Map Key

Albee (offices, residences) C3
Alumni Houses C3
Annandale House C2
Aspinwall Creaky Floored Retirement Home C3
Avery Center for the Arts B3
2 Bard Hall C3
Bardland B2
Blazer Stadium C2
Blithewood (Training Grounds of the New World Order) A3
Blum Conservatory B3
Airplane Hangar B3
Brook House C2
Chapel of the Holy Innocents C3
Cruger Village (residences) C1
Dinosaur Observatory A4
Explosives C4
Feitler House (residence) C4
Gahagen House (residence) C4
Hegeman House of Skiff C3
Henderson Computer Resource Plaza C3
Idine Commons C3
Ludlow (administrative offices) C3
Manor Annex (residence) D4
Old Gym Gallaria Mall C3
The F.W. Olin College of Humanities C3
4 President's House Preston (one big office) C3
Proctor Arts Condominiums C3
Ravine Houses (breeding pits) B3
Robbins House of Pain C1
Rose Science Institute C3
Sands House (residence) C3
South Hall (residence) C3
Stevenson Square Garden C2
Stevenson Library and Shooting Gallery C2
Stone Row Penitentiary C2
Student Health Hospital C1
Tewksbury (Institute for the Criminally Insane) C3
Wardens Hall (zo0) C2

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Bard University Finalized

Construction to begin in the summer

Bard Administration has announced this week that, due to the ever-growing demands of students currently enrolled, and the increasing number of applications received from prospective students, it will go forward with its plans to convert Bard College into a university.

Starting this summer, wrecking crews will be called in to demolish not only the existing college, but also the neighboring towns of Tivoli, Red Hook, Rhinebeck, Kingston and Poughkeepsie, among others. The newly designed Bard University, it is said, will span an area of 100 miles from North to South, and 100 miles from East to West; this will effectively make Bard the largest university, and Annandale-on-Hudson the largest dead town in the United States.

The benefactor of this project, Charles P. Stevenson, was unavailable for comment, as he has been mysteriously reclusive since the announcement by the administration. It is rumored that he has developed an acute fear of germs. His next project is said to be a spaceship called "The Charles P. Stevenson Spacehip."

College President Leon Botstein, who has officially changed his title to "The Oracle at Annandale," deferred all questions to his associates, who quickly evaded the subject by offering their opinions about the O.J. Simpson case.

It was made clear that Dean Stuart Levine was unavailable for comment.

Listed below are some of the changes (and some non-changes) that Bard students will see next year.

Academic Life

Most of the familiar academic buildings at Bard will simply be reincarnated into a larger version of themselves in the new university setting. Therefore, Olin will be known as The Olin College of Humanities, Rose will become The Rose Institute for Science and Aspinwall will be known as The Creaky Hoomed Retirement Home for Tenured Professors. Some of the others, however, will go through more radical changes.

Due to the great geographical expansion of the campus, the Avery Center for the Arts (The Theater) will now be located somewhere in the Catskill Mountain range, where silly behavior and excessive shouting will cause avalanches. The Blum Conservatory will be an innocent victim when this inevitably occurs.

Blithewood, which will be even farther removed from the main campus, will become a secret military training base. Here it is said that Vice President 'All Father' Papadimitriou will begin the recruitment of over 100,000 nonveterans for a yet unknown purpose.

Preston will become one huge office for a certain professor. When asked about the future of the prospective film students, this Professor 'X' was quoted as saying, "They'll just have to fail Moderation somewhere else."

The Black Center for Curatorial Studies will be converted into an airplane hangar, which it seems to have been designed for in the first place.

Campus Life

continued somewhere... go find it yourself!
Let it be known that it is now the Year 3005. Over a millennium has passed since the MIB retro-Off-Wars, and humanity now lives in an idyllic society where they all pray to the same god, The Eye of the Pyramid, and the portal of knowledge is paramount. Let us now see then, a small shrine of knowledge in the northeastern mountains of Kholch’ch’Ollah, a land once known as America.

The boy sits underneath a giant statue of a dog, guarding the shrine, with curious rock appeared. The Colossus was Nerval’s favorite place to read the Scrolls of Ancient Wisdom, for it shielded him from the deadly sun, and was just far enough away as to drawn out the loud chattering of the insects in the surrounding area.

Nerval began to read the seventh volume of the Masculinist Interpretations of the ancient poet and intimate friend of the shade, Shelley. He found in it a familiar figure in dusty black robe walking in the distance. "Leandra!" Nerval shouted, as he ran toward the figure.

Leandra smiled as Nerval rushed to meet her. "Nerval," she said to him, "It has been a long time."

"Indeed so," Nerval replied. "It has been a long time since I have seen any of the Master Apprentices. How goes your final labor for the Moving Pictures Guild?"

"Quaintly," Nerval replied, "quite quaintly."

Leandra said, after a moment of hesitation, "And what of you? Have you completed the tasks of the Guild Initiation Ritual? The Circle of spin is nearly at its end."

"I am still uncertain as to what guild to join, elder. Nerval replied, frowning. "I may be forced to prolong my apprenticeship another year."

"Ah, then you are fortunate that your parents are willing to suffer the consequences of your actions here."

Leandra said to him. "As for myself, I must provide you and your devoted servitude to my local magistrature for the honor of apprenticing in these sacred halls of knowledge."

"Let us not talk of such unpleasant matters until the time arrives to do so. Nerval retorted. "That is, after all, the First Teaching of The All-Seeing Eye. Let us instead exchange knowledge. You have grown wise, Leandra, in your years at this shrine. Share with me your knowledge of the older times.

Leandra smirked when she heard this. "Ah, so you remember that I once was of the Archivist's Guild. Very well. I shall tell you of a time when my great land was not yet known as Kholch'ch'Ollah, and all people did not yet pray to the Eye of the Pyramid. The people of those times were so primitive in that they had not yet even learned of procuring labor for labor, and they instead traded with odd pieces of parchment and metal."

"Such strange and barbaric times?" Nerval interrupted. "But what did it all mean, this parchment and metal business?"

