Students upset over room draw organize for change

by Jason Van Driesche

About twenty students who felt they had been shortchanged by inequities in the room draw process gathered on Monday to voice their concerns and form a plan for further action.

Most of those present were sophomore IT's who had had no way in which they should, by seniority, have first priority.

The students voiced a number of specific complaints about the way in which it was handled this year in particular. These included:

- The fact that freshmen who had moved to singles as a result of upperclassmen out of rooms in which they should, by seniority, had moved to singles as a result of upperclassmen out of rooms in which they should, by seniority, have first priority.
- Accounts of numerous abuses of the medical housing policy. This policy, when properly used, allows students who have bona fide medical problems to request a certain type of housing.
- Allegations that theme housing was used by some students to circumvent the seniority system, giving an unfair advantage to those who participated in theme housing. According to many of those present, some students who wanted theme housing, but were not even getting rooms.

The students organized for change. They see as a disregard for the policy itself. There is almost no policy, but this year, that policy has been violated, said Keri Dunbar.

Most of those present were junior IT's who had had no experience with room draw, but were not even getting rooms.

"As juniors last year, we deserved better than this," one student said.

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Chinua Achebe Speaks At Bard

by Rebekah Klein

Chinua Achebe, the prominent Nigerian novelist and poet, spoke on April eighth as part of the Freshman Seminar Lecture series. He holds the Charles P. Stevenson, Jr. Professor of Literature chair. According to Karen Greenberg, head of the Freshman Seminar program this semester, it was "interesting to get him to give the lecture."

Achebe refused to give a live lecture; instead requesting that a 33 minute videotape of a talk he had given on the South Bank Show on the BBC be shown, followed by a question and answer period in Olin auditorium. Greenberg stated that he had not expected to speak to freshmen for his first public lecture at Bard, and had wanted the arrangements to be more formal than they were.

During the first part of Achebe's videotaped presentation, he made clear his personal definitions of the words "celebration" and "art," words that would carry through his lecture on African literature. To Achebe, a celebration is an acknowledgement of presence. A celebration of African literature, for example, would be world acknowledgement. Art is the creative potential in all of us.

Achebe's art is a celebration of his reality. We can touch this art by reading his works, which include: Things Fall Apart, Anthills of the Savannah, The Sacrificed Egg and Other Short Stories, The Flu-Bare Soul Brother and Other Poems, Nigerian Essays and Morning Yet on Creation Day.

Achebe then spoke about the conflict between African culture and the insistent European colonists, and how it was represented in Joseph Conrad's novel Heart of Darkness. He had previously published an essay on Conrad's novel in 1977 entitled "An Image of Africa: Racism in Conrad's Heart of Darkness." First included in the Massachusetts Review, it is now available in the Norton Critical edition which is being used by the freshman class this semester.

Achebe responded to the suggestion that Conrad was expressing pity for the natives in his work. They still were not depicted on the same level as the colonizers, which makes the suggestion unlikely. Conrad chose to have two narrators to provide a condescending point of view between him and the perspective expressed. Achebe explained that it didn't even matter if Conrad condemned the white man in the novel as the villain, what mattered is how the white man and the black man are represented.

The main objection Achebe has to Conrad's novel lies within the heart of the plot: the destruction of Kurtz. Kurtz was fine at home in Europe, but when he went to Africa, the cruelty in him was brought out. Cruelty destroyed him. To say that Africa is cruelty continued on page 5
Features

Fathers and Sons

by Greg Giaccio

On April 10, Dr. Greg Barker and Alan Spivack hosted a discussion on the topic of father/son relationships. It was one of a series of talks that Barker and Spivack have been leading at Bard to bring a question to the issue of gender studies here.

The discussion focused on movie clips from the sixties, seventies, and eighties as they dealt with the issue of father/son relationships. The first film, Kramer vs. Kramer, showed Dustin Hoffman as the typical bumbling father who is lost in the role of nurturer. Barker explained that this was a typical view of men in the seventies when divorce was on the rise and more fathers were forced to deal with being mothers as well.

The second movie, The Great Santini, was based on a novel written by Pat Conroy which was somewhat autobiographical. Conroy's father was supposed to have loved the movie even though it portrayed him as very cruel. The clip showed a father and son conflict on a basketball court and the father's failure to cope with losing. Barker explained that in many father/son relationships, the "only way they can make any connection is on the sporting field or in combat." Spivack added that too often the communication between fathers and sons is either dead silence or furious rage.

Field of Dreams dealt with the same idea of a filial bond being made through sports. The main character of the movie was a son whose biggest dream is to make a connection with his father after he has died. He finally does this in a surreal game of catch. While it has been called corny, the movie dealt with some important issues in father/son relationships, such as the theme of death taking away the chance for a son to reveal how he really feels for his father. This is one of the reasons that Field of Dreams was so popular.

