

OBSERVER

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The
BARD

OBSERVER

VOLUME 101 NUMBER 17

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"Every one to his taste,
as the woman said when
she kissed her cow."
—Rabelais

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John Cale '66. (photograph by Stephen Shore)

Vintage violence

John Cale to "Come Alive" at Bard

John Cale, a legend in Rock and Roll history, as well as a seminal influence in avant-garde composition, will be performing in Olin Auditorium on Friday, March 18, at 7:30. The concert will feature acoustic performances spanning the breadth of Cale's career as a composer and musician.

**Michael
Sylvester**
Guest
Writer

Although in his early career Cale worked with such classical composers as La Mont Young and John Cage, he is best known as one of the founding members of the *Velvet Underground*. The *Velvets* have been cited as an influence by everyone from Debi Hari to Michael Stipe to Sid Vicious.

Cale, along with Lou Reed, Sterling Morrison, and Maureen Tucker released two albums as the *Velvets*: *The Velvet Underground and Nico* and *White Light/*

White Heat. Cale's influence is perhaps felt most on the tracks "Heroin," "Black Angel Death Song," and "European Sun," although his ascorbic bass and electric viola can be heard on later-released live albums and bootlegs.

Maureen Tucker, the band's drummer, said of the recording of "European Sun" that "there was no structure, we just did it...[There] was a chair being scraped across the room by Cale, at which point he stops in front of Lou, who drops a glass...It was tremendous because it is in time and the music starts right up," said Tucker. "I don't know how we timed it like that."

Cale has described the collaboration between Reed and himself as "an almost religious fervor," which fell apart after the first album. "I was trying to develop these really grand orchestral bass parts...and Lou was fighting against that...he wanted pretty songs."

The albums which Cale recorded with

the *Velvets* were produced under the tutelage of Andy Warhol, who used the band in his various screening events at "The Factory," his infamous New York City studio.

John Cale comes to Bard at the invitation of Stephen Shore, Professor of Photography. Shore began photographing at Andy Warhol's Factory in 1965, where he met Cale and the *Velvet Underground*. Shore photographed the *Velvets* during 1966 and at Warhol's factory through 1967.

After leaving the *Velvet Underground*, Cale released numerous solo albums in the Rock and Roll genre, including *Vintage Violence* and *Paris 1919*. He has produced several albums, including Iggy Pop's first album, *The Stooges*, and albums for Brian Eno, Nico, Squeeze and Patti Smith. He has also made a variety of live albums, most notably *John Cale Comes Alive*, which features a sonorous

continued on page 7

Gender and economic outcomes

Lecture at Levy Institute looks at the role wage structure

The Jerome Levy Economics Institute continued its Distinguished Guest Lecturer Series on Friday, March 4 at 8:00 p.m. when Francine D. Blau, University of Illinois Professor of Economics and Labor and Industrial Relations, gave a talk titled "Gender and Economic Outcome: The Role Wage Structure."

In addition to her position at the University of Illinois, Blau is research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and is an editor of the *Journal of Labor Economics*. She has previously held position as Vice President of the American Economic Association;

President of the Midwest Economics Association; and a member of the Executive Committee of the Industrial Relations Research Association; and has served on the National Academy of Science Panel of Pay Equity Research and Technology and Women's Employment. Blau, who received her Ph.D from Harvard University in 1975, is author of *Equal Pay in the Office*, and co-author of *The Economics of Women, Men, and Work*, with Marianne Ferber.

Blau's research indicates that the United States has the highest gender gaps in the job market primarily because women accumulated less experience and training than men. Qualifications and discrimination play a large role in the gender gap.

The determinant of wage structure is relative supply and demand. An increase in wage and

equality calls for an increase for the demand for skilled workers. But even with this increase in technology which calls for more skilled workers, a centralized pay setting places working women in lower paying sectors. Women are disproportionately at the bottom of the sector.

As compared with other countries, the United States ranks towards the bottom in the gender earnings ratio; women earn only sixty-seven percent of what men earn. However, Sweden, Australia, and Italy (which has been trying to expand its unregulated sector) all have low gender gaps. In the United States, women outearn thirty-three percent of male workers because our distribution is so spread out, whereas in Sweden, women earn only twenty-eight percent of what male workers do.

After twenty years, the gender gaps has been closing in the United States. Women with improved qualifications over ride the gender specific gap. Their increased amount of experience enables women to earn higher wages than men (as last seen in 1987). The discrimination against women has been reduced. However, this market does not benefit people without any skills.

Blau has three theories as to why

there has been an unexplained reduction in the gender pay gap. First of all, there may have been changes in unmeasured skills such as motivation, communication, etc. Secondly, discrimination against women has declined; and increase in women's commitment may have reduced discrimination. And lastly, shifts in demand for labor favored women in contrast to men.

Blau predicts that the gender gap will close at the bottom faster than at the top since women tend to be at the low ends of skills distribution whereas men are in demand at the high end. In 1987, there was a larger pay gap at the top and the middle than at the bottom. Due to the decline of industrial differences, men at the bottom are less likely to get jobs.

The United States' laws against discrimination have apparently been effective in closing the gender gap.

Blau believes that policies that narrow and bring up pay at the bottom not only hurts women, but minorities as well; the cost exceeds the benefits. The large increase in minimum wage has had adverse employment effects. One reason for this negative feature of government intervention is that people are less likely to acquire skills. Additionally, the large growth of the uncov-

ered sector does not provide any benefits.

Blau seems to remain neutral on the centralized bargaining issue. She does not assume that eliminating centralized bargaining will improve working conditions for women. But since she sees that it is deteriorating, she believes that the answer to closing the gender gap at all levels is to improve the qualifications of women and combat discrimination.

Working women's lack of qualifications leave them exposed. The labor market can be enhanced by reducing these problems. Though the gains in closing the gender gap have not been huge absolute gains, they have been steady and slightly higher in the past few years.