"Only the Great Eye knew for certain." Leandra continued. "Anyway, it is fabled that this place of knowledge, where we stand now, still exist in those times. It is also said that much the same here as it now. Apprentices were initiated into guilds, they provided the Final Labor, and danced with fury at the Mid-Nishi Festival of Creation, as we do now. But..."

"But the Earth? The Sun? What?"

"The Apprentices of those times were deeply troubled. They came to these halls of knowledge with a powerful yet naive idealism, only to leave with a stark cynicism and find themselves becomingmatplotlib autocrats in a savage world of bureaucracy. It was they and their kind that weaved the very fabric of the Great Mikh'rohs-Off-Wars."

"Nerval wails for a long time.

"Shall we ever revert back to such horrible times?" He finally asked.

"No, for we are careful to avoid the mistakes of our ancestors Nerval." Leandra replied. "We must not forget what our function in society is as Liberal Artisans. That is, it is our duty after our apprenticeship to acquire small domiciles in large cities, and while supporting ourselves with unpleasant, tedious labor, continue our creative endeavors. Hopefully, these endeavors will then be beneficial to society that appeals to the general masses. Remember, we must leave all practical matters to the machines. They are, in their own way, our ancestors."

Nerval nodded. "Theaelearned..."
Soros continued

Continued From Page 1
worth one-percent more. Tomorrow arrives, the mark is announced to be worth one percent more, and the marks are exchanged back into dollars. That man then has a million dollars to add to the original billion.

With fast computers, and with values changing every hour, much money is made and lost in currency futures. And, in our hypothetical deal of someone buying a billion dollars worth of marks, the deal itself causes the value of marks to increase, encouraging others to buy marks.

The man with a billion dollars, so to speak, is George Soros. But it has not been his own billion that he has usually traded. With his record of successes in guessing rate changes and seeing the long-term trends behind the fluctuations, Soros convinced people to give him their cash that he invested for his and their profit.

People have placed money in his hands since 1969 when he opened the Quantum Fund. This is similar to a mutual fund (with a premium), where an investor buys shares (about $500,000 a share) in the Fund. The cash is used to buy many currencies, as well as stocks. Over several years, shareholders take out of the Fund what they own at profits of about forty percent a year, often without taxes to pay. This is a more lucrative way to earn money than depositing funds in an account First Rhinebeck of the Hudson Valley. It is also a more risky way.

To minimize the risk, managers of hedge funds study markets carefully. They decide that, if the Fund invests in X in the hopes that it will dramatically increase in value, but event X instead crashes spectacularly, then event Y must, as a consequence, increase in value because of event X's failure.

There is no easy analogy to convey this concept. Generally, it is that if the Fund invested millions in the stocks of a computer software company, Fournier-Cutter, then it would invest a few hundred thousand in the stocks of a competitor, such as Microsoft. If the first company collapses, in this case, the educated guess is that this will benefit Microsoft and that the value of Bill Gates will increase sharply.

So the Fund, while losing millions in this example, would still have a small amount won in its Microsoft investment. The Fund "hedged" its bets.

On a good day for Soros in 1992, his Fund made $1.5 billion by betting $10 billion that British currency would lose its value further.

On a bad day in 1993, the Fund lost $600 million when it put its money in dollars against the Japanese yen.

Quite an active life, one might say, for a senior citizen who lives on an estate in Southampton.

Hidden Costs?

When one party makes money, another party often loses money, and most economists note that it is taxpayers and small businesses who pay the costs incurred. The central banks of the U.S., Britain, and Japan, either raise interest rates, or else spend six to ten billion dollars a year buying back its own currencies. They take these actions to defeat traders such as Soros, and, more significantly, to defeat the large corporations who see the relatively tiny Soros riding a new wave on the ocean and take their huge surfboards to catch some of the action, too. Once people believe a currency will collapse, everyone sells the currency, and it collapses.

Soros commands several billions of dollars, and plans to spend the money to escape, perhaps, inheritance taxes. Around the time he married Susan Webber, an art historian who is currently running Bard's capital campaign to expand the college's endowment, Soros decided to circumvent traditional philanthropy by creating his own foundations. According to The New Yorker, Soros despises bureaucracy.

He looked to governments that were changing the rules of the political game, in Hungary, China, and elsewhere, and he invested his foundations there to help.

The proper role of Soros' foundations in the world is disputed. For example, a program to build new schools in nations such as Albania requires bribes and gifts to those people who are in positions to speed the construction contracts, permits, and timetables.

Soros' foundations have consequently found themselves spending money in rather unusual ways and on people with rather dubious characters.

The potential, though, for lucrative business connections, and the intellectual challenge of the endeavor and its rewards to the ego, led Soros to this kind of spending.

In short, the man who will speak in Olana this Saturday demonstrates more than the virtues of generosity and dispassionate calculation. He symbolizes how bizarre the free market is that we live in, where a man makes a fortune without producing anything. Soros merely intuits the direction of a shifting breeze of numbers.

Volunteer Opportunities

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 social services.

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. 454.

Survivors of the Shoah

The survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to developing the most complete archive of Holocaust survivor testimonies ever assembled. The goal is to conduct videotaped interviews with as many survivors as possible throughout the world.

To preserve the integrity of the interviews, they will remain in their complete initial form. The testimonies will be made available worldwide to museums and nonprofit organizations devoted to education, historical, religious, and charitable pursuits.

Initial repositories include the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington D.C., Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York, Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies at Yale University and Yad Vashem in Israel.

There was a tremendous response for the interviewing positions in New York. There are, however, volunteer positions available in the office that is being set up in New York. Please note: this is an opportunity to work in a newly created foundation. Transportation cannot be provided due to the location, but please consider taking part if you will be in New York this summer.
Sexuality in right-wing America

By Sean O'Neill

Tomorrow night, Thursday, in Tivoli, Bard students are encouraged to attend a candlelight demonstration against bias-motivated assaults on homosexuals. According to KlaasV. 25% of the 228 assaults targeting a victim's race, ethnic background, religion or sexual orientation were anti-gay last year. Twelve people, it reports, were murdered in 1994 by assailants who admitted to anti-gay motives.