Barker pointed out that fathers can be so caught up in dealing with emotional baggage left over from their own fathers that they forget to deal with their sons. This was shown in the movie I Never Sang for my Father, in which the character playing the son says "Death ends a life, but it does not end a relationship." Survivors keep trying to reach a reckoning in themselves even after their loved one has passed on, according to Spivack. Barker related a story of one of his clients who couldn't come to terms with his own son because he had never come to terms with his father. I Never Sang for my Father also showed how fathers and sons react in the absence of a mother. "All relationships are mediated by someone else. In father/son relationships, it's mediated by the mother," said Spivack. While the mediator is a very important role, it also stands in the way of a real connection. In the movies Dad, I Never Sang for my Father and Ordinary People the father and son make a connection only once the mother as a mediator is removed.

Ordinary People was released in 1981 and contains one of the first scenes of a father and son hugging, telling each other, "I love you." Barker said that similar scenes have become more common since then and even commercialized to a point. Still, the movie showed a rare moment of a father and son bonding outside of a "battle-field" setting. The movie Dad showed another important issue in father and son relationships and that is what happens when the son must care for the father. In the movie, the son took the responsibility, but Barker pointed out that it is usually left up to either the son's wife or sister to take care of the father in real life.

Spivack and Barker have tentatively scheduled another talk for April 16. March is said to be in like a lion and out like a lamb. While this saying is usually meant to describe the meteorological conditions of the month, it had a slightly more literal meaning for Bard College as the end of March brought a lamb named Molly to the garage of Buildings and Grounds.

The lamb belongs to the Buildings and Grounds Director, Chuck Simmons, who raises livestock at home. This particular lamb was one of a set of twins. Unfortunately, it is not uncommon for mother sheep to reject one of its offspring when it does have twins. This is what happened to poor Molly. As if this wasn't bad enough, Molly's mother also stepped on her leg and broke it. "I had to bottle feed it and mend its leg," said Simmons. The lamb also had to be turned over frequently since its injury prevented it from turning itself and lying on one side can give a sheep pneumonia. Simmons brought it to work where he could watch over it all day. It was kept in a makeshift pen behind the garage. While it was originally there just for health reasons, it soon became a pet.

"It'll be its mother," Simmons joked. The B&G employees who worked in the garage offered to help out in caring for the lamb and soon became attached to it. They are even the ones who named it Molly.

The lamb is doing fine now and should be out in the pasture with its sheep friends by the time this sees print. But it will still hold a special place in the hearts of all the employees who cared and felt for it.

This is also another instance of the strong mystical connection Bard has for animals. Maybe Molly should be our school mascot. Imagine, Bard College, home of the "Lame Lambs," or the "Baaard Black Sheep Squadron?" I think it's a good idea and I wouldn't pull the wool over your eyes.

Chinua Achebe

continued from page 2

savagery is a condemnation of the continent, and is racist.

After Achebe's lecture, the packed auditorium filed out into the night discussing the event passionately. A huge crowd on the steps of Olin had to be navigated through in order to leave the site. The comments ran that Achebe was to be highly respected, but that he was rude to people who asked him questions during the discussion period, both on the video tape and in Olin.

Achebe seemed to have a prepared answer for any question that might be thrown his way. After all, he has been answering the same questions about his interpretation of Heart of Darkness since the publication of his famous essay in 1977. No matter what the question, he could fit it into a category of answers which could then be reiterated.

There seemed to be a lack of communication during the question and answer period, with a student telling him "That's not what I asked!" and Achebe responding, "You're not listening to my point!" When everyone finally understood each other, it seemed Achebe had had one point to make, made it, and just wanted to make sure that we knew it.

What is This?!

B & G Garage shelters sheep

by Greg Giaccio

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Bard Emergency Medical Service is fearlessly saving lives and binding wounds thanks to Andrew Molloy, Supreme Commander Allied Forces of Annandale.
Steve Kain-You are my most beloved box of rain.

Up Kerry

J. I checked with the FDA and no, it's not illegal. But why don't we keep working on the formula? We have plenty of time to profit from it. — Andrea

"Boy, could I go for a Benny now?"-An Angry Softball Player

Clari: Next time let's lie about the locations of our celebrations. I'm too much of an old grouch to go through that again. Love & Luggage-Olivia

To Mary-We got your note, the woman, smoke a cigarette sometime!

To Irene-We still have your rug!

To Baba, A.K.A. Sanushu-How are you? Hope you're well.

To Luis-Jah love you!

To Beth and Shelley—You need some: Mo' Better RHETORIC! The Posse (and we're not Black)

To Those Two Administrators-Liberals is passé-get progressive!

To BF-in the white building-somebody's lying!

To J.J., and not Austin-your planaro is undercooked-go swim back and get cooked-immigration!

To Ephem-Old Madame C.J. Walker do your hair? Were Curious, signed. Dark and Lovely Hair Care Products

To Michele B-.Too short, Too Black, Too Strong!!!... Too Female??

To Ephing-Let the little man in you turn out.

To Jo, Jo, Jo, Jose-Are you really a sexual legend in the Hudson Valley? Or are you just a teamswimmer? By the way, are you going to N.Y.?

To the Bald one-Are you really gay?

To Andy the body builder-Are you really "heathy?"

To Jolana B.-Why does everything you eat look like chicken?

To The Korean girl with attitude-Why?

To A.C. Anal-Are you with Rena on that 7 yr plan?

To aerobic chicken hawk-Thanx for that flash of whiteness (in DeKline) you need to get a deeper shade of soul!! yea, yea...

