnesty International USA. It was distributed in Kline, and 75 surveys were returned.



AI meetings
Wednesdays
College Room
6:00-7:00

Respondents were asked to check the answer that most closely matched their opinion.

Question	Agree strongly	Agree somewhat	Disagree somewhat	Disagree strongly	No opinion
1. The death penalty is an appropriate penalty in all cases that involve murder.	1	8	11	47	2
2. The death penalty is appropriate in a case where the defendant is under the age of 18.	1	7	14	50	0
3. The death penalty is appropriate in a case where the defendant has a history of psychiatric problems.	3	4	17	47	1
4. The death penalty is appropriate in a case where the defendant has a history of mental retardation.	2	4	13	52	1
5. The death penalty is appropriate in a case where the defendant is under the influence of alcohol or drugs (legal or illegal).	3	13	13	40	2
6. If the prosecutor is asking for the death penalty, then that person must deserve the death penalty.	3	1	6	54	0
7. If a person is guilty of murder, it is his or her responsibility to show why the death penalty should not be imposed.	4	3	11	41	6
8. Regardless of what the law says, anyone who commits a murder should be given the death penalty.	1	3	8	57	2
9. Regardless of what the law says, the death penalty should never be imposed.	28	11	12	18	3
10. The death penalty is an appropriate penalty in some cases, but not all.	13	16	7	28	3
11. Members of an ethnic minority group are more likely to receive the death penalty than whites.	31	22	2	8	6

Some facts about the death penalty in the United States:

1. The death penalty is racially discriminatory. A black who kills a white is 40 times more likely to be executed than a white who kills a black.
2. Juveniles and mentally retarded persons are not exempt from the death penalty. Approximately 30% of the people on death row are mentally retarded, and people as young as 16 can be and have been executed.
3. The death penalty does not act as a deterrent to violent crime. Murder rates are quite often lower in states that have abolished the death penalty than in states that have not.
4. The United States is the last industrialized Western nation that has not abolished the death penalty.

Bard's MAT program: Its problems and possibilities

by Kathy Bannon

Although still in the planning stage and in need of faculty approval, Bard College aims to implement the new Master of the Art of Teaching program by June 1991, with an enrollment of 25 to 50 students.

The program is designed to al-

leviate the projected teacher shortage of the 1990's and to improve the quality of education. The majority of teachers in public education were trained in a purely educational curriculum, said Mark Lytle, Chair of the MAT Planning Committee. The new MAT program will provide prospective teachers with a liberal arts background. Degrees will be offered in Literature, Social Science, American and Global History, Spanish, Biology, and eventually Mathematics.

The Bard undergraduate community will benefit from the graduate program in many ways. Although the graduates will not be taking undergraduate courses, undergraduates interested in teaching may take graduate courses. Students will also benefit from the additional resources the program will draw, such as improvements in the computer center, additional materials in the library, and summer courses.

When asked about concerns of insufficient classroom space and housing and crowding in the parking lots and Kline, Planning Committee member Paul Connolly replied that there would be no major problems. Classes will be conducted in the evening after the majority of undergraduate courses have finished. In addition, most of the MAT program participants will be living off campus, and therefore will not buy in on the food program or take up housing space.

Approximately ten new faculty positions and a few new administrative positions will be created for the program.

Simon's Rock

continued from page 1

have personally taken have ranged from private warnings, to forced resignations, to non-renewal of a contract, to termination of a contract — depending on the severity of the misconduct. Those students who have been on campus for several years — including members of the defense brigade — know this is the truth.

"Because of the sensitivity of such matters," the document continues, "and because the administrators involved in making decisions about them are ethically bound not to discuss individual personnel and student matters in public, it is often the case that the way that a particular issue has been handled does not become common knowledge in the college community — or that, due to obligations of confidentiality, the common knowledge is mistaken but cannot be publicly corrected by those who know the facts. No specific charge of sexual misconduct by a faculty or staff member that has ever been brought to my attention has been ignored."

Health
Services can
be reached
at ext. 433.



Kline party during Winter Carnival

Development

continued from page 1
location will be.

The college has a number of longer-range plans as well. Within five years, it plans to build new music and art studio space, finish the Avery-Blum complex with the addition of a larger theater, start construction of the Black Center for Twentieth Century Art in the field across from Blum, expand both the facilities and equipment of the computer center, and build more office space and faculty

housing. In addition, the college hopes to renovate the Old Gym and turn it into a real student center within the next few years.

A final major plan concerns the construction of a permanent structure in the field between Manor and the Hudson to house a summer music festival. However, this plan is only in the earliest planning stages and will probably stay that way for quite a while, since the college has higher priorities than taking on a project whose end result will not directly benefit Bard students.



Blum quilting exhibit illustrates local diversity

by Kristan Hutchison

My mind follows the repetition of my hand, the circle of each stitch. Watching the row line up neat, tight, and sure along the seam of two quilt squares, I understand why women have sat at home alone or together and painstakingly created huge quilts from tiny pieces of fabric sewn together with minute stitches.

It is a meditative process, a satisfaction of creation that one rarely achieves from the nebulous products of study and papers. And a quilt lasts, which is obvious from looking at those hanging in the Edith Blum Gallery, where I tried my hand at the ancient skill as part of a larger exhibit on American folk art which will be at Blum through March 19.

The 6-by-8 foot quilt is being sewn at Blum by locals and gallery visitors. It is the composite of nearly 100 squares designed by area people. Last fall 8-by-8 inch muslin squares were sent to 6,000 people on the institute's mailing list, mostly in New York, but also from around the country.

The squares returned are diverse and creative. A few use traditional techniques, embroidering the squares or sewing tiny scraps of cloth on the square. Others are influenced by modern painters, such as a square with a large O'Keefe style blossom on it titled "Oh, Georgia!"

Others use glitter, paint, or bits of wire. Brightly colored squares by children are side by side to squares painted delicately in watercolor, connected by strips of dusty blue cotton that unify the new quilt.

Diversity differentiates the Blum quilt from older quilts, which follow carefully laid out patterns and exhibit cohesive and complementary colors and designs. "Being creative and invent-

ing your own style is a very modern concept," says Linda Weintraub, the Director of the Blum Gallery.

Rather than expressing individuality, the quilters of old attempted to make unified cultural expressions. The earth tones of old quilts which fade together softly are the result of the natural dyes they had to use.

Puritans made quilts using fragments of cloth that they had saved. Their need to be thrifty and not waste anything forced them to use even the tiniest scraps and they sewed full-sized quilts from squares the size of a quarter, letting the colors of the cloth at hand decide the design. "You had just what you had and you had to distribute it carefully," explains Weintraub.

Many quilts were done as joint ventures when one woman was planning to move far away. Each of her friends would make several squares and then they would sew them together in the evening at her house in the traditional quilting bee style.

"The most beautiful ones were never used. They would be taken out for a wedding night and then put aside in a trunk," says Weintraub. They were also anonymous, as our most of those on exhibit at Blum.

The exception is a quilt done by Ella Kruger of Ulster County. "She seemed to understand the special beauty when something is not regular," says Weintraub. Her artistic sense can be seen in her improvisational satin and rayon quilt.

But it is in the Amish quilts, with strong colors and geometric shapes, that the intricate and delicate stitching which is the basis of traditional quilting is shown. "Now the skill has been lost to many people," says Weintraub, "Many of the squares we got back

are very crude, but we have not discriminated in any way."

Quilts make up just part of the exhibit on American folk art, which is part of a collection gathered by the late Howard Rose and Raymond Saroff, former part-time residents of Ulster County, where many of the pieces were found. All in all, over 125 pieces of folk art created from cloth, wood, tobacco and cigar boxes, and other materials are on display.

There is a mirror framed in intricately carved cigar boxes in a style known as "tramp art," because it was so cheap and easily transported that hoboes used it to "whittle away the time." Strange wooden chairs of tangled roots, tables of Prince Albert tobacco cans, and carved children's toys also decorate the gallery.

The exhibit will continue through March 19 and is open every day except Tuesday from noon to 5:00 p.m. Weintraub has juice and cookies waiting for anyone who wants to sew part of the quilt together, but as she says, it takes "extraordinary patience and perseverance." When finished, the quilt will be displayed in nearby banks and schools and, of course, at Bard.



It's All a Matter of Perspective

by David Biele

We swarmed into the near-empty McDonald's after a morning of energizing seminars at the Gay and Lesbian Student Conference power charged and ecstatic. About a hundred of us burst into McDonald Land, packing it to near capacity, loud and proud, being visible and open about our sexual preferences, and simply reveling in the freedom of the Conference's atmosphere, which brought us into a community of people who both drew on our energy and sent it back to us recharged and reinvigorated.

Then I noticed them. Sitting in a back corner surrounded by half

eaten Big Macs and deserted Apple Pies, holding unfinished shakes from which they probably had not taken another sip since the moment we burst on the scene. Overwhelmed and confused, staring at us in an amazed stupor, their eyes occasionally darting to each other for support was The One Straight Couple in MacDonald's.

What must they have been thinking, those poor innocent testaments to traditional Family Values, as they saw McDonald's, that embodiment of American Entrepreneurial glory, that Hamburger Citadel of the Golden Arches of Light, that greasy eatery where all they wanted to do was munch down Quarter Pounders in guilty delight? What must have they been going through their minds as they watched the plastic seats and linoleum floor overrun by this alien army armored in "Erasure" T-Shirts and carrying Pink Triangle Shields?

