

OBSERVER

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My way of joking is to tell the truth.
It's the funniest joke in the world.
- George Bernard Shaw

Students, Stuart, and others volunteer in D.C. for spring break

by Tom Hickerson

Dean of the College Stuart Levine and Vice President Dimitri Papadimitriou usually work straight through spring break, but this year was an exception.

Levine, Papadimitriou, and a number of students participated in the Alternative Spring Break, a service project for students helping St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Washington D.C. The Alternative Spring Break was coupled with the Mentor Program, which also took students to Washington D.C. to explore careers in organizations as diverse as the Foreign Service Institute and the *Washington Post's* offices.

Both the Alternative Spring Break and the Mentor Program were brought about with the help of the Career Development Office and the Director of Fundraising, Teri Tomasciewicz. Last year, the Alternative Spring Break took students out to Great Oak Farms



in Appalachia on a grant from the National Association of Episcopal Colleges. At that time, Levine and Papadimitriou expressed their interest in going.

Harriet Schwartz and the Career Development Office began planning the Mentor Program around January, asking alumni in the Washington D.C. area to either house students or sponsor site visits.

The students and administration involved in the Alternative Spring Break stayed free of charge at the dormitories in Mount Vernon College in Washington D.C. The Mentor Program students stayed with various alumni. "[The alumni] were really wonderful," said Mentor student Danielle Gostanian. "They made the trip enjoyable and made us feel at home."

The students working in Saint Stephen's were put to a number of tasks, including preparing and serving over four hundred meals to the homeless, washing walls, painting, and laying down a concrete walkway. Tomasciewicz noted that while the students were originally put off by doing "grunt

work," they also went to a shelter with students from other colleges during the evening to spend time with the homeless.

"The staff was extremely grateful," said Tomasciewicz. "They could not do what we did without paying quite a bit." Tomasciewicz went on to say that by letting the students do the more "mundane" work, they freed up the staff at the church so they could "focus on their programs and help people without having to worry about those [mundane] types of problems."

Participants in the Mentor Program toured the offices of the Foreign Service Institute, the AIDS Education Program of the American Red Cross and the offices of the *Washington Post*. They also spent a half-day with a Bard alumnus one-on-one, tailored to their particular needs and purposes. Freshman math major Rob Cutler worked with engineer and consultant Dan Brassard, while Gostanian, a senior psychology major, followed Sandra Aistars, member of the Joint Baltic Committee, on the job.

Schwartz also arranged with

alumni to sponsor several get-togethers, to which both the community service and the Mentor students were invited. One was a dinner sponsored by Lisa Newmann '75, who owns a bakery. The other was sponsored by Wayne Horvitz, which was a large party inviting all the alumni in the Washington D.C. area.

"On the whole, it was a positive experience," said Mentor student Renan Erkut. "I wish that the mentors were suggested a specific agenda...I felt that the mentors did not know what to do with the mentees when they got there."

"It's more helpful for non-seniors," added Gostanian, who went on to say that students could explore internship possibilities and "generate ideas for future employment opportunities."

Levine and Papadimitriou both helped work on the service projects at Saint Stephen's, and, while Papadimitriou had to leave after a day, Levine stayed three out of the four days with the students. "It worked out quite well," he said. "The students did a wonderful job... and we had a lot of fun, actually. The whole concept of an Alternative Spring Break was... to get out and make people's lives better." ♣



Work-Study wages remain the same

Comptroller Charles Crimmins has announced to the student body that, while the United States minimum wage was increased, the Bard College will not raise work-study students' wages.

A more detailed article will be in next week's *Observer*.

There will be a meeting held this Thursday at 6:00 pm in the Kline Committee rooms for all concerned work-study students. ♣

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"Women's Studies" grows to include men

by Kristan Hutchison

March might have been dubbed "Male recognition month" at Bard. The change of "Women's Studies" to "Gender Studies" was announced March 13. Five days later, Dean Rocco Capraro of Hobart College spent two days on campus talking about a Men's Studies program he developed at Hobart.

The timing of the events was coincidental, according to Professor Michele Dominy, Co-director with Nancy Leonard of the Gender Studies program. The decision to change to Gender Studies was made in February after several years of discussion in the department.

The switch of name represents a

broadening in the department to examine gender "as a fundamental category of analysis in all the humanistic and scientific disciplines and in the theory and practice of the arts," reads the memo announcing the change.

Gender Studies will retain the feminist perspective and focus on women which Women's Studies had. "I would be very wary if the change of the name to gender studies and the increased interest in men's studies shifted the focus of the program away from women," said Dominy.

However, there will be room for examination of male issues. Dominy says they are considering a course concerned with masculinity for next semester, which

Women are seen as sex objects. Men are seen as success objects.

—Dean Rocco Capraro
Director of Men's Program at Hobart College

would be taught from a feminist perspective.

Dean Capraro described a similar course he teaches at Hobart College when he met with Dominy and other faculty. The "Men and Masculinity" class at Hobart is part of a program Capraro founded six years ago with the purpose of giving men a better understanding of gender issues, including masculinity, from a feminist perspective.

