

OBSERVER

Vol. 102 No. 16 March 8, 1995

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"News is whatever sells newspapers. The Observer is free."

THE BARD OBSERVER

Volume 102 Number 16

Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504

March 8, 1995

I like trees because they seem more resigned to the way they have to live than other things do.

—Willa Cather

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Bard's new Student Association Secretary, Imtaez Mannan.

Secretarial Elections

A little controversy

**Pedro
Rodriguez
Managing
Editor**

The results for the election of Thursday and Friday are in. Imtaez Mannan has replaced Malia DuMont as Secretary of the Student Association. He received a total of 104 votes. His opponents Luis Alcazar-Roman and Brandon

K. Weber received 55 and 65 votes respectively.

Malia DuMont steps down in the final semester of her senior year due to time constraints. She sums up her student government career by saying, "I enjoyed it."

Secretary Imtaez Mannan took his post on Monday, March 5th, at the Central Committee Meeting.

The Bard Constitution spells out ten duties for the Secretary. He or she must:

1. take the minutes of all student forums
2. publicize forum agendas 48 hours in advance
3. publicize the budget as proposed by the Planning Committee 72 hours before the budget forum [which has already happened]
4. announce the dates and times of the forums for the semester within two weeks of its

beginning [which has also already happened]

5. keep abreast of all constitutional amendments and other legislation and have them executed

6. provide the library with a copy of the constitution to be kept on reserve

7. keep and archive all agreements between the Student Association and other organizations

8. organize and chair the Election Committee

9. chair any Ad-hoc Referendum Committees or appoint a chair

10. be a member of the College Grievance Committee

There has been some controversy concerning the election procedures. The *Observer* received two letters (both of which are printed in the Another View section) in complaint over the availability of the ballot box and over some alleged lobbying by an unspecified member of the Student Life Committee.

The letter submitted by Eva Olsgard states that Thursday afternoon, "as I walked up to the box I was accosted by a member of the Student Life Committee who very loudly

and confidently informed me that I must not vote for the candidate of my choice. . . . I was surprised not only by their fervent action, but also by the fact that a member of the Central Committee stood idly by and, in essence, condoned this action."

The ballot box was manned on Thursday by Educational Policies Chair (and *Observer* columnist) Sean O'Neil from 10:25 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. Planning Committee Chair Jeff Rhyne resumed operations from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

O'Neil said "I was physically there" for the duration of his shift, and otherwise declines comment since he was not there in the afternoon.

Rhyne said that "nothing untoward happened. As far as I know there was no impropriety."

The ballot box was manned on Friday by Malia DuMont from 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. and Goldie Gider from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

"I don't have any comment because it doesn't involve me," said Secretary Mannan. Because they were uncontested, the election results stand. Mannan does however invite anyone with complaints to voice them at the next forum (Tuesday, March 14th).

Security update

Vandalism and a torn lawn

Pedro Rodriguez
Managing Editor

"Last weekend was great; we didn't have too many incidents come in," said Director of Safety and Security Kim Squillace during a rather short interview.

On the weekend before, however, someone had the driver's side mirror of her car vandalized. It happened Saturday, February 25th, while

she attended a party at the student center. Being a visitor to the campus, "she was very upset."

The lawn in front of Manor and Robbins has been torn up a bit. Someone has been driving what is probably a four-wheel drive vehicle over the moist grounds. "It is an area we'd like to have well groomed," said Squillace. If caught, the perpetrator will be fined.

With the thaw of the approaching spring comes the theft of bicycles. Squillace urges students to use "substantial locks" and park in well

lit areas. For those with high ceilings or hard foreheads, hooks to hang bicycles in dorm rooms are available through Buildings and Grounds.

The shuttle between main campus and north campus picks up and leaves students at the Kline Commons parking lot. Students can be dropped off at any north campus dorm, but are asked to walk to Kline lot. Doorstep service for medical appointments is reserved for those who are "really sick."

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 speak with

someone about the programs, please contact Rich Kelley in the Dean of Students Office, ext. 7454.

Hurley Historical Society

The Hurley Historical Society is searching for people interested in volunteering their time to help maintain history. The Historical Society is a small museum filled with photos, painting and artifacts found in the town. Established

in 1669, Hurley has a rich heritage that many residents think is worthy of preserving. Volunteers are needed to help maintain the site, help with the writing of the history of Hurley and to speak with people as they come through to tour the facility.

The Museum opens in May and volunteers are needed during the weekends only. Any amount of time you are able to provide is needed and accepted.

News and notes

Pedro Rodriguez
Managing Editor

Having easily passed in the House, the G.O.P. Balanced Budget Amendment, the centerpiece of the Contract With America, floundered in the Senate.

The vote, originally scheduled for February 28th, was postponed by the Republican majority leader Bob Dole when it became apparent they were one vote shy of 67. The move was called "tawdry" by Democratic Senator Robert Byrd of West Virginia.

The vote which took place on March 2nd found the measure again one vote shy of the required two-thirds majority, although it was recorded at 65 to 35. Senator Dole reversed his vote thereby reserving the right as majority leader to return the amendment for a future vote.

Governor George E. Pataki, New York's first Republican gov-

ernor in years made the death penalty a staple of his election campaign. The legislature has passed death penalty bills every year since 1977 only to be foiled by Democratic governors. Prospects are good that the measure will be passed.

Senator Dale M. Volker, a major proponent of the death penalty said, "there are people who would be alive today if we had had a death penalty."

Nicholas W. Leeson, a trader working in the Singapore office of Barings P. L. C., a British investment firm, gambled big and lost.

The firm which financed the Louisiana Purchase faces losses of around \$1 billion when the 28 year old trader made an unauthorized and risky investment in the Japanese stock market. It turned ugly on Friday, February 24th. He was apprehended in Frankfurt March 2nd.

Two rival teams of physicists revealed what they assert is the discovery of the long sought after

top quark.

This discovery would fulfill the Standard Model theory which states that there are a total of six quarks in existence. The other five have been known since 1977.

The Australian team participating in the 1995 America's Cup Race were unable to finish the when their \$3 million yacht sank in all of two minutes in the Pacific.

After Monday's eclipse of Australian hope, skipper John Bertrand said, "there was a lot of wind at the time, and it was raining."

Raul Salinas de Gortari, brother of Mexico's former president Carlos Salinas, was arrested February 28th for allegedly paying for the assassination of a senior official in the Mexican government.

Special prosecutor Pablo Chapa Bezanilla lists circumstantial evidence which "without any doubt" proves him guilty. Salinas denies any wrongdoing.

Classifieds and personals

Are you a film major or simply a film fanatic? Then, you hopefully know about Upstate Films, located off of Route 9 South in Rhinebeck—about 10 minutes from Bard. From March 3-16 you can see *The Last Seduction*, a stylish film noir about a femme fatale named Bridget who destroys the life of every man she meets. During March 17-28 *The Secret of Roan Inish*, John Sayles' new film set in Ireland will be shown. Upstate tickets are a mere \$4.50, and with a student membership fee of one \$15, tickets are only \$3. The Upstate film calendar is available in Preston. If you would like more information about show times or would like to be put on our mailing list please call 876-2515.

SUMMER SUBLETS The Graduate School of Environmental Studies is looking for student housing for this summer, mid June through mid August. If you wish to sublet or rent, please call 758-7483 or, see Molly or Liz in Sottery

101.
Hey there sailor! I hope you have awoken from your energy coma—I sure could use some good vibes! LA,—The Invisible Woman (?)

I love you ail!—Imteaz

The Bard Observer seeks staff. All interested writers, photographers, copy editors, artists, cartoonists, etc. are welcome. Meetings are held in room 84, Tewksbury basement, Thursdays at 7:00 p.m., or call 758-0772.

The Bard Music Festival needs people. If you are going to be around this summer, or would like to be around this summer and would like to get first hand knowledge of how a music festival works, or even if you are just curious, please call Robin Leebardt at 758-7410 (x. 7410).

