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Voting for choice

Bard Rally attracts students and politicians

"We won't go back, we won't stay where we are. We are taking one step forward today, one on Tuesday and from then on, it's full speed ahead," stated Sally Mehrman in her opening speech for the Vote for Choice rally held here at Bard on Sunday afternoon. Organized by the Bard Coalition for Choice, the rally included local politicians, students and other speakers brought together for the common goal of raising pro-choice voter consciousness before the elections on Tuesday.

The turn-out, while not spectacular, was substantial, as people congregated in front of the speakers and podium erected on the Ludlow green. Concerns about crowd control proved to be unfounded and the intended key-note speaker, Betty Friedan, was unable to attend due to a last-minute "publishing emergency." Nevertheless, a sizeable number took part and made themselves visible and vocal, "because choice is not a polite issue."

The first speaker was Rory Kennedy, daughter of Robert Kennedy, who appeared on behalf of Presidential candidate Bill Clinton. "We have been described as 'the lost generation' because of what we've seen in government," she commented. "But now we are finally getting leaders who embody our views and, with record numbers of voters, we have the power to change."

Angela Rawson, a candidate for the 99th New York District, explained that she was running against the "most right-to-life person in the state." Rawson described the pro-life activists as determined: "they never give up and its time for the future generation to get out there and let their voices be heard."

"Voting is the easy part," explained Leon Botstein, President of the College. "The hard part is remaining active after the election and seeing that the candidate's promises are carried through." Botstein discussed how he is not very optimistic about any of the three candidates, but insisted "keeping this incumbent would be powerfully destructive to renewal. Don't rely on politicians to do the right thing spontaneously." He also applauded those Bard undergraduates involved in these election issues for not being apathetic and working for constructive change.

Carol Weir is another Democratic woman running against a Republican male incumbent. As her spokesperson commented at the rally, "The real battle for women's right to choose will be fought in the State Senate, and we can't take any more politicos-as-usual or old-boy mentalities."

The next speaker was Simone Monjons, a daughter of Robert Kennedy, who appeared to make mental rights that only a shell of Roe v. Wade had been described as 'the lost old enough to be a mother?" running against in a very close race. "1992 is the easy part," explained Leon Botstein, President of the College. "The hard part is remaining active after the election and seeing that the candidate's promises are carried through." Botstein discussed how he is not very optimistic about any of the three candidates, but insisted "keeping this incumbent would be powerfully destructive to renewal. Don't rely on politicians to do the right thing spontaneously." He also applauded those Bard undergraduates involved in these election issues for not being apathetic and working for constructive change.

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Confronting sexual harassment on campus

BRAVE to participate in nationally televised teleconference

On Thursday, November 12th from 1 to 4:30 p.m., Bard will be participating in a nation-wide teleconference on Campus Sexual Harassment. The program will be broadcast live from Washington, D.C. and panelists include Bernice R. Sandler from the Center for Women Policy Studies, Frederick R. Preston, Vice President for Student Affairs, SUNY Stony Brook, Jacqueline D. Gardiner, Office of Academic Affairs, DePauw University, John A. Madison, Associate Provost & Dean of Students, Vanderbilt University, Carol Randolph, who moderated the February 1992 teleconference “Understanding and Meeting the Needs of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Students,” will moderate this program. This interactive teleconference will focus on questions such as: 1. What is a hostile environment? 2. What is the extent of the problem on our campuses? 3. How do we get our individuals to report? 4. Why are current sexual harassment policies and procedures not useful? 5. What can we do to eliminate sexual harassment? 6. How can colleges effectively balance the needs and rights of all parties—victims, harassers and the institution? All members of the Bard community are invited to attend—students, faculty & staff.

What is Sexual Harassment?

Sexual Harassment is any unwanted verbal or physical advance, sexually explicit derogatory statement or sexually discriminatory remark made by someone in the classroom, workplace or anywhere on campus. Such statements, advances or remarks constitute sexual harassment if they are offensive, objectionable or humiliating to the recipient or anyone witnessing the harassment. Sexual harassment creates a hostile environment.

In an academic setting sexual harassment may involve, but is not limited to, the use of authority to emphasize the sexuality of a student in a manner that prevents or impairs that student’s full enjoyment of educational benefits or opportunities. Examples of sexual harassment include:

- verbal harassment or abuse
- subtle pressure for sexual activities
- touching, patting or pinching a person’s body
- demands for sexual favors

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#1 Fundraiser Nationwide
Your fraternity, sorority, or other campus organization can earn $200.00 or more in less than one week. It is easy, and you pay absolutely nothing.
CALL 1-800-725-2077 EXT. 215

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.

Lost tarnished silver bracelet w/scrab-like green stones. Please return to Box 914! Thank you.

Found: 1 pair of wine-rimmed glasses (gold frames, red ear pieces)—mild prescription. In Trevak’s field. If they’re yours, please call Safety & Security or go blind!

TP: I hope you don’t try & take any books out soon!

TP: I have seen you at the library once & I am one of THOSE FRONT DESK WORKERS. ARE you looking for things to complain about?

Willie, How you needy. Really do. Jenny

Dear Elwood, So you’re legal now, blues sister! Happy 18th birthday! Love, Jake

Attention World: Audrey Home will be celebrating her 18th birthday on Saturday, November 7th. Contact Diane for reservations for birthday festivities. Anyone who shows up at 18 will receive first priority.

Attention Audrey Home: Happy 18th. Now you can go to shows at the Chance—legally. You’re never left behind because the HI is in L.A. somewhere for you. Thanks for sharing all the meals. Nobody weird like us. You arrive at a saloon. Unworthy to know you. —Agt. Dale Cooper

Duckyboy, Guess none of it meant anything but I miss being friends. Tijing.

Interested in anonymous correspondence on campus? Light frothy letters on a regular basis, more mail than your box is currently seeing? Write to Box 810—I will reply.

