OBSERVER
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When he called the meeting to order on Wednesday the 27th of February, Educational Policies Committee Chair Sean O'Neill called for "decorum in the forum." He didn't get it. True to the plea of editorialist and general 'agitated young man' Michael Peirce in last week's Bard Observer, the Forum spilled a little blood.

Among the colorful metaphors hurled was student Collin Thacker's memorable "simpering, pathetic little brown-nosing administration buddy." The phrase was aimed at a letter, also appearing in last week's Observer, signed by Dean of Students Shelley Morgan and Student Life Committee Chair Gilberto Monso and concerned the school's student admission fee policy.

Student Laure-Curry criticized Wednesday's forum for the student body's "painfully short" attention span and lamented that students have allowed the Central Committee's cries to apply to the Emergency Fund to effectively and debased. This, she argued, empowers the Planning Committee with "sole decision making power over student funds," since "Emergency [Fund] requests do not come to the Forum."

Much of the commotion was due to a certain ignorance of procedure. One particularly abused feature of parliamentary procedure is the point of information. This incidental motion allows for a specific inquiry relevant to the matter at hand. It is a question, not a vehicle for statements of opinion. Opinions may only be spurred by means of the speakers list. The point of order, on the other hand, may be used by anyone noticing a breach of procedure.

For further information, refer to Robert's Rules of Order or its simplified and delightfully illustrated version found in FIUEU (Fill Up on Effective Leadership), a booklet published by the Dean of Students Office. This booklet, incidentally, includes a copy of the highly elusive Constitution of the Student Association of Bard College.

Announcements and Elections

Two student Life Committee seats opened up for this semester. Josh Bell and Wendy Grunewich were elected to the posts.

Budget

Before the budget was brought to the table, treasurer Gabriel Rogaia had called attention to the Emergency Fund, which had swelled to a record $12,663, more than doubling last semester's paltry $6,315. He and Planning Committee Chair Jeff Rhyne stressed the emergency fund and the virtually ignored Laundry Fund as the best sources to appeal to for disgruntled clubs. The laundry fund, consisting of the precious quarters pumped into the laundry machines, stands at nearly $4,000.
Security update
Security kept busy over Intersession

In an interview Tuesday morning, Director of Safety and Security Kim Squillace explained how the newly integrated campus phone system will affect student access to emergency response.

"The new emergency number is 7777," said Squillace. That number can be dialed from any campus extension, and the call will be immediately forwarded to the Security dispatcher.

The old emergency number was extension 440. Squillace said that dialing 7440 on a campus phone would access the emergency line as well.

Apparently, this past weekend some students were unable to get through to Security on a campus phone, so they went to the security dispatcher in person. Squillace explained that students were not aware that they now need to dial a "7" before the three digit extension when using a campus phone.

The number to reach Security for a non-emergency is now 7460. "We're still getting the bugs out of the new system," continued Squillace. "Routine calls might take a little more time to get through because our dispatchers are still learning the new system. Bear with us."

Intersession Incidents

According to Squillace, there were at least three incidents of major theft on campus over the January break. Two of these burglaries were from students' rooms, while the third was from the Procter Arts Center.

On January 18, 1995, a Continuing Studies student reported to Security that several works of her own art had been stolen from Procter. She estimated the worth of the pieces at around $850.

Squillace urges anyone who might have any information regarding this incident to meet with her immediately. She has pictures of two of the stolen artworks for potential witnesses to examine.

"The artist would really like to have her art back," said Squillace. "If they are returned there will be no questions asked."

The Oberholzer dormitory was the site of two other thefts which were reported when the students returned from the break. One student had a stereo system stolen, while the other had a fax machine and an answering machine removed from his room.

Squillace said that there were no signs of forced entry to these two rooms. Furthermore, the students reported that their doors were both locked when they left and when they returned. Squillace believes that someone else must have had a key.

Security also caught a number of people trying to either break back into their dorm rooms, or force their way into dormitories to "crash for the night."

"I have been talking with Buildings and Grounds and Servicemaster about the issue of securing the dormitories over Intersession," Squillace said. "We have to make sure that no one gets in."

Squillace added that her office maintains a secure locked room where students may store their valuables over Intersession. "We [Security] are the only ones who have a key for this room," insisted Squillace. "But, unfortunately, not many students took us up on this offer."

In other Security related news, Squillace reported that there has been a "rush of people 'borrowing' furniture" from the lounges of their dormitories. Students have especially been taking chairs (meant for common areas) into their own rooms. This then creates a problem for the housekeepers who can't find the missing furniture, and for Security officers who then go door-to-door looking for the borrowed items.

"Students should remember that furniture in the lounge is for everyone to use," commented Squillace.