These extreme examples of violence against sexual minorities underline a general homophobia in America.

I stumbled across a conversation a couple of summers ago between two neighbors of mine in New Jersey.

The two women were a generation apart, one a thirty-eight year old and the other an eighteen-year old. One held forth with all the hyperbolic imaginings to do so because, unlike all other dual categorizations of nature that they make (tall/short, thing/other), there are no distinguishing characteristics demarcating people's supposed orientations into groups denoted by such a crazy system and demonstrating its illogic.

One homosexual has little in common with another homosexual in attitudes and actions toward perceiving the world, except when he or she is forced to share a defensive action in reaction to a homophobic society. Conversely, two males who get aroused by looking at a woman may be the two very different people anyone could imagine when their values, actions and personalities are compared.

There are no social or cosmic significances in pursuing exclusively one gender in your sexual interests, any more than for someone pursuing both when the libido sways them.

While none of these words will cause a stir on our relatively open-minded campus, one cannot say these things enough when the Republicans party leads the nation.

The woman arguing that all homosexuals have a list was trying to divide the world into the many Us and the few Them, the heterosexuals versus the homosexuals.

People like her want to make sense of these supposed sexual distinctions and want to develop identifiable markers so that they can tell who falls into which category.

They must resort to foolish imaginings to do so because, unlike all other dual categorizations of nature that they make (tall/short, thing/other), there are no distinguishing characteristics demarcating people's supposed orientations into groups denoted by such a crazy system and demonstrating its illogic.

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Mr. Gingrich, if your America is about freedom, we remind you that our most essential freedom is the right to be truly human. How can you decry your neighbor Candace, who is openly lesbian, while you support the bigoted "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy in the military?

Mr. Helms, we must fashion our lives alone, accommodating occasionally, but never capitulating to, the half-born social ideals of people like yourself. How can you judge the quintessential embodying of the sexual practices of the artists?

Mr. Arney, we can each guide our instincts. Indeed, intelligent guiding will add conscience, but we cannot deny our sexuality, whatever it is. Your derogatory reference to Representative Barney Frank is reprehensible.

Ideally, America is a place where people can significantly improve upon their dreams, despite any handicap of poverty or physical disability.

Except, that is, for the handicap of stubber, superstitious ignorance, which makes all dreams impossible.

Again, the policy regarding homosexuals in the military must be changed. Ample evidence demonstrating the need for change is in a report by the Washington-based Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, which provides legal representation to those stripped of their rank because of accusations of homosexuality.

304 violations of the "Don't Ask" policy have occurred since it went into effect last year. Fifteen "witchhunts," and ten cases in which personnel received death threats because of their actual or perceived orientations, are documented as well.

The discharge rate for homosexuals has remained unchanged under this policy that disallows all discharges based on considerations other than improper behavior.

594 men and women were dismissed from the military last year. In each case, no disorderly conduct was ever proven. Dismissals were based on accusations about orientation and on reports of off-duty activities occurring outside of military bases and naval vessels.

These violations of constitutional rights to privacy, as well as the repeated violations of a policy meant to prevent intimidation, are causes for outrage.

Judge Eugene Nickerson bravely and correctly ruled last week that this policy for gays in the military violates the First and Fifth Amendments. He demanded reinstatement for six homosexual soldiers and sailors who, he concluded, "had done no more than acknowledge who they are..."

There is a need for courage in this, the most recent civil rights movement. Courage is required to take actions now to remove any future stigma for same-sex acts. Public demonstrations may be one way to challenge popular attitudes.

Is Sandeep the Great Adversary?

By Sean O'Neill

Sandeep splices the film "My Coming 2: The Cheerleader Demons" from five reels, subsequently winding it in a large spiral onto a horizontal steel disk.

He is not doing this so he can see the teen flick for his own pleasure. He despises the gruesome, implausible film, about the murder of an Iowa girl with lengthy blonde hair set in a complex system of barrettes.

A silly plot, he thinks. She ought to have known better than to step out of her pick-up at Midnight on a dirt road isolated between cornfields when the cicadas ominously stopped chirping.

No, it's not for him. It's for them. It's for a late night crowd of young women and men, out on dates, anxious for an excuse to kiss in darkness. Sandeep pulls the beginning of the film from the middle of the disk and threads it through a manual reel in preparation for a screening.

He's built, fed and broken down quite a few films these past months for this job at Lyceum Cinema that has brought him some extra cash. Republicans had eliminated work-study programs and student loans, and Sandeep was a loan year for a Bard student such as himself.

Sandeep continuously thinks about his girlfriend. After turning on the projector, he sits back for a moment's rest, thinking of how her mouth is like the inside of a jelly doughnut. Not that she overapplies her lipstick or anything. Quite the contrary. This was just a mental association, something about her crimson sumptuousness that gave him spasms of desire.

I'm projecting these thoughts onto his mind for novelty's sake, obviously. No one knows what he thought of her as he looked toward a view-port at the moving images.

Sandeep had rubbed his fingers along the knobby bones protruding through Sandeep's skin, sending shivers throughout him. The prompt diagnosis: a classic slouch.

Sandeep had handed the doctor's note to his mother, who responded, "That's okay, since you're the Anti-Christ, slouching to work."

Sandeep worries that he really might be the Anti-Christ, all things considered. His girlfriend's father is an upstanding cleric, and he, unreligious, lives in Manhattan."

While this is a short film, a mental association, something Manhattan to his place. You know, A sleepyhead. Like the kids have in sixth grade. And she just stayed around for several months. A very long sleep over. That's all. Nothing big.

And he didn't make the films he showed, either. He's not responsible if the guys in the audience experiment with their thoughts after seeing the movie, right? Not at all.

Should he abandon the cause of returning the menace to Bard? Sandeep dozes off as the film slips out of focus.