Melt in Your Mouth—Now I understand how you got your name—Oodle Baby—Gum again soon.—D

On some trees many apples hang yet each may be bruised or carry a worm on other trees maybe only one apple hangs but is the most perfect beautiful and delicious of all. M.G. don’t complain I’ve got more apples they don’t taste that great. K

LOOKING FOR LOVE IN ALL THE WRONG PLACES?

Here are some singles that are waiting to hear from you:

GWF, 20, intelligent, feminine, fit & fans. San Francisco. GWF, 20s. fencing, dining and danger. Must be adventurous and have a good sense of humor. Noble, butches, fat, weirdos. Serious replies only. Respond via personals to “Wonder Woman.”

GWM, 20, cultured, masculine, 5’7”, tall and funny seeks sexy sidekick who can hang, bow and has humor for alliteration and more. No fats, fats, or pathers. Respond via personals to “Captain America.”

SGF, Straight, Coth, Female, 20s seeks deeply sensitive person to brood with. Home-rimmed glasses fetch a plus. Respond via personals to “Bela.”

In The Closet—Could you be the one to turn my lock? or in furtive, flash, H-O-T? HOT: You: A butch stud with a soft spot for makeup. Closets okay? Mine’s a walk-in! Respond via personals to “Queenie.”
Bar and Nicaragua

Students and graduates involved in project

Bar and Nicaragua

Bar has an ongoing involvement with the Mid-Hudson/Sister City Project in Nicaragua. The latest step with the town of Las Garzas occurred last Sunday when Jon Genser, a recent Bard graduate, left the U.S. to be a coordinator of the Sister City consortium. He took with him sewing supplies purchased with money raised in bake sales by students in cooperation with deKline cafe. Leslie McClench, Bard’s Sister City Club President, wanted to rapidly raise funds so that Genser could take supplies with him, since such materials are easily obtained here and the town’s sewing cooperative needs a boost. Genser will also bring him $1200 raised in Rhinebeck at a recent dance to which several Bard students contributed work. These proceeds will purchase supplies for a new school building: a two-room, free-standing structure. One of the largest amounts raised locally for Nicaragua was $20,000 from medical supplies, a large amount of which was used for oral rehydration programs. Nicaragua desperately needs such medical aid now, since recent reports of cholera indicate more than 10,000 new cases a month, for a nation with a population of 5,000,000. The earthquake, or tidal waves, which only weeks ago killed 1,000 people and devastated coastal areas, will likely worsen the epidemic, since major sewage systems were wiped out. A cafe at a seaside resort, which some Bard students visited last summer, no longer exists, having succumbed to the wave like the surrounding area.

Several Bard students have visited Nicaragua over the past few years, Genser being the first. His interest was inspired by American news reports of the Contra War, ending just last year. He went with the Mid-Hudson/Sister City Project in Nicaragua with a Tivoli resident. He returned again on some of the several delegations to that country. In 1990, Bard students were among those sent to monitor the election of President Violetta Chamorro.

One of the major programs Sister-Cities has initiated is a reproductive education program. The region was once lush, but the ecosystem has been severely damaged by the war. Trees are cut down for firewood; once lush, but the ecosystem has been severely damaged by the war. Trees are cut down for firewood; one of the most serious donor concerns. Alongside the HIV-virus, its the war, which has left unem­ployed thousands, living in the desolate countryside. Manually labor is always required in jobs similar to the upcoming construction of a school. Students can propose their own particular projects to Genser, and a discussion can begin between the town leaders and the individual. Soon, with Bard’s Electronic Bulletin Board, it may be possible to communicate with the Sister-Cities projects directly through PeaceNet. Those searching for a unique experience, both in meeting local activists and in risking a change in one’s own perceptions of what the masses are capable of accomplishing, are suited to the Sister-Cities program. It is a great way to meet vibrant, active people, and challenge boundaries and conditions.

The gift of life

Bard community participates in Blood Drive

On Tuesday 27th, the New York Blood Center visited Bard for a day-long blood drive. Of ninety expected students, about seventy showed up. Some students did not have enough iron in their blood and were not matched with their blood type.

After students filled out some forms, they answered a battery of questions. Officials were especially concerned that donors had had the chicken pox at least once. Alongside the HIV-virus, its the most serious donor concern. Students’ blood count, pulse, blood pressure and body temp­ature were measured; then a prick of blood was taken from a finger. The stabbing pain instantly disappeared. Having passed this obstacle, shirt-sleeve were rolled up and students were guided over to a blue desk chair. They were given a rubber bracelet to hold in their palm to be pressed every five seconds to pump the blood out. A practiced nurse distracted the arm with an iodine-soap mixture. Then comes the moment of truth, a pinch and then a stinging sensation for approximately twenty seconds. Most donors chose to look away, and fortunately this donation center was arranged so that one didn’t have to look at someone. In eight minutes, this is all over. There is no feeling of blood being drained from the body. No one is reported to have fainted on this day.

Afterward, everyone was offered a "The Nice to Me" sticker, a heart pin, or a sticker with coffee and tea. Most students were satisfied with the gift of life.
Exploding the myth

Koning lectures on Columbus

Just two days ago the Bard MultiCultural Awareness Club sponsored a talk given by Hans Koning, the author of *Columbus: His Enterprise Exploding the Myth*. This talk was to provide interested community members with an honest perspective of Columbus' actions and their impact throughout America's history. His view implies that Christopher Columbus was not as a courageous visionary, but rather as a "man of his time — one of the worst men of his times."

According to some incredibly detailed and accurate sources cited by Koning, Columbus was in many ways a pawn to Spain's greedy need to conquer other lands and acquire great wealth. Columbus had promised the court of Spain that he would bring back riches beyond belief in return for their funding for his voyage. A voyage that was obviously planned, according to Koning, without much navigational knowledge due to the facts surrounding his first departure: Columbus did not take into account that no ship of his time could have survived a trip as long as he predicted it would take to get to Asia. Columbus carried a letter to the ruler of Japan and China (who had been dead for nearly 200 years), and Columbus sincerely believed he had landed in Asia when he was discovered by the natives of the West Indies. This was a voyage that in the end did not yield very much wealth for Spain, but led to much cruel and unfair suffering for the inhabitants of the lands Columbus chose to invade.

