

OBSERVER

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News is whatever sells newspapers. The Observer is free

The BARD OBSERVER

VOLUME 100 ★ NUMBER 3

BARD COLLEGE ★ ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON ★ NY 12504

SEPTEMBER 9 ★ 1992

"The Students were never very fond of the Blum anyway."

-Dimitri Papadimitriou

★ Inside ★

NEWS

Alleged hit & run accident

Student's car smashed by Bard van

FEATURES

Should Columbus Day be abolished?



ARTS

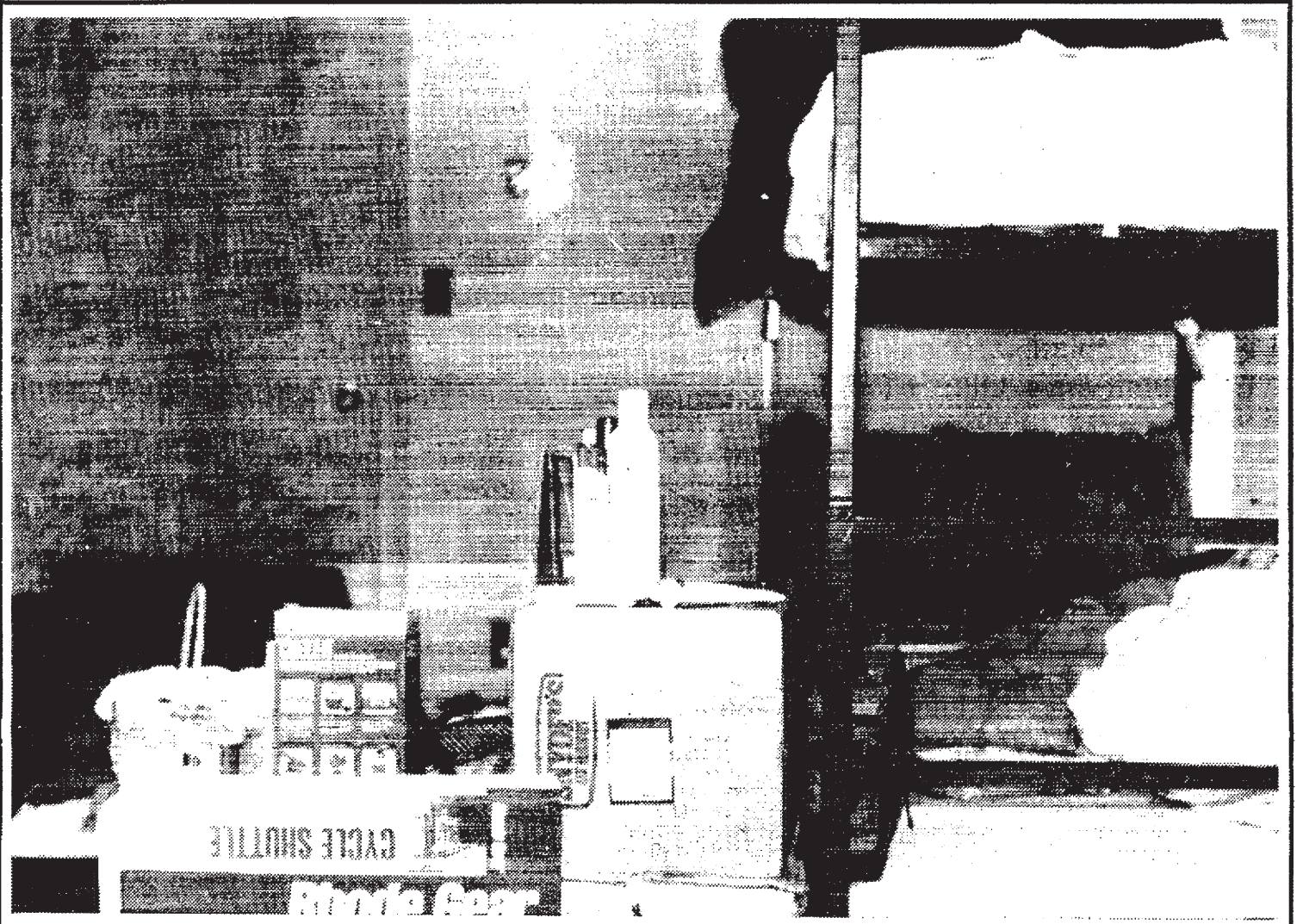
Blum Institute closes down

Where has all the money gone?

ANOTHER VIEW

New & Improved The Beer Column's triumphant return

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Eight students have been living in this room in Oberholzer basement since Registration Day. Monday they were forced to leave at 7 a.m.

Ostracized from Oberholzer

Students move from basement to study rooms

The housing situation at Bard College remains a nightmare for some students. Since the beginning of the regular academic semester, fourteen students had been living in partially completed rooms located in the basement of Oberholzer. Monday morning these students were relocated to various study rooms, lounges and apartments so that the Oberholzer rooms could finally be completed and furnished.

"The situation at Oberholzer was pretty miserable," complained one of these students. "The rooms are unliveable, and there is this toxic smell...a bunch of us went to see President Botstein, and now they're finally doing something about it; but this situation is really frustrating."

These students will be living in their temporary housings until at least next Tuesday

since the construction will take five working days to complete. In the meantime, pairs of students have been assigned to the study rooms of the Alumni dorms and three sets of bunk beds have been installed in the lounge of Tewksbury. For privacy and security, those rooms will be locked and their inhabitants will have the only keys.

Four other students have opted to spend the next eight days in Assistant Dean for Student Development Jeffrey Huang's apartment in Red Hook. "I volunteered my apartment to make it easier for everyone," commented Huang. "My place is comfortable and fully furnished so I don't mind staying with a friend until we can get these students settled." Those students staying in Red Hook have their own transportation and were each given their own key.

Surrounded by his own laundry in his office, Huang explained that the college is running at "over 100% capacity" and that the administration is doing its best to try to house everyone. Considerable rearrangement of

room assignments has already been undertaken, such as sophomore doubles being split up into singles and upperclassmen "strongly encouraged" to seek off-campus housing. There remain a number of students who are living off-campus who want to move on campus but the Dean of Housing Office has implied that there will be few new room openings this year. Those students who will be moving into the basement of Oberholzer have been promised priority when rooms become available following the fall semester.