(Is to be continued.)
Tank Girl: The Movie Review

"Delightfully awful!"

Helder Mira
Guest Writer

It's a shame this movie didn't come out in time for the Oscars. Maybe it would have blown away Forrest Gump's sweep. (But then again, if a well-made documentary about actually working to fulfill a person's dreams doesn't even get nominated and instead the phallic little golden boy goes to Mr. Gump's dumb luck...)

To be honest, Tank Girl is not by any means a brilliant movie. It is however a delightfully awful little film that plays like a two hour music video, much in the same way that last year's comic-movie The Crow and Oliver Stone's Natural Born Killers did. Unlike those two soundtrack fested rapid cutin barrage of visuals, Tank Girl doesn't pretend to take itself as seriously. If anything, the filmmakers were doing this to have fun. The very premise of Tank Girl's punk style leaves it open to being engulfil in a barrage of alternative pop music, which the producers have gladly seen to, leaving Courtney Love in charge of the soundtrack, in hopes of having a top seller (a la The Crow soundtrack). I'm not much of a music person, so the soundtrack just didn't do anything for me, it only caused an annoying buzz in my ear at times. An interesting point was when Tank Girl broke into a musical number with a chorus line which consisted of prostitutes and transvestites (this number got old quickly).

Created by British artists Alan Martin and Jamie Hewlett, the Tank Girl comic strip followed the rowdy adventures of a girl and her tank in the outback (a twisted female version of the Road Warrior). The strip didn't have any sort of plot or scheme, aside from lots of swearing, drinking, and tons of blood-gushing violence.

To my dismay, Tank Girl the movie lacked most of this while attempting to sustain the mandatory revenge-driven, out-for-justice comic book plot (can someone please tell me which idiot on the Ratings board gave this movie an "R"?). The producers toned this film down just a bit too much so that Ice-T is the only person to utter "Fuck" in the 118 minute running time of the film. The violence is almost along the lines of the A-Team, lots of guns but little maiming and blood. The script is layered with an excessive amount of one-liners for Lori Petty (mmmmmmmm. sorry, I'll do her later) to spew forth in almost every scene. Occasionally, they work. More often, they're forced.

Although director Rachel Talalay attempts to convey Martin and Hewlett's spirit of Tank Girl, the film becomes too watered down as it tries to follow a plot. Its flashy look and sometimes manic editing would make it feel at home if aired on MTV. The snappiest aspect about the visuals is the animated sequences and cutout Jamie Hewlett art (I'm a sucker for Hewlett's art and the animation was just bitching, if straight out of Liquid TV). These pieces are interspersed throughout the film, oftentimes doubling for sets or scenes (better than matte paintings); it might have been neat to see more of the art though, and to have had animated kangaroos instead of the Stas Winston created makeup. While Winston is gifted, he really screwed up on the design of the Rippers, half-man half-kangaroos. They often resemble Winston's other creation, the Predator, when they are in armor; or just look like men in masks when out of armor. Only one Ripper came across as a kangaroo (and turned out to be the most interesting).

All that aside, the casting was great. Lori Petty (mmmmmmmm) truly embodied the spunkiness of Martin and Hewlett's character, even with a watered down script. I was hoping she would be a bit more rowdy (and not have so many annoying one-liners), but she gave a great performance nonetheless (personal feelings of love and obsession for her aside) and was definitely the star of the movie.

Not even Malcolm McDowell's sinister powerfend was able to steal the show as most villains do. Although McDowell was good, he was underwritten and missing from the second half of the film. He played the role of the evil, power-hungry villain having fun very well, and if you look carefully, you will be able to see just a wee bit of Alex Dalar's in his eyes.

Naomi Watts as Jet Girl expected anything about the visuals is the animated sequences and cutout Jamie Hewlett art (I'm a sucker for Hewlett's art and the animation was just bitching, if straight out of Liquid TV). These pieces are interspersed throughout the film, oftentimes doubling for sets or scenes (better than matte paintings); it might have been neat to see more of the art though, and to have had animated kangaroos instead of the Stas Winston created makeup. While Winston is gifted, he really screwed up on the design of the Rippers, half-man half-kangaroos. They often resemble Winston's other creation, the Predator, when they are in armor; or just look like men in masks when out of armor. Only one Ripper came across as a kangaroo (and turned out to be the most interesting).

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An Other View

Bard opinion table feedback

by Allen Josey

The Bard Opinion Table is an outlet for students to voice suggestions, complaints, praise and questions about what's going on at Bard. Starting last semester, Allen Josey and Rich Kelley, Resident Directors, along with a representative of the Student Life Committee, have been having lunch every Friday in the main dining hall at Kline to talk with students. Here are more responses to some of the questions and opinions that have been brought up.

Q: "Why do we have to pay $250 to live off-campus?"

A: Actually, the amount is $210. Page 41 in the Student Handbook mentions this "facility user fee" but provides little explanation as to what it is. Chuck Crimmins, the college controller, explained that this fee is actually an additional fee that students who want to live off-campus are given as a penalty. Every student contributes to paying this fee. However, as a campus resident, this fee is included within the amount charged for tuition and is therefore not given a separate name.

The non-resident fee isrequired by the college's 40 year bond indenture agreement set up in the 70's with the federal government's department of Housing and Urban Development for various campus facilities, which includes for example, the library, the Henderson Foundation, Old Gym and certain parcels of land and the buildings they contain. Even off-campus residents utilize some of these Bard facilities and are therefore responsible for some of this bond indenture. Crimmins explained that this fee was lower for off-campus residents since they use fewer facilities but did not give an actual breakdown of the amount an on-campus resident pays because it was buried in complicated 40 year bond calculations and accounting formulas.

If it is of any consolation public universities, which are often required to keep tuition fixed, charge all kinds of bizarre fees to students in order to keep up with the expenses of running the school, some of which are actually higher than the cost of tuition. Examples include: "Educational Services Fee", "PUB Expansion Fee", "Community Center Maintenance Fee", "Carreer Services Fee", "Library Fee" and the ever popular "Student Fee".

