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Calendar
Budget especially tight this semester

by Tanya Panin

This spring, every campus organization is facing severe budget cuts because of an over $13,000 loss in the total money available for clubs from the Student Government. According to David Miller, Planning Committee chair, and Lisa Sargen, Secretary of the Student Forum, a number of factors contributed to the drop in funds.

First of all, Bard lost approximately fifty students this semester, approximately 1,020 students attended in the fall, and only 966 students returned for the spring, according to the Registrar’s Office. Nearly 10% of the convocation fund went to pay off a $5,000 debt incurred two years ago. Bard is also experiencing a recession, which cut the Dimitri Fund by 10%. Furthermore, more clubs were formed this semester than last.

Many organizations are undoubtedly disappointed with the outcome of this spring’s budget and are trying hard to compensate for their losses. Jen Horestein, treasurer of the Environmental/Recycling Club, says that the members of the club planned many activities, including plans for Earth Day, which are not happening because of budget cuts. But they plan to fund certain events in conjunction with other clubs, such as the Entertainment Committee and the Film Committee.

Bardwork, a satirical publication, had requested $6 billion this spring for a number of items, including a 1971 money on myself,” he said. With the $859,769 Bardwork is actually receiving, Eisenberg says he plans to have a “big bake sale.” He will be satisfied if he sells 1.2 trillion brownies.

Red Hook law may threaten Bard’s freedom

by Jonathan Englert

A law regulating “the assembly of persons” in such a way as to exceed two hundred (200) persons at any place within the Town of Red Hook has prompted a dispute between Bard College and the Town of Red Hook. This Public Assembly law, the existence of which remained unknown to the school up until last year, requires those sponsoring any such assemblies to obtain a permit from the town.

Voicing the Administration’s opinion concerning the constitutionality of the law, Executive Vice President Dimitri Papadimitriou said, “as far as we’re concerned, this law is in violation of the First Amendment of the Constitution.” According to Papadimitriou, this as well as other more practical concerns prompted the college to seek either the abolishment of the law or a possible exempt status for Bard, whose campus lies within the jurisdiction of Red Hook. If enforced, the law could restrict the size of academic and social functions at Bard, as well as an impact on freedom of expression at the college. “It impinges on everything,” Papadimitriou stated. “We can’t predict the number of people at any given lecture.”

Papadimitriou was also concerned about the possibility of censorship. “Suppose they didn’t like what we were talking about?” he worried. “They could stop our discussion.”

Red Hook Town Planning Board, considering such fears unrealistic. She cited the fact that the law has never been enforced, and noted that the town has always followed a strict non-interventionist policy with regards to activities at Bard.

When asked whether the town will require the college to file for a permit to hold the Summer Music Festival, an event which will undoubtedly draw large crowds, she said, “the Town Board won’t do anything about it. We treat them as good neighbors.”

According to David Miller, this was one of the tightest budgets ever. He said, “I am not a great student of mathematics but I think there is a $10 million difference between this year’s and last year’s budgets.”

The process was initiated in September in the form of a letter from the Planning Board, conc eived by Jonathan Englert.

Dear Mr. President: tomatoes

by Michael Stimac

As I write this, it is the anniversary of the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. This, combined with the imposing situation fostering in the Persian Gulf, prompted me to think about justice and equality. One of the many repeated themes attempted by your administration is justice for the poor. The government's justification for its presence in the Gulf is that of the non-reward of aggression. This is to say that Saddam Hussein, according to your administration, has taken something that is not his. Moreover, according to this same line of thinking, it is somehow our moral right to tell the President to Iraq this and to point guns at him to enforce our moral authority. As a matter of fact, there are a number of nations making this same point: Great Britain, France, Israel, and, more indirectly, the Soviet Union and Germany.

The United States has a rather horrendous record of taking things that do not belong to it; it lives on stolen land. We, as Americans (the “good guys”), may not like to hear this, but we may not like to hear ourselves compared to Saddam Hussein. However, there were people here before most of our
Students set their agenda against the war

by Christie Searing

Last Wednesday evening, Bard students gathered in Albee Social to shape the agenda of the Bard activist group opposing the war in the Persian Gulf, Student Action Against the War (S.A.A.W.). Their broad statement of purpose reads that they are “against the war, working towards a cease fire, and for a U.S. peace conference.”

Proposed actions for resistance and protest were writing letters to Congress, designating the Bard chapel as an official sanctuary for war resisters, and organizing an official “teach-in” on February 21, when demonstrations and sit-ins will take place across the country.

The debate, mediated by Students Against Interventionist Policy (S.A.I.P., now S.A.A.W.) member Marina Stirn, opened on the topic of forming a letter-writing committee, headed by David O’Reilly. The committee would call for registered voters of Bard to write congressional leaders and senators, and express their general concerns over the legitimacy of the War Powers Act. The committee would set up tables in Kline some-where in the coming weeks, with a copy of the War Powers Act on hand.

Trezza echoed Parks’ comments, and added that the laws are commonly labeled, “The Woodstock Ordinances.”

Despite the conflict, both the town and the college stressed their desire that the laudable relations between the town and the college not be impaired. Papadimtriou even praised the town for its cooperation in other areas. For example, he said that “the zoning board has been extremely cooperative and supportive of our [Bard] building campaign.”

Work-Study jobs available in the student cafe, “deKline.” For more information, contact Amy at 758-1516 by Monday, February 18th.

David Steinberg forms Alternative Society

by Melinda Loges

David Steinberg says he is concerned about lack of debate and the monopoly of opinion about issues on the Bard campus. He has formed the Alternative Society & rectify this problem. Still in its formative stages, the Society is to be a forum for ideas and opinions outside of the norm. The Society will also play the role of “David’s advocate” to incite real debate on the campus.