Finally, Squillace said that Security has been receiving reports of gunshots in the field behind the Manor House dormitory. She explained that the area is state-owned property, and that it is still small-game hunting season. She urges students to stay away from this area until hunting season is over. She also affirmed, though, that Security "doesn't limit checking out each and every report of gunfire."

 Classifieds and personals

Note: All classified ads are genuine, unless otherwise not specified. Love, The Observer

Florence

Seek and ye shall receive (or at least a loft in beds) include: All kinds of ladies, Country America University nationwide. To receive/advertise package.

Starting now - JULY 1995
- & (1) 254-4319, AC. Bed &早餐
- Semester / Year Rental 1994-1995 - Full Calls
- 708, (1) 746-2106
- Ship & Sealing Service
- Trusty Service, LLC, Connecticut E-NOW
- Fax (978)-994-7336 E-mail: 72108@compuserve.com

Weird.

:

SUMMER SUBLET 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 Molly or Liz in Sottery 101.

Lost Metal Yin-Yang Pin (the kind with two metal posts in the back). As usual, it has sentimental value. Please send to Steph, box 669 if you find it. Thanks.

Wanted: Boom box/CD player. 752-7495

Seeking male cuddle buddy. No sex. Any responses send to p.o. box 498.

The new number for emergencies: 7777 from a campus phone. Add "7" before all other campus extensions.

The Bard Observer

 Eric BOGOSIAN

POUNDING NAILS IN THE FLOOR WITH MY FOREHEAD

DIRECTED BY JD SOMER

SUNDAY, MARCH 5 7 pm

BARDAVON
35 Market Street (corner of Main & Market)

Box Office 475-2072 (ext) 2277
Ticketmaster 856-3308
Group Sales 475-6286

Sponsored by: Waterfronts Entertainment

Written and Performed by "Eric, Doug, Neal & Rib" and "Clash Radio"
Dial Tones

Bard phone system converted to integrated four-digit dialing

James Brudvig, the work last weekend has already affected the campus phone system and will affect the student phone system by this summer. "We're looking forward to an integrated system for the first time," said Brudvig in an interview Monday afternoon. He explained that all of the dorms, faculty and staff phone extensions have been converted over to a new four digit dialing system. Bard College has also been producing its own dial tone.

"Everything is now on the Bard switch," Brudvig continued. By dialing a "7" before the on-campus extensions, campus phone usage has been facilitated. Voice mail has also been made available to those using campus extensions at their offices.

As of August 1, 1995, students' room phones will be integrated into the four digit system. That means every phone on campus will be interconnected and one need only dial four numbers to reach another campus extension.

Voice mail will also be available for all interested students at no extra charge.

Brudvig affirmed that since students will be using a local system provided by Bard College instead of Citizens Telecure, the annual fee for phone hook-up will drop slightly beginning next semester. The new cost will be $125 annually, a decrease of seventeen dollars. Long distance service, however, will still be provided through ACC.

Student Directory
At last week's Student Forum, Student Life Chair Gilbert Alfonso urged students to appeal to Brudvig's office if they wanted a student telephone directory to be printed this semester. The Forum resoundingly approved this motion, especially since such a phonebook has not been made available in over a year.

Brudvig said that his office has already begun compiling a directory for this semester. Students have requested memoranda if they wanted their names listed in the directory. It is their responsibility to return these notes through campus mail by this Friday.

"Last year, many students did not want their number published," explained Brudvig when asked why the directory was so long in coming. He said that there have typically been around a hundred students a semester who did not want their number listed. According to Brudvig, one-third of the numbers in "the outside world" are unlisted as well.

The upcoming directory will include students' names and numbers in alphabetical order. Brudvig said that "in order to get it in a timely fashion, we won't be including dorm rooms in the directory." Brudvig concluded that the directory will "take a little bit of time," but could be available as early as the end of next week.

FOUR SEASONS TRAVEL
invites you to our agency for ski packages * lowest airfares * best buy vacations free ticket delivery * ontrack and eurail passes charters and consolidators and passport photo service coming soon! FOUR SEASONS TRAVEL ROUTE 9 • Red Hook 914-758-0606 Carlson's Travel, Ine.
"Cherish your culture"

Shakuhachi master Katsuya Yokoyama performs at Bard

Yokoyama emerges on the stage with a serious face, as if wearing the traditional Japanese "Nou" mask, which shows no expression on the surface. Once he starts playing, his seriousness deepens and the husky and hollow sound springs from the bamboo Shakuhachi, an instrument shaped like a clarinet and made of bamboo with five holes. The sound brings the audience a spiritual air like a clarinet and transports them to another world.

