

# OBSERVER

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The  
BARD

# OBSERVER

VOLUME 101 ★ NUMBER 26

BARD COLLEGE ★ ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON ★ NY 12504

MAY 11 ★ 1994

"You lived to tell the tale, did you?"  
—Prince Charles

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An editorial cartoon, concerning the state of affairs in Bosnia, distributed by Tribune Media Services

## Things continue to heat up in Bosnia

### Croatian Ambassador on the war

"Bosnia is a primarily American event," said Dr. Slobodan Lang, Croatian Ambassador-at-Large for Human Rights and Refugees, in Olin last Sunday.

Dr. Lang asserted that the United States could use its economic and military power to significantly rectify the injustices of what he termed "the third Balkan war."

The ambassador was appalled at National Security Adviser Anthony Lake's recent statement that "it is not in the American interest to help stop the war in the Balkans."

"When genocide is happening, and it is not in our interests to stop it, does morality exist at all?" Dr. Lang asked.

U.S. inaction stems from the end of the Cold War: the old rules of international diplomacy no longer apply. Dr. Lang thought that in 1991 "America would draw the world

that it wants to exist." He hoped the U.S. would have learned from history that disinterest in genocide in one place encourages genocide elsewhere. "Rwanda has been written in Bosnia," he said, speaking of the most recent violent manifestation of a decades-old ethnic conflict near the center of Africa.

"There is a fear of not [sic] losing American lives," he said, but suggested that a lot of American lives will be lost if mechanisms are not developed to identify and deter genocidal actions.

"The Balkan war is happening in you, because in the Balkans the battle is being fought over whether you have the right to values or not." Some audience members enthusiastically greeted Dr. Lang's message, while others scoffed at what they considered to be an inaccurate presentation of events.

His provocative views involved his interpretation of the conflict. He argued that Serbia insists that certain nationalities and religions are of lower values than themselves.

He also implied that Serbs were the sole perpetrators of genocide. In addition, he drew comparisons between the Balkans and the Holocaust. They are on different scales, he said, "just as an epidemic of flu is not the same as an epidemic of the plague." But Serbian aggression demands more condemnation than a war between political factions should. He said, "it remains a fact that people are being murdered because of their nationality or religion."

Dr. Lang has attended to Muslim and Christian casualties within Bosnia, and his negotiation skills facilitated the withdrawal of Serbian forces from the Croatian-held city of Dubrovnik. As a physician, he insisted "that human rights are the hygiene of the twentieth century."

"There is no way to control hate, if you do not respect human rights...But currently there is no place where you can come and say there will be war and that something should be done, and provoke effective intervention."

He went on to say that, "the place that the

continued on next page

Sean  
O'Neill  
Guest  
Writer



## Bosnia continued

*continued from front page*  
U.S. will have in history will be determined by how serious the country is in respecting human rights."

Dr. Lang proposed "that each of the United Nations should be obliged to ensure the care of refugees. And if people cannot go home in three years...I believe that they should have the right to true citizenship in any nation of the world."

Otherwise, the current interna-

tional system sends an awful message, he said. "When you have a colony, sooner or later you have to leave; when you occupy a territory, sooner or later you have to leave; but if you throw people out, and if you perform genocide, then you can keep it."

President Clinton could provide the public with information that would enable citizens to systematically analyze the situation, according to Dr. Lang. The am-

bassador advocated the mobilizing of public opinion, perhaps in favor of lifting the embargo that is keeping arms from reaching the Bosnian Muslims. The U.S. Senate has been debating that idea this week.

Students interested in further discussion of these matters can look to the groups that sponsored this talk: CSEO, IRC, the PIE program, and the BJSS—which will have a full interview in their upcoming issue.

## Forum News!

The following campus-wide elections were won by default:

Student Life Committee Chair: Gil Afonso

Student Judiciary Board Chair: Andrew Fowler

Educational Policies Committee Chair: Sean O'Neill

Secretary: Malia Du Mont

\*Voting for Planning Committee Chair, Treasurer, and Representatives to the Board of Trustees will take place outside the Post Office on Thursday, May 12 and Friday, May 13.

**Don't forget!**  
**Election Forum TONIGHT!**

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## Classifieds & personals

Need a Car? For Sale: Reliable, 5 speed car w/ low mileage. '88 Chevy Sprint used mostly for highway driving. 50 miles/gallon. Asking \$800. Call Katrina @ 752-7691.

Wanted: Performers for Amnesty International's musical picnic on Saturday, May 14. It's an outdoor coffeehouse to promote AI's campaign to END HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BASED ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION. Singers, dancers, poetry readers are all welcome. Sign up thru campus mail via Amnesty by May 9.

FORSALE (at the end of May): 1987 VW GOLF GL \$2900. 4-door, new muffler/radiator/dutch, no rust, good condition, snow tires included, 93,000 miles. Call 758-1902 evenings, or drop a note in campus mail Box 1150.

HOME OWNERSHIP *The American Dream* FREE SEMINAR sponsored by Hudson Valley Funding Inc., Co. Lowell Banker and CHRIS BARRETT. Learn How to Afford, Find, and Finance A Home in Today's Market. Fox Hollow Inn, Red Hook, N.Y. Tonight @ 7pm. Reservations Required (914) 876-6800 or 1-800-562-6483 Ask for Anne Rhodes.

Baby Sitter needed: Wednesdays 2:30-6:30pm, and Thursdays 8:30-11:30am, and other hours if available. 2 small children. Call Beth at 758-2605.

Responsible, quiet, non-smoker looking for a room or small apartment near campus for the summer. House-sharing also a possibility. Please call Pam at 752-7061.

I can help you get your papers in on time. Fast typing and editing by pro with B.A. in English. Please call Jane, 758-5102.

MFA student looking for a summer sublet. One or 2 rooms near Bard. Call Emily at 718-625-6696.

Wanted: One or Two responsible Bard students to sublet professor's apartment on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. June-July-August. One bedroom, high ceilings, large terrace. No smokers. Perfect share. \$800 per month. Call 212-864-9684 or Bard ext. 134.