Remember: all classifieds and personals are free to members of the Bard community.

Baccalaureate Service

The Baccalaureate Service will be held this year on Sunday, May 21, 1995. The service is an interfaith gathering, attended by the senior class and the faculty, which marks and celebrates the upcoming graduation of the senior class. We are looking for creative contributions to our program. This would be a marvelous setting for the presentation of some of your work. If you have composed a piece of music, written a poem, or created a dance which you

feel could be incorporated into the service, we are eager to include you. Your piece need not be of a "religious" nature.

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

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



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Health food store

Bard students run health conscious grocery

Linnea Knollmueller
Features Editor

Junior and Seniors might remember the Bard Food Co-op—a group through which students could order food once a month, and it would be delivered to school. That co-op mutated last year into the Bard Health Food Store, thanks to a loan from Shelley Morgan.

Rather than placing an

order at a table in Kline, then waiting for delivery, students can buy direct from the store which is located in the student center basement—the old deKline space.

Open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays, the Health Food Store offers organically grown products, often from small farms and companies. Chips, pasta, soup, candy, and beverages are not the only products available.

Health and hygiene items are in stock, and students can place special orders from the store's catalogue. It orders from the Hud-

son Valley Federation of Food Co-ops, which sells clothing and vitamins in addition to food and health care items.

"Just as our hours are responsive to what people want and will donate, so is our stock. We're small, and subject to what we think we can sell, but are always open to new ideas," said co-head Chris Pryslopski, "we order every two weeks, so the stock does change."

Heartened by a successful fall semester, the Health Food Store is busily expanding, attempting to organize

evening hours, particularly on weekends.

"We'd like to be open from about 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Fridays," explained Pryslopski, "but we're not trying to compete with deKline. Students have wanted an alternative space to relax, so we're looking for volunteers. Hopefully night shifts would be once or twice every couple of weeks, for two hours at a time. Since it's voluntary, we don't want to cut into people's free time too much."

The Health Food Store welcomes artistic installations. There

is not a great deal of room, but photographs, drawings and sculptures are encouraged, not only to decorate the walls, but to voice support for the creative output of Bard students.

Another future plan is to sponsor literary readings. With its cozy ambience and fresh Colombian coffee, the store naturally lends itself to such uses.

Weekend and evening hours are not yet fully scheduled, but look for signs in the next week. Or better yet, stop by and find out for yourselves what's doing in the Health Food Store.

Women's Center

An old campus institution stages a comeback

Linnea Knollmueller
Features Editor

Returning to Annandale House after a semester of virtual homelessness, the Women's Center is busily planning activities for the spring.

In an organizational meeting last Wednesday, co-leaders Pauline Gnesin and Reka Prasad introduced their ideas to a group of interested students. "The school needed this space for temporary housing last semester, so we really need to reestablish ourselves and make a difference. We don't want to get kicked out of this room again because it is such a wonderful place for our library, listening to music, or even just studying," said Prasad, emphasizing the Women's Center's desire to be an effective feminist force for the Bard community.

"We have lots of ideas, but of course are open to any suggestions—this club exists for you," she continued, be-

fore launching into her extensive list of plans.

The Center is organizing film nights, to show movies in the Preston screening room, though the times for those are as yet undecided.

Jean Kilborn, a lecturer on film and body image, is another guest scheduled for later this semester.

They also hope to co-sponsor a feminist dancer, Mallika Sarabhai, with the Dance Club. Perhaps the most renowned personality the Women's Center is attempting to lure back is folk singer Ani diFranco. She has been a popular performer here in the

past, but with recent success, is less available and more expensive.

Bringing people to Bard is not the only way the Women's Center is trying to make an impact. For those interested in talking about eating disorders, a session is planned with the head of counseling Dorothy Crane, Friday at 2 p.m. in Olin.

They will also be releasing a monthly newsletter, chronicling developments in the world of women and related issues.

A Young Feminist summit sponsored by the National Organization of Women is

taking place this April, to which the Women's Center is planning to send a contingent.

Also in April, NOW is holding a rally in Washington D.C. to protest violence against women. The Center and Coalition for Choice are combining to coordinate buses for the April 9 event.

For those students interested in information on women's issues, room 110 in Annandale House serves as a library, with books and periodicals, and a women's health file, containing facts about subjects from eating disorders to breast cancer.

Anyone with time and

concern is welcome to volunteer to act as librarian. The more volunteers, the longer the Women's Center can be open as a resource for the community.

Meetings of the Women's Center are scheduled for Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Feel free to attend meetings with discussion topics in mind.

"One of my goals is to make this a place where we can talk about things. Business and fundraising are important, but discussing issues will really help us get things done," said Gnesin, "it's your center, make what you can of it."

ALL ARE WELCOME to
The Social Action Workshop
meeting on
Thursday, March 9 at 4pm
President's Room in Kline
to discuss the **VOLUNTEER FAIR**
(volunteer opportunities for both this term
and next year)

The Religious Forum in Barrytown
The Church of St. John the Evangelist
River Road, Barrytown
The Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ
presentations by and discussion with Bruce Chilton and Virginia Grab. Our sessions will start at 11:45 Sunday, March 12, and will continue each Sunday until April 9 (Palm Sunday). Please feel free to attend any or all of these sessions, bringing your questions and views ready to express.


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Spring Semester heralds the arrival of the annual
ISO CULTURAL SHOW
during April. If anyone is interested in participating in the show—you can do anything that you want, for example a dance, recital, singing, etc.
Please contact either Sebastian Salazar-Chavez or Mahajabeen Padamsee at PO box #1087. The deadline for signing up for the show is March 12, 1995.

Aristophanes' *The Birds*

An exercise in excellence

Stacie
Turner
Staff
Writer

Last semester the Classics Department presented to the Bard Community a work directed and produced by Professor Chris Callanaan that was so delightful that this review shall be incapable of describing its utter brilliance. But before I begin, let me dispense with all pretense of objectivity. I have none. The Bird's was an amazing work, witty and full of sophisticated humor, oh so I assume. I couldn't actually understand a word of it, given that the performers used the

ancient Greek the author intended. Indeed, with a few exceptions the audience was as much in the dark as I was. However, the clever choreography, which nicely spotlighted the highly effective costumes, more than made up for the language difficulty.

The show had several highlights which must be mentioned. Sean and Kevin Callanan shocked and impressed the audience with their command of the language - a feat made more impressive



given that they are both still in grade school. Rachel Pearsall's singing was lovely, and Kelvin Daly's accompaniment was appropriate to the overall production. But the definite highlight of the evening was the appearance of Dean Levine as the Barbarian God. If you missed it, well, I'm sorry.

The production owes many thanks to Professor Lunn and the Drama Department for their generous help with costuming, and I proffer them here on behalf of everyone.

There will be other Greek plays. You should go see them. Better yet, you should sign up for Greek and thus be able to, well, maybe not act, but be in them.

The Student Telephone Directory is available. Copies may be picked up at the Dean of Students Office (2nd floor Ludlow) or the office of the Executive Vice President (1st floor Ludlow).

Bard Journal of Social Sciences

The Journal is now accepting submissions for its Spring issue. Academic research papers, opinion pieces and book reviews on gender studies, philosophy, political studies, sociology, and any other field of the social sciences welcome.

Have your writing published.

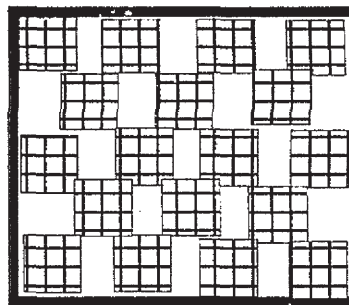
Write P.O. Box 37, call 876-9448, or contact Brandon Weber personally.