Another proposed committee will challenge the 3% federal excise tax on phone bills that supposedly goes to the military.

The idea of declaring Bard’s chapel as an official war resisters’ sanctuary was proposed by Gillian Heebner and Scott Heckendorf, who sought to form a committee to investigate the logistics of such a gesture. By “sanctuary” they mean a place where draft resisters (or in this situation, people in the reserves) would be guarded against arrest. “If there is a public push, this could get through,” said draft and military counselor Josh Phillips.

The proposed teach-in would be an effort to get professors to address the issue of the war but in the framework of a particular course. The sessions would theoretically take place in the morning, while in the afternoon students would be invited to participate in a march in Albany starting at 3:00 PM, culminating in a rally at the Capitol Building at 5:00 PM. The march, endorsed by Albany’s Social Justice Center, would include organizers from SUNY Albany, Arbor Hill, and the Albany Navy Recruiting Center.

Another related issue was the role of the media in the war. Throughout the meeting students expressed their concerns over the “bias” press coverage of the peace movement since the United States entered into the conflict—depicting protesters as flag burners being one example—and a wish to contact “sympathetic” local journalists. Independently informing the Bard community on the “facts” of the war, to help people form educated opinions—not just anti-war—is another major goal. This latter effort would include posting the campus with factsheets produced by S.A.A.W., as well as signs advertising the group’s actions and intentions.

The debate became particularly heated when discussing concrete plans for the 21st. Many students were unsure whether shutting down the campus, which many other college activists have proposed, would be in anyone’s best interest. The general consensus came to be that disruption of classes would undermine their primary purpose, which is to promote campus-wide discussion.

One student even mentioned she “feels like classes are an escape from this whole war thing,” raising the question of whether all students are willing to or not to give up class time for such a cause.

According to Stirn and fellow S.A.A.W. member Kara Miller, Deans Stuart Levine and Shelley Morgan have offered to provide Bard transportation (two vans or a bus) to the rally. But this will probably not be enough. “More people will want to come,” Stirn said, which means the college budgeted group will have to car pool as well.

Joel Kovel will mediate an open discussion every Monday night (location unknown as of press time). Students Against the War will be meeting every Wednesday night at 7:00 PM in Albee Social.
Features

Bard shuttle bus running “like clockwork”

by Greg Giacco

Deans Shelley Morgan and Stuart Levine took turns driving the red Bard van around campus on the maiden voyage of the Bard shuttle bus service last Friday night.

“This is not back page stuff, I want you to know. When the deans start a shuttle service on the Bard College campus this is really big news.” - Stuart Levine

“Shelley has had the idea for some time,” said Stuart Levine. “We have been working on it, trying to get the budget to do it, and we finally succeeded.”

The shuttle bus is meant to take the place of the old method of calling security for a ride 8:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. at night. Security will still provide rides when the Shuttle bus is not in service.

“Security will still be a sort of post-structuralist sense. This is the first time we’ve done this,” said Dean Morgan. “We’ve been wanting to do it for a while, but we just couldn’t make it happen.”

The shuttle bus is a product of the Connexion database, which was created by the Career Development Office. It allows students to input their contact information and availability into a central database, which can be accessed by employers.

“Connexion is a product of Peterson’s, also known for its college publications and other education related materials,” said Aileen Harkins, owner of the “Historic” Village Diner.

The database is free for all Bard students and alumni.

“The database has been very helpful for students who are looking for part-time work or internships,” said Aileen Harkins. “It’s been a great resource for finding jobs.”

Many corporations, from Xerox to Macy’s to IBM, have access to the database.

“Connexion is a great resource for students who are looking for jobs,” said Aileen Harkins. “It’s been a great help.”

The database is open to anyone who wishes to participate.

“The kinds of employers who tend to get involved with this type of resume service are corporations, technical industries and so on,” said Director of Career Development Harriet Schwartz.

There hasn’t been a large report of success with this service for Bard students so far. According to Schwartz, this can be attributed to students who have found jobs or graduate schools and failed to report that the search had been successful to the Job Placement Service.

Registration forms for the Connexion database can be obtained through Schwartz at the Career Development Office. For more information about the service contact either Schwartz or call Peterson’s at (800) 338-3282.

Sucked in the mud

Victims of the spring thaw, Jarret Horowitz and Mark Feinlos attempt to release their Toyota Corolla from the mud in Tewksbury field with gravel. Warm weather turned some campus roads into swamps and created a pond in the dirt road between Cruger and Robbins. The Bard shuttle also got stuck in Sands driveway on its first night.

Database seeks to match seniors with jobs

by Rob Cutler

There is a certain amount of anxiety involved in being a senior. One has to work on the ever-ominous senior project, figure out where to go after graduation and still find time to go out on a good date. A new resume service in the Career Development office may help students in at least one of those tasks.

The service, called Connexion, is for college students seeking jobs or summer opportunities and has been in effect at Bard since last semester.

The service works by connecting students with employers.

The database organizes information provided by the student on a registration form and sends a printout to schools and companies using the service. The registration form is like a basic job application form or resume. Information in the database can be changed or updated for career changes or any additional instruction the student has received, such as service in the Peace Corps or the armed services. The database is printed as given.

“This is an extension of an already vast network,” said Yvonne Freccero, the director of Connexion. “It consists of 470 underclassmen and 100 graduates who have participated.”

Many corporations, from Xerox to Macy’s to IBM, subscribe to the database. Connexion currently has the largest resume service, consisting of 10,000 students and is gaining 700 new ones each week, according to Freccero.