A final note of the discussion concerned the family leave policy. Blau suggests that it is a mechanism for reducing the labor force attachment. For example, in Germany the family leave policy lasts for three years. This extended time period is thought to encourage women to return to the home, abandoning the work force. The family leave period is not nearly that long in the United States, however Blau implies that it could be shorter than what it is, which would encourage women to remain in the labor market.

WXBC vandalized

Station nearly broken into

The studio of WXBC, the student-run radio station located in the basement of Manor, was a victim of vandalism, or attempted theft, last weekend.

Around 5pm Sunday afternoon, Security discovered that someone had broken through the northern wall of the studio where a door used to be. The perpetrators apparently pried the plywood that had blocked the unused door, broke the sheet rock within the wall, and then tried to push open the door leading into the studio.

However, the other side of the wall was lined by a fifteen foot long series of shelves containing most of the station's music library. When the door was moved, those shelves were knocked over; blocking the door and spilling hundreds of compact discs and records onto the floor.

No further damage was in-

curring, and the vandals appear to have been unable to actually enter the studio. None of the studio equipment was stolen, and station officials report the only casualty was the destruction of a single Morrissey CD.

The damaged wall has been barricaded, and Buildings and Grounds is reinforcing the wall in hopes that similar vandalism will not occur in the future. WXBC has not been broadcasting since last spring, while station officials have been trying to rebuild a transmitting system. The vandalism will not slow down the station's efforts to get back on the air.

In other Security news, Director Kim Squillace reported two incidents of automobiles having their stereos stolen over the past week. On both occasions, the cars were left unlocked by their owners, and the stereos were of the variety that easily slide out of their casing. Squillace urges drivers to lock their cars whenever they are left unoccupied.

Michael Poirier
News Editor

Classifieds & personals

Do you have a toaster oven that you want to sell me? Lisa x7053.

SUMMER SUBLETS

The Graduate school of Environmental Studies is looking for student housing for this summer — mid June through mid August. If you wish to sublet or rent, please call 758-7483 or see Bette in Sottery 101.

The National Library Poetry is once again holding a contest with \$12,000 in prizes. To enter, send ONE original poem, any subject or style, to the National Library of Poetry, 11419 Cronridge Dr., P.O. Box 704-YF, Owing Mills, MD 21117. Limit of 20 lines. Include name and address on top of the page. Deadline: March 31, 1994.

What can I say about Melt in Your Mouth? We love him, we

honestly love him, we truly adore him...Actually, we'd like to see him eat a banana from between Dan's legs, and then? And then we'd like to watch him finish his Sr. Project, but that's too much to ask so we'll just beg him to talk to spiders, sing "belly jells" and watch out for that injured borg. Can you Grok?

Look ma, no hands!!!

"Let us not judge our actions, but revel in them, and learn from them without regret or remorse...as long as the feeling is desire and lust, and warmth from the body that tempts you into sweet submission." —THE New Book p.p.2-3

TONIGHT!

May 9th at 7pm

STUDENT FORUM

in the Kline Committee Rooms

Agenda: election for 3 students for Art History Search Committee, open discussion on ideas for the Student Center, discussion on whether to change length of intercession, and Student Life Committee elections.

Acting up

Author/activist Sarah Schulman to speak at Bard

On Friday, March 11 at 8:00 pm in Olin Auditorium, Sarah Schulman, author of *The Sophie Horowitz Story* (Naiad Press), *Girls, Visions, and Everything* (Seal Press), *After Delores* (Sutton/Plume), *People in Trouble* (Dutton/Plume), and most recently *Empathy* (Dutton/Plume), will be reading from her new and unpublished work. Refreshments will be served and books will be on sale. *Empathy* and *After Delores* are on BAGLE open-reserve.

Empathy is a finalist for a Lamada Literary Award and a selection of the Book-of-the-Month Club and Quality Paperback Book Club. The main character of the novel, Anna O., searches for a satisfying lesbian identity: "How can I be a woman and still be happy?" she asks. Anna, along with a street-corner post-Freudian psychiatrist, launch on a voyage of self-discovery in the everyday life of New York City's Lower East Side.

"*Empathy* is...a genuine pleasure, full of electric dialogue and capped with a delicious surprise. Nobody describes countercultural New York more convincingly—or endearingly—than Schulman," says *Entertainment Weekly*.

Schulman is the winner of the Word Project for AIDS/Gregory Kolovakos Memorial Award, has received New York Council on the Arts Fiction Fellowships, and is currently a Revson fellow at Columbia University. A denizen of New York City, Ms. Schulman has made front-page news as a prominent activist: She has been a co-founder and member of ACTUP/New York since 1987 and is a founding member of the Lesbian Avengers.

Though Schulman has not been involved with ACTUP for a couple of years, she has been active with the

Lesbian Avengers. The Avengers started out with only six people and has turned into a national movement. They are currently trying to fight the Anti-Gay ballot measures, which allowed people to vote against gays. "We are trying to help small communities fight...we want to teach lesbian basic political skills," states Schulman.

It seems that the ending of *Empathy* attempts to get rid of the myth that lesbians are man-haters. The heroine addresses her father in a speech which combats Sigmund Freud's theory that lesbians have become gay in order to rebel against their fathers.

"The reason I am a lesbian is not because of wanting to hurt you. It's not about you in any way. I really love you, Pop, and I am a lot like you and being a lesbian is about me. Okay?" says Anna O.

But Schulman is not necessarily attempting to completely wipe out the belief that lesbians are man-haters. "Sometimes I believe the anger is justified," Schulman states.