To the juniors & seniors—Remember the days when people wrote really fun personas? At least there was something in the paper to read.

To Abuela I think senility is setting in. You forgot your cane again.

To the informer A.K.A. Iris you said stop informing...

To M.L., May you live to be as old as you look

To A.M.K. What exactly do you do in that office? We are waiting for your response.

To S.Z. Is that Art? By the way your papers merged signed FF

To M-uh?

To the Jolly Green Giant-Are you considering a career with Green Giant or Birds Eye? I hear frozen corn is big this year.

Heidi H-Wake me up at 6 a.m.-I SWEAR I'll get up signed. The True all nighters

To Susan Z-you need some sunlight.

To Checo-Stop hanging with The Colonizer. Signed. The Third World

To Ephing-Boy are you a dissident, dissident, dissident? But what kind? Signed grand-daughter

To Roger Rabbit and The pointless posse-Throw a chocolate fantasy sometimes

To Leon-You embody The essence of black malehness-don't deny it

To Michele-How are the alps this time of year? I'd like to go. PSYCH!!!

To Jeanie aka Tushi-You're 19.

To P.O. AKA San___.To eat or not to eat?

To Timbuck & Tu-I 900 AFREE KAA!!! signed, The Third World

To Matheka a Triple H-Please do something about that

To Heist-About the coat-Would you donate your coat to the "Traffic Light Fund" signed Concerned Citizens with Rottens in their hair.

To D-the stiff one-Wiggle it just a little bit.

To Grace B._____.Peace!!

To Shaista, _______WARRRR.

To Michele, Afrin no mountain high enough!

To Kornima-yellow any anti-estimines lately. Signed. Clinto. Love ya

To those beautiful Latin women, who live in Red Sox, ummm...signed the Homeboys.

To EYEVERONE who helped make the Ménage & Trois a bonafide success. Thanks for the MEMORIES-Ephan

To Renae, A.K.A. Two Girl Shirt. AKA Karonimal-you know the one who looks like a grape in her coat—Are you ever graduating? We are also waiting for your response. The posse

To KVG-Please start your workshops for W.P. soon. Signed the Victims, A.K.A. The Posse.

To the Farm Animal and her friends, who insist upon clean all light up or shut up!!

To Butter Pie-have you checked your oven lately? Signed Sarah Lee

To the boys who don't wear beis—What language do you speak?

To Jolana-Classes don't forget M.. is waiting for you. Signed Responsibility.

To Two Curl Shiri-Just how many jobs do you have—actually, are you a student or just a townie?

To the organizers of DeKline—How much or a cut do you get? The Underemployed

To Bino-You're the Hypert and by the way we'll be watching those plantanos! Signed Friends of Grandma's shoes.

Dave-Happy Birthday, O.K. O.K. Love, Annie

To the twelve-sandwich-eating, high hair, works-at-Friendly's, poor-white-trash Idiot-Who has the most irritating laugh which she uses after every sentence and at everything anyone has ever said to her in her life... WE WANT SMOKE IF YOU STOP LAUGHING.

Dear Susan and Jim,

[For once we got the order of the names right.] I am sorry that Michael is unable to send you a personal this week. He is tired and gagged. However, if he is very good, perhaps I will release him for an hour to write you one next week. Take care, Kristan.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ASTRID! I'm sorry I couldn't call you this year. I don't think I have your phone number. I have a drink for me. We're 21 and in America that means it is finally legal. See ya later, alligator...

To my Thomas Mann: Where there's smoke is there fire? — Ephan

Renae, uFckoyuMs. Sonday Desi Love, Ephan

Kate, What is your problem this day.

Brian, Have you seen your man lately. Which one?

"To A. M. K. --- Or S. M. P. --- Or B. A. K. --- We saw you rearrange those Ménage posters.—The Other Society.

Legend of a Spring Polly

By the shining Sawmill Waters, in the warming Sun of Spring, basked the noble maiden, the graceful Princess Thundercloud, called the waters to the maiden, hark-ed she to her beckon, deeply clowd the rigid waters. Closely clung the waters to her, the cunning waters of the Sawmill, stripped the Princess of her sight. Humbled by her folly, twice victim of exuberance, now the proud Princess Thundercloud, to her spirit Fathers, must make supplication, for the return of her most precious vision.
Another View

People with eating disorders not alone

On request of the author, and due to the sensitive and personal nature of this article, the editors have agreed to withhold the name. — Ed.

My roommate told me that if I gained 20 pounds I would look human. My friends say I don’t look healthy. I’ve been getting other comments, too, such as “You’re looking kind of anorexic these days.” My roommate is sturdy and strong. She says I look like I will break.

People used to be in awe of my fast weight loss, my trim figure. They would ask me how I did it and what late. Then the comments became tinged with concern. “Why don’t you eat some real food?” I joke about my roommate’s eating habits—she seems to have pulled it off for herself. Labatt’s looks kind of on the skinny side. But an overwhelming fear of weight gain is not alone. I feel like I’m getting away from all the people I love in Canada and we don’t lie (usually).