The Connexion database was field-tested in November of 1989 with thirty schools in the northeast. The trial run was successful and the service was opened to any college that wished to participate.

“The best part of Connexion is that it’s free,” said Freccero. “This is a great service for students who are looking for jobs.”

For more information about the service contact either Schwartz or call Peterson’s at (800) 338-3282.

Food for thought

Great Sandwiches, Soups, Salads, Dinner Entrees, Marvelous Muffins, Breads and Elegant Desserts

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WHAT IS THIS!

Goodbye “Hello, America.”

by Angela Jancius

Tewksbury field will soon be a routine stretch of grass again, devoid of the triangular metal sculpture, “Hello America.”

The director of special projects, Susan Van Kleek tells that the piece was at Bard as a temporary display. It was scheduled to leave last fall but setbacks have delayed disassembly for an uncertain period of time.

Though many students do not know the sculpture’s name, it has become a significant landmark on the Bard campus since its appearance in 1986. Students have made a tradition of climbing its slippery metal and have picnicked and partied beneath it. In a peculiar gesture of approval or dismay, a large sculpture was a senior project or that it may never return.

Though many students do not know the sculpture’s name, it has become a significant landmark on the Bard campus since its appearance in 1986. Students have made a tradition of climbing its slippery metal and have picnicked and partied beneath it. In a peculiar gesture of approval or dismay, a large sculpture was a senior project or that it may never return.

“Hello America” is a culmination of a series of projects, the first of which was a paperclip sculpture in 1986. The name is a name of a deity of compassion. Kalu Rinpoche gave us this practice to learn how to realize the spontaneous, compassionate nature of our minds through meditating on this mantra.

“We have one main practice that we do which is called Chenrezig, this is the name of a deity of compassion. Kalu Rinpoche gave us [this practice] to learn how to realize the spontaneous, compassionate nature of our minds through meditating on this mantra.”

— Ani Dechi

Practicing Buddhism in Annandale

by Greg Giaccio

The room is sparsely furnished, just a few red benches and cushions. There are two ornate shrines bedecked with candles, Buddha statues, embroidered cloth and photographs of Tibetan lamas. The walls are bare except for a few pictures of the Buddha in different settings. In the room are ten people being led in chants by a robed woman whose head has been shaved. One would hardly suspect that you were in the living room of a modest two-story house in Annandale.

“This is Tibetan Buddhism,” said Ani Dechi, the woman who led the meditation session. “All of our teachers are Tibetan.”

Most of the teachers were chased from Tibet when it was invaded by the Chinese. They escaped to India and established monasteries there. One such person was Kalu Rinpoche, who ran a monastery in India known as Sonada and has previously lectured at Bard.

“There are Tibetan Buddhist centers all over Canada and America because of different Tibetan lamas who developed relationships with Westerners who travelled to India and asked them to come and teach them,” Ani Dechi explained.

Kalu Rinpoche is the root guru of the Buddhists who come to the Annandale center. He and Lama Norhla founded the center, known as the Kagyu Pema Kunchab, in 1982. Kalu Rinpoche he has since passed away, but Lama Norhla still oversees the center from its affiliate in Wappingers Falls. Kalu Rinpoche also founded other centers in New York and in Boston.

Ani Dechi explained that these centers were established to teach people in America. “It is actually a Sanskrit word and literally means ‘law’ but it’s interpreted to mean ‘teaching’ or ‘path.’”

The basic belief of Buddhism is that life is suffering. However, this suffering can be escaped when one reaches enlightenment. To reach enlightenment, one must follow the path, or dharma, that the Buddha set out for mankind.

“We have one main practice that we do which is called Chenrezig, this is the name of a deity of compassion. Kalu Rinpoche gave us [this practice] to learn how to realize the spontaneous, compassionate nature of our minds through meditating on this mantra.”

— Ani Dechi

Student population changes with semesters

by Greg Giaccio

Do the lines in Kline Commons seem much shorter this semester? They should. According to the registrar’s office, there was a net loss of about 50 students since last semester. This was due to the usual trend of students transferring, dropping out, studying abroad or taking a leave of absence for the spring semester.

The current population of the school is 966 students, down from 987 last fall. Students who were unable to attend in the fall. The usual draw for the January entrance time is between 20 and 30 students.

“Student population changes with semesters” by Greg Giaccio

before they could register for classes. Some students still haven’t met that immunization requirement. So, while these students may be on campus, they are not being recorded in the school’s statistics.

The new semester needn’t be looked at as a net loss in students. It could be thought of as a gain of some new ones. 26 freshmen and transfers from eight different states and two countries have started to attend Bard this semester.

“The January entrance time is not something we actively recruit for,” explained Mary Backlund, director of admissions for the college. It is more of a “catch-all period” for students who were unable to attend in the fall. The usual draw for the January entrance time is between 20 and 30 students.
Another View

Ineffable Effrontery

by Ephraim Glenn Colter

For the umpteenth time someone-a woman-asked me, Are you ready to go to war? I just looked at her, wanting to wipe that smile off her face and avoid the smug excuse of a draft-avoidance. Bodily harm occurs to my vivid imagination more and more frequently for this sort of incon siderate psychological violence.

Recently I was looking at eye-candy, thinking about don't-the nasty, but really just don't that sexual censorship thing. You know what I mean. We all play that. A friend summed up the Bard scenario in one fatal swoop of spontaneous sarcasm: "How do people get sex on this campus? If I were single I just don't know what I'd do," she said flabbergasted. A city girl with a long-time long-distance lover-affair. She then looked around the room with this rather sympathetic for the rest of us. Chase charity. Then the conversation among comrades — sexual dissidents, accidental tourists, people of color—brought its full attention (a rather short shortsighted span) on the word horny. It sounds like you just want to get off when we concluded that actually you just want to get it on. But the important things is—we were talking about sex at Bard (no big deal, who doesn't—from faculty to freshman.)