Knitting workshop

Another exercise in excellence

Linnea
Knollmueller
Features
Editor

You might have seen some brightly colored signs around campus inviting you to a knitting workshop. Those who didn't attend missed a leisurely evening in the Moon Room, with yarn covering the floor, and the clicking of knitting needles filling the air. The knitting workshop is just one of several activities sponsored by the Lentil Soup Coop, to involve students in crafts. Be-



gun last semester by Brent Armendinger and Kristin Sikes, the Coop offered such projects as candlemaking to anyone interested.

Now in their second term

of operation, Armendinger and Sikes are asking students to sign up in the Health Food Store if interested in the activity of the week. This Friday's craft is sculpey (bead making), and will meet in the store, because the environment is right for the mess. (And a good mess is always fun!) The limit is 10 students; and there is no cost.

Future plans include calligraphy, paper making, more knitting, crocheting, spinning, and weaving. If you can teach a craft of some kind, feel free to contact either Armendinger or Sikes in campus mail.

What to do with your Bard degree?

We are writing to invite you to a program on Saturday March 11th at 2pm in the Olin Art History Room. The program, called "What do I do with my Bard degree?" is a colloquium of Bard alumni/aë geared specifically for students. Students will have the opportunity to hear from alumni/aë about their careers and ask questions on a range of career opportunities. The careers that will be represented include writing, teaching, law, business, medicine and art. We hope to see you at this exciting event.

LEARN WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT YOURSELF

The Myers-Briggs Test
THE MOON ROOM
MONDAY, MARCH 13TH
7:30 PM

given by Dorothy Crane and Allen Josey.
Don't think of it as labelling yourself. It may help you direct yourself.



Almond Macaroons

1/2c. ground roasted almonds
6on. sugar
2tb. cornstarch
2 egg whites (beaten)
1 1/4ts. almond extract
1/2 c. slivered blanched almonds

Preheat oven 375F. Mix roasted almonds, sugar & cornstarch in med. bowl. Add egg whites & extract. Stir into a thick paste. Spoon mixture into pastry bag (fitted w/ 1/2" star tip). Pipe out macaroons 2" apart from one another on greased baking sheet. Sprinkle w/ slivered almonds. Bake 18-20 min. *Makes 16 macaroons

Ginger Snaps

3/4c. softened margarine
1c. sugar
1 egg
2tb. molasses
2 1/4c. flour
2 ts. baking soda
1 pinch salt
1ts. ginger
1/2ts. cinnamon
1/4ts. ground cloves

Preheat oven 375F. Mix all ingredients in med. bowl. Chill dough. Roll teaspoons of dough into balls and place balls on greased baking sheet. Bake 10min. *Makes 2-3 dozen snaps

Chocolate Chip

1c. softened butter
3/4c. sugar
1/2c. brown sugar
1ts. vanilla
4 egg whites
2 1/4c. flour
1ts. baking soda
1/4ts. baking powder
1 pinch salt
2 c. chocolate chips

Preheat oven 375F. Mix all ingredients in med. bowl. Drop dough, by tablespoonful, onto greased baking sheet. Bake 10min. *Makes approx. 4 dozen cookies

Cooking Column

Jeana C. Breton
Columnist

Baking cookies takes very little time and energy, but there are tricks to the

RULE #6
ALWAYS place cookies approx. 2" apart from one another on your baking sheet so that they have room to increase in size while baking, and so that the cookies do not stick together.

RULE #7

Even if you can fit more than one cookie sheet in your oven at a time, only bake one batch of cookies to start with. (I learned this from one of my friendly dorm-mates) This way if something goes wrong, all your cookies will not be ruined. Also, it allows you the opportunity to alter cooking time, or dough consistency if necessary before baking the next batch. Once you are sure your cookies are going to come out alright, it is safe to place more than one baking sheet full in the oven. REMEMBER that the sheet closest to the heating element will finish baking first.

RULE #8

CHECK on cookies before they are supposed to be done, just in case. Not all ovens are exactly the same and temperatures can vary. Cookies are done if they are starting to lightly brown around the edges. Check bottoms of cookies to make sure that they do not burn.

RULE #9

Allow cookies to COOL before trying to remove them from the baking sheet. If you do not obey this rule, your cookies will most likely crumble when you try to pick them up (peanut butter cookies are especially fragile).

RULE #10

While waiting for cookies to finish cooling, keep them on a plate or other flat surface. Do not stack them until they are no longer warm or else they will stick together. After cookies are cooled, store them in a cookie jar, tin, or other air tight surface so that they stay fresh.

Cookies are best served warm with cold milk

trade that should be learned before any aspiring baker begins. I am going to term them the ten rules of successful cookie making.

RULE #1

Make sure the oven rack is positioned in the center of the oven NOT close to the heating elements otherwise your cookies will most likely burn.

RULE #2

Follow recipe directions exactly unless you have had so much baking experience that you feel confident using alternative ingredients and/or measurements.

RULE #3

Unless a recipe specifically says not to, ALWAYS grease your baking sheet so that the cookies do not stick; this can be done with butter, margarine, oil, vegetable shortening, or cooking spray. (I find that Crisco & Pam work quite effectively.)

RULE #4

When a recipe calls for rolling out dough make sure that you have lightly floured the surface you intend to roll the dough out on as well as the rolling pin. Most cookie recipes want you to roll the dough out to either 1/4" or 1/2" thickness. You can roll it thinner or thicker, but be warned this means the cooking time will change: LESS for thinner cookies, MORE for thicker cookies.

RULE #5

If your dough is very wet or sticky to the touch you are going to end up with runny cookies. AVOID this by adding tablespoons of extra flour to the batter until the dough seems manageable, but still moist.



What's What

When soap operas and real life become indistinguishable

by Sean O'Neill

Ah, the similarities between the wonderland of television soap operas and Bard's "social life"!

25 million Americans tune in each mid-afternoon to hear tales from the fictive TV towns of Oakdale, Salem, and Genoa City. Viewers want to escape to a place where everybody is feckless, self-pitying and gorgeous. Which places Bard two-thirds of the way to becoming a national "daytime drama."

Not enough blackmail happens in Annandale, New York, for it to be identical to TV's Pine Valley, New York, but in both places everyone sleeps with everyone else.

The popular characters on "daytime dramas" are those who lack self-assurance, who are short-sighted, and who are unresourceful. These "good guys" fall in love with creeps from the wrong crowd; they bumble into heartache and abandon promising opportunities.

The truly despised folks on soap operas are those who carefully manage their plans to succeed. The "bad guys" have all the keys to thriving in life. They are resilient and take well-planned actions.

A few students at Bard endure pain caused by various things, from body-tissue damage to psychological disturbance.

But those who are whiny over other matters, however legitimate or distressing as their concerns may be, tend not to be as entertaining as their TV counterparts.

If you listened closely to the gripes of Bard students, you would think that a score of us suffered from food-poisoning each week, that many of us have insatiable appetites for sex that cannot be controlled despite the consequences, that we suffer headaches because of undiagnosed brain-tumors, *etcetera*.

Because I've acted like a querulous soap opera character frequently, I think I recognize these ironies in others.

In the immortal words that Oberholtzer's custodian, Hildegard, said to me last winter, it is time that we Bard students grew up.

Because I risk libel and boredom by detailing the soap opera of a Bardian, I will gossip instead about a friend from New Jersey.

In the soap opera that is Jersey, Vinnie Butari is a model character.

The three most dramatic changes in twenty-year old Vinnie's life since May are his withdrawal from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute for a job with Northern Telecom in South Carolina, his engagement to a dumb brunet named Samantha, and his purchase of an eighteen-thousand

dollar, red sportscar to impress women. Those items are listed in an anti-climatic series, Vinnie prizing his slick Corvette most.

Vinnie's dream is to one day design the microscopic mechanical brushes that might course through people's arteries, unclogging the results of high-fat diets.

If he achieves that goal, it will be after the sales of innumerable McDonald's hamburgers and Domino's pizzas — he has kept one fast food job after another ever since he turned sixteen.