I was diagnosed as having an eating disorder over a year ago. I swung between anorexia and bulimia. People tend to be almost in respect of anorexics, admiring them for their willpower. Bulimics, on the other hand, are often held in a lesser opinion. The idea of overeating and then forcing oneself to vomit tends to gross people out, and they assume the bulimic has more control over her disorder. Not true. Anyone who has ever had to deal with that “urge to purge” knows what I am talking about. It is a shameful, out-of-control feeling.

Eating disorders are hell, pure hell. I am so envious of people who can eat almost as an afterthought, who simply enjoy food but are not obsessed with it. Food is a source of life. To be alienated from it is horrible. It is painful. When I first stopped eating I felt great and euphoric. Now when I don’t eat I just feel flat. I have no energy. When I get into a bulimic phase, I feel manic. Every mealtime becomes my personal hell.

When I was in high school, when this began, my mother said she knew of another girl at my school with an eating disorder. As much as I wanted to know, she would never tell me who. I respect her sensitivity in “protecting the identity” of the other girl, but I felt really alone with my problem and really would have liked to be able to know that I was not completely alone with how I felt. Much as my family wanted to be supportive, they did not really understand what I was and am still going through.

If you know someone with an eating disorder, you may be familiar with what I am talking about. If you have an eating disorder, you are not alone. There is a support group here at Bard. We meet in the Women’s Center. If anyone is interested in attending a meeting, feel free to come. Meetings are held Mondays, 12:15-1:15 and Thursdays, 5:30-6:30.

The Beer Column

Well, we told you that we were going to Canada and we don’t lie (usually).

Canada’s major beers come from two main distributors, Molson and Labatt’s. Out of the five beers in this column, only four can be found in the U.S.: Molsons Brador, Golden, Dry and Labatt’s Blue, while the Labatt’s Dry is not yet available here.

It will become obvious after tasting this set that the Canadians are keeping the best for themselves. Labatt’s Dry was easily the best of the ones we tested, while following it closely in quality is Molson Dry. Both are pleasingly clean and crisp in flavor, much like their American counterparts Bud and Mic Dry, but Labatt’s & Molson are more distinctively Canadian.

Their American counterparts, Labatt’s Blue and Molson Golden are, a little more run-of-the-mill. We found the Blue fairly ordinary, like an upscale O’ (see Issue #23) and liked the Golden more for its slightly stronger taste that we feel captures more ‘Canadian-ness’ but it still doesn’t compare with what you can get abroad.

For the Truest Canadian Flavor (look, by that we mean elk, clean air, open skies, rivers stocked with fish, lower drinking age, loggers, and socialized medicine), Molson Brador can be obtained in the U.S. It’s actually a malt liquor, but you can hardly tell—it’s smooth like Dry, but a little sweeter (for a beer—it’s not like Orange Juice).

The final verdict: The only place that Canadian beers can truly be enjoyed is in Canada. It’s a little selfish, but their economy sucks and they need the tourist.
Carter deserves the applause by Kristan Hutchison

If you judge by his smile, Paul Carter is a success story. He has held many different jobs in the entertainment industry since graduating from Bard with a drama/dance major and religion minor in 1984, all of which he speaks of as positive, if not lucrative, experiences. Most recently, Carter returned from a six-month tour of Hair.

"I've worked at both the business/business and entertainment side of employment," said Carter. He worked as a part-time employee for Vanity Fair and Vogue and as a model for Conde Nast. Where he worked as a model, he said, "They speak of it as positive, but I get the feeling they're more interested in the resume of the model business. Where I worked, my background for a specific job. They all keep several different resumes which each include only their background for a specific job."

Resumés, not just one but many, are the first thing a student should type up, according to the alumni. They all keep several different resumes which each include only their background for a specific job. For example, Ellen Barker, '76, excluded her acting experience on the resume she forgot a job as a grant writer for American Ballet Theater in New York City.

The alumni found that they switched jobs several times and have balanced between one job that makes money and another that satisfies their artistic needs. "You get further if you do juggle jobs," said Michael Bloom, '73. "You also get further if you appear as a person who is trying to be a star, even if it is not true."

Overcoming prejudices of employers is an added challenge for art students. Many employers believe an artist will be an unreliable employee because the artist may be distracted by their "hobby" or even leave if they get a break in the art world. The solution suggested by the alumni is simply not to mention outside interests to employers.

"I've learned to lie a lot on my resume," said Paul Carter, '84. "I used to be a very honest person, but now I think it's better to be a little dishonest and make your life a little more palatable."

The new constitution is organized into six sections: preamble, definition of membership, the legislative bodies and processes, most of the permanent committees, permanent student representatives to college committees, and an outlined method for amending the constitution.

According to Boekhorst, the original constitution was less than five pages long. The triple-paced draft that is to be handed out for consideration is 57 pages long. Te Boekhorst also said that the constitution is still missing a few permanent committees, which will be added through amendments to the constitution in the future. In addition, the Student Life Committee, the Student Judiciary Board, and the Sexual Harassment Board are revising their own guidelines, which will be included for amendment in the case of the SHB as soon as possible.

"You realize that there are certain things about ethics and artistry that have to change. As long as employers are getting what they are paying for they don't have to know your entire life's aspirations."