"Men are made, not born. Masculinity is a social product of men's environment," said Capraro. "Masculinity is developed over the course of a man's life." Typical patterns of socialization are examined in the course, such as Little League baseball, fraternities, corporate structure, and fatherhood.

The course discusses masculinity in all its variations, such as race, age, sexual preference, and

nationality. "There isn't one male experience, there are male experiences," said Capraro.

Though students have not yet faced many of the issues the course covers, such as fatherhood, Capraro feels college is an appropriate time for the course because the male students are in the process of developing their masculinity. "They spend a great deal of time proving to themselves and the men around them that they are men," said Capraro.

Capraro emphasized that a men's program must come from men. "Men are socialized by other men and by their peers," he said. "If changes are going to happen on campus it will come from there." ✻

Bard professor directs American musical in Moscow

by Kristan Hutchison

Theater Professor Christopher Markle is directing a typical American musical comedy in a very atypical situation. On March 31, Markle flew to Moscow to direct *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* in Moldavian at the Moscow Art Theater.

Markle was invited to Moscow three weeks ago by Oleg Tabakov, director of the prestigious Moscow Theater Conservatory. Tabakov also started the Oleg Tabakov Moscow Theater-Studio which performed a Russian play called *My Big Land* at the Bard on March 1.

Tabakov began the project which Markle will be working on four years ago, when he hand-picked a class of students for the conservatory from remote villages in Moldavia. The students which Tabakov brought back to Moscow from Moldavia are now the fourth-year class, and will be the cast for the production of *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. "This production will eventually go back to Moldavia,



Professor Chris Markle is directing a play to be performed in Moldavia.

where they are building a theater," said Markle.

Markle's knowledge of Russian is scant, so he will have to work through a translator. He believes his previous experience as an American assistant to a foreign

director will make it easier. "I think I have some awareness of what is translatable," said Markle.

Markle is particularly pleased with the chance to go to the U.S.S.R. because it is a country that fascinates him, though he

cannot pin down why. "I love Chekov and Tolstoy and I've always been interested in Russian history... Maybe it's my Serbo-Croatian background on my mother's side. I've always been interested in autocratic systems. Maybe it's because I want to be emperor."

From March 30 to May 1, when Markle is gone, Margaret Perry will be teaching Markle's three classes and directing the spring play. Perry and Markle met as co-directors of *Romeo and Juliet* in New York City.

Though he will be gone nearly a month, Markle feels the experi-



ence is important for him as a professional and as a teacher. "I think every professional experience is important because as an artist it proves that you can do what you teach," said Markle. "Working with students and then working with professionals feeds each other because with each of them you need a different kind of clarity."

"It's great that Bard can stretch itself to give me the flexibility to get away. It makes Bard a more attractive place for me to stay." ✻

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WHAT IS THIS?!? Another animal story

by Greg Giaccio

Bard and animals—the two seem to go hand in hand. Not only is there a dead bunny shrine in the woods and mysterious existential canines around Kline, but there are also reports of a secret animal burial ground in Preston. I, with plenty of time on my hands and blank space on my page, had a strong incentive to hunt down this rumor.

An anonymous informant informed me (as they are often called upon to do, hence the name) that Professor Clark Rodewald had complained of dead animals getting into the roof of his classroom. I investigated.

"It's happened a few times," Rodewald admitted. The only problem caused by the dead animals was the smell.

"It was so bad that there were several times I couldn't teach in there," Rodewald said. Buildings and Grounds quickly alleviated

the situation by "put[ting] some stuff that smelled as bad as the animals" up into the roof. The apparent strategy was that the smell from the man-made substance would make one quickly forget the odor of decomposition from the organic substance.

Professor Rodewald was unaware of the alleged animal burial ground theory. He noted that "it's not unheard of for squirrels to crawl into the eaves of buildings."

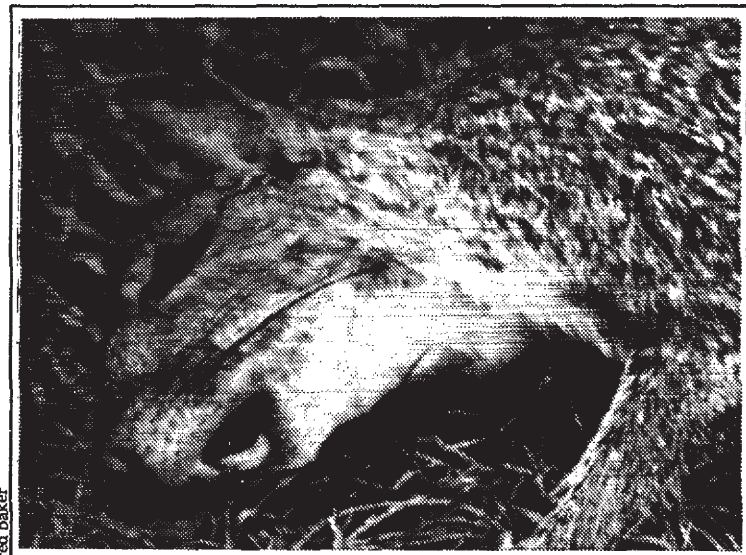
This is not an isolated incident. Professor Frank Oja has also had a small mammal die in the roof of his office. However, he is quick to add that it happened three years ago and was the only time it had happened in fifteen years.