Schulman, who dropped out of the University of Chicago, then went to Hunter and proceeded to receive what she calls a "fake" BA at Empire State College, has not only struggled as a writer, but has also had to struggle specifically as a lesbian writer. As often occurs with black writer, gay writers' work becomes marginalized by trivializing or underestimating the work's connection with the author's sexuality. "It is up to the publishing agency...they can present books written by gays as not interesting or some-



Photo credit: Julia Scher

thing that straight people would not read," says Schulman.

Being a writer and an activist have come to Schulman since she was a young girl. "When I read the *Diary of Anne Frank* I realized that girls could also be writers...I have been writing since I was six." Schulman felt that she could not stop writing because it was a way of life for her. As for activism, "I was a little kid when I was first involved in activist movements because my mother was involved in the Vietnam protests."

As with all types of communities of writers, Schulman admits that there is some competition among gay and lesbian writers. "Gay writers are lumped together in one group because they are not accepted by many and so they are compared with each other. This creates an unnatural situation. But if this were removed, they would be more supportive of each

other," Schulman believes.

One of the most difficult situations that gays and lesbians deal with is the rejection of one's family towards them. Schulman acknowledges that she herself has been rejected when her family learned she was a lesbian. "Being gay is viewed as shameful...we are trying to change it individually, but that does not work. We need to work collectively." Though Schulman has dealt with this pain, she at least has an outlet for her emotions, which many gays do not have. "On the other hand, I am expressing emotions which people do not want to hear," Schulman adds.

Schulman's advice to gays who are dealing with family rejection is to "Have a will of steel." Schulman feels

that the gay community need to rely on each other. With a supportive community, you "feel like you have relatives in every town," says Schulman.

Schulman has just completed a novel in which the primary character is a gay man, which is a first for her. This work came easily to Schulman because she notes that she has a sharp ear for conversation and dialog. This novel was a big step for Schulman because it was her way of remembering all the different people who have died (from AIDS).

When it comes to the question of whether there will be any gay mainstream writers in the future years, Schulman remains skeptical. "Women who are writing while still in the closet and then who come out and reveal themselves later are achieving a small victory." Schulman said in an interview with *The Washington Post* that she wanted to be known as a "lesbian writer." "I can't

be worried what straight people think...You grow up and take your lumps." In other words, lesbian writers are facing a catch-22 situation; if they admit that they are gay, then they are accepted by a smaller audience, but if on the other hand they hide their sexuality and achieve fame, then they are gaining less because they are ashamed of who they are.

Does Schulman feel successful? Though she has not received a large stipend (the definition of success for many people), Schulman feels successful because she loves what she's doing. "You have to love it, if you love it, then it is worth doing," states Schulman. "At thirty-five I now own my first computer and my first sound system. But I would like to pay back my college loans before I collect social security," laughs Schulman.

Schulman's advice to young budding gay writers is, "Learn to live cheaply, this way you won't be highly frustrated."

As with many creative people, in the future, Schulman wants to continue in her field, but she would like to work in a different vein. "I want to write for movies." When asked what types of movies she would like to write for, Schulman jokes, "Romance stories." "Actually, I have no idea...the world hasn't quite change yet for me to write for movies," Schulman muses. "Of course this is just a fantasy right now, but not quite what you might expect."

But whether or not Schulman decides to write screenplays or continues to write novels concerning gay and social issues, the future looks promising for this lesbian novelist who refuses to deny her identity. Though Schulman stated in *The Washington Post* that "My readers are ninety percent gay. I am not her to entertain straight people." Schulman's steady activism and highly praised novel are sure to make her name heard in the mainstream.



The Bard Observer is still looking for a few good volunteers. We need a sports editor, a photo editor and writers!

Come to a meeting, Mondays at 6:30pm at in the Tewksbury basement.

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Archaeology anyone?

Six week dig to be conducted at Bard this summer

The next season of excavation at Grouse Bluff, along the Hudson, west of the Stevenson Gym, promises to greatly advance understanding of prehistoric adaptation.

**Professor
Chris
Lindner
Guest
Writer**

Previous digging by the Bard Archeology Field School carefully sampled the site to infer what kinds of artifacts are present. People used the promontory as a workshop and domestic space beginning around seven thousand years ago, as suggested by the styles of chipped stone points. They likely continued liv-

ing here intermittently until this millennium, as indicated by radiocarbon dated pottery. The site mostly contains bits of stone form making tools and pieces of rock from cooking hearths. Hammers and drills of stone also occur. We have encountered no evidence of human burials at the site and would not expect to find any. In this region, cemeteries of the age predominantly represented at Grouse Bluff would be found at a great distance from the domestic and work place.

Initially, students at Grouse Bluff will learn how to recognize a site by digging test pits, as if they were employed by a consulting firm or government agency and were contributing to the cultural resource assessment part of an environmental impact

statement. Most of the jobs in archaeology these days are found in this field. Hudsonia Ltd., the non-profit environmental research institute at Bard's Ecology Field Station, does such work under my direction. Five Bardians assisted over the past few months in a project near New York City that discovered and protected a three thousand year old site along the Hudson: Field Methods students Erica Marciniac and Chris Pryslopski, graduates Lisa Folb and Sam Miller, and CSP student Charlie Eickhorn.

* We will continue this season at Grouse Bluff with test pits in the dump area. We hope to discover pieces of pottery larger than most of the shards found so far, which tend to be badly fragmented by trampling in daily use of the site over the centuries. Later

this summer each student will work on a cooking hearth that may contain food remains. Minuscule pieces of charred nuts and seeds offer the greatest potential for significant new data because they provide clues about nutrition centuries ago and information on the surroundings which could have been very different than today's.

My goal is to increase archaeological knowledge of prehistoric people's ecological situation, and to show how much can be learned about a site by extraordinary careful field work. In this way archaeology may give people good reasons to treat countless other sites with great attentiveness, and in the process to foster respectful attitudes toward the environment as a whole.