What was the true impact, for example, of Columbus conquering Hispaniola? In Koning's words, "it had the impact of a modern horror movie or that of an attack from outer space." Columbus and his men did not understand or appreciate the land or its people. They had not gone to settle, but rather to loot and exploit. To the natives, this was incredibly devastating. They did not have the technology to defend themselves and were treated as property to be given away, rented, and misused. They were also forced to work in deep mines where the total life expectancy of any worker was only 6-9 months, and at one point were required to wear identification tags, and if caught without them had their arms cut off. These are just a few of the well documented forms of active racism that took place during Columbus's era.

Columbus, however, has been dead for over 500 years. Koning pointed this out and also remarked that if Columbus's voyages had not taken place, the lands invaded by him simply would have been by some other conqueror. Why? Because Europe "left the rest of the world behind in the science of war." The Europeans had dominated lands closer to home and saw nothing wrong, by their standards, of repeating similar actions throughout the world.

The true crime now, however, is not what happened then, but what continues today. As Koning stated, Columbus has become a symbol of the father of this nation with no regard to the original inhabitants, and for no other reason than that the European descendants wished for a historical figure to represent their origins that had existed before Washington.

To think Columbus was a hero is to indulge yourself with "an ignorant fantasy." Koning also regretted that no credit or honor is offered the natives for their struggles, that children are taught very little of what really went on during Columbus' voyages, and that so few are willing to face the facts concerning Columbus' guiltless cruelty.

Koning admitted that because Columbus has been a symbol for so long that it would be very difficult for us to change our ways (or abolish Columbus day), but that we must be willing to view more and more the uglier picture. "We have to cope with it in order to learn from it and prevent it from ever happening again."
Features

November 4, 1992

New program aids students

The Learning Center and peer tutors seek to improve your writing skills

In the aftermath of midterm, do you ever regard your regrets? Have you ever waited until the last minute to work on your papers? Ever wished you could have them checked before handing them in? There is help! (Actually, there has been all semester.) Each day through Thursday evenings, students can climb the stairs up to Fairbanks 307, where there will be a Peer Tutor ready and waiting. As of Sunday, November 1st, hours have been expanded to 8:00 - 11:00 pm. At their designated times, students can work on their essays, or any other papers, that they need help with. The tutors are available from 8:00 am to 11:00 pm, Monday through Thursday. They are there to help them with any writing task, whether it is for college or for work.

How to reach Peer Tutors

Sunday through Thursday 8 to 11 pm in Fairbanks 307

Stop by the Learning Center office at ext. 275 or by contacting one of the many peer tutors through Campus Mall.

Edward Eigerman
Stephanie Hopkins
Alex London
Mike McDonough
Jennifer Reck
Michael Poirier
It was in fact the goal of my study to determine the number of people in a given population who utilized half their brains. To clarify: not more than half, not less. The study sought to determine how many people in the study group (Bard College community) used precisely half their brains. I thought it wise to begin my search in something of a systematic fashion, progressing in no particular order from department to department. I altered my approach after only four attempts, realizing it to be less desirable a system than I had first thought, this due to the fact that I was unable to accurately keep track of the brains for which I had accounted, after I had studied them. The results are reprinted below, as they may be of some use to others in their own similar research.

Commencing at the Department of Literature and Languages, I was at first elated to find that several literature professors appeared to be operating under the influence of more or less exactly half the brain I sought. I was discouraged, however, when I came to the Languages section, as I was greeted with a dilemma of ratios to wit, what should what is most certainly, say, French standards a full half brain to be taken as should what is most certainly, say, French standards. I came to the Languages section, as I was thinking, this due to a number of factors. I had accounted, after I had sought.

Continuing my quest with the Buildings and Grounds Department, I discovered that the brains of three or four employees were doing the thinking for all 41 of the workers employed there. This led to another ratio conundrum: should I divide the
given brain among the constituent beneficiaries of its intellectual labors, or simply count the possessor of the brain(s) in question. Such difficulties drove me to seek new methods for the continuation of my study. It would behoove me to utilize technology, relegating the footwork, as it were, to a Cray Mark 1.

Within the Art Department, I was fortunate enough to unearth one student most definitely working with half a brain, but further examination revealed this to be due to the other half having been dissolved by concentrated and prolonged inhalation of cannabis smoke and turpenoid fumes, leading me to ponder the matter of whether or not ofPeculiar mechanical ability to differentiate environment from intellect to account for its genetic shortcom­
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I hope you find me, because I can't

Do you wear a mask? I walked around Halloween night, staring at all the freaks dressed up for no reason other than to drink and fuck, lying once again and enjoying every moment—and I wished I could be like them. For a while. Why not? Nothing holds me back, not at Bard. Especially at Bard. I am restricted by those who would help me, but do not know why. "Forgive them" for they know what they do and can’t help themselves. Fear is important. Fear rules Bard. Racism (or lack thereof, or neither), with or without ethnicity personality, relationships (hps), love, lie, gender, class, does anybody care? Notice/listen/believe/really discuss anything instead of preach.

Q: Bard is (f) none of the above (f) all of the above (f) both (U) neither (C) too drunk to notice (K) too self-centered to care.

P.S. Not wishing to miss an opportunity to sneeze a little attention for myself, I decided it would be fun [sic] (or both) to have my take on the brainwad of the anonymity issue. So there. The amount of fuck which I give—that is to say, the degree to which I have taken up the flaming sword of the cause of giving a fuck—that is to say, how much I care—whether or not you know my name is directly proportional to how many spoiled rotten, self-righteous, political correct bumper sticker/T-shirt activists I will have to deal with every time I stick my dick out the window. Thus I feel Absolutely. No Compulsion to defend myself against the flaccid melees of a steaming, postulant, shaven marmoset like yourself. So call me a hypocrite. You’re right. For once. Loser.

