

OBSERVER

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"It could have been worse."

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The Bard Observer

Volume 102

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Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504

May 17, 1995

Accident leaves student injured

Driver arrested after crash at Olin construction site

By Joshua Ledwell
Editor

In the early morning of May 14, a serious car accident involving two Bard students took place at the Olin construction site. The vehicle's passenger remains hospitalized after suffering serious injuries, while the driver has been arrested.

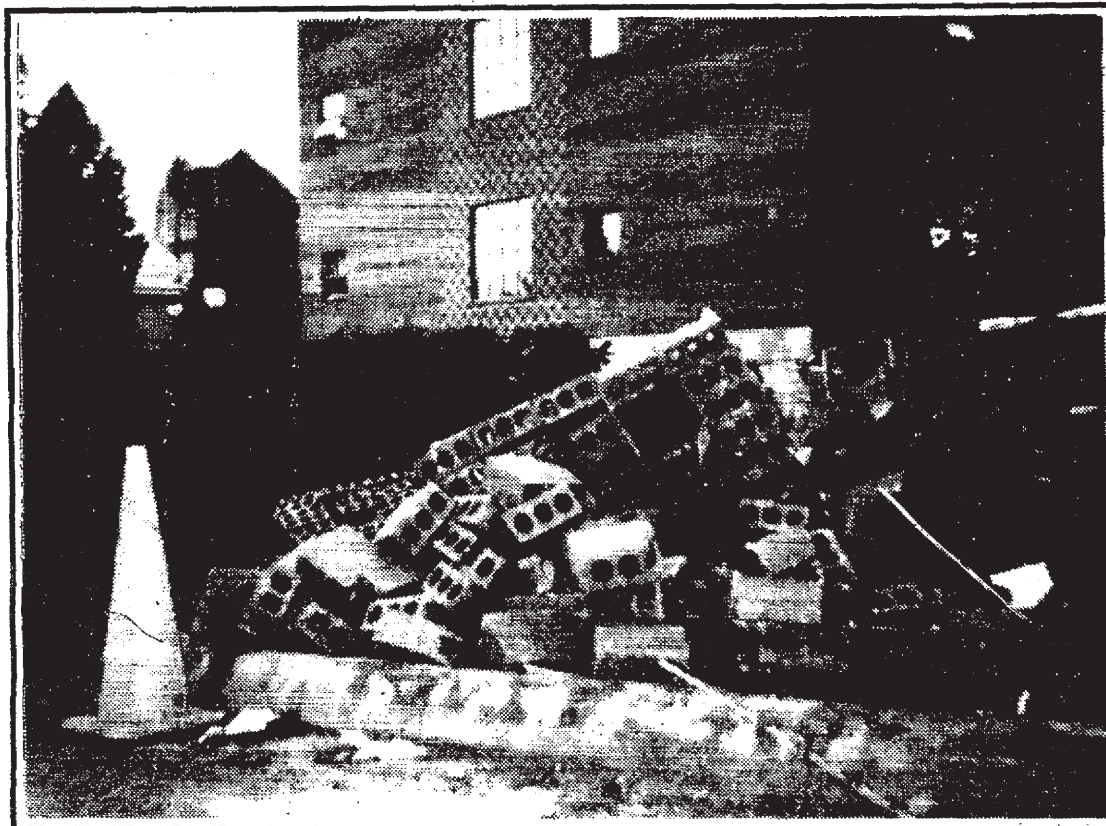
The car hit a pile of bricks behind the Olin building at 3:07am, according to Security Director Kim Squillace. A Security officer present at that night's Menage party in the Student Center heard the sound of the collision and responded immediately. The Dutchess County Sheriff came to the scene later, as did Red Hook Rescue and the Red Hook Fire Department.

The two students were taken to St. Francis Hospital in Poughkeepsie. The driver's injuries were not serious, and the hospital treated and re-

leased him. Police then arrested him, charging him with driving while intoxicated, reckless endangerment, and aggravated vehicle assault, among other charges. As of Monday, police were holding the student on \$50,000 bail.