During the field school, its partici-

pants, including myself, live near the site so as to get a better feel for its weather and non-human inhabitants. Students sleep three to a large cabin tent and cook meals communally on a camp stove.

Work takes place five days a week, seven hours a day, for six weeks, starting on June 5 (one week after commencement) and ending on July 16 (which leaves six weeks of the summer). The tuition ticket for 6 credits in Anthropology 214 is \$1300 and food costs \$200 more. No previous experience is necessary. If interested, you should write a letter addressed to Professor Chris Lindner by April 16. I am available in Hobson 303 to answer questions, at x299, every Wednesday and Friday, from one to two o'clock. Class size will be limited to twelve.

Alumni Mentor Profile

Union advocate, David Rolf '92

This article is the first in a series profiling Bard graduates who have volunteered to serve as Alumni Mentors. This program, organized by alumni and administrators, is designed to provide a service for current students to obtain information from alumni concerning internships, graduate schools or any other advice the Mentor may be able to provide.

**Michael
Poirier
News
Editor**

When he was attending Bard College, David Rolf was extremely active in politics, both on and off campus. Two years after graduation, his enthusiasm for justice in politics has become his career.

Rolf is currently the director of the political-legislative program for the Local 200D Union for public service employees in the state of Georgia. In the midst of Georgia's hectic 40 day legislative session, Rolf took time to describe his job and what he has to offer as an alumni mentor.

"These people work under very dangerous and unhealthy conditions, with little dignity, and for pay that is close to the poverty level," he said, discussing the workers he helps represent. Unions of public workers were illegal in Georgia until 1985, when Local

200D was first formed. To this day, it has been a hard-fought battle to secure workers' rights against the predominantly conservative Georgian legislature. Since state employees do not have yet have collective bargaining rights, Rolf's work has only just begun.

As a lobbyist for the union, Rolf's most recent accomplishment was the passing of a bill two weeks ago that "makes it easier rather than harder for the state union members to pay dues directly out of their paycheck." He commented that this was a "highly controversial" law that will greatly assist organization and funding of public unions. At the moment, he is working towards repealing another state law which prevents employees from engaging in meetings, and to bring their pay up above the poverty line. "That full-time workers still qualify for Medicaid is simply unacceptable," he said.

Rolf entered his job in Local 200D directly after he graduated in 1992. He had previously worked one summer as an intern for the union, and the job offer was a result of that.



Rolf leading a march of Bard students in Washington D.C., 1992 (M. Poirier)

He commented that he had turned down other, more lucrative, offers because he wanted to be involved directly in the political process.

He is offering his services as an

alumni mentor to provide other students with a chance to get information and "a foot in the door."

"I sure could use some interns from Bard this summer," he continued. "Anyone who wants to learn how to run a campaign or do legislative research here in Atlanta should get in touch with me. We don't pay much...but when the gavel falls we have to start gearing up the electoral machine to protect our democratic process." Rolf may be reached at his office number, (404) 892-8141 if anyone is interested in an internship or other advice.

To get in touch with other Alumni Mentors, please contact Teri Tomaszewicz at x406, on the third floor of Ludlow.

Baccalaureate Service

The Baccalaureate Service will be held this year on Sunday, May 22nd, 1994. The service is an interfaith gathering attended by the senior class and the faculty, which marks and celebrates the upcoming graduation of the senior class. We are looking for creative contributions to our program. This could be a marvelous setting for the presentation of some of your work. If you have composed a piece of music, written a poem, or created a dance which you feel could be incorporated into the service, we are eager to include you. Your piece need not be of a "religious" nature.

Also, we would like to include in this service prayers, blessings, and reading from all religious backgrounds represented on campus. If you would like to present anything from your religious tradition, we are also eager to include you.

Please contact Rabbi Jonathan Kligler through the campus mail or at his office in Hopson 203, if you are interested.

Being there for each other: Announcing a new service for gays, lesbians & bisexuals

by Brent Stephen Armendinger

What follows is not a description of a new club, but of an individual effort and opportunity for gays, lesbians, and bisexuals at Bard to communicate and reach out to each other, in hopes that we can begin to feel like a community here; it seems the best things we can do for each other cost little or no money at all.

Specifically, this service is aimed at providing anonymous (if you want it) peer counseling and an ear for people on this campus who are struggling with coming out or anything to do with being gay, lesbian, bisexual, or just confused. For too long, those of us who proclaim how "secure" we are in our sexuality (even when sometimes we're not) have ignored the fact that not everybody here feels so comfortable, leaving some to "deal with it" all alone, or never. Just because Bard has a reputation for being open-minded doesn't mean it's easy for everyone to be able to be this true to themselves; we've all got our pasts to deal with and a world outside (and sometimes at Bard) that isn't always so accepting of who we are and who we need to be. Although I have some of the best friends in the world here, I know when I was coming out I really could have used some help from someone who'd been through it before (though it's different for all of us). That's what this service is all about. We do not claim to be professionals, but we do claim to care. More important than any advice we give is the simple act of having someone to listen to. We will not tell you what to do or "how to be gay" because we all express our lives in different ways; we promise to listen and offer the wisdom of our own experiences.

If you would like access to this service or volunteer to help out or if you have any suggestions, please write to Box 588 (leave your box in return) in campus mail and your letters will be distributed appropriately among those of us who have already volunteered. If you wish to write exclusively to someone who identifies as gay, lesbian, or bisexual (M or F), then you may specify so. Depending on the response, this service may eventually evolve into a hotline. We hope this is useful not only for those who directly benefit from the service, but to the feeling of our community as a whole at Bard that needs more than anything to start talking (and listening) to each other. I also hope to see in the future a space where those of us who have passed this first step of coming out can continue to come together to share ideas and support.

