Aid to Larreynaga

Edwin, Eddie Jose, Alphonso and Angel are residents of Larreynaga, Nicaragua. This postcard is available in DeKline.

The Mid-Hudson/Larreynaga sister-city project is a private, non-profit organization devoted to humanitarian and educational exchanges between the people of the Mid-Hudson valley and the city of Larreynaga, Nicaragua. The organization has stepped up its involvement in response to the disaster caused by the eruption of the volcano Blanco Negro near Larreynaga.

The group has been requesting donations of food, summer clothing, and school supplies to offer relief for the displaced people. The situation is getting worse as the people are depending upon the government to provide sufficient assistance. The streets have been covered with boulders the size of cars, and hundreds of people have lost their homes. The M-H/L has been selling postcards in deKline to raise money and will be in front of Kline Friday afternoon to collect more donations of materials and money.

The project was formed "because we wanted a direct human contact and wanted to give issues a human face. We are an alternative method of insuring that the aid money goes to the correct purpose. It is difficult to get a lot of information due to the disaster, and we will be returning to Nicaragua as soon as possible to deliver the aid."

Bard student Enrique Gomez is from Larreynaga, and Jonah Gensler spent last summer in Nicaragua with the Gomez family. As Gensler commented in the project's newsletter, "A sister city project is a dynamic entity which can build leadership in both communities. In our efforts to improve the well-being of Nicaraguans, we should remember that we are all sharing in a human enterprise. The continued on page 2
Election results

Michael Poizier
News Editor

Campus elections were held on Monday and Tuesday of this week in front of the post office and 188 out of almost one thousand students voted. Olivier te Boekhorst was elected as chairman of the Student Judiciary Board over his opponent Rudi Ganz by a strong margin. "I have a strong interest in being Student Judiciary Board Chairperson and am confident that I would be effective in that position," commented te Boekhorst who has been extensively involved in student government in the past as a member of various committees and the Student Life Committee chair.

The balancing for the Board of Trustees Representative was significantly closer. Two candidates had to be elected and Sasha Gorman received the most votes with 110. Ephraim Colter narrowly defeated Jason Van Driesche by only two ballots (82 to 80). Tatiana Provol, who ran as a write-in candidate, received over fifty votes. Secretary Sally Mehtens who conducted the election confirmed that the votes were recounted many times. In his statement of purpose Colter stated that "I am optimistic about the position because it is an awkward position. I am familiar with awkward positions. I want to share with the Board of Trustees the awkward positions we are daily put in as students..."

Positions which were won by default were Dara Silverman as Planning Committee Chair and Renee Cramer as Chair of the Educational Policies Committee. Elections for open seats on the Planning, EPC, SJR, and Student Life Committees will be held at the final Student Forum meeting of the semester on May 11 at 7:00 PM in Olin.

Bard Community pays respects to Nadir Teherany

Early Monday morning, Nadir Teherany, a senior chemistry major, took his own life. Teherany was the Peer Counselor for Rueger and had been actively involved on campus including working in the computer center and helping out with cultural events in Olin. He had recently completed his senior project and had reportedly been "very happy and proud of his project" according to his many friends. His advisor, Simeen Sattar, was even considering having it published. His suicide came as a terrible shock to the many people who had cared about him.

He had sent goodbye letters to his friends and professors on campus, including college President Leon Botstein who felt that his letters contained an intense loneliness and anger, as well as almost a thankfulness; like he was only saying goodbye for a short time. Teherany was from Pakistan and had already made plans for commencement, including a visit by his parents and younger brother. He had jobs lined up for the next year and then planned to go to graduate school yet did not feel comfortable with his future and felt that he had to make things up when speaking with people. The following statements were from fellow students and faculty members who were remembering their departed friend Monday afternoon:

"He was a very beautiful and sensitive person. A hug meant a lot to him..."

"...He did so much for other people, much more than he had to. He truly was the person he was afraid he couldn't be..."

"...When you are standing on the edge of a cliff it is normal everyday balance that keeps you from falling off. But what keeps you from jumping is a consciousness of the consequences of your own actions; he realized that and had made his own decision..."

Nadir Teherany's presence will be sorely missed on this campus. There are many resources on campus to turn to for emotional help and counseling. The Counseling and Health Service at ext.435, the Dean of Students office at ext.454, and the Chaplain's office at ext.364. Announcements about memorial services will be forthcoming.

Classifieds

To the person who may have decided to borrow my softball glove (without asking me) - it would be appreciated if you would return it to me, as you probably should not have taken it in the first place. It's not yours.

Kris Hall
Intramural Director
more personals on page 3

Nicaragua continued

continued from page 1

material aid we send will only be an anesthetic at best if it is not accompanied by real, sincere efforts to improve human capacities. To train, to teach, to learn, to grow, to involve, to challenge is how true sister cities interact. Anyone interested in helping out in addition to donations should contact Gensler on-campus.
The story of a writer: prosecution to acclaim

Jeana G. Breton
Staff Writer

Bard professor Norman Manea was born in Suceava, Bukovina, Romania. At the age of five, he was deported to a concentration camp in the Ukraine and remained there until the end of World War II. He then studied to become an engineer, but left the profession at the age of thirty-eight "to dedicate [himself] exclusively to writing."

He had a great many of his works published in Romania in a variety of media including some of the most important cultural magazines. He wrote fiction that was "deeply connected to my experiences; you write about what you know best and so the core of my work was the topic I." His are stories about oppression and the survival of the artist in a land where no one can express oneself completely. He himself was persecuted for his work, "therefore, I left. I couldn't deal with the intense censorship that became totally crazy because of cultural and political oppression."

He left Romania for West Berlin in 1986 and arrived in the United States in 1988. In 1989, "Bard chose me," said Professor Manea, to teach literature as a fellow of the College's International Academy for Scholarship and the Arts, which brings writers and scholars, whose freedom of expression has been restricted, to liberal colleges throughout the U.S. He missed his homeland very much in the beginning and still does sometimes, but at the same time feels "step by step I adapt to American life, and I like Bard — the place and the people — and hope they like me." He sees "teaching as an exchange [giving while learning] that was at first disturbing because of the contact with a new generation that was very different from the Europeans he was used to," but now considers it to be a stimulating contact. He teaches a class on the Holocaust and literature, and a class on Eastern European writers, both subjects connected to his main experience as a human being and a writer.

Professor Manea is also the author of five novels (two of which have just been published in English: On Clothes: The Dictator and the Artist. And October, Eight O'Clock); three volumes of shorter fiction, and three collections of essays. His work has been translated into more than ten languages. "Of course, I'm glad," said Manea, "that my books are translated and reach an international audience, but writing is not a happy profession; it's tough and complicated — sometimes even sad, but there are some moments of content and even happiness."

A recent moment of pride took place on April 15, 1992 when he was named one of 149 recipients of a fellowship established by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. Professor Manea was chosen from among 3,162 artists, scholars, and scientists because of his unusually distinguished past achievements and his exceptional future promise.