Summer Sublets. The Graduate School of Environmental Studies is looking for student housing 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 last day for charging prescrip-

tions at the Red Hook pharmacy is MAY 11th. TODAY! Call Marsha Davis at ext.433 if you have any questions.

The Bard Music Festival needs people to work the weekends of Aug. 12-14 and 19-21 as ushers, concession sales, and ticket sales people. The Festival is also looking for housing for Festival musicians for the month of August. If you are interested in renting your home and want more details call Robin @ 758-7410.

Do you need help with typing your paper? Fast, reliable, affordable! Please contact Loredana at 752 7590.

Do you live on the West Coast and not want to drive all the way through? Or are you just interested in renting your car over the summer? If that's the case, please call Loredana at 752 7590.

2 single beds to give away (i.e., free). You must pick them up. Call ext. 231 for information.

THE GERMAN PROGRAM PRESENTS: Scenes from Bertolt Brecht's *Furcht und elend des Dritten Reiches*, Tuesday, May 17th, 7-7:30pm Olin 102 (in German.)

Gloria: Thanks for the amusing phone message, and for wishing me luck w/ the paper. It was much appreciated. — Jeana

Hey, moose! What am I, schimp?! Thank you for all your help. Love, Goose.

Hey Rabbit, you slipped through my fingers, like water not chocolate. Miss you already, your own ball-hogging feline carnivore.

## Help Wanted!

H.E.O.P. is looking for four moderated, mature, responsible and academically inspired individuals to act as counselors during their summer program.

**July 4-23**

For application stop by H.E.O.P. office in the basement of N. Hoffman.



A future for public relations?

Commentary on Dr. Slobodan Lang's talk concerning recent events in Bosnia

After Dr. Slobodan Lang's talk on Bosnia, something made me eager to shake his hand and thank him for speaking. I have never felt this way about any speaker at Bard before. Yet in his speech, Dr. Lang had managed to convey to me his hope for the

Josh Ledwell  
Guest Writer

future and his faith that my generation would realize this hope.

In a solemn, deliberate tone, Dr. Lang recalled personally witnessed war atrocities and condemned Western indifference to Serbian acts of genocide. However, he evinced none of the familiar paralytic despair I am used to feeling at the plight of Bosnia. Instead, Dr. Lang told us that the conflict in the Balkans "have called upon us to grow as human beings."

He startled me with this unashamed appeal to our better natures. Most importantly, he quietly assumed that we students do have the power to make changes. What an immense idea!

With this simple assumption, Dr. Lang offered a powerful vision to the audience. He advocated a policy that would treat nations not as faceless actors, but as collections of human beings

exactly like ourselves. Dr. Lang's concept of international relations would ground dialogue among the citizens of the world not in soulless considerations of *Realpolitik*, but in our common heritage of human rights.

This is an attractive premise for the future. No clear US policy has emerged to deal with the realities of the post Cold-War era. We now have the opportunity to define what international issues are important to us. Dr. Lang asked us, "Will genocide be an

issue" important to our generation? These and other moral issues can become the cornerstone of a foreign policy the world could rally around.

Finally, a moral foreign policy will reaffirm our faith in our own ethics. To deny the Bosnians their rights to live free from fear, in their own land, is to ultimately call our own not worth fighting for. Policy that ignores human rights abroad cannot hope to sustain them at home.

New opportunity to study abroad in India

For a two year trial period, Bard has joined the New York State College Consortium for Study Abroad in India, along with Skidmore, Lawrence, Hartwick, and Hobart and William Smith Colleges. This

Maia Totak  
Guest Writer

program, introduced by Laurie Patton, Bard's on-campus representative, involves academic study in areas including the Hindi language, Historical and Contemporary Indian Society and the Hindu religion, as well as home-stay and travel excursions.

Upon arriving in India, students will spend their first two weeks in Delhi attending lectures and adjusting to being abroad. Then it's on to the

Landour School in the mountainous Mussoorie, where they will spend four weeks studying Hindi. After this students will be ready to move on to a two-month home-stay in Jaipur, where they will use their Hindi on a daily basis for two months.

Also as an integral facet of the Semester in India, students will complete independent projects, designed by themselves, with the as-

sistance of faculty and representatives of the program.

Especially significant is the fact that, along with faculty from other member colleges, Bard faculty will have active involvement developing curriculum and supervising the overall design of the program. Moreover, because the program will be considered a "Bard" program (for the coming year at least)

students can apply their financial aid and/or scholarships to the semester abroad.

Last year, two Bard students participated, and this year, Bard's enrollment has grown to three. If you're interested, see Laurie Patton for details.

All nine EPC positions up!

by Renee Ann Cramer  
The Educational Policies Committee is a group of students that works to have student interests represented in curricular and faculty decisions. In the last two years, we collected evaluations and material for over 25 faculty that were up for rehiring, tenure, and promotional decisions. We produced a comprehensive survey regarding proposed curricular changes, and asked students if intercession should be shortened. The members of the EPC also meet with faculty and administration to discuss things like registration, student anonym-

ity, students on search committee, and others.

As an EPC member, your job would include serving as the student representative to the parallel process — basically, listening to students talk about their professors, and soliciting letters from students regarding their professors. That is the core job of the EPC — but, as you can see, there is a lot more to be done.

As EPC Chair, you would coordinate the committee's activities, and be one of the two representatives from the EPC to serve on the Committee on Vacancies, which votes on

what positions to recommend at the College. In addition, the EPC chair, or designate, has speaking privileges at faculty meetings. To be honest — it's a hard and frustrating job. However, with almost the entire committee leaving, this could be a fresh start for the EPC. Even though we accomplished a lot this year, I can think of at least eight things we would have liked to do, if only there had been time.

I would love to speak with anyone about the EPC and the positions open this semester. I know that I've been hard to corner and talk with (PROJECT.....) but these

last three weeks of May I have a lot of time. My phone number is in the blue book, and I live in North Hoffman. Otherwise, come find me in the library, in Kline, or at the softball games.