However, it is important as a person to know your own aspirations and to find an appropriate balance between your art and other work, stressed the alumni. "This is a very personal question about how much each of us feels comfortable with a full-time job that is related to the arts. "If I wasn't going to be making art, at least I would be doing something that is part of the art world," said Barker. "At least I would be helping art happen."

Carter, '84.

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\[6\]
Entertainment

Someone tell Crichton, the dinosaurs are dead
by Jonathan Miller

For something dead 65 million years, dinosaurs are awfully hard to get away from. Every kid loves them, every museum features them, almost everyone secretly wishes they were still around. That nobody made up the reptilian nightmares, that they were once real, makes them a cryptic source of fascination.

Hence Michael Crichton’s novel Jurassic Park. In the past, imaginative writers had to depend on isolated and unexplored parts of the world to have a semi-logic behind living dinosaurs. Today, with the wonders of biological science, Crichton summons up gone splicers, computer generated genomes, and the intriguing possibility that clonable dinosaur genes might be retrieved from fossil records to conjure up his contemporary monsters.

In an island near Costa Rica, a mysterious project is going on. Millions of dollars are being sunk into no-one-knows-exactly-what by an overfed entrepreneur named Hammond, who just happens to have an obsession with dinosaurs. In Montana, a paleontologist named Alan Grant, after having been besieged for months with questions from Hammond’s men about what baby dinosaurs might eat, and what kind of environment they might live in, is invited to the island to aid in finishing the island’s mysterious project.

From DNA taken from prehistoric mosquitoes frozen in amber, Hammond’s scientists have cloned real live dinosaurs, and he has built an amusement park to display them in.

It all seems a little too perfect. Living dinosaurs, and a place where all may see them. Dinosaurs can’t swim off an island right? They’re all the same sex so they can’t reproduce, right? Sink millions into a security system and nothing will go wrong, right?

It does seem perfect, and it is this first third of the book that is best-written. However, the book, and the situation rapidly worsen.

When a disgruntled employee breaks into the lab to steal dinosaur embryos for which he has been promised millions, he accidentally shuts down the security system keeping the dinosaurs separate from each other. All hell breaks loose. These dinosaurs, for some reason having been reproducing, despite the fact they are supposed to all be sterile and female.

It becomes clear that these monsters are more mobile, rapid-moving and intelligent than anyone expected. In-between scenes of helpless humans being chased all over the amusement park by towering iguanas, a handy mathematician named Ian Malcolm provides doom-crying lectures from his sick-bed about the foolishness of scientists meddling in things man should leave alone.

Crichton at least shows a little originality in his choice of monsters. Although the compulsory story Tyrannosaurus Rex makes his appearance, Crichton’s real villains are the Velociraptors, lightening-like dinosaurs who stand seven-feet tall, with razor-sharp teeth and claws. They quickly learn to open doors and invade the main complex of the island. Crichton’s attempt to build up a tense scientific thriller fails.

The best way to describe Crichton would be calling him the Tom Clancy of science. This is not a compliment. In his earlier books, such as The Andromeda Strain and The Great Train Robbery, Crichton took his meticulous research and built up compelling thrillers with vivid characters and believable storytelling. Jurassic Park isn’t anywhere near as good. Much like Clancy, Crichton takes modernistic hard ware jargon, paranoia-inducing futureism, and slarm-bang action to cover up the lack of imagination or characterization in the language or story. This book has a number of the characters are made to seem living and real. Crichton decorates his books with a panoply of cliches: the heroic scientist, the domineering scientist, the villainous scientist, the villainous millionaire, and the two cute kids. It’s only with the children that Crichton attempts any level of characterization, and then only with the most clichéd ploy— their parents are getting divorced. As bland and one-dimensional as scientists and millionaires seem in real life, it’s hard to believe that Crichton couldn’t come up with more interesting characters.

There’s a credibility gap with the characters also. Malcolm’s moralistic lecturing on how the human race is destroying itself seems so phony so soon after the reawakening of environmental concerns. Similarly, making the millionaire the bad guy directly after the death of the eighties comes off as cheesy suspect. Most people would want to cheer the environmental good-guy and hiss the business-suited bad guy, but they’re not worth one’s time.

Crichton’s greatest failing is that the book just isn’t interesting. Nothing besides sex is more interesting than dinosaurs, yet Crichton’s saurians are disappointingly dull.

The novel is written in a simplistic, monosyllabic Dick-and-Jane style which keeps any trace of intrigue from creeping into the book. Crichton’s The Great Train Robbery ranked with Frederick Forsythe’s Day of the Jackal as one of the best thrillers of the seventies, yet Jurassic Park is devoid of drama or interest. Even in the climax, (neatly stolen from Alien) there is a distinct lack of menace to the carnivores invading the hotel. Crichton’s novel is the quickly-explained, high-concept type of novel that the movies love (Steven Spielberg already bought the movie rights), but Jurassic Park is a tragic waste of an excellent idea.

Jurassic Park @1990 by Michael Crichton is published by Alfred A. Knopf inc. for $19.95

The Madness of Lady Bright
by Anthony VanWagner

Exposed in the stagelights, students watched pieces of their own lives last week in “The Madness of Lady Bright.” The student production held a mirror to the audience, showing the loneliness familiar to all.