The passenger, who received head injuries of undetermined severity in the accident, will soon be transferred to a hospital in Boston to be near his home. Currently he is "in and out of consciousness," according to Dean of Students Shelley Morgan. When awake, she said, "he has recognized family and friends."

When asked for her reaction to the accident, Dean Morgan said, "We have a student in jail as a result, and we have a student in intensive care." She praised the Bard Emergency Medical Service and Security, calling them "incredibly fast and responsive," and saying that "the minutes saved made a difference."



Scene of the auto accident at the Olin construction site. Photo by Joshua Ledwell

Student forum elects new reps

The year's last meeting produces new committees, but no new resolution

By Pedro Rodriguez
Managing / News Editor

The final forum for the spring semester of 1995 was held last night, Tuesday, May 16. There were no amendments; there was little hostility. There were elections.

First on the agenda were the campus-wide election results.

Justice Platt is the new Bard Student Association Treasurer. Mostafizur Shah Mohammed is the new Student Judiciary Board Chair. Shelleen Greene has won the Educational Policies Chair. The new Student Association Secretary is Brandon Weber. Running uncontested were Toufique Khan and Josh Bell who won the

Planning and Student Life Committee Chairs respectively. The new Film Committee members are Jake Perlin, Malcolm Little, Josh Diaz and Anthony Spinelli.

Elections held within the forum were next. The Educational Policies Committee has eight new members, two from each of the academic divisions of the college. They are: from Natural Sciences, Sandra Kalm and Imteaz Mannan; from Social Sciences, Kate Wellspring and Manos Kypraios; from Arts, Julie Nelson and Wendy Grunseich; and from Languages and Literature, Jeremy Wilson and Chelsea Miller.

By far the most time consuming election, the Student Judiciary Board candidates, eight of them, were hit with a barrage

of questions—one which presiding Chair Sean O'Neill eventually halted to expedite proceedings. Those elected were Julianne Yoss, Mahajabeen Padamsee, Shumona Goel and Simon Marcus. The alternates will be Josh Bell and Ilyas Washington.

The elected members of the Planning Committee are Bryan Shelton, Kate Massey, Gandalf Riecks, Eva Olsgard and Brandon Ramos.

Finally, the new Student Life Committee is Simon Marcus, Toufique Khan, Josh Diaz, Jeremy Wilson, Archana Sridhar.

The vacating EPC Chair Sean O'Neill's committee report focused on permanent tenure recommendations. Christopher Callanan [see editorial on page 6]

and Jamie Romm were both recommended. Peter Dolan was not. O'Neill made it clear that President Leon Botstein can, at any time reverse recommendations.

O'Neill also tried to push an amendment which would withhold student government stipends until the end of the semester when attendance at forums can be verified. Jeff Rhyne, for example, was ejected from student government; he has been absent for at least the last three forums. He will still get his stipend. There is no way to hold him accountable, especially since he's a senior. Unfortunately, after the elections, too many left; quorum could not be reached—no amendment.

"D'ye think th' colledges has much to do with th' progress iv the wurruld?" asked Mr. Hennessy.

"D'ye think," said Mr. Dooley, "'tis th' mill that makes th' water run?"

—F.P. Dunne, *Colleges and Degrees*

Serve the community

The Bard Social Action Workshop seeks interested students

by Linnea Knollmueller
Features Editor

Bard is working to facilitate the participation of students in community service by connecting volunteer work to the academic curriculum. The resulting program is the Bard Social Action Workshop, and exists in three parts: Action, Discussion and Study.

Maureen Forrestal, Director of Career Development, has been working on the Bard Social Action Workshop since last fall, when she was approached by Professor Alice Stroup. They were interested in creating a situation, in which students could have a volunteer job or internship that makes the classroom experience reality based. "For example," said Forrestal, "someone taking the History of Family course, could work with families in social service."

