# **OBSERVER**

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**Bard** College's News, Arts, & Sports Weekly

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"Seems like only yesterday I was having an identity crisis. Or someone was. I think it WAS ME." -- MICHAEL FELDMAN

Volume 99, Number 20

Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504

March 11, 1992

# **Busy Student Forum**



On the left you can see three members of the Central Committee. From left to right: Erin Law, Secretary, Missy Cahoon, EPC Chair, and Christine Gobbo, Planning Committee chair. Matt J. Lee and Andy Molloy are not pictured.

Michael Poirier News Editor

At an industrious meeting Monday evening, the Student Forum passed four resolutions, including election guidelines, requests for re-evaluations of the academic calendar, a new student center, and information about faculty search committees made available to the student body.

The election guidelines were amended to the constitution following the debate raised last week

election procedures. The resolution which was passed stipulated that the Secretary would conduct and/or delegate an Election Committee to oversee the election on a volunteer basis. The call for candidates must precede the election by at least one full week and make clear where and when other, so we should be able to the election is to take place. All trust them to be fair." members of the student body shall receive ballots through campus mail and turn in that ballot at a upon the administration to 'please central location accessible to all build us a student center soon." students (such as the post office.) The resolution itself discussed Once the ballot has been cast, the

concerning the need for concrete student's name shall be checked off a list to prevent multiple vot-

Concern was expressed over whether or not the election officials would be impartial, but as Joshua Kaufman commented, "It is inevitable that people involved in an election will know each

The Student Life Committee sponsored a resolution "calling

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# New face in the library

Michael Poirier News Editor

Jeffrey Katz began his tenure as the Director of Libraries at Bard on March 1, 1992 after sixteen years of library administrative experience in Massachusetts. With the major expansion the library is undergoing, Katz has his job cut out for him; the quote from Goethe beside his desk ("No hurry, no rest.") seems appropriate.

"The popular perception of library is the house of correction, the place where order is paramount," commented Katz on his new position. "I see the library as a place of exchange and commerce, kind of like a busy port city. I like to think of it as a place of departure and connection for the entire Bard community."

Katz earned his Bachelor's degree from Boston University and went on to receive a Masters in Library Science and English and

University respectively. Beginning in 1975, he worked as Coordinator of Library Services for young adults in the Framingham public library. Most recently, he was director of the Springfield City Library where he managed 120 staff members and a 750,000 volume collection.

"I came to Bard because people at Bard are on their feet; they're not waiting for something to happen," remarked Katz on what appealed to him about the college. The faculty represents the tops in their fields, and from what I have seen and read from the Senior Projects downstairs, the students are intelligent and inven-

Describing his responsibilities as head librarian, Katz explained that his job involved "setting a mission for the library that is consistent with the mission of the college." He is participating in the current library projects which include completing the new

American Literature from Stevenson wing, renovating the Simmons College and Brandeis Hoffman and Kellogg sections, on time" and added that, from his getting a library computer system on-line and "generally improving the collection and resources of the library."

The library expansion is planned for completion in February 1993, when the computer system should be completed as well. Katz feels

regular meetings with the contractors, "everything is going according to schedule...things are moving right along."

"I think our greatest emphasis (as the library resource) is on a great service from a responsive collection organized to make it

"confident that it will be finished easily accessible to students and the faculty," Katz explained as the primary purpose of the library. "Our goal is to satisfy 100% of user requests all of the time. That's an ambitious goal, but that's what goals are for."

#### Forum continued

continued from page 1

how most residential schools have considerable student recreation center resources, the center at Bard is "woefully inadequate to the social needs of a diverse and growing student body." On behalf of the Student Association, the SLC requested that the administration "begin planning and fundraising on a Student Center renovation/expansion with all due haste" and expressed their willingness to assist the process in any way possible.

David Rolf explained that this kind of resolution is sent to the administration every semester, "not because we believe that they are actually going to do anything about it right away but we just like to periodically remind them that they should." Members of the Senior class added that part of their gift would go towards a new student center fund while the college itself is waiting for a donor.

Missy Cahoon of the Educational Policies Committee introduced a resolution asking that when faculty search committees have been formed that the EPC be notified of the members selected. Students therefore can have an opportunity to offer input regarding the hiring of a new faculty member. "Right now, we aren't immediately told anything about the search committees," stated Cahoon. The members of the current search committee include Professors Kovel, Chase, Griffith, Leyner, and Dominy.

passed and sent on to the Dean of the College, the Registrar's Office, and the Executive Committee of the Faculty concerned the recently released schedule for the 1992-93 semester. Drafted by Matt Apple, the letter argued that the Bard schedule begins and ends a week later than most other colleges and this makes it difficult to obtain summer jobs. The upcoming year might prove to be even more difficult with a seven week-long intercession and classes ending on the last Wednesday of May. The final, amended resolution read that "We (the student body) respectfully ask that you reconsider the length and dates of Bard's academic year; specifically that you set the length of the January intercession (including that of the coming year) at six weeks." After debate, it was agreed that a six week long intercession was enough time for internships or winter jobs, yet still allowed classes to end early enough for Bard students to have a chance at

The need for the Forum to participate in an Ad-Hoc Security Committee was also discussed at the meeting. In a recent law approved by President Bush, colleges nationwide have to collect and distribute to prospective students crime statistics concerning their school. This "Campus Right to Know Act" requires every college to create a "Security Committee" that would research

summer jobs when they get home.

A final resolution that was and disclose the relevant information as well as what steps have been taken to improve the campus crime situation. This committee will have to turn in a report by next October to avoid the penalty for noncompliance. Composed of eight members, chaired by Dean of Students, Shelley Morgan, this committee must include two student representatives; the election or delegation of those representatives will be determined at the next Forum meeting.

In other Forum news, the Planning Committee was forced to invest\$1,175 from the Emergency Fund to replace some of the audio equipment stolen two weeks ago. This allocation has severely diminished the Emergency Fund and Treasurer Matt Lee urged clubs to watch their spending carefully. The results of the student survey conducted during the last elections concerning locks on dormitories will be made public next week, SLC chairperson, Erin J. Law, explained that "the overwhelming majority of students were opposed to the locks." 🐬

## The Entertainment **Committee Presents:**

Sat. March 14 in Olin Auditorium, 8pm: THE DAVID MURRAY OCTET

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David Murray-tenor sax James Spaulding-alto sax Hugh Ragin-trumpet Dave Burrell-piano Tani Tabul-drums

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# Nobel laureate visits Bard

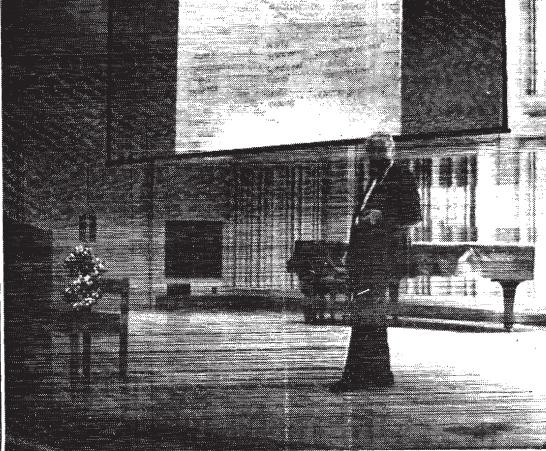
Jason Peck Staff Writer

Last Saturday the fourth event in Bard's Distinguished Scientists Lecture series took place. Students community members packed the Olin Auditorium to hear the lecture of Dr. James Dr. Watson, noted along with Dr. Francis Crick for discovering the double helix structure of DNA.

The rather humble appearance of Dr. Watson belied prestigious accomplishments and his plain speech dispelled the old axiom that scientists are easily heard but rarely understood. After thanking the crowd for the warm reception given him, Dr. Watson proceeded to surprise and amuse the crowd by stating that he was now a bureaucrat rather than a scientist. The rest of the afternoon was filled with such similar insights into the personality of Dr. Watson.

To lead the audience into the main point of the discussion of the evening, his Human Genome Project, Dr. Watson gave us a look into the mind and the past of a genetic biologist. He started off by stating that his life has been moving from one place to another. He claimed that he "was in the sixth phase of his life."