If you are organized, interested, and moderated into a division, please run for the EPC.

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Treasurer

I did not make the decision to run for the Treasurer easily, particularly because of my close familiarity with the responsibilities of the position. But I decided to run nevertheless, since I believe that this is the area of student government I can be of the greatest service to the Bard Student community.

I am glad to have had the opportunity to be a member of the Planning Committee over the last year partly because I feel my experiences in the job prepared me well for being Treasurer. Even more important, I am glad to have been a member of the Planning Committee that showed its ability for consensus-building, as the Budget Forum passes our proposed budget without opposition both semesters. Beyond achieving harmony from divergent demands, Bard Students also finally demonstrated to the Administration our ability to be fiscally responsible, as we repaid a \$15,000 debt.

As Treasurer I would like to continue and improve upon this tradition. My strong background in economics, which is my major, and mathematics, guarantee that I'd be able to handle the demands accounting imposes on the Treasurer well. Over the last several years many clubs have had problems getting reimbursed for expenses promptly, even just finding out their balance. Fully investing my energies in this undertaking, and making use of the outstanding software packages, such as Quicken, available on the market today, I promise to speed this process and hold turnaround to less than a week.

If elected Treasurer, I would also explore the possibility of developing the Student Association's financial resources, which has not been attempted by Planning Committees or Treasurers in the recent past. When a few

hundred extra dollars can allow the Planning Committee to fund a number of smaller clubs, the potential benefit from developing the resources available to us is clearly great.

A Treasurer can play a useful and active role in facilitating the problem-free functioning of clubs, and in improving our academic and social environment. As an interested and dedicated person, I am committed to achieving this goal.

Gabor Bogнар

My name is Luis Alcazar-Roman and I am a second semester sophomore Biology major. By running for the Student Treasurer position I wish to return the many services the Bard community has provided me by helping in the administration of the Student Government. As a science major, I am familiar with dealing with numbers and complicated mathematical data, which will be of help in the accounting aspect of the position.

Having been involved in few club activities, I understand the great importance of clubs and their heads of a prompt response to requests and the careful accounting of clubs expenditures that this requires. I am aware of the responsibilities and duties of the Student Treasurer and I am ready to provide the time, commitment and responsibility this position demands. I am confident that I will be able to perform the duties of this position with the expected efficiency.

Luis Alcazar-Roman

I am running for Treasurer because I feel that quick and easy reimbursement for club activities are of utmost importance, and I wish to facilitate communication between club heads and the Treasurer. I feel organization is the key, and I am very organized when it comes to money.

Debbie Sheppardson

Student Representative to Board of Trustees

The reason that the student body has representatives to the Board of Trustees is to communicate the needs and opinions of the students to the Board. The board is composed of a mixture of alumni and business people who are primarily concerned with the management and financing of the college. While money management is a crucial function of any business (even a college), it is essential that the Board of Trustees recognize and address the concerns of the students, and the consequences of their actions.

I believe that the student representatives need to have an understanding of Bard and the different needs and functions of the students in relations to the faculty, administration and staff of the college. The students need two representatives who can articulate and discuss the complexities of the population of Bard in relation to the financial focus of the Trustees. Sasha Gorman has attempted to bridge the gap between the student body and the Board of Trustees by communicating the events and opinions of the campus which cannot be conveyed by a financial report.

As a student representative to the Board of Trustees I would hope that I could effectively describe the concerns of the students at Bard, and build upon the work of students before me to allow the Board to gain a greater understand-

ing of the undergraduate experience. In the variety of positions and posts I have held in my time at Bard I feel that I have gained the experience and ability to fulfill the role.

Sincerely,  
Dara Silverman

The position of Student Representative to the Board of Trustees has often been seen as a largely ceremonial one, the purpose of which was unclear beyond guaranteeing its holder fine dining, not to speak of "good company," a few times a year.

To the extent that this was confirmed by reality, I strongly believe Bard Students have missed a unique opportunity to make their opinions on important academic, social, and other issues affecting our lives at Bard heard by the people who are ultimately responsible for making critical decisions on curriculum, development of facilities, personnel, and other matters. The function of Student Representative can be important in presiding a good image of Bard to the Trustees who directly or indirectly play a large part in financing the College. It is even more important, however, to inform them of the priorities of the Bard Student community.

Do the Trustees currently have an understanding of the consensus of Bard Students on

Planning Comm. Chair

I am declaring myself a candidate for the position of Planning Committee Chair for the 1994-95 academic year. Statement: My name is Reuben Pillsbury and I am currently a first semester Junior. I have served as a member of the Planning Committee for the past year in which two fair and balanced budgets were presented to the community. The experience gained in producing these budgets and in the process of the committee itself leads me to think that I will be a very able and qualified Chairperson. I am familiar with the various clubs; their aspirations, activities, and the students who comprise their membership.

I am a member of the Planning Committee, Student Judiciary Board, I.S.O., Int. Relations Club, and Cricket Club and have a proven track record of commitment to each. Aside from experience with the club's histories and the budget process, I will also bring a commitment to the time and effort it takes to organize and conduct the meetings, bring people together, and form a consensus. I am willing to sacrifice time and effort in fulfilling the responsibilities inherent in this position, and would welcome the opportunity to do so. I will ensure that each semester a fair budget is presented, which takes into account the needs and aspirations of every club.

