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Calendar
New organization rises out of minimum wage chaos

by Tom Hickerson

The dispute over raising work-study student wages from $3.80 to $4.25 may soon lead to the formation of a Student Worker's Union.

The controversy over work-study students' pay raises began last year, when the federal government raised minimum wage from $3.35 to $3.80. After the College had decided to keep the students' wages at $3.35 an hour, a strike was threatened and the administration decided to raise the wages. No action was taken after the raise was made last year.

This year, the federal government raised a second minimum wage increase from $3.35 to $4.25.

A memorandum put out by Charles Crimmins on March 15 said explicitly that "the Federal Government did not provide any additional funds to cover the increase for the College work-study students...Bard finds it necessary to abide by the Federal exclusion for colleges and universities to maintain the present rate of pay."

In a meeting on Thursday, April 4, work-study students gathered to express their grievances and organize a campaign for the pay raise. During that meeting, several new factors were introduced. It was discovered that, while Bard offers a lot of work-study aid to attract students, very few people earn the entire package allotted to them. Bard pockets the rest at the end of the year. Also, many work-study students were unsure of their rights and benefits as workers. One student, who had been injured on the job, was interested in receiving worker's compensation.

At the end of the meeting, three demands were set forth: that the wages of all work-study, non-work-study and international students unconditionally increase along with the U.S. minimum wage for now and the future; that work-study students be guaranteed jobs that have enough hours to fill allotments; and that students workers be informed of their rights. A meeting was scheduled for the next day to discuss these issues.

Student balloting prompts Activity Fee raise

by Jonathan Englert

On March 27th, the Board of Trustees of Bard College voted to raise the Student Activities Fee from $120 to $140 per year.

The Student Activities Fee is a charge included in each student's yearly college payments, and is specifically targeted for extra-curricular activities. The raise will enlarge the student convocation fund, thus permitting the Forum to fund new clubs and augment the budgets of pre-existing ones. The Student Forum makes all decisions regarding the allocation of convocation money.

According to Nina DiNatale, a student representative on the Board of Trustees, "the fee hadn't been raised for years." Last year, an increasingly ineffective convocation fund made it necessary to deny funding to six clubs and limit the amounts given to others. This prompted DiNatale to go before the Board at that time and propose an increase.

She noted that while the Board seemed in favor of the increase, official notification of the raise was delayed by members of the administration.

In response to these charges, Dimitri Papadimitriou said, "Even though the students talked about having the Activities Fee raised, they did not go through the process, so the bill was really in their hands."

In order to receive administrative approval, student leaders had to show that at least 65% of the student body approved a raise.

Lisa Sanger, Secretary of the Student Association, coordinated the ballot, which took place over the last few months. The results of the balloting indicated that 93% of the students approved the raise.

The twenty dollar increase per student will approximately translate to an extra ten thousand dollars available each semester for student activities, if enrollment remains at its current level. Regarding the raise, DiNatale commented, "It's good enough for now."
Time for some change

by Laura Serecin

The symptoms are everywhere: a desperate thirst for a soda left unquenched, a lack of clean undies and a mountain of dirty laundry, a frustrated "nicotine fix." The Bard community is left unchanged, for the change machine in the Old Gym has stood unrepai red since November, 1990. Since then, Bard students have had to save quarters, buy them off campus at a bank, or get them at the bookstore. "Normally we are not supposed to give change because it is against company rules," said Scott Chandler, the bookstore manager, "but because of the change machine being broken, I allow students up to $2.00 in quarters." However, Chandler said that the bookstore cannot continue to provide change indefinitely.

The administration has tried to revive the old change machine and been forced to give up. "We have contacted the company and they will either fix or remove the broken machine," reports Shelley Morgan. She and the Director of the Physical Plant, Dick Griffiths, have been calling on the owner of the machine, Standard Changemakers, Inc., since November to resolve the situation, with no response. When the three year contract expired in August the college decided not to renew it because "they don't take care of the machines," said Griffiths.

This is perhaps due, said Morgan, to the fact that the machine was vandalized last spring. The company may therefore feel some animosity towards Bard, and will not remove the machine until it has been compensated for damages.

Meanwhile, Griffiths is attempting to bring another change machine to campus. When the Observer spoke with him, he continued on page 10.

Major anthropologist to speak at John Bard Lecture

by Tom Hickerson

On Thursday, April 11 at 8:00, Dr. Annette Weiner, President-Elect of the American Anthropological Association, will be speaking under the auspices of the John Bard Lecture in the Bard Chapel.

Her lecture is titled, "Inalienable Possessions: The Paradox of Keeping While Giving," and asks the question, as described by professor Mario Bick, "what does it mean when you give someone something?" The lecture will be based on Weiner's research on the Trobriand Islands' Kula Ring, which is an exchange system first explored by the anthropologist Bronislaw Malinowski, and since then has been widely discussed by many anthropologists.

Weiner took Malinowski's research and reexamined it from a feminist perspective, which lead to her book, Women of Value, Men of Reknown: New Perspectives in the Trobriand Exchange. "[Weiner] has wide appeal," said Bick. "She does intellectual, interesting work within the field of anthropology that people outside the field can relate to."

A show that Weiner was recently consulted for, "The Trobrianders of Papua, New Guinea," will be shown in Preston April 11 at 4:30. "Students can directly encounter the place she worked [in this show]," added Bick. "Malinowski found an earlier reality of a people [in the Trobriands]...it's interesting to see where he drew it from."