Straight From the Stars

Aries (March 21- April 19): Beware of falling objects. A shortage of cash may occur, but you'll discover there wasn't really anything you wanted to spend money on anyway.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20): The cure to all your ills is on its way, so keep your chin up and don't be squeamish about getting a few extra hugs this week.

Gemini (May 21- June 20): Social event after social event will keep you busy, and happy too, if you can get together with the right company.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22): Another comic book run may be foiled, but never fear; SANDMAN will wait for you. If you can't wait for it, you're living in a dream world.

Leo (July 23- August 22): Dress simple and be carefree this week or else you may not enjoy yourself. If the two don't seem to be mixing well, abandon both and let others guide you.

Virgo (August 23-September 22): A large project, if it hasn't already, will consume much of your time and make you irritable, but time with friends will help you relax.

Libra (September 23-October 22): Another movie, another late-night snack, another silly topic of conversation amongst friends -- what more could anybody want? Now's the time to go after it.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21): Music will fill your ears, your heart and your soul. And, one dance could remain in your mind for a lifetime if you are willing not to fight it.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21): Another friend tells you of another infidelity. Yet, you must straighten out your own life first before trying to deal with anybody else's.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19): You will not be deprived of attention this week, but ask yourself what you're saying before you say it or else you may let the wrong thing slip.

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18): You cannot keep fretting over the past. Go out and enjoy yourself, meet someone new. Avoid dependence and tell as many history jokes as you want.

Pisces (February 19 - March 20): Holding out for what you want, won't make it happen. If you want it bad enough, you will find a way. Beware of revealing too much of your inner self.

Shameless Filler

Occasionally, when the full force of our futures hit us square in the brains--economic bleakness and poor job opportunities and the like--some friends of mine and I will imagine exactly what we'd do if we were to win the lottery. Of course, many people do this. It's not uncommon to hear lots of far-fetched plans that are prefaced with the phrase "If I had a million dollars..." These people usually dream big about their windfall. I've heard of trips around the world, large boats of planes to be purchased, entertainment systems of doom.

For some reason, my desires never seem to be quite so lofty. When I think about the possible riches available to me, with only a dollar and a dream standing in my way, the first thing that pops into my mind are the huge loans still outstanding and the sudden ability I'd have to pay them off. I'd make sure that my friends and family got a token of my love and esteem worthy of them. Also, my mother instilled in me a sense of importance concerning the charities. In fact, she recently made the decision to quit her job and pursue employment with a non-profit organization. So, I suppose I'd give a piece of my money to some charity, if only so they'd be able to afford hiring my mother.

And then I'd be able to pay for graduate programs or at least live comfortably for a period of years as I found a career for myself. Humble needs, I suppose, but millions of dollars is a lot of money. I'm a bear of very little brain, and large numbers confuse me. I'll probably wind up one of those idiots who won a multi-million dollar prize, then gets taken in by some "investment" scheme and have to make Lotto commercials to support myself.

Of course, this fantasizing is fine and good, but it's about as unrealistic as winning the lottery itself. True, many people have won lots of money and changed their lives because of it, so take that as you will. But the fact is, if you're fantasizing about winning the lottery, you're just improving on the old "untold riches" fantasy and adapting it for our times. It's nothing new.

But what about winning, not a sizeable amount, but a pretty attractive piece of change none the less? A little

while ago I was maxing in my room, watching Animaniacs, when there came a knock at the door. A friend of mine entered brandishing a large black cardboard box. It proved to be a box of semi-fine champagne. For me. I was bewildered, and then he told me that he had just won \$2500 in the instant scratch-off lottery. And in a celebratory gesture, he had bought nine or ten bottles of bubbly and was circulating them to friends, sharing them with dorm-mates and was preparing to throw an alcohol-and-movie event in the dorm lounge.

I was caught up in the celebratory spirit, of course. I was heady with the victory of the small guy and the divine hand of fate. Oh, bullshit. I was tempted by the promise of booze and Quentin Tarantino. And a good time was had by all.

It got me thinking. My brain can grasp a figure like \$2500. What would I have done if I'd gotten that ticket? Besides the obvious (lose it, drop it down a gutter somewhere, accidentally put it in the blender), I doubt I'd be as all-fired generous about it at first. I wonder if I'd tell too many people about it. I'd have some explaining to do when my new computer set-up appeared out of nowhere. And the

rest of the material things that would crop up out of thin air. And what would my friends think when I suddenly stopped hitting them up for money?

Actually, one of the things I'd love to do is become a big tipper on campus. Slipping a twenty to my senior project board on the way out. Leaving a bill on the table in the coffee shop for the person who wiped down the table. Passing a five-spot in a handshake to Mark Lytle, 'cos he's got such a good soul. It's the closest you can come to being a high-roller on this campus, you know. "Yeah, that fifty taped to the bottom of my meal card? That's for you, Arvie, God love ya. Ciao, babe. Get yerself a new visor."

But for sheer silliness it would be fun to go to the lottery claims department and ask for my winnings in scratch-off tickets. I hope they'd give me the phone number for Gamblers Anonymous if I were to do that. But they wouldn't stop me.

In which the fickle finger of fate brushes by

By Matthew Gilman

Life in our Sister City

by Brent Stephen Armendinger

Despite the odds weighed against them, and the desperate need for jobs, decent housing, affordable health care, and better schools, those who live in our sister city of Larreynaga, Nicaragua, are a hopeful and committed people, though very tired. But recent news of the Nicaraguan government's decision to shut down the 3-year-old railroad between Leon and Rio Grande, passing through Larreynaga, won't do much to further their hope; in fact, a lot of people are really worried about how they and their communities will survive such a painful blow. It is estimated that 90,000 people's lives have been negatively affected in some way by the loss of this train that carried an average of 300 passengers a day. In what seems a symbolic gesture of the government's blatant disregard of the condition of its poor, even the tracks were torn up and sold to make money on the steel market.