Thank you  
Reuben Pillsbury

If, on some day soon, when you go to see if your mailbox is still empty, you see people standing around a table, in the pool room, inside the Old Gym, and one of them waves at you and says, "Wanna vote," I hope you will vote for me, Josh Ledwell, for chair of the Planning Committee. I am a sophomore, and a political studies major, who is interested in student government, as a matter of fact I am already on the Student Health Committee, which is a really cool committee despite the fact that we haven't had any meetings this semester. I have experience that will help me do a good job as Planning Committee chair, in that I have served as a rank-and-file member of the Planning Committee for two semesters now, attending all the meetings, studying all the budgets, working with the other

members of the committee, who by the way are all really swell guys, and I am also familiar with the duties of the chair position, involving as it does jousting with the often tightfisted administration, and hopelessly trying to keep everybody at Bard happy. Finally, I promise to keep your student activities money under much better control than I do the length of my sentences.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Josh Ledwell

My Fellow Students:

I come before you to again ask for your support in my candidacy for Planning Committee Chairperson. I have faithfully served the interests of the student body by serving in a variety of elected positions in the past three years. My service includes tenure as Secretary of the Student Association, Planning Committee member for two years, a semester on the Student Judiciary Board, and year as Chair of the Planning Committee.

In my brief stewardship as Chair of the Planning Committee, I have seen a number of things accomplished. I hasten to add that no one currently here attending Bard has as much experience as I've managed to accumulate as a member of the Planning Committee.

When I assumed the Chair, the Student Association had been shackled by a debt of over 17,000 dollars to the Administration due to faulty manipulation of student activity fees. During the year of my chair, we eliminated that debt in my first semester as well as ratified a virtually unopposed budget. I hasten to add that several clubs were formed during this time while we were paying back the debt. This past semester, the budget proposed by my committee was approved without a single revision for the first time in recent history.

Although many things have been done over the past year, I feel that much more could be done in order to improve the activities offered here at Bard. In short, I ask that you allow me to continue to serve your interests as the Chair of the Planning Committee.

Thanks For Your Support,  
Jeff Rhyne

guarantee that I would be a determined, firm, and vocal advocate for Bard Student interests as Student Representative.

Gabor Bogнар

After my long tenure as a member of the Student Life Committee (Spring-Fall '93), I feel that I am able to articulate the most pressing student needs to the Board of Trustees. The Trustees can be a channel for change and an important balance to the administration, especially in terms of financial issues. It is extremely important that the Trustees know Bard life from its students.

I would try to involve the Trustees in more campus activities, making them more approachable to Bard students. I would also ask them to play a larger role as a resource for students in terms of expanding our contacts, internship and career options.

Happy to serve  
Laurie Curry

the (un)availability of Internet, the strength (or weakness) of multicultural programs, (the lack of) career services or drug, including alcohol, and sexual violence counseling, the issue of first year and other housing, the service(?) in Kline Commons or the Bookstore? And if they do, is that understanding accurate?

As Student Representative to the Board of Trustees, I would ensure that the Trustees recognize the priorities of Bard Students, and that they act on them. Openly and vigorously pursuing student interests, and taking an activist position, Student Representatives have an opportunity not only to convince the Trustees, but to encourage greater flexibility from the Administration in reacting to student needs.

My year-long experience as a member of the Planning Committee, three-year interest and participation in discussions with faculty and Administration on a variety of controversial issues, and my good working relationship with other members of Student Government, all



Straight From the Stars

**Taurus** (April 20 - May 20): You'll be in the mood to purr. This means that things are definitely looking up for you. You may also be in the mood to scratch, but always remember that bad moods often pass quickly.

**Gemini** (May 21 - June 20): An itchy rash will go away, but not until after you've gotten lots of attention from friends. Things will remain calm, but good in all others aspects of your life.

**Cancer** (June 21 - July 22): You will find a thousand dollars buried under The Paperclip in Tewksbury field. If you can't find it, you didn't look hard enough.

**Leo** (July 23 - August 22): This time will be the last. The last heartache, the last disappointment. People will continue to be there for you, and you will find a new reason for never giving up, or letting go.

**Virgo** (August 23 - September 22): Policy is not a foe, for once, for you this week. Take advantage of the rules and you will find that they will most definitely work in your favor.

**Libra** (September 23 - October 22): This is a good week for making new friends or getting reacquainted with old ones. The familiar will bore you and soothe you at the same time.

**Scorpio** (October 23 - November 21): You will be swept up by a whirlwind and carried across the sea to some far away land where nothing is how you remembered it to be the last time you dreamt this dream.

**Sagittarius** (November 22 - December 21): A thousand words will confuse you, a thousand words will ease your mind, a thousand hugs will heal you, a single kiss will excite you, and a single tear will fall.

**Capricorn** (December 22 - January 19): You will invest a lot of energy this week taking care of your family's animals. P.S. BE VERY NICE to Llamas.

**Aquarius** (January 20 - February 18): You will think far too often about a past love, but discover that love never really ends it just shifts to different forms.

**Pisces** (February 19 - March 20): You will get the answers you're looking for, people will stop pushing you, and if not, you'll stay content anyway.

**Aries** (March 21 - April 19): You'll have lots of fun on an upcoming voyage. You may find yourself on stormy waters, but these will pass and make way for beautiful days.

Shameless Filler

One of the things that I enjoyed the most about my High School was its population—it was very dense. I mean that it was both densely populated, and the population was, for the most part, dense. I don't mean to put down an entire third of the young folks of the city of Stamford, but as far as having a clue went, we were pretty much babes in the woods. I'm not going to dwell on that aspect of the high school I attended, since I include myself in that clueless category.

Instead, I'll concentrate on the high concentration of young adults in one place, one many-floored building. As I've mentioned before, it made it easy for me to hide in the shadows as necessary, avoiding the bully run-ins and ritual beatings that, as a young wise-ass, I so richly deserved. The idea of "fitting in" really didn't appeal to me, and there was little about those who did "fit in" that I found interesting or engaging. Of course, this "fitting in" also applied the high proliferation of Misfits. Folks who fit in with one another merely because they refused to fit in with the other fit-ins, and went to extreme lengths to do so. In a sense, they fit in more with their crowd than the fit-ins did with their crowd. I learned a lot about societies like the Elks Club and the Rotary Club by watching the interactions of these folks in high school.