Opinion: "I think it's lame that you have to be on the meal plan as an on-campus resident."

Response: The college, explained Shelley Morgan, signed a contract each year with Woods Food Service for each residential space on campus. Whether a student occupies that space or not, the college pays Woods. The college cannot pay twice for a student's meal; that is, to Woods and to the student if a student does not wish to be on the meal plan.

However, creative alternatives are currently being reviewed! The Student Life Committee is working with Residence Life and Woods Food Service to establish a Food Co-op for the fall '95 semester. A food committee has also been formed as a feedback to Woods Food Service Director Dan Stanzyba is critical in improving food service. I believe, for example, the Grapevine works well. I advise concerned students to contact Marilyn Bernard, the PC heading the committee, or me with suggestions. Let me add that Woods Food Service and Administration have tried repeatedly to form a student food committee without success because students to date are not willing to commit to 1 hour meetings bi-weekly to give feedback or problem-solve. It should also be mentioned that I rarely receive complaints about the food and ask PCs's approximately twice each semester for input, which is usually positive.

Opinion: "I think there should be a Servicemaster Appreciation day."

Q: "Why are student loan checks made to the college? Most schools make checks out to the students."

A: Andrea Parent-Tibbetts, Assistant Director for Financial Aid, provided the following information, which is available to any student. "Your loan checks are issued to you and the college (cosignatory). They may be issued at different times, on a schedule determined by the college. When the college receives your loan disbursement from your lender, the college will require you to sign the check and will pay it to you or to your college account. If the college receives your loan through Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), the transfer will be authorized by you."

Opinion: "Although student activism is an integral part of a fully functional campus environment, it is not the responsibility of the student's to make the school run effectively. That is the responsibility of the administration. For example, it has been repeatedly voiced by students that the present system used for the board plan (i.e. no matter how much you eat, you pay the same price; by how much I mean how many meals?) Yet the administration does nothing. It is the administration's responsibility to consistently strive to improve student life. The Bard administration is strictly reactionary. Get some initiative!"

Response: Shelley Morgan in response to this said that, "In the past five years the college has hired five additional full-time staff in the Dean of Students department. They are Gina Delmott/Financial Director, Allen Josey/RA-Career Development, Rich Kelley/RA-Leadership Development, Barbara Jean O'Keefe/Nurse Practitioner and Eric Klee/Counselor."

Jeff Huang was also moved to Dean of First Year Students to devote special attention to the needs of freshmen students. They were all hired to work proactively in the community, as a result, all members of the dean of students office staff have sponsored programs on a variety of topics in and outside of the residence halls to facilitate discussion and to share their expertise. This has been very successful. The college has also bumped up transportation to New York City, area libraries, and is currently establishing a Red Hook-Trott shuttle with the input of the students from the Student Life Committee. The Campus Center Committee composed of faculty, students and administrators is in the final phase of plans for a Campus Center to improve the lives and activities of students. Student surveys were distributed and many general meetings were held by the committee to gather student input. I would be happy to review the Student Center plans with interested students. (They have been previously reviewed at Forum Meetings.)"

Jeff Huang sponsored a successful Carnival party with a student, faculty and administration committee. He also sponsors alternative events every Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The gymnasium has sponsored a rock climbing course off-campus, despite the expense and lack of follow through from the students who signed up.

The gym also sponsored a self defense course with B.R.A.V.E. and the Dean of Students Office. The Bard Opinion Table was an administrative initiative to obtain student feedback. The President has offered and paid for buses to rallies demonstrating against the financial aid cuts proposed by Governor Pataki. The Director of the Physical Plant and a committee of students, faculty and administrators have organized a new recycling program since it was evident that the program was not working.

I ask students concerned about administrative initiative to link around and take part in all the many discussions initiated by the Administration, students and faculty. I am available to talk at any time. The Dean of the College and the members of the Executive Planning Committee would also be happy to speak with students about academic initiatives, which are very exciting. In a small community such as this, conversation, input and feedback are essential. Activism and initiative are equally valued."
Carrel vandalism

This Sunday, April 2nd, I went to the library to do some work and discovered that someone had written on and torn several of the posters and cartoons decorating my senior project carrel. The posters were all feminist and/or lesbian themed, and the graffiti written on them was all anti-woman and anti-lesbian.

One poster was a xerox of a Guerrilla Girls' poster which asked 'Do women have to be naked to get into the Met Museum?'. The anondizer had written in 'You!!' The second was a cartoon with a picture of a woman and her cat with the caption: 'Hothead Pissant: Homocidal Lesbian Terrorist.' This cartoon had a thought balloon raving in with the caption: 'Feed me Pussy!!' Someone (but apparently someone else because the pen color and writing were different) had written 'Fag' in small letters on this cartoon. Lastly, the writer of most of this graffiti left me this message on another poster: 'You are learning get along with men, you aren't going ANYWHERE'.

I do not have a thought on this, but I have a theory that this was done by the same person or not. I find these events both offensive and threatening. While I am no doubt that the cartoons and posters I chose to put on my carrel carrel may be obnoxious or offensive to some people, I do not believe that anonymous graffiti and the tearing of posters is appropriate. Further, my carrel is in my designated space in the library. While I have earned my way to a senior at Bard, and one who didn't care for my comments certainly had the opinion of moving or complaining to the librarians about it. This, of course, happens all the time.

It seems to me that the college, including its student body, needs to continue its commitment to ending harassment and violence. The graffiti on my posters were anti-woman and anti-lesbian. I was harassed because I am a woman and (once openly expressing feminist views) and because I am gay. We must do something about this kind of harassment.

I am like to kid myself into thinking that Bard is one of the places where women are respected and that gays, lesbians, and bisexuals are free from harassment and violence. Once again, a fellow student has proven me wrong. To say that I am disappointed in an understatement. I am also ashamed by the implicit threat contained in the statements written on my posters, scorned both myself and for other women, gay, lesbian, and bisexual students.