Two reports of dead animals in Preston in fifteen years? Some might call it a nutty coincidence, but I saw something more in it. I contacted the leading authority on secret animal burial grounds and other wacky things, Dr. B. S. Allot.

"Secret animal burial grounds do exist," the doctor said. "It is a phenomenon unexplained by science, but some animals are mysteriously drawn to a place to wait around to die. A popular example is the secret elephant burial ground that was well documented by a Tarzan movie. Another example would be in Florida, where old members of the human species are often found waiting around to die."

However, Allot did say that secret burial grounds among smaller mammals are almost unheard of. The real cause was probably some kind of holistic aura found on the campus.

"There are definitely some weird happenings at Bard. Take that 'Hello, America' sculpture for example," remarked the doctor. "There is a sort of mystical connection about this place, a sort of monolith like the one from the movie *2001: A Space Odyssey*, only it draws small mammals and other



This squirrel was overwhelmed a few months ago by sexual innuendo.

things without much mental capacity."

This answered many questions, including the one that my family always asks about why I came to Bard. However, it did not answer the one about why small animals

died in the roof of Preston.

"They go in there to watch movies. However, they are not big Fellini fans, and are sometimes flooded with the sexual innuendo. This often kills them," said the doctor.

Photographer captures life on Navajo reservation

by Rebekah Klein

Have you ever wanted to have an inside eye to life on an Indian reservation? To be able to see how it really is for a relocated culture?

A show of photographs by Karen Marshall, sponsored by the Bard Multicultural and Ethnic Studies Program, the Photography Department and the Dean of the College gives you this eye by exploring life on a Navajo reservation in Northern Arizona. The exhibit, "Caretakers of the Earth: Navajo Resistance and Relocation," is housed in the Olin

Atrium until April 6.

Karen Marshall is a free-lance photographer and a New York Foundation for the Arts Photography Fellow who has spent a lot

Marshall "seeks to witness a culture under change, under siege."

of time on a Navajo reservation in Northern Arizona. She has gained unusual access to the homes and lives of many Navajo families, some of whom have refused to obey a recent United States relo-

cation act. Her exhibit documents the experiences of members of the tribe who have refused to relocate, along with that of those who have complied with the order.

Through text and quotes positioned next to her photographs, color murals of the traditional Navajo land, Navajo sand paintings by Earl Tso and a recent audio installation, Marshall "seeks to witness a culture under change, under siege."

The exhibit "asks [viewers] to observe a time, a place, and a way of being. It attempts to exemplify a dilemma that is individual as well as global," Marshall said. "By documenting specific people in a crucial moment in history, it raises questions of global concern as the twentieth century finally intrudes upon this ancient, non-dominant culture."

Acoustic band welcomes spring

by Greg Giaccio

March 21 was the vernal equinox, which, for you astronomy fans, is one of the two days in the year when there are equal amounts of daylight and nighttime. This also means that spring has officially arrived. Don't the days seem longer already?

The Bard acoustical band Plum() Awful was on hand to perform a special equinox concert. They scheduled the concert for 5:58 a.m., the time that the sun rose, over by the 'Hello, America' sculpture. However, things soon fell apart.

Mike Stimac, the guitar player for the group, braved the cold to show up early. However, the rest of the group—flutist Cathy Collins and talker Dave Steinberg—were delayed by their efforts to bring a

chalkboard to the site. They arrived several minutes late, missing the official sunrise time. Undaunted, they played anyway.

"That was the best *Desert Song* ever," said Steinberg. The song was about a boy and his father who almost get stranded in the desert on a family outing. It was accompanied by occasional, non-rhythmic banging on the 'Hello, America' sculpture. Despite the quality of the music and the lack of audience, Stimac was forced to back out after the first song saying that "my hands are so cold that I am physically incapable of playing any more."

Collins and Steinberg toughed it out for a few more minutes to play an impromptu song called 'Calling the Aliens.' Steinberg played the song in the belief that Aliens built the 'Hello, America' sculpture and would come to retrieve it on the vernal equinox if called by Plum() Awful. This belief was apparently mistaken, as the aliens, not unlike most of Bard College, largely ignored the band at six in the morning on the vernal equinox.

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HERE'S WHAT YOU THINK

We would like to thank everyone who took time out to complete our campus-wide survey. We received 182 of the surveys. This is quite an encouraging response, as this number is well above the average number of responses to a survey, especially at Bard.

Some of you expressed confusion about certain aspects of the survey, and we apologize because this is probably our fault, as the intent of this survey is complex and we have never designed one before. The topics offered in the survey were not questions, but rather they were generalized issues suggested to us by students at our meetings. They were simply offered as suggestions and designed to simplify tabulation and consensus and not "sway" anyone's thinking on these matters. An "Others" category was included and used by many of you. The rating scale on the survey was apparently confusing, as some of you rated all of the issues with the same number, which in effect cancelled out your rating. This method was employed as a result of the many issues which we wanted to address.

SPANDEX'S RETURN

(Part the Sixteenth)

by ZZYXZ (David Steinberg)

"How can I be depressed when bean burritos are only \$0.69 at Taco Bell?" excerpt from the famed Collected Letters of ZZYXZ.