The first phase of his life was college at the University of Chicago where he intended to be an ornithologist (bird doctor) at the age of fifteen. With typical aplomb that would characterize the rest of the afternoon, he described his



Who discovered the double helix structure of DNA? Elementary, My dear Watson.

cago as "pure memorization" and addressed the members of the audience who attend Bard by saying that in college we should "think instead of memorize." He continued by saying that, "By the time I reached the fourth year at college it never paid to study for exams except the night before."

He then went on to describe his formative years at Indiana Uni-

obtained his Ph.D. in 1950, after only studying there for three years. It was at Indiana University of Pennsylvania that Dr. Watson met his friend and codiscoverer of the double helix, Francis Crick.

"In science, what made me succeed was that I enjoyed being with bright people...I like bright people. Francis Crick was the first person

study at the University of Chi-versity of Pennsylvania where he I could talk with...He talked; not many people talk. I think a lot of

people thought Francis talked too

much." After that, Dr. Watson shifted gears to talk about the third phase of his life, the teaching phase. Watson taught biology at Harvard for over twenty years before retiring in 1976. "If you are going to bea teacher, go where the students are bright, "Watson said about his teaching experience.

Watson went on to describe the bureaucracy he found in the teaching profession, noting that to a professor it isn't important what you teach your students but how many noteworthy lectures you produce. He related his own study, explaining that the more he concentrated on his lectures, the more boring his lectures became until finally one of his un-

dergraduate students wrote on his evaluation that "the person who was teaching biology should shoot

The fourth phase of his life was his attempt at writing. Yet unlike most scientists who decide to write, his books were more than just a transcription of his lectures.

"I thought that I would write up my lectures at Harvard, but I didn't. You can't bore your readers. It is important to look for the right words."

Although some people have criticized his writing for being too free in making intuitive leaps, Watson said, "In writing, one has to take some chances. One has to predict the future, or else one's book will go out of date."

He concluded his talk with the fifth and sixth stages of his life; as director of the Human Genome Project, and a fundraiser for the project.

"I like rich people," he stated in defense of his fundraising position, "besides, there's a lot of nasty poor people, too."

After a quick job description, he finally reached his point of destination for the evening which was what the Human Genome Project is doing and how it was formed.

The Human Genome Project was started in order to identify all of the genes in the human body. Each gene is written in a type of alphabet made up of four molecules called nucleotides. The goal of the Human Genome Project scientists is to discover the sequence of these nucleotides on the human genome and find out what "words" or genes they spell

"If you are the recipient of a bad gene, life can be miserable...we're there to try to learn about diseases and correct these words," said Dr.

While some scientists dispute the value of such a project, Congress thought it was worthy enough to grant it \$200 million a year.



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## Sitting in Olin with a view of Peru

Walter Swett Staff Writer

Last Tuesday night Professor Oleszkiewicz gave an enlightening presentation entitled "Cultural Syncretism in the Andes: The festivalof Paucartambo." The presentation was well attended by students, professors, and visitors from the surrounding areas.

Professor Oleszkiewicz shared information which she collected while researching her Phd.. in 20th Century Latin American Litera-

ture. She began her lecture by giv- loosely on religion. Each locality ing an overview of the common has a patron saint which was rantypes of festivals in Peru and by discussing the historical background of festivals in general.

Festivals, Oleszkiewicz said, were the earliest from of drama in the region, dating back to the times of the Incas and before. An early festival was a celebration of the birth of a member of the royal family. The festival would be held on the occasion of the child's first haircut and involve a massive production using soldiers as its actors and dancers.

Today, Oleszkiewicz continued, almost all festivals are based

domly assigned by the Spanish monarchy during the seventeenth century. The festivals coincide with the Saint's birthday and entail anywhere from a day to a week of parades, dances, feasts, general partying, and religious observance.

Professor Oleszkiewicz gave an in depth look at the mestizo festival of Paucartambo Peru which is typical in that it is a festival in which all classes of people participate in the dances and performances on an equal footing.

festival is actually more a question of money than of class. Oleszkiewicz said that almost all of the dances that are performed during the festival involve traditional costumes which burst with such colorful beauty that they are thought to be "fit for the gods". Each outfit is handmade and interwoven with precious stones and metals which make participation in the dances which call for more elaborate costumes impossible for those who can't afford to buy them.

Professor Oleszkiewicz's pre-The only major impact which sentation consisted of slides and a

class has on the participants of a video supplementary by her commentary. Unfortunately for those of you who weren't there, no words could possibly convey the images of the festival we saw. Not only was the photography and videotaping excellent, but the accompanying narration was thoughtful and well presented.

Be sure to attend the next lecture Professor Oleszkiewicz will be presenting, "Taquile: Preservinga Pre-Columbian Way of Life," on Tuesday, March 17.



## Professor Kamyar Arasteh to teach psychology at Bard

Mike Poirier News Editor

Professor Kamvar Arasteh has been selected by the Faculty Search Committee to enter the tenure track as an Assistant Professor of Psychology beginning next semester. Specializing in both cognitive and physiological psy- and pharmacological psychology. chology, Arasteh is currently completing his post-doctoral year at John Hopkins School of Medi-

Levine explained the hiring of Arasteh will, for the first time in the P sychology department, bringin a professor with extensive experience and interest in teaching within the field of physiological

Another consideration in his appointment was Arasteh's intencontinue his physiacological research without a lot of elaborate equipment while enlisting the involvement of his undergraduate students.

"Mr. Arasteh will bring in an important area of expertise that the department doesn't have right now," commented Levine. "He A+M, investigating cerebral

his own interests in teaching coincided with what we needed from the new professor."

Arasteh, who is originally from Iran but has spent many years in the United States, received his bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology from Marshall University. He earned his doctorate at the University of Texas

was an excellent choice because functions while doing some teaching there as a graduate student. He also taught at the University of Nebraska, Wesleyan and is right now conducting his post-doctoral work in behavioral pharmacology at John Hopkins.

### Refer to above message

subversive nature of fiction, but then when you read modern American novels, they all

A man named Howard Rose, who ou've never head of, wrote some of America's great subversive fiction until his death in Olive Bridge in 1987.

You never heard of him because after his first novel was published by Macmillian in 1969 to glowing praise, he never got his

fiction into print again. He tried for a while, but he kep getting rejections that said, "Wonderful, eautiful, but this product can't be merchanlised." Product? Bitterly, he quit trying to sell: He kept writing every morning before going to work at a Madison Avenue art allery, but only his friend and companion,

Raymond Saroff, got to see his magic.
"Maybe he wrote for me; I don't know," Saroff says. "He just had to write. His characters were in is head all the time. He'd giggle and I'd say, 'What's up?' and he'd say 'Irene [a character] just said something funny.

You want subversive? Find a truly mAmerican novel like The Pooles of Pismo Bay, so obnoxious to today's temperament—so free of clean motives and pithy, cnowing winks, so full of troubled philosophy—that a small-press publisher in Kingston had to practically raid the author's grave to get it in print.

And even then this secret, and its uncomfortable reminders of the interior orrors that reflect social woes, can't get a ick of the attention it deserve

'You just try to keep the work out in Review by Neal Allen from the Woodstock Times, May 2, 1991. Oak Street Beach (\$9.00) and The Pooles of Pismo Bay (\$10.00) are published by Raymond Saroff and are available from McPherson & Co., P.O. Box 1126, Kingston, NY 12401. These books are also available in the Bard bookstore.

Dean of the College Stuart

some view, so that people who are interested fact open corrals adjoining the migrant or will connect," Bruce McPherson, who copublishes the book with Saroff, says stoically. And then the book might sit on a warehouse shelf for a year or two before a reviewer or two take notice. "It's enough to

drive a sane publisher insane. Maybe this novelist Howard Rose uncovered by McPherson will be rediscovered by a a public of a few thousand readers, which is success in the small press world, and just as likely he won't, which would be more than a pity. But he's dead, and, says McPherson: "It's particularly difficult to present the works of an author posthumously. People don't like dead people in this

Rose was 47 when Twelve Ravens, written in the '50s, was published by Macmillan. The notices were good but Macmillan was indifferent and the book, a marvel of psychological suspense and historical integrity, flopped. Rose wrote six more before he died suddenly of a heart attack in 1987; none was published. There was not boodles of money to

be made on Howard Rose's work, no Hollywood in his future. Here is a sentence, taken almost at random, from a passage describing the phenomenon of adolescent American princesses: "Their radically estranged, virtually sexless genius, that is committed nowhere, that can do anything, that can grapple with elements and causes, that may be of all developed consciousness the one to cut us loose of human nature and help with a freeing that proclaimed revolutionists cannot bear to imagine, in their human natures, has crystallized instead on the weight that holds us down."