The students who are being shuffled around include first-year students, as well as transfers and returning students who never received a room assignment at all. One transfer student stated that she did not even know she would be in temporary housing until the Friday before she arrived at Bard. "They (the administrators) don't tell us anything," she continued. "It seems like transfer students have no priority here

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Student car allegedly hit by B&G van

An anonymous note is the only evidence of hit & run crime

Last Tuesday, September 1st, Drew Yoon had to suffer what every student (and administrator) suffers the day before classes begin: Registration Day. Yoon parked his '89 Acura Integra

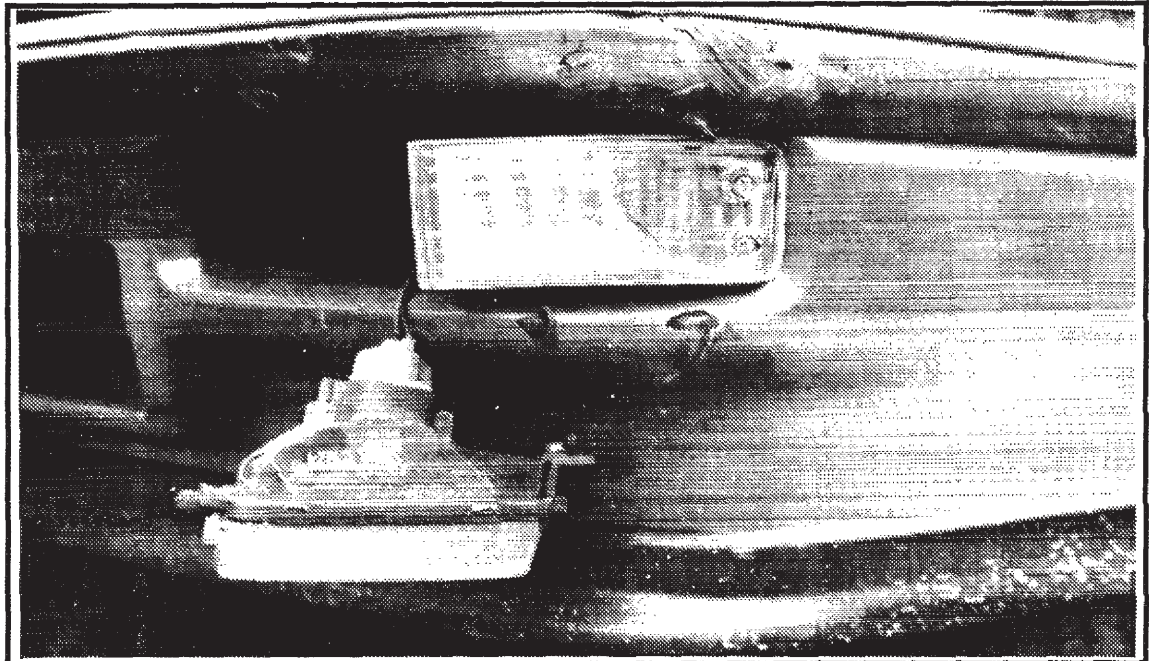
Matt Apple
Editor-in-Chief

outside South Hall around noon. "I was going to go to the bookstore, talk to my advisor, stuff like that," said Yoon. However this was not an ordinary day for Yoon.

"I came back at around 2 and saw a note on the windshield. Then I saw the damage," explained Yoon, when he noticed the scratches on the top and side of the left corner bumper on his car. These were comparatively minor damages, since the force of impact had also jolted the left auxiliary light and left turn signal, and pulled the bumper away and down from the body of the car. While this may not look like much,

it will cost over \$900 to repair, according to an estimate by the Acura dealers in Fishkill, NY, whom Yoon visited later that day. Yoon took the anonymous note (see below) to Security. The dispatcher on duty notified Darren Hoffman, who traced the license plate number. Five digits of the plate number were matched to the licence plate of a white cube van owned by Buildings and Grounds. Since Servicemaster had used the van most of the day, Dan Andersen, the head of house-keeping, was called. Hoffman and Andersen checked the white van for damage. They found none, not even paint chips or scratches. "We couldn't find anything wrong with it," said Hoffman.

Hoffman informed Yoon that without a witness, there was nothing he could do. "Although the van was in the vicinity of [Yoon's car], another student car could have done the damage," said Hoffman. Unfazed, Yoon then approached the driver of the van, who told Yoon he had been driving all day. The driver denied any



The left front bumper of Drew's '89 Acura shows the damage from the hit & run accident.

knowledge of striking a car earlier that day.

According to John J. Dalton, Counsellor at Law in Germantown, the driver of the van could be charged with leaving the scene of the accident. The driver's only defense would be that he didn't realize he had hit the car, yet; as Dalton said, "How can you not know you hit a car with that much damage?" Because the van is owned and operated by Bard College, Bard would be financially liable, but only if the anonymous witness steps forward

to testify.

"It's a real hassle for me," said Yoon, who put up signs on Kline Commons the day after the accident. "I'd have to drive down to the dealer, pay \$500 cash as a down payment, and I don't have that kind of money on hand. I'd have to leave my car there for a couple days-it's a real hassle." The Acura dealer told Yoon that the structural support at the front is damaged, and an entire front bumper assembly would have to be ordered.

"It wouldn't have taken much," Yoon said. "I mean, he was driving a big van, and my car is pretty small." Security requires an actual witness to the crime and cannot base an investigation on an anonymous note. All the person who wrote the note has to do is to come to Security and testify that he or she actually witnessed the crime. As of Sunday, September 6th, whoever wrote the anonymous note remains the only material witness. At this point, all Drew can do is wait and hope that the note-writer reveals him or herself.

Whoever wrote this note...

I saw who hit you in your front left bumper white truck New York, plates - B & G truck

VJ875

B & G truck I think?

...please call 752-7054 as soon as possible.

Classifieds and Personals

B.R.A.V.E.—Our Tewksbury Office-Hotline is Sunday & Monday, 9-11 pm. Stop by, or Call 758-7552 or 758-7553

Red Hook. Near Bard. Studio. Large room with separate kitchen and bath. \$375 includes utilities. 758-6195.

Anyone interested in joining the Dance Club come to workshops on Tuesdays at 5:30 in the Theatre. No dance experience necessary to join. All welcome.

Found: one metallic earring shaped in the form of a small spider. If you want it back put a note in Box 766.