While I was being swept along the 74th Annual Senior Class Lemming March, I tried to take some time to wonder how I got in that situation. I was doing a good job tracing back being on this death march as far back as second grade. I then began to wonder if it meant that history was predetermined or if I was just reasoning cause from effect. While my conscious mind was mulling over this quandry, the rest of my brain was trying to figure out a way to survive to get an answer to this dilemma. It suddenly occurred to me - the ZZYXZraft. When I was at the SPHINX's tollbooth, he gave me this floatation device in addition to the map. As I did not see the relevance to that in the plot, I didn't bother mentioning it. (By the way, for those of you wondering why it is called the ZZYXZraft

MLK/Bard Organization survey results

These results (as listed in the table to the right) are very helpful to us in designing the specific focus of the intensive participatory seminar for later this semester. The focus of this seminar in nonviolence is basically improving our skills and attention concerning the nature and dynamics of conflict resolution, and the survey results will help us gear such a seminar to the Bard campus specifically. This seminar will be approximately ten hours long and emphasize "Pro-active" thinking and action as opposed to "reactive" responses to conflict. This seminar therefore leaves participants with strategies and means lasting and more effective than ephemeral "instructions" for response typical of reactions to crises. We would like to add that this survey and subsequent seminar are not intended to imply that Bard is unique or more problematic in terms of social conflicts or dynamics than any other college or university campus; in fact we are quite fortunate in comparison to them. A seminar of this type has never been tried on any college campus in the world and our intent is for Bard to lead the way and stand as an example of meaningful and effective engagement of such issues for other college communities.

The organization of such a seminar requires a lot of work and, of course, money. We have met with the administration (enough Deans to start at least three more colleges, and Leon) and they are supportive of our idea and may be very willing to sponsor such an event. However this financial support is contingent upon stu-

dent and faculty support. From the comments on the surveys it is evident that this support is out there but this commitment of time from faculty and students (again this means about ten hours or so on a Saturday) needs to be made explicit to the administration as you can hardly blame them for not wanting to risk big dollars on something that does not pay off in terms of attendance. This is why we are asking that if you are interested in participating please put it in writing as soon as possible and send it to us so that we may collect them and officially present these expressions of

Here's the breakdown of responses in terms of average rating from 1 to 5 (1 being the lowest in importance and 5 being the highest):	
Problems concerning gender relations	3.97
Intolerance of unpopular beliefs	3.85
Faculty/student relations	3.73
Need for multi-cultural studies program	3.70
Treatment of Bard employees	3.67
Student/administration relations	3.66
Minority representation	3.48
Relations with local community	3.39
Faculty/administration relations	3.27

support and commitment to the people with the money. I realize that it is a lot to ask you to give up a large part of one of your Saturdays, but I promise you I would not do so unless I was convinced that this will be one of the most memorable and influential days you spend at Bard. Sincerely,
Scott Heckendorf
MLK/Bard Organization for Nonviolent Social Change
Questions? Contact:
Scott Heckendorf 758-3211
David O'Reilly 758-1693

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THE BEER COLUMN

"Why are American beer and sex in a canoe alike... because they're both f---ing close to water."

With that sentiment, we're back. This week, the beer is Kronenbourg and yes, it's on sale.

On its label, Kronenbourg boasts "Trois siècles d'amour de la bière," and it's too bad that they love the beer the way it is because it could use some changes. Although it has a pleasant taste, its after-taste is somewhat irritating, like being tapped on the shoulder while you're reading - the feeling it leaves you with won't go away. We both agree - this is definitely not a smooth beer.

It does have its good points, though. Fine color, nice head, and European taste. If you've travelled in Europe, and tried the beers there, you noticed that their stronger flavor is due in part to their higher alcohol content. KB successfully retains much of the Old



World flavor, despite the lower % forced on it by the same people that brought you the PMRC.

Mr. Phantom said it best: "This is a beer for drinking, but an after-your-meal-enjoy-it-if-you-like-it beer. It doesn't go with food, don't drink it with your mom, but enjoy it by itself."

Overall, if yer a Bud or Miller person, this beer is not for you. But if you like your beers out of the canoe, then at four bucks a six you can't go wrong.

If you missed us last week, we rate the beer on how many sixes we would buy. Honestly. Our ratings are above.

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-TO BE CONTINUED-

-Ephen Glenn Colter

Undersexed or undermined?

Conservative? Is AIDS an excuse? Is eight years of Reagan and a current recession? There is a cure for the common cold shower - CONDOMS - and there is an advantage to them: you have to use your imagination. The personal IS political.

Did someone tell you about sex? Or did you listen? or did you watch? Should someone refreshen your memory or freshen up your make-up? Do you follow the instructions, the diagrams, or the detailed descriptions? Are you getting your daily recommended allowance of love?? Is sex trial-and-error or pick-'n-choose? Is sex to-'n'-fro or just back-and-forth - between a rock and a hard place?