Yokoyama is a Shakuhachi master and also a professor at Tokyo Music University, giving lectures and teaching Shakuhachi. At the Bard concert held Sunday, February 12, he let us experience the exotic music through his shakuhachi. He passionately wants to transmit the Japanese culture to the next generation. His significant presence preserves the ancient history of shakuhachi. He enthusiastically expects his students to become open-minded not only about Japanese culture, but also about the cultures of other countries. His purpose in going abroad and presenting his shakuhachi supports this idea. He hopes that by demonstrating shakuhachi, he can show a part of Japanese culture and offer an opportunity for other people to experience it as well.

In his most interesting comment, Yokoyama remarked that "very few people would expect to come all the way to Japan in an attempt to see a Japanese dancer perform Indian or Thai dances (how beautifully they may be danced), or to listen to a great Japanese pianist play Chopin because these performances would not be equivalent to the dancer or to the pianist that has lived in that particular culture and society." His point is that when there is something spiritual rooted inside of you which brings you closer to your own culture, why ignore it? Why not cherish it? It is interesting to learn different cultures and expand our perspectives. However, while the Japanese are becoming more culturally internationalized, it is necessary for them to preserve their own cultural identity. Yokoyama will continue to play shakuhachi so that the sound will echo forever in our hearts.

Shakuhachi Master Katsuya Yokoyama Profile

"What is the most unique Mexican food here?"

When Yokoyama is not performing, it is hard to believe that he is not part of the culturalization, a person like Yokoyama plays a key role in reminding the Japanese of their cultural roots and appreciating its inherent richness: "I want my students and the young Japanese to learn and like our culture more because it is too beautiful to be forgotten."

He told me that it was his father's frightening prediction that motivated him to start playing shakuhachi: "Shakuhachi is out of date today. It will end with my generation." Yokoyama realized how much he would miss shakuhachi if its beautiful sound would disappear from Japan.

Despite his profound attachment to shakuhachi, Yokoyama doesn't restrict himself only to Japanese culture. He expects his students to become open-minded not only about Japanese culture, but also about the cultures of other countries. His purpose in going abroad and presenting his shakuhachi supports this idea. He hopes that by demonstrating shakuhachi, he can show a part of Japanese culture and offer an opportunity for other people to experience it as well.

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*Cooking Column*

When I wrote last week, I forgot to mention that even more important than understanding a recipe is being able to recognize which tools you will need to complete a recipe. It is important to get to know your kitchen and the things within it (besides the stove) in order to feel confident cooking. For instance, a recipe may call for the use of a particular type of pan, knife, etc. for its completion. Most people know the difference between a simple sauce pan and a frying pan, but there are some things (such as kettles, casseroles and skillets) that some people may not be clear on. Below is a page taken from The Fannie Farmer Cookbook that identifies some such items.

Getting to know your kitchen!

- Steamer Basket
- Skillet with pigtail lid
- Dutch oven
- Frying basket
- Wok
- Double boiler
- Pressure cooker
- Kettle
- Fish steamer
- Stock pot

Tomato Sauce

2 tb. olive oil
3/4 c. tomato paste
1 1/2 c. tomatoes (peeled & chopped, fresh or canned)
1 carrot (grated)
1/2 ts. pepper
1 tb. dried basil
1 tb. oregano
5 tb. butter

*Heat the oil in a heavy saucepan. Stir in tomato paste, tomatoes, carrot, pepper, basil & oregano. Simmer for 30 min. Cook 15 min. more, then stir in butter (and salt to taste). Serve with cooked pasta. Makes 4 cups.*

Homemade Noodles

3 egg yolks
1 egg
1 tb. salt
2 c. flour

*Beat yolks and egg until they're uniform. Beat in salt and 3 tb. cold water. With hands, work flour into mixture. Cut dough into 3 equal parts. Cover with plastic wrap and let rest 5 min. Dust countertop with flour and roll out 1 part of dough as thin as possible. Cover with dishcloth and let rest 10 min. Repeat with remaining pasta. Sprinkle 1 sheet of dough with flour and roll up like a jelly roll. With a sharp knife, cut across the roll into 1/8" wide strips. Open out the strips and hang over a rod to dry. Repeat with remaining dough. Noodles are ready to cook when they have lost their surface dampness. To cook, boil in water until just tender (5-10 min). Makes 1 lb.*
Fact & Fiction

What's What

Our columnist contemplates the meaning of life

by Sean O'Neill

"Too many worries and too much vodka had led my sad friend to doubt herself. She's graduated now, but when here, people considered her to be a clever, witty, reasonably attractive woman who was enthralled with literature. No one believed she was unhappy. But life had started to weird out on her."

"I don't understand how the others do it," she said. "You know, concentrate on their work, going from one thing to the next, to the next, up the ladder to some goal."

"They asked me," she said, speaking about her professors and parents. "'What do you want to study?' And they all went, 'You want to study?' And she didn't answer."