I am also incredibly angry that another student has felt it within his rights to violate both my personal rights and space, and to do so in a cowardly and anonymous manner. I will be graduating this May, and I wish that this was not one of the last memories I will have of Bard.

I realize that since the graffiti was written anonymously, there is little that anyone can do about it. I don't expect the college to go on a full-scale investigation or to ever try to learn who I am.

In my senior project—than to write a letter and mention them to the rest of the world. I am not the only one in the gay rights and space, and to do so in a cowardly and anonymous manner. I will be graduating this May, and I wish that this was not one of the last memories I will have of Bard.

I do not know what you have done. I have violated my mental and physical space, and I have made me very angry. More than that, however, you are participating in a system of institutionalized sexism and homophobia which keeps all women and all gay people (not to mention the rest of the world) down.

If you think of yourself as liberal, please be aware that your actions were those of a bigot. You are part of the problem.

I know that there are people who will think that I am over-reacting. That a little anonymous graffiti is just a stupid college prank, and that I shouldn't waste my energy. But, as I pointed out in my letter to the person who did the vandalism, every individual action of bigotry is part of a system. People are not oppressed merely by laws, but by society, much less a gay or lesbian. I was sexual harassment of a woman or gay student at Bard. But this happened to me, so it's one of the few incidents I have a right to talk about. One lesson I have learned is that breaking the silence is the first step in ending oppression. But I can only break my own silence about these matters. It is up to everyone else to help, both by breaking their own silence and by listening. Talk to your friends.

This stuff is happening constantly. If you think it isn't, you're not listening. And after you've talked to your friends, do something about it.
# BARD CALENDAR

Brought to you by the Dean of Student's Office

April 5 to April 11, 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, 2:00p, 2:20p, 2:40p, 3:00p, 3:20p, 3:40p.

**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 Mall (1p), leaves at 5p.

**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. John’s, St. Chris and St. Paul). Pick ups at Rhinecliff Station for trains arriving at 6:19 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesday April 5</th>
<th>Thursday April 6</th>
<th>Friday April 7</th>
<th>Saturday April 8</th>
<th>Sunday April 9</th>
<th>Monday April 10</th>
<th>Tuesday April 11</th>
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<tr>
<td>Table Française.</td>
<td>Russian Discussion of Russian to Stock. All are welcome to come from 5p till 7p. Kline Commons Committee Rooms.</td>
<td>Bard Opinion Table. Talk with the Resident Directors and members of the Student Life Committee. Kline Commons, 12p - 1p.</td>
<td>Democracy: Triumphant Issues and Perspectives on the Post-Cold War Era. International conference hosted by the Levy Institute, featuring participants George Soros, Ernest Gellner, James Chace, Ian Bremmer, Miklos Haraszti, Katharina Pistor and Stanislav Wellisz. Starts at 9:30a, Olin Auditorium.</td>
<td>Gargoyles, an exhibition by artist Paul Myoda, at the Center for Curatorial Studies, starts today. There will be a reception with the artist at 3:30p.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Green Coalition Meeting. Come to discuss campus recycling, composting and other environmental issues. Aspinwall, 7:30p.</td>
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<td>German Table.</td>
<td>Join us for some conversation. All are welcome to attend! Kline Commons Committee Rooms, 6p - 7p.</td>
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<td>What are U.S. Banks doing in Mutual Funds? A lecture by James P. Cleary, Professor of Economics at Boston College. Levy Institute, 8p.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurnan Barker and Marilyn Crispell will offer a jazz concert tonight at 7p in the Olin Auditorium. The concert is free and open to the public.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Photographer Alex Webb will visit Bard today as part of the Photography Lectures sponsored by the Photography Department. Olin 102, 8p.</td>
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## Free Fitness Seminars

**April 4 & 6:** Men and Weight Training: How to achieve the muscular definition you’ve always wanted.

**April 10 - 14:** Diet and Exercise: How to lose the extra ten pounds in a healthy manner.

**Instructor:** Gina Delmont, Bard Athletic Trainer/Fitness Director.

**Stevenson Gymnasium**

7:00pm - 8:00p.
Basic Ramen
One (1) Package of Ramen
One (1) Cup of Water
One (1) pot

Get a pot. Dump water into it. Throw ramen into pot. Turn on stove. Put pot on stove. Let boil for three (3) minutes.

Chicken Ramen
One (1) Package of Ramen
Some Chicken (what you can find)
One (1) Cup of Water
One (1) pot

Get a pot. Raid dorm fridge to scrounge up some leftover chicken. Dump water into pot. Heave ramen into pot (hey - it's heavy stuff). Chuck your chicken in. Turn on stove. Put pot on stove. Let boil for three (3) minutes.

Squirrel Ramen
One (1) Package of Ramen
One (1) Squirrel
One (1) Cup of Water
One (1) pot

First you gotta catch the squirrel. Then the rest is just like chicken.

Beef Ramen
One (1) Package of Ramen
Some Beef (what you can find)
One (1) Cup of Water
One (1) pot

Scrounge through dorm to find remnants of McDonald's hamburgers. Dump water into pot. Throw ramen into pot. Add your ersatz beef. Turn on stove. Put pot on stove. Let boil for three (3) minutes.

Wabbit Wamen
One (1) Package of Wamen
One (1) Wabbit
One (1) Cup of Water
One (1) pot

Hunt yourself a wabbit. Dump water into pot. Throw wamen into pot. Dice wabbit and add to wamen. Turn on stove. Put pot on stove. Let boil for three (3) minutes.

Blowfish Ramen
One (1) Package of Ramen
One (1) Blowfish
One (1) bowl

Procure blowfish. Find certified blowfish chef. If chef is unavailable, cut blowfish up yourself, choosing the most colorful parts to eat. Add to ramen. Don't cook. It's sushi, stupid. Let your roommate try it first. If roommate dies within 24 hours, don't eat the rest.