Do you practice what is preached? is your sexuality something old (fashioned) or something new (fangled)? Is it begged, borrowed, or blue? Are you getting what you want? or what you deserve?...or what you asked for? Is it wham-bam! thank you ma'ma? or a little slap-stick! with a drunken dick? Passive or active? Top or bottom? Front row seat or backseat driver? Missionary or minuteman? Why is anal-sex an open-and-shut case, and oral sex a mouthfull? Why is one necessarily same-sex and the other opposite-sex? And why would anyone be so silly as to believe that one needs/wants a penis to have sex at all????

Masturbation or obserbation? Do you find yourself staring? catch yourself dar-

ing? lose yourself wondering? And if you lost your virginity, isn't there a chance you could find it again? And if not, don't you know you've got atleast two? To tango.

Do you face your fears or just follow them? Is your sex monogamous, anonymous, unanimous decision or universal truth? Do you have public preferences and private perversions? Are you good in bed? better out-doors? best in your imagination?

Since one thinks about

sex, does one therefore make love?

Do you talk about sex, or do you talk shit? Are you eating your heart out and swallowing your pride? Do you put your

money where your mouth is, or do you put your foot in your mouth? Or do you put your heart along the dotted line? and cut yourself shaving the edges.

Heart of stone or heart of glass? Should I look in your eyes or watch your ass? Do you think you fail or do you think you pass? Do you kiss-'n-tell your cat scratch fever? or is it cat and mouse, cat-'o-nine tails and leather?

Are we talking about your sexlife, your lovelife, or the morning-after life? Are you reha-

tainer of milk in the back of the fridge? Or like an Easter egg that is never found?

Pick a lie, any lie. Fill in the blank. Truth or Dare? or multiple orgasm? Do you ask the right questions? or do you have all the right answers? Do your friends know?...Have you told your parents?...Have they asked??

Does it bother you that much for someone -anyone- to question your sexual identity? do you have answers or attitudes? What would you do if you realized you were in a little healthy competition with the opposite sex for the one you wanted? or the one you have?? Would you have the balls to stay abreast of the situation?

DO YOU HAVE ANY GAY/LESBIAN/BISEXUAL FRIENDS YOU RESPECT ENOUGH TO HOPE THEY REMAIN GAY, LESBIAN, OR BISEXUAL?

Why do girls have girlfriends and boyfriends, and boys have girlfriends and...friends? Why do heterosexuals have boyfriends and girlfriends and homosexuals have lovers? Why can boys take off their shirts in June and girls have to tuck them in? Why do women have women's groups groups to talk about women's issues, and men have discriminating-mysogynistic-pseudo-secret-neo-societies-of-warped-and-aoppressive-priveledge, instead of men's groups? Can one be a Male Feminist - or are we just Effeminists?

Are all men just male chauvinists or sexist chauffeurs? Why can a woman get dressed up, provocatively or conscientiously, and a man gets questioned? Can't men be openly, consciously, attractive without being simply stylish?

Do certain fabrics and colors and cuts have genitals? A man can wear pink and a woman can wear army fatigues - but can a man wear lace and can a woman wear presidential blue?

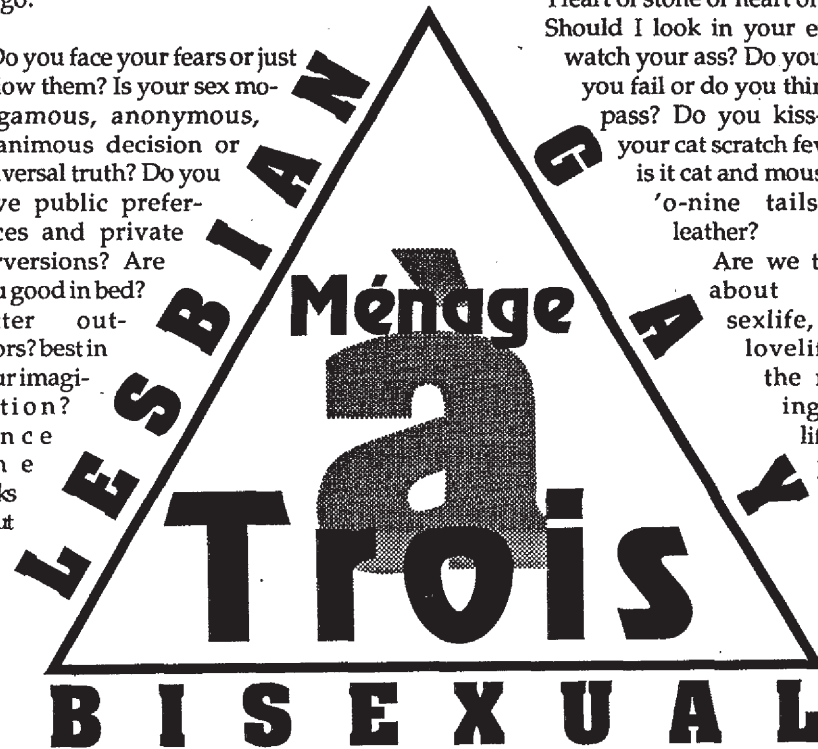
Don't you feel divided and conquered? as well as subjugated? Evasions to these questions and more at the soiree saturday. This is not a battle of the sexes or sexualities, this is a meeting of minds that we all have to take to heart. So, is the MÉNAGE À TROIS - a close encounter of the third kind. Sex sells. Are you buying-in or selling-out? Is love a perishable item? Like a con-

bitating from love? Or rebounding from a loved one? Did you forget your keys or lose your shirt? Did they burn your bra and kick your heels? And will you be caught one day? with your pants down and your blouse unbuttoned, only to die with your boots on?