She had arrived at The Stump, a kind of "quarter-life-crisis," that many Bard students reach at one time or another. Excessive events in her life had provoked her to reconsider "what it's all about." And she realized she didn't have a damned clue what it was all about.

She was impossible to reassure, caught on an awful wheel. She didn't think that she was ever producing good enough work. Good enough, that is, to compete in the literary and philosophical world. And she no longer cared much about literary criticism, doubting its value. The satisfaction of receiving decent marks on her assignments had lessened during fifteen years of schooling.

She had once had a pattern of life she enjoyed — lots of new things that were pleasant to do, and that were not unreasonable or unappreciated. Then her social life got wacky, making her look askance at everything. She had broken up with her lover and was in a "transition" relationship, as she so glumly termed it. Both her and her rather Gothic-looking friend were using each other as crutches to recover from their respective romantic losses.

Coinciding with this, a family member of hers was diagnosed with a form of cancer. My friend was disappointed in herself at not being suddenly and greatly moved upon hearing the news. She described herself as being a cold person.

In reality, she wasn't. The thought of her friend was obviously gnawing at her. She felt not only empathy, but also awe. How could someone handle that pain, when her own grief at her relatively painless life seemed so immense?

My friend's life wasn't just filled with stress anymore. It was overflowing with distress. She was constantly being demanded to readjust to different events, and, of course, this fatigued her. Taking a break from work didn't relax her anymore, and neither did working itself.

She told me all this, and I agreed with her. But what she was thinking that was important at the end of the day was whether or not you were creative in somebody else's life?

Even if true, the idea disconsolated her. To say she was thinking too much, and maybe drinking too much?

"What if I had the cancer?"

she asked. "If this was my last year alive, would I really want to be doing what I'm doing?"

Tough questions. Again, what to say? That at our age we must persist with the health we have for the time we have it?

I told her that many Bard students must have forgotten who she was. She needed to convince herself that she was well-prepared for life, whatever it threw at her, and that she possessed enviable talents and traits.

I said she could visit me whenever she needed to, and then I got a car ride to a diner in Kingston. I ordered French onion soup, a turkey club sandwich, and those fried potatoes with the skins left on.

What magical insight, I wondered, could make her feel purposeful while writing an essay on "The Symbolism of the Typeface in James Joyce's Dubliners," or whatever?

To say, perhaps, that what's important at the end of the day is whether or not you were creative in somebody else's life?

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"What if I had the cancer?"

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Madame the Gypsy Queen's Forecast

Pisces (2/19-3/20): Know when giving is too much for you; stop while you are ahead — this is the only way to end the hurt.

Aries (3/21-4/19): Feelings of animosity that were strong last week will be weakened this week if you make the appropriate sacrifices.

Taurus (4/20-5/20): A smile is worth a thousand tears until you've cried over a million tears.

Gemini (5/21-6/20): The answers you've been looking for will never be found; perhaps it's time to start asking new questions.

Cancer (6/21-7/22): Your feisty nature will be cut down by the winds of time. Let it shape you as it would the land.

Leo (7/23-8/22): Your obsession with matters you can not possibly change will take its toll if you aren't willing to let go.

Virgo (8/23-9/22): Your undying love will bring you happiness someday, but not today.

Libra (9/23-10/22): Look out! The mistakes of the past are about to come back and haunt you!

Scorpio (10/23-11/21): A thousand words unspoken will never mean as much as the few that are.

Sagittarius (11/22-12/21): A new perspective will save you from the negative outcomes of your old way of looking at things.

Capricorn (12/22-1/21): A thousand apologies will never make a difference, but that doesn't mean you can't be sorry or that you shouldn't remember.

Aquarius (1/22-2/18): While you are successful in your life don't forget to look back and share with those that meant something to you.

Another View

February 22, 1995

For the 1995 Spring Break Peel & Win Game, you can win 500 Bucks for Spring Break from the Coca-Cola Company. You could also win a cool T-Shirt or coupons for Coca-Cola products! So check out the 1995 Spring Break peel and win game pieces. They're on Coca-Cola products found in the specially marked vending machines on campus. So lose the books and take a break with your favorite Coca-Cola product!
Volunteer opportunities

by Rich Kelley

In order to provide an opportunity for students at Bard to involve themselves in social service programs, they must first be made aware of what is available. During the next few weeks, there will be articles highlighting several organizations that provide various services to the surrounding communities. If you would like additional information or to simply speak with someone about these opportunities, please contact Rich Kelley in the Dean of Students Office, ext. 454.