Tofu Ramen
One (1) Package of Ramen
One (1) Tofu
One (1) Cup of Water
One (1) pot

Go eat some meat, vegan pansy. Squirrel tastes great.
Maoist Preverter

Open Assault on Corporate Amerika

Lima, Peru. Last week, Comrade Gusto Plante took his own initiative to stage a highly synchronized and coordinated attack on a huge statue of Ronald McDonald, symbol of U.S. Amerikan economic colonization of SurAmericana. Plante fired a rocket at the statue, blowing a chunk out of Ronald's mid-section and groin. Our correspondent caught up with Plante in a safehouse in Montevideo. He looked rested and fit after his strategic, well-coordinated assault on Amerikan crypto-colonialism.

"Hit 'em where it hurts," said Plante. "When dealing with an enemy as cunning and ruthless as the capitalist conspiracy, one must take off the gloves. As Chairman Mao said, 'When we are making an omelette for the collective consumption, some may suffer indigestion or fractured skulls.'"

Imperialist Military Clique
Discovered in Manor Annex

Exclusive to the Maoist Preverter

BardCollege, Annandale, N.Y. A resident of Manor Annex, a dormitory at posh Bard College, opened a storage closet today to find three four-star generals lurking inside. They escaped before she could interrogate them about what they were doing in the dark among the cleaning supplies. Sources say the generals may have been involved in a plot to test new hallucinogens that were to be mixed in with the mashed potatoes in the cafeteria. The incident highlighted Mao's warning: "The counterrevolution rears its malformed head everywhere. Even among the turnips, or in with the mop-and-glo, hide the running-do-capitalist-high-roaders, awaiting their chance to take power back from the people. Eternal vigilance is the key."

Ask Doctor Doctrinaire

On Dec 13, 1968, Forbes Renfrew and William Stick were brutally ambushed by the Chicago pigs. Stick refused to cooperate with the cops and bit off his own leg rather than rat on his fellow revolutionaries, and was left to die in a pan of warm Kook Aid. Renfrew was framed and sentenced to 1300 years in the Federal Pen for allegedly assaulting 14 Chicago Police detectives with a turkey baster. To this day he proclaims his innocence. Today, Renfrew is Doctor Doctrinaire™, answering your questions on revolutionary correctness.

Dear Doctor Doctrinaire,

I'm so bourgeoisie that I even make myself sick. I drive a BMW 700 series my mommy bought me, I have a six hundred dollar-a-week allowance, and I own more CDs than I can count. What can I do about my problem? Please help.

Anguished in Annandale

Dear Anguished,

First, get a poster of Che Guevara and put that mother up on the wall in your room. Resolve to use the words "disenfranchised," "co-opted" and "media-manipulation" at least 5-7 times every day. Finally, put some leftist political slogan bumper stickers on your car. Just in case anyone calls you a hypocrite, memorize a few harsh quotes from Mao, like "Power grows out of the barrel of a gun." That one should shut them up right quick.

Dear Doctor Doctrinaire,

I want to help further the revolution, but I am trapped in the body of a small, bloated Chihuahua. Any suggestions? Concerned in Scarsdale

Dear Concerned,

There is room in the revolution even for a dedicated Chihuahua. Keep up the struggle! Power to the People and Chihuahuas!!

Dear Doctor Doctrinaire

I want to help the struggle but I am locked in a small steel box in the maximum-security wing of Schneckenleitner prison in Berlin. My tiny cell is filled with water so I have to breathe through a straw, but I am still a motivated comrade. Down with the capitalist pigs! Up with the humble soy Patty! Determined in Deutschland

Dear Determined,

Comrade, you must really be dedicated if you could write that letter while you were desperately gasping air through a straw. I hope it was one of those fatter ones you get with a shake at McDonalds. You are an example to the masses. Don't let the man's oppression get you down. Power to the People! fin

Next issue: Mao Cooks Szechuan
Levy, "but individuals were at
Poughkeepsie, problem can only be alleviated by causes
breast cancer, will receive a cial
explained, with an eye towards
more
Bard could make up for the lack of
having
in the
on a few positive developments in the Bard community.
Hence, the college is having a banner year for admissions.
The fact that Bard has had to reject more applicants than ever before is due mostly to the publicity that the school receives for its affiliation with the Bard Center for Studies in Decorative Arts in New York City and Simon's Rock, from "word of mouth," and as a result of diversity mechanisms like the Excellence and Equal Cost (EEC) program, among others.
With these positive developments, commented Botstein, come new challenges for the school, like evolving new criteria for selectivity.
Another problem of growth (which the students touted as the waiting list already known) is, where to house more students. The space problem can only be alleviated by more housing, the president explained, with an eye towards the college's future.
Also regarding growth, Botstein explained to the trustees that Bard could make up for the lack of a "college town" by taking advantage of the popularity and the grassroots development of nearby Tivoli.
Bard is already establishing shuttles which run to and from the Bard extemporaneous village. Other Bard actions could include the purchase of real estate for housing and the expansion of the path leading to Tivoli.
In terms of on-campus development, Bard will use grants from IBM and Mellon for the use of technology in teaching arts, to expand the capabilities of the computer center. The college will use monies given by the Claire Booth Luce foundation to develop a program for female science scholars at Bard.
At the end of his report, the president announced the speaker and honorary degree recipients for this year's graduation. Henry Louis Gates, Jr., African-American scholar, author and educational leader from Harvard, will be the principal speaker at commencement.
Amos J. Davis, Bard alumnus, class of 1944, will receive a Doctorate of Humane Letters. Mary Claire King, the biologist who discovered the gene that causes breast cancer, will receive a Doctorate of Science. The Painter Claes Oldenburg will be given a Doctorate of Arts and the economist James Tobin will be honored with Bard's Doctorate of Fine Arts.
The Bard Medal will be given to Susan Weber Soros, Director of the Bard Graduate Center for Studies in Decorative Architecture.
Botstein intimated that there may be some surprises for the seniors.

President Botstein and Jay Levy spoke on the role that the Levy Economics Institute played in defeating the balanced budget amendment. Letters, personal appeals, and institute reports from the Levy were very instrumental in dissuading policy-makers in Washington from passing this constitutional amendment.