Combining with Residence Director Rich Kelley, Forrestal and Stroup had several meetings over the year to lobby for support for the program. As a result, several professors expressed interest, including Jon Kahn, Shelley McConnell and Suzanne Vroman.

"We met with Dean Levine, and he's all for it. Now we're getting grant proposals together to get money for the pilot program next fall. There are courses that can be combined with work, so tell your professor if you are interested," explained Forrestal.

The Workshop will be run similarly to an independent study. It is not sufficient simply to work, but the student will have to turn in some form of academic work to demonstrate what he or she is learning on the job. Informal discussions and public lectures

about social action, community, distributive justice and responsibility will also be sponsored. Volunteering is about more than helping others, but can lead to a new understanding of social justice.

Volunteer opportunities abound in the area, and they have been compiled into a list by Rich Kelley. "I contacted all the social service agencies in the area and asked if they needed volunteers, which they always do. From that I established a social service directory of 35 agencies in Ulster and Dutchess County. It ranges from battered women's shelters to the Red Cross to historical and environmental museums. It's a broad spectrum," he said.

Seven students have already been placed in volunteer employment through Kelley's list, and others have organized programs on their

own.

Transportation has been a conundrum, because Bard has pledged to provide rides for any student with a social service job, but the availability of a car and driver can be erratic. "In the budget, we put in for money for a van, but we'll have to wait and see what happens once budgets go through."

Participation in the Bard Social Action Workshop can have very practical rewards, other than the introduction to a broad range of human experience. "There will be a designation on the student's transcript and an explanation as to what it means," said Forrestal. "So, if a student is applying to graduate school, the school will understand this type of study. Hopefully it will increase one's chances for grad school and general employability."

Kelley echoed her sentiments, saying "This type of ex-

perience gives a potential employer an idea that you're willing to extend yourself beyond the norm of what is expected of a college student. That you go beyond studying."

Kelley and Forrestal will be running a volunteer service fair during L&T this August, according to Forrestal "so that freshmen will see that volunteer service is the norm." They had hoped to schedule a fair early this semester, but realized that routines had already been established, and the likelihood of enticing many students was not high.

The Bard Social Action Workshop will be a course of study available in the fall, which students are encouraged to take advantage of. Not only does community service enrich a transcript, but it puts students in touch with the society around us, and teaches lessons that can be applied throughout life after Bard. ♣

Security update

By Joshua Ledwell
Editor

It was another eventful week for Bard's Safety and Security corps. On Tuesday, May 9, at 2:40pm, an officer discovered a half-full can of gasoline in the hall on the second floor of Manor House. Director of Safety and Security Kim Squillace pointed out that "at no time should there ever be gas stored in any container in any building."

Last Thursday night Security found that a Kline lobby door had been "slightly shattered." The glass in the door was damaged, though not in pieces on the ground. The broken door, at the north end of the building near the

inside telephone, will have to be replaced.

Later that night, Security broke up a party at Manor. Squillace noted that she is reluctant to interfere in parties, since it is hard to define under what conditions a group of people socializing becomes a party that needs to be registered in advance. She said that two factors are loud music, which usually results in a Security call, and the presence of non-residents in a dorm. To be sure that your party is not disrupted, Squillace advised that "all parties must be registered parties." The Dean of Students' Office has all the necessary forms and information for party registration.

There was a theft early Sun-

day morning from Tewksbury dorm. At 2:52am, a CD stereo and speakers, worth \$500, were reported stolen from a student's room. The door was locked, with no sign of forced entry, but Squillace said the student had hidden her key in the dorm and it could have been used to open the door. "Please don't hide your key," said Squillace.