"Hey there; that remark will cost you a spinach, my boy!

You can have my name when I can have Smith & Wesson back.

Passionately,
A.H.D., H.E., and W.P.

Please address all comments, responses, and contributions to "Mr. Armadillo X, c/o the Bard Observer.

A page of unedited observations by guest writers.
I, Rigoberta Menchu

by Constance Quinn

My academic journey at Bard College has rewarded me with opportunity to explore, in great detail, the minds of many significant social and political leaders. It is always extremely satisfying to enter the world of Karl Marx, Paula Gunn Allen or Dr. Martin Luther King to recognize the power of the written word. My journey has recently been expanded to include an experience with the words of Rigoberta Menchu. Rigoberta is a Quiche Indian and a member of one of the largest of twenty-two ethnic groups of Guatemala. Rigoberta was the focus of the Continuing Studies Programs' "Testimony Writing by Women." Her story is "I, Rigoberta Menchu."

Rigoberta's experience as an Indian woman living in Guatemala reflect experiences common to many Indian communities in Latin America. Cultural discrimination for Rigoberta's people has been at issue since the Spanish conquest. Her decision to tell her story allows the defeated to finally speak. By breaking the silence, she uncovers the organized extermination of her people. Rigoberta became a symbol of the common struggle and common destiny. Rigoberta's quest was to pursue a life dedicated to overthrowing the relations of domination and exclusion which characterize internal colonialism. In order to fulfill this goal, she abandoned her linguistic isolation which Indians retreated into in order to preserve their culture. Rigoberta appropriated the Spanish language so that the device of cultural control became a cultural weapon thrust back upon her oppressors. Her new language would create the words to tell the story of a level of subsistence and forced dependence to "Ladino" in spite of the population consisting of an Indian majority. Rigoberta's insistence is one of ethnic individuality and cultural autonomy.

The imposed forms of acculturation by the "Ladinos" threatens to seriously compromise the heritage of the Quiche Indians that, like other indigenous groups, is rooted in ceremony and ritual. Rigoberta's acculturation can be seen as antagonistic, the adoption of cultural techniques from another culture in order to resist and protect her own culture more effectively. Rigoberta used such existing means as language, trade union organization and the Bible to support her cause. There are those who find conflict between true cultural autonomy and the measures taken to modify and break the bonds that link Rigoberta and her people to the "Ladinos." Her vision goes beyond that of her community in many ways. She is fighting for the recognition of her culture and all cultures, for the acceptance that there are those who are different and ultimately people's rightful share of power. After being witness to savage murder of her father, mother and brother by the army under the regime of Lucas Garcia, 1978, Rigoberta felt she had no choice but to act. Becoming a major political symbol was merely a by-product of her long-term objective of the struggle of peace.

Rigoberta was recently awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. There are those who feel this is an attempt to satisfy the anti-Christs of a Columbus crowd, there are those who are not quite sure what she did to deserve it and there are those who feel that as an example to all of us who fight for a change...who fight to work making things right for the people of this world...to all of us who would like to see REAL justice in America, and have the courage to stand up to the lies and oppression the U.S. government dishes out not only to the inhabitants of the North American continent, but ALL OVER THE WORLD! Once again, I will be pointing out that "Eldorado" is not an example for all those that would like to see the poor fed and clothed, and the road run back to their rightful owners...you are absolutely right! If they could, they'd jail or kill us all! And if you read your history, you'd see that is exactly the "solution" this government often takes...to imprison or kill its dissenters! Leonard remains one of the greatest examples of "America's war on dissent!" If you care to read further on the subject, I suggest you pick up a copy of "Agents of Repression" by Ward Churchill and Jim Vanderwall, as well as "In the Spirit of Crazy Horse" by Peter Matthiessen. Free ALL political prisoners!! Justice will prevail...
THE BARD OBSERVER
November 4, 1992
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Arts and Entertainment
Would you vote for this man?

Bob Roberts comes to Upstate Films

Tim Robbins wrote, directed and starred in the farcical political satire film Bob Roberts. The movie is a mock documentary format allows for "bizarreness and exaggeration," according to Bob Roberts, the film's satirical depiction of a conservative rebel senatorial candidate Bob Roberts. The movie manages to get in commentary on an impressive variety of issues, from political elections and TV news biases, to 60s and post-60s radicalism and beyond.

All of this takes place as we follow Bob Roberts' rise to fame as a conservative singer (the song lyrics and album covers have us rolling) and his candidacy for the Philadelphia Senate against liberal Whitney Paiste, whose dignified and carefully phrased comments on the state of politics today offered a serious equalizer to the otherwise farcical tone of the film. All of this takes place through the eyes of the camera of Terry Manchester, the model of the reserved, Public TV, British-accented documentary maker. The impressive thing about the film is that it manages to include so much without losing its coherence; the documentary format allows for the inclusion of everything from Bob Roberts' music videos to back-up stage footage of Cutting Edge Live, a parody on NBC's Saturday Night Live featuring a brilliant cameo by John Cusack.

The diversity of the film makes it seem a bit strange to watch, however. Sensory overload tends to set in after about an hour, but that's just when things really get rolling; Robbins gets in shots about sensationalism and idolatry, and the consuming public who stop caring about the truth when their sacred cows become threatened. Actor Giancarlo Esposito (who plays "Buggin' Out" in Do the Right Thing) deserves more praise for his role as the radical journalist hoping to expose Roberts' illicit activities. Alan Rickman (Notting Hill) is the late Eighties, and you would go to see these performances, even if they were a bit distorting, to say the least.

