Australian-born writer Peter Carey, author of award-winning works such as The Fat Man in History and The Tax Inspector, will give a reading here at Bard on this Friday, April 6th, at 3:30 pm in Manor. We had the opportunity to interview Mr. Carey by phone earlier this week.

Observer: How long have you been writing?

Carey: Of course there are several stages, and some I’m a little unclear of myself. I had a story published about 1968, I had a section of a novel published in a collection around that same time, but my first collection of short stories were not published until 1973, which is about ten years after I began writing. And I think if you talk to a lot of writers, most of us take about ten years before we become published; I think that’s one of the great tests of anyone who is setting out on a sort of life of writing, is to be able to survive emotionally, and of course financially, over those ten years.

Observer: What made that appeal to you, to try to last out those ten years to succeed as a writer?

Carey: Well, it’s not much of an appealing thought, that one should have to go ten years, and of course I didn’t think that I was going to have to wait that long. Between 1964 and 1970 I wrote 4 or even 5 novels, depending on how you want to count, and with each one of those novels I thought I was successful, going to be published, totally original and so on, so what kept me going was that I went from novel to novel, and each time as I realized that maybe that particular novel would not or should not get published, I was already working on another novel, which was much better, and so I didn’t want the previous one published, and so forth. So I never got too depressed, it didn’t feel like it was taking ten years.

Observer: Do you ever wish people could go back and read your unpublished work, which was never appreciated, or would you just as soon keep it under wraps?

Carey: For a long time I had those manuscripts in my desk, and every now and then I’d take them out with the hope they’d some-

how gotten better, which of course they didn’t. I was actually very lucky, in that I wasn’t published before I was ready to be published, which does happen to people. A couple of those earlier books were nearly published, two or three of them. I think how lucky I was not to have been published, until the collection of my short stories, called "The Fat Man in History," emerged in 1974. Because then it was sort of like I’d come from nowhere, when of course I hadn’t come from nowhere, I’d been laboring away for years.

Observer: How do you know when a piece is finished?

Carey: I don’t know how I know... I suppose I eventually just say, “That’s it.” I mean, of course it’s more complicated... I have an editor who has a lot of input, and my wife, who is an extraordinarily good reader, has a lot of input, so that’s two people who I really listen to. And when it’s published, and then of course there’s the publicity trail where you have to go out and talk about it all over

Award winning Australian author to speak at Bard

Peter Carey

The Bard Observer
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April 14 1993

"Either I’ve been missing something or nothing’s been going on."
—Karen Elizabeth Gordon

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Peter Carey

Award winning Australian author to speak at Bard

(continued on next page)
Fantastic journey

Peter Carey's The Tax Collector

By Staff Writer

Peter Carey's The Tax Collector is a fantastic journey into the strange world of Catchprice Motors, a failing General Motors dealership located in a suburb of Sydney, Australia. The family business is presided over by Granny Catchprice, the alternately senile and cunning matriarch with a fascination for explosives. Granny keeps watch over the books and the extended Catchprice family, most of whom live in the area behind the car dealership itself. The family includes daughter Cathy and her husband, both of whom are hopeful Country musicians; Cathy's brother Mort (who gets "sexual shiversings" at the sight of attractive young men), and his two sons Benny (an unwashed punker addicted to succeeding in the family business and listening to self-help tapes) and Vishabarnu (Vish for short), who left the family business to join (you guessed it) the Hare Krishnas, but who returns to aid brother Benny in a time-befuddled attempt to save the family business.

For the Catchprice's business is not a setting of familial bliss; far from it. The Catchprice Motors have fallen on hard times and hard debts (they owe the General Motors Acceptance Corporation $567,000), and Granny fears for the worst. On top of that, the dealership is soon to become the subject of a Tax audit.

How the beautiful (and pregnant) Maria Takis, a tax inspector assigned to the Catchprice case, becomes ensnared in the family dealings as well as in the dark, hidden secrets of the Catchprice's past is the story at the heart of the novel. As the inspector catches on to how it unfolds, you draw in and ultimately amaze you all. Many of this takes place in a scathing postmodern vision of industrial Australia that will leave you gasping for air; Carey hurls us into a surreal, paranoid and anti-heroic, chemicals and polluters twist. But the real appeal of the book is not simply Carey's vivid description or his deeply original characters, it is instead the way we are gradually drawn into the initial innocent whir of events, then are plot-twisted and head-scratching through the increasing shock of secrets revealed, and ultimately thrown headlong into the apocalyptic ending.