Weiner, who is also Dean of the Graduate School Faculty of the Arts and Sciences at New York University, has had her books used in anthropology classes at Bard for the last two years.

"Her presence allows students to meet an important figure in the field of anthropology," said Bick. "If people come, we'll be delighted."
WHAT IS THIS?!?...Art or Ark?

by Christie Searing

Many a college campus is known for its big, ugly modern art, and Bard is no exception. However, we do not have much to boast about. One of our few gems is located outside Kline, known almost universally as “What wood sculpture?” How many times have I passed it before on my way to class and thought “Why?” Was I the only one? I sought to find out.

Apparently the piece has failed to make that much of an impact on the collective student consciousness, let alone beauty the Commons. Many people looked simply perplexed when I asked them what they thought of this “art,” bringing into question whether we are as cultured here at Bard as we thought. As far as I could tell, some of these folks could have been art majors, and real experts (let me take this opportunity to say that I think this is an issue that should be brought up at the next Forum Meeting. I propose a resolution to set up informational sessions on this very subject of aesthetic objects at Bard, all two of them). So I turned to the average Joes as my curators.

It does not look like much: a few worn boards bolted together to resemble a lean-to (a part of it has fallen off) on three sturdy legs. One freshman, Susan Dunlap (could be her real name) at first thought it was just a forgotten construction project. “I thought it was the top of a covered wagon,” she said on second thought.

Georgia Hodes said “It’s not a very good sculpture” and thought it resembled an upside down wheel barrow. “Reminds me of a prairie wagon,” Freshman Stephanie Donsen remarked, while Todd Marcus (not his real name) thought “It’s an aesthetic...I don’t know!”

For a few, it serves as a fine bench to watch the sun set. Keightie Sherrod confirmed that she tried to climb it once, but not twice. The local Girl Scouts seemed to demonstrate its further functional abilities when, during their visit here a few played on it. “It’s neat,” said one Jennifer Christie (definitely not her real name). “We were doing imitation of people in our grade on it!” Her friend added, “Yeah, like our music teacher who is really mean!” Michele Berger commented that “my dream is to mud wrestle under it.” (Yes, she really said that).

Others thought it resembled a turtle. Joni Michel (which, unlike Keightie Sherrod, is not her real name) said: “It’s a ninja turtle.” Another common reaction was that it resembled some sort of boat.

Icelandic culture expert, David Steinberg, said his friend used to tell him that it was a piece of Noah’s ark. “And I believe everything my friend tells me.” Apparently, according to Steinberg, about the time Kline was being built, there was an expedition to find an ark. Bard donated $40,000 to the cause. Once the ark was found, Bard received a piece of it in return. Steinberg added that this might not be true since there is a chance that the ark was made out of fiber glass.

One Kline art expert (who wished her name be withheld) commented, “It’s a picnic bench that had a bad trip during the days at Bard when everyone did acid.” Yes, Bardians, the old Bard is alive, and rotting on Kline lawn.

Seder was nothing to Passover

by Greg Giaccio

On April 4 the Jewish Students Organization sponsored a traditional Passover dinner, the Seder. I had heard about many Seders from my Jewish friends, but this was the first one I had ever attended. I looked forward to finding the hidden matzah and trying to spot Elijah drinking from his cup.

Just as the Seder was about to start, the phone in the faculty dining room rang. Others whispered comments about it being a call for Elijah. It wasn’t, it was just a wrong number. The festive candles were lit and the Seder was underway.

The first part of the ceremony was the kiddush, or the pouring of wine. This is done as a celebration of the freedom of the Israelites from the Pharaoh and freedom in everyday life. The entire Seder is based around the theme of these freedoms.

Next came the archatz, the traditional washing which is in preparation for the karpas, or green herbs. The green herbs are a symbol of spring and rebirth. The escape from Egypt is looked upon as a birth into freedom according to the Haggadah, the text that describes how the ceremony is performed.

My Jewish friends from home once told me that everyone dips the parsley into the glass of salt water on the Seder plate and shakes it to represent the tears of the captive Israelites. I thought that they were putting me on just so I would look like a fool if I ever did attend a Seder since no one did this at the Bard Seder. I was later told that my friends were not, in fact, pulling my leg. Instead, that part of the ceremony was accidentally overlooked.

At this point in the ceremony everyone present was asked to tell of a time when they really felt free. I was contemplating whether or not I should tell of the time that my friend and I went skinny-dipping in his neighbor’s pool late at night when a woman revealed that that very day was the fiftieth anniversary of her escape from Nazi-occupied Europe into Spain. Suddenly, the skinny-dipping story seemed real insignificant.

Then came the blessing of the matzah, the traditional unleavened bread eaten during Passover. The bread is unleavened to commemorate the escape from Egypt when the Jews had to leave so fast that they were unable to allow their bread to rise. During the blessing, a matzah is broken into two parts, one bigger, one smaller. The larger part is called the afikomen, and is hidden so that the children may find it later on in the ceremony. This is very important since no one can leave until the afikomen is found. I planned to ransom it off for big bucks but was beaten to the punch by seven-year-old Hanya Zwick. She asked for a kitten, but was given a bottle of Campbell's soup instead.
Here's the room you should have picked

Some rooms in the Alumni dorms have windows facing the sun.

by David Steinberg

The weather recently turned for the better. Spring finally has sprung. And in the spring, a young man's fancy turns to... mom's laundry. As a public service, The Bard Observer would like to give a basic rundown on the dorms:

Robbins, Tewksbury, and Albee

These dorms have the reputation of being the loudest on campus. For the person with a good stereo, these dorms offer many options. Robbins is the farthest from main campus of the three. It is not recommended for the care­less, unless you are looking for a forced exercise routine. Robbins is notorious for its extremely small rooms or "closets." Claustrophobics would be well advised to avoid Robbins while agoraphobics would feel at home. Tewksbury has lots of people for the social butterflies. In addition, the dorm provides state of the art technology circa 1952. The dorm is built out of cinder-blocks hard enough that no one can put up posters on their wall, but they can still hear people whispering in the next room. Albee has the best location of the three. It is connected to Hegeman and Stone Row and is just across the hill from Culin and the "Old Gym." This enables Albans to wake up at 8.30 am for a nine o'clock class; definitely helpful to most Bard students.

Although these dorms have a reputation for being loud, for some this is changing. Meg Bruckman, an Albee resident, said, "Robbins isn't that noisy. The people who live in Robbins are quiet and friendly." A lucky few who haven't been扰ed by Sunday kegs that some students remember. Similarly, Albee resident Jeff Rhine said, "Our g-d-m-n dorm is not nearly as loud as its reputation leads us to believe. Every time I turn on my stereo, someone says 'Jeff, turn it down.'" Unsurprisingly, no one could be found to make a similar statement about Tewksbury.

Stone Row

Stone Row can be described with one word: civilized. The rooms, while somewhat on the small size, are pleasant. Everything from the ivy on the front to the fire escape hanging out back reminds one of what college is supposed to be about. Is it any wonder that any Bard pamphlet has a picture of the Stone Row complex. If you don't have many possessions, and you want to feel like you are at a real school, Stone Row dorms are definitely the best option.

Manor

Taking the theme of civilized luxury to an extreme, Manor is great for the person with an active imagination. Who can walk out onto the slate patio overlooking Manor field and the Catskills without sweeping out her hand and intoning, "Someday all of this will be yours." How can anyone resist the idea of having a servant call button in his room, even if it never brings a response? The official nickname for these dorms is The Barracks. Hopefully, you got the room of your choice. If not, Gladys Watson has a stack of room change forms and maybe you can maneuver your way to a better room.

Cruger Village

Cruger Village, as one anonymous Bard student said, "Combines all of the worst aspects of North Campus with none of the best." While it is quite a trek to class everyday, the student further explained, the dorms are ug­ly on campus. It might be said that the trailer park mentality that rules supreme is slightly less interesting than, say, Manor. Moreover, the dorms suffer form an identity crisis, as residents of Chase/Oberholser North/Keene North/ can tell you.

In the interests of fairness and objectivity that Observer report­ers in general, and this one in particular, are noted for, it must be stated that some people love Cruger. The rooms are fairly large, you can stock a dorm with your friends, and it suits the "quiet" mentality. It must be added that the official nickname for these dorms is The Barracks.

Unsurprisingly, no one can put up posters on the dorms. That the trailer park mentality that rules supreme is slightly less interesting than, say, Manor. Moreover, the dorms suffer from an identity crisis, as residents of Chase/Oberholser North/Keene North/ can tell you.

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We PROMISE to print classifieds and personals next week
Nicaraguan "People's Ambassador" to attend Bard
by Jonah Gensler

A Nicaraguan student will be attending Bard College next year, under the auspices of the Mid-Hudson Larrey Project/Sister City project, a now three year old grassroots initiative linking the Mid-Hudson region with Larrey Project, Nicaragua. The Nicaraguan will act as a "people's ambassador" to Bard and the region through formal lectures and slide shows, and as an active member of the Bard student body.

The one year study program will include stays in local homes, participation in Bard's summer programs and studies that will enhance the student's ability to develop their small Nicaraguan town. Cooperation from throughout the community, including students, faculty, administration, and area residents, has made the program possible. Stuart Levine and Teri Tomacelvich of Alumni Development have been especially helpful at Bard.

Jonah Gensler is heading up the fundraising drive at Bard and aiming at raising $1000 in the Bard community. A Coffee House is being planned so that people can have a chance to contribute. The rest of the funds will come from the generous support of financial aid, alumni, and the Sister City Project committee's activities. Those interested are urged to contact Jonah Gensler (Box 724, Phone: 758-1370) late evening.

"Listen up Ephen" in last week's Observer was a creative piece, not a letter. The character described in it was not an actual person, but a conglomerate of ideas and people the author wanted to represent. We apologize if anyone mistook the story for a factual account. - Ed.

SPANDEX'S RETURN

---by ZZYX

"Our planet was dying. The only industry left was the manufacturing of spaceships." - Escape to Witch Mountain

While my first reaction towards being trapped in this manner was one of anger, I soon learned that my captors were benevolent. They merely wanted the help of the leader of the dominant religion on earth. (Many of you might be wondering why SPANDEXism is the world's dominant religion. In matters of religion, dominance is measured not in number of members, but in control of the 7 points of power. The Jews have one (the Wailing Wall), the Catholics (Vatican City), the Moslems two (the Dome on the Rock and Mecca), but 3 are controlled by the forces of SPANDEX (ZZYX road; Annandale, NY; and Lusk, Wyoming). The attentive reader may have noticed that two of them are within a stone's throw (literally) from each other. This may explain why there are so many holy wars in that region.) They were trapped 27 parsecs from home and were almost out of gas. They begged me for help. How could I do anything but agree?