Written by Lanford Wilson, the play was chosen and directed by Jubileth Moore. “This was the first play that really hit me,” she said. “It was a more enjoyable experience. As she said, “we put it on together.”

Indeed, fairly strong acting by Christopher Gilber (as Lady Bright), David Costello, and Sara Khambata made the piece work.

The play, presented on April 7th and 8th by the Bard theater of drama and dance, was a student creation, and up to par with, or even better than, some of the faculty run pieces.

Morrissey: a requiem to Morrissey
by Christie Searing

"Ouija board, ouija board, can you help me? Because I still feel so terribly lonely...", Morrissey crooned on last year’s single "Ouija Board, " proving that in the nineties, English pop that seemed to stand for dreams and memories, was a student one-dimensional as scientists and millionaires seem in real life, it's hard to believe that Crichton couldn't come up with more interesting characters.

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"The Madness of Lady Bright" hit a powerful emotional blow to the audience as well. We saw the habits and actions of the discussied Leslie Bright, almost as our own. As Gilbert stares at his own image, we are left to look at ourselves.

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Bard bans beer during softball games

by Kristan Hutchison

Intramural softball players are up to bat and swinging with a bat, a ball, and a beer...Whoops, no beer this year. Stricter rules prohibiting the use of alcohol and other drugs while participating in intramural sports at Bard were introduced in January, but have only created unrest as spring softball players realized those rules include their traditional thirst quencher.

Since January, all intramural rosters have included the sentence "By signing this roster, I agree not to use alcohol and/or other drugs while participating in an intramural event." Men's and women's basketball players, as well as participants in the volleyball tournaments, had to sign the form.

"Drinking has been more of a tradition with softball than with any other sport, mostly because it is outside and springtime," said Kris Hall, Director of Intramurals.

The new rules came out of an ad hoc meeting which Joel Thompson arranged so the student services staff could meet Kris Hall and discuss issues in which the different administrators could work together, such as health. Included at that meeting were Dorothea Crane, Beth Frumkin, Shelley Morgan, Harriet Schwartz, and Gladys Watson.

The issue of alcohol arose because the past alcohol policy for intramurals has been unclear and inconsistent with the college's general alcohol policy. Also, there were concerns about safety and the college's liability if someone were injured at a sports event. "This is due to a change in some attitudes on the campus in general, changes in the legal statutes in New York state, and changes in liability law," said Thompson.

"The point is not that we are trying to police at softball games, or that we are trying to impede people's enjoyment. The basic reason is safety," said Hall. She has the responsibility of going over the rules and the reason for them with all the team captains before the games begin.

Though there have never before been any alcohol-related injuries during Bard sporting events, Hall considers that just good fortune. "Alcohol does effect people's motor skills, and as a result of that people's judgement may be impeded and situations may occur that wouldn't come up if people hadn't been drinking," said Hall.

According to Hall, most colleges have similar rules. "This is a basic rule that any intramural program follows if they want to run a safe program," said Hall. "I really don't think asking people not to drink for one hour a week is that big a deal...Intramurals is just not the time for drinking."

Softball players still thirst for a beer. "There are things to be done at certain times," said Fred Baker, who plays for the Screaming Kostabi's. "You don't drink beer at 6:00 in the morning...You drink beer while you do something that is fun and recreational."

Tennis: A small blaze to beat the damp

by Kristan Hutchison

Wet weather put a damper on the men's tennis matches this weekend, causing forfeits on Saturday and Sunday. But the Blazers still have a hot 4 to 1 record. The one game the Blazers did play, against Manhattanville on Friday, they lost 7-2. Halpern kept the spark alive in his matches, winning No. 6 singles and third doubles with Noah Samton. Rumors of rain kept Castleton in Vorrant on Saturday, causing the forfeit. On Sunday, Webb Institute followed suit with another forfeit.

Scores from Friday's Game

Marcello Pizzinbono (M) def. Lou Ilic 6-2 and 6-1
Dave Tyree (M) def. Chris Lennan 7-5 and 6-3
Ted Boesky (M) def. Matt Phillips 6-1 and 6-3
Jay Levin (M) def. Henri Ringel 6-3, 3-6 and 6-3
Dan Halonkas (M) def. Noah Samton 6-1 and 6-4
Issac Halpern (B) defeated Dwayne Gosselin 6-3, 4-6 and 7-6
Pizzinbono-Levin (M) def. Lennan-Ringel 7-5 and 6-4
Tyree-Boesky (M) def. Phillips-Ilic 7-5 and 6-1
Santon-Halpern (B) def John Park-Paul Cummins 8-3

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Earth Day starts small
by Jason Van Driesche

What does Earth Day mean to you? For too many people, it seems to mean a chance to get smashed in the name of the environment, then leave your bottles and hot dog wrappers on the grass for Mother Nature to deal with. That's what happened last year, when 500,000 Earth Day celebrants left tons of trash behind them after an "awareness" event in Central Park.

The same thing happens on a smaller scale, but on a daily basis, here at Bard. It is very chic to be environmentally conscious, but I know very few people who make a real, tangible effort, on a daily basis, to improve the local environment we all share. There are so many smokers on this campus who claim to be friends of the environment, but I personally know only one who makes a point of carrying his butts with him until he can find a trash can. Most people here refuse to use aerosol products because they damage the ozone layer, but how many people would pick up an aerosol can and throw it in the trash if they found one lying in the grass along Annandale Road?