We are looking to buy a small refrigerator for less than \$50. Call 752-7493 or leave a note in Box 960.

#1 Fundraiser Nationwide

Your fraternity, sorority or other campus group can earn \$500 or more in less than one week. It is easy, and you pay absolutely nothing. Call 1-800-735-2077 Ext. 215

For Sale: Korg PolySix Synthesizer - \$100. Also, cheap futon, very large, white - \$20. CALL 757-3518 between 7 and 10 pm or campus mail box 966.

Cute Little Albino Mouse found outside of Tewksbury. If it was your pet and you've been worried sick STOP worrying; it is being well taken care of. If you would like it back contact Jeana (Stephens room 106). Otherwise, Moses will become my permanent pet!

Writers still needed and wanted! Would you like to have your name

in print every week, have your friends marvel at what you have to say about campus events, give your parents something to brag about, and have fun all at the same time? Simply join the Bard Observer. Writer's Meetings every Monday at 7:30 on the third floor of Aspinwall.

I am a dragonfly. Let me taste your soul. Write to me. Box 710.

Any young Republicans out there? Don't be shy, don't be scared - contact Matt "that's what she said" Gilmore x377.

Anyone interested in joining the Andy Kauffman club of gratuitous sex, contact Matt (herbalists welcome).

Hey Lick, you owe me a Pop-Tart for last night...love, Fish.

Struggle for peace and justice

New club has high hopes for indigenous rights

This past Monday a new club was formed in the Kline Committee Room. Thanks to Hellin Kay (a

Jeanne C. Breton
Features
Editor

Bard student), a defense committee for Leonard Peltier has formed here at Bard. Over 25

people

showed up for the meeting and a budget has been submitted to the planning committee chair asking for \$2,485 to cover activities that the club has planned. Before passing judgement on this club and how much of the Convocation they wish to use, however, one must first consider what the club stands for and what they hope to accomplish.

According to the International Office of the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, "Leonard Peltier could be you, could be me, could be anyone who stands up for his family, friends, community and beliefs." Leonard Peltier is the man who is currently

serving two consecutive life sentences due to the deaths of two FBI agents during a violent confrontation between the FBI and a group of Native Americans on June 26, 1975. The incident took place on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Three men were originally charged, but the main accusations

were placed upon Peltier.

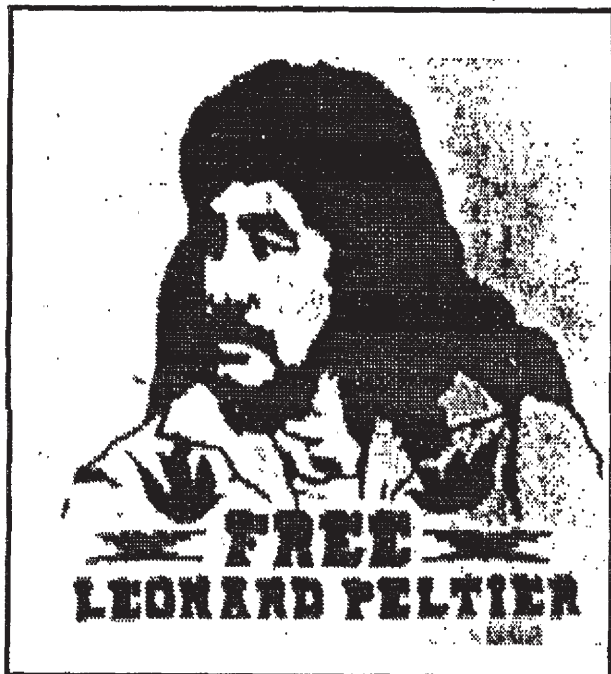
Justice served? Not according to 55 members of Congress, 78 world religious leaders, and Amnesty International. These groups fear that there were too many irregularities in the proceedings that led to Peltier's conviction. Roger Clark, the Secretary General of Amnesty International's English Speaking Canadian Section, has said that "New evidence since 1975 has raised disturbing questions about the case and Peltier must be granted a retrial." These

new trial and a fair one this time.

The Bard Defense Committee hopes to help this cause; already members have taken time to sit at a table in Kline with their petitions regarding a retrial for Peltier. Hellin Kay says that in their first two hours they were able to get 100 signatures and they won't stop until they have at least 800. The petitions will be sent to President George Bush and New York State Senators. The club's main concern is Peltier but will address issues concerning indigenous rights in

general. Perhaps the strongest and most controversial of these issues is the cry of many Native Americans for Columbus Day to be abolished due to the devastation caused by settlers after the discovery of "the New World." This topic was not discussed at the club's first meeting, but it was suggested that members get and read a copy of *Rethinking Columbus*.

The club also plans to attend a demonstration in New York City on October 12th of this year. This demonstration is aimed at obtaining a



UN seat for Indigenous Nations Sovereignty and Self Determination for Native Peoples. The demonstration is being hosted by the LISN Solidarity Coalition. Helen Kay requested money from the convocation for a bus trip to this rally, but is aware that new clubs usually receive no more than \$300

The International Defense Committee for Peltier is simply demanding that Peltier be given a

usually receive no more than \$300

continued on page 7

Potpourri for beginners

Malcolm Hillier, the author of *The Little Scented Library*, says that "the scents of potpourris should never be too strong, just subtle enough to give the rooms in your home a flowery fragrance that appeals to everyone."

What appeals to you? Imagine that you are standing on a beach. It is a warm morning and the misty water lightly sways around your feet. You are refreshed by the cool breeze and awe at the horizon as it slowly brightens with the rising of the sun. How would you feel?

What fragrances might you encounter? They could be of sweet grass growing by a brook in the hills or of spicy meats and pastries being prepared for breakfast at a nearby cafe; nevertheless, they are pleasing smells. So pleasing in fact that there's absolutely no reason why you shouldn't be able to experience them all the time.

Simple Mix For Dry Potpourri

Mix 1 cup each of: dried roses, dried marigolds, dried

peonies, and dried lavender. Add 1/2 cup of dried straw flowers.

Add 1 tablespoon each of: ground cinnamon, dried mint, and ground orris root.

Mix in 4 drops each of bergamot and lavender oil.

Store in decorative bowls, pouches, or create your own centerpiece.

*Other flowers, herbs, and spices can be added or substituted to make a unique blend.