Previous awards earned by Norman Manea include one from the Association of Bucharest Writers (1979), one from the Writer's Union of Romania (1984), the DAAD Berliner program (1987), and a Fulbright Fellowship (1989).

Critics have compared Manea's work to those of Bruno Schulz, Robert Shults, Robert Musil, and Franz Kafka. Manea says that if a writer must be included in a literary family "it's not the worst one, but family members are not identical; they're similar and different at the same time." His book On Clothes: The Dictator and the Artist is a non-fiction book about "culture and politics in Romania written because he "felt the need to tell the experiences of a writer in Romania surviving and finally being obliged to leave...and to explain the ambiguity of the system [dictatorship]." His book October, Eight O'Clock is a short fiction which takes the form of a biography of the main character whose childhood starts in a concentration camp during the Holocaust, and how this character grows up to combine both sides of the socialist society into his work.

Both books are available at the bookstore.

Cross-disciplinary language program

Matthew Apple
Managing Editor

Students with at least two years of a foreign language, but who aren't interested in literature classes, have the option of using their language skills in the cross-disciplinary program. The program, started in 1989 by German professor Franz Kempf, arranges for student tutorials using the original texts of works used in social studies classes. "In the past, students could only use their foreign language skills to study literature," noted Kempf. "The cross-disciplinary program provides not only a meaningful application of language skills, but also leads to a better understanding of the language."

Although twelve students participated in German as part of the program during its initial semester in 1990, the number of interested students has been rapidly dwindling; students who participate in the program are required to complete the normal course load and attend tutorials to read and discuss select course material in the original language. The student would receive two separate grades for the class and four extra credits for the tutorial. Twenty-two courses were marked for possible cross-disciplinary language study for the spring 1992 semester in the mathematics, art, and social science divisions.

Correction

In last week's issue the photos of Andrea Breth's senior project and Karen Kloumann's senior project were mixed up. We apologize for the error.

Attention:

May Graduates/students Transferring from Bard All Students graduating, with plans to attend grad school or students planning to transfer to another college will need a copy of their health and immunizations records.

The health service will make every effort to provide these records to students upon request. Please note, however, that students must contact the Health Service as soon as possible, but no later than FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1992.

Copies of these records can be picked up at the Health Service through May 20, 1992.

The Health Service is not employed during the summer months and will be unable to honor any requests during June and July.
A view aimed at ending neglect

Jean C. Breton
Staff Writer

On Saturday, May 2nd Bard's Graduate School of Environmental Studies held its third and final lecture in the series entitled "Overpopulation: Causes and Solutions." It was held in Olin Auditorium and featured Marvin Harris, anthropology professor at the University of Florida. His talk centered on how population growth affects the evolution of culture, and was entitled "Anthropology of Reproduction and Cultural Ecosystems."

Professor Harris gave his opinion that growth affects evolution "by lowering marginal rates of return on productive effort." An increase in population means a necessary expansion of production which leads to less favorable habitats, a depletion of production means, and an inevitable crisis which brings on experimentation and continental change. This was true of the prehistoric realm when mammoths and other large animals were brought to extinction by a combination of altered climate, hunting, and the development of more effective weapons. It continued to be true in the days of the Aztec Indians (who, out of a need for protein, are prisoners of war), and in India prior to Hinduism when there were many cattle herds, crops of grain, and a higher standard of living; when population drastically increased, the forests were destroyed and eventually animals took on a new role while the country continued to suffer in its search for better production means.

"There are more benefits to having one educated child than having ten doing domestic labor." It is a vicious cycle depending "on gains of productivity being swallowed up by population increase," said Harris. Once population growth was favored "to step up production," but recently there's been a cancellation of advantages due to the cost/benefit ratio.

Harris admitted that a time existed during which an extended family provided favorable benefits because there was more manpower (necessary in pre-industrial situations to obtain bigger fields, a larger harvest, and a higher range of production); but "short-term gain leads to long-term losses." The long term costs of overpopulation now out weigh the short term benefits. The logical solution, according to Harris, is for families to have fewer children and to educate them. This is costly, but will result in children more capable of becoming great social investments. "There are more benefits to having one educated child than having ten doing domestic labor."

According to Harris, such a trend will be difficult to implement (especially in third world countries) and requires a universal desire to "produce more and more, better and better." This means establishing updated technology for all fields from production to health care. Consumerism -- "today's fastest growing religion""One car is better than walking a few miles in the rain, but 1,000 cars on that same road becomes life threatening."

--Marvin Harris

CAREER DAY - SATURDAY, MAY 9
3:00 pm, Olin Hall 3rd Floor
Alumni returning to campus to speak about their experiences working in the following fields:
Social Work
Environmental Science
Theatre & Dance
Music - Composer
Writing & Publishing
Museums
Photography
Films
Music - Producing
Teaching in the US & Abroad

A chance for students to hear what these fields are like, from others who went to Bard. Do some networking. Find out where to look for jobs and internships.

Features

May 6, 1992
The Bard Observer

Drivers Wanted
College Students: Drive an Ice Cream truck in your hometown in Connecticut or Westchester County this summer. Sell Good Humor and other ice creams. Earn $650-$950 per week. Apply now, not in May.

Blue Skybar
Ice Cream

(203) 366-2641
Monday-Saturday
8am-4pm

20 Hour Banking
First Rhinebeck
First National Bank of Rhinebeck

YOU CAN USE SMART 24 / DISCOVER EXPRESS CASH / VISA
NFC/ CASHIER'S CHECK / PLUS

RHI NEBE CK
20 Mill St. 876-7041

RED HOOK
Rt. 9 South 759-8811

BARD COLLEGE LOCATIO N

OUR SMART 24 ATM IS CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN THE STUDENT CENTER

Cafe Menagerie
May 9th 1:30-6:00 pm
An afternoon of Safer Sex discussions by Bard students for Bard students about Bard students. Olin 102 & 104.

Offering light food fair and mocktails. Music by Loco Boom.

• Diversity & Plurality
• B.R.A.V.E.

-Discussion for all women about improving sexual communication with your partners.
-Discussion for all men about improving sexual communication with your partners.
• SM A.C.E.S.
• B.A.G.E.L.