We, as individuals, are responsible for the condition of the campus, be it good or bad. We all need to decide what we want this place, our home, to be like and then work toward that end.

If you want Bard to be a pit, fine. Drop your trash wherever you happen to be. But then don't complain when you cut your foot on a broken bottle someone like you threw on the ground.

But if you like Bard, if you enjoy how beautiful it is (or used to), do something about it. Don't throw your butts on the ground. Pick up the bottle that some jerk left lying in Tewks field and put it in a recycling bin. And get your friends to do likewise.

Make a start of it this Saturday. Spend a few hours on Earth Day helping clean up the campus. But don't let that commitment fade as soon as you roll out of bed Sunday morning. Make it a starting point for a long-term, daily commitment to making the world, or even just your part of it, a little better -- and a little more beautiful.

To participate in the campus cleanup from 3:00 to 5:00 on Saturday, April 20, please call Jason at 758-1209, or just show up at the Old Gym at 2:45.

FOR SALE—U.S. Olympic Ski Team Car, 1983 Subaru Wagon GL, Front & 4W drive, good condition. Asking $1,500 or best offer. Call 757-5412

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Wanted: Money to go to Greece this summer. --Box 759

Tutors/Counselors are needed for the 1991 HEOP Summer Pre-Freshman Program. Applicants should be upperclasspersons in good academic standing who have satisfactorily completed two years of college. At least two letters of recommendation are required. For applications, salary and other details, inquire at the HEOP Office. Applications are required by May 1, 1991.

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Letters

Where is the afikomen?

The loss of last week's seder article was the fault of the production staff, not Greg. The continuation is on the right. Last week's Observer can be picked up from the Observer office in the basement of Tewksbury. —Ed.

Dear Editor,

I myself have never been to a Seder and was very interested by Greg Ciaccio's article on this traditional Jewish holiday. If only I could have finished reading the article! Areyouawarethaton page 10 underneath the heading “Passover Seder Dinner” is the rest of the machine article? After forcing myself to read the entire fawning paper, I realized that I had once again been coerced into doing something I had no desire to do. I saw an interesting article, and instead of printing this to get me to read the rest of the goddamned awful paper. Please print the rest— I was actually enthralled (I really want to know what Hanya Zwick was given instead of a kitten!).

Rachel Smith

Hypocrisy?

To the Observer:

I am annoyed by the Bard Observer's coverage of the Jewish Student Organization's passover seder. If I had not gone to the seder and only knew about it through Greg's article, I would have been glad that I missed it. There was no need for attempted humor in this article. The title was cute (“Seder was nothing to Passover”), much better than the offensive “Purim For Goyim” concoction, but the rest served solely to degrade the significance the seder has held for Jews during the last 2000 years. The article was the middle matzah which is broken into two uneven pieces during the beginning of the ceremony. The larger piece, the sign of the piece that would make the article whole is missing. What is printed in last week's edition of the paper is the superficial fluff and nonsense included in the smaller piece. Where have you hidden the afikomen, Greg?

No one spoke of the disruptive wrong number cell phone as the prophet Elijah. We know there is a Cecil B. De Milles movie starring Charlton Heston about the story of the Exodus (The Ten Commandments), but it has no relevance to the seder we put together.

The seder plate is traditional, contrary to the photo caption. We even went so far as to substitute the shankbone with a beet, which is also allowed under ritual tradition, to liberate animals from our plates for the ceremony. The meal, too, was vegetarian. We tried to put together a seder representing not only the biblical liberation of the Jews from slavery in Egypt, but the manifestations of liberty in our everyday life.

I don't know you, however, for the middle of the article. It contained a good deal of information about the order of the ceremony. Though we did have the maids of the temple make caremarks (parley) at the proper time in the ceremony, we did organize and execute it according to its traditional order. The word “seder” literally means order or arrangement in Hebrew, and we kept this in mind in all stages of planning.

Copies of the JSO “Welcome to Our Seder” Haggadah (booklet) are available for those who are interested.

Rachel Smith

Better late than never, here is the continuation of last week's seder article. All those responsible are receiving their severe drubbing.—Ed.

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 Eli Zwick. She asked for a kitten, but was given a bottle of soda instead.

The next part of the ceremony dealt with the issue Jewry in the Soviet Union. Ethan Bloch pointed out that this was rapidly becoming less of a problem as more Jews were being allowed to emigrate. The congregation then began to discuss Jews in captivity everywhere from Ethiopia to Syria. Beverly Beils pointed out that the Haggadah was dynamic and can change to accommodate the present status of Jews all over the world.

This was apparent with the prayer Dayeinu, which means enough. The prayer was made up of statements dealing with how the world could be improved. At the end of each statement the congregation says dayeinu.

The food was surprisingly good for a Seder meal. They served salad, eggs, stuffed eggplant and tofu for the vegetarians. I took the time to talk to some other people at the dinner to see what they thought about the Seder.

“IT struck me as being very stylized,” said Mike Stima, also a newcomer to the Seder tradition. “Students obviously had a large hand in forming the [Haggadah]. It makes me wonder what a more traditional Seder would be like.”