The Tax Inspector is a funny and exciting, if dark, reading experience. And if you like stories that end with a bang, this is definitely the book for you.


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Cruising.


Sublets wanted: If you would like to sublet your apartment or house for the summer to graduate students or faculty, please write down pertinent information and send it through campus mail to the MFA office or call us at 481.

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Forsake. I have to sale my computer. It's an IBM 552/20, with a monochrome display, and I'll throw in the printer as well. Asking $500, but we can haggle. Interested? Box 1165.

The Queen v. Dyke Show. The sounds of lavender. Music by Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual artists (and those who wish were with a splash of alternative. More music than you can shake a stick at! Tryst Fridays 6-8pm on WPIC 540 AM.

Cougars, lesbians & shikshak jets. Parents paid $600...what a steal! We'll sell for $100 or best offer. Must see it to believe it, Box 290.

SREWARDST!! I lost a dark blue hooded zip-up shirt with white thermal lining. It has sentimental value...my name is written inside. Please let me know if you've found it-box 1069. Thanks a lot.

WANTED! Summer sublet - either studio apartment or 1 bedroom from June-August. For 2 responsible, trustworthy students. Write: Box 1145.

REWARD for my lost ring! It has a moonstone setting with small silver drops coming out from it like a starburst. It has extreme sentimental value to me and I miss it so much. If anyone finds it, I will pay $20. Intense Whiplash, Totally Madonna-Free Radio.

April 14, 1993

Classifieds & personals

null
Students respond to the Curriculum Proposal

The following article is a summary of the thirteen-page report compiled by the Educational Policies Commission which detailed the results of their three-day poll of the student body concerning the proposed new curriculum.

A total of 314 usable votes were received. Of these 163 were female, 141 men and 10 did not specify a gender. First-year students had the highest turn-out, comprising 30% of the total ballots as did Social Sciences division students. Only 14% (44) of those polled had actually read the commission’s report in full while 35% (174) had read the EPC’s summary printed in Observer. Seventy-three of the respondents had not read anything related to the report. Ninety-five students polled had attended the forum concerning the proposal and 65% had discussed it with the faculty. Forty-nine percent opposed shortening L&T to two weeks, while 38% favored that proposal. 148 students (47%) were in favor of adding a more analytical component whereas 37% were against that addition. One person commented, “L&T was awesome; however, if it more closely approximated real college writing it might have been more helpful.” Another countered, “L&T shouldn't be changed to fit Bard's curriculum—Bard's curriculum should take a hint from L&T workshops!”

When asked to rank their L&T experience from 1 to 7 (1 being “crammed” and 7 “awesome”), the average came to 4.51. Most comments pointed out L&T’s orienting, supportive and community building elements. Many students brought up the social aspects of L&T and wondered if the Bard faculty realized that it was not primarily academic (and then wondered if Bard faculty wanted it to be more so).

The EPC feels that the Programs were the least understood part of the proposal and admits that the responses seem a bit contradic-
tory, 155 (49%) said that they liked the general idea of programs while 107 (34%) disagreed. 159 said that they would take advantage of the program system to create their own program. While 49% believed that it would break down “rigid departmental structures,” 125 (40%) did not feel that programs would break the structure down, or did not welcome the break down. Quite a few students wondered why this change couldn't be accomplished “by teachers changing their attitudes.” One hundred and twenty five (40%) felt that cross/multi/inter disciplinary studies are not stigmatized at Bard. 112 respondents argued that those studies are stigmatized. Of that 36%, 38% thought programs would help the situation. When asked if they agreed with the statement, “Programs will make academic life better for multi-disciplinary and non-traditional majors,” 182 (58%) agreed and 87 (28%) did not approve of the proposed changes in reading week. 343 (75%) were specifically against the idea of eliminating Reading week.