-Rhinebeck 9 to 11 PM

-Eroticizing Human sexuality
Another View  
Frustrated, misunderstood, disappointed and not getting any hope you’re not here, wish I weren’t

To start with, this is not another essay/letter/doctrine-of-life exhorting the virtues or vices of S&M. It’s great that people like S’Macs and BAG’Ls are trying to figure themselves out, no matter what answers they find. No, this is instead an attempt to represent, however feebly, the position of those of us who can’t get laid in the first place, much less explore beyond that point, because we just don’t fit the Bard game. The game whose rules apparently state that sexual encounters are best had while drunk or just after, so that if things don’t work out both parties can pretend that it was mostly the alcohol talking (or thrusting or whatever). The game which tells us that averting our eyes or simply ignoring a person after a certain point is sufficient to communicate to them that “it’s over.” (I preach not, friends, for I have walked both sides of that dirty boulevard.) The game which states that if an expressed desire between two friends isn’t mutual, things can never be comfortable again. The game that says you can’t approach someone just out of an overwhelming desire to meet them for whatever uncertain physical or intellectual reasons, but that you must instead convince a situation, search out a mutual friend and drag them into the fray... or just live with your curiosity unsatisfied. A game whose goal is to never admit our needs and desires, to not admit that we are often shallow, or even that we question the general consensus of what shallow is. A game with the goal of never admitting that it’s okay to just want to screw someone, but a game that provides many masks under which to continue that activity just the same. Or maybe you don’t just want to screw them, maybe you don’t know what you want to do. Where is the rule that explains to me why I can’t be honest and just try to meet someone and then figure out why it seemed so important, without that person freaking out and thinking it’s something strange or intimidating? I’m sure I’m not the only one... I’ve been_posing and I’ve seen you looking back, at times. Maybe you’ve even tried to slip into a potential skull-on-skull type situation and I was too slow at the time to realize it. I know you’re out there, lots of you, and I know you are identifying with at least something here. Or maybe not. Either way, I hope I’m not alone in believing that our game is defective. Pieces are missing and the rules are badly written, with many omissions. I want a refund. I want to be honest, I want to be open, and anyone else who feels like they can’t walk up to that cute guy or girl or whatever, well, I want them to be honest and open, too. I’m not saying a silver platter introduction to fuck, I’m just saying introduce yourself, make a move, have some guts (or balls, balls). Take or at least share the initiative. Let’s see what happens if we ignore the rules for a while, OK? I’ll be waiting for you to introduce yourself, or maybe I’ll beat you to it. If nothing else, please remember this the next time you are staring at someone across the room whom you’ve never met but really wanted to talk to, and no matter how ambiguous your intentions, please, ask yourself why, what is stopping you from Bookstore Thief, The Coffee Shop Thief, The Construction Site Thief, The Bookstore Thief, The Coffee Shop Thief, The Construction Site Thief, The Bad Student, The Good Student, Good Cop (Stuart) or Bad Cop (Leon), The Bookstore Thief, The Coffee Shop Thief, The Construction Site "Borrowers", The Ludlow Thieves, The Religious, The Relentless, The Unresolved... The Pointless, The Clever... Those That Use Drugs and Those That Need More Medication, The Women of the Women's Center, The Rest of the Women on Campus (and in the World)—quid pro quo or Pro Choice—The Seniors, The Seniors Who Just Might Graduate, Those That Dance, Those That Don’t Dance, Those That Don’t Know They Don’t Dance, Exotic Dancers, Erotic Go-Go Boys/Girls, Strippers, Teasers, Crowd Pleasers, The Social Butterflies, The Fly Girls, The Girl With Her Head In The Right Place But Who Wears Her Heart On Her Sleeve, The Boy Who Smells Of Money, That Other Boy With A Heart of Gold Who Just Smells, That Nice Boy Who Needs Like Another Hole In his Head... and That Trill’s Mother Behind French Doors... Disco Queens, Control Queens, Dragon Ladies Drag Queens, Prince Alberts, Primadonnas, Madonna Wannabes, (HEOP’s Mad Donna)—Napoleon—The Last Empress—The Tatted, The Pierced, The Shaved -The Lover, The Loved, The Beloved—The Unloved—The Desirables—The Desired, The Dismayed, The Disillusioned...

SEXUAL ASSAULT

Knowing how to help someone who has been sexually assaulted can make a significant difference in the healing process and helping that individual to regain control over their life. If someone you know has been sexually assaulted:

-Listen, be supportive and non-judgmental;
-Let the survivor know that the assault was not their fault, regardless of the circumstances;
-Let the survivor decide what actions to take to help her/him regain control;
-Offer resources seeking medical care, calling Security of the police, contacting BRAVE, the DOS office or the Counseling Center for emotional support and information;
-Know that sexual assault often has an impact on those close to the survivor, including friends anddandmates. Don’t be afraid to call one to the above organizations to get support for yourself.

It can help to talk about it. Call BRAVE

Bard Response To Rape & Associated Violence Education Information - Counseling- Support- Referrals X525 or X833 All Calls are Confidential

...why about calling a student run hotline? BRAVE Program Director, Joan Unger is available Tuesdays & Wednesdays. Call X597.

Those Who Were At The First Menage, Those Who Were At The Second, Those Who Don’t Intend To Miss The Third!

The Good Student, The Bad Student, Good Cop (Stuart) or Bad Cop (Leon),

L’enfant terrible, 
EphemereClementine

Queen

Wanted

L'arrivé terrible,

VagueGreneColoir

Queen

May 6, 1992

The Bard Observer

A page of unedited observations from guest writers
wanted continued
continued from page 5
Divas, Divettes, Dryvna's, The Divine and The Like (their attitude and the shade) - Shishi or Ki-Ki - Miss. It or Mr. IS-Well-dressed or Overweight (in leather, polyester, plastic, rubber, latex, or spandex - bought, borrowed, or mopped - from K-Mart, Payless, or American Apparel), and, uh, NY, Chicago, and LA!
Postmodern Sexual, Pansexual, Asexual
The Inspirers, People Living With -Those Clean, Those Sober, Those Clean and Sober and Alcoholic, The Tested, The Untested, The Should-Be-Tested Som, Anyone Who Can Admit This Campus is Racist/Sexist/Homophobic and Include Themselves As Part Of This Consciousness, Anyone Who Can Catch Themselves In A Lie And Set Themselves Free, Anyone Who Wants To Change The World, Anyone Who Wants To Start With Their World-View -Women Who Say No, Women Who Say No More, Men Who Listen NO IRS, ANDS, OR BUTS!
WANTED by Saturday, "Bon Appetit."

What the United States justice system thinks about the African-American man
by Anni Phal

On the morning of April 30 1992, while sitting in my history class, my classmate, an African-American man, told me of the acquittal of the police officers involved in the Rodney G. King police brutality case. Tears immediately filled my eyes and I looked at him, fearing for his life. I am an irate and frustrated African-American woman that is sick and tires of witnessing the murders, beatings, dehumanizing emasculation and incarceration of my African-American brothers. I cannot put into words the pure rage that I feel emerging from the fact that, time and time again the United States justice system sends out a message saying that the life and well being of African men means NOTHING in this country!
The beating of Rodney G. King as if he was a rabid dog was only unique in that it was caught on video tape. This injustice was not a first. I have witnessed with my own eyes the merciless beatings of my African-American brothers and felt guilty because there was nothing that I could immediately do to lessen the pain they were feeling.
The verdict in this case was a slap in the face to Yusef Hawkins, Phillip Panell, Michael Griffiths, Malcolm, Meadger, Martin, Marcus, Nat, Fred, Assata, and all the other brothers and sisters who lost their lives or committed themselves to truth and justice. What about those that we do not hear about? Do their lives mean anything? How many have to die? How many sons and daughters have to be lost? How long will we stand by and allow outright injustice to happen? How long will injustice prevail? How long will there be silence?
I live in fear for my African-American brothers' lives. Living in fear for their lives means that I must live in fear for my own. It sickens me to know that a country who prides itself on its constitution and those words that say something about truth and justice for all, allows the equally sickening perpetuation of racism. It's not a good feeling to know that one's life is neither important nor protected.
Rodney G. King was yet another example of how this country is not seeking justice for African men or women. Unless we start making some serious strides in combating this racist, this country will witness an upheaval of everything it finds solace and subtle than the lager and really has a Superior, but not very drinkable. Anyway, I do not hear about? Do their lives mean anything? How many have to die? How long will injustice happen? How long will we stand by and allow outright injustice to happen? How long will injustice prevail? How long will there be silence?
I live in fear for my African-American brothers' lives. Living in fear for their lives means that I must live in fear for my own. It sickens me to know that a country who prides itself on its constitution and those words that say something about truth and justice for all, allows the equally sickening perpetuation of racism. It's not a good feeling to know that one's