On Monday, May 15, a student's wallet was stolen from the fourth floor of the Stevenson library. Squillace reminded students that they should call their banks immediately after their checkbooks or credit cards disappear. "Always notify the bank," she said, and then, laughing, "if you find it, don't try to use the cards!" ♣

Visions of Childhood: Four Contemporary Photographers

An exhibition at Bard's Center for Curatorial Studies, featuring works by Wendy Ewald, Nicholas Nixon, Sally Mann and Barbara Ess

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Congratulations to the Observer Seniors who made it:

Robin "Poobah" Kodaira, Stacey "Anon" Turner, Kelly "Y" Messerle, Donna "Mous[e]" Meyer, Bill "Meat-Eater" Hornbostle, Laurie "The Balkan Connection" Curry, and Andrew "Mao-man" Fowler.

Special recognition must go to Jeana Breton and Michael Poirier, those hoary old warhorses, without whom we shudder to think. May the spirit of the Lizard King be with you all. ♣

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Surfing the Net

More discoveries from the World Wide Web

By Joshua Ledwell
Editor

Spring is here, the semester is gliding to a close, and there are now two types of students at Bard. The first group stumbles around campus bleary-eyed, surviving on huge doses of caffeine while they desperately scramble to finish all their classwork. To these dedicated (or procrastinating) individuals, I extend best wishes, but this article is not for them.

This article is for the second group of students, mostly seniors, who can afford to spend hours sunbathing beside Tewksbury, lingering over meals in Kline, or playing softball. They have the free time necessary to cruise the World-Wide Web, as they ponder their futures after college.

As for the others, it doesn't matter that this article is not written for them. They don't have the time to read it anyway.

If they did, though, they might benefit from a consultation of their horoscope. At <http://www.butterfly.net/astro/www.binary9.com/~nicholas/xtc.html> you can find advice on what to do with your life after graduation, based on your astrological sign and updated daily.

If travel is in your future, you may want to consider a destination away from the usual hordes of tourists. Find <http://www.service.uit.no/homepage-no> for everything you every wanted to know about Norway, but didn't think to ask. Dedicated national offices maintain similar sites throughout the web to promote tourism, the world's largest industry.

For recreation closer to home, consult Zarf's List of Interactive Games and Toys on the World-Wide Web. Its address is long: <http://www.cs.cmu.edu/afs/andrew/org/kgb/www/zarf/games.html#games>, and the site is unaccountably slow, but the

myriad diversionary links here make Zarf's List well worth browsing.

Looking for something a little less interactive (i.e. passive entertainment)? Check out the page for everyone's favorite movie. The "Pulp Fiction" page, at <http://wolf.cs.uiuc.edu/pulpfict.html>, has great still photos and even movie clips, although Bard's beloved IBM-donated software can't display the short clips.

If your tastes run towards the more bizarre in movies, visit Mel's Godzilla page at <http://www.ama.caltech.edu/~mrm/godzilla.html>. Apparently, Caltech students, who maintain this page, also have a little too much free time on their hands.

Okay, the new series isn't as good as the old, but Star Trek fans will still find the official "Star Trek: Voyager" page interesting. Warp to <http://voyager.paramount.com> for a

flashy tour of the Voyager starship and a preview of the next new episode. Your host is Robert Picardo, the holographic doctor on board the lost ship.

At <http://www.dnx.com/vamp/gothic/images/index.html>, Bardians who wear black will find a home in the Gothic Images database. Here are gruesome photos of several Goth bands, scenes from the movie "The Crow," and art from "The Sandman" comic books. The art here is tremendous, and there is a ton of it. Some of it even uses colors other than black!

Speaking of black, there is one address that might be of interest even to the caffeinated hordes not reading this article. Look to <http://www.flightpath.com/brento/anodetocoffee.html> for "An Ode to Coffee." You can add your own tribute to coffee or browse many other links to find fellow coffee lovers.

Once you've had your coffee fix, it's time to at least

pretend to do some work. There is an unique research site at <http://www.psi.net/chapterone/index.html>, where you can browse the table of contents and first chapters of thousands of books, including those reviewed in journals such as *Foreign Affairs*.