I preferred to live on the true fringe of high-school society. Doing and thinking what I preferred to do and think merely because it pleased me, or because I was unable to think differently without giving myself a headache. Fashion didn't matter to me. Parties and dances I shunned. Drinking, while it was a somewhat pleasurable pastime, was not something I would seek out actively. So, I joined a group of people who didn't particularly care to make me feel uncomfortable for my preferences (or lack thereof). I joined the Tech Crew.

The tech crew were possibly the most tolerant bunch of folks I've ever met, including here at Bard. A motley collection of drug-heads, weirdos, workaholics, felons, bigots, hippies, jocks and sexually disoriented youths all working on teching plays, and hanging out together for that reason primarily. We weren't shunned so much as removed from the rest of high school society because we didn't care to be included.

One year, the journalism teacher decided, for his mid-term exam, to have each of his students write an impromptu article on

some aspect of high school life which would be published in the school rag, regardless of what it was about or how well it was written. I remember this guy by the name of Will Nyvenn was taking the class, and decided to write about the tech crew. Will's younger brother, Dana, had recently landed a bit part in a play, and Will occasionally stopped by to pick him up at the end of rehearsal. We could tell that Scott didn't care for his brother associating with us, but Dana was enjoying himself. In any case, Scott took these brief visits—no longer than five minutes, any of them—and wrote his mid-term article on the tech crew.

It was published two weeks later under the headline "The Tech Crew: A Worthy Investment of Time." It began by describing the crew as they were perceived by the rest of the school. "When people usually think of the tech crew, they think of a boring job done by a bunch of outcasts and losers. That's not necessarily true. The work can be exciting and very rewarding!"

Will went on to discuss the benefits of joining the crew: "As the opening night approaches, the tech crew works from the end of school right into the early evening, sometimes as late as 9pm, and on weekends too. These dedicated workers take time out from their own leisure periods to complete the back-stage tasks they have set for themselves."

It was obvious the boy knew little about tech work, and less about how to write an article. Doubtless, the Army Recruitment Board never called him up for a position.

But the Coup de Grace came in the last paragraph. "If you don't think you want to join the tech crew because they're just outcasts, join anyway! Maybe, if you join, your friends will join as well and no one will feel alienated." Was this guy for real? We in the tech crew fussed and fumed for a while, even considered writing an angry response to the paper. Some folks, myself included, assuaged people from even bothering to respond. I didn't want to draw too much attention to the social situation I had found myself in: I like it unhip and therefore unexplored. Making waves would have either turned more people against us, or made some folks rally to the cause, which were both counter to the very nature of the crew.

A few weeks later, when the play went up, I got my revenge. I was running first follow spot in the balcony, and Will was sitting directly below me. During the second act, when I wasn't too busy, I took aim and spat right on his head.

In which we hide in plain sight

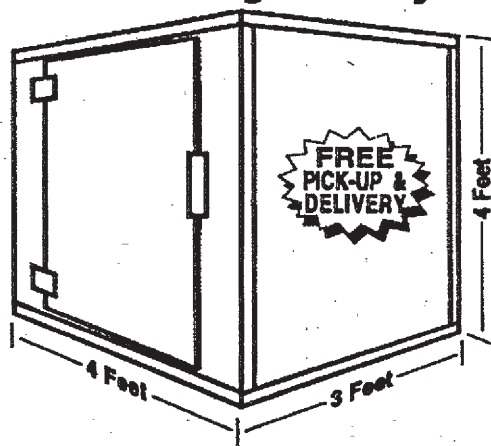
By Matthew Gilman

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## The beginning of the end

## Teams close out the grueling four-game season at Tewks

The penultimate chapter of Bard softball coverage this year has begun. The recreational playoffs began this past Monday, based on the "seeding" of the seventeen teams. Team ranks for purposes of the playoffs were based on 1) win-loss record, 2) point differential and 3) "divisional strength" or competitiveness.

Win-loss is easy enough to understand. Point differential means the total runs scored by a team minus the runs they allowed. And "divisional strength"? According to the Athletic Department, if the playoffs were based only on point differential, many teams that played each other during the "regular season" would have played each other again. By seeding the teams according to the agreement of a select panel of experts who watched most of the games, the Athletic department figures that there will be more interesting and competitive games between teams who have never seen each other.

Of course, this was merely an agreement of subjective interpretations and cannot be therefore justifiable as an "objective" value judgment of a team's true strength.

Matthew  
Apple  
Seed  
expert

And even if the NCAA uses the same method for basketball and football, they also base it on a poll of coaches and the press. But Bard doesn't do that. Now you can see the injustice inherent in the system. Softball players of Bard unite!

But I digress. I should explain the playoffs again for those of you who didn't read softball the first week. The recreational playoffs are divided into two tournaments, an "A" and a "B", or a "winners bracket" and a "loser's bracket." There were originally going to be only eight teams in the "A" tourney, but Elks wanted to be in it, so they were allowed to play. Monday and Tuesday saw the first games of the playoffs, but before that, let's see what happened last week:

## North Division

Joe's Wooden Anuse blanked Phat Back for the season's second shutout, 33-0, while Simon's Sluggers edged out Hot Beverage 10 to 9.

Final Standings: Joe's Wooden Anuse, 3-0; Simon's Sluggers, 2-1; Phat Back, 1-2; Hot Beverage, 0-3.

## South Division

Ricardo's Revenge overcame an 18 run deficit to win 23-22 over St. Tula in their last at-bat that was

reported last week at the last second by a sneaky Managing Editor so I couldn't use it as game of the week this because everybody already knows all about it and would be bored to tears (see Gabor's "economics of softball" dissertation this issue). Previously called "No Name," perhaps because they really had no name, the Biffers defeated We're Not B.A.G.L.E. by a score of 7 to 4.

Final Standings: Ricardo's Revenge, 3-0; St. Tula, 2-1; the Biffers, 1-2; We're Not B.A.G.L.E., 0-3.

## West Division

It took only eight players for the Coalition for Apathy to beat I'm With Stupid 17 to 5. Snuggly Puppies and Slut Trash were originally supposed to play their game on Wednesday, but Slut Trash failed to show, and Snuggly Puppies wanted to play rather than accept a forfeit. A game was rescheduled for Sunday, but neither team showed, so the game simply wasn't played.