I shall never know exactly what thoughts crawled past their befuddled shock and successfully reached their brains, but by comparing their reaction to our presence (a reaction much like I'd expect from someone who, like

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Hoffman-Kellogg Library receives new periodicals

by Andrea J. Stein

This year, the Bard library has added over 30 new titles to its periodical collection. The number of periodicals Bard subscribes to is now near 680.

Several of the new periodicals are gifts from various campus groups. These include *Advocate*, a gift from BBLAGA (Bard Bisexual, Lesbian and Gay Alliance), *Tikkun*, donated by the chaplain's office, and *PC Computing* and *PC World*, both given by the computer center.

The remainder of the new journals, magazines and quarterlies were selected by the library committee, whose members include Head Librarian David Tipple, Dean of the College Stuart Levine, Faculty Director Richard Wiles, and representatives from each division. The process of choosing periodicals involves a "whole bureaucratic scheme," as David Tipple explains.

There are various criteria considered throughout the process, the first of which is the academic contribution a journal would make to the college. The intent is to support both on-going research and new academic programs. For example, there is a new archaeology concentration at Bard, which

is the reason behind the addition of three archaeological journals to the periodical collection. Also, the two new math professors on campus, Peter Dolan and Mark Halsey, have led that department to be considered "new." The five new mathematics periodicals, including the *American Math Society Journal* and *Discrete Applied Mathematics*, have been requested by those professors. Tipple states that there are several periodical subscriptions which provide "general interest reading," but "the bulk of the budget goes to things to be used for research."

Secondly, the cost of the periodical is a consideration. "There is only so much money in the budget," explains Tipple. Finally, the new periodicals are considered in terms of "collection development." Tipple emphasizes the importance of "having a well-rounded, undergraduate library collection."

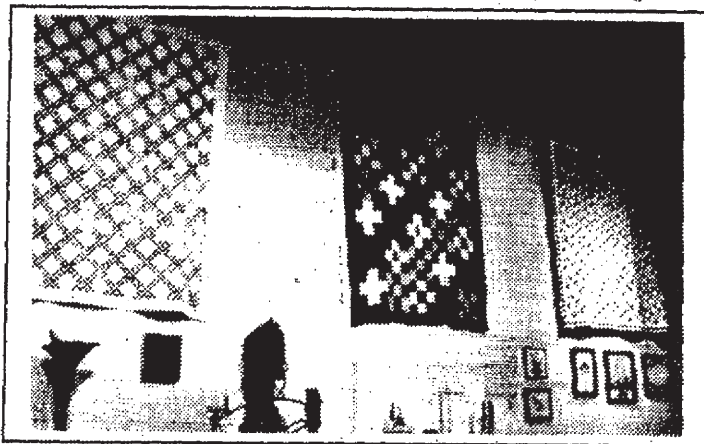
Many of the new journals were chosen because they have been requested often through inter-library loan. As Tipple explains, it is important and much easier to have them here on the shelves at Bard. Tipple adds that because every journal is going to have a particular viewpoint, it is important to have periodicals which

provide a balance of editorial opinions.

One "difficulty" incurred by these new additions is overcrowding on the periodical shelves. At the moment, several periodicals are on temporary shelves to the right of the door to the office behind the reference section in the Kellogg library. The library has already obtained equipment to construct new shelves, however, and is waiting for Buildings and Grounds to erect them alongside the lounge area immediately inside the door of the Kellogg library. There is some shifting of magazines happening at the moment; thus, students should be somewhat patient and look a little harder for the periodicals they need. If they still cannot be found, a library employee may be of assistance. In addition, Tipple notes that many of the new periodicals have not yet arrived; various quarterlies, for example, may not be in the library until late March.

Tipple is looking forward to the construction of the new library wing. Currently, current issues, back issues, and microfilm are all housed in separate locations. It is planned that there will be a floor in the new wing dedicated solely to periodicals: current and back

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Quilts and folk art on display at Blum Gallery

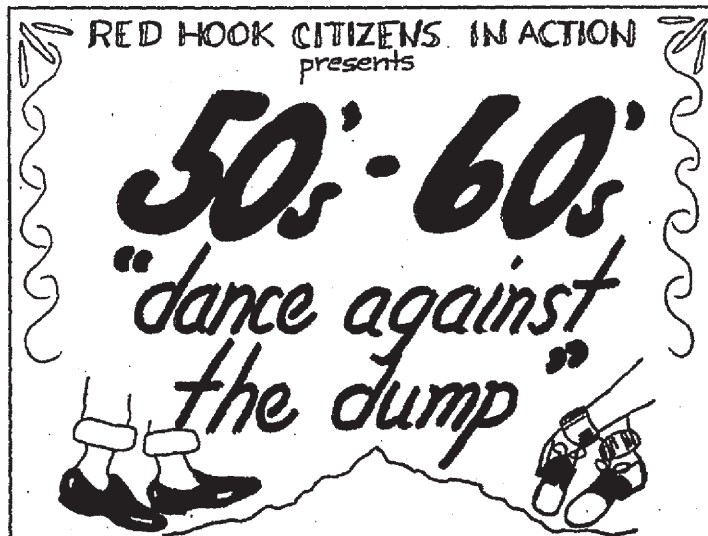
Dance against the dump

by Kristan Hutchison

Tonight the Red Hook Citizens in Action (CIA) invites everyone to come "dance against the dump." The 50's and 60's theme dance was organized to raise funds and awareness against the proposed ash landfill in Red Hook. It is also in time to celebrate the success of the Town's lawsuit against the Dutchess County Resource Recovery Agency (DCRRA) which was upheld by the State Supreme Court last month.

Judge Ralph Beisner ruled that the DCRRA's deferment of a study of the impact of the landfill on groundwater near the Red Hook ash site was improper. In view of the agency's "failure to take a hard look at an area of potential environmental impact," Judge Beisner declared the DCRRA's site selection to be "arbitrary and capricious."

The Red Hook ash site and a raw garbage site in the Town of Washington were identified last year by the DCRRA based on an FEIS (Final Environmental Impact Statement) done by International Technology which did not include any water impact study. "Such an (Environmental Impact Statement) cannot be defined as final when it defers such an obvious study," Judge Beisner stated in his ruling.



The site under contention is on East Curly Corner Road in Upper Red Hook on the northern Dutchess-Columbia County border. Ash would be brought to the 220 acre site from the county's 400 ton-per-day incinerator 30 miles away.

Distance is one of CIA's objections to the proposed Red Hook site. "It is as far from the incinerator as they could get in the county. There were many closer sites they could have chosen that would be much better," says Brian Reid of the CIA.

Concern has arisen that the ash site may endanger Tivoli's newest water source. The Red Hook sight is at the head waters of the Stony Kill, which flows through Tivoli. Tivoli has already built a water filtration plant on Stony Kill and is set to switch from wells to the river as their principle source of potable water. In the past, the river has been used as an emergency supply for putting out fires. The filtration plant has not been started due to about 100 types of

trace toxins leaking from another site, the Lamunyon Dump.

If the ash dump were placed at the chosen Red Hook site it could potentially leak high levels of toxins, particularly lead and cadmium, into Stony Kill. Ironically, as better filters have been placed on incinerators to prevent chemicals from polluting the air, higher levels of those same chemicals are left in the ash.

Further complications come from debate as to whether the site is a wetland. Four private consultants and a DEC biologist have looked at the site and declared it is not a wetland. However, Erik Kiviat and the Hudsonian Institute have been doing indepth studies there since 1987. "It is painfully obvious that there's a very substantial 60 acre wetland there," says Kiviat. Theoretically any freshwater wetland over 2.4 acres in New York State is protected.

"It is inexcusable that a meadow of this size has been ignored by people who are paid a lot of money and have some legal and moral

obligations to protect wetlands," says Kiviat. He went ice skating on the site this winter to get a close look at the beaver dam without getting his feet wet. "I thought it funny to be ice skating where all these people had said there wasn't any water," he said, adding that the skating is fine if you don't mind skating around dead trees.

The wetlands is in the very center of the proposed site. It is a wet meadow on limey clay which, according to Kiviat, has always been there. In the past five years it has increased in size due to a beaver dam at the north end. The beaver's add a bizarre twist to the legal battle because their dam is not on the site, but just on the Columbia County side of the border. To drain the wetlands Dutchess County will have to remove the dam and its inhabitants, which will require condemning land in another county.

Kiviat also found some rare plants in the center of the proposed sites. Two of the specimens, the small white aster and a rare species of ground-cherry, are listed by the New York Natural Heritage Program as rare and protected plants. Several other varieties found are rare within Dutchess County.

An ash dump in that site would endanger the entire wetlands, along with the flora and fauna. According to Kiviat, the county can attempt to put a landfill on the east end outside the wetland, but there is not much space. Otherwise they will have to design a drainage system. "I'm not sure that is possible from an engineering point of view," says Kiviat. Lastly, they could change the boundaries of the site or choose a

new site, which is the goal of the CIA.

Though the recent ruling has given the Red Hook Town Board and the CIA more time to develop a strong case against the county, it does not guarantee yet that the Red Hook site will not be used. Money from tonight's dance will go to court room fees and raising awareness about the dump. The CIA hopes that the dance will be as successful as the Tour De Dump bike-a-thon last September, which brought in over \$3,000.

Citizens in Action is also working on related issues, such as recycling. They hope to get some better recycling laws passed, "raise awareness, and push for people to pick up the recycling bags. Tivoli has a pay bag system and that's good," says Reid. CIA would welcome the involvement of the Bard Community. The group meets every second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Red Hook Town Hall.