Mike Wacks said that this Seder was “a lot different” from the ones he had at home. “Our Seder is a lot more orthodox, more conservative...I feel like an outsider in my own religion.”

This Seder may have seemed different because it was in the Reconstructionist tradition, not the more conservative Reform or Orthodox traditions.

Hypocrisy?

To The Editors:

Two weeks ago, BBLAGA put up some offensive signs. Many people did not like to look at cardboard cutouts of penises while eating; others found them beyond criticism, but comparing humor ordinarily

Rebekah Klein

Please ignore...

To the readers of The Bard Observer:

Please ignore all quotes attributed to me in the paper’s April 12th story “New Organization Rises Out of Minimum Wage Chaos.” Many were taken out of context. Others were inaccurate paraphrases of my words. It is my feeling that the story’s author, Tom Hickerson, lacks a basic understanding of his subject matter and of established journalistic rules. I will never allow him to interview me again.

Thank you,

Fiona Lawrence

Room draw

Room draw continued from page 10 before all those who wanted it had been satisfied, she denied that those students were given preferential treatment.

The student group went on to formulate a set of demands to present to Watson and Dean of Students Shelley Morgan at the Student Life Committee meeting at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, April 19.

Among the immediate demands:

* Room selection should be done immediately, using the numbers people already selected.
* Those students living should be strictly limited to the listed rooms and dorms, and should be chosen at the same time as the rest of the singles on campus.
* Freshmen should not be allowed to squat their rooms.

For the long term, the group hopes to generate enough student support to bring about permanent change in the room draw system. In addition to the above changes, they want the college to:

* Ensure that the rules apply to everyone equally, regardless of how much they complain.
* Require that freshmen who request a room change be placed in another double unless no doubles are available.
* Speed up and simplify the numbers selection process.

Wrightson indicated willingness to consider the demands.
### Gamelan Concert:
A performance by Gamelan Son of Lion, an ensemble playing hand-made replicas of traditional Indonesian instruments. Now in its 14th year of performing, the group will play works by members Barbara Bunary and David Demnitz as well as works from their repertoire of traditional and modern Indonesian pieces. 7:00 PM in Brook House on Friday, April 19. 

### Levy Lectures:
At 4:30 PM on Friday, April 19, Dr. Thomas Karier will present a lecture entitled *Accounting for the Decline in Private Sector Unionization: Representation Elections, Structural Change and Restructuring*. The lecture will take place in the conference room at Blithewood and is open to the public free of charge. Dr. Karier is currently a Resident Scholar at the Jerome Levy Economics Institute and Visiting Associate Professor of Economics at Bard. He has written extensively on issues in labor economics, including a study of *Trade Deficits and Labor Unions: Myths and Realities*, published in 1990. Also, on Monday, April 22, a lecture will be given on *The Time of Our Lives: The Uses of the Clock and Modernization* by Dr. David S. Landes. Dr. Landes is Coolidge Professor of History and Professor of Economics at Harvard University. His current research interests include the relations of time measurement to society, culture, science and technology, technological change and the organization of work, and the historical origins of the inequality of nations. 8:00 PM in the Conference Room of Blithewood.

### Drama and Dance Performance:
The Bard Theatre of Drama and Dance presents The Secret Rapture by David S. Landes. Dr. Landes will be a Resident Scholar at the Jerome Levy Economics Institute and Visiting Associate Professor of Economics at Bard. He has written extensively on issues in labor economics, including a study of *Trade Deficits and Labor Unions: Myths and Realities*, published in 1990. Also, on Monday, April 22, a lecture will be given on *The Time of Our Lives: The Uses of the Clock and Modernization* by Dr. David S. Landes. Dr. Landes is Coolidge Professor of History and Professor of Economics at Harvard University. His current research interests include the relations of time measurement to society, culture, science and technology, technological change and the organization of work, and the historical origins of the inequality of nations. 8:00 PM in the Conference Room of Blithewood.

### Calendar of Events

**Saturday 20**
- Morning: Bard van shuttle runs to Rhinecliff, Red Hook, & Rhinebeck
- 5:45 to 6:30 PM: Trip to Hudson Valley Mall, Kingston
- 8:00 PM: The Secret Rapture Theatre
- All Day: Earth Day events
- See articles on pages 2 and 8

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<tr>
<th>Sunday 21</th>
<th>Monday 22</th>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
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<td>Ecumenical Worship Service Chapel</td>
<td>Women's Center Meeting Student Center</td>
<td>Spring Blood Drive</td>
<td>Spanish Table, Kline Commons</td>
<td>BILAGA Meeting Albee Social Room</td>
<td>General deadline for submissions to The Bard Observer</td>
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<td>7:00 PM</td>
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<td>Environmental Club</td>
<td>The Secret Rapture Theatre</td>
<td>College Room, Kline Commons</td>
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<td>French Table, Kline Commons</td>
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<td>Observer All Staff Meeting</td>
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**Train Runs:**
- 6:15 PM for the 6:30 Train
- 6:36 PM for the 7:36 Train
- 8:00 PM for the 9:15 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

**Deadline for all calendar submissions for the issue covering May 4, 1991.**