---TO BE CONTINUED---
Dance students are on their feet

by Lisa Folb and Kristan Hutchison

After half a semester of pointing and flexing, the dance students took to the stage last week. As with all first dance concerts of the semester it is obvious that the choreographers lack experience, although this year their potential was sharply prominent. All moderating dance students must do a solo and a group piece. The group pieces were very complicated and technical, though it seems easier to exhibit such skills with solos.

Several pieces stood out:
A Fisherman, the Fish, and Three Brothers, choreographed by Melina Mackall, was delightfully humorous. The movements and expressions of the dancers playing sunbathers fit perfectly. The story depicted by the dancing of Gallin, dressed in a red gown. However, with such clearly ethnic music, one expected more Balinese style movement.

Cecak with Red Gown, performed and choreographed by Aimee Gallin, was an intriguing solo piece. The use of Balinese music was uniquely contrasted with the dancing of Gallin, dressed in a red gown. However, with such clearly ethnic music, one expected more Balinese style movement.

Saturday’s performance showcased three pieces, including the piece the company debuted with in 1987, Fragile Anchor, and their most recent work of this year, Captiva. There was a definite progression in the style of the pieces. Overall, the choreography was abstract, without any storyline, yet the meaning was clear. Each gesture and facial expression communicated to the audience how the title fit with the choreography.

Choreographed in a flowing style, the dancing appeared effortless. Fluid choreography was coupled with precision in dancing. All the entrances were prepared for, and the dancers continued performing until they were well off-stage. Contrasting buoyancy with burden and tight configurations with looser ones, the pieces worked with concepts of weight and space.

The choreography was very interactive and broke down the gender roles of classical dance. Women lifted men or other women as frequently as they were lifted themselves. All the contact between dancers was alive and apparent, yet was done purposefully. The dancers came and went from each other naturally. To accomplish many of the steps the dancers had to trust each other completely on stage, letting go of their misgivings to put their full energy into the movement. Fragile Anchor, the first piece of the evening, was an unending flow of motion. Dancers coming from the wings made contact with those already on stage, sometimes assuming their position, then moving off again. They would throw their bodies, with control, down into the ground and then up into the air, as if moving through air or water. The dancers appeared to be anchors for one another and the anchors were fragile because they also become one another’s freedom.

The costumes and lighting enhanced the fluidity of the dancing. Loose fabric and design allowed the costumes to move with the liquid motions of the dancers. The lighting and music changed the space to correlate with the people on stage and their movements.

The second piece, Disappearance of the Outside, began in silence and the first thing one noticed was the costumes, which looked a bit like rehearsal clothes. As the piece developed it became clear that the costumes were indicative of the personalities being portrayed by the wearers.

In the silence, each of the four dancers became a musical part, as soprano, alto, tenor, or bass. Once the real music began the theme strengthened as a relationship appeared between the four personalities. They came together and separated, supported and rejected, broke apart and came together again. Though the music was abrasively rhythmic, the good timing and complementary motions of the dancers gave a sense of harmony to complete the music.

Captiva, the last piece of the evening and most recent in their repertoire, filled the stage with the tensions and pleasures of intimate human relationships. It sensitively contrasted hard and soft. A graceful touch would turn into a forceful pull, enhancing the dichotomy of relations. Harsh percussion based music and leopard-striped costumes accentuated the animalistic qualities.

The strongest impression from the performance was how much the dancers loved what they were doing. Every move they made and expression they portrayed revealed a dedication and joy in their work. Clearly, Warshaw has the Midas touch when working with people, for he brings forth a golden performance.
Entertainment

American Psycho is worth a stab

by Mark Kuchar

So rich? So bored? So kill! This is the basic premise of Bret Easton Ellis' third and latest novel, American Psycho. Ellis, who in the past cleverly depicted the alienated, southern Californian, youth culture in Less than Zero and the Bennington dorm room life gone rancid in The Rules of Attraction, now makes a startling departure both in mood and sensibility with his latest book.

Enter Patrick Bateman, the handsome, wealthy, charming, anti-hero of American Psycho, whose tastes range from the exclusive cuisine of Manhattan's finest restaurants to some of the most disturbing, mysogynistic, appalling acts of violence to be printed in contemporary American fiction.

Ellis brings us into the materialist world of Manhattan, where Bateman is a respected Wall Street broker, Andover and Harvard graduate, and twisted psycho.

Just the Beginning...of what?

by Kristan Hutchison

Mary Best, a photography major, was the only Bard student with work accepted into Just the Beginning, a juried art exhibition featuring student works from local colleges. The show, which opened Friday, April 5, includes 61 pieces of student art from Bard, Dutchess, Marist, New Paltz, and Vassar Colleges.

Best has a gum bichromate print of a family in the show. It is the same piece which hung in the student photo show several weeks ago. She made the print over the summer while experimenting with different printing techniques. It has the tone of an old family album. It is difficult to see the figures, more difficult still to see the posed family to the individuals struggling beneath.

The intimacy and hidden quality of Best’s print, not to mention its subtlety, were in contrast to the crisp and cliché photographs exhibited in the show, such as a photo of a single rose crossed by slats of light.

Just the Beginning exhibited a full range of media, from oil paintings to statues made of cardboard and glue. Despite the differences among pieces, though, the show hung well together. Unfortunately, some of the pieces were not as engaging individually.

One winner and four runners-ups were chosen by the judges. In looking through the gallery, I found the winning piece disappointing and its neighbor worth looking at, making me wonder if the judges hadn't read the wrong tags.