Another student commented, “If I was 17 again, I would have liked the idea of College Courses, a resounding "no" was annunciated by 198 students (63%). Concerning the proposed schedule of the Courses (fall semester courses for the first and second year, spring for the third and fourth), 191 students did not approve. One wrote, “It's not the schedule that's scary; its the idea the there are things we are supposed to know.”

After ranking their freshman seminar experiences on a 1 to 7 scale, the average response for the fall semester was 3.34 compared to 4.33 for the spring semester.

If it's a drag for them, it's a drag for us.

There did not seem to be any sta-tistical tie between adjunct fac-
tulty and seminar experience. Students who had Classics professors for their freshmen seminar reported a more enriching experience. Some students assigned idea of programs was “interesting”, but that it would be “practical nightmare.” Another wrote, “Excessive and gratuitous infrastructure will not improve the quality of education at Bard.” 186 students (46%) did not agree that programs would cause undue red tape.

Students opposed to the Pro-
grams also worried about getting into graduate school; “fear of Hampshire” as one student de-scribed it.

Judging the four rubrics from best to worst by designating them through 4, average student responses were highest for Contem-
porary Issues (1.99), and lowest for Ancient Worlds (2.94).

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After ranking their freshman seminar experiences on the 1 to 7 scale, the average response for the fall semester was 3.34 compared to 4.33 for the spring semester.

One hundred and forty-two students (45%) liked the ideas of programs while 36%, 38% favored that proposal and admits that the proposed curricu-

lum would improve multi-cul-
tural education, while 68 (25%) thought it would. One hundred and forty-two people already there. Given a chance to endorse the College Courses. Citing the obvious problems with Freshman Seminar, the EPC felt that the Courses would be ex-
tremely problematic. The student body seemed to state that “breath is good” but “requirements are bad.” Some sort of core course, reworked along the lines of Freshman Seminar and the rubric, might be used as a core curriculum. They did support the Q requirement but commented that “students have made it very clear that they came to Bard for academic freedom, and do not support excessive requirements.”

The EPC further reinforced the need for a new Student Center to facilitate faculty/student interaction and “to bring clubs together under the same roof.” Off-campus access was also brought up as “access to the City and Woodstock, etc. brings alive a whole new world.” The commitment to hiring qualified minority and women faculty members was doubtless recognized by the EPC as a very high priority of the student body.

Two other student suggestions cited by the EPC included having the Senior Project due in January of the senior year, and a center for majors that would bring clubs together. Another idea was to change the Major Conference system. Instead of the fall semester of their junior year, students would con-fere in the following spring and then present their project the following Janu-
ary to leave the spring semester open. Another idea was to change the Major Conference system. Instead of the fall semester of their junior year, students would con-
ference in the following spring thereby using it as a concrete preparation for their Project. “Perhaps even a written project proposal could come out of the major conference, instead of a paper on an unrelated topic.”

Finally, the EPC did not sup-
pport the elimination of Reading Week. Their counter-proposal was to make it a four-day weekend and still incorporate the idea of a finals week, or a penultimate week. For more information and statistics about the survey, interested parties should contact the EPC chair Renée Cramer.
Preserving the rainforest

Since Earth Week is coming up soon (April 19th-23rd), it seems like a good time to recognize our interconnections with the other living things on the planet, even those living great distances away from yourself. There are many wonderful opportunities to make positive changes in the world around you. For instance: The rainforests of this world are disappearing at an alarming rate. With them disappearing are numerous unique species of plants and animals (some perhaps yet unknown to humans), and the ways of life of many indigenous peoples. Many United States cattle and oil companies exploit the cheap rainforest land in the debt-ridden countries of Central and South America, destroying those lands in the process. Once the land is cleared for range lands or oil fields, the land's potential fertility is lost rather quickly, topsoil eroding away due to rainwater. Topsoil is lost rather quickly, and the rainforest lands are cleared for access roads pipelines, crude oil and dangerous levels of heavy metals, are discharged. Contributions will help to protect the land rights of above-mentioned nations, including legalizing clear demarcation of their territory, and shared rights to the resources mined from the area. Hopefully, with further efforts, the destructive practices of the oil companies in these areas can be stopped. Members of A.W.E. will be there to accept any contributions in Kline during Earth Week. Please support your fellow humans and fellow organisms sharing the planet and have fun celebrating the Earth!!