The voices of people affected by this event paint a tragic picture. Norwin Estrada, who was the director of the train, tells us, "Of course the low costs benefited the poorest people, who used the train to transport their pigs, chickens, wood, grain, but the government said: enough already of subsidies, they should have economic self-sufficiency." Besides the above-mentioned items, the train also carried milk, cotton, watermelon, corn, yucca, cattle, cheese, clothing, and other goods. The cost of transportation (mostly by bus) will rise about 10 times for those trying to make a living at the market, and even more for those who need the supplies. Angela Ruiz Hernandez fears that the communities along the railroad "could disappear, since I don't think in our days we're left with much time to walk 10 kilometers—in our case at Malpasillo—in order to buy the most elementary things for food." There is only one bus connecting our sister city to other towns, and people have to walk to the faraway road and line up for hours in order to compete for seats before it leaves at 5:30 a.m. It only makes one return in the evening; this severely cuts Larreynaga off from the rest of the world, as well as devastating smaller communities who survived only by the business the railroad generated.

All of this illustrates the great betrayal the people of Nicaragua feel. Forced into a system of privatization, they have been left to fend for themselves in an economy that refuses to give them even a fighting chance; it seems as if they've been set up only to lose. Who is this government and why did they tear up their railroad? This is the government that rose to power with the help of our country's illegal war against the people's own choice of the kind of Nicaragua they wanted. No one knows for sure why such a cruel blow is now being dealt with the end of the railroad, but it probably has something to do with Nicaragua's great debt, and the restrictive measures the International Monetary Fund forces countries to take to make debt payments, while only making themselves poorer.

All of this is overwhelming, but the last thing the people in our sister city need is to give up hope; it is also up to us to continue working in peaceful solidarity with them, so that we can offer much-needed aid (on their own terms), understanding, and hope. Please become involved in Bard's sister city project. The next meeting, on Thursday at 5pm in a Kline room, will be spent talking about the upcoming Northeast Region Sister Cities conference in Harlemville, NY. If you are interested, please come to this meeting and learn more about what you can do and what we have planned for the semester.

If you would like to attend the:

1994 Northeast Region U.S.- Nicaragua Sister Cities and Solidarity Groups Conference

*Saturday, April 30 in Harlemville, NY

*connecting our work in Nicaragua with our
commitment to social justice
issues here in the U.S.

Go to the Dean of Student's Office in Ludlow
to sign up for a place in the van.

*Come to Bard's next Sister Cities meeting on
Thursday at 6:30pm in Kline Committee Room to
learn more and GET ACTIVE!

International Review

by Shawn Milburn

On February 17th, the International Relations Club ventured to Boston, Massachusetts for the 40th annual Harvard National Model United Nations (HNMUN). After three and a half hours of driving (on the first warm day in weeks), and about an hour of being lost in the greater Boston area, we finally arrived at the Sheraton where the conference was being held. Registration was done quickly, as we were scrambling to organize ourselves for the first major event of the weekend—Opening Ceremonies in the Grand Ballroom at 6:00 pm.

What an extraordinary number of students! From SUNY New Paltz (representing the Czech Republic) to the University of California-Berkeley (representing Rwanda), from the University of British Columbia (representing South Korea) to Bard College (who with vigor and determination represented the Republic of Turkmenistan). Approximately 2000 students filled the great hall which surrounded our group of six, all of whom seemed eager to proceed. I must say that to see so many students interested in diplomacy, and in the essence of what can ideologically create a harmonious global community, filled me with a sense of both content and eagerness for my own future in international relations.

Following the opening ceremonies, we all broke off into our respective committees. There were seven Specialized Agencies, seven Economic and Social Council Committees, and six General Assembly committees. Turkmenistan would have delegates in each of the six General assembly committees which were named: Political and Security, Special Political, Economic and Financial, Social-Humanitarian and Cultural, Legal, and finally the World Health Organization (WHO). I myself was on the WHO committee, and will use what happened in that particular arena to describe the conference's objectives in greater detail.

I went upstairs to where most of the committees were being held and searched for the one with the neatly lettered words "World Health Organization" inscribed next to the door. Once this was found, I opened said door and entered into a fairly large room which was rapidly filling with what would turn out to be approximately 150 delegates from various nations (all of whom were students representing their respective countries). Our goal for the present session (four and one half hours) and for four more similar sessions through Saturday afternoon was to formally debate, informally caucus, diligently draft, and courageously ratify resolutions dealing with two primary issues. The first was the problem of world wide tobacco consumption (of course threatening to the WHO's goal "Health for All" by the year 2000), and the second topic was the problem of essential drug and vaccine development. After quickly debating which topic to tackle first, found ourselves immersed head first into issues revolving around the drug development issue.

I do not have room to explain in detail United Nations parliamentary procedure, but I can say that I learned that once placed in this particular arena, all nations have an equal footing, and can all speak and involve themselves on an equal level. This was refreshing (while maybe not realistic), and indeed amusing as I saw nations such as Liechtenstein dictating international policy to the delegate from the United States. I myself, from the ambiguous-foreign policy-haven Turkmenistan found that I too had a say in the final outcome. It was exciting for me to know that my own conviction and my own thoughts are now permanently inscribed in a resolution which will (we were told) find its way into the hands of the real Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Many of the people that I saw, and the friends that I made will make a difference in the future of this world community. It is a great feeling to know that I was and will be a part of that future. At the end of this month of March, the International Relations Club will be attending another conference, this time in New York City. We will be representing Liechtenstein, and I know that we will make a difference.

Interested in internships?

Mr. Sidney Derman, coordinator of internships, invites students to speak with him about finding internships in their field. Arrange an appointment through the Career Development Office right away.

Sports Wrap

The past week has been a relatively busy one for Bard sports. The women's fencing team completed their season at the National Intercollegiate Athletic Association's Women's Fencing Tournament. Out of the eighteen teams competing, Bard finished in tenth place.