The Beer Column

PH: This week, to celebrate Cinquo de Mayo, we chose to Mexican beers just like we did last year, only different, well different beers anyway. Now personally I don't care much for Mexican beer, I'll have a Dos Equis when I go out for Mexican food, but otherwise I don't make it a point to buy any of what I consider sub-standard imports. To me, Mexico beers all taste pretty much the same, and too many at once tends to make my stomach turn. Not everyone agrees with me of course, in fact, last summer in England Sol was the in beer to drink and the most expensive. I can't comprehend this trend myself, and neither can any of the older or more sophisticated generation, but shit happens. At any rate, this week Finnegan will be discussing Negro Modella and Superior while I drink the Brooklyn Brown dark ale.

Brooklyn Brown is a newer, darker version of Brooklyn Lager which we reviewed a few weeks ago. This dark is a lot less subtle than the lager and really has a dominance often associated with beers of this color. There's a hint of the lager's flavor in this but there're more like third cousins than brothers. If you're not a fan of dark beers it's probably not a beer you'll be able to handle on a large scale (by the case). It doesn't have the thick, coffee-like bite that Spaten Dark and othe dark imports have, it's clearly domestic with it's own unique taste. I have to day, though, that all things considered, this lager's much better.

Now I hand you over to Finnegan and his sombrero.

F: Oh, Phantom, for shame! How could anyone of your skills refuse to sample any beer that had never been tried before? After three semesters and 117 beers, even the sophisticated generation should bear down and drink up. To shun any kind of new experience is to fall into a trap of lossness. Anyway, it is Cinco De Mayo and Superior is my beer of the primavera. It is a mildly dark lager with a yellow color and a beige that is milky and soft without being weak or tiresome. It has a mild flavor that makes for a drinkable beer and not an event. However, it is not very distinguished- you could drink a couple and then totally forget that it happened.

The Negro Modella is completely different. It is much darker- A kind of reddish brown that is most common in English and German brews. Further, it has a naturally dry taste without being to hoppy or malty- in other words, it's not syrupy and has a mildly sweetish taste that compliments the after-taste really well. Depending on what you have has to eat or what you ate, the taste comes off like a biscuit or a piece of dry bread. This is not bad. This is a good thing.

Negro Modella is completely different. You can only think about this thing that I have tried and one of the best things to come out of Mexico since Pancho Villa. No really, the Negro Modella is a good beer. I'd have tea say that out of the 117 beers that we have tried it ranks in the top 50. It is better than he Superior, but not very drinkable. Anyway, it is not too bitter and goes in right.

Next week, we promise to have a celebrity reviewer plus the super-super special Finnegan's Wake Issue, plus the superfruit chart plus lots of other good stuff that I can't think of right now. Oh yeah, and just you wait this Thursday, in the Blum courtyard there will be a big beer column blow-out with Foster's on tap. Plus, you get to meet the super-cool assese. Is there anything more? Naaah.

Phantom says
Brooklyn Brown is only a 2
Finnegan gave Superior a 1.5 and the Negro Modella a 3.

Poem of the Week
No Images
by Waring Cunevy, submitted by Jolana Brashears
She does not know her beauty
She thinks her brown body
has no glory
But if she could dance naked
under palm trees and see her image in the river
she would know
but there are no palm trees
on the street
and dishwasher gives back
no images

Beverage way
supermarket of beer and soda

[$12.49 / case]

[$4.69 / 6 pk]

[$5.49 / 6pk]

[$1.99 / 6 pk]
Art rebounds around the campus

Davis interview

"It has something to do with the quality of seeing and the ability to express what I've seen," said Sara Davis of her senior project, a series of 30 black and white photographs entitled Seeing: Patterns in Chaos.

The body of Davis' work consisted of landscape photographs shot with a 4 x 5 camera in Fernhill Forest, River Road, and the woods between Tivoli and Germantown. Explaining that she used to photograph just "beautiful trees," Davis said that she decided to move her work to the forest because "so much is growing there that your eyes pass over a lot of things." As she began to pay attention to patterns and shapes formed by the trees and other vegetation, this interest became the focus of her project.

Davis found shooting landscape scenes challenging because "it's not just about beautiful landscapes. It's about finding something interesting to hold someone's attention." Davis explained that she was interested in "the intricate lines created out of whole objects," a concern which is readily visible in her work. Although the majority of Davis' photographs did contain trees because she found them to be "more interesting and stronger [than other vegetation]," she also spent a long time at each scene making visual decisions because of the nature of the 4 x 5 camera; such intimacy with a scene allows the breathtaking beauty of a first glance to wear off, leaving the photographer with a better sense of what is essential to making a successful photograph.

Actually the photographs Davis was most pleased with were those of vines: "The vines are much more sculptural [than trees], and I found that I really liked that." While Davis explained that what makes a successful photograph for her is "something much more instinctual than I could describe," she also commented that she is pleased with photographs in which "I'm able to see in a photo what I've seen out there."

Davis was pleased overall with her year's work, as were her professors and those that viewed the show, but she does not feel that it is finished yet and plans to continue working on the series over the next few weeks.

Following graduation, Davis plans to go home to Seattle and work for a non-profit women's legal organization. She says that she is "not looking for a career in photo" because she prefers not to work for anyone else, but she does plan to continue in photography, possibly seeking work in a related career.

Seeing: Patterns in Chaos is on display in the Kline Commons to work intensively with a certain advisor Amy Cheng who gave weekly feedback. Ganjian, however, feels that she did what she did because "doing something traditional like painting still life would have been boring." She is "more or less" happy with how things turned out, and agrees with the comments she has gotten on her work; people have said: "It looks like you were having a lot of fun." "The work was serious, but fun. Sometimes frustrating...it was very time consuming," says Ganjian, and she only wishes that she had more space to make a larger installation with "more panty hose." Ganjian's show is the final project of a year long process and is on display in Proctor until the end of the week.

Ganjian interview

"Shopping became a big part of my artistic process," said Linda Ganjian of her senior project entitled The Painter, The Junk Collector, and the Shop-aholic Meet.