Another View

Yokoyama continued

Yokoyama proved this point clearly to the people who met him at Bard. While at the Santa Fe restaurant, he had been very thoughtful and friendly to all of the staff and musicians. He also left a thoughtful message for us about the earthquake and his experience through it:

"Through human beings have lived many lessons throughout history, wars still take place throughout the world and deprive people, who ask no more from life but to live humbly and peacefully, of their very existence. It is a very sorrowful and shameful state of affairs. Music cannot stop these wars, but it has the power to console and encourage businessmen and to help us pray for peace. Musicians in any country are, at least, not alien to nature. This is because at the root of music is a respect for life and, especially, a love of others."

"The great earthquake took place in the Osaka area at 5:46 am on January 17, 1995, without any warning. This earthquake, which had a reading of 7.2 on the open-ended Richter scale and a 6.0 on the Japanese scale of 7, surely stricken 5,000 people, destroyed or damaged some 90,000 houses and left some 310,000 people homeless. The Japanese government's response was slow, and damage is estimated to cost as much as 90 billion dollars. I, myself, happened to experience the earthquake from the seventh floor of an Osaka hotel. I could do nothing to protect myself from the violence of nature, which was beyond human comprehension.

"From this fearful experience, I learned that the most important thing in life is to help one another, both physically and spiritually. Many nations, including the U.S., responded quickly by sending relief supplies and rescue missions. Many volunteers from home and abroad came to the rescue of earthquake victims. As a Japanese, I would like to express our deepest gratitude for all the help and concern."

Yokoyama will return to New York City in July to perform his shakuhachi accompanied by an orchestra at Carnegie Hall. If you missed the recent opportunity to learn and experience the sound of shakuhachi, you still have a chance. I am also planning to organize a "Japanese Course" to teach people not only the Japanese language, but also the Japanese culture. If you are interested, please contact me, Hiromi Yanaoka (Box 1360, 755-7533).

There's No Place Like Home

Forum continued

The Senior Class Club made the first of three appeals to the emergency fund during the forum. Their representative, Premenj Makkuti, said that the seniors "would like to plant more than one tree in front of Kline." The club requested $30 to be used for the senior class gift to the school and entertainment for the senior class party on the eve of commencement. Despite arguments from Jeff Rhyne that the senior class has never received convocation money reserved for clubs, a budget amendment passed.

Later, an amendment to the amendment was proposed stating that all Emergency Fund money left over at the end of the semester would go to the senior class. Debate ensued. Because outstanding club debts are covered with unused Emergency Fund money over the summer, should the emergency fund disappear with the senior class, debtors would have to come out of the next semesters convocation, thereby reducing club funding.

After much bickering, an amendment was proposed allocating untouched Emergency Fund money to the senior club. Any outstanding club debts would be covered by left over convocation money. If any convocation fund remains, it would pass to the Fall 1995 Convocation Fund. Note that this is an amendment to the Spring budget, and not a fixture of the Constitution.

The Dime Store, Bard's own convenience store requested $150 from the emergency fund, which it received. Also requesting and receiving $500 for a condenser microphone and $100 for headphones so that "bands can hear their singers," was the Student Recording Studio.

The budget itself passed as proposed. The Emergency Fund should now stand at $12,113. The Laundry Fund remains a clean $4,000.

Constitutional Amendment

The final issue on the agenda was a constitutional amendment concerning "admitting charges and donations to campus events," sponsored by Gilberto J. Afonso and Sebastian Quezada. The Bard administration forbade organizers to charge admission to Bard events last semester, due to alleged charging for alcohol which under New York State law requires the purchase of a liquor license.

After three clauses were stricken and one added, the amendment got the required 2/3 majority vote. Admission to Bard social events will be capped at $2. Organizers who feel the need to exceed the cap must appeal to the Central Committee, which is obligated to act within ten days.

The E.F. Schumacher Society and student Marjorie Goldberg

Wednesday, February 22, 1995
Bard Hall
7:00 pm
Best Season in Years

Men's basketball team finishes, while other varsity teams keep fighting

This is the first time I have actually been allowed to write the Sports page. For three and a half years, I have written for virtually every other department of this rag, so I figured before I made my final grandiloquent departure, I would try my hand at athletic journalism. (Athletic journalism, how's that for a varsity sport?)

Anyways...

Varsity Sports

The men's basketball team finished their season Monday night at the independent Athletic Conference Tournament. Bard, the #7 seed, was defeated by the #2 seed, Vassar, by a score of 65-53. Bard played a close game, and with three minutes left to play, was only down by eight points. Late last week, the men's team won two of their three games. The first victory came against long-time rival Vassar. Bard had lost twice to Vassar earlier this season, but last Wednesday, Bard was triumphant with a score of 68-60.

SUNY Purchase defeated Bard 66-50 on Friday, but on Sunday, the team rebounded to overcome Albany College of Pharmacy 56-60. That win was especially sweet since in November, Albany had beaten Bard by 12 points.