The highlight of the evening was the Maw piece. Maw's use of the African thumb piano, the American drumstick, a strange clapper-like device called a frototone, a kazoo and Balinese marimbas along with the ensembles more traditional instruments were amusing to watch and refreshing to hear. Eric Wyrick's pressing of his tongue against the upper lip in a look of frustrated concentration while playing the strumstick, a breed of cymbal, is still sharp in my mind, along with Sarah Rothenberg's constant struggle with the pages of her music, despite the valiant effort of her stage assistant. This piece, in contrast to the selections by Deveau and Brahm, seemed most alive - with the real human struggle of artists闪耀ly evident.

Sarah Rothenberg was forced to carry the pre-concert talk with Nicholas Maw due to the composer's late arrival. According to


The greats meet modern music

Da Capo players perform at Bard

On Monday October 26, Bard was treated to one of the Da Capo Chamber Players' yearly performances at Bard in the Olin Auditorium. The ensemble performed Sonatas for Flute, Viola, and Harp by the French composer Claude Debussy, a controversial piece discovered in 1934 called Piano Trio in A Major whose authorship has been attributed to Johannes Brahms and a piece composed by Nicholas Maw for Da Capo and the New ensemble in London in the late Eighties.

A few of the Da Capo's players are familiar faces at Bard. The group's pianist, Sarah Rothenberg, is Co-Artistic Director of the Bard Music Festival. The ensemble's flutist, Patricia Spencer, teaches chamber music and flute tutorials, and Eric Wyrick, the violinist, helps to teach the string ensemble on campus and gives violin tutorials. Andrei Emelianoff on the cello and Laura Fax playing the flute, violin, and bass during the performance of the Chamber Players' regular members. However, their Monday night performance featured two guest artists, Lawrence Dutton on the viola and Barbara Allen on the harp.

Both the Debussy and Brahms' pieces were pleasant enough, although the fits and starts of the viola player were a bit distracting, to say the least. The highlight of the evening was the Maw piece. Maw's use of the African thumb piano, the American drumstick, a strange clapper-like device called a frototone, a kazoo and Balinese marimbas along with the ensembles more traditional instruments were amusing to watch and refreshing to hear. Eric Wyrick's pressing of his tongue against the upper lip in a look of frustrated concentration while playing the strumstick, a breed of cymbal, is still sharp in my mind, along with Sarah Rothenberg's constant struggle with the pages of her music, despite the valiant effort of her stage assistant. This piece, in contrast to the selections by Deveau and Brahm, seemed most alive - with the real human struggle of artists shiningly evident.

Sarah Rothenberg was forced to carry the pre-concert talk with Nicholas Maw due to the composer's late arrival. According to Rothenberg, Da Capo's mission is to broaden the audience of modern chamber music by introducing the work of contemporary composers along with such names as Brahms, Haydn and Beethoven.

The two concert-goers, who Da Capo is working this season are Nicholas Maw and Elliot Carter. The ensemble performs a concert featuring Nicholas Maw in New York on Wednesday the 28th, and they will perform two similar concerts featuring the work of Eliot Carter in the fall.

MOVIES
CALL 758-6369

Free first two minutes.

Free each additional minute.

Children under 18
with parental permission.

The Film Committee

Arts Division Evaluations
Prof. Beker will be available 1:30 - 5:00 pm, Wednesdays November 11th and December 10th. Evaluations of Professor Beker, Sarah Rothenberg, and Tim Robbins.

8 Arts and Entertainment
The Bard Observer

Sports 'n Such

November 4, 1992

Women's Tennis Triumphant

In today's shameless filler, I'm talking to Josie Gray, a person I lived with this summer, and an all-around great guy.

Q: So, Josie, how are you doing today?
A: Umm... I'm fine. Matt, thank you. No, no, don't write that! That's silly, let me change it!
Q: Too late. I like your cap. Where'd you get it from?
A: Cheap department store (tee-hee). On sale. Hey, I don't go "Tee-hee!"
Q: That's what it sounded like to me. Oops, I spelled "what" wrong.
A: What would your laugh be then?
Q: Well, I guess it would depend on what I'm laughing at. Sometimes I snicker, and sometimes I laugh out loud.
A: Well, anyway, I still don't go "Tee-hee."
Q: Okay, I'm sorry. Well, I hear you went tickets to see They Might Be Giants recently. How did you react?
A: I jumped up and down a lot and ran around my dorm room and told all the freshmen. I was really just excited that I'd won. I didn't care what the tickets were for.
Q: Oh, well, in that case, why don't you savor the victory and give the tickets to me?
A: Oh, no, I'm sure you're used to being excited, and you already went so it's not fair.
Q: Okay, okay, you're right. Hey! You're PC for a ravine, yeah?
A: For a ravine, ya. Ya, ya, I PC for a ravine.
Q: Damnit, I didn't mean to hit the stinking Q key!
A: You're a bad typist considering you wrote letters every day last summer. That way Steph can feel like she's honored.
Q: Well, trying to type stuff both while you... Q: Wait until I'm finished! Like I say, trying to type while both saying things and listening to what you say is kind of difficult. Maybe I should have used a little tape recorder. Okay, now you can correct yourself.
A: Cos... cuz if it's never mind, people will figure it out. You know, if we'd done this this summer we wouldn't have been sitting on our butts this summer we would have been writing fillers all summer.
Q: How do you manage to say three sentences in one breath?
A: Before I came to Bard I used to write like that too.
Q: All in one breath?
A: It was long on ten-page papers. (reading what I had just typed) "Tongue?"
Q: Look, the typos will all get caught by the copy edit people! Forget my slipshod-typing!
A: Yeah, but then the jokes won't make sense.
Q: But that has ever stopped me? Okay, we're out of room. Let's continue this next week, okay?
A: Or how about right now and print this next week?
Q: No, I gotta go to class. See ya!
A: "See ya"'s dumb.