Tonight's "Dance against the dump" will feature 50's and 60's music played by DJ's Bob Heuer and Eric Schyer, who both live half a mile from the proposed landfill. Dress for the era and you may win one of the prizes donated by local businesses, including dinner for two at local restaurants, movie tickets, and certificates for the health food store. There will be food, games, and dance contests as well. The fun starts at 7:30 p.m. at the Elks Club. Just drive two miles north from Red Hook on Rt. 9 and it is on the west side, before the Bevway. Tickets are \$5.00 in advance at local stores, or \$6.00 at the door. For more information, call 758-6785 or 758-8187. □

NEW LOCATION



20 Garden St.
at West Village Square
next to Mohegan Market
Mon-Sat 9:30-6

Lunch Counter
Open 11-4 daily

New periodicals

continued from page 3

issues, as well as microfilm. The floor will house the journals in a more attractive way and create a more integrated collection.

In addition to those already mentioned, the new journals include several in literary studies, including *American Literary History*, *James Joyce Quarterly*, and *New German Critique*, several in

the arts, including *The Journal of Decorative and Propaganda Arts*, and several in the field of social studies, including *Socialism and Democracy*, *Infant Behavior and Development*, and the *Human Rights Quarterly*. Tipple explains that there are long lists of periodical requests from professors in every department, and every attempt is made to provide something for all sectors.

In addition, several subscrip-

tions have been ended. *High Fidelity*, the stereo and music magazine, has been acquired by *Stereo Review*, and the library has chosen to subscribe instead to *Stereophile*. Also, publication of *Modern Photography* has ceased. It has been replaced by *Popular Photography*.

One particularly interesting new addition to the library's periodical collection is *Lettre Internationale*. This journal was requested by visiting professor of literature,

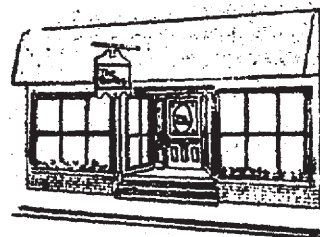
Norman Manea. It is published in many European languages, although not in English. The library is receiving it in French. In addition to news, it provides first-hand, more esoteric approach to various disciplines, in terms of European history and culture. Articles address subjects as varied as the arts and politics. □

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Proprietor Patricia A. Merrill

ANOTHER VIEW

Page 5
March 9, 1990
THE BARD OBSERVER

Please to see Editor's Sanctum on page 10 for further explanation of this page.

What you think ALTERNATIVE means

Something other than what the paper has now.

Articles that don't pander to the administration, or condescend to the students by pretending to "TALK DIRTY" or give "THE REAL SCOOP."

It would be nice to have a page of literary work done by students to express their talents.

Anything.

I think the whole paper could [sic] be from an 'alternative' view point.

It seems to me that the Observer already has an "alternative" streak — turn your attention to writing well, not trying to be different (especially if "alternative" would mean something like the mean-spirited, solipsistic, vulgar temper tantrums of last semester's "Mad Max" column. There's too much ill will on this campus without that sort of thing. We need journalists who care, not hatemakers. Which will you be?).

If "alternative" means like the old Observer, then no, I don't want alternative articles. No "stories" about the moonies in Barrytown; no pointless humor (John Fout's satire about the holes in the trees was worthwhile humor for a newspaper; it made a point about the Bard community.)

Why? Let "them" start their own.

Name it.

Personal.

yes.

I would like to see more articles written that are designed to induce a shared consensus among [sic] Bard students and our generation which has lapsed into an unfortunate age of individualism. An alternative attitude that will alert the community and provide a sense of consciousness.

As long as alternative does not mean freshman-esque stoned observations on obvious aspects of life.

People would be able to write on anything they wished to.

More dirt/gossip.

I don't think we can have a really useful form of "alternative" that anyone here can fulfill. By that: arts crit, political commentary, social commentary.

Something else besides forum meeting controversy.

Alternative does not include (1) swear words and (2) lousy journalism. An alternative article is also not an editorial column.

Unbiased articles, intelligent reportage!

Anything — no specific requirements.

Anything complainers like to see.

No more pretensions.

Articles on topics such as art, music, etc. that are not necessarily the normal ones reported.

No bias: alternative. Articles which acknowledge the radical movement on this campus without bias by conservative reporters.

Rough sex.

Whatever it is you aren't doing now.

What does this mean??

poetry, fiction art ect. [sic]

irreverent opinion-type stuff

Something that has some political and social significance!

different option

what?

more criticisms, opinions staff & professor input

not sure — off-beat, confusing and often meaningless?

No. This campus is too hung up on being radical. Most people are mainstream and are tired of the small, egomaniac leaders of radical groups.

NO BULLSHIT!

by Marty Smith

While strolling through the park, enjoying one of the teasing summery days an otherwise unjust god has recently seen fit to bestow upon us, I chanced to meet an old acquaintance of mine, one Farnsworth, at whose side chance had landed me in my Foreign Legion days. The sight of him after so long a separation brought tears to my eyes, tears more bitter than those the stinging sandstorms of the Sudan had fostered in those windows on my soul. I raised a hand in greeting, and he, upon seeing me, began leaping about in a little dance of joy. We spent an awkward minute approaching each other across the well-kept green, and then we were in each others' arms, aglow with manly friendship. It was as if the intervening years had never passed. I demanded from my friend a complete accounting of his doings since our last meeting. "Smith," he said to me, "you see before you a broken man. Let us adjourn to your watering hole, and I will tell you my sad story." When we were comfortably seated behind a pair of Tanqueray and tonics, he began.

Let me make it clear from the outset that I think children are an abomination. They are small and unsanitary, ill-mannered and useless. I can think of nothing worse than having a child. One willingly gives up eighteen or more years of one's life, usually of one's prime, to take upon oneself the odious responsibility of rearing a tiny and usually unflattering parody of oneself. This

And a little child...

is a belief that I have held since my own childhood. But, as I will relate, time weathers a man's beliefs. After leaving the Legion, I took to wife a beautiful raven-haired lass, and, though I was intoxicated at the time, I shall never regret the match. One day, after we had been wed for a little over a year, she mentioned that she wanted us to have a child.

"But precious," I said gently, "it would be so small. How would it take care of itself?"

"We would care for it," she replied, an unsettling glaze forming over her dewy black eyes. A numbing dread began to gnaw at my mind. I had visions of caring for the child twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, my limited paternal skills daily taxed to the point of apoplexy. For that is what caring for a child requires. As you may know, Mr. Smith, children are not only unfit to care for themselves, being small, weak, and stupid, but in fact have an active drive toward self-destruction. Left to itself, does the child write a novel, build a bridge, or even prepare itself a simple meal? No, rather, it heads straight out with single-minded determination to hurl itself in front of a bus, cover its head with a plastic bag, or eat half a pound of crystal Drano. And when it does so, who is held responsible? The parent, who then, often as not, spends a not inconsiderable amount of time in the slammer.

"I'd do a lot of things," I told my wife, "but I would never have a child." At that she burst into tears and fled the room.

Over the next several weeks, Regina, my wife, became sullen and morose. She hardly spoke to me, save to curtly send me on this errand or that. While on a mission to the hardware store for rat poison and nicotine spray "for the roses," I began to wonder if it might not be wise to try to somehow placate her. I formulated a plan that I thought might satisfy both of us. I returned home in a most self-congratulatory mood. "I've been thinking about what you said about having something to care for," I began.

Her eyes shone like beacons. "Really?" she cried. "Oh, Charles, I'm so happy!" So saying, she leapt into my arms.

"And I've decided," I continued, "that we should get a dog. Now, this is not a decision that I have made lightly—"

"A dog!" she cried, aghast. "What is a dog compared to the joy of raising a child?"

"The virtues of the dog are manifold," I began. "For example, it can catch a frisbee in its mouth by the time it is two years old, a task a child could not manage until it was at least eight. Moreover, if we get tired of it, we can have it put to —"

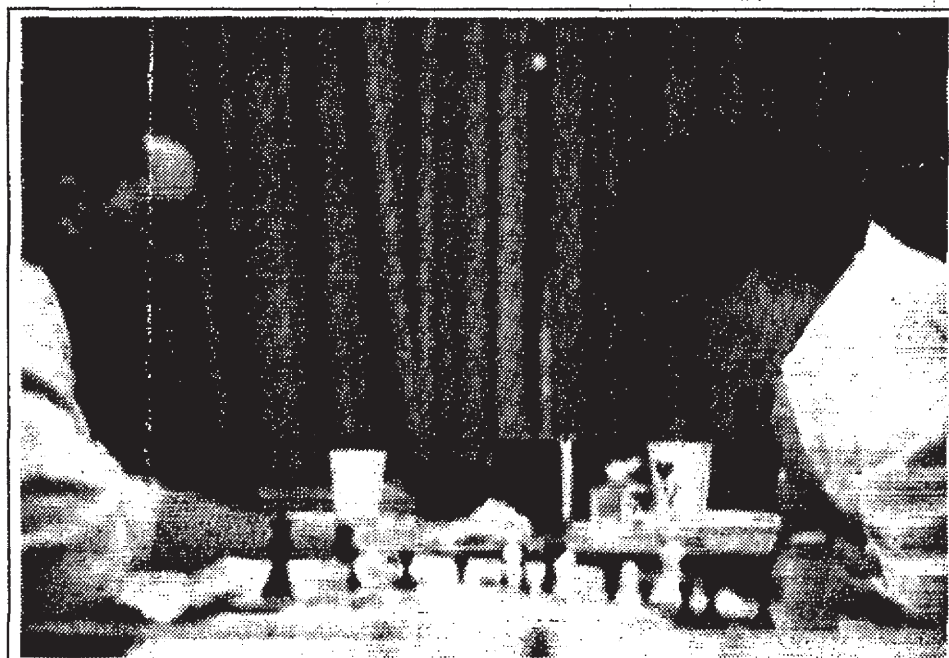
"You must be the most insensitive beef terrier in the world!" she cried, hurling the settee at my groin.