Her project consists of eleven works of art each brightly colored and distinct from each other. The exhibit consists of: 4 oil painted compositions on wood, 1 untitled acrylic on found object, 1 painted bed stand decorated with pieces of a letter, 3 compositions consisting of everyday objects, and 2 hanging sculptures made mostly of newspaper filled with pantyhose and plastic hangers. Ganjian started out just painting, but discovered she wanted to incorporate more objects because "objects have their own connotations that bring meaning to the work." Thus her work progressed toward sculpture dependent upon what she could find useful in dumps, thrift shops, and second-rate department stores such as

Olmstead interview

"I wanted to deal with relationships within the frame between people...structurally and psychologically," said Sophia Olmstead of her senior project, a series of black and white photographs entitled Body of Opinions.

Olmstead's project consisted of 31 photographs taken with a two and a quarter camera of two families in Tivoli with whom she worked intimately this year. She found the inspiration for her project in September when she met some children in a playground and began shooting photographs of them while they played. By October, she had been invited home to meet their families, with whom she said she was "completely candid. I told them that I wanted to work intensively with a certain group of people [and] that it was essential for me to be completely immersed with them—that I would have to return constantly."

Olmstead decided to work with a specific group of strangers after several years of taking "random candid shots of people on the streets" and "more formal portraiture of close friends." She found that the extremes of these shooting situations left her without any middle ground, so that the resulting photographs were either too arbitrary or too intimate to be very successful.

It took a long time to establish an environment conducive to shooting. Olmstead explained, "You have to visit often enough to make them comfortable with you in their house; you have to make yourself a fixture there." Because Olmstead worked extensively with the children, she also had to overcome the problem of them posing, which she did very successfully through placement of the frame. Olmstead commented, "You just have to keep shooting, and eventually you'll get something between those poses—something that's real."

Keep shooting, she did. Olmstead said of her advisor, Larry Fink, that he was "extremely supportive and excited all year. One week I would shoot 20 rolls of black and white film, and Larry would say, 'It's alright. You're a hungry photographer, and you're researching for it. I'll come.'"

She explained that in order to get the photographs she wanted, it was essential to shoot as much as possible—even if that be 10 or 20 rolls a week.

Others who viewed the show were also very positive. Actress and personal friend of Olmstead, Yana Landowne, said, "It really moved me to laughter or just [feeling] struck at being able to see my own life there. Although she wishes that she had had a better technical understanding of the strobe flash she used, Olmstead was also pleased with the final product of her work.

Following graduation, she plans to move to New York, where she hopes to find an internship at Aperture or ICP, and to continue doing photography, beginning with children in parks and playgrounds.

Body of Opinions by Sophia Olmstead was on display in Kline Commons from April 30th-May 5th.
Moaning becomes "Elektra"

Terdoslavich art interview

"It's a wonderful feeling to be able to use what you possess in your hands," said Rich Terdoslavich of his senior project, an untitled series of 13 acrylic and mud with gesso on paper/canvas paintings. Terdoslavich's body of work consists of intimately painted portraits of friends. He became interested in painting portraits during his sophomore year and enjoyed it so much that he wanted to pursue it more seriously as his senior project.

Terdoslavich said, "I had no specific message I wanted to get across...just the idea of spending an afternoon with friends, having fun painting them," those who viewed the show consistently remarked on how much he captured the personalities of those in the portraits.

Terdoslavich explained, "I always feel great when I hear a really good musician or see a comic or painting like I've never seen before...it makes me want to get up and go." His project communicates this enthusiasm and dedication: "It takes a lot of work and a lot of energy, but it's also a lot of fun." Terdoslavich expressed commitment with his project, commenting "I'm very pleased that I got it off the ground...and I really tried my best; that's what it all comes down to." However, he also said, "I feel like some paintings have a lot of mistakes...I wish I had been bolder in the beginning—that I had not had physical control of the brush, but maybe it's good to have some mistakes in your paintings."

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Geil interview

"Everyone has been to a fast food restaurant, and there are very few places you could say that about," commented David Geil about his senior project, a series of black and white photographs entitled "Platinum Playlands: Photographs of Fast Food Restaurants." Geil's project consists of 28 platinum prints of photographs taken with an 8 x 10" view camera of fast food restaurants—specifically McDonald's, Burger King, and Kentucky Fried Chicken. Geil said that he chose to photograph an unconventional subject because "a lot of my pictures have subjects that traditionally people don't think are beautiful. I think that's something original about my work—to take something like that and try to make it beautiful.

When asked about his photographic influences, Geil named Charles B cheeser, who is famous for his photographs taken at a Ford production plant, as well as Bernd and Hilla Becher, who "make beautiful work of things not traditionally beautiful, like blast furnaces." In fact, the Bechers currently have work on display at the Black Center.

Geil chose to photograph fast food restaurants specifically because he is interested in American culture and also because he enjoys them as children. When asked why he did not include any people in his photographs, Geil responded, "The restaurants, themselves, are what I'm interested in, and I'm not sure these people [in the restaurants] are any different from anyone else. Also the people could already be beautiful. ...I want to take ordinary things and make them beautiful. I make them into a work of art.

Further, using an 8 x 10" view camera with long exposures made including people problematic, if not impossible.

Geil was excited about his project because he "discovered something really wonderful about these places, and I had never seen them photographed." Although it took him awhile to discover exactly what he wanted as his focus, Geil said, "You have to have an emotional reaction to whatever you're photographing...beautiful or ugly," and eventually he found himself responding to the 'playlands' in this way.

He was most pleased with his work taken in the playlands because he chose to view "objects like Grun...as something to look at, rather than something to play on." In order to get away from people's traditional perceptions of these places, Geil also chose to photograph in black and white: "the colors would be too dominant...and suggestive of how people already think of fast food restaurants.

In the next year, Geil, who just purchased an 8 x 10" view camera, will pursue individual photo projects and do some commercial work in Connecticut, perhaps even with the franchises he photographed. Eventually, he also plans to enter a Master of Fine Arts program.
Yaniv subs for Yeskel but still misses match

Matthew Apple
Sports Editor

Yaniv Tomar substituted for last week’s errant player, Bill Yeskel, yet didn’t play at all versus Western Connecticut. Tomar took Bill Yeskel’s turn at match, Isaac Halpern’s final men’s softball game (which he probably won’t wear), Legël 2, and Ringel through in singles and doubles matches against Western Connecticut, winning them in impressive form. Ringel went on to win his next and final match of the 1992 season against New Jersey Institute of Technology, taking the singles 6/4, 7/5 and the doubles match, Isaac Halpern’s final men’s tennis match as a Bardian, by the score of 8 to 4. (see this year’s final Athlete of the Week).

The men’s tennis team finished their first season in the Independent Athletic Conference with a 1 and 9 record. The Blazers started the season with only two returning players in a new, more competitive conference, and churned out hardy, battle-ready veterans of the tennis courts after a long grueling season. The Blazers improved dramatically by the end of the season, leaving their final match of the campaign with experienced players. Next year the Blazers will have a core group of strong players, ready to meet the challenge of becoming the long-sought after “above 500” sport team at Bard. Congratulations on a fine season and a fine job, Coach.