Through high school and college, Vinnie has been a worker who regularly skirts the edges of burnout to pay for his credit card bills.

Every application form for a credit card ever sent to Vinnie Butari was accepted by him to pay for his generous gifts to women. (A five-hundred dollar "tennis bracelet" for Samantha is a recent example.) While courting bankruptcy as a teenager, he simultaneously collected an impressive credit record. So, when his car died from exhaustion after Albany pizza deliveries, he headed South to a dealership that approved a car loan on the basis of his record. (It didn't hurt that he was a white male, either.)

His parents were dismayed at his new purchase.

"They're just jealous," he says, going

well past the speed limit in a residential neighborhood.

Living with a woman, having a nine-to-five job mapping electronic networks, and renting a spacious apartment had seemed like the ultimate wish-fulfillment for Vinnie, until he got it all. Samantha irritates him now.

"She acts as if she's still living at her mother's, forgetting to close the refrigerator door, refusing to wash the dishes," he says, with his peculiar laugh that reminds me of an un-oiled screen door being opened.

Samantha is dumb. Of the many not-so-swift I have met in life, she is the most oh-so-daft.

Within her cranial cavity, one supposes there is a mind. Yet her knack for uttering the vaporous and preposterous while gleefully shaking her bosom makes me wonder. If Massachusetts was populated by the ship *Mayflower*, then New Jersey was populated by the spaceship *Likewow*.

His marriage is this summer, since her home pregnancy test result was pink.

"Looks like I waffled her with a sperm."

On second thought, Bard students are very mature.

Tune in next week, folks.

Bard Spring

The satirical saga continues

by Sean O'Neill

The year was 1997, and Bard's president was despised because people assumed he wielded great power in campus affairs. A cover story in *Newsweek* profiled Hernandez under the title "The Most Exasperated College President."

"If only I was despised for good reason," Hernandez told the interviewer. "But anytime I make a move to act, I'm checked on all sides!"

Today on the way to his office, he was stopped by some petitioners, like Russian peasants in 1905 pleading to the tsar to intervene on their behalf against the grinding, impersonal bureaucracy.

First was a professor indignant at the president's new fund-raising idea that was called "Adopt-A-Student." Alumni would choose a student and pay the cost of about a pack of cigarettes a day to help support that student's education. An alumnus would get a picture of the student and receive regular reports on the child's progress. Hernandez promised to reconsider the plan.

A few more steps, and he was intercepted again. Second down and six.

"I'd like to be editor of the campus literary magazine," said the perky lad.

Hernandez took the youth to his wood-paneled office and called the Publications department. Apparently, some student already held the position.

"Can't you depose him?" the student asked. "He's utterly irresponsible."

Hernandez promised to look into it.

A glance at the mail uncovered his subscription to *The New Republic*, and three envelopes containing books for him to read.

Hernandez then called on the telephone a professor who has been delinquent in submitting his grades. The excuse he received for the eight-month delay is that the professor writes extraordinarily good comments along with his grades, having elevated such matters to level of Art, and that decent art takes time.

A glance at his schedule showed Hernandez's plans for trips around the country for various speeches, conferences and television shows. It seemed that the more trouble the president faced at his college, the more he was away from the campus on trips.

He chose to ignore the latest disorder caused by the BAPL, who had protested the ban on the Menage by having an Annandale Book Tossing Party. A group of students dressed as Savings and Loan ex-

ecutives snuck into the library at night and had tossed hundreds of books out of the fourth floor window. Security rounded up the bandits and sentenced them to community service, the most dread of assignments being the Bard community chorus.

In order to placate the students, he recommended a policy of "Food Choice." He opened hearings on inviting a new food service to be used in the cafeteria. Students would be given vouchers to use at eateries anywhere on campus for food whenever they wanted, with payment at semester's start, but in whatever denominations a parent specified. This would, according to the president, diminish the incentive of the food service to supply bad food that is cheaper or to skimp on hours and quality.

This effort at conciliation backfired, however, with Hernandez's nonpareil flair for inciting campus passions. The restaurant chain called "Hooters," which employed scantily clad female food servers, had made an attempt at getting the contract. Hernandez had to cancel the hearings due to bad publicity.

He had his supporters. These so-called Hernandezistas said that credit was due the new president for stimulating a sense of civic duty in the faculty. He had

been hired in part to unify the campus, and they were united in horror.

The science division had the most representation of professors in political positions at Bard in 1997. The results had been handsome. In addition to getting more new speakers, more buildings and more money, they had just laid the foundations for a supercollider laboratory.

The history department had learned from this recent history. They ensconced themselves on various faculty committees and prevented the Soros Charity Foundation from donating matching funds for the Disney company to build its planned American History theme-park on the Tivoli Bays Wildlife Refuge.

All the professors, regardless of divisional affiliation were outraged by Hernandez's plans to change Bard's athletic division to a competitive one where Bard could lure top players to play basketball.

At least Hernandez did not face any satirical student writers in any campus publications. Electronic mail had replaced the necessity of a campus newspaper in 1996.

(To be continued to be confused.)

Musical Scavenger Hunt

by Rami Cohen

Hey! Do you like contests? How about prizes? Well, here is your chance for both. This is a song contest in which you must find songs to fit the requirements specified in the following list of categories. (One song per category.) Record the songs on a tape and send them to me at Box 686. I'll listen to your submissions to verify their fulfillment of the categories, and then send them back to you (so this is not a scam to get blank tapes.) Submissions must be received by March 15th. Winners will be notified by mail and probably announced in the *Observer*. And now...the prizes. First place will receive a new car! Not! Actually, the 1st place winner will get a pint of Ben & Jerry's from deKline. 2nd place winner will receive a large bag of chips from...deKline. 3rd place winner will receive a diploma for being smart enough to actually place. No. 3rd place will receive a half-pound of candy from (you guessed it) deKline. Please include a list of songs and the categories they are for.

So come on music lovers, here is a chance to apply all that knowledge of your music collections and get something for it. Find a song that:

- 1) Whose title is also the title of a movie (no "Theme from" songs.)
- 2) Fades out as if it is going to end...BUT DOESN'T.
- 3) Whose title is a number (and only a number)
- 4) Which is under ten seconds long.
- 5) Has vocals but no words—at all.
- 6) Mentions at least two different people with the same first name.
- 7) Has a mistake in it (specify the mistake)
- 8) Which mentions body parts on the wrong parts of the body.
- 9) Praises television.
- 10) Protests censorship.
- 11) Mentions intentionally intoxicating someone besides the singer.
- 12) Which is about getting a haircut.
- 13) Is about the demise of a cartoon character.
- 14) Mentions at least five different games.
- 15) Is about a beverage that does not contain alcohol.
- 16) Which has at least two different animal noises in it.
- 17) In which the singer expresses his/her distaste for the song that is played.

Oh yeah. The entire song must be recorded or it is disqualified. Good luck and happy hunting.

THE BARD OBSERVER



wants you!

Writers, artists, cartoonists, photographers, etc...

Thursday, 7pm

Tewksbury Basement Rm. 84

758-0772

Madame the Gypsy Queen's Forecast

Taurus (April 20- May 20): Just try to begin your school work (reading, projects, etc.) sometime before 1 AM this week. You will find that even the most obscure readings make much more sense! Finally, try to avoid discussing qualia outside of class. (It is rude.)

Gemini (May 21-June 20): A romance heats up when the weather is cold! Take extra time for that special potential someone.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Take the time to return calls to old friends or lovers with whom you ought to make peace. Bury the hatchet, and use the kitchen knife to split the sourdough bagel!

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Your brashness can be offensive, because your strong solar side is blinding when not properly controlled. As you are a sign of the sun, pay close attention to its ability to sometimes burn!

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sep. 22): In the past things have been difficult—your sex life bit the big burrito!—but now you can relax. Spring, and... good lovin',... are on the way!