Or the first sentence of Oak Street Beach, written in the '70s: "Twice-remote in ones that are impossible to answer. thick morning fog off the water, Reuben Poole, extinct labor activist, of recent years a drifter in and out of 'detention wards' (in

logging towns whose privileged lanes he haunted), sprawled at length on a rag of bedcover over the sand.'

These are sentences of rhythm, style, intelligence, and stubborn force. They are the work of a writer who refuses the antiintellectual stance this country demands.

Rose writes incessantly about aranoia and faith, but he manages to omit clinical that would



accessibility. Instead he expects attention to long, metaphysical rationales broken by plotting that unfolds in difficult paradoxes; the suspense is accompanied by the gnawing that is by turns gorgeously snippy, insuffer-realization that Rose has taken the holiest of fiction-writing vows, the ones which that is by turns gorgeously snippy, insuffer-ably WASPy—children may be insulted as readily as table manners, but ideas, realization that Rose has taken the holiest of demand that the questions he asks are the

These two novels--Oak Street Beach is a sequel, written two decades after The Pooles—take the Wobbly movement as a

grounding for fat debates over the worthiness or futility of utopian gestures, of pushing blindly through good deeds, and of

The Industrial Workers of the World and Reuben Poole are born in the same year, 1903. Poole's father is killed in the labor struggle; his mother, an Emerson-bred stentorian new Englander, becomes the loudest and most faithful spokeswoman for the doomed cause of syndicalism and capitalist overthrow. She retires after the government's purges in the teens, when Wobbly leadership-Debs, Haywood, Mother -was jailed or killed after

shepherding wartime labor strikes. Reuben Poole replaces his mother, but outside of their bourgeois Massachusetts hometown, he is less a hero than an anachronism as his head is bloodied in labor auses that aren't his own. Poole retains the Wobbly creed—crafts unions and collective bargaining are cooptation—long after there are no such windmills left to tilt, in a culture suspicious of ideas and informed by a conservative press. Remind you of anything? His wife is a demented Pangloss, whose manichean paranoia has left her chronically dull and indifferent to anything

It is the wife's madness, the depth of which Rose allows to emerge ever so slowly, that Rose nails in the first book. It takes him 251 pages to get around to the word "paranoid"; Rose is too busy digging at the sickness to stop and label it. He dresses this unfolding in harrowing dialogue especially ones that might provide touchstones for compassion, are to be protected from view-and wholly, wonderfully,

repeatedly, determinedly hypocritical. What is subversive? Here is a book

as the endall and as infernally corrupt; the lumpenproletariat as worthless pawns of revolutionaries (and undeserving until the point of salvation), and simultaneously as the only people worth saving; religiosity and atheism as virtually interchangeable; the American labor movement as a scam of the workers and also as an uplifting force: and the Wobbly cause

change is deniable. In the second book, Oak Street Beach, Poole washes up on a Chicago beach (Chicago was the birthplace of Rose and the Wobblies) in 1953, 15 years after we last saw him, and is pulled into a conspirational intrigue that ests his faith once more, this time in a New Testament persecution fable. Poole is a Gulliver, but the satire is as weird and dark as it is funny.

itself as a worthy melange of transcen-

dence, idiocy, nobility, thoughtlessness

and compassion. Change is virtue and

Oak Street Beach is so packed with psychological and literal mysteries (not all are unpacked) and so belligerently indirect (the author's persistent obtuseness is a feint, and patience is rewarded), and its locutions are so idiosyncratic, that it's a marvel the book is in print. Still, it arrives fresh and free of literary gamesmanship, reflecting not trendoid semiotics but a hard-fought attempt to be true to the twisted people who infect its pages, and who provide the book's wisdom.

'It was a find," says McPherson of the works of Howard Rose, "a discovery out of somebody's desk drawer that you don't make but once in a thousand times."

It is unAmerican to publish a work that so scandalously cries for thought and idealism in a selfish culture. It is truly subversive.

# **Another View**

## Fears of Cheers' star Woody Harrelson

Woody Harrelson, of CHEERS has written an essay marking the one year anniversary of the Gulf War. At the onset of the war, Harrelson was criticized by many for openly opposing our government's decision to use military means against Iraq. As a result his invitation to Grand Marshal the New Orleans Mardi Gras parade was rescinded. Now one year has passed and he looks back upon the events that shook the world.

by Woody Harrelson

One year ago the war with Iraq began. Many believe that the war was necessary and justified whereas others, like myself, believe that the war was methodically planned and executed with specific intent.

In 1895, Teddy Roosevelt said, "What this country needs now is a war. Any war will do." And a century later there continue to be those who benefit from war.

The oil industry achieved record breaking profits; the military industrial complex, which had been facing enormous cuts in the wake of Peristroika, happily eliminated the term "peace dividend" from the political vocabulary; George Bush managed a dramatic upswing in popularity, got people's minds off the economy, succeeded in shedding his wimp image and replaced his son on the front page.

Granted my idea of a hero is more Oliver Stone than Oliver North, but I also believe you can love this country without having to love this country's leadership. A few years ago I was playing basketball with an Iranian man and asked him why the fighting in the Middle East never seems to cease. He said, "If you left it up to the people, we could have peace. It's the governments that create the wars."

I believe popular support for the war came from a goodhearted desire to free the people of Kuwait and Iraq from Hussein's

tyranny. But the reality of the war left Hussein in power, hundreds of thousands of innocent dead and wounded, and unprecedented environmental destruction.

We can sit comfortably in our homes and keep our reality televised, distant and controlled. We have no more concept of war than we do of a redwood felled for pulp and we numbly accept the loss of the spotted owl and other remote species as a necessary sacrifice to accommodate economic considerations.

It is time to get uncomfortable. It is time to shake our world view and fully understand our connection to ancient redwoods and Kurdish children; time to lose the yoke of our obsession with personal material gain; time to realize our responsibility to all living things; and time to charge our government with its full responsibility.

George Bush talks of a New World Order, but I wonder if this vision will include housing for the homeless, jobs for the unemployed, a viable health care plan, a realistic energy policy and money for education and AIDS research. We can no longer accept that nearly half of our tax dollars go toward "defense" when the enemy we have been raised to fear is no longer a threat. It is archaic thinking to spend billions of dollars for "star wars" and stealth bombers while we labor through the deepest recession this country has seen since the thirties and it is intolerable to subsidize and give tax breaks to oil and nuclear power companies.

I would like to see a new world where countries share technology, where conflicts can be addressed diplomatically rather than militarily and where we can work together to save our imperiled environment. I think this vision reflects the true will of the American people and certainly it is time that the will of the people be properly represented.

## the triumphant return of HOROSCOPES IN BRIEF

Spackled by Alphabits.

Aries: Time to shave.

Taurus: Oppoprtunity knocked while you were in the shower.

Gemini: Roll again.

Cancer: Not tellin'.

Leo: Watch where you step.

Virgo: You'll get what's coming to ya.

Libra: If you don't have anything good to say...