The basketball team's final record was five wins and twenty losses (5-20). According to Assistant Director of Recreation/Intramurals Kris Hall, that is more victories than the past three seasons combined. The Bard team came on particularly strong towards the end of the season, winning four of their last nine games.

The men's volleyball team had an interesting weekend, splitting their four matches. On Friday the team fell to Sacred Heart University and Mt. St. Vincent in straight games. On Sunday, however, the team picked up its first victories by defeating both Yeshiva and Cooper Union without dropping a game. Sebastian Salarz is leading the team with .371 aces and 2.62 digs/game. Raman Frey is a close second with 2.43 digs/game. The team's overall record is two wins and five losses, but they have yet to win a conference match.

The women's squash teams had a rough time at recent tournaments. At the "Hare Cup" at Yale last year, I think that was Kris Hall wrote in her expeditious handwriting, the Bard women lost four of their five matches. The team fell to Wellesley by a score of 10-0, Hamilton (9-1), Haverford (9-1) and Colgate (6-3 with 2 defaults by Colgate). Erin Tracy tallied the two victories against Colgate and Haverford, while Lisa Kahan defeated her Hamilton opponent. Three defeats by Johns Hopkins carried the Bard women over by a score of 5-4. Hoa Tu, Erin Tracy, Daniela Silberman and Lisa Kahan each came through with victories over Johns Hopkins.

At the New York State Championships, the men's squash team struggled against five tough opponents. They were handily defeated by Vassar and Hobart (9-0, 9-0) and only mustered single victories over Hamilton and Haverford (8-1, 8-1). Their closest match was against Stony Brook where Sherry Hameed and Yin Qasami went the distance to tally two Bard wins. Hameed also notched a victory against his Hamilton opponent.

Recreational Events

A number of intramural tournaments are coming up, so be prepared to sharpen your competitive teeth without breaking the skin of varsity sports. (Sports clichés are fun!)

Tomorrow evening, Thursday Night Madness offers a HORSE competition, complete with prizes, music and basketball. HORSE is a basketball spin-off wherein competitors take turns making shots they don't think their opponents can match. You miss the shot, you get a letter. You spell out HORSE, and you lose. In my old neighborhood, we used to play PIG and MORON.

The Stevenson Gym is also taking another run at hosting a Badminton Tournament this Sunday, February 25, from 1-4pm. Last semester's Thursday Night Madness Tournament never really happened. This time, just show up for singles and doubles. No registration is necessary, and there are prizes for the victors.

The Schick Super Hoops 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament will be held on Sunday, March 5th beginning at 1pm. Teams have to register by Thursday, March 2nd and can register by contacting the Department of Athletics and Recreation at 758-7530.

The 1995 Stevenson Cup Squash Tournament is set to take place over the weekend of March 10th and 11th. Entry forms are available at the front desk of the Athletic Department. The entry fee is $4 for students and $10 for everyone else.

Finally, there will be a captain's meeting Monday, February 27th at 6pm on the gym balcony for men and women's intramural basketball. Captains are reminded that they are allowed only two varsity players on a single team.

Well, that's how my sports writer career ends. Not with a bang, but with a whimper.
My Two Cents

by Michael Poirier, Purple Dinosaur on the Run

Surprise, surprise, surprise!

Guess what! Bard College has a new integrated phone system. Wow! Yippee! (Insert here assorted sounds of joy, rapture and giddiness al dente.)

For the time being, the new phone system isn't a major explosion of change into the daily routine of student life here at Bard. And, in the future, it won't do much besides offer us voice mail, direct dialing to the rest of the campus and seventeen extra dollars a year to spend on pizza or prophylactics.

Nevertheless, it is still a minor change for the better, and one that has clearly been eagerly awaited by certain staff members of the College.

But why did it have to come as such a surprise??

Through various arcane channels, The Observer manages to get a sneak peek at the mail which is usually only sent to faculty and staff. This past Monday morning, I read a memo explaining the new system to the privileged few: the faculty and staff. As the mailing explained, campus phones now run on four numbers instead of three. Just dial a seven first, and you can still reach any extension you want.

That there is important information for faculty and staff to know about. Why didn't it occur to anyone that it would also be important information for students as well?

The phone conversion took place over the weekend. (Wonder why your dorm phones didn't work Saturday or Sunday?) Wouldn't a small little note explaining have been appropriate last Thursday or Friday?

The magic password of the number seven has yet to be officially offered to the student body. After speaking with both James Brudvig and Kim Squillace, I'm convinced it wasn't out of malice that students were kept in the dark. Brudvig was busy overseeing the conversion, and Squillace had to deal with a new emergency extension. The problem is not legitimately felt concern, but murky layers of accountability.