Libra (Sep. 23-Oct. 22): Even though you are known by friends to be impartial, you find it impossible not to take sides occasionally. Keep in mind that the end is uncertain, so think well about the means.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): It's a good week to open up to those that you care about. Find the tender side of your heart and use it to your own personal advantage. Use your often-dangerous temper only on those who are truly deserving, i.e., the bastards!

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Finding the right thing to wear isn't always as easy as it seems. Take a few extra minutes to consider your wardrobe this week.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 21): You can look forward to a nice surprise this week! Use your many talents to do something nice for yourself— You will profit greatly from relaxation and a little self-indulgence!

Aquarius (Jan. 22-Feb. 18): Although you haven't been feeling well lately, your health will return soon. You have a remarkable healing power, which will be on the rise as Uranus (your very own planet!) continues its journey on your chart.

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): What may seem unrealistic to some is actually just another person's dreams. And if we can't dream, what can we do?

Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): Strength! That is the key to your week. Your nature is one which simply refuses to give up! After this week, things will run much more smoothly.

Retina Soybean

Vol. 2
1
©

AND/OR FRIENDS
IN
"THUMBFLAX"

By John Merzini +
Dan Vena

THE CRITICS RAVE

"Thibly tout fandangle.... for the whole cheesecake."

- LUMBER LUMBAR -

"More fun than a tea party in queens"

- CRAZY CRANK -

The Student Judiciary Board's Role

by Andrew Fowler, SJB Chair

I hope this article can serve two purposes. First, I would like people to know more about the Student Judiciary Board and its function on this campus, and second, I want to inform the Student body that Kapil Gupta, the former SJB Chair, has offered to act as a resource for students thinking of bringing cases to the Board.

You may wonder why I have not written on the function of the SJB before. I was concerned that any strong public statement from me about the SJB and the process involved in bringing cases could be seen as an endorsement of one side or another in potential cases we might see. At this time, I feel that the need for public information about the SJB overrides that concern.

There are several things every student should know. The Board is by no means controlled by the administration, or in particular by the Dean of Students. Within the two years that I have served on the Board, students have cast the deciding vote in cases more than once. Every member has an equal vote, while I have the same right to veto a decision on suspension or expulsion as Dean Morgan.

There are five student full-time members, including myself, and two student alternates. There are also one faculty and one staff representative, with respective alternates, and the Dean of Students. We need a total of six members to hear a case, and there is no stipulation of the ratio of students to faculty/staff beyond that the Chair and the Dean of Students be

present. This usually means that on any given case, there are more students than faculty/staff sitting to hear the issue.

I mention this to reassure student plaintiffs and defendants who may fear being railroaded. The number of students on the Board guarantees that students' rights will be closely protected; at the same time, the presence of faculty and staff members also provides protection for the rights of non-student community members.

The Board understands the difficulty in bringing cases, especially where physical or sexual assault is involved. We strive to make the process as relatively easy as it can be for both plaintiff and accused. We do everything we can to make the actual hearing as brief and concise as possible, and we carefully consider the emotions of all involved. Although bringing cases is hard, I urge anyone who has been wronged to come forward. That is the right thing to do, both for yourself and for the community.

There is always the danger of appearing to support only one side in a dispute. Though we stand behind those bringing cases, for the protection of everyone's rights we must assume any defendant is innocent until proven guilty. This means we consider both sides of each case, without prejudicing and without presumption one way or the other. This is the only way to reach a just decision, but sometimes it can be frustrating for someone who legitimately feels that they have been victimized. I guarantee our best efforts to get at the truth and bring the matter to a just conclusion.

This brings me around to my final and

perhaps my most important point. We are interested in truth. People come before the Board accused of minor offenses, major offenses, and everything in between. We only want to hear their version of what happened. We are not vindictive or arbitrary. Telling the truth cannot make matters worse, but lying can. Unfortunately, some defendants try to bend the facts a bit to try to increase their chances of getting off. If we determine that anyone involved in a case lied to us, this disappoints us terribly. I can only implore you to stick to the truth, whether you are bringing a case of defending an accusation.

For those interested in more details about the Board and its functions, I suggest you read p.114-118. Section Three on page 116 is most informative about the process of bringing cases. The most important things about bringing or defending a case include the following:

1) You must submit in writing to either me, Andrew Fowler, Box 776, or to Dean Morgan's office which will forward the statement to me. The accused will receive notice of the charges and the name of persons bringing the case. The accused have a chance to prepare a written statement, and once they have submitted it, each party will get a copy of the other's statement.

2) All, repeat ALL, written material, evidence, character witness statements, and any other documentation, must be submitted at least 24 hours before the hearing. This is to assure that all parties get time to see the material. Also, all written statements that describe the matter in question are distributed to both plaintiff

and accused.

3) You may bring witnesses, but only those with first-hand knowledge of the events at hand. You may also ask me to call witnesses for you, but I cannot compel anyone to appear as a witness.

4) Barring legitimate concerns of safety, both plaintiff and accused *must* attend the hearing. Hearings are always private, unless both parties agree otherwise.

5) Attorneys are explicitly banned from all proceedings. Whether you consult them or not is your business, but they are not allowed in the hearing for any reason.

6) Each party may have a silent support person to comfort them during potentially difficult proceedings. The key word is "silent", and the supporter may not speak or communicate beyond offering comfort.

7) The Chair must issue a written decision within 72 hours of the rendering of a decision. This decision will be made public, minus all specifics of the case and without the names of those involved, at the next Forum. Such a statement sounds like this: "The SJB heard case of alleged theft of a (fill in the blank), and determined that the defendant(s) were involved. The sanction was three days swabbing the decks in Kline."

I urge anyone with more substantive questions to address them to me or Kapil Gupta, who has offered to advise and answer questions from those interested in bringing cases. Please read his statement and attend the Forum on Tuesday, March 14, where we will get your input on this issue.

The context and purpose of the SJB Case Advisor

by Kapil Gupta

The statistics regarding reported thefts and sexual assaults on campus are limited indicators of the state of the community. These statistics are limited in the sense that they show only *two* types of *negative* activities that are perhaps inevitable on any college campus. Another indicator of the state of the community has an interest in minimizing infractions of its standards of behavior, one would hope that the number of thefts and sexual assaults would begin to approximate the number of corresponding SJB cases. Unfortunately, this is not the situation. Although we must recognize that not all thieves are apprehended or all survivors willing to submit cases, one can reasonably observe that the Bard community currently underutilizes the SJB.

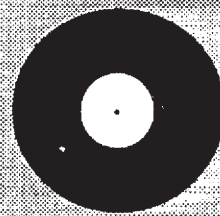
Apart from its dealings with specific cases, the SJB can only claim to be fully effective when all members of the community would be willing to bring cases before the SJB. Where individuals are ignorant of, immune to, or removed from the serious consequences of their actions, the SJB can establish accountability in the

better interests of the community and the offending individual. Nevertheless, in order to function, the SJB requires that victimized/concerned students initiate and participate in the case process. The ability to hold one's peers accountable for their irresponsible actions (through the SJB or otherwise) is obviously an individual right; I propose it is also a community responsibility. Imagine a case where A steals from B, and B is aware of the fact. If B does not report the case, then A is likely and capable to continue stealing, from B, C, D, and everyone else in the community. In short, (ignoring contentious moral arguments...) it is logical that students file cases with the SJB when they can do so.

The SJB is necessarily forced (legally and otherwise) to follow certain standards of procedure that may make the case process seem cold or too bureaucratic. The SJB and its members are prohibited from actively assisting either side in a case beyond providing adequate information regarding the process. I am concerned that SJB process is intimidating or inaccessible to person who may have legitimate cases to file. This troubles me as a member of the commu-

nity and as a former Chairperson of the SJB. On these grounds I have developed the SJB Case Advisor position, to help persons who have submitted SJB case process easier, more understandable, less straining, and most effective for the person filing the case. Until the SJB is commonly and unreservedly accessible for resolutions of student misconduct, it will remain ineffective in addressing (possibly) continued acts of specific injustices. Although the details of the position are still being

finalized (concerning its student government status) I would like to publicize that I am currently accessible for consultation on potential cases. Depending on how much information you are willing to give me, I can give you some idea about what your case would involve if it were to go before the SJB. If you have already decided to file a case, I am also available to assist you with all aspects of case preparation. My number is 752-7116. Do not hesitate to call, confidentiality is guaranteed.