Maybe I don't think you're closeted, maybe I just think you're close-captioned for the hearing impaired. The signs are there in any body language. Maybe. Homosexuality is like hypnosis, nobody can get you to do anything against your will. (Maybe against your better judgment...Cause maybe you don't know any better.)

We all dance to a different drum, and some are more distant than others. And some are closer than you think: the MÉNAGE À TROIS - a close encounter of the third kind.

Sex sells. Are you buying-in or selling-out? Is love a perishable item? Like a con-



Saturday April 6, 10:30—? Old Gym

Listen up, Ephen

Editor's note: The author of this letter requested that the Observer withhold his name. Due to the nature of the letter, and because the author gave us his name, we decided to honor his request.

Dear Ephen,

I'm heterosexual, and I'm tired of your homosexual bullshit. I haven't ripped or written on you signs, and unless they stop offending me, I won't go to the Menage either.

I've heard about a hundred things about this thing Saturday, and I still didn't know what it is, and I still don't feel welcome. And that's not my problem, it's yours. If I'm going to pay you money, you better give me a better reason to come.

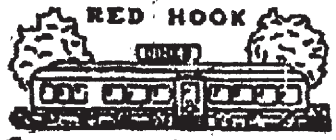
I don't think BBLAGA is just a wine and cheese party, because I've been there. And no, you don't talk about sex; you talk about who is and is not homosexual, and who should and should not be. Maybe if you did have healthy conversations about sex I would come back. I'm curious, but I don't like to be embarrassed.

My brother is gay - not a sexual dissident - and not a lesbian. And

so I'm quite aware of all the politics on your agenda. So, no, I can't be convinced, or ever annoyed at being referred to as repressed. I know I can say No to a same sex encounter. I've said No to friends, and continued our friendship, and I've said No to strangers and kept on shaking my ass while dancing with my brother.

So let's cut all this "coming out" and "outing" bullshit. I don't like defending people who offend me. I understand that the seventies were a great time for sexual freedom, but this is the nineties - and like it or not - the AIDS era. Don't go quoting

continued on page 7



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The Bard Observer

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The Bard Observer is published every Friday while class is in session. Editorial policy is determined by the Editor-in-Chief in consultation with the Editorial Board. Any opinions which appear unsigned are those of the editorial board and not necessarily of the Observer staff.

Letters to the Editor must 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 Friday a week before the publication date. The Editor reserves the right to edit all articles (except those intended for the *Another View* page) for style and length.

Classifieds: Free for Bardians, \$5 for all others. Personals are free. Display classifieds: \$5.00 for local, \$10.00 for national.

Bard College
Annandale, NY 12504
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Get some style (and let there be dark)

To Greg Giaccio,

After reading your editorial on "Overcoming darkness" I've come to the belief that you should get your lithium prescription checked. Either it's too high or way too low. What the hell was that? Your Dan Rather impersonation? Is your next "Editorial" going to just say, "Courage!"? You ask, "Who will be our Prometheus..." Well, Junior, let me try and be your Prometheus and shed a little light on the darkness between your ears: Wake up! Smell the coffee, and stop the masturbatory metaphors! What the hell was all that nonsense?

Let me take a wild shot in the dark (pun intended) and guess that your diatribe was about putting up lights on the, "primal path behind the Stevenson Gym..." However, since this is

the only time in your metaphysical mumbling that you mention it, who the hell knows? or cares for that matter? Get with the program, Sparky. No one wants to watch you play Oscar Wilde in the Editorial pages.

If your little essay was a joke, I missed it. Is the joke aimed at your parents, who are dropping twenty grand so you can play Glenda the Good Witch?

I personally think it would be nice if they preserved the Enchanted Forest and kept something on campus free of B & G's hand, instead of lighting it up like a Texaco station.

So, Gregg, if you want to hang out in the Enchanted Forest after dark, bring a flashlight with you.

A "Homo Sapien" from the dark,
John Joseph Austrian

P.S. Hock your thesaurus and buy a dictionary.

"The solution is energy conservation and efficiency."

Dear Editor,

I read with interest the article "Who pays for cheap electricity" by Jennifer Horenstein. The article discussed the environmental damage of the James Bay I project and the impending disaster threatened by the James Bay II hydroelectric project.

Last spring, my husband and I had the wonderful opportunity of hosting a Cree family in our home. They were part of a party of approximately thirty Cree people who were canoeing down the Hudson River to New York City to participate in last year's Earth Day celebration. The purpose of their trip was to bring attention to the involvement of New York State in this environmentally unsound project.

Hydropower plants would like us all to believe that they are environmental "good guys" because they don't burn fossil fuels. However, they don't inform us of

the damage that damming fifteen major rivers can wreck upon ecosystems and Native people's way of life.

Our guests impressed us once again with how Native people live in harmony with Nature and do not need to conquer it.