Apparently, nobody stepped forward to take the responsibility; or nobody realized that no one else was going to inform the students. This is at best irksome, and at worst.

Over the weekend, the campus was fortunate enough not to experience a serious emergency. The administration should be thanking their respective legal deities: just imagine the kind of lawsuits they would face if an emergency call couldn't get through because they never told us how to use the new phone system.

Sometimes the administration seems to forget about the present condition of the student body. In their fervor to secure the future (and, with the case of S/M ACES, to obscure the past), they too easily neglect the day-to-day necessities of the current population.

Sure, there's a new Student Center coming, but that is not an excuse for allowing our current one to disintegrate into smoking cinder-blocks and torn billboard felt. Okay, the Olin Language Center will be fun to play with, but wouldn't another toaster in Kline make brunch much easier to deal with? Too much of the present is being trodden on in this march towards the future.

This incident is yet another sudden reversal of fortune foisted upon the campus' silent majority, the students. It requires very large, very dark sunglasses to blot out the existence of nearly one thousand souls. The phone conversion just shows how, inadvertently or not, contemporary students get bypassed in the bureaucratic shuffle. We don't want the administration to be breathing down our necks, but we shouldn't be forgotten about either. We don't need them to keep their eyes peeled on us but, at the very least, those eyes should be open.

Retraction

In a letter to the editor published last week, the words "Member of Coalition for Choice" appeared beneath Wendy Grunseich's name. Grunseich did not intend for that information to appear with her letter, and we apologize for any misunderstandings which might have occurred.

Wild Kingdom

“What may be done at any time will be done at no time.”

Thomas Fuller

1732

Editorial Policy

The Bard Observer is an entirely student-run publication. Submissions from the community are always welcome. Letters to the editor should be under 500 words, and may be edited for spelling or grammar. Pieces for the Another View pages will not be edited without the consent of the author. Only that which is slanderous or libelous will be denied publication. Anonymous submissions will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis for publication—but we prefer them to be signed.

Campus organizations are also invited to publicize their events free of charge in the Observer. Space on the Calendar Page is provided through the Dean of Students' Office. The Observer is published every Wednesday while classes are in session. Only those items which arrive in campus mail, or to our office, the Friday prior to the next issue will be guaranteed immediate publication.

My Two Cents

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Apparently, nobody stepped forward to take the responsibility; or nobody realized that no one else was going to inform the students. This is at best irksome, and at worst alarming, occurrence.

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Returning favors

To the Editor, and The General Bard Populace:

See, I leave you people alone for only six months, and the entire place gets shot to hell. I'm not trying to dump blame on any one person, nor on the collective. I'm just offended that the Bard Community has yet to pull its various shit together. I figured my presence was actually impeding your progress toward enlightenment. I thought, my removal might have hastened all of you to greatness. In truth, nothing can save you from your own center-polyarity. You may have flashes of brilliance, but there are enough dumb twits hanging around to cancel them out. Put enough people together in a box (even if the box is several score acres in size and green and well-kept), shake well, and you are bound to get a bunch of angry, shaken, disoriented, headache, vomiting people. And you all thought it was the alcohol.

But enough about entropy and closed systems. I just wanted to write and tell you that to us, you all look wonderful from here. You're small and equally looking cute, and the fact that most of you are ranking up mountains of debt isn't hurting the mental image either. Debt is the currency of the future my friends. Just as sure as the clocks have become a device to measure how little of something we have left in a day. The outside world works not on prestige, but favors. We allowed debts of respect and admiration to someone, and soon we're going to start to cash them in.

The key to favor winning and cashing in for you folks is Networking. It's who you know, how well you know them, and how well you know that little cutie they've been charting on the side. To this end, the Bard Alumni office is your best resource and your worst enemy. They really mean it when they tell you to keep in touch. They have to be able to hone in on you if and when a freshly scrubbed graduate needs a job in your area. But more importantly, they need you to return A Favor.

Never mind the fact that I'm paying back my own personal Debt mountain on a monthly basis (the hard way: one pint of blood, one scientific experiment, one jar of semen at a timely dear buddy Leon already reminded me that I kinda owe him. He did me a favor of providing a college to bounce around at for a while, so I'd like to dip further into my dar Mitzvah money and help that little college continue its tradition of producing Young Americans with mountains of debt (who are as as possible sources of contributions for the Alma Mater) for years to come.

In truth, I don't mind such wheeling. It's entertaining to see Leon perform acrobatic feats like bow, scrape, and put himself on the back at the same time. Besides, it's hard to be upset at someone who has the gall to throw a musical film festival within earshot of the 25th Anniversary Concert at Woodstock.