What's that: you've always wanted to know what your name was in Hawaiian? Consult <http://hisurf.aloha.com/Find.html> for the answer in the language that only has seven consonants.

Finally, ease yourself back to familiar surroundings by delving into the Bard home page. If you have never been able to understand the architectural theory behind the facade of the new library, you can find a partial explanation at <http://www.bard.edu/info/images/column.jpg>.

Now, that's enough computer stuff. Go outside and throw a frisbee around near the Ravines! Your homework will wait until next semester.

Election Results

(Winners in bold type)

Treasurer

Justice Platt 140 votes, Bryan Shelton 78

Chair, Student Judiciary Board

Mostafizur Shah Mohammed 133 votes,
Simon Marcus 109

Chair, Educational Policies Committee

Shelleen Greene 84 votes, Jennifer Abrams 77,
Imteaz Mannan 69

Secretary

Brandon Weber 130 votes, Luis Alcazar-Roman 90

Film Committee

Jake Perlin, Malcolm Little, Josh Diaz,
Anthony Spinneli 129 votes
Daniel Martineo, Helder Mira, Alex McGregor, Luke
Siczter 112

Congratulations to next year's
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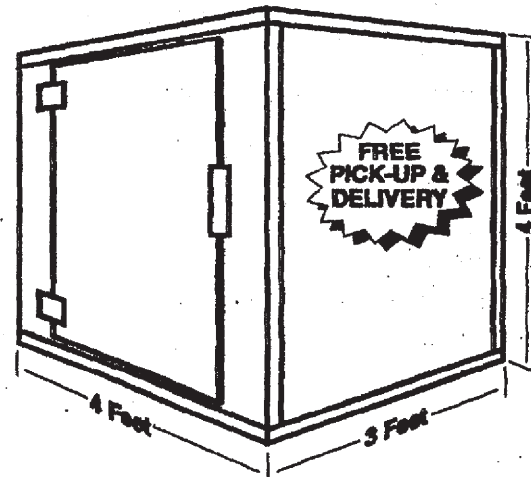
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What's What

A last indulgence in weekly righteousness

By Sean O'Neill

In a furtive flight I dodge down the steps of Blithewood's garden. The air is bright and I claim the space alone. Splashes in the fountain shake a rug of sound over the flowers and under the long shadows cast by the pillars.

My frantic worries run down to the rock overseeing the river, like dogs set loose. I am left behind to hear a bird's clarinet call and to watch the sun set on my semester's last days.

A visitor walks around the lawn to evade me, positioning himself such that the bricks block our view of each other. We each need, I suppose, not to be observed in our observing.

How bizarre the world is, I think, to simultaneously contain misery elsewhere and peace here in this garden.

Then, several damned dogs lead a jogger through one of the archways. My frantic worries return with the barking.

Too much free time for me, perhaps, while I await the storm of a workaday life.

A "senior banquet" looms next

week to celebrate with awards and applause those students who have done well. This idea remains fine so long as the fatal slip isn't made; namely, confusing selective recognition with something akin to the Final Judgment.

Fortunately, Bard is something less than a meritocracy. I believe that if there is any threat to the future of our college, besides the spending cuts of Governor Pataki, it would be the increased emphasis on equating academic success with a student's human value. Our tiny campus, thankfully, respects the person who has achieved along with the achievement. Regardless of what most universities presume, an individual's surmounting of private turmoil is more crucial than that person's scores on an arbitrary scholastic measuring stick. It was this distinction between Bard and elsewhere that I emphasized to a prospective student last April.

It seems to me that every student here has a legitimate tale of personal heroism. It is not enough, unfortu-

nately, for some students to be content with the private knowledge of their victories. They need to go beyond a friendly sharing of sighs and gasps to give an exaggerated account of wails and vomit.