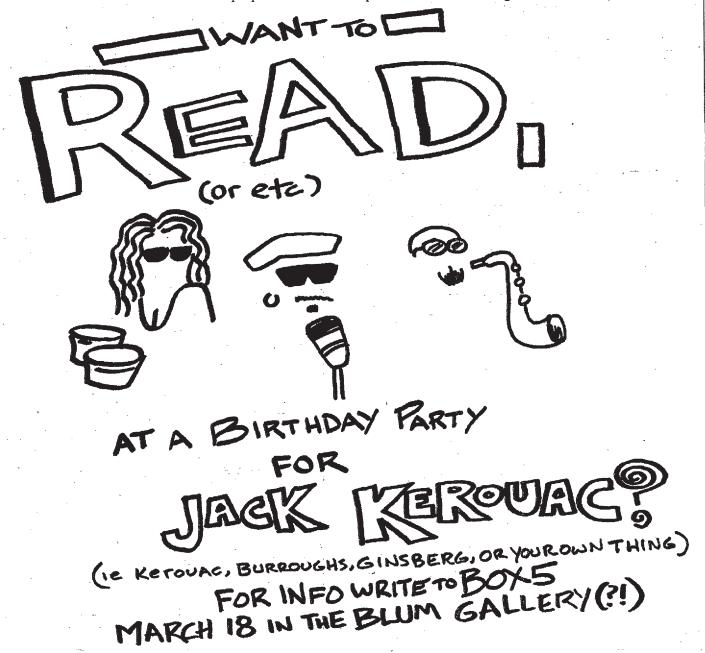
Scorpio: Brush and floss twice a day; see your dentist every six months.

Saggitarius: Touchdown! John, 3:16!

Capricorn: Someone will bug you for a ride this month.

Aquarius: Keep that receipt, you'll need it.

Pisces: Get that out of your mouth!



# The Beer page

weighed 6000 pounds, you'd think that we were liars. When we said that last week was the last week on the Asian tour, we were also lying. We'll try to explain-there was this jet, and a crate of chickens, and...and we won't explain. Nope. Not today, not ever. Suffice to say that we're in China. Xian (pronounced She-yan-Ed.) to be exact. This is the lovely scenic home of X.University, or XU, where Professor Gary ShangHagberg often teaches a class or two. We decided to try to drop in on him (literally) but we couldn't find him. So we popped on down to the local taverna for a pint of Tsingtao.

Phantom- The place smelled kinda weird; I think that it was the beer. 'Tao (not to be confused with the I Ching) smells funky, but you get used to it. I eyed my skill I picked up only after years of study with the Prof-please don't try this at home or the Observer may sue us). When I was a youth, in NYC (another doofy story?-F)(Yup.-P) I frequented a Chinese restaurant with Pa, who always ordered a 'Tao with his meal. One day when I was about 12, he let me try a sip and I was so disgusted that I swallowed 6 whole fried dumplings doubt be an unpleasant imitation of 6000 lb pigeons mating. (hurl, dude-F)

Finnegan- Are you some enzyme-free sex? What happened?

scarred me- You drink some first.

Finnegan- Look I was in China for a month, and all I drank was this beer (mostly so I wouldn't get sick from the water). Anyway, this beer, being Chinese, goes especially well with Chinese food. I will

If we told you that pigeons in NYCity warn all potential travellers, though; Chinese food in China is vastly different from Chinese food in the U.S. and not in any way for the better. Of course, I was 16 at the time, and was drunk most of the way through China. Far from diminishing my enjoyment, this situation actually enhanced it. Tao is a mealy beer with a big smell, just like Phantom. The initial taste is kinda bland, and the aftertaste is gone in a flash, but then slowly creeps back up your throat like Thing from Addams. The head is also really huge. But all this results in is the desire for more Chinese food. Ya' know, I once ate 15 dishes of Chinese food, and drank 22 bottles of the 'Tao.

> Phantom-Wow. Gary would be proud. Howlong- Did I hear someone mention Professor ShangHagberg?

Finnegan and the Phantom, in stereopint with vacillating distaste. (A difficult Why, yes we did, are you a student of the Master's?

Howlong- Actually, I just got out of class, and am here to enjoy a relaxing pint. I find that 'Tao, empirically speaking, does not smell after one gets used to it- and I have certainly gotten used to it. Certainly the worst thing about 'Tao is that it's a bit watery; but it is not as if I have any choice what to drink. After all, I'm in China, but in an effort to prevent what would no if all goes well, I will follow the Master to India, which is where he is traveling to

-Later that week, in Delhi-Suffice to say that we're in India. New Delhi (pronounced Phantom- Hey listen. That experience Deli -Ed.) to be exact. This is the lovely scenic home of the University of Delhi, or UD, where The Professor often teaches a class or two. We decided to try to drop in on him (literally) but we couldn't find him. So we popped on down to the local taverna for a pint of Taj Mahal.

ous indignation (much easier than vacillating distaste). The aroma was far more pleasing than the 'Tao, and I've never been scarred by the TM. Its taste is sweeter and somewhat resembles Royal Brand (see an issue a long time ago when certain bureaucratic and political elements of the campus made it necessary for me to rule the Observer with an iron fist in a velvet glove. Now I have dispensed with the glove. -Ed.) It's color is also similar to Royal Brand. There seems to be no rational explanation for this except for a rumor that centuries ago, (like when were in a civilized part of the Globe-F) and Indian guy and a Dutch prostitute had some interesting business deals. Go figure.

Finnegan- I'm going to totally diverge here- when I was last in India, (1987) for a week, in August, during which it was over 110 degrees each day; not only did they lose our luggage, but there was a 'minor' water flow problem, so no one, absolutely no one, could drink the water. This, of course, led to another bout with the demon of the 18th Amendment-Beer. Specifically Taj Mahal. A good beer, with a taste vaguely

Phantom-I eyed my Taj Mahal with curi- reminiscent of a surgical-flavored gauze pad, that gets worse the warmer it is, which was the normal condition in India in Au

Say Phantom, isn't that our Chinese friend, Howlong?

Shit, duck!

Howlong-Greetings! Much kind of you to invite me over. Did you lose something? Isay, is this not great beer? I can understand why the Master came down to India. TM has a nice sweet taste, and goes down as smooth as the ancient emperors silk Pj's. I think that I might stay here a while to furtherenjoy this grand nation's fine drinks. Won't you join me?

Finnegan and the Phantom, in Mono-Gee, we'd really love to, but we kind of have to get our plane- India is no place to spend St.Patrick's Day (Up Kerry! Up the Republic! Up yours, Margaret Thatcher!-

A special thanks to the Guys at Bevway helping to make Winterschluberkofph a success.

ratings are based on how many six-packs they would buy	Tsingtao	Taj Mahal		
Phantom	1.5	2.5		
Finnegan	2.0	1.5		
How Long	1.5	3.0		

## Are you interested in running for Secretary of the Student Student Association?

Send a "statement of purpose" to Erin J. Law through campus mail by Friday, March 20 at 5pm.

Elections will be held March 31 and April 1 outside the Post Office, Ballots will be in Campus Mail. Anyone interested in working on the Elections Committee should contact Erin J. Law through Campus Mail.

#### Beverage way supermarket of beer and soda Rt. 9 2MILES NORTH OF RED HOOK TRAFFIC LIGHT 758-0541

Coor's cans \$12,49/ case

> Stroh's \$10.99/30 packl,

Schmidt's \$8.49/ case



St. Pauli Girl \$9.99/12 pack

Haake Beck Non-Alcoholic beer by Beck \$3.99/6pk

British American \$5.49/ case

# Lawnmower Man is worth a run-over

**Gregory Giaccio** Editor-in-Chief

The Lawnmower Man is a movie based on a Stephen King short story. Actually, it is more accurate to say that only the title is based on a Stephen King short story of the same name. The story was about a man who mows lawns, changes into a large alien and eats the lawn clippings, any small animals that he runs over and the poor guy who hires him. The movie is a bit different.

The movie is about the new science of virtual reality with a Frankenstein theme: don't use mentally deficient people in your to experiments make superhumans. Virtual reality is a way of making video games and computers interactive with your body's movements through the use of special goggles equipped with video screens and special garments with movement sensors, roughly akin to the Nintendo Power Glove. However, the combination of overloading your senses with computer animation and the interaction of your own body creates the feeling that you are actually in another world. It is

somewhat similar to those old Cyclotron theaters with the big screens which made you feel like you were in a roller coaster, airplane, etc.

However, in this movie, Dr. Angelo (played by Pierce Brosnan) uses a virtual reality device along with neurotropic drugs to make chimpanzees smarter. However, the government agency which is bankrolling the project wants him to make them more aggressive. Dr. Angelo, being the gentle scientist he is, rejects the idea and takes a break from the program to find a new guinea pig, his retarded lawnmower man, Job (played by Jeff Fahey).