The Rainforest Action Network is an organization based in San Francisco, California that addresses the myriad movements and forces threatening the existence of the rainforests. One of their major programs includes mass preservation of rainforest lands in order to preserve them from encroaching destruction. A.W.E. (Air, Water, Earth—Bard's environmental club) is sponsoring a Rainforest protection drive during Earth Week, raising money to contribute to the Rainforest Action Network's protection and preservation of rainforest land in the Pastaza province in Ecuador's Oriente. These lands and the indigenous peoples living there (including the Quichua, Achauc and Shawar nations), are threatened with mass destruction by the practices of American and British oil companies. Rainforest lands are cleared for access roads pipelines, crude oil and dangerous levels of heavy metals, are discharged. Contributions will help to protect the land rights of above-mentioned nations, including legalizing clear demarcation of their territory, and shared rights to the resources mined from the area. Hopefully, with further efforts, the destructive practices of the oil companies in these areas can be stopped. Members of A.W.E. will be there to accept any contributions in Kline during Earth Week. Please support your fellow humans and fellow organisms sharing the planet and have fun celebrating the Earth!!

Aries (Mar 21-Apr 19) You are terribly strong-willed and a little admission of fault on your part would assuage your friends' dismay.
Taurus (Apr 20-May 20) Now that you and Madame have gorged yourselves on hot fudge sundaes and mail order catalogues, perhaps we ought to look into these 5 or 6 chapters (from the classes you haven't attended) and read them.
Gemini (May 21-June 21) Things aren't half as bad as they seem when they seem twice as bad as they are.
Cancer (June 22-July 21) Little did you know that life will be more and more relaxing this month.
Leo (July 22-Aug 21) Boring meetings and cryptic newsletters can only be compensated for by having LOTS of money.
Virgo (Aug 22-Sept 22) Goodness gracious great balls of fire! You must give up your quest for it.
Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22) Your ability to shun unartistic people by constantly wearing black on a spring day is annoying to people who aren't depressed.
Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21) There ain't no reason why you should hide your pride! Sock it to 'em.
Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21) You ought to do your laundry because there is a very unattractive mud stain on those pants you're wearing.
Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19) You should be feeling better by now. That should really put some ZING into your all-too-healthy sex life.
Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18) This is the time of your life. You should tell that pus-infested nerd you call "slave" to get on its knees and beg.
Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20) Money is seldom a motivator for you. Nevertheless, you'll make exceptions for large sums of it.
Dead Goat Notes

This column is completely serious. Any attempts to find humor in it could result in serious injury. The Observer accepts no responsibility on behalf of the writer or the reader.

This week, I have written a Spring Ode that reflects my deepest feelings.

Spring Break means...

...Every professor making a long list of assignments for you as if you had no other classes, no other hopes, no other dreams, no other ambitions other than writing a ten page paper on Paradise Lost.

...Making yourself a long schedule of your free time calculated to the exact second so you can finish your assignments and then blowing them all off to watch reruns of "The People's Court" because you're at home with a television for the first time in months, and Doug Llewelyn's voice is strangely hypnotic.

...Trying to do your homework on the last day of vacation during commercials about tech schools and personal injury lawyers.

...Sending away for the free brochure about heating and appliance repair so you'll have something to fall back on in case that literature thing doesn't work out.

...Watching the "Greatest Story Ever Told" which becomes significantly less great every year, and realizing that at least Jesus had a tougher Easter Weekend than you did.

...Worrying if David Koresh will die on Good Friday and if his body will be missing from the morgue on Sunday.

...Wondering why your bite the neck off of your chocolate rabbit when you think of your Great Aunt Edna.

...Trying to figure out how your grandfather can memorize the entire haggadah, all the words to "Haggadah" and hide the afikomen when he always forgets to take his heart medication. (That one was for my Jewish readers).

...Meeting your cousin Eric who calls Rush Limbaugh that "damned socialist" and listening to his latest complaint. This year it was Al Gore's idea about making a national computer network that would do everything that Internet, a privately owned free enterprise computer system, does. "Why socialize it? You know why? I'll tell you why. It's because the government wants to read our mail and have to interfere with everything. They already have the Post Office, so our mail isn't safe. Then they came up with the FCC so no private radio broadcasts can be made, they tax and can tap your phone calls without your knowledge, and now they want our computers.