A hierarchy of pain emerges. Conversations around the dinner tables confer griping rights for some self-appointed martyrs and their tribulations, while dismissing other people's emotional struggles as comparatively insignificant.

A competition for having the most valiant history ensues, such that everyone here becomes a (monetarily) poor student on the edge of homelessness, that everyone seems to have been abused in some form and has developed elaborate psychological defenses, and that we all remain doubtful about any chances for future success.

Austere budgets are the fashion, alongside despairing dreams, in our toxic times.

If these humorless extra-complaints were soothed by being heard, I wouldn't mind them. When a friend

seeks a willing ear, most people are glad to offer consolation. What is maddening is that the truly painful histories get drowned out in this fracas of dissatisfaction. The man whose parent dies, the woman who faces addiction, the student or professor who is seriously ailing or infirm—these people are initiated into a secret club of silence. Their grief brought on by unexpected traumas ironically fails to get a hearing in America's culture of complaint.

To run from another revelation of what I consider petty concern, I have come to see the 6:40 train pass along its way to Grand Central. It blares its horn at the wild swans. Then, the garden's quiet returns.

I'm lucky; my scars are few and far between.

I hope the seniors have found a measure of calm to take away with them after commencement. The library and the curriculum are too small, and the garden too pretty, for anyone to take away anything else of lasting importance from Annandale.

Bard Spring

In 1997, Alice goes to the Wonderland of SuperMenage 8

By Sean O'Neill

Alice, a student at Red Hook High School, planned to use her new camera to photograph people at a local college party.

She learned about the *menage* from her tutor, a student from Bard who volunteered his time to help her cope with her speech impediment.

Alice trusted Sandeep. Unlike her previous tutors, he shared an understanding of what it meant to feel inadequate. He didn't pity her; he admired her.

Sandeep had gotten rid of his own stammer when he was around fourteen years old. Their rapport formed immediately upon his confiding to her that he, too, had stood for hours before a mirror reciting the most basic of sentences, and that he, too, still refused to say in large crowds words that had troublesome consonants.

Sandeep kept over-compensating for his perceived deficiency by being an extrovert. He gained fame for leading a two-day, student takeover of his college's administration building.

Alice remained an introvert, convinced that nobody thought of her as anything but a caricature from a TV "Schoolbreak Special." She rarely told others of her desire to become a photo-

journalist like Sebastian Salgado.

Sandeep arrived at Alice's house dressed in a rabbit costume. He took out a pocket watch and urged her to "come on" because "the Queen is waiting."

Her parents were ignorant of this man's history as an organizer of the (safer) sex party that they didn't realize was a (safer) sex party.

When they asked why he chose a rabbit suit for the ball, and when he explained that "rabbits are one of the most sex-crazed of animals," Alice's parents thought he was joking. They did not think that the Queen he referred to was a man with seven-inch high hair who was a lewd disc jockey. They didn't know that the trees around the library would be decorated with condoms.

Mom and Dad just waved, proudly, as if their daughter was a ship setting sail on a maiden voyage.

The *menage* occurred in the college's library—beer kegs placed at the reserve desk, bungee-cord jumping down the stairwell shaft, and futons on the top floor for the "horizontally-inclined." Not to forget the naked performance artist standing between a dance cage and marble columns, underneath a moonlit, glass roof.

Alice devoted this night to picture-taking, up until the party was disrupted by police officers ordered in by the college president.

In one of her photographs, a professor poured fruit juices for the thirsty. He wore the gaunt expression of a man awaiting a god.

In others, she had "before-and-after" shots of a student from Zambia. His eyes at first are shy and octopus-like. Later, they're as carefree and bright as an eight-year old's when skipping school.

Her favorite pictures were of two women enthralled with a night of true love and of a freshman's broad smirk at having danced bare-chested for the first time.

In sum, though, Alice had snapped more photos of vacant, pained stares than of mirthful, kissing mouths.