Dead Goat Notes



"Marriage is an institution, and I'm not ready for an institution."

—Mae West

This summer, I realized that "family values" were shaping up to be an important issue in the Republican National Convention.

This is an especially important issue in my household because my dad would not give up the remote control and let me watch the PGA Senior Citizens Tournament.

The "Family Values" Party would have you believe that Hillary Clinton is against the family and encourages children to sue their parents. The Democrats should stop dispelling this as a rumor and start playing it up as a virtue. After all, it's about time

someone stepped in against my parent's unconstitutional practices. I'm sure that many of you have suffered the same injustices from your parents that I have: infringements upon free speech, encroachments upon our rights to assemble peacefully, forced quartering of soldiers in our rooms. The list goes on.

That's just an example of how confusing the whole of idea of dragging one's family into politics is. It's as if Bush is asking us to vote for him because his family likes him the best. Personally, I was not really surprised to see Bush win his own family's support. I'm pretty sure that my family would give me a ringing endorsement for the presidency if I ever decided to run just to get the free Secret Service protection. If that wasn't bad enough, I hear Clinton will be clinching the nomination from his family's pets next week, although the goldfish dissented.

History clearly shows that mixing family and politics is bad news. Take Henry VIII's six wives, please. (Snare drum) He was a very effective king, and he certainly didn't get elected on a family values platform. Eventually, the monarchial system in England wore down because all of the politicians were related to each other and they were producing sissy inbred kings. Now it is at the point where the Duchess of Wales is running around scantily clad for British tabloids.

When our founding fathers broke away from England, they took many precautions against their descendants from winding up on the front page of a tabloid with the latest Big Foot sighting. That is why it is our Constitutional right to tell our parents to get stuffed. Of course, it is their Constitutional right to ground us until we're 37.

My father, who single-handedly represents the fanatic right wing of America, made an interesting note regarding the Republican stance on homosexual marriage:

"I don't think that homosexuals should be allowed to marry." At first, I agreed. After all, only a member of the clergy, captain of a ship or a justice of the peace is allowed to marry people.

"No son," my pop explained, "Homosexuals are lobbying to marry each other."

Here I got confused. Was my dad being homophobic? "Don't be silly, son. I'm not against homosexuals. I'm just against marriage. In fact, my theory is that it isn't homosexuals who are lobbying for the right to marry. They're too smart to get caught in that trap. It's the divorce lawyers."

I'm sure that I'm not alone in throwing my support behind any candidate who is opposed to family values. The only kind of family values I'm interested in is what kind of cash I could get for my big sister (She's hardly used and would make a good doorstep).

Edith C. Blum Gallery closes down

"Current economic conditions" cited as main reason for decision

Students and faculty returning to Bard may have been surprised to find the Blum Gallery gone.



The Gallery, which dismantled its final exhibit in mid-June and officially closed

July 1st, had become too great a financial burden for the College to continue to support, according to Vice-President Dimitri Papadimitriou.

"Blum had been costing the school money," said former Blum Director, Linda Weintraub, "and the school chose not to spend their money that way anymore." In addition to grants and the Blum fund, the Bard Center supplied the Gallery with approximately \$150,000 each year. Although the costs were no more than usual this year, "it was impossible to underwrite the cost anymore given the current economic situation," Papadimitriou explained.

Not everyone was surprised by Blum's closing, however. Many students commented that they had anticipated the Black Center would overshadow the Blum Gallery. In fact, although there was no public announcement, the Bard Center Board of Directors made its decision to close Blum in early April when the Black Center opened, according to Weintraub. Papadimitriou implied that the decision was not a monetary choice between the two institutions, as Bard does not financially support the Black Center, but rather a decision made because of economic trends.

The Black Center still has to contend with the people, money, and space left in the wake of this decision. Although the three per-



The former Blum Gallery will soon become classroom space.

manent employees of Blum have already found new jobs with the Black Center and the Continuing Studies program, and the space has tentatively been promised to either the music or the art department, there remains a substantial amount of money left to the College by Edith C. Blum which the Bard Center must redirect. Papadimitriou said only that "programs might be sponsored by Blum in the future." Weintraub, on the other hand, has very particular aspirations for Blum. Although she called Blum's role in the community "endangered," she also said that we might "expect Blum to merge with the Black Center to appease the community."

The perceived community response to Blum's closing apparently has been varied. Weintraub stated that "the community has made its interests in preserving the Blum very clear...There has been a spontaneous outpouring of interest, which you should know was not an organized campaign." Papadimitriou, in con-

trast, commented that "the students were never very fond of the Blum anyway," and went on to say that the undergraduate experience is intended to be enhanced by the Proctor Art Center, not the Blum Gallery.

Weintraub still hopes that Blum will have a role in the Bard art community. She claims that President Leon Botstein "suggested that Blum mount one exhibition a year to maintain a public presence on campus and in the community," and she has submitted a proposal to Papadimitriou concerning an October exhibit to be shown in the Black Center. The show is entitled "Being Discovered: Spanish Conquest from the Aymara Point-of-View" and features the 1930-40's work of Bolivian artist, Alejandro Mario Yllanes. The exhibit, which comes on the quincentennial of Columbus' voyage to "the New World," is an artistic expression of the impact of colonization on various

peoples. Weintraub considers one of the most remarkable aspects of Yllanes' work to be his "use of defiant visual image to communicate with the illiterate and instill in them a pride in rebellion."

Weintraub described Yllanes' work as a conglomeration

of "spirited, vital, folk-like, raw images of village culture." She is particularly excited about the potential exhibit because Yllanes' work has only been shown once before, and she feels that his work speaks effectively to contemporary audiences. Weintraub is currently awaiting Papadimitriou's decision on funding the exhibit, about which he would give no comment.

The Black Center's current exhibits include the Rivendell collection, a series of photographs by Robert Mapplethorpe, and "Degenenerate Music," in cooperation with the Bard Summer Music Festival. The Center is open to the public from 12 p.m.-5 p.m. on Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday.