Final Standings: Coalition for Apathy, 3-0; I'm With Stupid, 2-1; Snuggly Puppies and Slut Trash, 0-2.

## East Division

GA Renaissance defeated Sit

and Wait Herbivores 8 to 2, who then defeated Elks 23 to 7 (see play of the week). Spark My Fart also played two games, losing to GA Renaissance 15 to 2 and the Red-Headed Stepchildren 14-12.

Final Standings: GA Renaissance, 4-0; Sit and Wait Herbivores, 3-1; Elks, 2-2; Red-Headed Stepchildren, 1-3.

## The "A" Division

In two close games, Gym Rats survived Buttafuoco's many comeback bids to hold on to a 15-13 win, while Somewhere Over Proctor claimed Dirty Dogs used a "phantom run" to win a 12-11 game. S.O.P. is protesting the game, but, as usual, nothing will come of it. The Swirleys notched their first win in a 30-3 rout of the Champions.

## Play of the Week

In the very first half-inning of the Elks/Sit and Wait Herbivores game, there were eleven walks and seventeen runs in forty minutes. During the next two innings, Sit and Wait only scored six more runs, but still won the game.

Josh Ledwell, running backwards in an attempt to track down a deep fly ball, crashed through the instable outfield fence, landing

on his back as the ball went for a homerun. Ledwell later claimed that had he not smashed apart the fence, the ball would not have been a homerun, but most unbiased observers knew better and told him so.

Back to the playoffs. On Monday, Elks advanced to the Big Eight by narrowly defeating I'm With Stupid 13-11. The next day, the ninth-seeded Elks proceeded to defeat the first GA Renaissance by a score of 8-6. Despite Michael Poinier's first career homerun, a beautiful solo shot over the center field fence, St. Tula recovered from their shocking defeat last week to beat Coalition for Apathy by a miniscule score of 10-6. How humiliating. St. Tula advances to the "second round of action" and will play the Elks Monday at 4pm.

The other game on Tuesday saw Spark My Fart defeat Phat Back 16-7. Also in the B tournament, the Snuggly puppies enter the second round after Hot Beverage forfeited the game by not showing up. See the schedule below (to the side, whatever) for other playoff games.

That's it, I guess. All the semi-final and championship games will be seven innings long, i.e., no silly time limit for once. Winners get a T-shirt—I don't know if this applies to the "consolation B" tourney, but I suspect it may. Check with Kris Hall for the scoop.

## The Bard cricket report

Saturday, the 30th of April, the Bard cricket team was scheduled to play Dartmouth College at Dartmouth.

This match, much to the dismay of the Bard team and all of Bard's many cricket fans, was cancelled by Dartmouth

because of rain and a soggy field.

Weather permitting, the Bard team was, however, scheduled to play Princeton University at Princeton on the 7th of May (Saturday).

Also, if the team is allowed the use of the new soccer field on the 14th of May, the Bard community may be able to witness its first ever home-cricket match when

our team hosts the Columbia University team. Relevant discussions are going on even while you read this...

Last Saturday (the 7th of May) the Bard Cricket team took one of the strongest cricket teams on the east coast, the Princeton University team, at Princeton. Due to transportation difficulties faced by the Bard team, the match got underway only at 1 pm.

Batting first, the Princeton team accumulated a massive 205 runs for the loss of 6 wickets in their 30 overs. For Bard bowling, Reuben Pillsbury had the best figures of 2 wickets for 41 runs while Mahboob Hossain, Shehzad Hameed, Shehreyar Hameed and Imran Aftab each took one wicket.

In reply, Bard were at 54 for the loss of one wicket at the end of 15 overs when it began

to rain and the match had to be abandoned. Shehreyar was not out on 19 runs and Imran was not out on 14.

The Bard team for this match was (in batting order): Mahboob Hossain, Damnath De Tissera, Shehreyar Hameed (Capt.), Imran Aftab, Shehzad Hameed, Reuben Pillsbury, Arjun Bhatt, Fahad Azzizuddin, Michael Walsh, Mostafizur Rahman and Toufique Khan.

The Bard team's next match will be a "home game" against Columbia University on the 14th of May at the Rhinebeck Fairgrounds (if the team is able to reserve it). Also, the team learnt recently that it would not be able to use the new soccer field to host visiting teams this season. See, I told you relevant discussions were going on as you read this.

The  
Cricket  
Corre-  
spondent

## Playoff Schedule

## Wednesday the 11th

Ricardo's Revenge v. Sit and Wait... 6pm

## Friday the 13th (Oooo...)

Slut Trash v. Red-Headed Stepchildren 4pm  
The Biffers v. We're Not B.A.G.L.E. 5pm  
Simon's Sluggers v. Joe's Wooden Anuse 6pm?

## Monday the 16th

Elks v. St. Tula 4pm  
Winners of Weds. games 5:30pm

## Wednesday the 18th

Winner of Fri. 5pm v. Snuggly 4pm  
Winner of Fri. 4pm v. Spark 6pm



## Gabor mouths off

To the Editor:

As a playing member of Ricardo's Revenge, the economist softball team that "decimated" — as you put it in your May 5 issue — the film team, St. Tula this past Tuesday, and as a dedicated and proud economist myself, I feel it to be my obligation to clarify a number of misstatements, semi-truths and outright inaccuracies published in *The Observer* on the game in question. (I feel this to be necessary, even though the above mentioned article was generally favorable to my team, Ricardo's Revenge.)

Being an economist I find it inconceivable to start at the beginning. Still, it is my sincere hope that my analysis and policy prescriptions that follow, will be understood to have the coherent internal logic that members of my profession would attribute to it.

Economy tells us, that rational actors' expectations of the future are not entirely based on projections of the past, and that indeed any historic precedent is virtually impossible to be repeated, given the momentarily changing nature of present conditions.<sup>(1)</sup> As I will soon explore in detail, that is why the promise, before the game, of "a horrific blow-out" talked about by your otherwise admirably talented and accomplished writer Mike P., and its affirmation as "St. Tula moved on to a commanding lead of 22 to 4," were ill founded and bound to be proved incorrect from the start.