Itchin' to spin?

WXBC will hold a meeting for all interested DJ's

Monday, March 13 at 7pm in Albee Social

On the Convocation and Free Lunch (For You)

by Gabor Bognar, Treasurer

Now that the storms (?) of the Budget Forum have quieted down and the unremitting flow of funding requests is reaching toward its predictable tide, this treasurer thought you—you, clubhead you, club treasurer you, you you—wouldn't mind to hear a word from him on budgetary matters. His understanding of your yearning for appropriations detail is only a partial explanation for this columnar appearance. The sudden spectacular revival of our cherished *Observer*—I honestly do notice, plus I'm willing to give the benefit of the doubt—further entices him to contribute his fragmentary verbiage in a thinly veiled attempt to latch on to new glory.

But the real reason I'm writing you on these pages is not to practice my polemics. As I think it became clear at the Budget Forum, we have not only had success at making available more money than ever—\$72,000 for a single semester (just think about the Fall 1993 when the total in the Convocation Fund (CF in short) came in around a mere \$50,000)—but we have also made some progress on how clubs are financed. I would like to summarize these developments so you clearly

see where your Activities Fee is going, and how we are making a strenuous effort to preserve it. I also want to give some information on how you can access the Emergency Fund (EF for simplicity, \$12,563 remaining) and the Laundry Fund (LF similarly, \$1217 before this semester's collections.)

First on balance carry-over—now you're getting excited. The Budget Forum passed a resolution giving all monies left in the EF at the end of the current semester to the senior class—a potentially huge sum regardless of whether one's normative evaluation of the rightness of such action. The same resolution provided that all further leftover funds in this semester's CR (minus the total of any bills that might reach Bard during the summer) be transferred into next semester's (Fall 1995) CF. This had never before, to the knowledge of anyone I know in student government, been allowed by the Administration, so as you know this treasurer was quite worried about the passage of such proposals. I have since conferred with both Shelley Morgan and Mary Thomas, two responsible officers—in my mind, at least—of the reservations, that such a thing could be done. I take this to mean—and there is disagreement or doubt on the part of any party that has not so far voiced their opinions they should now do so on the same pages as I write this column—that this resolution of the Budget Forum will go into effect without delay or qualifications.

Next, your money access. If you've gotten this far, congratulations: you have officially become more informed on balance carry-over than you ever deserve to be punished with; please drop me a note in campus mail and you can have a commemorative certificate with the Treasurer's autograph. You'd also be stupid to quit now, as I'm getting into how your club can have a shot at a more lavish (and more

productive if you care) activities than ever before thought imaginable. That is, how do you tap the EF and the LF.

LF first. The LF is a share of all laundry machine income the school generates semester by semester. It can be spent on capital expenditures, that is equipment purchases and such. The procedure followed is similar to the regular budget submission to the point when the Planning Committee decides to recommend or not recommend an LF request. At this juncture, the Planning Committee collects all the requests and puts them to a campus-wide referendum where you and everybody else will be able to say which proposed expenditure they like most. The referendum is not an election in a win-lose sense. You can simply say, "Yes, I like this idea." If you don't, you don't vote for it, but you don't vote against. The results of this referendum are then shown to the Administration, who give their final nod. Once someone's proposal is approved, they can request funds in exactly the same way as regular funding, except I have to make sure it is spent on the proposed capital improvement.

Given that there were no allocations from the LF last semester and that a number of clubs have expressed interest in the past several weeks, please submit your Laundry Fund request by March 27 for a first round of Planning Committee decisions and a referendum to be held in early April. The funds available, as mentioned above, will total \$1217. This is last semester's LF, so it's high time to allocate it. It is my intention to make this semester's new LF—an amount yet to be determined—available to clubs before the end of the semester, so if your club cannot submit a request by this date, you won't be left out of the riches.

Now the lucrative bit, EF. Write an emergency budget, again similar to the

regular one, and hand it to Planning Committee Chair Jeff Rhyne. Within ten days, the Committee must give your club a response, and any allocated money becomes immediately available through me. You can also spend your EF allocation on whatever the hell you want—hold it—(not alcohol, sorry), so it is less restrictive than the LF. There is also more of this type of money available. Yes, twelve thousand five hundred and sixty-three dollars was the figure you saw a few paragraphs above. Requests for the EF can be submitted at any time before the end of the semester. The biggest boost for you: You could really call the EF the Supplementary Fund (no, not complementary). You won't need to dream up an emergency scenario for your request to be considered, any reasonable proposal goes.

Now even I am bored with myself, so it might be overdue to finish this thing up. However, I still need to subject you to the pain of some last thoughts. As I promised you in September, your funding request will be acted on—check in your hands—by the Friday of any week, if you make sure the request is in my hands by the previous Tuesday 9 a.m. (sharp). That's a turnover of no more than four days, and you can't beat that. If you have any concerns or questions regarding the CF, EF, LF, or anything else that I'm supposed to know about, find me at 752-7276, or in North Hoffman 104.

(Two more sentences and it's over). Given the success of the resolution on balance carry-over passed at the Budget Forum, I will personally sponsor a constitutional amendment at the next forum on March 14 that will establish a similar process in perpetuity. If it is important to you to that your Activities Fee should stay in your own pocket and not flow somewhere else under some manufactured excuse, come and support it.

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Sunday, March 12 in Olin Auditorium



chew this

The sports page returns

Volleyball team stumbles, while fencers finish season.

Michael Poirier
Staff
Writer

Oops. Sorry about that.

Last week there was no sports page. That is not because no sports were going on. Quite the contrary, quite a bit happened in the last two weeks that unfortunately, space and time constraints made it impossible for this reporter to report upon. (The faster you go, the smaller you get—the special relativity of a second semester senior.)

Anyway, let me immediately apologize to all the hard working athletes whose exploits did not grace these inky pages.

Varsity Sports

Sebastian Salazar from Lima, Peru has been named Athlete of the Week. A middle blocker with the men's volleyball team, Salazar has posted some impressive stats working below, behind and above the net. Averaging 3.5 kills a game, Salazar is also averaging .40 aces a game (9th in the NCAA) and 2.7 digs a game (8th in the NCAA.)

While Salazar has shone, his team has unfortunately lost at least four of their last six matches. Back on February 23rd, the Blazers defeated Rivier College in four rela-

tively close games (15-13, 14-16, 15-2, 15-11).

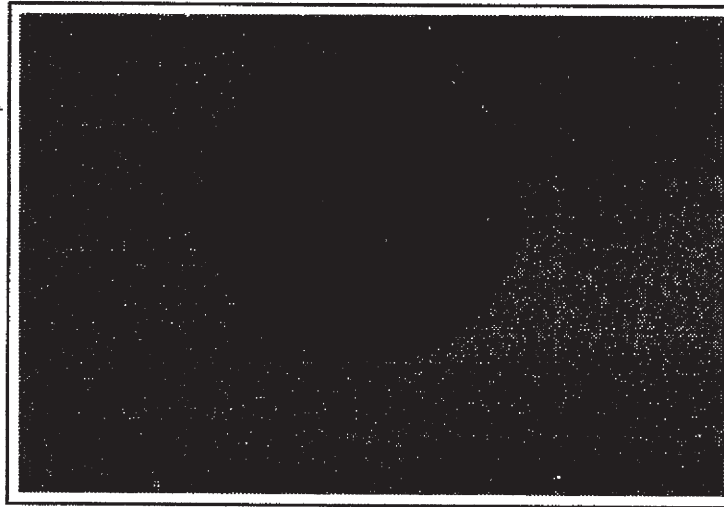
Then, on February 25th, the Blazers lost their two matches at the imposing-sounding Gothic Knight Invitational Tournament. The team fell to both Ramapo and Jersey City State in straight games. The month of March did not get off to a much better start. The team was beaten by Sacred Heart last Thursday by the score of 15-4, 15-6, 15-7.