Mark Albright from the State University of New York in New Paltz was the winner with a large sculptural piece entitled Jesus. The meaning of the title is overly obvious from the plaster hands and feet nailed to a six-foot high wooden cross. There is no body and wooden slats curve around the cross like the skeleton of a boat, perhaps alluding to biblical imagery of Jesus as a fisherman.

The wood is naturally textured, and varies in shade from green to brown, providing a bark-like background. This suggestion of a tree reminds one that the cross comes also from the pagan symbol of a tree. Doused thus in religious symbolism, I was not drawn aesthetically to the piece.

The oil on paper painting entitled Two Figures, which hung beside Jesus, did not win even mention from the judges, but got various concealed weapons including a revolver, a razor, a nail gun, several hungry rodents, and other implements of torture and demise imagined, he continuously slices out his own piece of the Big Apple.

Publication of American Psycho was delayed by protests of the Simon and Schuster staff that the book is “immoral” and has “no social redeeming value.”

Ellis insightfully gives us a first hand perspective of the pretentious upper class of New York and the repulsive consumeristic society that spawns such creations, particularly the apocalyptic Bateman, who manages to conceal his true personality behind the facade of the wealthy respectable businessman. With his trusting smile and collection of objects, though, his financing is obvious. Their meaning of the title is overly obvious and the repulsive consumeristic society that spawns such creations is apparent in each story.

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American Psycho is originally slated for January release by Simon and Schuster, but was abruptly cancelled a week prior to publication. A campaign initiated by women staffers at Simon and Schuster labeled the book “immoral” of “no social redeeming value,” causing its cancellation. The action was noted within the publishing world, and in the end, Ellis was allowed to keep his $300,000 advance for the novel. Realized as a hot property, the book was quickly picked up by Random House and is now making it to the shelves. American Psycho’s chapters are not all graphic, some depict the idiosyncrasies among the yuppie community. Pointless reviews of pop bands, pretentious shopping lists, and fashion reports for almost every character introduced are numbing at times.

“...Madison is wearing a double-breasted white linen jacket by Hackett of London and a cotton shirt by Ralph Lauren, silk tie by Armani, and leather wingtips by Fratelli Rossetti...” The narcissistic writing techniques that Ellis employs, though frequently annoying, effectively convey the madness of the consumerist eighties, making Ellis’s latest creation worth a look.

The new Arts Editor is eager to improve these pages. If you have any suggestions or would like to join the effort please contact Tatiana Prowell through campus mail or call 758-0772.

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Price Mason honored

by Kris Hall and Kristan Hutchison

Price Mason was selected as a National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Men’s Basketball All American Scholar Athlete. Of the twenty students the NAIA honored, Mason is the only art major. The NAIA is a non-divisional association of 468 small colleges.

Mason is a senior originally from Red Hook. He has a 3.53 GPA and is a member of the Bard Art and Sports program. Mason also holds seven Bard basketball records, including:

• Most free throws in a row: 12
• Most rebounds in one season: 328
• Best field goal percentage in one season: 61.35%
• Best free throw percentage in one season: 71.6%
• Most free throws made in one season: 126
• Most career points: 1217
• Most career rebounds: 829
• Most rebounds in one career: 126

In the 5th Annual Innercollegiate Athletics Men’s Basketball Tournament, Mason and the Bard Jammers defeated other teams including the Jammers and the Blazers, with a 74 to 72 victory. Mason is the second Bard athlete in one season: 71.6%

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Tennis team is Blazing

by Kristan Hutchison

The Bard varsity tennis team incinerated Mt. St. Vincent with a 9-0 final score for their first meet of the season. If this is a barometer of the season to come, as Coach Joel Tomson predicted, it was, the Blazers are one hot team. This success is fueled by two freshman players and the return of senior Chris Lennen, a veteran varsity player. "This is probably the strongest team, one through six, in the 10 years I've been here," said Tomson.

Lennen is returning after a year as a bank intern overseas. He and Lou Illc, a freshman originally from Yugoslavia, are competing for the No. 1 singles spot. Matthew Phillips and Lennen are co-captains of the team. Phillips went to nationals last year and is playing third singles this season.

Henry Ringel, the second freshman who comes to Bard from Argentina, will hold the fourth position. Isaac Halpern and Noah Samton will fill the fifth and sixth positions.

With such strong material, the Blazers expect a second year as District 31 Champions.

Men’s and women’s intramural basketball

by Kris Hall


Playing well for “The Jammers” were Jamie Schultz, Lola Glaudini, and Robin Leebardt. “Carpe Diem” finished third in the league as they were unable to find a victory during the round robin season.

“Liquid Smoke” finished first in the women’s league, winning the championship game played by Kyle Wheeler with 45 points. Gideon Lew with 19, and Kazi Abdur Rahman with 17, “Flight” ended up as the Champion Runners-up. Both teams were 7 to 2 for the intramural season, “Flight” topped “Liquid Smoke” 74 to 72 earlier in the season. During the championship game, “Flight” trailed 35 to 74 at halftime and could not close the gap during the last 20 minutes. Jameel Kendrick and Roger Sisson pitched in 30 and 21 points respectively.