Bard women, supposedly, are famous for their quality and quantity, whereas Bored men—ops! I meant Bard of course—are infamous. (Frankly, I have to admit a bias: I'm a closet Lesbian.) Nonetheless, there's so much lascivious lechery and list going on! Uh! Lots of ooos and ahhs, sighs and-suffering. But women are looking for more than a man who's Safe, Straight, and Discreet. And dissidents are looking for more than a man who's Safe, who's Safe, who's Safe, who's Safe, who's Safe, who's Safe, and Discreet (many of them/us are hiding-and-seeking WOMEN). A good man is hard to find.

And a good woman is ever harder to keep down. Know what I mean? So the empirical we settle for nice boys and girls. (Eye-candy...I've never heard so much — and such! — innovative vocabulary for sexual cavorting!) They're either sexually-assaulted (the most frustrating number of these little inconveniences), exploring their sexuality (Don't you just love being friends in after-relationships with one of them little innocent bystanders?), compulsively neurotic (perpetual PMs—psychosomatic insecurity—or benign insanity) or close friends like siblings you privately, incestuously, guilt-trip them in to the local authorities and pressed on. But women are never heard so much — and such! — innovative vocabulary for sexual cavorting!!) They're either sexually-assaulted (the most frustrating number of these little inconveniences), exploring their sexuality (Don't you just love being

...to recording books on tape for the vision impaired

The Valentines are a group of reproductive rights and AIDS education advocates from Bard College, is sending 250 Valentines to their Dutchess County Legislator, John Kennedy. The Valentines all contain the message "Happy 8 Valentine's Day John; 100,000 people have died of AIDS, and yet you continue to oppose money for safe sex education and reproductive health care. The people of Dutchess County need accurate information about AIDS;... as well as a full range of affordable reproductive health care services." The Valentines were all individually signed by students and community members who oppose Kennedy's repeated attempts to block funding of AIDS education and women's health care programs.

"We want to make him aware that there are a lot of people who are unhappy with what he does. Dutchess County needs these programs" said one student, Mary Ann Hutt. In the past, Kennedy has opposed sex education, AIDS education, rape and incest intervention, birth control programs. "We though the Valentines would be more effective than a regular petition. It's hard to ignore — no one can turn down a Valentine," said Sarah Neilson, Coalition member. Dave Rolf, who initiated the project, said "Valentine's Day isn't just about romantic love, it's about loving and supporting one's fellow human beings. Mr. Kennedy needs to know that one doesn't love and support one's fellow human being by letting them die of preventable diseases.

Fight Apathy!

in a variety of ways ranging from tutoring prisoners....to battered women's services
...to working at a local animal shelter
...to recording books on tape for the vision impaired

Contact Harriet Schwartz in the Career Development office, 758-7539

Volunteer with C.O.G.

February 15, 1991

The Bard Observer

PANDEX'S ETURN

by ZZZX

I began struggling to think of ways to stop him. The important thing to remember about PANDEX is that he is kind of a black hole. The first letters of words around him tend to disappear, though the word doesn't make any sense, the next one goes away too and so on, until there are no letters left, at which time it becomes nonexistent. The rest stop I was in was beginning to spin around in anticipation of being a stop. Fortunately I was prepared. I had studied PANDEX THE OLLFISH earlier at the advice of TOTO. The note said, as I recall, "PANDEX is coming. Prepare your defenses-.—TOTO." What I wanted to know is how his forces prevented destruction of their tanks. What they used is a letter generator. This throws out another "Y" in front of "tank (tanks)", which promptly disappears with PANDEX's arrival.

I turned on my own variant of this (the ZZZYXgenerator) and started driving. Although the ZZZYXmobile would be safe for a while, soon there would be no roads left; they'd all be ads (which are much harder to drive on). Using the ZZZYXscope, I noticed that PANDEX was in the lead tank. I stopped on the gas. Pulling up next to him, I rolled down my window. "PANDEX," I screamed, "you're a no good useless piece of banana bread. I spit on you. P-i-s-s-o-n if I realised the nature of my attack, it was to late to stop him. In a fraction of a second, he found himself trapped in a large pit. He couldn't even use his power, because if the pit disappeared, he would be with it. Left without a leader, his forces soon surrendered. I turned them to the local authorities and pressed on to the east.

On my ride back east, I soon saw that I was going to pass through Evansville, Indiana. I have a close friend down there, and I thought I'd stop in to see her. When I got to the town, I noticed that there was no one to be found. I thought this was odd; not even at the University of Indiana could I find someone and school should be in session. Finally, I just headed for my friend's house. When I got there, she was hiding in the basement. Upon my request, she told me what was happening. A local priest had predicted an earthquake for that day. He said that the only way of appeasing the gods was to sacrifice the follower of one of his opponents. As I was digesting this news, there was a knock at the door. "This is the police! Come out, ZZZX, we know you're in there." It looks like he found his rival follower.

TO BE CONTINUED...
Hey guys, check out those Skinny Legs

by John J. Dalton

Groundrules: There are no Food Rules. This reviewer goes by the inner voices of mind, stomach, muse and palate, without regard to existing normative constraints. Any given item on any given menu will be selected solely according to the moment's will. Where vegetarian dishes are emphasized, this wildly omnivorous reviewer relies heavily upon Daphne Ross, whose valued opinions will be shared here without her permission. Reserved are the right to review the restaurants of friends and enemies with the honest hope that one might get good food, drink and service from both without partiality; the right to review without motivation other than the deepening of the spirit, the thickening of the torso, the loosening of the tongue; and, the sharing of the experience for better of worse, fearlessly accomplished. Comments welcomed, as long as they are in writing, and conform to my own opinion.