"Listen to me, dearest. You can go roller-skating on a hot day and leave your dog in the car with the windows rolled up. Now, take your child —"

"A dog is no substitute for a child!" she declared hotly.

"To the contrary, I would say that a child

continued on page 9



Students in deep concentration during Winter Carnival chess tournament

The Love of the Nightingale

by Max Guazzoni

The Bard, Inc., of Drama and Dance presented us last weekend with a series of four double billed evenings at the theatre. The first, *La Dispute* is a translation from a play by the same name by Timberlake Wertenbaker, the playwright behind the second play on the bill, *The Love of the Nightingale*.

William Driver directed the two plays, transforming the simple stage set up, and this only in comparison to the three previous productions since the Department's recent acquisition

of Phillip Baldwin, scenic designer, into a wild array of staged realities, ranging from a stage in an ancient Athenian arena, to the World, somewhere in this world, to a metaphorical dance depicting the never ending struggle and search for the right love as the lights faded on *La Dispute*.

Strong performances from the two female victims of the dispute (a dispute between members of an aristocratic court as to which was first sex to be unfaithful to the other. Two newborns of each sex had been separated from society, raised by guardians, and set to-

gether in a common World to discover each other.) The females were both, for better or for worse, given unreal extremes of the agonizing and — as the playwright apparently feels — female characteristics of vanity, jealousy, and possessiveness.

Bryonne Renner was alive and energetic as Egle, with a confidence and a freedom deserving a slower pace. As it were, Egle at times resembled a stone skipping the surface of a pond. She, at least, touched water. I felt other characters in the play were there only to

continued on page 11

DIVERSIONS

One for the ladies: The past made fresh again

by Seth Hollander

The Young Fresh Fellows. *This One's for the Ladies* (Introducing the Gunsharp'ners) Frontier, 1989. c. 35-40 minutes.

A favorite band of mine. A fellow writing for an Albany music mag put this LP at 25th place on his list of "25 favorite" LPs of the

80s. He probably had a promo copy because I got mine the day it arrived at my local record shop, sometime in January.

You want hope for the 90s? I find it here. With a new, more intense and creative lead guitarist, this band rocks out like never before. And I thought they were already running an honors CPA...Literate, witty, sensitive-

male lyrics from a man who just might be the American Ray Davies: lead singer/rhythm guitarist Scott McCaughey. Interestingly, the covered archival chestnut on this LP is a Kinks tune: (a lovely little tune I've never heard before) called "Picture Book."

New guitarist Kurt Bloch, formerly of The Fastbacks, provides both new musical spunk and some of his own very fine songwriting efforts. "The Family Gun" is the cut that leaps at you on a casual

first listen.

So what does the music sound like? Oh, think of garage rock, ya know—The Sonics, early Kinks, the Troggs; think of pop-rock—i.e. pre-67 Beatles, early Byrds, Buffalo Springfield; throw in the occasional country influence and a respect for Tommy James & the Shondells. The term "retro-rock" floats by—its applicability scares me—and settles firmly upon these Fellows' shoulders.

But hey! The Rolling Stones

were really just the summary of a catalog of influences, and so was Elvis, so was Chuck Fuckin' Berry for God's Sake! So find this record and get Fellowmania.

I'd end this article smugly, by saying "enjoy retro-rock; welcome to the 90's," but I've got faith in the 90's, what with your Beastie Boys and your Big Audio Dynamites, just to open the box.

So throw on some Fellows to sum up the old, then...in with the new; in with the 90s. (After all, you can't go back...) □

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by Victor Schenkman

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Fuller works to be on display at Blum in April

by Amy Bachelder

The designs and drawings of Buckminster Fuller (1895-1983), self-described "comprehensive anticipatory design scientist," will be exhibited at the Blum Art Institute beginning April 1.

"Bucky" Fuller applied his scientific and aesthetic sensibilities to many disciplines. He was an innovator in architecture, cartography, mathematics, and scientific philosophy. He stated his ideas not only in the designs which embodied them, but also in lectures, prose, poems, and drawings. In a century characterized by increased specialization of knowledge, Fuller was a rarity, a Renaissance man. He is often remembered as the designer of the

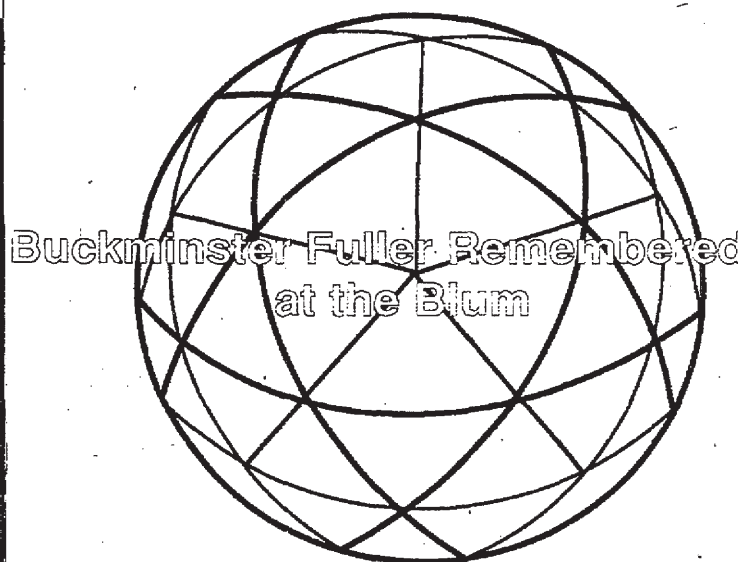
geodesic dome, but, as the Blum exhibit will show, his achievements were wide and varied, and his view of the world was comprehensive. To Fuller, science, aesthetics, and human needs were equally important.

The geodesic dome, functional, efficient, and beautiful, epitomizes the character of all of Fuller's work. The spherical Epcot Center at Disney World is a stunning example of geodesic form and beauty. Fuller's dome is the most efficient building structure known; a geodesic dome is lighter than any rectangular structure enclosing the same volume. At the same time, the geodesic dome is stronger than conventional structures, in part because it is composed of triangles, which are

inherently more stable than rectangles. Many domes have been built as radar installations, aircraft hangars, aviaries, homes, and even churches and laundromats.

Fuller imagined grander uses for them, however. He calculated that entire cities could be covered by weblike, translucent domes which would retain radiated heat, protect buildings and people from pollution, and allow for a controlled climate. From the ground, a mile or more below such a dome's apex, the triangulated frame would be as inconspicuous as a window screen. Such domes would have the advantage of being beautiful from the outside while allowing nature's beauty to

continued on page 7



Buckminster Fuller Remembered at the Blum

Celebrate Earth Day: Play Bucky's "World Game"

by Amy Bachelder

The Fuller exhibit will coincide with Earth Day, a once-a-decade event whose organizers work worldwide to heighten awareness of environmental issues. On Earth Day, 1990, April 22, the Blum will host activities which demonstrate Fuller's concern for ecological problems and global solutions.

The highlight of the day will be a professionally directed session of the World Game, which Fuller invented as an alternative to war games. The World game involves a minimum of one hundred players, each of whom represents a small percentage of the earth's population. Players are distributed according to population density across a world map the

size of a basketball court, and their task is to simulate and solve such global problems as pollution, hunger, ignorance, and nuclear warfare. Bard students are welcome to participate in the game free of charge.

Also on April 22, a panel of Fuller's longtime associates will explain the physical principles behind geodesic domes and Fuller's many other designs and inventions. Workshops will be held to construct geodesic domes and some of Fuller's many other designs and inventions. The Sierra club and other local environmental groups will conduct outdoor explorations and talk with visitors about how individuals can help preserve the environment. Students are invited to all these activities. Times will be publicized soon.

Since earth day will be an international event, the Blum hopes that Bard students will help make Earth day a campus-wide celebration. Students who are planning Earth Day events are invited to coordinate their activities with those taking place at the Blum. The director, Linda Weintraub, can be reached at extension 438. □

Leo Smith: A musical thinker

by Jeung-Hee Kahng

Leo Smith is an interesting man to get to know. His musical abilities and accomplishments need to be recognized by everyone. From the time he was very young, his family exposed him to music, especially the blues. Though he started to appreciate music at an early age, he did not start playing until he was 13 years old.

His musical schooling includes musical training in the army from 1965 to 1967. In 1967 he enrolled in the Sherwood Music School in Chicago. After remaining in Chicago for a few years, he attended the Wesleyan School of Music in Middletown, Connecticut in 1973.

After the education he has re-

continued on page 11



Leo Smith was partially trained in the army

Bucky

continued from page 6

remain visible from the inside. Fuller saw structural efficiency, like that of the geodesic dome, not as an artificial product of science but as the principle upon which nature operates, and he tried to model his designs after natural structures. The sphere and the tetrahedron (a four-faced pyramid), both of which are elemental in Fuller's system of "synergetic geometry," can be found in natural forms such as molecules and beehives. When spheres—such as atoms or beehive cells—are packed tightly together, they align in triangular and tetrahedral configurations. Fuller took pride in the correspondences between nature and his designs.