Fahey (some of you may remember him from Body Parts) does an excellent job of playing Job. His character slowly develops from gentle and mentally differently abled to psychopathic genius trying to force the next step of evolution onto mankind before it's ready. Pierce Brosnan also plays a convincing Dr. Frankenstein-type trying to stop his creation from going too far.

While this lot is nothing like the Stephen King story, his hand is all over the production. There is also the typical King perversion of a Christ figure. Job (everyone in



Pierce Brosnam plays Dr. Angelo in Lawnmoweer Man which opened on Michaleangelo's birthday. Coincidence? I think not.

the allusion) is at first a ward of a possibly by destroying it. priest who believes in repentance through flagellation. As Job gets smarter, he stops the priest from whipping him, discovers sex from the widow next door, and gets the idea that he has been chosen to be

Freshman seminar ought to get the savior of the human race,

Other Stephen King influences include the glib remarks of the two cops who discover one of Job's victims, a child abuser killed with, you guessed it, a lawnmower. (Don't worry, you don't get to see

the grisly event on screen.) Another King creation is the government agency, known only as "the Shop," that hounds Dr. Angelo into developing his virtual reality device into a factory for supersoldiers. Some of you may remember "the Shop" from Stephen King's television series "Golden Years" and his novel Firestarter.

The artificial reality sequences are brilliant bits of computerized special effects. The whole thing, including the plot about being trapped in a video game reality, is reminiscent of Tron. However, special effects have evolved quite a bit since that Disney movie. It seems that production values, suspenseful plots, and acting abilities have progressed as well in this new movie. The set design for the government laboratory is also fantastically Gothic, for those of you who are into that sort of thing.

The only thing worth arguing about was the ending. Some of my friends believed it was a bad ending because the guilty were not punished. Others believe that it was a good ending because it implies that Job will punish the guilty. Both agree it was openended and left lots of room for a sequel.

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Amazing trumpet for sale: \$200--negotiable. Box 1264.

Lost: One very special faerie pin, silver, about one inch big. Naked woman faerie with two wings on her left side. I love this pin. It may month, utilities extra. Call 758have been lost in the Manor Laun- 5270 after 6pm, ask for Caitlin. dry Room Sunday. Please check your laundry for her. Reward upon return. Box 42 or 758-2124. Please find and return her.

Found: one small, green swissarmy style penknife in Kline. If you can tell me what company's logo is written on the side of it, I'll know it's yours and will return it through campus mail. Call 758-0772 or write to the Observer through campus mail.

Wanted:Summerrental, sublet, housesit or other such arrangement for 1, possibly 2, females. Red hook or Rhinebeck preferred. Please write to box 1082.

Do you want to live off-campus? Well, I am looking for one or two people to sub-lease a Red Hook apartment from June through December of 1992. It is a one bedroom with a large living room/ kitchen combo. It is \$400 per

holistic, wellness oriented in the evenings. (914) 478-1669. therapy. Very affordable. Call Jacquie Harding, 679-5694.

Attention: Small scholarships available for Bard Students under 21. If you have a physical disability or a documented learning disability (dyslexia, etc.) and you qualify for financial aid, you may qualify for special small grants for 1992-93. Please call the Grants office, ext 434, for details.

Bard students interested in tutoring local high school students in math or Spanish should contact Rob Reynolds, via campus mail.

Anyone interested in forming a Health Committee-please contact box 689.

Bard Alumni and family seek mid-Hudson house to swap or your unique path through this line) to offer. Call Harry or Susan to my father. If found, please re-

Have you seen my funky hat?? It was lost in the woods between Obreshkove/Tremblay during August. I heard that someone had found it, but could not find out who. Unfortunately the person who gave it to me died during January so I really want it back. It is a black 17th century doctor's cap. It resembles a snug-fitting mortarboard...PLEASE HELP ME IF YOU HAVE SEEN IT. Name your reward...call Mike K. at 758-

Needed: a dependable home for a fine, upstanding, mature, and worldly cat with humble needs. She is orange and substantial in nature. Please respond quickly to

Lost: a black boina (beret-like) A psychosynthesis psycho- rent for summer months. Have that was made in Lisbon, Portugal.

turn to box 842.

Horoscope Interpretations Available here at Bard. Appointments will be arranged. Please bring Natal chart; otherwise chart can be cast provided you supply exact time and place of birth. Contact Box 842. Small fee required. Confidentiality insured.

Single silver vibrator seeks warm receptive cavity to initate meaningful vibrations through dialogue and song...Answer to Ms. Ultra Smooth, WXBC 540 AM Thursday night, 6-7:00 pm. Listen and let Ms. Ultra Smooth liberate

Premarital sex is a sin, especially at 14

--love always, E and R.

Welcome Back Dave! Table's still there so ha! Space to fill still so Ha! therapist in training. I seek to co- lower West Chester Hudson River This is of the utmost sentimental Everyone point and laugh -Ha, ha,ha, ha, ha, ha!

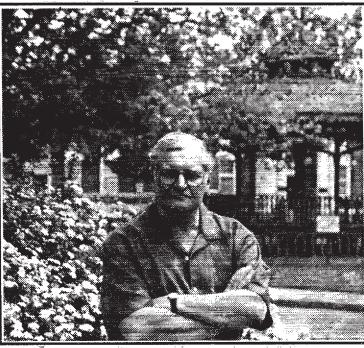
# Bard sponsors literary readings

**Tatiana Prowell** Arts Editor

A poetry reading by Piotr Sommer on Friday, March 6th marked the first of four poetry and prose readings to take place at Bard this spring. John Ashbery, a poet and Bard faculty member, has coordinated the series of readings, all of which are free of charge and open to the public.

On March-6th, Piotr Sommer, Polish poet and translator, read from his recently published book entitled Things to Translate: Poems from the '70's and '80s, as well as earlier works. Sommer is teaching at Amherst College for the semester and has published several books in Poland, England, and the United States. He is a contributing editor of the Polish Literary weekly Tygodnik Literacki and has received numerous awards for his writing in Poland and Switzerland.

This Friday, March 13th at 3:30 p.m. in Olin 102, the poet Susan Wheeler will read selections from her work in progress, The Consid-



John Ashbery, coordinator of the literary readings taking place at Bard.

tions. Wheeler has been awarded a Fund for Poetry Grant, the Roberts Foundation Prize for Poetry, and the Grolier Award for Poetry. She has also published work in The Best American Poetry

erations, and other recent publica- 1991 and numerous literary periodicals.

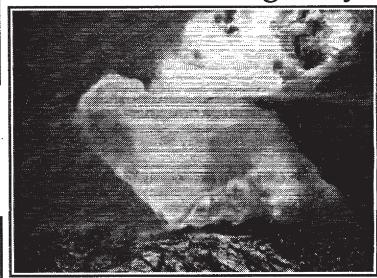
On Friday, April 3rd at 3:30 p.m. in the Kline Committee Room, the novelist and poet, Harry Mathews will read selections from his works. His fiction includes

recent work, Cigarettes. Among his books of poetry is the collection, American Papers: Poems 1954-1984. Mathews was one of the founding editors of the literary magazine Locus Solus, along with Ashbery. He is currently the sole American member of the innovative French literary group, Oulipo, along with such European writers as Italo Calvino and Georges Perec.

The final reading in the series Portrait in a Convex Mirror. To will take place on Friday, April

Tlooth and Country Cooking and 10th at 3:30 p.m. in Olin 102. Other Stories, as well as his most Pulitzer Prize winning poet and Bard professor, John Ashbery, will read from his collection to be published in the fall, Hotel Lautreamont. Ashbery is the author of a number of volumes of poetry: Flow Chart, April Galleons, and Houseboat Days, as well as plays and articles on art criticism. His awards include the National Book Award, the MacArthur Foundation Fellowship, and the Pulitzer Prize in 1976 for Self-

## Proctor blooming early



Burning Oil Well by Susan Criles

Peter Boriskin Staff Writer

As we wonder about the now barren and bitter cold campus, there are but a few signs that spring is on its way. One of these sings is in Proctor, where there are always a spectrum of colors to greet the eye. Upon a first glance, there is fire and eruption, as well as clouds, and an ethereal dreamscape. Farther on in this journey, one comes across a birdseye view of the heavens and the

liquid abstraction that comprises some of the more abstract works. Still farther along there is realism, and surrealism, back-to-back, and there lurking in the corner of both form; and nature, is a breathtaking glimpse of "high-density abstraction," blended "artfully" with a texture, and a medium, that make it one of my favorites.