Rating standards: Stars equal oogies. There is a thing called a chocolate Oogie, and this appealing little morsel rolls well on the literary tongue as well. Accordingly, anything in this column is a very desirable thing for a reviewed establishment to extract from its menu. Few oogies are as good as they get. Donuts, on the other hand are like dead things to this reviewer, so watch out for donuts; they are to be avoided. Four whole donuts means, this place you don't let them take your dead body to. "+" signs and "-" signs are interchangeable quarter-oogies. Two oogies and a "-" is the same thing as three oogies and three "-" signs, if you follow me.

Food For Thought, 9 Mill Street, Rhinebeck, NY 12572/914/876-2749. Opposite the Beekman Arms, this minuscule little deli promises chilly blasts this winter each time its door opens on its few tables; but it seems a small price to pay if one considers what's on the table. The food is very good, specializing in a gastronomically eclectic assortment of sandwiches and salads; and, even though it is possible to get these as "to-go" options, I recommend to do this, there is a calm, almost cool ambience in the table area which whispers to one to sit down and relax over a lingering meal. Simply accomplished with bright displays of mixed color plateware, gently pastel wall tiles and two appealing food display cases, this is a place to bring the Gazette Advertiser, Bard Observer or NY Sunday Times as you ease into the good eats.

The service is friendly, if slow; however, that may be because you have enjoyed the take-out option several times. In sandwiches, both the fresh roast lamb with garlic on dark bread and the fresh roast beef with horseradish held heaping portions of punitiously prepared and sliced meat with romaine lettuce and Mayonnaise. Many oogies for both. The food is that good.

Today I sampled the new potato salad option. A Portland-THOUGHT touches with fresh thyme and sweet red pepper mayonnaise ($4.60/lb.); and, for those aficionados of China Cola (for Daphne) for $4.75. It is a large, well-chosen sample of yappie brews. What would make it a true four-oogie hangout for this reviewer would be a little wine option, perhaps showcasing some of the splendid local varietals. And, the addition of a little deli fills a big need. Three and three-fourths oogies would be four in an eyelink with the addition of a wine list.
New video release not for the squeamish

by Matthew J. Lee and David Draper

Matt: So you're stuck on a weekend looking to rent a movie and most of the videos you wanted to see were checked out about four and a half minutes before you walked into the video store. Your eyes have scanned back and forth over the remaining copy of a new release, "The Adventures of Ford Fairlane." You've heard about the lead actor, Andrew Dice Clay, and perhaps you're turned off by his schtick. However, your dilemma is whether or not to rent this movie, and the answer I can give you is: maybe. If you're turned off by Andrew Dice Clay, do not rent this movie.

I would first like to point out that I do not consider myself sexist or racist, and Andrew Dice Clay is. However, Clay is not the reason to see or not rent this movie. The directorial job of Renny Harlin, the scriptwriting and the rest of the assembled cast are what makes this movie work. The movie is enjoyable because it realizes that it is a movie; the characters know they are only actors. When Clay gives a lady a 555-1234 phone number and she questions that she thought 555 numbers were only in the movies, his reply is "What do you think this is?" It's like watching a big practical joke that we're all in on.

Renny Harlin, who also directed "Die Hard II," gave us some decent shots and must have had a few explosives left over from John McClane's latest adventure. He showed that, given time and patience, he could become a directorial force. The camera gave the long shots at the right points and its operator knew when to use a close-up. Some of the shots, however, were too quick and blurry, making for a distorted picture.

The cast assembled was as talented as it was wild and varied. Ed O'Neill, Morris Day, and Gilbert Gottfried are just a few of those who lent their talents to the movie. Gottfried, for instance, played a shock radio host patterned after real life shock DJ Howard Stern. Robert Englund, who played Freddy Kreuger in the Nightmare on Elm Street series, parodies himself as the psycho who cannot be killed. The movie plays on what the actors are known for in real life and satirizes them.

The plot is disappointingly thin. The movie is at its best when it is doing short sketches rather than when it tries to connect the story. The movie is about a rock and roll detective hired to look into a murder in the rock and roll industry. The question is: would I first like to point out that I do not consider myself sexist or racist, and Andrew Dice Clay is.

I would not do it — that's painfully obvious — but in seeing how the movie progresses and moves to the conclusion I realize that it may not be politically correct to review a movie which stars Andrew Dice Clay; however, as stated before, he is not the main reason to rent the movie. The movie is entertaining to watch on its own as it satirizes and parodies our way of life, but if you are put off by Clay, by all means, avoid it.

Dave: It was quite a summer for Renny Harlin. Not only did he get to blow up an entire 747 and rake in the big bucks for "Die Hard II," but he also got to direct one of America's most maligned and least amusing stand-up comedians in "The Adventures of Ford Fairlane." Now out on videotape.

To be honest, I didn't really want to see this movie when it first came out. I've never cared for Andrew Dice Clay, whose stage (and screen) presence is nowhere near as likable as Eddie Murphy's, and whose routine is about as funny as watching a pit bull savage a nun. However, I had little else to do, and a friend offered to pay my way in. For free, the movie's not an altogether unpleasant experience.

In fact, I rather enjoyed the film, to my surprise. However, I cannot recommend it in good faith. The film plays off of Clay's obnoxious personality too much for those who hate Clay out of hand, but it also parodies the Diceman, much to the chagrin of his die-hard fans. I just tried to ignore Clay as much as possible and enjoyed the rest of the movie.