By Matt Gilman

Bard's Own Cricket Team

That's right! Bard has its very own cricket team! The team operates on the club level, playing other local teams in the area. The team consists of 13 Bard students, and is captained by Farrukh Khan. Just last Sunday, the Cricket Club defeated Rensselaer Polytechnical Institute. The scores were Bard-122 runs for 8 wickets, RPI-77 runs, all out. Basically this means that RPI scored 77 runs before all ten of their team's players were out, while Bard managed to score 122 runs with only eight batters out. Because of the 45-run lead, Bard did not have to have all ten batters take their turn at bat. Confused? Why not attend a game or a practice? Watch the sports page for future articles and announcements about the cricket team, or contact Farrukh Khan or Darnath DeTussera for more information.
It's over—for now
by Matthew Apple

By the time this issue of the Observer gets printed, the elections of 1992 will be, as they say, history. All of the mudslinging, the vilification, the ‘90s commercialism and campaigns are going to be over—until 1996, anyway.

I’ve become a realist, or so I’ve been told by the world. I believe that Bill Clinton will win the election. I believe he will improve the economy, the environment, the rights of the individual and improve the foreign relations. I voted for him because I think he can bring about change, maybe not as immediately as some radicals would like, but change nonetheless.

I would be hard-pressed to find out why many Bard students voted for Clinton. Probably for the same reason people in my hometown voted for George Bush: the name of the political party. That’s it. Most don’t even pay attention to what the political platforms are or what the candidates’ personal beliefs are. They just voted for Bush because he is Republican, or for Clinton because he is Democratic.

That’s part of the nature of the beast, the political system of this country. Candidates must throw away all personal pride and principles or they don’t stand a chance in hell of beating the sticks for the big-time.

At the beginning of the year, walking into all the bleep surrounding the primaries, I had decided to vote “some of the above” on November 3rd, so I voted with the way this country is run, the way all the people with money get to do whatever they want, regardless of who is in power, while the poor get stomped flat on the head of no matter who is the high-muck-a-muck. I’m still fed up and convinced more than ever that politicians will never solve any problems, because they’re too concerned with staying where they are and keeping the rest of us down. Why did I vote, then? Because I felt it would have been hypocritical to condemn something I didn’t at least attempt to use. Of course, if the system fails, I am perfectly willing to ignore the system in the future and do whatever it takes to get done what I think needs to be accomplished. After all, I did give the system a chance, and if the system blows it, it’s not my fault.

I’m not about to make any predictions about who won the election, but I do know that the next four years will be possibly the most important years in determining the future of the United States and the world during the next century. I have a sneaking suspicion that whoever occupies the White House will be forced to deal with the country’s continued problems and that somewhere down the road something’s going to happen. Change will occur; it’s just a matter of willing or unwilling change, that’s all.

Just joking?
Miss McCumber-Goldring

You and I do not seem to disagree in general. That is, what you wrote did not disagree with most of what I said. For how could it, you were not addressing the same issue as I was. Whether or not you meant to just respond with your own opinion and not really speak directly on the point that I brought up is something I could only guess at. But it would seem to be a reaction from those of the Feminist persuasion. I do not make any accusations, I just make an observation here.

However, on some specific points, you distort what I said. Since I refuse to imagine you to have any ulterior motives for doing so, I can only assume that you did not fully understand my point. So let me try and clear it up for you.

I applaud you for your choice of quotes; your choosing the bottom line of my letter. But you then go on to interpret it incorrectly. I agree that “sexual harassment behavior is NOT reasonable”—and I did not in any way say or imply that it ever could. This is where you did not read very carefully. I was talking about the problem of distinguishing sexual harassment from teasing, joking, and basic high school antics (of both guys and girls). My point was that the show I was referring to showed mothers who were not keeping the distinction clear. They were trying to establish legal grounds for prosecuting sexual teasing, and they were only a part of the mothers (the one who had written a book on the subject) advocating installing video cameras on the buses to catch “them in the act.” What then, if a group of guys are rowdy in the back and begin cat-calling and whistling, making obscene motions with their pelvises, are they to be incarcerated? Hey, the camera has got the evidence!

I am not trying to excuse sexual harassment in schools. I made the point that I am sure it can and does happen. And if such were to happen, I am not going to try to defend the culprits. But I am pointing out that there first has to be a real case of sexual harassment. The impression that the show gave off was that any type of “bad” behavior was automatically sexual harassment. A joke about the girl in the tight pants is a sexual assault on the girl. A rude comment about the boy phallic prowess is a sexual assault on the boy.

My further point is that this attempt to smooth the difference between normal activity and sexual harassment—and there is such a distinction—is a tendency which is found already in the workplace and the military. If one were paranoid enough, one might even think that there is a conspiracy.

To your point about character flaws—no, I would not say that criminal behavior could be considered a character flaw. Criminal behavior would be a consequence of a character flaw. This is almost verbal quibbling, but it is important to point out that a jerk and a rapist are not equivalent. All rapists are certainly at least jerks, but every jerk is not then a rapist. [sic] There should never be any legal grounds for prosecuting a high school football player because he was vulgar and obnoxious to the cheerleaders.

To your objection: “Your assumption that the beliefs that propel a person to harassing behavior are simply a ‘myriad of contradictions and confusions,’ that will play themselves out, is not acceptable to me.” Nice reconstruction of the quote. Almost got in the right context, but you make it appear that I am approving of letting sexual harassment just work itself out. Incorrect, my dear. I spoke of the behavior in general that is characteristic of the insecure and chaotic years of high school—not harassing behavior. I certainly am not in favor of letting a person—like a girl who is competitively a tease, for example—just be. Their behavior, if it poses a danger to themselves or others, should be handled appropriately. But that is the thing, the danger has to be established. You assume the sexual harassment as soon as the word is mentioned. I am saying, hey that’s not right. That can’t be assumed just because someone whispered the word. Couldn’t it be something else? A joke? A misunderstanding?

Try to understand: I am only pointing out the tendency of some groups to label anything and everything that they want as sexual harassment.

High school was not in general a time when we knew exactly what we were, what we wanted, and what the world was going to be like. I cannot imagine that high school will be a place wherein the emancipation of behavior are to be found. But to fail short of your or my ideals of “correct” behavior is not to be automatically criminal. I am afraid that there will come a day (if it hasn’t already) when the accusation of sexual harassment can be thrown about.