Using resources to maximum advantage was another of Fuller's lifelong concerns. The geodesic dome, light yet strong, embodies this principle, as do his mass-producible Dymaxion Dwelling Machine, an inexpensive yet high-quality home, and his Dymaxion car, which pioneered aerodynamic, fuel-efficient automobile design. Efficiency was not merely a mathematical change for Fuller. He said that as our natural supplies of fuel and iron ore dwindle, we will no longer have the luxury of wastefulness, and efficiency will become a matter of survival.

While Fuller tried to impress upon his audiences the dangerous state of environmental and political affairs, unlike many doomsmen, he offered an ultimately optimistic message. Constantly researching global re-

sources, he deduced that with twentieth-century scientific knowledge we have the means to feed, house, and educate everyone in the world. The conclusion might seem unsurprising, but nineteenth-century Malthusian doctrine still lingers in modern thought. Political and economic systems still operate on the principle that there is not enough to go around. Fuller recognized that we tend to apply our most promising technology to the problems of war—"killingry"—rather than to "livingry," the solution of problems such as hunger, ignorance, and disease. He argued that science could enable humankind to make the world's resources "go all the way around." While his message was popular in the 1960s, when he seemed the only optimistic message in an age of unrest, the message is even more important today, as increasing international cooperation gives humanity an unprecedented chance to share its resources.

Like a good liberal arts student, Fuller believed that comprehensive knowledge was more useful than specialized knowledge for solving human problems. Most of our solutions to human problems fail, Fuller said, because they do not take the macrocosm into account. Being a comprehensivist enabled Fuller to combine traditionally divided disciplines: science and environmentalism, efficiency and aesthetics, technology and creativity. In a time which increasingly favors specialized knowledge over comprehensive understanding, it is especially vital that we preserve a respect for

Fuller's brand of thought.

If, as Fuller predicted, we become increasingly dependent on technology for the necessities of life, we should hope that technological solutions will be implemented by people with Fuller's sensitivity to human needs. Fuller's most enduring lesson may be that science need not be a villain—that it can be humanity's most effective tool for survival. Fuller's work suggests that technological advancement, humanitarianism, and beauty are compatible objectives.

The Blum exhibit will draw materials from every stage of Fuller's life and thought. The exhibit will include photographs, models, and full-size examples of Fuller's early design achievements, such as his Dymaxion Car, Dwelling Machine, and Bathroom, large-scale models illustrating Fuller's geometric principles, and a display of Fuller's imaginative and beautiful drawings. Accompanying Fuller's works will be an exhibit of art and models by several of Fuller's creative associates. The Fuller exhibit will be an extraordinary one even for the Blum, which is known for its innovative exhibits.

Perhaps unexpectedly, Fuller's work is very much at home in an art museum, for both his structural principles and his aesthetic sensitivity are most readily appreciated in three-dimensional form. "I never work with aesthetic considerations in mind," Fuller said, "but I have a test: if something isn't beautiful when I get finished with it, it's no good." □

And then came the fun

by Robin Cook

It was a dark and stor-I mean, a suspenseful night at the Chancellor Livingston Elementary School in Rhinebeck. People were dying under mysterious circumstances and there was absolutely no way to tell who the murderer was. A raffle was being held outside to guess "whodunit," and refreshments were being sold to the hungry souls. Meanwhile, the amoral and self-centered Marston had just expired after imbibing cyanide, and a small figurine of an Indian boy had fallen off the mantle. Nobody knew who to trust...

An odd scenario, to be sure. But of course, the Rhinebeck Theater Society knew how to involve their audience. And, with a production of Agatha Christie's "Ten Little Indians" (originally titled "And Then There Were None"), it seemed appropriate that those in attendance at the sold-out show join in the fun.

All right, so perhaps the characters themselves weren't enjoying themselves much, since they were the ones being murdered. Poor Vera Claythorne, in fact, was close to tears, unable to maintain composure. As the cast dwindled, nobody knew whether to stand by or implicate each other.

The play is about ten people invited to an island off the coast of

England by the mysterious Mr. Owen, whom none of them has ever met or seen. In the living room they admire the settings, particularly ten Indian figures on the mantle. Suddenly, they hear a voice on the gramophone, accusing each of them of bringing about the deaths of others. It seems like a horrible joke. And then Marston dies...

Christie demonstrates remarkable skill in characterization. From the cold, self-righteous Emily Brent, who drove a seventeen-year-old servant girl out of the house for becoming pregnant out of wedlock, to Philip Lombard, who abandoned his men in battle, leaving them to die, all are flawed, and all refuse to admit their flaws. Even the most sympathetic character, Vera Claythorne, seems unable to overcome her tendency to fall in love with the wrong men. Left to themselves on the island, they become increasingly defensive of themselves, and suspicious of each other. And yet, nobody can guess who the murderer is until the very end...

Whodunnit anyway? Better question would be: what good is a murder/mystery if one knows the ending? With skillful direction and fine acting, the cast and crew of "Ten Little Indians" presented the perfect form of entertainment for the audience on that dark and stor-I mean, cold night. □

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B-Ball finishes at 7-17

Last Wednesday at the Stevenson Gymnasium, the men's basketball team finished out their season with their second consecutive win, bouncing Centenary 61-52.

Chris Hancewicz led the offense with 17 points, while Sean Alford shut Centenary down on defense with 9 rebounds and 5 steals.

"Firstly, This is the best record we've had since switching our schedule over to playing only four year schools," said Bard coach, Bob Krausz when asked about the season overall.

"I would like to congratulate the seniors who we will be losing this year. They played hard and never gave up. They had the desire, the heart, and the determina-

tion to play hard even when we weren't winning games."

The graduating seniors are Khani Shaw, Brian Krex, and co-captains Ernest Reese and Chris Hancewicz, all of whom have played varsity ball for the four years they have attended Bard.

Krausz continued, "The bench was quite good this year—it really helped being able to pull one of the starters and feel like the game would pick up.

"Also, the guys who didn't score many points this year were still vital to the team, defense (steals, rebounds, picks and blocks) and other aspects of offense (rebounds, picks, assists, and fakes) are all as important to a team as point scoring."



Our Intrepid Rowdy D. (the new intramural director)



A Basketball team from the days of St. Stephens

Men's V-ball sliding, losing 4 in a row

This weekend the men's team traveled to Southampton, Long Island to participate in the Clam Dig Tournament.

The team played extremely well in their first two matches, but came away with losses to Southampton, 15-9, 15-7, and Steven's Tech, 13-15, 15-4, 15-6.

"We were outmatched in skill and spiking ability, but the guys were pumped and played ex-

tremely tough with what we had," said coach Stacy Collier.

The team only had six players that could make the weekend tournament—it seems that a couple of the players felt that the winter festival festivities were more important.

By the end of the day the six were tired and frustrated, knowing they would have come away with a win against Steven's Tech

if the entire team had been there, and ended up looking ridiculous against Sacred Heart 15-6, 15-4.

Colin Clark led the offense with 18 kills and 6 dinks for the day. Grant MacDonald supported with 9 kills and 11 dinks.

On defense, Jody Apap had 13 digs to lead with help from Manny Lopez (4 digs, 1 kill), Alexei Gribsch (4 digs), and Rob Kitzos (2 digs).

The Week In Sports

Saturday 3/10

Men's Volleyball at Steven's Tech 1:00 AWAY
InterCollegiate Men's Indoor Soccer Tournament 10:00 HOME

Monday 3/12

Men's Volleyball vs Fordham 7:30 HOME

Tuesday 3/13

Women's Intramural Indoor Soccer
7:30 1st Round Playoff
Men's Intramural Basketball
8:30 Good Ole Boys vs Dribblers
Faculty Plus vs Blue Cheer
9:30 Team Puss vs Coolest Team
No Big Men vs America's Team

Wednesday 3/14

Men's Volleyball vs New Paltz and Bridgeport 6:00 HOME

Thursday 3/15

Men's Intramural Indoor Soccer
6:30 1st Round Playoff
7:30 1st Round Playoff
Women's Intramural Indoor Soccer
8:30 1st Round Playoff

Monday Night vs Marist

Once again the men's volleyball team had to play with only six, with Colin Clark out with back cramps, and the night did not fare well for Bard.

Marist came out strong in the first two games, and blasted Bard 15-7 and 15-1. Bard finally woke

up and won the next 15-10, only to drop the fourth, 17-15, to give Marist the win 3-1.

Jody Apap was the standout of the night with 16 serving points, including 9 in the game Bard won, and controlled the middle of the court with 7 digs.

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Fresh look

continued from page 3
Harvey Fierstein said, had discovered they had just "douched with Drano") to how I saw our presence, I realized how much the way we see the world is simply a matter of perspective.

Living here in the Enchanted Forest of Bard College, where "liberalism" is not a dirty word and the Grateful Dead is considered the crowning glory of Western Music, it has become very obvious to me that the eyes through which we Bardians see the world are just as mirrored and filled with flakes of colored glass as a child's Kaleidoscope.

Last semester a friend of mine who attends SUNY Geneseo visited me for the weekend and accompanied me to the International Night Dance at the Student Center. As we stood among crepe paper and little world flags, my friend could not help gapping about him as beer, Sangria, and other mixed drinks flowed freely from the bar and into the mouths of legal and underaged students alike, no questions asked. "What's so strange?" I finally had to ask him. "We have to drink alcohol behind locked doors!" he told me, astounded by my casual acceptance of the situation. "This place is unreal!"