Softball regular season winding down

Matthew Apple
Sports Editor

Friday at 3:00, the first Bard Homerun Contest was held, with twenty people participating. Six contestants hit two home runs each, but Jody App pulled away with first prize, a batting glove. Dave Lemmel was awarded second prize, a Yankee baseball cap (although he’s from Boston and likes the Red Sox, and absolutely hates the Yankees), and Matt Becker won third prize, a brand-spanking new plastic-lined new baseball gloves for the first time. Irregular Group Dynamics forfeited to the team that changes its name every game (What’s Our Name?), and 2 Legit 2 Quit quitted the league because they couldn’t come to any of their games. Monday games were postponed out of respect for Nadir Tehrani. The game between Da Luvaghs and Duckrabbits has been rescheduled for Friday at 5:30, the game between the Cunning Linguists and the Black Sox for Wednesday (today) at 5:30.

Game of the Week

On Tuesday, E. Coli played the People’s Film Front Softball Liberation Army in what was expected to be a joke of a game. Motivated by the witty comments of a man dressed in a suit and a very large brimmed hat (the ever irreverent Adolphas Mekas, who taunted the opposing team with remarks like, “Give up. If you wanted to win, you should have picked the right team”), the Film dudes tied the game at 3 in the first inning and blew the doors open in the next. Spectacular fielding by the PFFSLA, holding E. Coli to only three runs, and powerful hitting by Javier and Peter, who combined for three home runs, gave PFFSLA the stunning upset victory, 13-3.

Softball standings

Recreation League

Division I
1. Margaret & the Meatbangers
   - 4-0
2. People’s Film Front Softball Liberation Army
   - 3-2
3. We’ll Go Pass/Fail, Thanks
   - 2-2
4. Flaccid Susuki
   - 2-2
5. Some People
   - 0-4

Division II
1. E. Coli
   - 4-1
2. Simon’s Sluggers
   - 3-1
3. Slut Trash
   - 2-1
4. What’s Our Name
   - 1-2
5. Photo Flo
   - 1-3
6. Irregular Group Dynamics
   - 0-4

Athletic League

1. Sexual Cannibals
   - 5-1
2. Cunning Linguists
   - 4-2
3. Gym Rats
   - 3-2
4. Da Luvaghs
   - 2-2
5. The Black Sox
   - 2-2
6. Duckrabbits
   - 3-3
7. SPS
   - 2-4

Henri Ringel
Men’s Tennis

Ht: Bigger than he looks
Wt: 3 % body fat
Year: Sophomore
Hometown: Bangkok, Thailand; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Dell’s Dairy Creme
Quote: “It’s so good!”

Henri closed out his first year as the number one Bard men’s tennis player with two strong victories over Western Connecticut and New Jersey Institute of Technology, finishing with a personal record of 5 and 8. “I love everything I’ve accomplished to J,” said Henri, who is the PC of Bourne and can be regularly seen wearing his Bard soccer sweatshirt and riding his mountain bike all over creation.

We couldn’t find Henri in time for a photo, but we’re sure he would have looked as sauvage and sexy as usual.

Sports Editor Wanted

Please, please, pretty please? (Yes, we’ll resort to whining) It’s not hard, and you might actually enjoy the dead goat rituals - who knows?

Call the Observer at 758-0772 or drop a note in Campus Mall.

Terdoslavich continued

Terdoslavich offered some advice to those who still have a senior year to do: “You have to find a way to balance your time between academics and senior project. Don’t try, and don’t panic. Just be cool about things.”

Terdoslavich confessed that he is afraid of “life after Bard” because, “Now I have to go out into the real world where there are so many people who do what I do and are really good at it.” Nevertheless, he plans to continue making art and playing guitar. Specifically, he plans to “play rock-n-roll and do some comics” to see where that will lead him.

Untitled works by Rich Terdoslavich are on display in Proctor from May 2nd-8th.
A Question of Morality?

To the Editor:

I read with interest the response to Ms. Hellin Kay's letter in the April 29, 1992 Observer and felt a need to respond. Like Ms. Kay, I had read the initial unattributed piece of April 15, and had considered responding. Unlike Ms. Kay, however, I did not feel that the writer of that first piece has now presented his/her views much more clearly and, thus, my response may be better directed.

I am a strongly pro-choice woman, but I would hesitate to speak for the pro-choice community. Thus, please attribute my assertions to me alone. I agree with the writer (who I will call X) from here on) of last week's piece in one sense. "It is not that they (the opposing forces on the question of legalized abortion) disagree with each other, they are not even able to hear each other," X wrote. I believe fundamentally that no one on either side of the issue will ever be able to convince anyone on the other side; they approach the issue from completely different standpoints. However, I do not see differing perspectives in the same light as does X.

I certainly do not see the pro-choice forces as "dealing with a practical issue" and the pro-life forces as "exposing a moral vision." (Incidentally, I have great difficulty with the term pro-life, as I, too, am pro-life. I believe in the sanctity of the lives of women whose health and very lives would be threatened were they compelled to seek out illegal abortions. Thus, I prefer and use the term anti-choice. However, in deference to X, I will use the term s/he prefers.)

My pro-choice views do not mean that I fear abortion. I, too, would like to see a world in which no one would feel a need to choose abortion. That is why I strongly advocate sex education in school from an early age as possible to that when teenagers and young adults become sexually active—which they will, whether we tell them how to protect themselves or not—they will know how to protect themselves from unwanted pregnancies, as well as from AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. Conversely, the majority of those who oppose abortion as a legal choice also oppose sex education.

Thus, my support of legal abortion would seem from a practical concern. I, too, would assert that "abortion is something which should never have even come up in the first place" meaning that, ideally, no one would want to seek one. Of course I agree with X that our concern should lie "primarily at the point of prevention." However, that is not the world in which we live.

We live in a world which has as a part of it rape, incest, pregnancies which threaten the lives of potential mothers and the human life of the child. Birth control failure, and, yes, mistakes. I believe that the failure of the pro-choice movement and the pro-life movement to communicate is located on a different level. It is not practical v. moral. Rather, it is in the very word moral that the problem may be found. As a pro-choice woman, I, too, espouse a "moral vision." The difficulty lies in the fact that my moral system is different from X's. The pro-life movement fails to understand that its moral code is not X's moral code.

Not every individual, every society, every culture, every religion has the same beliefs about such complex questions as "when does life begin?" X asserts that "pro-life sees abortion for what it is in its moral reality; acknowledgment that life can be worthless, valueless." However, what is "moral reality?" I would assert that, except in a few narrow instances, there is no such thing. Individuals must be permitted to make moral judgments for themselves, within basic parameters set by society. Moreover, those parameters may encompass only those behaviors which will impinge on other individuals' liberties. Thus, two consenting adults have a right to engage in any sexual behaviors they choose in the privacy of their own homes; individuals have a right to worship, to serve one God, or many gods, as they see fit; women have a right to choose abortion.