Find me continued
continued from page 6

watch the muscles flex. I’m not proud of myself; whoever that is, I love everyone (except myself), love only exists on Fridays and Saturdays between 10 and 2, it’s free, because money can’t buy me a clue. Find that special someone and fuck.

Do you understand what I’m getting at? Do you know where I’m coming from? I don’t spell words; I am a blacksmith, I pound away, mercilessly hammering meaning into my thoughts, ironing them into steel too soon and finding cracks. I’m not a hypocrite, but I’m hypocritical:

I’m not a liar, but I lie; I’m not a lover, but I do love; I refuse to be labelled, but I label without thinking; I’m not a loser, but I do lose.

It’s all a game, a strange little game with no rules, but the most judged. I think you know the game I mean…” and I’m a poor player. Because I refuse to play. I sit voluntarily in the penalty box, I foul out in the first half, I leave for a pinch runner before I get to bat. Am I bitter? A little, I suppose, I have a right to be. But that doesn’t mean I like it. “My way…is not the way”—it is no way at all, or perhaps every way at once.

Am I a coward? Yes, but that’s not why I didn’t sign my name—no autonomy. I don’t care if anyone else knows, I lie to them anyway. They’ll never know, even if they cared (and I’ll never know that either). No, I’m afraid of myself, I’m afraid that, if I look too long and too hard, I’ll find something I knew was there all along. Something I can’t change; even though I believe choice is a right, sometimes you have no choice.

And that scares me.

—name withheld by request

continued on page 12

THE BARD OBSERVER
November 4, 1992

10 Opinion/Editorial

A Dog’s life.

Did you see this cartoon? Get that. What is the new law? “1 am a Republican. I go to school according to the inspiration that I don’t exist! I am proud of who I am, dammit.”

Hey, what are you doing in my class? My choice.

Nothing

‘Young Republicans meeting on campus’? Isn’t wrong? I am a Republican. I go to school according to the inspiration that I don’t exist! I am proud of who I am, dammit.”
the CLINTON BILL
(soon to be issued)

Observer needs no defense

Dear Mr. Apple,

I appreciate your response to my opinion piece. Unfortunately, you’re still not listening. My anonymity was not the point. If that bothers you so much, then call me Violet McKisco. The quality of the Observer was not the point, yet this is what you focus on. I made no negative comment whatsoever about the quality of the Observer’s writing, or the professionalism of the staff. In fact, I praised both. I never said Mr. Sloane’s article was that nasty. I only said that they were “well-written” and “fair”. Why do you spend your whole response defending the Observer? Are you still stuck in your rallying cry against Mr. Sloane’s article? I notice that you still insist on picking out his phrases such as “devoid of content”, and stubbornly don’t notice his more delicate analysis of how a critical essay is and is not written. In addition, you completely fail to respond to my comments. What I did say was that in these very angry articles, lamenting the Observer’s lack of staff and support, (1) you don’t listen to points made by critics such as Mr. Sloane (and myself)—thank you for illustrating my point so beautifully, (2) you expect writers to come out help when all they see is this negative “Oh, it’s so bad” attitude from the Observer, and (3) that subtle hint of acrimony in your articles isn’t needed or useful. I guess you did listen to my suggestion to calm down before you write... your response was surprisingly level-headed, though you still felt the need to condescendingly spell out the word S-T-U-D-I-N-T-S for me. Thank you, but I am one. I am an intelligent one. I can read. However, despite the otherwise refreshing serenity of your reply, you were responding to something different than my article.

I am sorry—I know it will upset you—that I choose to remain anonymous (or under a pseudonym, anyhow), I am a real person. I am not a wall. I just don’t want you to know who I am. I thank Mr. Chong for expressing his hope that “this focusing on anonymity isn’t an attempt to divert attention from the actual writing itself.” Good day, Mr. Apple. And good luck with your EFC scholarship.

Sincerely,

Violet McKisco

[1c] sugar on

Dear Editor;

First, I would like to say that the Bard Observer is a good college paper. I have been to another college and seen other school papers, and even with bigger, more experienced staffs, they could not match the Observer. While other school papers might be “professional” that only seems to be a code word for “pandering,” whether it is to the administration, the students or to other interest groups. The Observer is certainly independent and I could see why Rebecca Klein’s friends (or her in the last issue) would cherish it so.

However, you knew there was a “browsing” coming, there is something to be said for the fine art of diplomacy. While one would not expect the loud and proud Observer to pander to anyone’s special interest, they should treat other people with some respect. It seems that nasty responses to letters have been quite popular lately. They seem to have begun with Greg Giaccio’s response to Joseph Lannaccone in the second or third issue this year (I’m sorry if I don’t have the dates.) I know Greg and I think I know his sense of humor enough to realize that his response was supposed to be a joke (indeed, I suspect what might be called a chuckle while reading it). But, I’m sure that Joseph felt the same way. In fact, many people probably felt Greg was too harsh and were afraid to respond to him because he can always get the last word in. Unfortunately, things have gone downhill from there. Recent letters that contain the constructed criticism were treated with bitterness far out of proportion to what the observer has been sufficient. I refer to David Sloane’s letter and a recent Name Withheld letter. A spoonful of sugar catches more flies than a barrel of vinegar.

I agree that people here do not appreciate the Bard Observer to its fullest, and I can see where this might be a sore spot with the hard working staff. If people here want to see a bad student newspaper, they should look at the Illinois, the University of Illinois paper. It’s more frequent, has more pages, but is more boring than Illinois itself. However, what good is an interesting newspaper if the students are afraid to contribute for fear of being called “schmucks” or being told “we’re just students trying our damnest, so lay off man?”