Actually, the movie itself is pretty standard fare, with enough explosions, bloodshed, rock and roll, and half naked women to keep the sensitive movie-goer's attention. The plot? Ugh, see, he's this detective and he has to find this girl, and this kid's dad who has this ring and uh... Well, the plot's not terribly important, as the film unfolds mainly as a series of loosely connected scenes. Still, the supporting cast lets you know that the whole thing's just for fun.

Noteworthy is Wayne Newton, yes, THE Wayne Newton, as the head villain. While he lacked the manic charm of Nicholson, and couldn't shout nearly as loudly as Al Pacino, he brought a certain slickness to his role, and made a nice contrast for Clay's crude hero. On the flip side, Robert Englund gets some quick laughs in his "No Time for Freddy Kreuger" role as the unkillable psychotic.

But on the whole, the movie is an enjoyable enough fare, with one of the most uproarious closing lines I can remember in recent films, so if you're in the video store, and you can suck your guts into paying for it, you might as well check out "Ford Fairlane." Trust me, you could do worse.

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For further information contact
Bonnie Gilman, ext. 496
Sotterly Hall Room 107
(Estimated delivery time for orders is 14 weeks)

*The power to be your best*
Three new administrators at Stevenson Gym

by Jody Apap

Three new positions have been filled at the Stevenson Gymnasium over the winter break. Kristen Hall has been named the new Intramural Director for the Spring semester. Along with the usual duties of intramurals, Kris will also teach a non-credit squash class and administrate the fencing program. A weekly Sports Information News Letter will now be written and distributed by Kris for the purpose of informing other schools, as well as Bard, of the happenings in Bard's intercollegiate athletic programs.

Robbie Wood has assumed the new position of Fitness Room Director with the primary duties of improving the staff through speakers and new information in the area of fitness and health. Although his duties will primarily focus on the Weight and Fitness Room, he will also coordinate health and fitness with the other aspects of the Gymnasium's regular programs.

In the Aquatics area, Ed Kennedy has entered the scene as an intern, primarily to learn how to administrate the various aquatics programs, including organizing Bard's intramurals as well as supervising an area youth swimming program that will be held through the Spring.

Fencers fare well at Bard's first intercollegiate match

by Jody Apap

Bard journeyed on Saturday Feb. 2nd to Fairfield University to compete in the school's very first fencing match as a team.

Both the men's and women's teams did extremely well, considering the lack of experience. The men fought to a draw, 8-8, against Fairfield University, while dropping to Trinity College, 8-1. The women lost a close 8-8, a draw is awarded without any points and 11 boards, Alford picked up 9 rebounds. The women, although losing both matches of the day, were more consistent, with no individual shutouts for the day.

Against Fairfield, Ondine Wilhelmsen, Angela Jancius, and Christina Wilson all came away at 2-2, while Cindy Borander fell 1-3.

Against Trinity College, the women were led by Borander at 2-2, with the rest at 1-3.

Dribblers lose a close one at home

by Jody Apap

On Monday, the Blazers jumped out to an early 18-4 lead, but couldn't hold on as Vassar pulled off a four point victory. The Blazers were led by Nick Sampson and Sean Alford, scoring a combined 29, but five of Bard's first half points. Sampson finished the game with 29 points and 11 boards, Alford piled on another 36 with 9 rebounds. Near the end of the first half, Bard was nursing an eight point lead, but a series of quick and costly turnovers helped Vassar come back to end the half with a one point lead.

The entire second half was close, with neither team leading by more than eight points, and in the last 30 seconds the game could have gone either way. With 27 seconds left, Vassar with a one point lead, and Bard with the ball, Vassar put up a fine display of defense, knocking the ball out of bounds twice. With 11 seconds left, Vassar stole the ball and broke up court to score and draw a foul from Jamel Kendricks. The free-throw was nailed, along with the last nail that sealed the victory for Vassar.

Bard squash team earns first win

by Matt Phillips and Jody Apap

In a decisive 9-0 win, the men's squash team clearly dominated while defeating Colgate's understaffed squad. The Blazers looked confident on arrival at the battleground while mentally preparing for the long-awaited encounter.

Benett Lieberman, the team's top seed, had fire in his eyes until Coach Dan Paris doused his flames. Paris informed the intense Lieberman that Colgate was unable to field a team. A reliable source has informed the Observer that the number four seed, Roger Paul, was seen "in a fit of anger, clutching a squash ball, while uncontrollably slamming his racket against the floor of the otherwise empty court." Paul was heard to be saying, "I've spent years preparing for this moment, AREGHHBBMEH!!!!!!"

Meanwhile in a more jubilant display of emotion the Ladwa cousins were seen high-fiving, Rush Ladwa apparently exclaimed in triumph, "Word, man, we dogged them! We bad, we bad!"

Dan Paris shook his head in disbelief of his team's antics, but was pleased with the 9-0 victory by forfeit, nonetheless.

Later that week...

The men traveled to Steven's Tech and when faced with actually getting on the court with an opponent, the team buckled under the intense pressure. The Blazers lost 9-0, with the lone victory going to 9th seed Amir Latif winning three straight games to shut his opponent out.

The team was overmatched, winning only three games outside of Latif's victory.

By the way, we heard that 9th seed Matt Phillips cries when he loses. —ed.
1987 Toyota Tercel, silver-grey 2-door automatic, aircondition, stereo, power steering, 24,000 miles. Call Linda Anderson, Bard alumna, (212) 645-5442 after 6:00 pm. $4000 or reasonable offer.

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Pig soup.