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new & improved

The Beer Column

The Man of the Street Beer Column (pat. pending)

Last year I was in a poetry class with this guy J__ . J__ was a senior, and I was a crazed and confused freshman who found some stability and a much needed role model in J__ . We hung out fairly frequently outside of class (as far as I could tell, the first-year poetry workshop was the only class he was taking - it's a miracle he graduated), and one day, out of the blue, he invited me up to his room for a beer. I was not disappointed in my grandiose expectations of what sort of palace a man of the world such as J__ might inhabit. The nonchalance with which he had invited me in "for a beer" did not begin to prepare me for the hundreds of beer bottles, empty and full and half-full-but-forgotten (and even occasionally mold-encrusted), which greeted me upon entering his tiny corner in Stone Row. They lined the entire wall in what could only be called some madman's semblance of order, three bottles deep in some places. I thought I had died and gone to BevWay.

"J__" I exclaimed, "where the hell did you get all this beer?"

"Oh, didn't I tell you?" said J__ . "I write the Beer Column."

Now for those of you who are new to the Bard Express, and are now saying to yourselves "What's a beer column" stop talking to yourself before someone calls Security, learn how to spell column (one l, ends with mn) and listen up. Here, in layman's terms, is the basic premise behind the Beer Column. I'm only going to say this once, so take notes.

HOW THE BEER COLUMN WORKS:

- 1) I go to BevWay
- 2) They give me free beer
- 3) I drink it
- 4) I tell you about it

Now, the reason this works so well is because BevWay is close by (in Red Hook), is relatively inexpensive as far as beer goes, and has a really good selection, often including some really odd and exotic brews. So, the underlying idea here is that if you think one of the reviewed beers sounds good, you go to BevWay and pick some up. This way, they get business, I get beer, The Mighty Observer gets advertising money for the ad (which tells you what the specials are for this week - it's around here somewhere), and you get a good idea of what good beers are available locally, export or import, ale or lager, whatever you prefer. Everybody is happy, and we don't all need to spend our hard-earned dollars on psychiatric help because we can't deal with

decision-making.

At least, that was how J__ did it. But I got to thinking - it's not really much fun to drink alone, and I can't finish two whole six-packs by myself (and still be able to write coherently). On the other hand, when I went around asking people, "Hey, how would you like free beer every week in return for writing down your impressions for the *Observer*?" I found that I was beginning to have a lot more friends than free beer, and most of them were only pretending to be my friends to get the free beer anyway. So, in order to spread the free beer around while keeping at least some beer for myself and to continue my search for the perfect drinking partner, I've spent the last few weeks in a locked office on the third floor of Aspinwall drinking beer and tequila, jerking off, and developing THE MAN ON THE STREET BEER COLUMN (pat. pending) with a certain Economics professor who shall remain nameless because he's imaginary and only I can see him.

The way THE MAN ON THE STREET BEER COLUMN (pat. pending) will work is that I will go to BevWay every week (probably Monday or Friday - I'll know next week) and then go to a certain pre-announced area of campus to prey upon the unsuspecting. Once there, I will choose at random one or more passers-by/residents and offer them free beer in exchange for an interview. This week I'll be hanging out by the student center, an area which may include South Hall, Olin or Albee, on Friday afternoon/early evening. Oh, and if you do know who I really am, don't spoil the mystery for the other folks. It isn't really sporting, and besides, I'll only be picking people who obviously don't know (although they may be harboring some secret hope) that I'm about to come up to them and offer them free beer. I'll also ask you all, on your honor, to remain silent and anonymous about your own participation in my little "experiment" if you do happen to be chosen. If too many people find out who I am, I'll never get a moment's peace, and the mystery is kind of fun, so please don't spoil it.

Because of deadlines, this week's column will be a little different. I'd like to tell you all about one of my own favorites, the first taste of which I enjoyed that evening learning about beer with J__ last semester. Saranac, an "Adirondac Lager," is a beer which, apparently, is available only in upstate New York, and those of you who come from those faraway places like Peru or New Jersey really should give the native brew a try. The color is the exact shade of

Sue-Bee Honey my mom used to keep in her closet for later use as a housewarming gift, or, alternately, a sticky paperweight. The label contains some gibberish about two-row malts and a "distinctive hop 'memory,'" but one of the first rules in beer tasting is to pay as little attention as possible to how the people who make the beer think it tastes; obviously, they want you to buy lots of it so they can buy lots of BMWs, and they are therefore perfectly willing to blatantly lie to you about whether it tastes good or not. My own personal description matches the general consensus I've been able to gather about Saranac, which is that

it tastes sweet, is crisp and light, and has a slightly tart background taste which is actually quite complementary. There is very little aftertaste. This is the beer I give to all my friends who say they hate the taste of beer (a common enough complaint), and they all fall in love with it after the first sip. One of the greatest things about this beer, next to the taste, is the label. There's this beautiful watercolor painting on the front of the bottle...it must be a view of Saranac Lake, I guess. It's got some trees and water and a sunset behind it all. And it looks even better when the bottle's empty.

- Budds Cors

Ye olde short-n-sweet summary

BEER: Saranac

TYPE: Lager


RATING: ★★★★★

COMMENTS: Sweet.

Everyone likes it. Good visuals.

Beverage way

SUPERMARKET OF BEER AND SODA
Rt. 9 2 miles NORTH of Red Hook Traffic Light
758-0541

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Miller Lite \$5.99/12pk (cans) ● Dos Equis \$4.59/6pk. ● Michael Sheas Irish Amber \$3.99/6pk 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Molson Golden \$3.19/6pk (bottles) ● American Beer \$3.99/12pk ● Boone's Wild Island Cooler \$1.49/25 oz. bottle
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Checks accepted only with courtesy card

Intramural Supervisors appointed

Disruptive, fun sports are a thing of the past

If you read last week's Shameless Filler, you know that intramurals are, to me, a wonderful way of being goofy and taking the intensity of competition to lower-key or frivolous extremes.

Matt Gilman
Sports Editor

However, sometimes things can get too extreme, and bad things can happen to good sports. Last year, there were two cases of extreme unsportsmanlike conduct. During the men's basketball games, a disagreement with a call led to an official being punched in the face. Also, last spring, a disgruntled softball team actually stole a back hoe from the library construction site, drove it to the Tewksbury softball field and demolished the backstop.

No matter how friendly a sporting event is by design, there will always be someone who will be displeased with the way it is run or officiated. In response to the outbursts last year, Kris Hall has appointed two students to act as Intramural Supervisors: students that athletes can turn to if they believe things to be getting out of hand, even beyond the control of the officials.