Yours anonymously,

Blank

[1c] puppies

Words cannot begin to say how outraged I am about the overwhelming extant to which the Bard Observer has been using the Latin term “sic.” I find this utterly unnecessary. It is waste of space. Not only does it disrupt the flow, making particles harder to read, but it also makes potential writers shake in fear that their heartfelt concerns will be marred by mockery indications of every transposed word or split infinitive. This must be stopped. If the Observer staff is too edgy to make a distinction between the two.

Thank you,

The Bard Observer

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What to See, Buy, & Do at Bard

★ WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4 ★

* Wild, Wild, World. It's Jamaica, Philippines, India, Ecuador, South Dakota. Go check this out—a great/unique combination of community service with study abroad with The Partnership for Service Learning programs. You've been there before, at the tables at Kline, 7:30p. Sponsored by our Career Development Office.


* Oresteia. The Freshman Seminar presents scenes from Aeschylus' Oresteia, in Greek, with English commentary—see it performed by Prof. Rachel Ritzinger & the Vassar College Classics Dept., at the Olin Auditorium, 7p. Everyone is welcome.

* Freedom is a Universal Right. Participate in Bard's Amnesty International meeting—you can find them in the Committee Room in Kline, 7p. (Get involved!)

* Rape & Incest Survivors' Group is meeting tonight at Woodstock. It's at the Dutch Reformed Church, Main St. at the Triangle, 7:30p.

* Glory Daze. Dance those alpha waves with Ram, Cohen & Mary Linsey, with their friends Purple. See/hear your friends at our deKline, 9p.

* Tokyo Story. This is Japanese Director Yasujiro Ozu's most popular film: a simple story of a child's life with his family. It's about love and hope and beauty and life and death and everything. This is a must-see movie—it is a film of expressive stillness & beauty. It's at 7p, the Preston Film Center.

★ THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5 ★

* Kannst du Deutsch? Come & speak German at the, well-what else...German Table In the Committee Room in Kline, 5:30p. Bring food/knives.

* A.A.S.O. Come & check out the Asian American Student's Organization meeting in the President's Room in Kline, 6:30p.

* Alcoholics Anonymous. They'll meet every Thursday at 7:30p in Aspinwall 35.

* Adult Children of Alcoholics are meeting tonight in Rhinebeck. Stop by the Church of the Messiah Episcopal, 47 Montgomery, 8p.

* Chill Today, Hot Tamales. Then scorch it up with Lisa Lisa & Country Jam tonight. You can start the sizzlings at 9p, in the Old Gym. There's refreshments—leave the John Deere at home.

★ FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6 ★

* S.E.A.R. Meet with the Students Educating Against Racism—formerly Students for Multi-Cultural Education and Awareness. They are looking forward to an expansive membership—for the ideas & needs of the Bard Community can be addressed & represented within the context of educating against racism. Join them in the Committee Room in Kline, 6:30p.

* J.S.O. The Jewish Students Organization will be meeting tonight at Bard Hall, 7p.

* World-O-Film. Our Film Committee presents a very-ironic comedy about nudism, winter & emotional capitals, go to see The Unbelievable Truth (1940). Jokes about the weather & the cold & the cold & the cold. Also see this 1940 movie at 7p, in the Preston Film Center.

* Platitudinal Phenomena. It's like manna from heaven. Hardcore/funk with Selvages, Bravely Familiar. Be the champion of your neighbor's right after the movie at the Old Gym. Wait after midnight! Remember it's $1, folks.

★ SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 ★


★ SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8 ★

* Schola Cantorum, sacred music in the Bard Chapel. 6p. Performed during worship at 7p.

* House-O-Film. The Film Committee brings to us The Battle of Chile—Patricio Guzman's documentary chronicling the tumultuous last year of the socialist government in Chile before the military coup of 1973. Hear this movie in Spanish/Speak it in English only at 7p, in the Old Gym.

★ MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9 ★

* Photographer's Pick. The Photography Lectures at Bard will present a lecture by photographer Joel Sternfeld. See/Listen to him speak at Olin Auditorium, 7p. Be there!

★ TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10 ★

* Dance Club is open to everybody—so go to their movement/dance workshop in the Bard Theatre, 5:30p.

* Livingroom Culture. Our president Leon Botstein will be a guest on WNET-13's new interview program The Charlie Rose Show. See him on this PBS 4-5Jan. 11 at 7p.

* Rosebud-O-Rama. You already know that this is one of Bard's most popular movies—see Green Welles' Citizen Kane. Go watch Kane, the omnipotent news magnate, die in his fabulous castle Xanadu—listen as he utters his famous last word, "Rosebud." A "March of Time"-style newsreel leads a reporter to seek the meaning of this mysterious word, perhaps, the meaning of Kane. Don't waste this movie on TV—see it today at 7p, in the Preston Film Center.

* Rebecca. The Feminist Theory & Film class screens this Alfred Hitchcock movie tonight. Joan Fontain presents the young second wife of a Cornish landowner, Laurence Oliver—he is haunted by the huge image of his glamorous first wife, Rebecca. See this gothic movie at 7p, in the Prestone Film Center.

★ WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11 ★

* Student Forum. This affects you—the Student Forum meets tonight: they're discussing an anti-smoker proposal, impeachment procedure committee, EPC-Lit. Division, & open discussion in the efficiency of our student government. 8p in the Kline Committee Room. Don't miss it.

* The End of Summer. See this 1961 movie by the great Japanese director Yasujiro Ozu. Another film in the Three Japanese Directors screenings at 7p, in the Preston Film Center.

SHUTTLE VAN SCHEDULE

Friday
Rhinecliff: Leave at 8:30p, for the 9:48p train
Poughkeepsie: Leave at 6p, for the 7:24p train

Saturday
Rhinebeck, Rhinecliff, Red Hook, Tivoli shopping: Leave at 10a, return at 2p
Hudson Valley Mall: Leave at 5:45p

Sunday
Rhinecliff: Meet 6:15p, 7:08p, & 10:30p trains
Poughkeepsie: Meet 7:15p train

MEET THE SHUTTLE BEHIND KLINE