The final records of each team were:
1. Liquid Smoke 5-2
2. Flight 5-2
3. Stubby’s Big Ole Head 5-2
4. Wood Food Service 4-3
5. Faculty Plus 3-4
6. Team Puss 2-5
7. Basket Juggernauts 1-6
8. Body Beam 1-6

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7. Basket Juggernauts 1-6
8. Body Beam 1-6

Spikefest in Stevenson

by Kris Hall

Bard students participated in a co-ed volleyball tournament on Saturday, April 16. Certs/Tri-dent sponsored the 4 on 4 program which an estimated 600 colleges and universities have participated in this spring.

Volleyball is one of the most popular sports on college campuses, therefore the Intramural Department decided to run the tournament to reach active college students to provide them with a fun and competitive activity.

Men’s and women’s indoor soccer

The tournament champions, Drooling Spigots, won 15-9 and 15-13 against “Who Knows.” Members of the winning team, Amy Fenwick, Matt Becker, Jeanne Clause, and Aimee L’Esperance, received t-shirts.

The second place team, consisting of Willie Davis, Tony Amalo, Kristin Cleveland, and Kris Hall, received beach packs including water bottles, frisbees and sunvisors. All participants enjoyed an ample supply of Trident gum and Certs mints during the tournament.

Soccer Statistics

Men’s:

Lead Scoring
Colin Clark... 18
Matt Phillips... 10
Florin Heceta ... 10
Mack Smith ... 12
Henry Ringel ... 10
Chris Turbett ... 10
Reece Griesch ... 9

Lead Assists
Chris Turbett ... 8
Hari Ringel ... 6
Greg Astor ... 12
Colin Clark ... 5

Total Points
Colin Clark ... 29
Chris Turbett ... 28
Hari Ringel ... 26
Matt Phillips ... 23
Mark Smith ... 21

Women’s:

Lead Scoring
Jen Morey ... 14
Mimi Steinke ... 6
Aimee L’Esperance ... 6
Anne Finnerty ... 4
Judy Nelson ... 3

Lead Assists
Aimee L’Esperance ... 4
Mimi Steinke ... 3
Sarah Honner ... 3
Anne Finnerty ... 3
Kris Hall ... 3

Total Points
Jen Morey ... 26
Aimee L’Esperance ... 16
Mimi Steinke ... 15
Anne Finnerty ... 11
Judy Nelson ... 8

Walkathon

As part of the Earthday celebrations on April 20th, Kris Hall, Director of Intramurals, has organized a five mile walkathon. The pledge money will be donated to Hudson Valley Green, an environmental organization based in Red Hook.

Participants will be walking the cross-country trails on campus, carrying garbage bags to pick up trash.

People wishing to take part can sign up and get pledgesheets from Kris Hall or at Kline.

We need a sports editor

Apply to The Bard Observer through campus mail or call 758-0772 and speak to Kristan Hutchison or Jason Van Driesche.
You asked for a computer that's real college material.

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The ideal computer for college needs certain things. Like a mouse, to make it easy to use. Preloaded software, that'll let you create impressive papers with graphics and spreadsheets. And great tools, like a notepad, calendar and cardfile. It should also be expandable, so it can grow with your needs.

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If you are interested in purchasing an IBM computer, contact Bonnie Gilman at x496.

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Our president has already declared that external locks will be put on all of the dorms sometime in the near future. Students will be issued universal pass-keys to all of the locks so that freedom of access will not be restricted. That’s the theory, anyway. Let’s take a close look at the pros and cons of this plan.

**PROS:**
- Mom will have harder time getting in, giving me more time to hide drug paraphernalia.
- Annoying friends of fellow dorm dwellers won’t be able to come and go at their leisure anymore.
- Locks will toughen the knuckles of irresponsible people who lose their keys and have to spend hours out in the cold knocking on the door trying to get someone inside to open it.
- Pass keys will allow on-campus thieves to take advantage of a false sense of security of the people who leave valuable items in the common room thinking that they are now safe.
- Gives campus that cozy, staid feeling, just like home.
- Extra key in pocket gives more macho bulge to the guys!
- Advantage of knowing that crime committed inside a dorm was committed by someone you know, not an impersonal outsider.
- Locks can be painted pretty colors for aesthetic appeal.
- Makes convenient practice for people who want to jam locks in the future.

**CONS:**
- By golly, there don’t seem to be any negative aspects of this plan!
- “Not that I advocate the sticking of toothpicks or gum or crazy-glue in the locks. I don’t care how convenient and laudable it is to destroy these locks, I certainly don’t advocate it. Admire and respect, yes. Advocate, not much.”

---

**Administrative review**

*continued from page 1*

was implemented due to “a lot of wasted paper.” Central Services employee Kathy Krieger agreed, saying that “before, people would make lots of copies and they would sit in the Post Office.”

Heckendorf was concerned, however, that since Papadimitriou had the right to review certain documents before they were printed, he could refuse permission to print based on content.

In fact, said Heckendorf, Papadimitriou had told him to change two things on the survey: he felt the name “MLK/Bard Institute” was misleading, since “Institute” implied some official recognition or sponsorship; and he told Heckendorf and O’Reilly to change “a lack of a multicultural program” to “need for...”

Heckendorf and O’Reilly changed those two items before the survey was printed.

“He didn’t like the whole thing, period,” said Heckendorf.

**Workstudy**

*continued from page 1*

demands with Crimmins.

On Friday morning, Crimmins received a directive from the Department of Labor stating that work-study students are included in the minimum wage raise. He sent out a memo stating, “We’re going to increase wages in two instances. The time the meeting was convened, he had the letter for us. We think they took the demands seriously.”