The squash team traveled to Yale University to compete in the NAIA Squash/Racquet Championships. Bard finished with one win and two losses, falling to Colby College (1-8) and George Washington College (4-5) while defeating the United States Air Force Academy (5-4).

The men's volleyball team emerged victorious Monday night from their match against Mount Saint Vincent College in Brooklyn. Bard won in straight sets (15-8, 15-5, 15-6.) The team now faces two upcoming matches at home: Wednesday night against



The men's volleyball team confers during a time-out at a recent match.

Stevens Institute of Technology at 5pm, and a tri-match on Saturday against the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and once more against Mt. St. Vincent.

A heated re-match of last year's intramural indoor soccer

championship between Hey Fellas and the Chuck Roasters was being played at presstime Tuesday evening. Intramural basketball begins this Thursday, and participants are urged to check in the Stevenson Gymnasium for gametimes.

Student Life Committee Report

By Laurie Curry

NOTES OF THE S.L.C. COMMITTEE MEETING, MARCH 3, 1994

Gilbert Afonso has been working with Gladys Watson to organize a test period (one year) for coed housing. *This will occur at the next room draw.* Men and women can choose to be roommates in a double while the spaces in the one theme dorm last. (The dorm suggested by S.L.C. members is one of the Alumnis, because of the already existing coed bathrooms and for the kitchen facilities.) The details of how this experiment will be treated at room draw are being worked out.

Dareta Soloman will meet with Gladys Watson to discuss the days after finals week, when students must leave campus and clear out their accommodations. A proposal will be put forth which asks that in the case of students with travels problems, an exception be made.

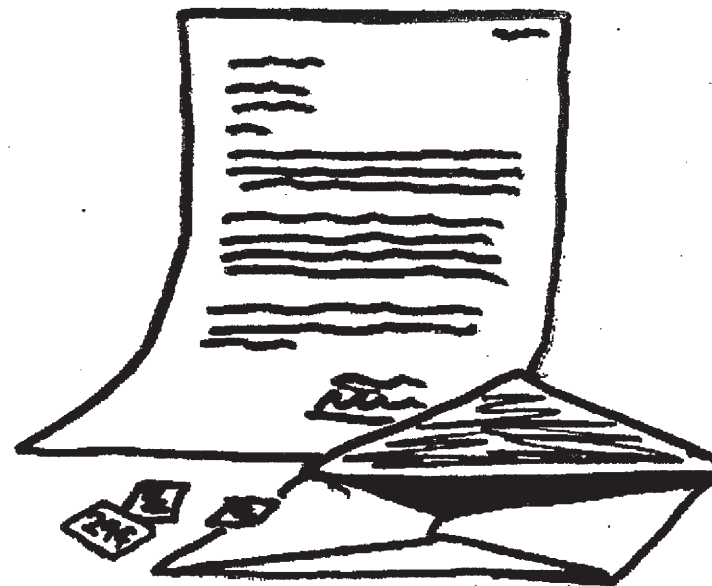
Goldie Gider has been meeting with A.W.E. rep. Tracy Feldman and Dick Griffiths about recycling. Bard may be switching to a different company for its paper recycling. A full report is in the works.

Laurie Curry is working to compile all grants that are received by deans at the Grant office and to put them all in Career Development. She is also working with Maureen Forrestal to expand the number of actual contacts that are available to Bard students who seek internships or jobs, by asking Bard parents to volunteer as contacts. Bhanu Patil, in the specific interest of graduating seniors, is working with Forrestal to bring more recruiters to campus.

Career services meeting

Next Wednesday, March 16 at 8pm in the Kline Committee Rooms, there will be a meeting for all students concerning career development and career services.

Dean of Students Shelley Morgan, Associate Dean Jefferson Huang, Director of Career Development Maureen Forrestal, Dean of Studies Ethan Bloch, and Registrar Ellen Jetto have been invited to attend.



Cale continued

continued from front page

piano version of Elvis Presley's "Heartbreak Hotel."

What is perhaps less well known is Cale's extensive work as a classical musician. Cale studied composition with Iannis Xenakis at the Eastman Conservatory, as well as playing with La Mont Young in *The Dream Syndicate*, a band whose music was based in complicated improvisational structures.

In 1987, Cale's *Four Sketches for String Quartet* was performed at the Massachusetts School of Art. *Sanctus*, his ballet with full or-

chestra, has been staged by the Randy Warshaw Company. His composition, *The Falklands Suite*, which utilizes four poems by Dylan Thomas, was performed in Holland.

In 1988, Cale and Reed joined forces once again to release *Songs of Drella*, a tribute album to Andy Warhol. *The Velvet Underground* also reunited briefly in 1993 for a European tour which resulted in a live album.

Tickets for the Cale performance will be available at the door at the price of \$15, \$12 for students with Bard ID. For advance tickets or more information, call (914) 758-7418. ♪

The Bard Observer

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Bard Observer Editorial Policy

All submissions must be turned in to either campus mail or our Tewksbury office no later than noon the Saturday before the issue for which they are intended. Space on the Another View and Letters pages works on a first come basis; if we cannot fit your submission in one week, it will be guaranteed space the next week. We do not exclude any material unless it is slanderous, or does not include the name of the author. Classifieds are free to Bardians and cost \$0.10/word per issue for all those in our local region. For more information on our policies or advertising rates please call

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CALENDAR

PRESENTED BY THE DEAN OF STUDENTS' OFFICE

MARCH 9 TO MARCH 16, 1994

★ WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9 ★

- ★ **Mesa de Español.** ¡No te la pierdas! **Kline Committee Room 6-7p.**
- ★ **Grand Union Run.** Leaves at 6p and returns at 7p. **Meet the van behind Kline.**
- ★ Forum meeting today! Kline Committee Room, 7p.
- ★ **Table Française.** The French speaking crowd meets at the Kline Presidents Room from 5:30 to 7p.