On Saturday, the Blazers snatched defeat from the jaws of victory when, after crushing Baruch in the first two games without losing a point, the Bard team ultimately lost by a final score of 15-0, 15-0, 5-15, 11-15, 4-15.

Assistant Director of Recreation/Intramurals Kristen Hall told me that the team then lost to SUNY Purchase, but a trustworthy spectator friend of mine was at the match, and he is "pretty sure" that the Blazers actually won. Nevertheless, the score was 15-2, 13-15, 15-7, 15-5. (The truth will out next week!)

The men's volleyball team's overall record is four wins and nine losses. Their conference record is no wins and six losses.

The men's fencing team completed their season with a final record of three wins and four losses. Their last match was a refreshing defeat of Baruch last Wednesday by a



score of 16-11. Three Blazers posted impressive season records: Jim Puljanowski went 11-4 on Epee, Stephen Stephens was 9-6 at Sabre, and Danny Vera finished 11-4 with Foil.

The women's fencing team also completed their season with a final record of no wins and five losses. Back on February 25th, the team placed 13th at the National Intercollegiate Woman's Fencing Association Team Invitational (NIWFATI for short.) Blazers Nicole Grimes and Sarah Granett received the honor of being nominated to compete in the Northeast Regional Fencing Championships.

Finally, there will be a meeting for all men interested in playing on the varsity tennis team today (Wednesday, March 8th) at 4:30pm in the Stevenson Gymnasium.

Intramurals

Bard skiers brave Belleayre

Misti Williams
Guest
Writer

On Friday, Feb. 24 the Bard Ski and Snowboard Club travelled to Belleayre Mountain. Leaving

Bard with sunny and 50 degree conditions, we were greeted at the mountain by wind and snow.

Although the weather wasn't perfect, that didn't stop the ten Bard skiers from braving the half-pipe and conquer-

ing the chair lift (Jennifer Novik was victorious.)

Encountering a blizzard upon our departure, we were fortunate to have Kristen Hall as our navigator, she's one of the most experienced ice and snow drivers in the east; but she's not too swift with the rear anti-lock brakes.

Our next trip will be Saturday, March 11th for twilight skiing at Catamount Ski Center.

Look for the flyers and contact the Department of Athletics and Recreation if you're interested, 758-7530.

After Spring Break, the Natural High Committee is looking to sponsor a Rollerblading Clinic. Watch for more information as it is announced.

Gina's in the house

After years of waiting and searching, the Athletic Department has finally hired Bard's very first official Athletic Trainer (sound of trumpets here.) Gina Delmont has arrived with a lot of letters after her name (A.T., C.; E.M.T.) and a lot of plans. Delmont's office hours are Monday through Friday from 1-2pm in the Athletic Training Room, located within the men's and women's locker rooms. As her flyer promises, there will be "questions answered, evaluations performed, treatments administered" as well as "great coffee and conversation."

Delmont will also be conducting a Wellness Lab on Wednesday evenings from 8 to 9 in the Athletic Training Room. The Lab will feature discussion of personal fitness concerns, answers about injuries acquired and good health conversation.

Furthermore, Delmont is also instructing a series of free Fitness Seminars. Week One is "From Beginners to the Regulars" and will provide an introduction to personal fitness as well as a chance to meet Athletic Trainer/Fitness Director Gina Delmont in person. The Seminar starts next Monday, March 13 and will continue each weeknight from 7-8pm.

Well, that's about it for my second foray into sports journalism. Where old clichés go to die...

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.

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My Two Cents



by Michael Poirier, King Missile

As the front page article and the couple of letters on this very page attest to, there was almost an *interesting development* in student government. Nearly a scandal of Watergate proportions, a brouhaha reminiscent of the Profumo debacle...

Well no, not really. Not even Whitewater or dishwater, to be quite honest. Just a few lonely hours outside the post office and a loudmouth version of democracy in action. But golly, it sure is refreshing to hear at least three voices angry and disgruntled by Bard politics as usual; and also to witness an election (other than the Entertainment Committee) where there is more than one candidate!

Let's look at the situation. It is the responsibility of the six members of the Central Committee to oversee campus-wide elections. These members of student government, our previously elected officials who receive \$300-a-semester stipend, could only manage to be available for eight random hours spread over two days.

That is patently ridiculous. Sure, everyone has classes, even on Thursday and Friday. But why couldn't the Committee at least post the hours when they would be available? That way, voters could schedule their chances to vote. That way, nobody would be excluded from the democratic process, whether by incompetence, negligence or hectic schedules. Watch for an amendment at the next forum mandating this procedure for the future.

And how about that alleged "harassment" near the ballot box? So long as this anonymous member of the Student Life Committee didn't physically or verbally assault the voter, or somehow prevent the voter from actually voting for the candidate of her choice, there really is no constitutional or democratic issue at stake here.

That is the way democracy works kiddo. Voices in favor of a candidate, and opposed to that same candidate, must be heard. If only the candidate is allowed to speak for him or herself, what guarantee (indeed, what precedent) is there that the truth will be told? What is the likelihood that the candidate will reveal his or her own secret agenda? Freedom of speech, of campaigning both positive and negative, is an integral part of the democratic process. And it is that process which Bard students still need some practice with when only one-tenth of us actually vote (so much for that 100% participation claim).

None of this is to say that any of the candidates for Secretary were particularly insidious or blameworthy. I'm simply insisting that opposing and perhaps unpleasant opinions are allowed to be heard. I am also demanding that the election process be reformed to guarantee every student a designated time to vote. It is the lazy hinges of pubescent bureaucracy that harm the workings of democracy far more than the righteous voices of protest.

Where's the ballots?

Dear Editor,

Hear yea, hear yea. Listen, I went to the pool room last Thursday morning to do my duty as a student and vote for Secretary. The only problem was that there was no one to take my vote. Alright then, I thought, I'm a flexible guy, I'll come back later. So I came back after lunch and to my sur-

prise there was still no one to assist me in exercising my franchise. Now I was somewhat perturbed by this but I knew it had to be an accident because our glorious Secretary must have been able to organize an election so that those who wish to vote can vote. So, I decided to return midday on Friday. When I did there was still

no voting apparatus. This is bullshit. I tried to vote not once, not twice, but three times. I was unable to and I am pissed. The few times I try to vote participate in student government I get shit on.

Name withheld by author's request

Where's the beef?

To the editor,

Greed has no conscience!

If it's on behalf of animals, pressure groups glamorizing the abuse and slaughter of animals for pleasure and for profit, can be counted on to offer opposition.

The same organizations are backing "Animal Owner Rights" legislation, while blocking laws and ordinances to protect animals.

If greed, greed, greed is the name of the game, caring people (not buying beef) can impede at least one group whose policies affecting lawmakers have a harmful impact.

Around the country, large numbers of legislators and local

officials are, in fact, cattle ranchers—perhaps the same ranchers who are trying to wrest control of land (belonging to all Americans) from our government in order to block range reform. Overgrazing and other abuses on our public lands can be directly attributed to cattle interests.

When rancher-legislators or rancher-officials control law-making bodies, conflict of interest and ethics involved should be questioned. Those who care about animals and our public lands can, also, protect without being a local majority, without writing letters, picketing or otherwise going public. They can simply stop buying beef.

Political changes, the result of cattle industry lobbying, may bear testimony to the triumph of greed. Beef (you ate) paid for the changes—changes harming all but the wealthy. But, all the victims together can effectively protest.

No one can help every good cause but most forgotten Americans can help their cause, too, by being part of a "Save Our Overgrazed Public Lands—Don't Buy Beef" movement.