The solution is energy conservation and efficiency. I can only shake my head when I recall that when I lived in New York City, the only way I could cool down my overheated apartment was by opening windows. Why should the Cree people suffer the loss of flooded lands for a city and state that arrogantly wastes energy?

Sincerely,
Marsha R. Davis (Health Service)

**Attention
Foghorn Leghorn**
We need to know your real name and the reason you want it withheld before we run your letter.



Obfuscator was no joke

by Kristan Hutchison

The *Drab Obfuscator* has gone too far. Though free speech and press are rights protected by the United States Constitution and all reasonable people, there are responsibilities that accompany that right.

Certainly humor is as protected under the first amendment as any other form of expression, and recent studies have even shown that humor is healing. However, humor is also hurtful when it is pointed against a specific group of people, who may not have such a broad sense of humor.

The *Obfuscator* advertised itself as "100% Controversy Free," yet it is fraught with the most controversial assertions. They slandered well-established campus clubs, abused some of our most esteemed professors, and stomped tastelessly over sensitive issues such as alcoholism, drug addiction, and sexual preferences.

It is clear that the editors of *The Obfuscator* failed to fully consider the consequences of their words. Perhaps their judgement was impaired by the lateness of the hour... or some other intoxicant. None of this excuses the insensitivity of what was printed and I would suggest that next time the "Idiot-in-Chief" think before publishing.

Letter to Ephen

continued from page 5

how politically active the 70s were when only the first few years of the 70s were as sexually charged as you'd like to believe. Sorry. And don't go outing people just because it's a trendy thing to do. Because not everyone, gay, lesbian, or straight, favors it.

I don't think people realize that your community is as diverse and as internally conflicting in views as any other. Anything political is subject to opposing view-points of world-views. And in reading your signs, I must admit that I like just as many as I was nauseated by. I sense actionist and moderate positions as well as assertive ones, and I understand that uniting for a common cause, which I'm assuming is for basic respect of your

human and civil rights, is difficult. O.K. But if you cause me to lose interest while losing your control, you've lost me. You've defeated your purpose, me, and what have you gained?

I've learned a lot though my brother and his friends over the years, and I wish that other people could understand why I'm not uptight. And you just cannot convince me that I am. I've dealt with my parents kicking my brother out at 16, and I've dealt with still not really talking to them after all these years. I know what it's like.

When I first heard about this a few weeks ago I was going to invite my brother, but I can honestly say that he wouldn't be interested in your current methods. And that's not to say that they're right or wrong, just not his, and definitely not mine.

Personals and classifieds were withheld due to space restrictions, but will run next week.

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Film Screening:

Two Caribbean films by Karen Kramer, "Legacy of the Spirits" (on Haitian Vodun on New York City), and "Celebration!" (Brooklyn's Caribbean Carnival) will be shown on Thursday, April 4 at 7:00 PM in the Preston Theatre. The film maker will be at the screenings to discuss her films. Sponsored by the Departments of Film, Sociology, Political Studies, Anthropology, and the Latin American Students Organization, Bard Black Students Organization, and the Anthropology Club.

Dance Theatre I:

The Bard Theatre of Drama and Dance presents Dance Theatre I, 1991. Performances will be April 4, 5, 7, 8 at 8:00 PM in the Dance Studio of The Avery Arts Center. No reservations are necessary.

New Horizons Concert Series:

Leon Botstein conducts the Hudson Valley Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra in works by Shumann/Adorno, Mozart, Haydn, and a world premiere by Daron Hagen; with Pianists Sara Rothenberg and Daron Hagen. Pre-concert talk at 7:00 PM, performance at 8:00 PM on April 5 in the Olin Auditorium. The Program will open with Edward Elgar's *Elegy for String Orchestra*, Op. 58 (In memoriam Louise Kline). Admission is free to all Bard Students.

Dance Presentation:

Randy Warshaw Dance Company will be performing on Saturday, April 6 at 8:00 PM at the Dance Studio in the Avery Arts Center. Admission is free, but please call 758-8622 for reservations. This performance is sponsored, in part, by the New York Council on the Arts and The Bard Center.

Rainforest:

A "sound-installation" designed and presented by the McLean Mix-critically acclaimed electronic music composers/performers Barton and Priscilla McLean. The event is based on the McLeans' impressions of recent visits to several tropical rainforests. It involves pre-recorded electronic and "natural" sounds, slide visuals, and audience interactive sound stations. All are encouraged to attend and participate; bring instruments or other sound making devices. 2:00 PM at 6:00 PM in Brook House on Sunday, April 7. Sponsored by Meet The Composer,

The Bard College Center and The Musical Activities Group.

World Literature Series:

Lilian R. Furst, Marcel Bataillon Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, will give a lecture on *Not so long ago. Historical Allusions in Realist Fictions*. She will discuss works by Balzac, Zola, Eliot, H. James, and Mann, and the way they deal with history. Prof. Furst's work focuses on the process of reading Romanticism, Realism and Modern Literature. Tuesday, April 9 at 8:00 PM in Olin 102.