Somehow she had captured what the darkened rooms and flashing lights had otherwise concealed from onlookers.

Among the four billion people on our planet there are four billion conceptions of what young Americans are like. Yet, not a single one of these imagined Americans could be found in

Alice's pictures.

The faces she framed belonged to people mesmerized in a spiritual trance, or to orphaned cats enclosed in a pet shop window, or to sleepless children in a hospital ward. These portraits were of ghosts in a Gothic dream party to which elegance was uninvited.

Alice began her career in photojournalism on this night when her spot shots of the police raid and the ensuing riots were published nationwide.

Chris Saul was the administrator who led the storming of the library. He had just become the building's director, having replaced a woman who was dismissed after embezzling from the book fund to pay for her gambling habit. Saul was determined not to lose his job and ironically took actions that resulted in his being fired.

The lights were turned on.

The music was turned off.

The dispersal was bloody.

And on the following night, Leon Botstein, with a single tear and an insouciant smile, announced his reluctant return to lead this unfathomable school.

The End.

Student athletes honored

League standouts named in fencing, volleyball, and tennis

By Joshua Bell
Sports Editor

There is no new tennis news for this week, but fortunately there are several honors that Bard Athletes have received that deserve attention. Raman Frey and Sebastian Salazar were both ranked in the top twenty for digs in Men's Volleyball in the nation. Frey was ranked fifth with 237 digs and an average of 3.08 a game. Salazar

ranked 16 with 200 digs and a average of 2.60 a game. This is an excellent achievement for these players and for Bard, and accordingly shows hope for the future of a successful volleyball team.

In other achievements, Seniors, Laurie L. Curry and Stephen Stephens were named Robbins/ECAC Scholar-athletes. The two were chosen by the Bard College Department of Athletics for their excellence in athletics and in their

academics.

Curry, a history and Russian Studies major, was nominated for her four year triumph as a Women's Varsity tennis player. She was the NAIA 31 singles and doubles Champion in 1991; and was named all-conference in 1993 and 1994. Curry also acted as team captain for 1994 and 1995, as well as holding the school record for the most career wins.

Stephens, an economics major, was nominated for his excel-

lence as a Varsity fencer. Stephens, who held the title of sabre team captain for four years, provided constant support for the team, not only in wins but in the ability to teach new fencers. He was named all-conference in 1993, and placed first in the United States Fencing Association Sectional Qualifiers in 1994. Both athletes will be missed for their excellence on and off the field.

The Varsity Athletics Award

Brunch, will be held on Sunday, May 21, at 12:00 pm in the Kline Committee Room. This brunch will be celebrating the achievements of all varsity athletes. Anyone who participated this year, in any varsity sport, is encouraged and welcome to attend.

Well, this is it for Bard athletics for this year. Congratulations to all athletes and to all Seniors who helped Bard teams to victories. Good luck to all, go Bard.

Athletic league softball

Trash talk and forfeits characterize the end of the season

by David Hyde
Staff Writer

Going into the bottom of the seventh inning of the Athletic League Championship Game, things did not look too good for the Gym Rats. Despite an almost perfect season, the Gym Rats found themselves trailing the American Dream by four runs. The game itself, which could clock

in at just under an hour and forty-five minutes by the time it was done, was a mix of the spectacular, the bizarre and the mundane.

The American Dream looked unstoppable at the plate. The defending champs were lead by Kimani Davis (4-4) and senior Bucky Purdom. Davis hit two doubles and a homerun to straightway centerfield and Purdom hit a homerun in the sixth

inning to tie the game at eight.

The team's defense however (with the exception of Kimani Davis's amazing catch in centerfield that robbed Gym Rat Joel Rush of a sure homerun) was less than sensational. In the bottom of the second inning, with two outs, a shallow pop fly off of the bat of Gym Rat Kevin Thayer fell in between three members of the American Dream, and the Gym Rats scored three runs. The inconsistent defense and the inability of the American Dream to get the third out would haunt the defending champs throughout the game.