Tiny tiny tiny shoes

Tiny tiny tiny a million more tinnies

Tiny tiny- HUD

Per­sonalize your Valentine's Day with a card from Mead.

February 15, 1991
The Bard Observer

Valentine Personalals

---

Take me out! Take me out! —K.H.

I've never been dipped.—Liturge.

For a chance at burning love— you amaze me with your eyes. —the mushy onesome.

Perfect extremely tiny at all registered events. Call 645-5442 after 6:00 pm.

I'm still alive, but I haven't time to write you properly.

This is my first time, so, uh, do you mind if I take some notes?

It's what we have to wash after dinner. — A math prof

Kak. 'Nevah happin. — A creative writer.

I hate anonymous personalals.

They who do the final proof have the opportunity to read all the mush that come before. Don't anyone dare edit me out, at least not the legit stuff.

I will not yield to continued ones for the sake of cutsey googoo.

I voted for the tiny and another tiny thanked me.

Yes, I too thought that was the end of the Liliputians. I didn't write them down.

Love me. Please. Box 174.

Is there anything you can do to me? —Eddie

Noone can make you feel inferior without your consent. —One Hour

I hope that you are feeling better now. —Ouija.

My honey is sweet. — Eddie

I know you have a Valentine's Day but your getting one anyway. If you like we'll use it for kindling.

To my friend at CAMBRIDGE: I hope that got your attention and you aren't just reading the sports page. You're missed and many say Hill Freezing as usual.

No offense is taken against the base:ment of the Liliputians.

Does this ever end? I'm starving.


Your best friend, Fall 1988

She Being Brand, Happy Valentines Day. I'm glad you stuck around.

Love, Babyface

My tiny tiny tiny heart tingly for you.

Ms. Nature Woman—

I don't know why you dislike me. I just want to let you know that there's no hard feelings. Happy Valentine's Day and Be you-know-who's.

Love, Mr. Frog

A.R. & J.S.

If they only had a brain.

With love, C.E.

Lori, you big galoot, Tell that sexy cat of yours to be my valentine.

—Jacob Winnebag
Letter to Bush

continued from page 1

forebears arrived; the people vari­
ously called American Indians, Amer­
indians, Native Americans, etc.
Mr. Hussein has indeed used chemi­
cal weapons against people within his own borders. He has also taken the land of Kuwait by force, with much brutality exacted upon its citi­zens. These incidents have hap­pened and are, to borrow a word from James Baker, "regrettable."
However, not that long ago, the government in Washington had a
goal in mind: get the "Indians" out of "our" land. This is to say, the face of the fact that these "immigrants" were people who had been here for several centuries, before Europeans knew about what would become North America. Various European power­ful leaders claimed land in the name of this crown or other, enslaving and killing as they came. We, as a nation, inherited some of this land from Great Britain, and bought some of it from France and Spain. This is to say that we are now in possession of stolen property.

Picture this: someone coming into your apartment or house pointing a gun at you and claiming your dwell­ing as "their" property. Does it sound ludicrous, doesn't it? Wouldn't you feel outraged? That's illegal, isn't it?

Yet this is exactly how the land that most of us live on was claimed. The people in Washington who are the same gnosious, lovely people who gave the Original Americans a few patry acres here and there in ex­change for the whole of the rest of the country, are now the ones complain­ing about a man halfway around the world performing what is basically the same maneuver.

If there could be any justification for such an action, I believe that Mr. Hussein has the better reason, how­ever poor; he owes the Kuwaitis a large sum of money for his war with Iran. It is also interesting that there were no specific borders to speak of in the middle east until the British drew them up. The border between Kuwait and Iraq was literally pen­cilled in by one day a British official on his map, and enforced from then on, despite its arbitrariness. Likewise, Israel was created from nothing by the west from land which it stole.

Our first was the arithmology of quality dirty-handed. Great Britain and
France have a three-hundred-year record of taking things; Africa, the Mid­dle East, Asia, Australia, the better part of the Americas and the islands between. Most of all these areas are now struggling with themselves at some level, whether in open civil war or simply opposing their citi­zens because of the arbitrary borders drawn by the west. As it is clear, especially in Africa, the borders drawn by the colonials mean very little in terms of the divisions between peoples actually live.

More recently, the Israelis took what was not theirs in the Six Day War, tripping their territorial holdings. They were ordered to give the West Bank and other lands back, and did not. They are consequently paying for their greed in terms of the intifada. A people was arbitrarily displaced and they are now doing what is predictable: getting angry and fighting in response to not being treated as human beings. It must be noted that while the Jewish residents of the West Bank and Occupied terri­tories are being issued gas masks in response to the threat of Saddam Hussein, Palestinians are not. This, to me, is more in line with killing the Palestinians outright.

I have question which, in my opin­ion, has not been asked enough: why is the "situation" currently evolving with Iraq a "situation" at all for us? I have yet to see any proof of the "vital interest" for which we are supposedly in that area of the world. Neither the oil of Kuwait nor that of Iran is of particular importance to us. It would be of even less importance if we had any sort of energy policy. In the recent words of a former Saudi Oil Minister while describing US energy policy, "The policy is there is no policy."

If there were to be a request from our allies for our assistance in the protection of their interests there, with the provision of payment for our services by them, I would have less of a problem with our forces being where they are now. However, this is not the case. We are carrying the bulk of the expense of this action, and will absorb the bulk of the casualties among the allies. We have taken the most strongly "moral" position of any of the nations, and yet we have absolutely nothing to gain by this action. This leaves one with the obvious question of why we are there.

The answer consists of two words: Your. "Our" taxpayers can't even the psychotic desire of one man to look "tough" to lead us into what may end up being a bloody, long struggle.