It is true, as I believe it is common knowledge, that an overwhelming majority of players on our team, Ricardo's Revenge, had not ever seen a baseball bat or a single game until a few weeks ago, and that they are not fully aware of the obscure rules of the game of softball to this day. It is also true that even the team's American members — with the notable exception of Prof. Mac McCarthy — spend an overwhelming balance of their waking days grappling to understand economic theories they will never have an opportunity to apply in their lives. Economic theory informs us, however, that all forms of human productive activity involve a period when initially rapid, and then decreasing marginal gains in productivity are achievable, as the practitioners of the activity acquire some experience and become familiar with their tasks.<sup>(2)</sup> With every strike and dropped ball early in the game, my enthusiastic teammates on Ricardo's Revenge were able to make vast improvements over their earlier efforts, therefore progressively decreasing the competitive advantage held by St. Tula in greater technical ability.

This convergence of skill levels as the game progressed does not provide a full understanding of the causes of Ricardo's Revenge's victory: While St. Tula's competitive advantage might have been eroding, the higher returns to starting from a lower skill-level experienced by Ricardo's Revenge would not, by themselves be sufficient for the economists' victory. The key to victory is to be found in another competitive strategy adopted by the economists, which I will explain in turn. The eventual victory of Ricardo's Revenge was based in the principle of dynamic comparative advantage, which is historically exemplified by among other cases the Japanese government's decision to create a strong local steel industry following World War II.<sup>(3)</sup> While major competitors, older firms, already possess a large stock of capital invested in a particular mode of producing some good, and this capital stock might represent outdated equipment or methods, late entrants into the market have an opportunity to build upon this experience, and invest in the latest available technologies, resulting in lower production costs and greater productivity. St. Tula, dependent on their single-hitting prowess and fielding accuracy perfectly exemplify the behavior of an older firm, suffering from a profound inability to upgrade their outdated human and other capital. Ricardo's Revenge, however, played the role of the entrant, employing new technologies and new organizational structures. The cunning economists introduced the art of walking, not afraid of taking advantage of less than flawless pitching. Ricardo's Revenge is also among the first to have signed former cricket players, whose characteristic batting technique deservedly fools even the best prepared opposition. Lastly, my underappreciated team relied on repeated home runs from hitters strategically inserted into the lineup to maximize their chances of going to plate with fully loaded bases. The adoption of new and improved productive technologies by Ricardo's Revenge not only meant that St. Tula suddenly found their time-tested skills to be ineffective. An astonished film team was also made to realize that their lack of familiarity with the new and superior strategies employed by the economists abruptly placed them at a comparative disadvantage.

Having explained that the victory of Ricardo's Revenge was rooted in the established nature of competitive existence, it is our hope and belief that the author of the May 5 article would not continue to stand by his argument that such an outcome was "the result of divine intervention, or perhaps luckless hubris [on St. Tula's part]." Indeed, the victory of Ricardo's Revenge was unavoidable under the circumstances, and any contrary opinion may only be attributable to an ominous case of under-information. It is unsurprising that not having fully accounted for the range of competitive strategies available to each team, Mike P. would be astonished to find the mystical St. Tula fallen. (If I can add on the side, those green and black caps might have disturbed the film-reel halo crowning the Tulas' glorious heads.)

Idealists can go on dreaming their dreams of past glory, but as David Ricardo, the late eighteenth century economist who developed the theory of comparative advantage would certainly advise anyone, the free markets will always work their magic. The free market brought Ricardo's Revenge out on top against St. Tula, and as long as the economist-team remains the only one advised by economic theory on their approach to the wonderful game of softball, the pages of history will continue to be rewritten.

Sincerely,

Gabor Bogнар

1. For an exposition on the difference between adaptive expectations and rational expectations see: Mayor, Thomas; James S. Duesenberry and Robert Z. Aliber. *Money, Banking, and The Economy*. W.W. Norton & Company. New York. 1990. p.258-259

2. Byrns, Ralph T. and Gerald W. Stone. *Microeconomics*. Harper Collins Publishers. New York. 1992. p.280

3. This is explained in greater detail in: Carabaugh, Robert J. *International Economics*. Wadsworth Publishing Company. Belmont, California. 1992. p.78-80

(editor's note: Nevertheless, I stand by my arguments.—MP)

## Take action now!

Dear editor:

As we are glad to see the ongoing expansion of the Henderson Computer Center, the laser printers are desperately desired by the majority of students. The current line-by-line printers cannot print with quality, and sometimes cannot print some particular characters at all. The poor quality of printing may have negative effects on one's applications to graduate schools or jobs. As most schools in this country today have laser printers available to students, we can only use the laser printers in very few cases (e.g. senior project). Laser printers are more expensive than the current printers, but a few of them can equip many computers because of their improved speed. Therefore we strongly urge the administration to consider the equipment of laser printers for the computer center next semester.

Andy Gilman

Dear editor:

There was a sign on the board close to the post office concerning the current meal policy of Wood Company (Kline Food Service). While it is not so easy to improve their food or service, it is reasonable for the company to give reimbursement for the meals that students miss. But at Bard they just take our money in without giving anything if we miss the meals. And the meal

exchange is so limited the we can only get it if we go to meal exchange within an hour after the particular meal we miss, and it is not available for dinner. But for the meals that we miss during the week. Almost every other school food service has some kind of reimbursement policy: either give the money back, or we can get food equivalent to the meals we miss during the week. As we all know, the Wood Company has displayed extraordinary interests in profits by making the most money from students and providing the least food possible. At the same time, the school helps then gain monopoly by requiring every freshman and resident student to be on the board plan. Some actions should be taken for this matter. First, we should investigate why it is possible for the food service to do all these things without any criticism from the school and administration. Is there a special deal between the school and the company? Second, we should push for the reimbursement for our missed meals by collecting signatures in the Kline Common and submit the petition to the company and the school administration. We students should not be silent or just complaining about the food service anymore, it is time to take actions now!