Besides life at Bard, I've seen a very off balance perspective of how we see the world at large. Last semester I took a course entitled "Power and Politics in America," in which current events were usually hot items of discussion. George Bush, Panama, Jesse Helms, we condemned them all, and in the process ended up feeling quite pleased with ourselves for being so politically correct. One day a classmate of mine summed up my feeling when he told me he wanted to go in there one day and start spouting off Conservative Rhetoric just to throw a wrench in the machinery. "Because basically," he said, "we're just a bunch of liberals sitting around agreeing with each other."

I myself am a product of this other worldly environment: How many places besides Bard would I feel free enough to state in a community newspaper that I attended a conference for Gay and Lesbian students?

One of my major impressions of Bard before I entered its tie-dyed halls of learning was that by coming here, people disappeared into the woods and cut themselves off from the rest of society. Then, four years later, they wiped the leaves out of their clothes and

brushed the twigs from their hair and reentered the world saying, "Omigod! Running water! Indoor plumbing!" While this view has been modified, I still have the eerie feeling that, after I am expelled from this paradise and find myself in the Real World, I will be tempted to say to myself, "Toto, I don't think we're in Kansas anymore." □

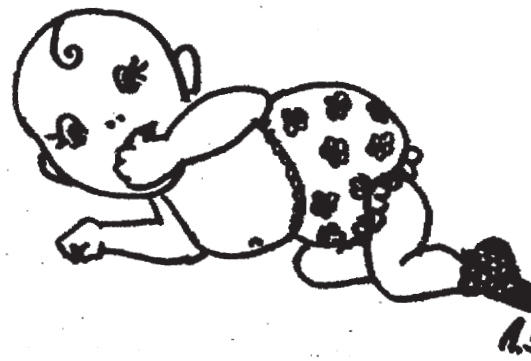
Career Day

continued from page 1
Office, who agreed that it was something that would greatly benefit Bard students. Harriet Schwartz organized Career Day, which she is excited about. "I think it will be a nice opportunity for students to explore several different careers in one afternoon. For freshmen and sophomores, thinking about moderation and wondering how a college major will affect the direction you will take after college, this will be a good chance to talk with people who majored in the liberal arts. For Juniors, who are starting to think about where they are going to go after graduating, this will be a good opportunity to learn about career fields, entry-level operations and job-search strategies."

Schwartz feels that Career Day will be most beneficial for seniors. "I've seen some seniors who are feeling typical senior year pressures like finishing senior projects and thinking about their future. Many of these students tell me that right now, with all the time that they have to put into their projects, they just don't have time to start a job search. This [Career Day] being a one-day program, they can get some of their questions answered in terms of careers without having to invest a lot of time."

Both Harriet Schwartz and Professor Greenberg expressed hope that many students will attend. They feel that this is an important day that will benefit all students. □

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Child

continued from page 5
is no substitute for a dog. Let us approach the problem logically. Both the dog and the child are utterly dependent upon you for their continued well-being. But the dog is recognized by society as a parasite and a scavenger, and you may treat it as its station deserves. You buy special food for it, called, specifically, dog food, which is scientifically designed to be not as good as the food you eat, both saving you time and money and allowing you to taunt the dog with the generally low and hopeless lot it has drawn in life. You may not feed your child the dog food it so richly deserves, as much as you may want to. There are, of course, methods for surreptitiously feeding other people's children dog food, and even ground glass, but — alas, I was unable to develop my point further, for my bride chose that moment to brain me with an iron, and I went for several days philosophizing very little at all.

During my convalescence, I had some time to muse anew, over meals that all seemed to taste of bitter almonds, on the idea of childrearing. Perhaps there might be some benefit in it. Certainly I had read of and heard many wrong-headed ideas on the subject, might it not be possible that I could raise a child in a sensible, practical fashion, perhaps the first ever to be so raised? Perhaps I could, through the application of ordinary scientific method and careful research, make a quantum leap in the field, using my own child as the subject for my great experiment. Such a child would be a joy, rather than a burden. What proud parents we would be then! I called in my wife and told her of my decision.

"Oh, Charles!" she cried, dropping the axe. "How wonderful!"

As soon as I was ambulatory, we began our research. I must admit that Regina did not fully share in my enthusiasm for the project. I fear that she wished to raise our child in just the sloppy and sentimental fashion I so vociferously eschewed. But she gamely helped me comb through the massive tomes I hustled out of the library, searching in them for some gem of parental wisdom that might assist us in our task. While my interest lay in the techniques that would render our child hyperintelligent or otherwise powerful, Regina seemed interested only in those that would spare our child inconvenience or pain. Accordingly, I favored things like the Suzuki method, where the child is taught to ride a motorcycle by the age of two and can play "Born to be Wild" on the violin by four, or the popular "superbaby" method, figuring that if a child can be taught to speak eight languages by the age of three, it should not be too much to ask that it be able to mix a passable whiskey sour by five. Regina, meanwhile, had become obsessed with the concept of "birth trauma," feeling that our baby must be spared this indignity at all costs.

"Look here, Charles," she told me, "a baby spends the first nine months of its life in the womb, comfortable, warm, secluded and happy. Then, without warning, it is

ejected into a brilliantly lit room full of cold metal instruments, VCR equipment, and frighteningly dressed strangers, one of whom picks it up by the feet and slaps it hard on the rump! How horrible for the poor child! I would feel terrible if we subjected our poor little baby to such an experience. Now, here is a method where the baby is born in a quiet, dark room and immediately placed in a bath of warm water, sparing it all that pain. Oughtn't we to do that?"

"But dearest, the baby has to leave the womb sometime. I think that the sooner it is exposed to the harsh realities of life, the better. In fact, I was thinking of hiring a brass band to play in the delivery room, and perhaps rigging up some kind of strobe light, to help accustom it to the jarring nature of existence. Now, if we were to immerse the baby in cold water, ice-cold, admittedly we would spare it little trauma, but it would be a lot of laughs for —"

"Charles! How can you say such a thing? Birth trauma can leave a child emotionally scarred for life!"

"Darling," I replied, "children have been born in this 'traumatic' way for generations. I was born in a hospital, and I do not consider myself scarred."

"You're a beast!" she cried. "How can you calmly sit there and damn our child to a life of suffering and despair?"

"I'm sorry, my pet, I had no idea that birth trauma could be so severe. I relent. We will do as you wish, we will immediately place our newborn in a warm, dark, comfortable bath at birth and leave it there until it is ready to start college. No child of mine shall suffer needlessly while I have breath in my body. Granted, when we do remove the child from its habitat, there will still be some trauma, but by this time it will be covered with acne and hair and we will not feel so badly about it. No, I am still negligent. Leaving the womb for any other environment, no matter how lavishly appointed, is too painful for our child. No, we will allow the child to stay in the womb for as long as it likes, if it chooses to remain there for the remainder of its natural life, who is to say it has not made the right decision? The world is a cruel place."

"I can't believe you are sitting there making light of the keynote experience of our child's life!" she scolded.

"I am not making light of it, dear, I simply want what is best for the child. But I am inconsiderate of your needs. You cannot be expected to carry a child indefinitely. We shall remove the child from the womb normally, but order the doctor to stamp its hand so it can get back in. This compromise —"

"You're the most unfit father on earth!" she exclaimed, and stormed out.

This exchange, alas, was typical of a growing schism between myself and my wife. Our disagreements about the raising of the child seemed to become irreconcilable. As her pregnancy progressed, we became more and more surly toward one another, hardly speaking except to hurl invectives. Our positions, out of spite, grew further and further apart. Regina now wanted to hire a staff of sixty to care for the child, and eventually buy it its own South American dictatorship. I still wanted to

place the child in ice-cold water at birth, but now wanted to accompany it with a burlap sack and the first nine volumes of the encyclopedia. We grew gaunt, haggard, but clung tenaciously to our positions. I wondered if we might have been better off just raising the child by the old-fashioned bung-hole method — placing the newborn in a sealed barrel and feeding it through the bung-hole. Perhaps we could try the same method of feeding without the barrel, get the child to "run backwards" for a few weeks, and maybe win the Nobel prize.

When the child was born, we still could not agree on how to raise it, with the sad result that each of us took a completely different approach. Regina cooed and purred to it constantly in baby talk until she became unable to talk normally at all. I would snatch it away when she wasn't looking and subject it to complex experiments designed to find the parameters of its durability, firing it out of spring loaded cannon into enormous piles of pillows, holding it underwater for not unreasonable intervals, and so on. Eventually, Regina discovered me administering three fingers of bourbon to the child, in the interests of science.

"Charles!" she cried, shocked. "What are you doing?"

"I am feeding the child some whiskey," I replied, gazing off into the middle distance, "for its breakfast."

"Whiskey?" She seemed scandalized. "You can't give whiskey to the baby!"

"Oh, I know it might seem a waste, but nothing is too good for my child," I responded.

"A baby breakfasts on something a good deal better than whiskey," she declared hotly.

"Whiskey's been good enough for my breakfast for ten years, it ought to be good enough for the baby as well. Until it goes out and finds a job better than mine (and I might add that it's been looking a bit like it has time on its hands lately) I'm damned if it's going to eat any better than I am."