During the meeting on Friday, Crimmins assured Lawrence and others that the worker’s rights were posted in the Ludlow basement. The rights include all those supplemented by the state of New York, including worker’s compensation, but excludes the payment of social security tax while school is in session.

Lawrence, along with several other students, plans to hold a meeting soon in order to decide about forming a Student Worker’s Union at Bard. When and if the Student Worker’s Union is formed, it’s first order of business will be to demand the College to sign a contract saying that Bard’s work-study wages will always be a minimum wage, “so they won’t try to do this again,” said Lawrence.

Other functions of a Student Worker’s Union will be to mediate grievances and to inform students of their rights “in a non-bureaucratic way,” Lawrence added.

“We’re puzzled because of the excuse they gave...they’re saying, ‘we’re giving you minimum wage because we’re forced to, not because you’re valuable employees.’ They found a loophole instead of backing down...we work study students have to be covered, so that the next time they find a loophole, they can’t use it.”

---

**Passover seder dinner**

*continued from page 3*

ially seemed surprised that students want a change machine.

“You want a change machine?” he said.

Once that was clear, Griffiths promised to try to get a change machine from the Pepsi company in a meeting with a representative of the company on Wednesday April 10.

Bard has a long-term contract with the Pepsi company which can be canceled by either party in thirty days at any time. According to the Pepsi contract, upkeep of machines is their responsibility.

“If we can’t get a machine from Pepsi, we will get it from Coke, or some other company...a bank maybe,” said Griffiths.

Still, the broken machine remains in the Old Gym, unmoved.

Griffiths had no idea what the company’s problem was. “We just don’t know why they won’t remove the machine!” he said.

Why doesn’t Bard get rid of the machine itself, then? Apparently, since the contract between Bard and Standard Changemakers has ended, Bard is no longer accountable for any damages, leaving ownership of the machine to Standard Changemakers. Seeing as the machine is not Bard property, the college is unable to remove the change machines without the threat of legal intervention on the part of the owner.

Representatives of Standard Changemakers commented only that they will be “looking into” the situation.
Drab Obfuscator steps too far

To the Editor:

We will ignore the fact that there was little humour to be found in the entire April Fool’s issue of the “Drab Obfuscator.” We accept, with a fervent hope for improvement, your frequent third-rate journalism and cretinous logic. We will tolerate your sophomoric antics and self-righteousness. (Sophomoric: being conceited and overconfident of knowledge but poorly informed and immature) But we will not ignore bigotry and prejudice. (Prejudice: an irrational attitude of hostility directed against an individual, a group, or a race)

In your April Fool’s issue we find some reason to be concerned about the material on your Calendar Page. And don’t patronize us, we realize it is all just one big joke. But remember, jokes are supposed to be funny. Not offensive, as those of the Andrew Dice Clay / Eddie Murphy variety are. Under the “Tea Cookies and Talk [sic]” section we find some reference to drugs and the science department. At the end of this section we find this: “Inshan Allah you niggers!” “Inshan Allah you Arabs!”, “Inshan Allah you kikists!” “Inshan Allah you truck drivers!” “Inshan Allah you sand-monkeys!” (meaning Arabs, taken from the same issue). Inshan Allah you dorks! Do you understand how these might be offensive to many people? It may seem to you to be all in good fun, but many of us have seen too much of this sort of amusement to find this at all funny.

This brings us to the listing of our group under “VDay 02.” In this we see the following: 6:30 PM, BBBBLAGGA Meeting, DWJHGCM, 40ish, seeks helpless youngster, for me... Albee Social Room.” Apart from the fact that our meetings are at 6 PM in Olin 301 on Thursdays, there really isn’t anything humourous about this. In fact, it is quite outstandingly offensive. The addition of letters to our name is slightly amusing, if unoriginal. But what follows evokes one of the older cultural myths regarding gay or bisexual men; that we are “helpless youngster” lovers or child molesters. We find this unsettling, especially considering that 97% of child molesters are white heterosexual men. The Nazis used this myth quite effectively when they incarcerated many thousands of us, experimented on us, and then killed us in concentration camps. This might not be known to you, and for good reason. With the “Liberation” of Germany, all Jews, Communists, and political dissenters were released... But the homosexuals, known to the Allies as prisoners marked with the pink triangle, were required to serve their full prison terms under German Nazi law, and did not receive reparations from the German government. All reference to the imprisonment of homosexuals and the meaning of the pink triangle was carefully avoided by the prominent journalists invited to report to the United States on the camps. So you can see that it is just a little bit of a sore spot. Why not make sport of the white male hetero child molesters? Or how about the fascination older ostensibly heterosexual men have for blossoming teenage girls, boys and prostitutes? Or is that too close to home? We find it difficult to comprehend that this meaning of the listing could have bypassed you. Otherwise whence the attempted humour? Whether you intended to insult us or not, you did manage to do so effectively through your ignorance. Perhaps this is not simply a joke intended for us, could it be that the printer played a joke on you and published the wrong paper? We realize that it may be difficult to publish a quality paper every week. But why must it be every week? Anyhow, by now I hope you guessed it. We’re not happy with you and neither are many others on the Bard Campus. And you wonder why your allocation was reduced. Give it up. Throw in the towel. You are no match for Bardvark. Or us. Whoever authored this issue should receive a severe drubbing. Following this we look forward to a public apology from the three editors who were responsible specifically and from the paper as a whole. The mock-apology editorial, admittedly intended as some joke, was insulting to our intelligence and once again, not funny. We look expectantly to the time when the Observer, in its present form, will remove itself from the Bard campus, and hopefully, all of our lives. Keep up the good work, and remember...