Minority Studies Seminar:

James M. Washington will give a talk for the Minority Studies Seminar on Wednesday, April 10, 1991. The lecture is entitled, *Priscilla's Body: The Problem of Evil in African American Religious History*. Mr. Washington is a Prof. of Church History at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. The lecture will be held in Olin 102 at 6:30 PM.

Washington Center Internships:

Are you interested in earning academic credit while interning in Washington, D.C.? Summer and Fall Semester opportunities are currently available. Internships combine work and course work; students pay to participate, but earn credit. See Carol Nackenoff in Political Studies (Hobson 14) before Spring Break (Some may still be available).

Sports:

Intermural softball rosters are due Friday April 5 by 9:00 PM to Kris Hall. On Saturday April 6 the co-ed volleyball team will have a 4 on 4 tournament. Mens and womens recreational badminton players will travel to SUNY New Paltz for "fun" tournament on Saturday April 20.

John Bard Lecture:

Dr. Annette B. Weiner of the NYU Department of Anthropology will show a film called *The Trobrianders of Papua New Guinea*. April 11, 4:30-6:00, Preston. Public lecture to follow, Bard chapel.

Intergenerational Seminars:

Bard is offering three intergenerational seminars this spring:
• *Abrahamic Religions: Islam in Relation to Judaism and Christianity*

• *Obedience to Authority: Personal Responsibility and the Development of Morality*

• *Recent Issues in Eastern European Progressions*

Pre-registration is necessary, and there is a \$20 fee. Call 758-7424.

Levy Conference:

The Crisis in Finance: Implications for system performance and structural reform is a conference to be held at the Levy Institute from April 4 to 6. The conference's speakers will include: Richard Aspinwall, John Caskey, Jane D' Arista, Steve Fazzari, Benjamin Friedman, Albert Hart, William Janeway, David Levy, S. Jay Levy, Hyman Minsky, Gary Stern, Richard Sylla and James Tobin. For more information and registration details, contact Susan Howard, Program Coordinator at 758-7448. Pre-registration is necessary for Bard students. Conference meals are not open to Bard students due to limited seating.

From the Dean of the College:

Art History Lecture Rooms

On behalf of the Art History Department Faculty, may I ask the cooperation of all members of the faculty and campus groups who use either Olin rooms 201 or 301 for classes or special events:

• If shades are raised or lowered, please be sure they are kept in the tracks. The shades are getting out of shape; as a result, the light which enters makes it difficult to view slides.

• Please return the lectern and blackboard to the place you found them.

• Please turn off the lectern light.

Thank You.

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.

April 1: 9:00 PM Judy Gorman Student Center

April 5: *Man Facing Southeast* (Movie)

April 7: *Frida* (Documentary film about painter Frida Kahlo)

April 10: *Contempt* (Godard) in Olin 301 at 7:00 PM

Stephanie (Women Studies Center Film)

April 12: *The Shining* (Movie)

Calendar of Events

Saturday 6	Sunday 7	Monday 8	Tuesday 9	Wednesday 10	Thursday 11	Friday 12
Morning Bard van shuttle runs to Rhinecliff, Red Hook, & Rhinebeck	2:00-6:00 PM Rainforest Brook House	5:15 PM Women's Center Meeting Student Center	5:30 PM French Table Committee Room Kline Commons	5:00 PM Spanish Table, Kline Commons	6:30 PM BBLAGA Meeting Albee Social Room	5:00 PM General deadline for submissions to <i>The Bard Observer</i>
5:45 to 10:30 PM Trip to Hudson Valley Mall, Kingston	6:00 PM Ecumenical Worship Service Chapel	6:30 PM Environmental Club Committee Room Kline Commons	6:00 PM Amnesty International Olin	5:30 PM Italian Table College Room, Kline Commons	7:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous Aspinwall 302	Train Runs: 4:15 PM for the 4:51 Train 6:36 PM for the 7:36 Train 8:00 PM for the 9:11 Train Leaves from Kline Goes to the Rhinecliff Station
Co-ed Volleyball tournament 4 on 4 For further info contact Kris Hall at ext. 530	7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous Aspinwall 302	7:00 PM <i>Observer</i> Features/ Arts Staff Meeting Preston 127	6:00 PM <i>Observer</i> Photo Staff Meeting Kline	6:30 PM Minority Studies Seminar Olin 102	9-11 PM Writing Tutors Albee Annex 103	
	9-11 PM Writing Tutors Albee Annex 103	9-11 PM Writing Tutors Albee Annex 103	8:00 PM <i>Observer</i> Photo Staff Meeting Albee Lounge	7:00 PM Al-Anon, Aspinwall 302		6:00 PM for the 7:13 Train Leaves from Kline Goes to the Poughkeepsie Station
	Train Pickups: 5:15, 7:14, 10:15 PM Rhinecliff Station		8:00 PM World Literature Series Olin 102	7:00 PM Christian Meeting, Bard Chapel Basement		
	7:43 PM Poughkeepsie Station		9-11 PM Writing Tutors Albee Annex 103	7:00 PM Flute Choir, Bard Chapel		12:00 NOON Deadline for all calendar submissions for the issue covering April 6, 1991 Through April 12, 1991 due in the Dean of Student's office.
				9-11 PM Writing Tutors, Albee Annex 103		