The institute was unified in its opposition to the policy, explained Levy, "but individuals were agency (the Joint Center for Political Studies) and the House Appropriations Committee.

Finally, the crux of the meeting was discussion of the increase in tuition for the 1995-96 year. Vice President Dimitri Panagadoumich' presented several options to the board and demonstrated from a market forecast report that Bard's increase was on par with or even less than the proposed increases of comparable schools like Reed, Haverford and Bryn Mawr. To student representative Dara Silverman's question whether Bard had any contingency plans if cuts are made in federal and state financial aid, the president responded, "We are fighting this battle. If we lose it, we will have to regroup.

(TSee President Botstein's March 21 op-ed piece on financial aid cuts from the New York Times.)

The position of Student Representative to the Bard Board of Trustees is held by New York City for three meetings a year, at which the representatives are given time to express student concerns to the Trustees and administration. Both representative positions will be up for election this spring. Interested students should contact either Dara Silverman or Laurie Curry.

Venture News: The Bard Observer invites writers, photographers, copy editors, artists, cartoonists, etc. to submit your writing for the Bard Observer. All welcome. Meetings are held in room 54, Tewksbury basement, Thursday at 7:45 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 your hands on the music festival work, or even if you are just curious, please call Robin Leibard at 758-7410 (x. 7410).

Lost keys, little yellow keychain. If you find them, please call 876-8355.

I found a skateboard by Manor, Box 1254 to identify.

All blame for this year's April Fool issue should be addressed to its contributors: Andrew "Propagandist and Gladist" Fowler, Kathy "Baby Driver" Hoover, Bill "Red Fuckin' Meat" Hornbostel, Robin "Astro Boy" Kodaira and Michael "Hound of Bitches" Poitier. Remember, it's all in fun and we love you all. Really.

Fay

Student looking for a quiet place to live and do research over the summer. If you are looking for a responsible house sitter or want to sublet your apartment, please call Julie at 752-7253. To the wild woman from this afternoon: kiss me! kiss me! kiss me!—love Billy Ray.

"Tim Hart," give us your real name—we might print your letter.

"Am I too slow to turn my thoughts to words? You can still kicky my to Scrabble...

"What have I done? What have I done? What have I done?"

Repeat: "I will write for the Bard Observer." Repeat.

Stil! Soy "hipt!" Soy "hipt!

Repe t:

Fay

Remember that Bard Observer classifieds are free to the public.

Caribbean Mexico

Europe $169

California $129

If you can beat these prices,
you've got the deal.

Call 212-219-7000.

classifieds are free
to the public.
Earth's most legendary investor

George Soros
Shaping markets, shaping history

by Sean O'Neill

George Soros, the first billionaire ever to visit Bard College, devotes his days to the outbidding of other speculators in the currency markets and to the rescue of his birthplace from its own worst instincts.

Mr. Soros, Earth's most legendary investor and benefactor, will address Bard students in the Olin auditorium this Saturday, April 8. His speech on the "perils of the post-communist era" will finish a day-long conference here about fostering stable, democratic societies in East and Central Europe.

The New Republic has described his talks as having "the chilly clarity of a fingernail clinching against crystal."

Soros has distributed or committed one billion dollars to the nations of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and - his favorite - Hungary.

Soros, aged 64 and author of three books, refers to himself as a "stateless statesman," a "deus ex machina," and "a self-made man."

He created the Central European University and the charitable organization known as the "Soros Foundations." These twin institutions help to educate people about the traditions of civil society, as it was defined by the philosopher Karl Popper. His groups especially encourage the toleration of tolerant thought.

He pledges money for building houses for the poor of South Africa, for the care of Gypsies under attack in Bulgaria, for doctors changing the culture of death in the United States.

Soros evaded the Nazi death camps when German troops occupied Hungary in 1941 by pretending he was not Jewish and by hiding in a collaborationist gentile's house.

Soros sometimes uses his personal history to dispel suspicions about his disposal of cash to intellectuals and reformers across the globe. His intentions are plain, not megalomaniacal, he insists.

First is his financial self-interest. Each dollar that he donates from his U.S. income is tax-deductible.

Second is his philosophical self-interest. He gambles upon the success of emerging pluralistic societies with his disbursements, hoping that these nations will always welcome independent-minded characters such as himself and his three children.

To Get Rich Fast

Soros succeeds by anticipating changes slightly ahead of everyone else. The financial markets are much like an Alice in Wonderland chess game where the rules keep changing, and where one player appreciates the significance of the changes more quickly than another. If a new rule states that a pawn can move backwards, an adept player will add this consideration to his strategy to bring victory closer. Governments are constantly announcing new rules, and an announcement that restrictions on a kind of trading will be imposed, for example, is much like the powers of a pawn being altered.

Better still for Soros is the fact that a billionaire, if he chooses, can cultivate influence among government officials in order to learn about rule changes in advance of their announcement.

Soros became wealthy mostly by making trades in the currency markets. What follows is an explanation of this sort of speculation.

When an American tourist landed in Germany last year and changed her dollars into marks, she had much money to spend. When she returned this month and exchanged the same number of dollars for marks, she had less to spend. The dollar is worth less now against the mark than it has in fifty years.

This decline primarily results from a larger international demand to have money in Germany currency. Why? To prevent prices from rising too quickly, German banks pay businessmen high rates of return on their investments in what appear to be safe and profitable German bank accounts and bonds. Also, because Germany has had increasing success in business transactions in Europe, it makes sense to close deals in marks, the larger international demand to have money in Germany currency.

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The dollar is also worth less and less against the Japanese yen. Mainly, this is because Americans buy more Japanese Y.C.R.s and consumer goods than the Japanese buy American movies and similar "services." Since more imports need the limited supply of yen, the value of yen rises.

These long-term trends are hidden by fluctuations resulting from banks buying and selling currencies. To make a profit, a man with a billion dollars might exchange his greenbacks for deutsch marks with the expectation that, tomorrow, the mark will be...