James Griffin
PO Box 2394
Fallon NV 89407

Disappointing democracy

Dear Editor,

Every year the Princeton Review publishes a guidebook to colleges and universities nationwide. In it one can read about the activities and clubs that are available at the colleges and universities listed. Bard is highly rated in many areas, but the one that interests me the most is student government. The Princeton Review states that student government involvement at Bard is one hundred percent. For the most part, this is an accurate assessment.

We can all participate, when we are allowed to vote. Officially there is no structure that exists to prevent any student from participating. But as the election last Thursday and Friday demonstrated, it is possible to exclude people through incompetence and lack of care. When I went to the pool room to vote on Thursday, I found there was no poll box in which to cast my ballot. The *Observer* ad informing us of the election said voting was on Thursday and Friday; it said nothing about limited times. I assumed that the person in charge had just left or was visiting the restroom. I am fairly certain that at least a few students did not vote because of availability.

This next matter alarmed me more than lack of ballot box availability. The issue at hand is intimidation and unethical campaigning in front of the ballot box. When I re-

turned in the afternoon, I was happy to find a box and a member of the student association guarding it. As I walked up to the box I was accosted by a member of the Student Life Committee that I must not vote for the candidate of my choice, that I MUST not vote for the candidate of my choice. I was surprised not only by their fervent action, but also by the fact that a member of the Central Committee stood idly by and, in essence, condoned this action. As far as I knew, and still know, this type of intimidation is not allowed. I am ashamed to be a part of a college that allows students to be harassed while voting. I am angered that an elected member of our Student Life Committee participated in these intimidation tactics. I am ashamed that a member of our school's highest committee did nothing to stop these actions. What occurred here was a mockery of the voting process and a sad day for Bard democracy.

I think back to the Princeton Review's guide that I had read prior to selecting Bard College and remember the excitement I got from the possibility of being one of the one-hundred percent of students who participated in government. Yet now I realize that participation is limited to the convenience and the opinions of those already in power.

Eva Olsgard

Book/stuff sale

To the Bard community:

The Student Life Committee would like to sponsor a book/stuff sale towards the end of the semester. The idea would be for you to sell your books to a student who will need them in the future and for seniors to get rid of all the stuff they've accumulated over the last 4+ years at Bard. We would like this to be a widely advertised event. I'm sure plenty of

locals will be going off to college and would like to buy futons, chairs, refrigerators, etc. Just know this will be going on and be thinking about whether you have anything you want to sell. Also, if you would like to help with the organization or have any you want to sell. Also, if you would like to help with the organization or have any suggestions, let me know.

Debbie Shepardson

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CALENDAR

Brought to you by the Dean of Student's Office

March 8 to March 14, 1995

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, 4:00p, 4:20p, 4:40p, 5:00p, 5:20p, 5:40p.

Tewksbury: 8:42a, 9:02a, 9:22a, 9:42a, 10:02a, 10:22a, 12:12p, 12:32p, 12:52p, 1:12p, 1:32p, 1:52p, 4:12p, 4:32p, 4:52p, 5:12p, 5:32p, 5:52p.

Tuesday: Van to the Lyceum in Red Hook, 6:30p - 10p.

Wednesday: Shop 'n Save Run, 6p - 9p.

Friday: Vans to Rhinecliff Station at 4:20p (4:53 train), 6:00p (6:31 train) and 7:20p (7:51 train). Vans to Poughkeepsie Station at 5:30p (6:19 train), 7:45p (8:35 train) and 10p (10:45 train). Poughkeepsie Galleria Mail Trip, leaves at 5p and returns at 9p.

Saturday: van to AA Red Hook, van leaves at 6:15p from Security. Shuttle to Tivoli, Red Hook, Rhinecliff and Rhinebeck, 10a - 2p.

Sunday: meet at 9:15a to go to various churches in Red Hook, Rhinecliff and Rhinebeck (St Johns, St. Chris and St. Paul). Pick ups at Rhinecliff Station for trains arriving at 6:15p and 8:02p and 10:12p. Pick ups at Poughkeepsie Station for trains at 6:45p, 8:45p and 10:45p.

Meet all vans behind Kline

Wednesday Mar. 8	Thursday Mar. 9	Friday Mar. 10	Saturday Mar. 11	Sunday Mar. 12	Monday Mar. 13	Tuesday Mar. 14
<p>Table Française. Kline President's Room, 5:30p - 6:30p.</p> <p>German Table. Join us for some conversation. All are welcome to attend! Kline Commons Committee Rooms, 6p - 7p.</p> <p>Can/Normal meeting, to discuss the subject "Legalize Weed". Olin Moon Room, 8p.</p> <p>"Changing the Culture of Violence Against Women". A talk by Rosemary Dempsey, Vice President of the National Organization for Women. Olin Auditorium, 8p.</p> <p>The Accused. Movie with Jodie Foster and Kelly McGillis. Tewksbury Lounge, 9p.</p>	<p>Russian Discussion or Rysski Stol. All are welcome to come from 5p 'till ???.</p> <p>Kline Commons Committee Rooms.</p> <p>Benvenuti alla Tavola Italiana. Kline President's Room, 5-6p. Join us for Italian conversation from 6-7p. All welcome! Olin 202, 7p - 9p.</p> <p>"All you Wanted to Know About Heroin but were Afraid to Ask", with Johanna Murdock, Ph.D.. Olin 306, 7p.</p> <p>Thelma & Louise. Movie with Susan Sarandon and Geena Davis. Tewksbury Lounge, 9p.</p>	<p>Bard Opinion Table. Allen Josey and Rich Kelley, Resident Directors, will be available, along with a member of the Student Life Committee. Kline Commons, 12p.</p> <p>Jewish Students' Organization meeting. Kabbalat Shabat: Wind down after your hectic week. Olin Moon Room, 7:30p.</p>	<p>Van to SUNY Albany Library. Leaves at 10a and returns from Albany at 4p, arriving at Bard at 5:15p. Sign up at the Dean of Students' Office.</p> <p>"What do I do with my Bard Degree?" A panel of alumni/ae will speak about their years after Bard, followed by a question and answer period. Olin 102, 2p. Reception will follow at 3:30p.</p> <p>"Communicating Science". A Distinguished Scientist Lecture by Basam Shakhashiri, Professor of Chemistry at the University of Wisconsin. Professor Shakhashiri is an outspoken advocate for science education. Olin Auditorium, 3p.</p>	<p>Cellist Robert Martin and pianist Aki Ando will perform works by Janáček, Brahms, Handel and Robert Moeves. Olin Auditorium, 3p.</p>	<p>Itchin' to Spin? WXBC will hold a meeting for all interested D.J.'s in Albee Social at 7p.</p>	<p>Student Forum. Kline Committee Rooms, 7p.</p> <p>Green Coalition Meeting. Come to discuss campus recycling, composting and other environmental issues. Aspinwall, 8p.</p> <p>"Immigrant Labor and Racial Politics". Lecture by Sociologist Peter Kwong, Professor of Sociology at the City University of New York Graduate Center. Levy Institute, 8p.</p>
<div data-bbox="1424 1951 1789 1990" data-label="Section-Header"> <h3>Support Group Meetings</h3> </div> <p>Monday: OA Woodstock, 7:30p - 9:30p, leaves at 6:45.</p> <p>Tuesday: AA Red Hook, 8p - 9p, leaves at 7:45.</p> <p>Wednesday: AA Barrytown, 8p - 9p, leaves at 7:45p.</p> <p>Thursday: AA Bard, Aspinwall 304, 7:30p - 8:30p.</p> <p>Friday: OA Kingston, 5:30p - 7p, leaves at 5:15p. AA Red Hook, 8:30p - 9:30p, leaves at 8:15p.</p> <p>Saturday: NA Woodstock, 3p - 4p, leaves at 2:15p. AA Red Hook, 6:30p - 7:30p, leaves at 6:15p.</p>						