★ THURSDAY, MARCH 10 ★

- ★ **Tavola Italiana, Kline President's Room.** All Welcome! Join us for conversation at 5:30-6:00p. Benvenuti!
- ★ **BAGLE** (Bisexuals, Activists, Gay Lesbians Et al.) meeting. Come one, come all! **Albee Social 6:30p.**
- ★ **An exhibition** of works by members of Bard's faculty in the visual arts will be on view starting today and until March 30. All are invited to see what Bard's artists have been doing in their studios. **Procter Art Center.**

★ FRIDAY, MARCH 11 ★

- ★ **Beginning squash lessons.** For further information contact Kris Hall at 758-7530. **At the Stevenson Gym, 3-4p.**
- ★ **CZECH IT OUT!** Do you have an interest in Czech culture? Would you like to learn some Czech words, Czech expressions or experience Czech humor? Come to the Czech table. **Kline Presidents Room, 5-6:30p.**
- ★ **Poughkeepsie Galleria Mall Run.** Van leaves at 5p and picks you up at the mall at 9p. Meet behind Kline.
- ★ **Our Voices, Ourselves:** A Coffeehouse at Annandale House, room 110. Refreshments will be served; 8p.
- ★ Reading by **Sarah Schulman**, author of 'Empathy', 'People in trouble' and 'After Delores'. Sponsored by B.A.G.L.E. Refreshments will be served, Olin Auditorium, 8p.

★ SATURDAY, MARCH 12 ★

- ★ **Pray for good weather and enjoy your weekend! No activities today.**

★ SUNDAY, MARCH 13 ★

- ★ **The weekend wasn't so bad after all, was it? Now go do your homework, it's due tomorrow.**

★ MONDAY, MARCH 14 ★

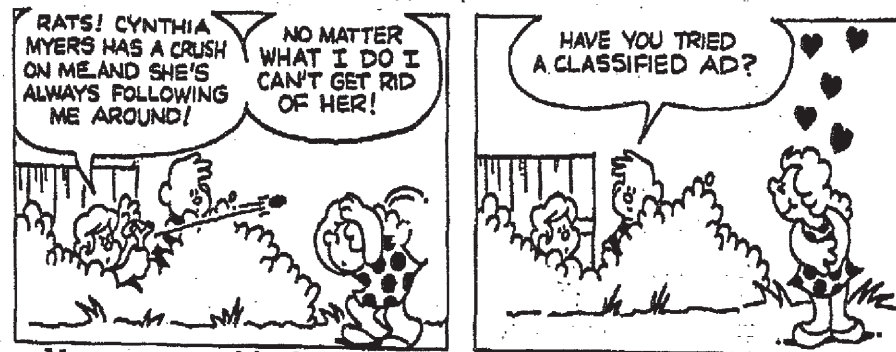
- ★ **Beginning squash lessons.** For further information contact Kris Hall at 758-7530. **At the Stevenson Gym, 3-4p.**
- ★ Barnes and Noble Bookstore begins returning unbought textbooks to the publishers.

★ TUESDAY, MARCH 15 ★

- ★ **The Spring Lecture Series of the Jerome Levy Economics Institute** presents a talk by Robert Hutchens: "Avoiding a Future of Unemployment and Low Wages: What Opportunities are Open to Young Unskilled Workers?" Levy Institute, 8p.
- ★ Charles Hagen lectures on **"European and American Photographic Modernism"** Olin Auditorium, 5p. Pre-lecture reception at 4:20p.

★ WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16 ★

- ★ **Mesa de Español.** ¡No te la pierdas! **Kline Committee Room 6-7p.**
- ★ **Grand Union Run.** Leaves at 6p and returns at 7p. **Meet the van behind Kline.**



You can get rid of just about anything with a classified ad!

HOW TO PUBLICIZE IN THE BARD OBSERVER

If you have an event to publicize in the *Bard Observer* Calendar:

1. Drop off the announcement at the Dean of Students Office in Ludlow 204 and it will be forwarded to the Observer office. Please put your name on the announcement and how you can be reached if there are any questions.
2. Call the Calendar or the Observer at 758-0772.
3. Call Ext. 454 to make a reservation for your event in a committee room at Kline Commons. The Observer will then publicize the event in the next issue of the Calendar.

★ TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE ★

WEDNESDAY: Grand Union Runs: Leave at 6p, return at 7p.
FRIDAY: Poughkeepsie Galleria Mall Runs: Leave every other Friday at 5p. Pick up at the Mall at 9p. Trips are scheduled for February 11, 25; March 11, 25; April 15, 29 and May 13.
 Rhinecliff Train Station Run: 4:20p for the 4:53p, 5:50 for the 6:21p, 7:00p for the 7:41p.
 Poughkeepsie Runs: 5:30p for the 6:19p, 7:45p for the 8:35p, 10:00p for the 10:45p.
SATURDAY: The 10a-2p shuttle from Bard to Tivoli, Red Hook, Rhinecliff and Rhinebeck.
SUNDAY: Van meets the 7:15p and 9:30p trains at the Rhinecliff Station.
 Van meets the 7:43p and 10:43p trains at the Poughkeepsie Station.
 Church Runs: at 9:15 to go to Red Hook for St. Chris Church and Tivoli for St. Paul's Church.
Other Transportation: Jitney Service: To South Campus, leaves Manor Gatehouse at 8:30 am and 9:30 pm. Return to North Campus, leaves behind Kline at 3:30 pm and 5:00 pm.
 Van trips to New York City: every three weeks: March 5, 26, April 16, May 7. Sign up in the Dean of Students Office - \$5.00.

Meet all vans or buses in the parking lot behind Kline Commons.