Andy Gilman

## 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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Bard Observer Bard College Box 185 Annandale, N.Y. 12504



# CALENDAR

PRESENTED BY THE DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE

MAY 11 TO MAY 18, 1994

## ★ WEDNESDAY, MAY 11 ★

- ★ Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous are meeting today in Aspinwall 304 at 12 noon.
- ★ **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.**
- ★ Alcoholics Anonymous meeting in Barrytown. Meet van at Security at 7:45p.
- ★ Wickets, bails and short square-legs? Anyone for Cricket? Yes, it is now the season to play. Worried that you've never played before, but would still like to learn? Come to the practice session today from 8p to 10p near or inside the Stevenson Gym. For more info call 758-7530.
- ★ **Student Forum: Elections.** The following positions are up for elections: 5 planning committee seats, 3 student judiciary board seats, 2 student life committee seats and 8 educational policies committee seats. No experience necessary. Kline, 7p. Questions should be directed to Malia Du Mont.
- ★ **Student Repertory II.** Dance Studio, 8p. No reservations necessary.

## ★ THURSDAY, MAY 12 ★

- ★ Alcoholics Anonymous meeting in Aspinwall 304 at 7:30p.
- ★ Sculptor **Jim Clark** will give a talk on his work today at 4:30p in the Center Studio at the Procter Arts Center.
- ★ **Tavola Italiana, Kline President's Room.** All Welcome! Join us for conversation at **5:30-6:00p.** Benvenuti!
- ★ **What's happened to the Communists in the East since "the end of Communism"?** Moderator: Leon Botstein. Round Table discussion in Olin 205, 7p. For information call 758-7430.
- ★ **Yang Lian reading from his own poems.** One of the leading poets writing in the Chinese language today, presented by Asian Studies. Olin 203, 7:30p.
- ★ **Student Repertory II.** Dance Studio, 8p.
- ★ **Bard Christian Fellowship.** Everyone welcome, Christian or not. Chapel, 9:30p.

## ★ FRIDAY, MAY 13 ★

- ★ Alcoholics Anonymous meeting in Aspinwall 304 at 12 noon.
- ★ **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.**
- ★ Overeaters Anonymous meeting in Kingston. Meet van at Security at 5:15p.
- ★ Narcotics Anonymous meeting in Catskill. Meet van at Security at 7:15p.

## ★ SATURDAY, MAY 14 ★

- ★ Alcoholics Anonymous meeting in Aspinwall 304 at 12 noon.
- ★ Narcotics Anonymous meeting in Woodstock. Meet van at Security at 2:15p.

## ★ SUNDAY, MAY 15 ★

- ★ Wickets, bails and short square-legs? Anyone for Cricket? Yes, it is now the season to play. Worried that you've never played before, but would still like to learn? Come to the practice session today from 8p to 5p near or inside the Stevenson Gym. For more info call 758-7530.
- ★ Narcotics Anonymous meeting in Aspinwall 304 at 7:30p.

- ★ **Recital of Chamber Music.** Five Works Composed by Jason D. Durham. Blum Performance Space, 7p.

- ★ **Refugees in our own Back Yard:** U.S. Foreign Policy towards refugees from Central America. Time and location to be assigned.

## ★ MONDAY, MAY 16 ★

- ★ Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous will be meeting in Aspinwall 304 at 12 noon.
- ★ **Women's Center Meeting.** Annandale House, rm 110, 6:30p.
- ★ Co-Dependents Anonymous meeting in Red Hook. Meet van at Security at 6:30p.
- ★ **Lois Conner,** professor of photography at Yale University will be giving a lecture today at 8p in Olin 102. This lecture is a class assignment for all photo students. The darkroom will be closed during the lecture.
- ★ **If the Mango Tree could Speak:** children's views on war in Central America. Time and location to be assigned.

## ★ TUESDAY, MAY 17 ★

- ★ Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous will be meeting today in Aspinwall 304 at 12 noon.
- ★ Professor **Tom Wolf** will be giving a lecture entitled "**Cubism and Duchamp.**" Pre-lecture reception will take place at 4:20p at the Olin atrium, and the lecture will start at 5p in Olin Auditorium.
- ★ **Van to Cheap Movie Night** at the Red Hook Lyceum. Van leaves at 6:30p from Kline and returns at 10p. First come, first served, so be early.
- ★ Alcoholics Anonymous meeting in Red Hook. Meet van at Security at 7:45p.

## ★ WEDNESDAY, MAY 18 ★

- ★ Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous are meeting today in Aspinwall 304 at 12 noon.
- ★ **Fresman Seminar End-of-year Event.** Olin Auditorium, 5:30p.
- ★ **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.**
- ★ Alcoholics Anonymous meeting in Barrytown. Meet van at Security at 7:45p.
- ★ Wickets, bails and short square-legs? Anyone for Cricket? Yes, it is now the season to play. Worried that you've never played before, but would still like to learn? Come to the practice session today from 8p to 10p near or inside the Stevenson Gym. For more info call 758-7530.

### END OF THE SEMESTER TRANSPORTATION

**May 25:** Vans to Rhinecliff leaving at 4:53 and 7:47p. Van to Poughkeepsie leaving at 6p. Van to Albany Airport leaving at 8a (\$10 to reserve a seat in advance.)

**May 27:** Vans for La Guardia and JFK Airports leaving at 8a (sign up in Ludlow until May 23, \$15 in advance.) Van to Albany Airport leaving at 8a (\$10 to reserve a seat in advance.) Vans to Rhinecliff leaving at 10a and 4:15p.

**May 27:** Van to Albany Airport leaving at 8a (\$10 to reserve a seat in advance.)

## ★ 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.

**Hudson Valley Mall trip:** meet bus behind Kline at 5:45pm, pick up at mall at 9:45pm.

**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.

**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.**