...Worrying about your cousin Eric's theories because you sent your girl/boyfriend a pretty private letter and made some obscene phone calls, and now Al Gore could be reading them to Tipper to show the evil influence of rock music on America's youth.

...Meeting your cousin Daisy who is described as "sensitive" by her mother, "arty" by your mother, "flaky" by your father and "Communist" by cousin Eric, her brother.

...Having your uncle ask you if you know anything at Penn State because he knows you're in college but forgets which one.

...Trying to find a relative who doesn't ask you about college and how the football season went.

...Sitting at the card table set up for the "kiddies" because there won't be room for you at the adult table until Great Aunt Edna dies.

...And that's what Spring Break means to me.

Shameless Filler!

Okay, let me divert your attention here. Forget about your homework for just a second now. Grab, that was easy. You must have done this before. I'm gonna let you in on something I've been thinking about privately for a while now. A little fantasy of mine. No, don't stop reading. I promise it's not disgusting Flemish or overwhelminly preenal. Of course, I don't expect that you'll look at me the same way after having read this, but such is the price for revealing a secret desire.

Well, it's not so much a secret desire as a little pipe dream. An amusing little wish of mine. An escapist daydream I return to when my mind wanders. Fine, fine, it's a fantasy. You're lucky I'm only telling you this one. Unlike some, this fantasy is suitable for the entire family. Get off my home page.

So, this fantasy is one of what I've been harboring ever since last summer. I got an apartment among the open fields of Ruidoso New Mexico. I didn't know there were any, and spent many an hour lazily in the warm farmlands. Grazing in the grass is a gas, baby, can you dig it?

Deep breath, here it goes. I think it would be incredibly cool to live off campus during the school year. With my meager means, I'd scarcely afford to purchase a car, so instead, I'd pick up a second-hand tractor from a farm auction. Then, every morning, bright and early, I'd speed along 99 at 10 miles per hour in my bright red, kind of rusty tractor on my way to classes. Ah, I can taste it now. Freshly-picked, red-potato plucked from my pursed lips. Wind whipping through my straw hat. Always a courteous wave to the stoits in their beamers trying to maneuver around me on their way to the Kingston-Ruidoso Bridge.

A kind, pleasant smile to the Big-Blue bloods racing the opposite way towards Po-Dunk.

Finally, I'd arrive, two hours and one gasup later, at the entrance to Bard College. Deliriously avoiding the speedbumps, I'd pull into the faculty parking lot. No spots! No problem. I'd make a spot.

And then I'd stroll around campus. Wish everyone a good morning. They'd say, "Good Morning Farmer Gilman," and I'd say, "Good morning, neighbor." Or "Morning, ma'am." Or maybe just "Aynah." I always thought there was something eternally cool about the distance farmers seemed to have when they spoke. So much more natural and hip than any beatnik. And Farmer Gilman would have that counter-culture nusticy, oh yes. A rebel without a cause.

And when my mud-caked knee-boots finally found their way into a classroom, I would positively reek of barnyard attitude. Farmer Gilman did, the phenomenon of Suburbia affect the values of Aftie middle-Americans positively or negatively? Well, now, I can't say.

"Course, it could send that there middle-America one way, but then again, could send them Suburban fellers the direct other way. Ain't quite sure what I'll tell ya, young feller, nosir. Uh, you have me, Farmer Gilman. Twern't nothin. Oh, Farmer Gilman, next time you look for feedbacks outside the classroom...

by Mitch Gilman

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A page of unedited observations by guest writers
Sports

Take me out to the ballgame

Intramural softball starts swinging while basketball winds down

What's black and white and red all over? Certainly not the Observer; no, it's the Intramural Co-Recreational Softball League! The overwhelming demand for a less competitive brand of play has resulted in there being three recreational divisions, as opposed to only one division for the more competitive athletic league.

The fifteen teams who signed up for recreational play have been divided into three five-team divisions: the black, red and white divisions, named after the Bard team colors. The teams will compete against other teams in their respective divisions. This cuts down on the actual number of games each team has to play, and prevents the season from dragging on through the graduation exercises (if that's a shame to get that gown muddy). After all the regular season games have been played, the top three teams from each division will face each other in the post-season tournament, which will begin May 17th.