Be it realism or surrealism, color or absence, whether texture or liquid, there is something to tantalize the senses at the new Proctor art exhibit. A great antidote, for the absence of color in the prespring era.

Once upon a time, there was a little boy who did not recycle. One day, the environmental faries swooped down on him and shoved him in the "little boys who don't recycle" bin. I'm sure there's a message here.

#### NORTH AMERICAN OPEN POETRY CONTEST

The National Library of Poetry is sponsoring a writing contest open to all poets, whether previously published or not. Entrants should send ONLY ONE original poem of no more than 20 lines. All subject matter and styles are welcome. Entries must be postmarked by March 31, 1992.

🏂 much as \$12,000 in prizes will be awarded to 250 North American poets, and all entries will be considered for publication in a hardbound anthology.

Send ONE poem with poet's name and address to: National Library of Poetry, 11419 Cronridge Dr., O. Box 704-PP, Owings Mills, MD 21117.

## PS ATEFL MS Adm: \$4.50

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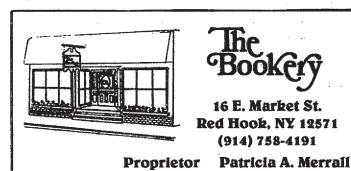
filmmaker Ross

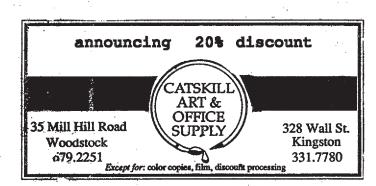
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Will assist any student with writing assignments.





# Men's volleyball winding down

Matt Apple Sports Editor

The men's volleyball team began to wrap up their 1992 season this past week with three consecutive home games. After losing at Sacred Heart University on Friday (15-6, 15-4, 15-4), the Blazers played a double-dual match at Bard on Saturday. The Blazers garnered their fourth win of the season over Webb Institute, 15-8, 15-8, in a short match after Vassar overwhelmed them 5-15, 8-15,0-15. The Blazers played their last home game of the season home against Jersey City State College on Monday, losing 6-15, 4-15, 5-15. The Blazers take their 4 and 14 record to Steven's Institute of Technology next Thursday, March 19th, for their last game of the season.

The only other intercollegiate sport, men's tennis, just began practice for their 1992 season. The men's tennis, who were coached by Joel Tomson to an 11 and 2 record last year, have only two returning players and lots of new talent. Watch the Sports Page in



Eric and Hideki block a shot in a losing effort against Jersey City State.

the future for a preview of this year's team. V

#### Jody Apap Men's Volleyball

ht: 6' 5" wt: a slim 170 hometown: Annandale, NY year: Junior

Quote: "Without Dana [McDonald]'s inspiration, I would have quit."



Jody, who was co-captain of the men's volleyball team two years ago, has played volleyball each of the three years he has been at Bard. He is also co-captain this year, and led the Blazers throughout the IAC Tournament. In fact, Jody is so good that he just missed making the 1992 USA Olympic team, thus the reason he took last year off from college (for the real reason, talk to Jody). The sleek and powerful Jody will pit his setting skills against Steven's Tech on Thursday, March 19th, in his team's last volleyball game this year.

Intramural softball rosters are due April 1st, so it's a good idea to do them now, before Spring Break Play begins April 3rd on the Tewksbury field, and, just like last year, all teams must have at least two men or women on the playing field at all times Any team who does not meet this rule will 🚆 automatically forfeit the game.

## **Stuart Levine B-Ball Tourney**

Matt Apple Sports Editor

Men's intramural basketball ended their "regular" season and began tournament play, while intramural soccer still is short a few games. Woods, the FL 9s and the Good Ole Boys all won their last games to end with a final record of 6-2, while Liquid Smoke II lost to Flight to lower their record to 6-2. At the start of the Stuart Levine Intramural Basketball Tournament, each of the nine teams was seeded according to

the seeds. The top four seeds gained a big advantage in the tournament by only having to play one game on Tuesday, instead of two, as five teams had to.

The tournament is using fifteenminute halves, instead of twentyminutes halves, and is a doubleelimination draw, meaning that a team needs two losses to be knocked out of the tournament. This also means that the tournament's draw will be extremely confusing, and since words may not solve this diwon-loss record; since first place lemma, the tournament draw,

was a four-way tie at 6-2, head-to- complete with game results, will Day, before the millions of head competition and point dif- appear on this very page next ferential was used to determine week. Until then, a "simple" description of the first seven games will have to do.

The four winners of the first round were: Flightover Sir Cheese Head 55-36, the Good Ole Boys over Faculty Plus 34-16, Woods over Los Caballeros 29-22, and the FL 9s over Team Puss 37-17. The four losing teams each played one more game, with Faculty Plus and Los Caballeros becoming the first two teams eliminated from the tournament. Of the two victors, Team Plus will play again this Thursday against the loser of the Woods-FL9s game. Sir Cheese Head will play Liquid Smoke II, who lost a close game to Flight, 46-44, after receiving a bye in the first round. Flight will play the Good Ole Boys, with the winner of that game playing the winner the playoffs will be played is unof the Woods-FL 9s game. (Trust known at this point. Team capme, seeing a picture of the draw tains need to arrange their rewill make this a whole lot clearer). scheduled games with Kris Hall The championship game will be to make sure the gym is open played next Tuesday, St. Patrick's when they need it.

screaming Bard basketball fans, at around 7:45 pm.

Inintramural soccer, ?Hey Fellas defeated Lets Play Soccer 8-2 and Revenge of the Bubba 5-3 to end with a 4-1 record. As of right now, ?Hey Fellas is the only team to have played all five of their scheduled games. Karma's Kickers played their fourth game against Irregular Group Dynamics, winning in a well-played game 2-1, Let's Play Soccer has only played three games, and Revenge of the Bubba has only played four games. The culprit, The Flaming Meatheads (2-0), was forced to postpone three of their games because most of their team was on the men's squash team and had games to attend. Whether the games will be rescheduled is up to the team captains, and when

Learn how to be an aerobics instructor for free, March 13th from 6-10pm and March 14th from 12:30-4:30pm.

Contact Carla Davis in the Stevenson Gymnasium for more

March 15th is the last day to register for the Bard Biathlon. Register now at the Gym.

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## Plummet from the friendly skies

y Greg Giaccio

"I want to be an Airborne Ranger. I want to live a life of danger. -lines from the anthem of the Airborne Rangers

The Airborne Rangers view skydiving as a hazardous activity. That is because they are a special forces unit of the Army and are usually jumping from 100 feet into the back of a moving truck with gun in one hand and grenades in the other.

This semester, the Bard Skydiving Club has been under attack more often than the Airborne Rangers have in the last fifty years. Not only did someone try to take away their funding, but the Adminisration actually did. Their excuse? Skydiving is too dangerous, and

This is slightly ridiculous. It's not as if the're jumping out of planes without parachutes or anything. Most parachuters have two, if not three, failsafes. Think about it. When you drive your car, at best you have two failsafes; a seat belt and an airbag. In fact, there are more deaths per hundred people in cars than in skydiving.

Also, the Skydiving Club completed their first semester with no casualties and no threats of suing. That's because they have to sign a waiver before they jump. Flowever, the fear of a sue-happy planet has forced the administration to take all of the Skydiving Club's hard-won budget away from them. As if after a Bard student gets smashed into a two-dimensional prairie pizza due to some freak accident the first thing the parents would do is sue Bard, a near pankrupt institution when they could go for the parachute manufacturers or some other institution with lots of cash.