The intramural supervisors for this semester are sophomore Dana MacDonald, and junior Christopher Robin Wermuth. Their job

will be to act as mediators and problem solvers between the players and the referees. One or both supervisors will be at every game for every sport, right on the sidelines for either team to speak to. "We're there to make sure the teams respect the fact that there are rules to follow," said Christopher Robin. Dana added, "The supervisors' role is to make sure the teams maintain a level of safety."

Kris Hall said she designed the position of intramural supervisor to "maintain a level of control and dignity." For example: let's say a team was disrupting a game of volleyball by singing "happy birthday" to players on the opposing team. How would a supervisor deal with this? "We would take the team captain aside and explain that his team's behavior was disruptive to the game," explained Dana.

Sports Schedule

Men's Soccer

Saturday home vs. New York Maritime

Women's Soccer

Thursday at SUNY New Paltz
Monday home vs. Dominican College

Women's Volleyball

Saturday vs. Bloomfield at Steven's

Cross Country

Saturday - at the Vassar Invitational

Women's Tennis

Sunday - home vs. New Jersey Tech

Come to the men's first home soccer game, Saturday the 12th, 2pm vs. NY Maritime at the Rhinebeck Fairgrounds!*

***It's fun! Really! (the kegger can't hurt)**

What Hatha Yoga?

Come find out Tuesdays in Olin 204, 6 to 7:30pm, or drop a note to Ben Vromen in Campus Mail

Introductory yoga course is for Bard students, faculty, staff & their families

Shameless Filler!

by Matt Gilman

Okay, here's a hypothetical situation. A young, strapping Bard type, let's call him "Steve," has been socializing with a pretty co-ed named, for argument's sake, "Lily." The two have become increasingly comfortable with one another, discovering similar tastes and opinions, finding engaging social activities they both enjoy, and generally having a good time in each others' company. Then, one night after a particularly romantic discussion at the Menage, the inevitable happens and he is invited back to her room (or vice versa), a roommate is tossed out into the common room, a birth control device is employed, and the two spend the night.

The next morning, the two wake early, embrace, discuss the events of the past evening, and they realize that this is not destined to be a one-night only thing. Happy, they shower, dress, wake the roommate sprawled out on the musty couch in his pajamas and walk briskly to Kline to partake of some post-coitus chow. Over breakfast, the two spend vast amounts of time staring deep into each others' eyes, and bits of information are discussed. However: somewhere along the lines of conversation, "Steve" lets it slip that he is a sports fan. Something in "Lily"'s eyes fades a little, and she gets up for more orange juice, while scanning the surrounding area for a tactful diversion, or at least a handy exit.

Why is it that sports fans are shunned by so many people on the Bard campus? True, this is a far cry from any kind of jock-school mentality, and I, personally, like it that way. But we do have all sorts of intramural and interscholastic sporting events available to whatever level of competition suits your fancy. And whenever the BIG GAMES are on, you can always find a crowd of eager sports fans (including myself) packed shoulder to shoulder around the television in Kline, much to the chagrin of the Tube Hopefuls who thought they might be able to watch The Simpsons. There actually is a large contingency of sport folk on campus, and the ranks are swelling as we speak (interpret that any way you wish).

However, some people actually find it a struggle to accept that there is any excitement to be found in watching large, sweaty, overpaid men run headlong into each other just so they can get a ball somewhere. I recall the reactions of several of my new acquaintances when I admitted that I was a New York Giants fan. They actually recoiled a bit, as if I had told them that I was the physical embodiment of a bovine skin disease. They looked at me quizzically, smirked in bewilderment, and generally reacted towards the negative. It's a reaction that I've only seen before when I admitted that I actually like anchovies on my pizza.

Now, I know Bard is a most tolerable place in most cases, and I'm not really saying that this anti-sport attitude could lead to something like the overtly sexual scenario posited above. But I'm sure all the sport fans on campus wish it would.

Mondo Information

The varsity sports got underway this week, with several teams competing. By the time you read this, the men's soccer team will have played at Steven's Tech on Tuesday, at 7:30pm, too late for the results to be included here. This Saturday at 2:00pm, they play at the Rhinebeck Fairgrounds against New York Maritime. The women's soccer team plays Thursday at 4:00pm against SUNY New Paltz at New Paltz, and this coming Monday, 4:00, against Dominican College at the Fairgrounds. The women's varsity volleyball team starts its season tonight at King's College at 7:00pm. They also play away this

Saturday, noontime, against Bloomfield at Stephen's Tech.

This Saturday, the men's and women's cross country teams are competing at the Vassar Invitational. The running begins at noon. And, finally, the women's varsity tennis team begins its season at home on Sunday at 12:00pm against the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

In intramural news, the Ultimate Frisbee team meets at Tewksbury Field Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 4pm. Contact Fred Foure for information, and tell him I sent ya. If you missed the meetings for intramural tennis or cricket, it's

not too late! It's never too late! Contact Kris Hall immediately for information. The Bard swim club is now swimming Mon., Wed., and Fri. from 4-5pm. Feel free to get wet with them.

The Bard Bike/Triathlon club will be holding an organizational meeting in the Kline Committee room on Tuesday, September 15 at 6:00pm. All levels, male and female competitors encouraged to come.

The aerobics schedule has been released! Call the gym for times. Finally, all the work/study positions for the gym have been filled. They are no longer accepting applications. Nyeah, nyeah, nyeah.

The right to vote

To the Editor,

This election year will mark the 20 year anniversary of the 26th Amendment. This Amendment states that citizens 18 years and older have the right to voice their opinions at the polls.

But since the passage of that law, we as young voters have not been exercising our right. Twenty years ago people younger than we are fought in the Vietnam war — they gave their lives for our country. Today we don't even give our votes for the country.

In 1990 the number of college students registered to vote was 53.4%. But not even all of these registered students vote. In the last election only 28.1% of college registered voters actually went to the polls and voted. If we had sent all our student voters to the polls, this country would have vastly different laws. In the past 10 years our student financial aid has been cut and our Student Federal Grants have turned into Student Federal Loans. Issues that directly affect our lives are being decided without our input.

So do these percentages prove that as students we are apathetic?

Does it suggest that we are not educated? Or does it imply that we are actually satisfied with the state of our country, our environment, our health care, our foreign relations? Or does it just mean that we don't care about our future and the future our own children might encounter?