In the smaller athletic league, things are bit more simple. The six teams that dare to play for glory as well as fun, who play fair and play hard will all have a shot at each other, vying for a position in the standings. The top four teams will then meet in the semifinals, to be played on May 18th. The regular season began on Monday (with two rain-outs, hooyay), and Tuesday's games began too late to print in this week's issue (kinda like the New York Times' sports section). If you're on a team, get in touch with your captain now to find out when you're playing! If you still haven't found a team, you have until the end of THIS WEEK to be included legally on a roster. Better move your mitts!

Men's Intramural Basketball

Last Monday night, the men's Intramural post season heated up with semi-final action. The four remaining teams went at it for the right to travel to...Stevenson Gym once again on Thursday Night for the final game. Liquid Smoke whacked a polyph and sent down Flight III by the score of 87-74. Da Real Deal, who finished the regular season undefeated, continued their winning ways at the expense of Righteously Raw, Rare and Red. The final score was 51-36. And so, the two top teams during the regular season will go head to head for the Championship this Thursday Night at 7:00pm. All fans are welcome to come out and witness the carnage.

Bard Cricket!

The Bard Cricket Team traveled to Haverford College this past Sunday to face the mighty Haverford team, a team that has been playing since the turn of the century and averages over 100 runs per game. The Bard Defense took it to them, however, and allowed them only 55 runs before they were all-in. This was the lowest run total Haverford has had in a long while! Unfortunately, the Bard team couldn't capitalize on this opportunity. Playing tough, they scored 47 runs before they were all-out, not quite enough to emerge victorious. Among the Bard Stars were Shehreyar Hameed, who batted the most runs for Bard (14) and Peter Kneale, who was the defensive star with 5 wickets. For next weekend, Cricket Co-Captain Damath DeTissera is trying to organize a game against Yale to be played somewhere in the area (although not on Bard Campus). Look for an informative article on the ins and outs of Cricket Playing soon on these sports pages!

Announcements

This weekend sees the triumphant return of the great Bard Biscleeon! It's too late to sign up for competition, but far from too late to come cheer on your pals as they swim and run their little hearts out. The action begins Saturday at noon.

Also this weekend, the Schick Super Hoops tourney rolls into Bard. Get a three-person team together and sign up to...well, play basketball. Great prizes abound for the victors, and who couldn't use another disposable razor, hmm? Seriously, it's great fun, and you might learn something. Contact Kris Hall (ext. 330, remember?) to sign up.

And finally, for anyone at all interested in joining the Bard Ultimate Frisbee Club Team, they are now beginning to form a practice schedule for the upcoming weeks. There are several local tournaments the team is hoping to participate in, so get in touch with captain Fred Freure for all the info you'll need.

1993 Softball League Teams and Coaches

Athletic League

The Black Sox (Ray Vilarino, Adesola Speller) The Heavy Drinking Splinters (Aaron Flack, Gideon Low)
Dirty Dogs (Steve Raak) Ha Ya Dooin! (Simeen Sattar, Suleman Sobani)
Sterile Technique (Rebecca Smith)
Gym Rats (Joel Rush, Kris Hall)

Rec League, Red Division

Slut Trash (Max Hoeber, David Aschner) Coalition for Apathy (Chuck Beckius, Bucky Purdon)
Theem (Sally Mehrtens, Renee Cramer) House (Dierdre Mahoney, Anna Tamara)
St. Tula (Gabe Wardell, Tamela Sloan)

Rec League, Black Division

Tai Ping Rebellion (Dan Fennesey, David De Mallie) Steamin' Coove (Melanie Oester, Ina Calver)
The Big Bears (Tracy Bulkeley, India Richards) Venturi's Damage (Jen Anonia, Cara Graninger)
Simon's Sluggers (Elena Erber, Ginger Shore)

Rec League, White Division

Ether Bunnies (Jonathan Northrop, Ben Hosen) Yeah, But We'd Cream Your Buns in Chess (Greg Giaccio, Matt Gilman)
Travesty (Maya Gottfried, Lisa Anomaiprasert)
Tewksbury Jelly (Patrick Baker, Chris Wermuth) C. A. Express (Colin Thatcher, Steve Sommers)