"So, how can I support a fine club like the Skydiver's club?" I hear you cry. Well, Dave Ames, the Skydive King, is selling raffle tickets. ou could win a chance to hurtle through the air towards your gravity accelerated doom for just \$1 (or get five tickets for \$3) while helping the Skydivers in their pursuit of adrenalin overdoses. Even if you don't want to jump, you can sell the winning ticket for a hefty profit. Kris Koening, last year's winner, reports that she was offered up to \$50 for her ticket. But she kept the ticket (\$120 value) and made the big leap and would probably say it was worth it if I asked her to

## New **Forum Rocks**

by Greg Giaccio

When I was just a young, idealistic first year student, the first editorial that I read on these pages, which I now lord over with an iron fist, was by Ian McGrady. The subject of the editorial was the Student Forum.

Ian said that the Forum was run in a shoddy, unproductive, biased manner. The few Forums I went to my first year seemed like very longwinded debates that had nothing to do with any legislation being passed. I thought that nothing could fix it.

But someone did fix it. Actually it was several people: Melissa Cahoon, Oliver Te Boekhorst, Erin Law, Matt J. Lee, Christine Gobbo and Andy Molloy. These six people make up the Central Committee of the Student Forum. Under their reign the Forum has become an efficient vehicle for debate and resolutions. Just this Monday, six agenda items were dealt with in the space of an hour. So kudos to the Central Commit-

## Recycling rocks



## Use dung, not forests

Dear Editor,

Clearcutting our heritage, especially when it ends up as logs stamped U.S. National Forests on the piers of Japan (and elsewhere) really gets to me.

(an American school teacher friend in Japan actually saw them.)

Not only because of the ecological stupidity of clearcutting but because our legislators (especially President Bush) do not have the business snese to know that the jobs thay are all talking about come from manufacturing milled and finished wood products, not treecutting.

IF the Japnaese, et. al, do not want our wood prducts, let them go elsewhere to some fool for raw materials or find some way to grow their own.

Meanwhile, they reap the harvest while we mutilate ourselves and our last wilderness resources. If that is not a pathetic commentary and a reason for depression, I do not know what is.

Another pathetic activity going on throughout the world which is particularly destructive is the cutting of what wood remains in such places as Ethiopia. Man has cleared the lands for thousands of years and he still has not learned.

Although in India dung is actually an object of worship because use of it as fuel and building material among others is so integrated as a resource for survival, one of the main reason for this is that almost all the wood is gone.

The rain forests are being cleared to grow hamburgers (more beef) and so many potentially important resources are being lost because of it (another desert in the making). Was not Egypt a jungle at one time, and did not tigers roam virtually to the Mediterranean before man made the Sahara?

Back here in this country, Bush wants the research fertilizer institute, which was created and funded in the depression cut off in the new budget. Perhaps what the farmers should do is send all their animal wastes to the (no longer) White House in protest. Such stupidity deserves an appropriate response.

Some genius of a peace corps volunteer years ago taught the Nepalese that if they put all their animal wastes in a vat, covered it and put a copper pipe from it to

#### The Bard Observer

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session.
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Letters to the Editor must not exceed 300 words and must be signed legibly. All articles, cartoons, and photographs that are submitted by deadline will be considered for publication. Turn all material in to Observer office by 5:00 pm Friday a week before the 5:00 pm Friday a week before the publication date. The Editor reserves the right to edit all articles (except those intended for the Another View page) for style and length.

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the house, the people could cook and heat with methane gas which meant that they no longer had to forage for wood miles from their home.

There are simple solutions; there is hope, but not much with a president who gets through a checkstand every few years and fast buck legislators drawing from the hip before using their brains.

Andy Wing

## What's in a name?

Dear Editor:

I find your part in this matter concerning "Willie" and I highly questionable ethically. What stopped you from getting hold of me to verify the story? Sort this out un-publically? It is your loss. I don't mind attention, but I do detest dishonesty. Ask me the real story some time.

Ephen Glenn Colter (my signature, do not take it out of context!)

## Bard **Enquirer?**

Dear Editor:

No sarcasm, no jest. Someone, or some people, on this campus is/are out there watching his/ her/their words cause a little miniscandal, aided by our own Enquirer, the Bard Observer. Those of you who know Ephen Colter also know that, had he been interested in submitting a clever word or two in response to Mr. Hayden's response, then his name would precede it, in big, bold letters, no doubt. As Ephen is both clever and bold, he also likes to take credit for those factors. Otherwise, he wouldn't bother to make the effort. Now, why would Ephen sign the note regarding the condom thang (instigated by myself in a game of truth or dare that night), and then make a pass at this man he'd never seen by way of an anonymous letter in the Bard condoms to give the "student in Enquirer? Would he set himself up to look like a fool? No, I don't known to all of truth-or-darers

sponsible for the fact that this little William Hayden.

docu-drama hit the page; you come out the real fool! You're certainly not going to become a successful journalist by printing whatever you hear, now are you? A little advice; stick to the facts, research, research, or, for starters, just think a little! Oh, and don't put the Bard Observer on your resume.

Finally, to the perpetrators themselves, i.e. "Anonymous"; come out, come out, wherever you are. Unless, of course, you don't enjoy looking like an idiot!

Jesse James Blonde, 1st floor Rovere, No car whatsoever and the Truth or Dare players

First of all, no one "made a pass" in an anonymous letter; it was a personal, and many personals come in unsigned. This, however, is a policy we have revoked due to recent abuses. Secondly, Mr. Hayden's response was not an article, and therefore did not need to be "researched" by the Observer in any way, shape or form. We have always printed any letter we have received, regardless of content, including your letter right here. The viewpoints expressed by William Hayden in his letter are his alone. --ed

### Truth or dare

Dear Editor:

I would like to clarify the recent incidents surrounding Ephen Colter and William Hayden, and the note written by Ephen that appeared in the paper last week.

In the first place, as a friend of Ephen's, I know that he was not in any way offended by Hayden's letter regarding a "Queer+" article the letter certainly wasn't offensive or off-base, and Ephen was pleased that someone responded

Around the same week as Hayden's letter, a few of us (including Ephen) were playing "truth or dare" in Rovere one night. At one point Ephen had to go to a (random) third floor dorm and request a condom. In a followup dare, he had to leave a condom and a note (as published last week) under the door for the two men who apparently did not have any need." Coincidentally, and ununtil last week, one of the two In response to the person re- male students in that room was

The personals ad written to Hayden shows cowardice at best and spitefulness at worst. Anyone who knows Ephen, as Jesse points out in his letter to the Obver, also knows that Ephen is the last person to harass someone (frankly, Ephen wouldn't hit on anyone on this campus!)

So on behalf of Ephen, and for my own part in this, I apologize to William as do the other players. We all hope that he fully understands Ephen's (non-participatory) role in the harassment.

Thank you, Jen Silverman

## Drama not phony

Dear Editor,

I'm puzzled by the caption and photo which accompanied "The Bloomers" review in last week's Observer. The photo showed Sara Mednick, Max Guazzoni, and Ean Sheehy in a scene from the Bard Theatre's most recent production; the caption read, "Holy Underwear! We must do something to save our phoney-baloney major!" Well, I don't get it. Is that a joke? And if so, exactly whom should we credit with that, uh, witty remark? Surely not Carl Sternheim, the playwright. His text is not known for its self-conscious tributes to Batman or obscure complaints about lunchmeat. So maybe the caption reflects the attitude of Matt Gilman, the reviewer? Maybe, as the caption so gracefully implies, he finds the Bard Theatre a farcical waste of time? Well, no. His review is favorable. He says the play was "wonderfully written and absolutely absorbing"; he appreciates the dextrous performances as well. He doesn't seem inclined to dismiss the theatre department as a pretentious blow-off. (He makes the occassional Bard Theatre appearance himself). I can only conclude, then, that the caption was a contribution from the Observer's editorial staff. And, under the circumstances, I find your lack of consideration embarrassing and offensive. The Observer represents my school, my ends, and my interests; I'd precheap shots.

could descirbe the hours spent hanging lights, building sets, writing scripts, and rehearsing. I could say: On Friday nights, your average drama major is at the theatre, working (no fame, no glory, no public recognition), while everybody else on campus is conducting some kind of social life. Or I could say: Theatre has the ability to illuminate the full range of human experience with an immediate visceral power, so fuck you. But why bother? The drama department is committed to sharing challenging issues and ideas with the community. The production schedule, if nothing else, reflects this. If you had any respect for such an activity (and for your peers), you would have reconsidered the appriopriateness of your caption before the paper went to print. The fact that you didn't reconsider says it all.