I am sure that X will say that my assertion about "basic parameters set by society" defines the outlawing of abortion, as we would both agree that it would demand laws against murder. It is here, however, that we come to the complex questions of "what is life?" and "when does life begin?" I understand perfectly well the "life begins at conception and that, therefore, abortion is "wrong." However, I understand equally well that for many people, that is not the case. Moreover, I would assert that those people who do not equate abortion with murder are not making a "practical" choice as X asserts; they are making a moral choice, as legitimate as the moral choice that X has made.

X equates the dominance over women embodied in 'making abortion illegal to the dominance over all citizens of the law prohibiting murder. I disagree. In my moral vision, murder is a crime of taking away life which is independent, under the U.S. Constitution, as well as in a broader vision of human rights, possesses certain inalienable rights which cannot legitimately be abridged by anyone else. Abortion, however, ends the "life" of a fetus. Yes, some may assert that that fetus has the same rights as a human who has already been born. However, others would not make that assertion. And clearly, a fetus is not of the same physical stature as an infant, a teenager or an adult; while all of the latter are independent, functionally, fully developed beings, a fetus is totally dependent upon its "mother" for all of its most basic needs, and in the early stages of development, is even incapable of feeling pain.

X argues that such a dependency argument is a faulty one, asserting, "My grandson is dependent upon my uncle for his livelihood." However, this is a highly questionable analogy. One adult, or child, who is dependent on another because of inability to work, illness, or for whatever reason, is still a person, with the right to life and liberty. A fetus, however, is not so clearly a "person." Some believe that it is, some believe that it isn't. Indeed, the law has never recognized the right of the unborn to inherit or to do any of the other things any other "person" can do. Calling them "children" or "babies" beg the question at issue. By using such terms, "pro-life" forces seek to set up arguments that are impossible to refute; who will say it is acceptable behavior to end the life of a child? However, the basic question at issue has not been addressed; when does a child become a child? A child when does a person become a person?

I would never suggest to X or to any other opponent of abortion that their moral vision is "wrong." They believe that life begins at conception and that, therefore, abortion is "murder." However, I understand equally well that for many people, that is not the case. Moreover, I would assert that those people who do not equate abortion with murder are not making a "practical" choice as X asserts; they are making a moral choice, as legitimate as the moral choice that X has made.

I honestly do understand that those who believe that abortion is murder may have insurmountable difficulty in accepting such a position; if I believed abortion were murder, I'm sure I would be adamantly opposed to it as well. But, pro-life forces must try to understand that the issue isn't black and white; it has multitudinous shades of grey. The strong pro-choice movement in this country, comprising more than half the population, demonstrated that the question of the morality of abortion is not clear cut. Such dispute does not exist on other questions of morality which "pro-lifers," would like to equate with abortion in terms of their evident immorality: murder, theft, rape, child molestation... I would also point out that if we were to take off the blinders so many of us wear which limit our vision to the United States, we would see that abortion is legal in many other countries; in Japan, for example, one in every three pregnancies is aborted. That does not please me; in fact, it disturbs me deeply, in large part because such high figures stem from the fact that the birth control pill is illegal in Japan. The Japanese government feels that AIDS prevention is more important that abortion-prevention; by making continued on page 11
Letters

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the pill illegal, they seek to encourage people to wear condoms. Thus, we see another form of dominance, one which, in fact, has led to higher abortion rates.

Yes, I know, that abortion is also illegal in many countries. But that is exactly my point; there is no consensus on this issue; on the other hand, to my knowledge, murder (in the traditional sense of the word) is legal nowhere. The issues are not analogous.

X stated that "we [the pro-life movement] see something which you [the pro-choice movement] don't." As a pro-choice woman, I do see what X has sought to show me; I see a different perspective on life, but one which is no more valid than my own. Now, I hope that the pro-life supporters will see what I am attempting to show; the "beauty" which I think is being "drowned out"—the beauty of being able to live in a country which accepts many moral visions on equal terms. Women must retain their right to make their own individual, moral judgments about their bodies; to take away this right would be to establish tyranny.

(I'd also like to note that I would have appreciated being able to respond to a person rather than an anonymous entity. I understand that on such a broadly pro-choice campus, it must be difficult for pro-lifers to step forward. However, there's something to be said for being willing to stand behind your convictions.)

Sincerely,
Andrea J. Stein

If you have something on your chest, get it off now and into the Observer! Next week's issue is the last one of the semester. It will be 16 pages to accommodate the letters we had no room for this week (sorry, guys) and for any letters we receive until then.

Get pregnant or be quiet

Dear Mr. —

Although you've proven yourself a somewhat capable writer, in expressing a ridiculous rhetorical "double-speak" like argument, your attempt at logic only goes in circles and once again proves your ignorance. Your argument differs from the religious fanatics only in the sense that it attempts to present the same argument through supposedly logical babble versus religious babble, but regardless it ceases to suffice. DO NOT tell me what my value for life is—I have been working for people's rights and lives way before you learned how to twist and manipulate the words to your favor (and you still don't know what they mean). You state..."As far as the rest of your letters go, I believe you, yourself, make it painfully clear that you have not only clearly stated the matter of abortion with a comprehensive eye": YOU HAVE NOTHING to back up your argument but your own rhetorical, insincere opinion (similar to the religious fanatics who have nothing but the Bible and God to back up their stance)—neither of you have FACTS, I, on the other hand, am perfectly capable of backing up my argument with facts.

You claim that you, too, heard the cries of the women—well, you lie. Those women died of illegal abortions. Abortions today, which are legal, are 10 times safer than childbirth. This was proven in a study done by C. Everett Koop, but never publicized highly because Reagan (who ordered the study in the first place) wanted results that would prove abortion harmful and deter women. But that is not what Mr. Reagan got, so the report remained unpublished. If you had heard these stories you certainly would not respond by sending women back to illegal abortions.

I have yet to meet a "perfectly normal, intelligent person that does not wish abortions to occur" and who is also anti-choice (and, you Mr. —, are no exception). Those people whom I have met that are against abortion simply choose to refrain from getting one, yet they remain PRO-CHOICE! Thus, not inflicting on another woman's right to choose as she wishes.

Needless to say, your response is ridiculous (although very well written). I am tired of arguing with a mindless sexist male who is obviously ignorant of what he is talking about. You are not "monster-male chauvinists." You simply want to tell women when to have a child. When to infuse our bodies for nine months...When to take on a life-time responsibility. Tell me Mr. —, when was the last time YOU WERE PREGNANT???? I think you proved quite well EXACTLY what you believe in by stating the following: "...And this is where the rhetorical devices of 'freedom of choice,' 'privacy rights,' etc. emerge (all those words you capitalized). But those are beside the point." I capitalized those words because they are something I strongly believe in. Obviously, you do not. Maybe in your next letter, you can clue us in on your point to the author. The argument against birth control is also presented in this statement: "Not only did this rally compose of-as you term themselves, this rally also consisted of all the women who might ever consider (emphasis mine). They were there too. And not only did potential life disappear periodically, but those who, in part, made possible life disappear as well (emphasis mine again)."