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Fruitloops
by Matthew Apple's evil twin, Skippy

I had a ton of work to do over Spring Break—which is why I stayed here and did none of it. Instead, I wandered around the lovely confines of the Bard Minimum Security Correctional Facility and watched the other inmates practicing in the courtyard for the upcoming Intramural Basketball season. I casually strolled down to the swampy playing field, making sure to steer clear of the infamous Chapel Bell. For, as you all well know, Bard students should beware the handshake of Bard, who resides in the bell tower, ringing the bell at random during the night or whenever a careless Bardian strays too low (a complete documented and annotated history of this Bard legend appeared in the last Times of the Observer this past academic year). That is, unless...

I pressed the Chapel Bell, and the bell began tearing. At first, I took no notice. Then I made the mistake of glancing at my watch. Mickey Mouse hand was on the twenty-five, and his big hand was on the five. You would only mean one thing it was five o'clock. I located the bell rings. One two, two three. No, three. I stopped in mid-thought. The bell actually rings as many times as the hour. Well, unbelievable! I played another note to train again and to make sure. Yes, it was true. Six times the bell rings. Six times was the number of the beast.

What did this mean? What did this portend for the world of Bard and beyond? Would it rain tornadoes or volcanic hazards? Would I lose sleep with anosmia? Would students be able to afford Bard tuition? Would Leon Botstein make sense? (Sorry, cheap shot, unworthy of even me.) Panic-stricken, I scoured my dorm to consult the Oracle of the Stone Box. Everything there was full of foibles and had vaguely revealed nothing of value to me. I cursed the oracles and the sign I was born under. That also did no good.

Stark, ever-read, I blindly ran through back alleyways, howling and clutching my head in my feverish nightmare of a world turned upside-down. Someone's managing to stumble up the three flight of stairs to my room, and cola through the window. I hit the brake switch, turning the radio. Soft, bellowing sounds of popcorn, peanuts and clacking floated through the window of my room, and I felt my headache lifting, my sanity returning. Why hadn't I seen it before? The bell ringing could only signify one thing: Opening Day and a return to reality. I could finally go back to working on my term in Iowa, mowing corn and Cain without restraint.

Important: Editor's Disclaimer: What you have just read is the result of a warped, coffee and comic book-adicted mind. It bears little or no resemblance to an editorial and should be completely disregarded. Next week we will return to our regularly scheduled gifting.

A Dog's Life
by David Draper

The Bard Observer

Letters
To be or not to be
To the Sports Editor of the Bard Observer.

We are writing to inform you of the existence of WOMEN'S INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL LEAGUE. Not only were no game scores reported, but you never even mentioned the league in your sports page. Not to stir up cries of SEXISM, but could you come up with an acceptable reason why you failed to cover any of the women's basketball games? We think not.

Sincerely,
Kate McCumber-Goldring
Tatiana Ansonia

Assisted suicide
Dear Editor,

"Assisted Suicide" is not socially harmful. In some cultures, it is not discouraged and is an accepted tradition where the aged and ailing remove themselves from the world when they felt the time was right for them to die.

In this country, trying to stop Dr. Jack Kevorkian's activities is a repression of a justifiable expression. Because it comes in conflict with the belief systems of even the majority, it is even more reason to uphold the individual's right.

In our democracy, where freedom is, perhaps its highest value, there should be an outcry everywhere of protest.

Andry Wing

A grave error
Dear Editor,

I would like to bring to your attention a grave error reported in the Bard Observer by Anne Miller in regard to the Panel held on April 1, 1993. I, Santushi Kuruppu, am NOT from Indonesia. I merely lived there for a considerable period of time. I was born in Sri Lanka and I AM FROM SRI LANKA.

I realize that it may be hard to comprehend the distinction but please try to report the fact properly. If there is any doubt, please ask before printing.

My intention in bringing this to your attention is not to blow the mistake out of proportion. Merely, that I do not appreciate being considered something I am not. I was born in Sri Lanka and intend to remain Sri Lankan.

Thank you.
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Thank you.
Santushi Kuruppu
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14**

☆ **Distinguished Guest Lecturer Series** - Ronald Ehrenberg, Professor of Economics at Cornell University will give a lecture on economics. 4p, Jerome Levy Economics Institute.