Listen to your language; it is that of a bully, not seeking peace, but look­ing for a fight. You are not the sav­ior of some oppressed people, but an ill­spoken man whose actions are be­yond any sense. The man who wanted to be the "Education President" is showing a shocking lack of logic and historical knowledge in this, the most volatile situation this nation has faced in the past twenty-five years. Not only should we not use force in the Persian Gulf, but we should not have even considered the situation there as important to us, because it is not.

In conclusion, I would like to say that if we truly wish for peace to come to this world, I think that we must stop playing games. We must stop approving of and disapproving of governments and attempting to topple them or fortify them as we see

continued on page 11
Letters

Letter from the White House

Sent by: Whitehouse Mailroom,
January 10, 1991

Dear Reader,

This is to bring to your attention a letter from the White House. The letter is signed by President Bush and addresses the issue of Iraq's aggression in the Middle East. The letter discusses the need for international action to halt Saddam Hussein's aggression and the importance of the United Nations in resolving conflicts.

Sincerely,

President Bush

February 15, 1991

The Bard Observer

Objections to Operation Desert Storm

continued from page 10

The Observer

Forum

Corrections

To the Observer

In regard to your February 8 article on the first student forum, we would like to offer a few significant corrections.

1. The number of attendees was not 800, as reported, but rather approximately 100. We apologize for this oversight.

2. The opening speaker, Dr. Jane Goodall, did not speak about her experiences in the Congo, as reported, but rather focused on the importance of conservation and the role of the United Nations in addressing environmental issues.

3. The final speaker, Terry Haasfield, did not discuss the impact of Operation Desert Storm on the lives of veterans, as reported, but rather focused on the importance of the role of the United Nations in addressing conflicts.

We apologize for any confusion caused by these errors and appreciate your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

The Observer
Scottish Country Dancing:
Scottish country dancing will take place on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays of each month, beginning on February 6, 7:30 to 9:30 PM in Manor House. New dancers welcome. For further information, call 876-3341.

Bard College/Community Chorus:
The chorus is, as always, open to all members of the community. Rehearsals of Bach’s motet “Jesu, Meine Freude” and his Cantata No. 4, entitled “Christ lag in Todesbanden,” begin Thursday, February 7 at 7:00 PM in Bard Hall. Students may obtain one credit. Vocal scores are available prior to 3:00 PM on February 7 or at the first rehearsal in the bookstore. No audition is necessary. If you think you’d enjoy singing, come.

Meditations for Peace:
6:00 PM in the chapel. Contact Bruce Chilton for more information.

Yoga Courses:
An introductory Yoga course will be taught on Thursday nights 6:00 to 7:30 PM in Olin 204, starting February 14. This course is open to the entire Bard Community. It will meet for 8 sessions, and the fee is $20. Continuing Yoga will be taught on Tuesday nights 5:30 to 7:00 PM in Olin 204, starting February 12. It is for those who participated in the introductory course, or have similar experience. It will meet for 10 sessions, and the fee is $35. Classes will be taught by Ben Vromen who received teacher training at the Kripalu Center and has been teaching at Bard since 1985. Those interested, please contact Vromen through campus mail, Box 118. Ben will be available in Olin 204, Thursday, February 7, 6-7 PM to answer questions and for registration.

Papier Mache:
Students, Faculty and Staff are invited to submit poetry, short fiction and essays in French to Bard’s new French Magazine, Papier Mache. Submissions should be mailed to Prof. Braut or O. Chilton by March 15. The writers’ name should not appear on the work, instead an index card should be attached to each submission with the writer’s name and phone number and the title of the work. Bon courage!

Italian Table:
The first gathering of the Friends of Leonardo will take place on February 20 in the College Room of Kline Commons, and thereafter every Wednesday evening from 5:30 to 7:00 PM. Of campus students welcome. They should state their destination at the door and/or phone Pola Chapelle at 876-6116. You don’t have to be Italian! All Welcome! Coraggio!

New Blum Show: Multiples of Multiples
The show will include prints from the Edith C. Blum Art Institute Collection. The show will run through May 27. The Blum is open noon to 5:00 PM every day except Tuesdays.

First S.M.A.S.H. Meeting:
SMASH (Students Mobilized Against Sadaam Hussein) will be meeting on Thursday, 7:30 PM at Kline Commons.

Senior Concert:
A senior concert of works by William Dechant, including chamber works, songs, and Toothbucket, will take place on Wednesday, February 27 at 8:00 PM in Bard Hall. All are welcome.

Support Group:
A support group for friends or relatives of people directly involved in the Gulf War will meet every Sunday at 7:30 in the Chapel. Non-political and non-denominational. For information call 778-1505 or contact Ginger Grabb in the Chaplains Office.

Dances, Shows and Movies:
Films are shown in the Student Center at 7:00 PM and 9:00 PM. 7:00 PM is non-smoking. Other events are at the times listed in the Student Center.

February 18: Steve Key
February 19: La Belle et la Bete 7:00 PM in Olin 202 (Part of the French Film Series)
February 21: Bird (Movie)
February 25: All Four Fun 9:00, a 50 year retrospective of Black Music. (A Black History month event sponsored by the Dean of Student’s Office)

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<td>Morning</td>
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Train Runs:
4:15 PM for the 6:51 Train
6:36 PM for the 7:36 Train
8:00 PM for the 9:11 Train
Leave from Kline, goes to the Rhinecliff Station
6:00 PM for the 7:13 Train
Leave from Kline, goes to the Poughkeepsie Station

12:00 NOON Deadline for all calendar submissions for the issue covering March 2 Through March 8, 1991 due in the Dean of Student’s office