Apparently, this was the last straw. "Out!" cried my wife. "Out of the house! I won't have you abusing my child. Besides, I'd like to point out, Mr. Rhetoric, that you don't even have a job, and haven't as long as I've known you."

I ruminated on this for a moment. "A fair cop," I said, and left to become as you see me now.

When he finished his tale, we sat for a moment in silence, surveying the forest of empty highball glasses on the table before us. "It was then that I began drinking in earnest," he said eventually. "Without my wife and her inheritance, life no longer seemed worth living. And all because of that damned child," he finished, swilling down the last of his drink.

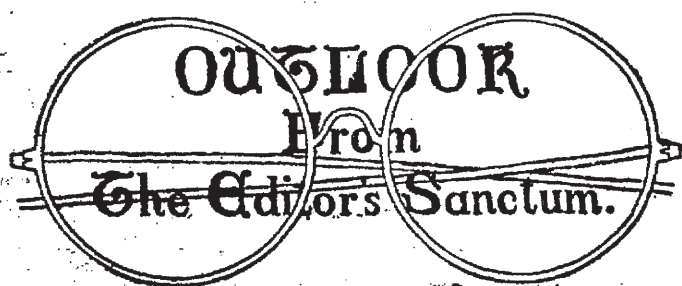
I could find no words of comfort to offer him. "It must be sad," I said after a long pause, "living without one's wife and child."

"What?" he said. "What are you talking about? I never married."

We sat there for a little while, then. After a few minutes he got up to go to the bathroom. He did not return. After twenty minutes had passed, I paid the check and left. □

**If you want to
write for Another
View, try to keep it
fairly short, typed,
and double-spaced.
Turn your columns
and photos in at the
front desk of the
library.**

OBSERVATIONS



Alternate views: Stop your whining and write

by Amara Willey

I admit it. There have been a few times that I would have loved to point out, in some article I was writing, how stupid the policy under discussion actually was or how the subject of the article was really screwing the campus over. I usually did one of two things instead: found someone who would/could say it or wrote an editorial about it.

Even so I made it clear (or so I thought) from the beginning that

we would accept just about anything but unfounded gossip. The *Observer* has been a forum for campus ideas and that includes tongue-in-cheek, even black, humor. This however does not seem to satisfy a large number of people.

In our recent opinion poll, we asked if Bard would like to see an alternative page in the paper. Thirty of the 77 surveys returned responded affirmatively. So the *Observer* in its infinite wisdom and magnanimity is experimenting with a page called "Another View" (see page 5).

Now I've seen a lot of alternative crap in my time, and a lot of it really blows. Therefore, there are still rules for this page. I think you'll like them though.

(1) We won't edit anything we print. That means, my dears, that if you have typos or grammatical errors, you had better want them there.

(2) We won't print anything that is libelous (Webster or some other collegiate name will explain it to you if you're confused). You may not care if we get our asses sued, but I do.

(3) We asked for your definitions of alternative and we've printed them on page 5 this week. The best "alternative" papers I've seen include satire (which we already happily publish), political/social commentary (which we've always welcomed on our edito-

rial pages), and articles which contain a good deal of editorializing (which we have hitherto refrained from publishing, perhaps because we've never received them).

(4) We will not print poetry or fiction. There is somewhere in the neighborhood of five literary mags on this campus that will. Besides, we could not possibly print all the literary submissions we might get, and I, for one, don't wish to take the added responsibility of deciding which poems are better than other ones. We will print photo submissions.

This is your chance. If you want to see an alternative page, write for it. I could have waited for the most whiny of you to start an alternative paper yourselves. But on further consideration, I realized that probably no one would get their butt in gear to actually do it and that people probably didn't realize how much work it takes (and as we all know, "work" is not one of Bard's favorite words). [You know, this is kind of fun.]

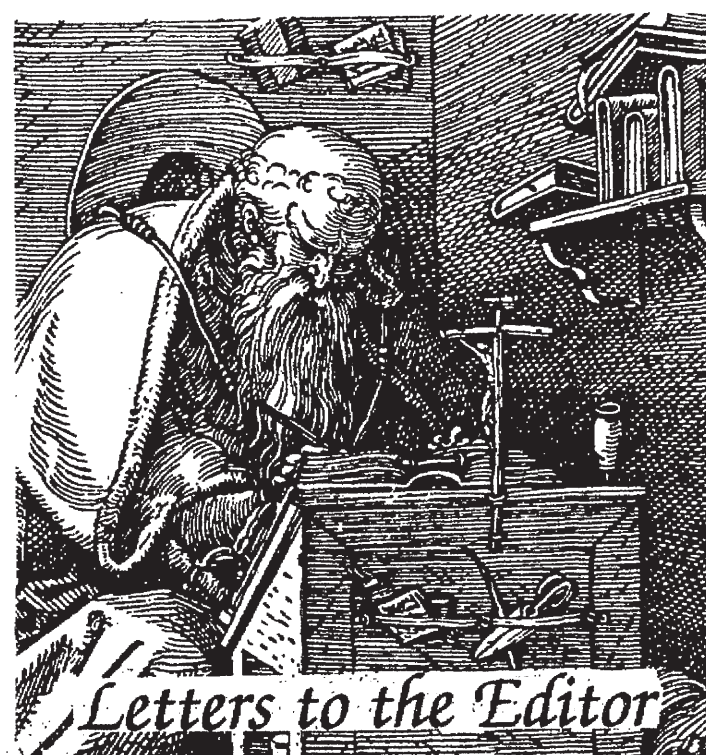
I don't mean to alienate our loyal readers by any of this.

A former editor of the paper once commented on the function of a college newspaper, "Initially it is designed to take up room in desolate and otherwise vacant mailboxes." I believe it's more than that. Our newspaper should represent the opinions and wishes of the campus.

We don't plan to do away with the quality we have already achieved with the *Observer*. Plans are underway for more and better improvements. Later this semester we plan to hold a workshop on investigative reporting (I bet that caught your eye) that will be open to all of the Bard community. Also, my staff will be receiving instruction in design, photography, business, and many other things from experts in college media as the semester wears on.

The *Observer's* two main goals are to represent the opinions and ideas of the people who go to this school and, to a somewhat lesser degree, those who work here. Also, we "teach through doing" all we can about journalism to anyone interested. We are not a clique in the normal sense as some have accused us of being. I met most of the people now working on the paper only after they had decided to join it. It is true that we are loyal to each other. Twenty to forty hours a week working together will do that, you know, but we always welcome newcomers with open arms. The more people working on the paper, the easier it is for all of us.

So join.



Model UN advisors: Thanks for all the help and participation

To the Editor

With little advance notice, the prospect of participating in a simulation of the United Nations enticed an eventual total of more than fifty students to express interest and become involved in the activity.

These activities quite simply could not have taken place were it not for the active support of a large segment of the Bard campus and the surrounding community. We would, therefore, on behalf of the entire group of participants like to thank those people who so generously gave their time and/or money. Specifically, President Botstein for vocal and financial support; the area restaurants who donated meals to our fund-raising raffle: Santa Fe, Beekman Arms, Rondout Golden Duck, Savoy, and the Armadillo; all the people who bought the raffle tickets; Dean Nelson for early vocal support of academic extra-curricular student activities; Michael Nicolas for crucial support when

deadlines loomed; the Political Studies department for encouragement, cooperation, and the contribution of a country registration fee; the Debate Society (which served as the birthplace of the activity); and the Student Forum for its recognition of the activity as a fundable student enterprise.

The Model U.N. Club is now attempting to establish its organizational structure and objectives. The activities currently under discussion include participation in the Harvard Model U.N. on an annual basis, participation in other simulations (model U.N., model Organization of African Unity, model Organization of American States, etc.), organizing a simulation for regional high schools, projects of an international nature, and participation in local charitable events. Keep an eye out for announcements, and please join in if you are interested.

Thank you,
Michael Lewis
Bonnie Gilman

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Editorial policy is determined by the Editor-in-Chief in consultation with the editorial board. Any opinions which appear unsigned are those of the Editor and not necessarily of the *Observer* staff. Letters to the Editor should not exceed 300 words and must be signed legibly. All articles, cartoons and photographs that are submitted by deadline will be considered for publication. Turn all material in at the front desk of the library by noon the Friday a week before the publication date. The Editor reserves the right to edit for style and space. Classifieds: 25¢ for Bardians; 50¢ for all others.

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Letters to the Editor should not be more than two double-spaced typed pages

Turn in at the front desk of the library



Students hit by car

by Brenda Montgomery

Two students were struck by a car driven by another student Tuesday morning. Roger Scotland and Sean Alford were crossing Annandale Road near Tewksbury path when the accident occurred. The driver, whose name is being withheld by Security, was unable to stop because of the slippery condition of the snow covered road.

The two basketball players were thrown into the air by the force of the impact, Scotland flying twenty feet before he hit the ground. The two walked to Tewksbury where

Director of Security Art Otey and junior Andy Molloy administered first aid.

"There were no broken bones — this accident could have been much worse. I know I keep talking about people walking along Annandale road but it worries me," said Otey.

After striking the two students, the car skidded off the road into a tree. The driver was not injured. Scotland and Alford were taken to Northern Dutchess Hospital and released by noon on March 6.

"They will be pretty sore for a while but it could have been much worse," said Otey. □

Plays

continued from page 5
recite lines and speeches empty from off the tops of their heads. This was not the case, however, with Adine, the other female from Hell portrayed by Lisa Folb. I felt her performance was more focused on the word for word, moment by moment unfolding of events. The squaring off of these two beasts against each other was beautifully ugly, and amusing as hell. Nor was it the case with the two masked guardians, Mesrou and Carise (David Nochimson and Mallory Catlett, respectively.) As the two guardians and masters of the World, their presence was only increased by their having thought and meant every word they said.