☆ **German Table in Kline’s College Room 5:30p.**

☆ **Table Francaise:** Berets et baguettes required. Kline’s President Room 5:30-6:30p.

☆ **Lecture on tragic women.** Professor Helene Foley of Barnard College will speak on “Women as Moral Agents in Greek Tragedy.” Olin 104, 7p. Presented by the Division of Languages and Literature.

☆ **ALANON/ACOA.** An anonymous program for persons who grew up in an alcoholic family. Third Floor of Aspinwall, 8:30-9:30p.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 15**

☆ **Tavola Italiana:** Conversation 4:30-5:30p; Italian Table 5:30-6:30 in Kline’s President’s Room.

☆ **Russian Table in Kline’s College Room, 5p-6:30p.**

☆ **Free Film.** “The Paper Bridge,” by Ruth Beckerman, is about her family’s experience in Europe and the persecution that they suffered. Ruth Beckerman will be present to discuss her work. 7p in Olin 102. Presented by the JSO.

☆ **SMACES Meeting.** Sexual Minorities Aligned for Community Education and Support will meet each week at 7:30p in the Club Room in the Old Gym.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 16**

☆ **SEAR meeting.** Students for Education Against Racism meets in the Moonroom of Olin, 5:30p. Please come and bring your ideas and support.

☆ **Student Center Movies!** Watch your favorite celluloid heroes in “Toto les Heros.” Old Gym, 7p for non-smokers and 9p for smokers.

☆ **Ethics in Medicine** will be discussed over dessert and coffee. In the President’s House, 8p. Sign up beforehand at the Dean of Students’ Office.

☆ **Dance Theatre I 1993.** Watch your fellow students get creative with their feet in the Theater, 8p. Show runs nightly through Monday, April 19th.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 17**

☆ **Shuttle to New York** - See the glory that is Grand Central Station. Van leaves from behind Kline at 10a. Returns at 7p. Limit nine people. Sign up in Dean of Students’ Office.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 18**

☆ **Learn Chapel tunes.** Spiritual fulfillment through song. Bard Chapel at 6-7p.

☆ **Non-denominational service.** Join in worship with your fellow theists. Bard Chapel at 7:30p.

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**Monday, April 19**

☆ **YOM HASHOAH, the Holocaust Remembrance Day Vigil.** To recall the victims of the Holocaust, to restore a sense of the individual humanity to each of that vast number, a list of their names will be read. All day in front of Kline to participate, contact Ian Brandt at ext. 306 or by Campus Mail.

☆ **Student Center Movies!** See “Raise the Red Lantern,” an excellent movie from China. Old Gym, 7p for non-smokers and 9p for smokers.

**Tuesday, April 20**

☆ **Vintage Clothing Sale.** Susan Gladding will sell previously worn wares. All day outside Kline.

☆ **Christian Fellowship Meeting.** Bible study, prayer and spiritual nourishment. In the Bard Chapel, 7:30p.

☆ **Lecture on the Holocaust.** James Young, author of Writing and Rewriting the Holocaust, will give a lecture on “The Landscape of Memory: Holocaust Memorials in History.” In Olin 102, 7p.

**Wednesday, April 21**

☆ **German Table in Kline’s College Room 5:30p.**

☆ **Table Francaise:** Berets et baguettes required. Kline’s President Room 5:30-6:30p.

☆ **ALANON/ACOA.** An anonymous program for persons who grew up in an alcoholic family. Third Floor of Aspinwall, 8:30-9:30p.

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**Optional Events**

**SHUTTLE VAN SCHEDULE**

**Friday:**
- Rhinecliff: Leave at 7:05p. for the 7:41p. train
- Poughkeepsie: Leave at 6p. for the 7:18p. train

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

**Sunday:**
- Rhinecliff: Meet 6:05p. 8:15p and 10:29p trains
- Poughkeepsie: Meet the 7:38 train
- Church: Leave at 9:45a. return at noon. (St. John’s)

Meet all Shuttles behind Kline Commons

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**High Visibility, Low Cost.**

If you want an event to appear in the Calendar, just drop a note to the Dean of Students Office.

It’s that simple.