As a student I know that I do care, and I know that my friends and those around me care about the future as well. I think our numbers have been poor only because as new voters we do not always realize the importance of our vote and because the process of registering and voting is at first very confusing. Registering to vote automatically assumes that we will take the responsibility to find out how, where, when and for whom we must vote.

I am writing this letter in the hopes of reaching students everywhere and encouraging them to register to vote. Register in the state of New York and vote in the primary on September 15, 1992. Find out who is your representative and see how she or he is handling issues and concerns that will affect your life in New York. Educate yourself as to who the contenders are for the senate seats in New York, because come November 4th — the day after the election — these people will be making the laws and the rules you will have to endure.

Let's show the United States and all the government officials that the Student Vote is the vote that will decide in '92!

Lucy Roberts
Intern at NY-National
Abortion Rights Action
League

Dead Goat not funny

Dear Editor,

Greg Giaccio's extended metaphor in "Dead Goat Notes," calling his relationship to the Observer a marriage to an alcoholic wife, made me sick. I think it's fine that he "loved a paper," but I wish he left the nauseating comparisons to loving an alcoholic "bitch" out of the story. If he thought he was just being funny, I'll hold my laughter till his next joke. Make it something new and different, Greg, that challenges stupid thinking instead of expressing it!

In high hopes,
Cara Graninger

Greg Responds: I have seen what alcoholism can do to a family and felt that that situation was closest to what I was I had gone through. By comparing my love-hate relationship with the Observer to a dysfunctional marriage, I was not at all trying to make fun of the problems of alcoholism. Of course, no comparison is perfect, and this one falls short in some ways, such as making you sick. I know that the things I say will offend some people; I hope that they will make the effort to respond as you did.

Give them a home

by Matthew Apple

Every year around Registration Day the old housing rumors pop up: students have to sleep in Tewksbury Lounge, students have to be put up in Rhinebeck Hotel, students have to live in triples instead of doubles. This year was an exception.

When I heard the various rumors, I was skeptical at first. Eight people in one room in the basement of Oberholzer? I had to check it out myself, and, sure enough, there were fourteen students living in unfinished rooms between the laundry room and the soda machine. I talked to one of the transfer students living there, and she told me that they had to be packed by 7 a.m. this past Monday to vacate the rooms. And then the students had to go to classes.

I am not in the habit of pointing the finger at the Bard administration. I know the administrators have a lot of problems and few staff members with a steadily decreasing budget, and students usually don't give them credit for all the work they do. But enough is enough. Try to imagine coming to Bard straight from high school, showing your parents what used to be Tewksbury Lounge, now with three bunkbeds, and telling them, "Mom, Dad, this is what you're paying 3,000 dollars a year for." That's exactly what some of the "homeless" students had to do. Jeffrey Huang, the head of Career Development, volunteered to let four students use his apartment for almost two weeks while he stays with a friend. He's still paying rent, but will Bard compensate him for his lost rent? The students who are staying in Huang's Red Hook apartment, as well as the students in Tewksbury Lounge and the Alumni study rooms, are still paying for their "rooms" thanks to Bard's little oversight. Not to mention the B & G workers, who must finish all the rooms in the Oberholzer basement practically overnight. How considerate of Bard to finish everything ahead of time.

To put it bluntly, the present housing "crisis" is a sham. It is unprofessional, irresponsible, and completely ridiculous. If Bard wants to be seen as a respected institute of higher learning, this is not the way to do it. I wouldn't blame any of the fourteen students without rooms if they chose not to come back next semester, or even if they left immediately. These students deserve more than what they're getting.

The Bard Observer

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Letters to the Editor and Personals or Classifieds must not exceed 500 words and must be signed legibly. All articles, cartoons, and photographs that are submitted by deadline will be considered for publication. Turn all material in at the Observer office in the basement of Tewksbury or through Campus Mail by 5 p.m. Friday one week before the publication date. The Editor reserves the right to edit all articles (except those intended for the Another View page) for style and length.

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

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Defense Committee Cont.

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the first semester. She hopes, however, that the turn-out at the defense committee's first meeting and continued student support will show that this is a worthwhile club.

The club's other hopes include: having Chief Billy Tayac of Maryland speak at Bard, showing the film *Incident at Oglala* which portrays the incidents surrounding Peltier's conviction, posting fliers and sponsoring informational events, purchasing a copy of the *60 Minutes* episode concerning the Peltier case, providing a sub-

scription of *Crazy Horse* (the International Committee's newsletter) to be kept on reserve at the library, and mailing many petitions and letters of concern to prominent political members. In the words of Peltier himself, "What will free me ... is the will and prayers of the people." The next meeting of Bard's Leonard Peltier Defense Committee will take place this coming Monday at 6pm in the Kline Committee Room. The group will meet every other week for the remainder of the semester.

Ostracized cont.

continued from front page

and it makes me feel like I have to pay my freshman dues all over again."

Another first-year student said that so far she has moved three times since arriving at Bard: from a Stone Row single to the basement of Oberholzer and now into the Tewksbury lounge. "It's extremely frustrating, especially being a freshman and being carted around like this."

This story will be continued next week when Dean of Housing and Assistant Dean of Students, Gladys Watson, is available for comment.

CALENDAR

PRESENTED BY THE DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE

SEPTEMBER 9 TO 16 * 1992

What to See, Buy, & Do at Bard

★ WEDNESDAY. SEPTEMBER 9 ★

- ★ **Looking for Engineering at Bard?** Know anyone who is? Well, find out about it from Prof. Burt Brody at **5:00p, in the Committee Room at Kline.**
- ★ **Ultimate Frisbee**—You don't know sore muscles until you try this. **Every weekday 4:30/5-ish at Tewks field.** Everyone is welcome.
- ★ **A.W.E.** Air, Water, Earth meets for food, fun, and activism. **6p in Albee Social.**
- ★ **B.B.S.O** holds their open house in the **Committee Room in Kline, 6:30p.**
- ★ **Story of Floating Weeds.** This is the 1934 silent film version by Japanese Director Yasujiro Ozu. More in the Three Japanese Directors screenings. See them all! **7:00p at the Preston Screening Room.**
- ★ **Call for Budgets.** Yes, folks...club budgets are due today. Bring your itemized budgets to **Barlett 103, by midnight.**