As a male, however, I didn't agree with the Prince's line to the effect that the two males of the World were given the same amount of vices and virtues as the two females. I thought the males were two dumb, trusting, worshipping, lusty buffoons, which is more of a natural state of being than the nightmarish compilation of extremes in traditionally female vices. But then, I don't know: being a male, I couldn't tell you what the natural state of being is for a female. It would be interesting to take a pole...

So, "Francesca Spinotti appears in partial fulfillment of the requirements of The Senior Project"... I only found out this year Francesca was a senior. Too bad, too, it's going to suck to see her leave. But, as my mother would say, "Finalmente, fueri di ball!" (Good luck and God bless!)

As of press time, Francesca still owes me a full, big bottle of wine and for this I promised to cut on her now, but I can't. I have too much pity in my heart for

Philomèle, the very well portrayed tragic heroine of *The Love of the Nightingale*. This play made a reality of a myth, and magic by merging the ancient Greek tragedy with the modern theatre of today, never before have I felt such a strong sense of understanding for one of these abstract, tragic people.

This was made possible through the works of a strong supporting cast, from Philomèle's sister Procne (Laurie Wickens) to the whole of the male chorus, the Captain of the ship sailing from Athens (Adam Lesyshyn) to the entire female chorus, and the elderly, experienced, Naiobi (Jubilith Moore.)

The Love of the Nightingale was presented in a much slower, more profound directorial style than its predecessor, *La Dispute*. This juxtaposition on Bill Driver's part worked well, I thought, *La Dispute* clearly being a much lighter play, and a comedy at that. However, I maintain I wouldn't have minded a bit more effort to the concentration of the moment on the actor's behalf. □



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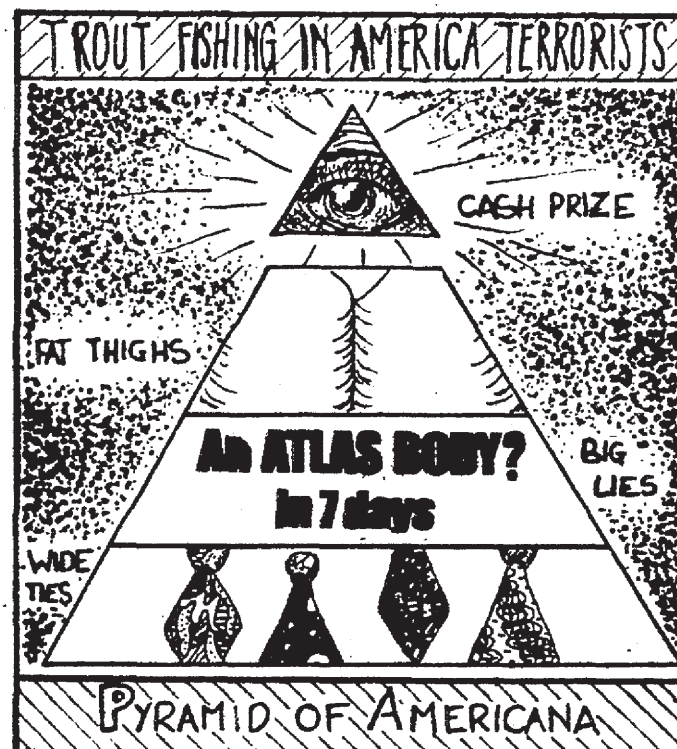
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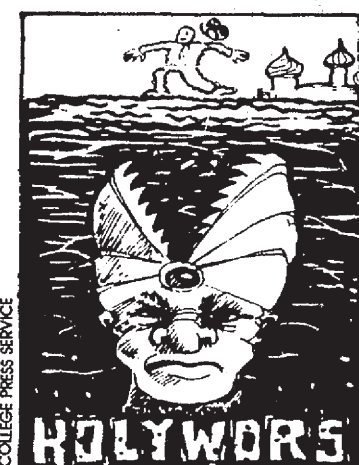
Rachel and Rachel — 1, 2, I'm coming for you. 3, 4, Albee second floor. — G.W.

Have you noticed that having a senior project is like having permanent PMS?

Guy who plays guitar looking for guys who have band but need a guy who plays guitar. Guy's name is Mark D., and the guy's box is 652, and the guy's room is McVickar 301. Where are you guys?



by Tom Capizzi



Leo Smith

continued from page 7

ceived, Smith can play the koto trumpet, the flugel horn, the African flute, the Indian flute, the original flute, percussion instruments, and the santura (string instruments.) He also sings, dances, and composes.

When he is not teaching at Bard, he is working on four or five different projects at once at home in

Brooklyn. He has performed on 60 recordings, including 14 LPs, and has written books on music theory. Every January, he goes to Japan and tours for a couple of weeks, and in the summer he tours Europe.

Despite the busy work schedule, he still has time to spend teaching at Bard. I asked him why he decided to teach, and the reply I received was interesting.

"I teach because I am a musical thinker. I am always contemplating theory, music, and sound."

One of Leo Smith's latest projects includes Bard people. On Wednesday, March 21, he will present a concert of jazz/religious music. He is reorchestrating a lot of Duke Ellington's music. There will be a five-piece jazz ensemble, a four-piece string quartet, a chorus of 40 or 50 people and a tap dancer. Rehearsals will be on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. If anyone is interested in participating, talk to him when he comes to Bard Wednesdays or Thursdays. □

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**MARCH 10
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Drama & Dance Department:

Frey Faust, back by popular demand because of his extraordinary dance talent, will perform and discuss his work on Monday, March 19, at 8:00 PM, in the Avery Arts Center dance studio/theater. Mr. Faust has performed with many prominent New York-based dance companies and has presented his own choreography both in this country and in Europe. Don't miss this outstanding performance.

Levy Economics Institute:

The Jerome Levy Economics Institute will present a lecture at 8:00 PM in the conference room of Blithewood on March 14. The topic for this lecture is *So Do We Know That There Is No Phillips Curve?*, presented

by Neil deMarchi, Professor of Economics, Duke University.

Bard Outing Club:

The Bard Outing Club will present the following events for March, 1990. Anyone who is interested in participating should call Jocelyn Krebs at 758-1467 for more information or to register. **March 11:** Horseback-riding trip in the Catskills. \$10.00 per person. **March 18:** Hike (location undecided).

Debate Society:

For the rest of the semester, the Bard Debate Society will hold meetings on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6:00 PM in the Kline Commons Commit-

tee Room. Anyone who is interested in taking part in the club's activities should attend one of these meetings. Also, a more relaxed schedule will be put together for those who are not able to invest as much time.

Society Of Friends Meeting:

Unprogrammed open meeting and meditation in the Quaker tradition. Everyone is welcome. Departure at 9:45 AM, Sunday from Feitler. Contact Kristan Hutchison at Ext. 315 for further information.

Calendar Classifieds:

Wanted:

Off-Campus Students who would like to sublet their apartment/house for the summer to graduate students. Please submit the following information to the Graduate Office in Sottery, Room 102: Location, No. of Rooms, Description, Amount of rent (Whether utilities are included), restrictions (if any), name and phone no. of contact person.

For Sale:

Stereo-\$150.00, Slide Projector and Screen-\$120.00, Blue Couch-\$125.00, End Tables-\$40.00, Formal Dining Room(table w/ 6 chairs)-\$325.00, Vanity and Bench-\$25.00, Red Wool Suit (Size 12, 3 piece)-\$45.00, Chairs-\$5.00 to \$50.00, Bookcases-\$25.00, Bedspread-\$15.00, Bureau-\$50.00. Call 758-8110.

Calendar of Events

Saturday 10	Sunday 11	Monday 12	Tuesday 13	Wednesday 14	Thursday 15	Friday 16
	<p>9:45 AM Friends Meeting Leave From Feitler</p> <p>6:00 PM Worship Service Bard Chapel</p> <p>6:00 PM Features Meeting Aspinwall 3rd Floor</p> <p>7:00 PM A.A. Meeting Aspinwall, Room 302</p>	<p>6:00 PM Debate Society Meeting Committee Room Kline Commons</p> <p>7:00 PM Observer News Meeting Olin 3rd Floor Lounge</p> <p>7:30 P.M. BBLAGA Meeting Aspinwall 302</p>	<p>5:30 PM Learning Difference Support Group Admissions Office</p> <p>5:30 PM Coalition for Choice Meeting Committee Room</p> <p>7:00 PM Clinic Escort Training Faculty Dining Room</p>	<p>6:00 PM Debate Society Meeting Committee Room Kline Commons</p> <p>7:00 PM ACOA Meeting Aspinwall, Room 302</p> <p>8:00 PM Levy Institute Lecture Blithewood</p> <p>8:00 PM Alexander Shalnev, New York bureau chief for Izvestia (USSR daily newspaper), Lecture Kline Committee Rooms</p>	<p>7:00 PM N. A. Meeting Aspinwall, Room 302</p> <p>8:00 PM Lori Hiris of Women Make Movies will show and discuss her documentary about abortion rights: <i>With A Vengeance</i> Olin</p>	<p>6:00 PM Debate Society Meeting Committee Room Kline Commons</p> <p>12:00 NOON Deadline for Newsletter for 3/23/90 issue Dean of Student's Office.</p>