“By liberalism, I don’t mean the creed of any party or any party’s pretense. I mean a generosity of spirit, a tolerance of others, an attempt to comprehend others”

— Alan Paton

Sincerely,

Members and Supporters of the Bard Bisexual, Lesbian and Gay Alliance.

Simon Campbell
Christopher Hornauer
Barbara L. Lifield
Erik Law
Cara Grantinger
Christine Gobbo
Amy O’Hara
Jason Holloway
Jennifer Patalay
Joshua Kaufman
Judy Nelson
Kim Miller
Lisa Sanger
Mary Carol DeZutter
Matt J. Lee
David Miller
Melissa Brandt
Nina DiNatale
Noah Coleman
Rachel Markowitz
Rebekah Brower
Richard Nacey
Sarah B. Davis
Sarah J. Ward
Sarah Rohrbach
Tanis Coiner
Amy Rogers
Anne Mellody
Karma Kreizenbeck
Alex Bruck
David Ashchner

Thoughtless jokes

Dear Editor,

Not to be P.C. or anything that follows that genre, the whole Drab Obfuscator was pretty funny (and it was a pleasant break from the true drabness of the Observer). But the little thoughtless jokes on the A.A. and N.A. meetings were uncalled for and inappropriate, and on top of that, uncool! In a college where drug and alcohol abuse (use) is relatively open, it is important to make those people that have problems with these “controlled substances” feel comfortable, their efforts are not a laughing matter, A.A. and N.A. (and other self-help groups of this ilk) do not desire to be mocked: their efforts are genuine! As most people know, one of the A.A. and N.A. sayings is “one day at a time” – April Fools day is not exempt!

Rachel Smith
P.S. The lack of a stupid and tasteless joke for the Al-Anon meeting was appreciated.

What’s softball without beer?

To the Editor:

I guess that nothing I could say would make the athletic directors reverse their policy concerning the use of alcohol during intramural softball games. Perhaps it’s a trivial matter, yet my feelings are strong. Presumably we are to accept these policies as adults who realize that recreation and alcohol don’t mix, yet these are restrictions that treat us more like children than any that have existed in the past. They are imposed on a student population that is on the whole more mature and far, far less susceptible than it was even three years ago. That this element of Spring softball at Bard, beer, has been responsible for no injuries in the past is not a matter of luck, as the department has conjectured. I suggest that in the past players have consumed alcohol safely and in a spirit of fun and community. Not to place too much importance on the beverage (though these policies have inadvertently accomplished exactly this), but it seems to me that alcohol has promoted not recklessness, but mild good humor, and has blunted something truly more dangerous, competition. I don’t know whether disregard of the policy will be bold and overt or isolated and surreptitious, but I’m afraid that drinking will occur and be less safe for being unsanctioned. I understand that the current athletic directors may be feeling pressure from above or the dread hand of potential liability on their shoulders, however I think I speak for many when I say that we all were doing just fine until you showed up.

Sincerely,

Ray Rosenberger

Submit your letters to the Editor...
Calenday of Events

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<tr>
<th>Saturday 13</th>
<th>Sunday 14</th>
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World Literature Series:
Lillian R. Furst, the 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, Elliot, 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.

Campus Outreach Talk:
On Wednesday, April 10 at 8:00 PM in Olin 102 a talk will be given on the use of controversial drugs in the treatment of schizophrenia.

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.” 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.

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

Benefit Concert:
A benefit concert for the Columbia County Youth Project in Hudson will be given by Bard’s Campus Outreach Group on Saturday, April 13. Performances by the Holy Rollers from D.C., possibly St. Booty, and several other Bard Bands. $2.00 admission at the Student Center.

Tea, Cookies & Talk:
The Mathematics and Physics Departments present Tea, Cookies & Talk on Thursday, April 14 at 4:45 PM in Hegeman 102. Anita Wasilewska from SUNY at Stony Brook will speak on Mathematical Logic and Computer Science. Refreshments will be served at 4:30 PM.

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.

From the Dean of the College:
I still have not received a number of academic and administrative department budgets for 1991-92 and 1992-93. Please submit these to my office as soon as possible.

Spring Blood Drive:
The annual spring blood drive will take place on Tuesday, April 23 from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. Appointment sign-ups will take place on April 10 and 11 during Room Draw in the Old Gym and on April 15 and 16 in front of Kline Commons during lunch or dinner. Although we do appreciate walk-ins, signing up for an appointment in advance will help the process run more smoothly and quickly. If you wish to help sign up donors, please contact Gladys Watson at Ext. 445.

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 10: Contempt (Goddard) in Olin 301 at 7:00 PM
April 12: The Shining (Movie)
April 14: Hitchcock double feature
April 16: Full Moon in Paris in Olin 107 at 7:00 PM
April 17: LaConfrontation (Women Studies Center Film)
April 19: Total Recall (Movie)

Calendar of Events

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Community Information

Bard shuttle runs to Rhinecliff, Red Hook, & Rhinebeck
Train Runs: 4:45 PM for the 4:51 Train 6:36 PM for the 7:26 Train 8:00 PM for the 9:11 Train Leaves from Kline Goes to the Rhinecliff Station
6:00 PM for the 7:53 Train Leaves from Kline Goes to the Poughkeepsie Station

1200 NOON Deadline for all calendar submissions for the issue covering April 27, 1991 Through May 3, 1991 due in the Dean of Students office.