★ THURSDAY. SEPTEMBER 10 ★

- ★ **Parlez vous Italien?** Come and speak Italian at the, well-what-else... **Italian Table in the College Room at Kline, 5:30-6:30p.**
- ★ **Alcoholics Anonymous.** They'll meet **every Thursday at 7:30p in Aspinwall 302.**
- ★ **A.A.S.O.** The Asian American Students Organization meets at **6:00p in the Committee Room in Kline.** Be there!
- ★ **BAGLE.** Bisexuals, Activists, Gays, Lesbians, Et al, are meeting in the **T.V. Lounge in the Student Center, 7:30p.** Be Involved.
- ★ **Yoga**—Register now with Prof. Ben Vromen for introductory Yoga sessions. See the Tuesday listing: **See Prof. Ben Vromen at 6-7p in Olin 203.**
- ★ **Life Drawing Sessions**—Paint, draw, or sculpt **every Thursday and Tuesday in Proctor Studio, 7-9p.** Everyone welcome.
- ★ **Listen to New Horizons.** WMHT FM 89.1 broadcasts the Hudson Valley Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra's 1991-92 series. Conducted by our Leon Botstein, this program presents the music of Mendelssohn, Beethoven, Franz Shreker, and Joan Tower, with soloist Carol Wincenc, flute. **8-10p, WMHT FM 89.1**

★ FRIDAY. SEPTEMBER 11 ★

- ★ **Empty Package with friend Sarah Kramer.** Melt your skull...this Bard super-fusion-band plays at the **Rhinecliff Hotel at 10p.**
- ★ **Woody Allen at Bard,** sans sensationalism. The Film Committee brings us a New York Directors Double Fest this weekend. See Woody A., Diane K., Meryl S., & Mariel H. in Mr. Allen's black and white Manhattan. Better than video. **7 & 9p at the Student Center.**
- ★ **International Students Organization** will meet in the **College and Presidents Room in Kline.** Be on the lookout for posters announcing the time.
- ★ **International Relations Club** will hold their meeting in the Committee Room in Kline. **Time to be announced**—Look for it.

★ SATURDAY. SEPTEMBER 12 ★

- ★ **Yo, Vegetarians, Vegans, & Macrobiotics.** Hungry??? Gourmet Potluck at the Vegetarian Bring-Your-Own-Dinner. Talk to Christopher Robin at Box #1244; also, talk to him if you are interested in forming a vegetarian club-of-some-kind.
- ★ **Bard Men's Soccer** competes against New York Maritime at the **Rhinebeck Fairgrounds at 2p.** Be there to root for your friends!
- ★ **Don't Look Back**...Don't miss D. A. Pennabacker's documentary film featuring **Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, Donovan.** Part of the Popular Culture film Series sponsored by The Bard Continuing Studies Program and Music Program Zero. **At the Brook House, 8p**—It's like being in your own living room!

★ SUNDAY. SEPTEMBER 13 ★

- ★ **Classical Sunday.** WMHT FM 89.1 & WRHV FM 88.7 broadcasts the **Hudson Valley Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra's** 1991-92 series. Conducted by our Leon Botstein, this program presents the music of Haydn, Barber, Max Schubel and Lawrence Kramer, with soloist Stephanie Finn, cello. **4-6p, WMHT FM 89.1 & WRHV FM 88.7**
- ★ **Cricket Club** starts today. Look for their posters.
- ★ **Schola Cantorum,** sacred music in the Bard Chapel. **6:00p Performed during worship at 7:00p**
- ★ **Rupert Pupkin is here!** The Film Committee presents Martin Scorsese's **King of Comedy**—Robert DeNiro/Rupert Pupkin stars as a Johnny Carson wanna-be. Hard to describe...see it instead! **7 & 9p at the Student Center.**

★ MONDAY. SEPTEMBER 14 ★

- ★ **Wall-o-rama.** Global prints and "fine arts" music posters are on sale today. Find yet another Led Zeppelin/Robert Smith at **the patio of Kline.**
- ★ **Bard's Women's Soccer** team plays Dominican College at the **Rhinebeck Fairgrounds, 4:00p. Go Blazers.**
- ★ **Fencing Club** starts today. Coach Hope Konecny will teach 8 sessions to Bard students, faculty, & staff. There is a \$20 fee to students, \$45 for all others. **7-8:30p in the Stevenson Gym. Every Monday until November 7.**

★ TUESDAY. SEPTEMBER 15 ★

- ★ **Didn't make up your mind Monday?** Global Prints and "fine arts" music posters are on sale today **outside of Kline.**
- ★ **Yoga.** Students, Faculty, Staff, and their families...Come to Ben Vromen's introductory yoga course every Tuesday night. He is holding 8 sessions, and there is a fee of \$20. See the Thursday listing for registration, or drop him a note in campus mail. **6-7:30p, Olin 204.**
- ★ **Silence=Death.** Don't Delay...Coalition for Choice meets in the **College Room in Kline, 6:00p.**
- ★ **Charlie Chaplin.** Go to see these great black & white silent films: **The Immigrant (1917) & City Lights (1939)** screens at **7p in the Preston Screening Room.** Enjoy them!
- ★ **Paint, Draw, Sculpt.** Life Drawing sessions will take place **every Tuesday and Thursday night in the Proctor Studio, 7-9p.** Anyone welcome.
- ★ **Goods Galore**—Buy **South American Jewelry** on the **patio of Kline** today, get some now!!!

★ WEDNESDAY. SEPTEMBER 16 ★

- ★ **C.O.G.** This is your chance for community service. The **Campus Outreach Reach Group** will hold a meeting in the **President's Room in Kline. Time to be announced,** Look and Listen for it!!!
- ★ **A Tale of Late Chrysanthemums.** Watch this black and white, 1939 film by the Japanese Director Mizoguchi—if you have only seen Kurosawa, you haven't seen Japanese cinema. Another film in the Three Japanese Directors screenings. **7:00p at the Preston Screening Room.**
- ★ **Jigs, Reels, and Strathspeys.** See and learn the traditional social dancing Scotland. **Scottish Country Dance** classes will meet in Manor House on the **first, third and fifth Wednesdays** of the month. Beginners, be there at 7:30-8:30p; for you intermediate/advanced people, 8:30-9:30p. See Steve Stephens for more information, ext. 338
- ★ **Student Forum.** Be an active member of the Bard Community—student forum meets tonight to discuss the Budget. We are also electing new members to the Student Judiciary Board & the Educational Policy Committee. **8:00p at Kline.** Don't miss it!