The point of all this is that I now find myself in a very temporary, very tenacious "liquid" state of fiscal being. I am now at liberty to clear my favor ledger and pave the way to a future of indebtedness self-sufficiency. And the time to act is now. So if any of you little wriggles out there think there is some kind of outstanding debt of favor that I currently own you, you might consider approaching me for some kind of Zen-like payback. I can't promise perfect equality in our favor exchange, but I can promise something provided I agree with the debt presented. In addition, anyone who feels a need to pay me back for something I've done, on purpose or unwittingly, please forward to me what you feel to be appropriate recompense.

I want to get this kind of karmic financial quarter balanced before another round of favors come my way. This is a once-in-a-lifetime offer, friends. My advice (which you won't be charged for) is grab it while you can.

If you decide to take advantage of this offer, you can obtain my current address from the Alumni Office of Bard College. Trust me, they have it handy, and know how to use it.

Give my love to the kids,
Matthew Gilman '94

S/M ACES support

To: Shelley Morgan and the campus at large

I am writing to express my dismay at the recent turn of events regarding S/M ACES' frozen funding. I recognize and appreciate the legal issues at hand, but would like to communicate my support of the club.

I have always respected S/M ACES very highly. For one, it is the most truly member-driven club (versus being directed by a few officers) that I know of, and its members work very well together as a team. S/M ACES also manages its money very wisely; they have consistently raised large amounts of money both for their own endeavors and for the endeavors of related clubs (such as the dearly departed BACLE) through fund-raisers, and have encouraged other campus clubs to do the same.

Their sponsored activities educate the campus and celebrate diversity. As such, I see S/M ACES as one of the most responsible clubs on campus, and as an example to us all. I feel that the legal concerns are due to unfortunate misconceptions and miscommunication. In my years of sporadically attending S/M ACES events and meetings, the focus of the club has always been upon education and information, with a strong emphasis upon sexual negotiation. Never has it been suggested to me that the club encourages any dangerous act. Instead, it provides a forum for the discussion of sexual practices which are too often sequenced behind closed doors. It seems to me to be much more dangerous to engage in uninformed sexual behavior than to discuss the practice of that behavior in a supportive environment. I realize that if the club's funding were frozen that they would still be able to meet and discuss these issues. However, I feel that it is very important for a club such as this to be supported by the college and be given full opportunity to fund events. It is remarkable enough that the club has survived for four years of its existence, and a true tribute to the unique nature of Bard College. It would be a tragedy to lose it.

I must also add that I am distressed that this issue has arisen as have so many other potentially explosive issues recently—namely, after a decision has been made. There is a growing concern among the student body that we have little voice in policy decisions which affect the future of the school. New policies have been announced regarding the new curriculum, parking, door locking, and charging for parties, much to the surprise and dismay of many students. I think that many of us would greatly appreciate an increased effort on the part of the administration to communicate such potential policy changes before action is taken.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Chasteen
TRANSPORTATION

Jitney Schedule: The Jitney runs Monday through Friday and makes stops at the following places and times:
- Robbins: 8:30a, 8:50a, 9:10a, 9:30a, 9:50a, 10:10a, 12:00p, 12:20p, 12:40p, 1:00p, 1:20p, 1:40p, 2:00p, 2:20p, 2:40p, 3:00p, 3:20p, 3:40p, 4:00p, 4:20p, 4:40p, 5:00p, 5:20p, 5:40p.

Tuesday: Van to the Lyceum in Red Hook. 6:30p - 10p.
Wednesday: Shop 'n Save Run. 6p - 9p.
Friday: Van to Rhinecliff Station at 4:20p (4:53 train), 6:00p (6:31 train) and 7:20p (7:51 train). Van to Poughkeepsie Station at 5:50p (6:19 train), 7:45p (8:35 train) and 10p (10:45 train). Poughkeepsie Galaeria Mall Trip leaves at 5p and returns at 5p.
Sunday: meet at 9:15a to go to various churches in Red Hook, Rhinecliff and Rhinebeck (St. John's, St. Chris, and St. Paul). Pick up at Rhinecliff Station for trains arriving at 6:10p and 6:20p and 10:10p. Pick up at Poughkeepsie Station for trains at 8:45p, 8:55p and 10:45p.

Meet all vans behind Kline

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<td>Michael Kruger will read from the translation of his latest novel, Himmelfarb. Kruger is a poet, novelist, editor and publisher. Olin 102, 7:30p.</td>
<td>Festival, Cervantes will perform pieces by J.S. Bach, O. Gorell, J. Corigliano, L. Altman and C. Debussy, Blum Hall, 8p.</td>
<td>Russian Discussion or Ryski Stol. All are welcome to come from 5p till 6p, Kline Commons Committee Rooms.</td>
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