Sincerely, Bryony Renner

Matt Gilman Replies: I must sincerely apologize for the misinterpretation of the caption. I decided it might be fun to keep in the "underwear" theme by writing "Holy underwear," a quote from Mel Brooks' movie Blazing Saddles. I then paraphrased the remainder of that particular quote, replacing "jobs" with "major". I thought more people would get the joke than actually did. As someone with past experience in the Bard Theatre Department, I can attest to the fact that Drama majors have just as much hard work, and just as much talent in their field, as any other Bard student.

## Caption questions

Dear Editor,

It angers me that you have referred to a group of students who work their asses off, often 12-14 hours a day, devoting much of their "free time" to nightly rehearsals, hanging and focusing lights, building sets, making costumes, learning through involvement rather than removed passive analysis, the complex workings of the ancient tradition: performance, as having a "Phoney Baloney major," (the caption beneath the photo paired with the review of Bloomers). Perhaps this as an error, made by a lonely, fer to believe you incapable of frustrated member of your staff. It might be best if this person re-I could launch a passionate de- mains nameless. Let them wallow fense of the drama department. I in their guilt; instead of reading their next assignment, they might try memorizing it.

As a newspaper editor, you might also try to preview the plays and dance concerts rather than only reviewing them. Work begins months in advance, so you have plenty of time to send someone (please, no phoney staff members, authentic Observer reporters only) down to catch a rehearsal. There is always something in progress, so they won't have to travel all that way for nothing. It's a nice walk, I know, I walk it quite a lot.

#### Lilah Friedland

I would be delighted to preview plays by attending a rehearsal close to opening night. The director or students involved should contact the Observer, or Arts Editor Tatiana Prowell at least two weeks before opening. I, or another Arts Correspondant, will be in touch to arrange visits to rehearsal and interviews, if necessary. Be sure to notify us two weeks early to assure that the article runs in the issue prior to your opening. -- Matt Gilman

## Recycling blues x2

Dear Patricia Snyder '83:

I quote you in saying "It's sad to think that after all our aspirations all we could end up with is a recycling program that hardly anyone bothers to use. Is this a manifestation of the 'selfishness' of the nineties?" You got it, Pat. Only it comes from the 80's "me" generation.

Laurie Deciutis



## BARD COLLEGE: MARCH 12 - 18, 1992

# EEKLY———OMMUNITY INFORMATION

#### Women's Issues Lecture:

Women's Issues and the Politics of Birth Control is a lecture that will be given on March 14 by Jodi L. Jacobson, Senior Researcher, Worldwatch Institute. This lecture is the first in a series of three to be given at Bard, the series titled: Overpopulation: Causes and Solutions, sponsored by the Milners Fund. 2:00 PM in the Olin Auditorium.

#### Dance Club Workshop:

The Dance Club presents an open workshop in a movement technique called contact improvisation. Everyone is welcome. No dance experience is required. The Dance Studio/The Theatre on Sundays from 4:00 to 6:00 PM beginning March 1 and going until May 3.

#### Slide Show on Andes:

A second lecture on Tuesday, March 17, will cover Taquile: Preserving a Pre-Columbian Way of Life. It will explore the life-style of the inhabitants of Taquile, an isolated island in the middle of Lake Titcana, bordered by Bolivia and Peru. Also at 7:00 PM in Olin 102.

#### **Proctor Art Show:**

The Depicted Unknown is currently on view in Proctor Art Center. This exhibition of works by ten contemporary painters features pieces that explore the territory between landscapes and abstraction.

#### Blum Art Show:

Super-Graphics of the '60s and Frederick Sommer: Surrealist

Affinities in Photography, will be on view at the Edith C. Blum Art Institute from March 15 through May 15. The Blum is open noon to 5:00 PM and closed on Tuesdays.

#### Soviet Studies Club Trip:

The "Soviet" Studies Club will be sponsoring a trip to Lincoln Center to see the St. Petersburg National Opera Company perform *Boris Gudunov* by Mussorgashy on April 4. Anyone interested in attending should send their name and box number to Box 658, through campus mail.

#### Baccalaureate Service Performers Wanted:

The Baccalaureate Service will be held this year on Sunday, May 17, 1992. The service is an interfaith gathering, attended by the senior class and the faculty, which marks and celebrates the upcoming graduation of the senior class. We are looking for creative contributors to out program. This could be a marvelous setting for the presentation of some of your work. If you have composed a piece of music, written a poem, or created a dance which you feel could be incorporated into the service, we are eager to hear from you. Your piece need not be of a religious nature. Please contact Rabbi Jonathan Kliger through campus mail if you are interested.

THE WEEKLY COMMUNITY INFOR-MATION NEWSLETTER IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE DEAN OF STUDENTS.

#### Services for Christian Students:

#### Sundays:

8:30 am: Ecumenical Service, Bard Chapel 9:30 am: Van to St. John's Episcopal Church and St. Christopher's Catholic Church (meet in Kline parking lot)

#### Mondays:

7:00 pm: Singing and Worship

7:30 pm: Bible Study/Prayer Group (both in Bard Chapel Basement)

#### Wednesdays:

9:00 to 10:00 am: Singing and Worship (Chapel)

#### Transportation Schedule:

Friday: Rhinecliff

meet at Kline at 8:00 pm for the 9:11 pm train *Poughkeepsie* 

meet at Kline at 6:00 pm for the 7:13 pm train (This run will NOT be made on March 27, due to Spring Vacation)

Saturday: *Hudson Valley Mall.* Meet at Kline at 5:45 pm, returns at 10:00 pm

Sunday: Rhinecliff: Meet the 5:52, 7:17 and 10:01 pm trains
Poughkeepsie: Meet the 7:43 pm train

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS: MARCH 12 to 18, 1992

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
6:00 pm	12:00 NOON	2:00 pm	8:30 am	3:00-5:00 pm	6:30pm	5:00 -7:00 pm
Model U.N. Meeting	Calendar Deadline	Women's Issues Lecture	Worship Service	Poetry Room Open	Coalition for Choice	Russian Table
	Dean of Students Office	Jodi L. Jacobson	Chapel	Olin 101	meeting President's	Kline College Rm.
6:30 pm	· .	Olin Auditorium	(See Above For More		Room Kline Commons	
BBLAGA meeting	5:00 pm		Information and other	6:00 pm	ł	5:00 pm
Kline Commons	Observer deadline for		services)	French Table	7:00 PM	LASO meeting
·-	outside submission			College Room	Andes Slide Show	Kline Committee Rm.
7:00 pm			4:00-6:00 pm	Kline Commons	Olin 102	
International Relations	6:30 pm	1	Dance Workshop	7.00 10.00	7.00.40.00	5:45 pm
Club	Jewish Students	-	Dance Studio	7:30-10:30 pm	7:30-10:30 pm	BBSO meeting
Kline Commons	Organization, Shabbat		700 1000	Peer Tutors	Peer Tutors	Kline Committee RM
700 10 00	Services	-	7:30-10:30 pm	Third Floor Aspinwall	Third Floor Aspinwall	(00.0.00
7:30-10:30 pm	Bard Hall		Peer Tutors	9-20	7:20	6:30-8:30 pm
Peer Tutors	-		Third Floor Aspinwall	8:30 pm Observer writers'	7:30 pm	Poetry Room Open Olin 101
Third Floor Aspinwall		ļ		meeting	AA Meeting Aspinwall 302	Oan ioi
	-	_		Third floor Aspinwall	Aspitiwan 502	7:30 pm
	,			Titita nooi Aspiitwan		Scottish Country
_	• -	_				Dancing-Manor House
						-unchig winter thouse
			·			7:30-10:30 pm
	-					Peer Tutors
						Third Floor Aspinwall

THE DEPICTED UNKNOWN: Works on view in the Proctor Arts Center