I will not go into the inconsistencies of this issue such as population problems that would occur if birth control were illegal or the number of unwanted children that would be inevitable since, as history has proven, there are people out there who will engage in sexual activity without the purpose of procreation.

The author states that the Pro-life position is one "expanding a moral vision while the Pro-choice position undertakes to make abortion a right of unwanted conceptions." I am not fully certain that in constructing a moral, consistent doctrine that one does not take into consideration the practical aspects of a specific issue, but I will even grant this point to the author.

Undoubtedly the author has thought about this matter with some depth, and I am not questioning the cohesiveness or consistency of his or her philosophical beliefs. My question for this individual is where exactly he or she perceives that life begins. In his or her opinion, it begins somewhere before conception since birth control is immoral; this much I understand. My question is exactly when and how. Let me pose this question to the author: if an egg does unfertilize, for whatever reason, or if a sperm should happen to die, for whatever reason, does this constitute murder? One would think that this is what the author believes since these objects are a part of the "potential life" to which he or she refers. Are these elements members of the author's "other obscure and abstractly" rally?

Suppose the author of this letter had claimed that he or she was pro-life because he or she did not know where life began. Further, suppose the author had stated that since the truth of the matter was unattainable, the only safe conclusion was that abortion is moral, hence no woman should engage in the activity since there is the possibility that she might be committing murder. If were the argument that was presented, I would not be posing these questions. However, the author seems to have some clue as to when life begins since he or she does not believe that it is possible that abortion is murder, he or she definitely believes it is murder and further that the obstruction of potential life is murder, which path did the author come to this conclusion? For as long as the abortion debate has continued, no one has posed an infallible answer to exactly and specifically where life begins, and if the author has found an answer to this question, I would greatly appreciate it if he or she would enlighten me. Prove to me that life begins before conception, show me some evidence. I would also like to know the specific time and place.

I must say also that personally, while even if the author has found the solution to this metaphysical inquiry, if based on that answer, he or she was able to conclusively say that abortion and birth control are immoral because they are murder, I still would find this position morally repulsive. All the same, I would like an answer from this individual and invite him or her to show me where my personal perception is fallacious.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Mead

That old time religion

Dear Editor,

Congressman Cox has reintroduced H.R. 2797, The Religious Freedom Restoration Act, and I recently received a letter asking for its support.

It very much deserves it because we all need the right of protection of our religious beliefs and practices which passage of this bill will represent.

The essential aspect of this law is to "require that the state show a "compelling interest" before interfering with any religious activity."

Religious and cultural diversity is at the very foundation of our greatness as a nation as protected by the Constitution. This bill should be passed as soon as possible in order to reaffirm and support these freedoms.

Andy Wing

Those who plan to write letters for next issue, please keep in mind that letters should be between 300 and 500 words long. Letters of longer length that are submitted after Friday may not see the light of day.
Cybernetic Expressions in Sound:
A festival of computer-mediated, human-active expressive structures to inaugurate Music Program Zero’s project in cybernetic resource and processes for socioexpressive language experimentation. 1:00 to 6:00 PM (outdoors and indoors) in an around Brook House on Monday and Tuesday, May 11 and 12.

Dance Theatre II:
Dance Theatre II, Spring 1992 will feature exciting new choreography by professors, Lenore Lattimer and Albert Reid. The concert will be held on May 14, 15, 16 and 17 at 8:00 PM in the dance studio, Avery Arts Center, Blithewood Road. No reservations necessary.

Latin American Festival:
Written and performed by Latin American students. Featuring Spanish squatches, plays, poetry, dance and song. Thursday, May 14 in the Olin Auditorium at 6:00 PM. All welcome.

Concert of Student Works:
Tuesday, May 19, 1992, 7:30 PM in Bard Hall. Performers will include Da Capo Chamber Players, students and faculty.

Center for Curatorial Studies:
Passions and Cultures: Selected Works from the Rivendell Collection, 1967-1991. A survey of paintings, sculptures, photographs, and other works from the permanent collection of the Center. Also an exhibition of prints by German Venegas and Nahum B. Zenit and a video installation by Bill Viola. Gallery hours: Wednesday-Saturday, 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

Film Department
Program in International Education (E. Europe Cinema): On May 7: (Preston Film Center, 7:00 PM) Dr. Richard Kluszczenk, Prof. of Film and Video at the University of Lodz and Curator for Film and Video Center for Contemporary Art in Warsaw, will present a program of Polish Avant-Garde Films on video.

On May 14: (Upstate Films, Rhinebeck, 9:30 AM): Peter Rado, a Romanian film writer and critic, will present the Romanian feature film, Reconstituirea, by Lucian Pintilie.

Blum Art Show:
Sixties Graphics: Culture & CounterCulutre will be on view at the Edith C. Blum Art Institute from March 18 through the summer. The Blum is open noon to 5:00 PM and closed on Tuesdays.

National Endowment for the Humanities:
There is a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) poster on the bulletin board outside of the Dean of the College’s office which describes NEH Fellowships and Summer Stipends. Application deadlines are June 1st for 1993-94 Fellowships and October 1st for 1994 Summer Stipends. Please stop by to review this poster.

Services for Christian Students:
(Special End of Year Service)

Sundays:
*May 10: Bishop Richard Grein at the Church of St. John the Evangelist at 10:00 AM, followed by lunch.
*May 17: Baccalaureate Service at 4:00 PM in the Chapel.
*May 24: Alumnus/Alumna Eucharist at 9:30 AM in the Chapel.

10:00 am: Van to St. John’s Episcopal Church and St. Christopher’s Catholic Church (meet in Kline parking lot)

THE WEEKLY COMMUNITY INFORMATION NEWSLETTER IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE DEAN OF STUDENTS.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: MAY 7-MAY 13, 1992

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<td>6:30 pm</td>
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<td>Preston</td>
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<tr>
<td>Model U.N. Meeting</td>
<td>7:30-10:30 pm</td>
<td>French Table</td>
<td>Peer Tutors</td>
<td>Peer Tutors</td>
<td>7:30 - 10:30 pm</td>
<td>7:30-10:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Peer Tutors</td>
<td>College Room</td>
<td>Third Floor Aspinwall</td>
<td>Third Floor Aspinwall</td>
<td>Peer Tutors</td>
<td>Peer Tutors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Relations Club</td>
<td>Bard Hall</td>
<td>Kline Commons</td>
<td>Kline Commons</td>
<td>Kline Commons</td>
<td>Third Floor Aspinwall</td>
<td>Third Floor Aspinwall</td>
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<td>7:30-10:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer Tutors</td>
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<td></td>
<td>AA Meeting</td>
<td>Scottish Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Asphalt C 302</td>
<td>Dancing Manor House</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PASSIONS AND CULTURES: WORKS FROM THE RIVENDELL COLLECTION -On view at the Center for Curatorial Studies