But what may haunt them the most occurred in the top of the fifth inning, when a player on their team who would have scored on Davis's homerun failed to touch all the bases. Gym Rat shortstop Joel Rush quickly tagged home plate; the player was out and what then would have been the eighth run was discounted.

The Gym Rats, who had not hit the ball with the authority that they normally do (and had to survive some controversial calls by umpire Colin Thatcher) managed to stay in the game with some clutch two-out hitting.

In the bottom of the seventh inning, down by four runs, the Gym Rats

loaded the bases. Co-captain Joel Rush came to the plate with two outs as the tying run.

Those who had attended last year's Championship Game could not help but think back to the final inning of that game. It was a year ago that the Gym Rats had the bases loaded, none out, the tying run on second, and then failed to get the ball out of the infield. Joel Rush had made the second out.

But yesterday the Gym Rats co-captain and Player of the Game Joel Rush responded with a solid double, as he knocked in two runs to make the score 13 to 11. Brad Cline, the Gym Rats feared clean-up hitter, then stepped up to the plate. Although first base was open and the next hitter had yet to get a hit in the game, Purdom chose to pitch to Cline. Cline responded with a shot up the middle that scored both runners. Cline himself scored the winning run when a wild throw to the third baseman sailed into left field.

After the game Rush told *The Observer* "I'm really proud of our team...I'm just glad I don't have to hear that talk trash for another year. To win with them talking trash and with a couple of questionable calls not going our way...It was the most exciting game of the year."

It may not have been their most exciting game of the year, but it was the best game of the week, if only because so few games were actually played. (Only two games were actually played.) Only two games were played in the B Tournament as Keyne's Curse de-

feated the Blumfish Rainbows, 18 to 6, and the Unicorns then crushed Keyne's Curse, 15 to 5.

All other games in the B Tournament were decided by forfeit. KEG forfeited to the Unicorns; the Zebraheads forfeited to St. Tula; St. Tula (who may not have enough players to field a team next year after deferring and failing so many students in moderation) then forfeited to the D.S.S.S.; Fashion Rules also forfeited to the D.S.S.S.. Even the Athletic League Consolation Game was decided by a forfeit when the Dirty Dogs could not play the game and the Tony Danza Bonanza was declared the "winner."

The B Tournament Championship game was played yesterday, with the Unicorns beating the D.S.S.S. 12-6. The A Tournament is scheduled to conclude on Friday. Bountiful Crop advanced to the finals after defeating the Wood Warriors, 14 to 10. Bountiful Crop was lead by Basil Borris (who hit two inside-the-park homeruns) and the stunning defensive plays of Nick Levi and Eric Frasier.

Bountiful Crop will play the winner of the Graceland/Naked Ice Borers game, which is scheduled to be played this evening. Although the teams have yet to play, there is already some bad blood between the teams after some controversial decisions by Kris Hall.

That said, this is only Intramural Softball at Bard. The trash talk and bad attitudes that sometimes dominate the playoffs belong in a different league. See you next year.

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Bard misses another

Bard Vocal Ensemble performs, premiers Gould choral piece

By Pedro Rodriguez
Managing/ News Editor

For those who read my review of the American Symphony Chamber Orchestra performance in the April 26 issue of the *Bard Observer*, my rantings will be nothing new. Yet again, Bardians have missed a fine concert.

The chapel was empty Sunday, May 14, during The Bard Vocal Ensemble's performance. There were but a few music enthusiasts and friends of the performers. Some of the performers may have taken their final bow on a Bard stage.

Last time this happened (at the penultimate ASO concert), I proposed that maybe the twentieth century had scared people away. There were some twentieth century pieces in this program, but

they are more accessible than Messiaen's Quartet for the End of Time and, God forbid, Schoenberg. I'm not tempted to believe the reason was the same.

Rather, it's the end of the year. People are busy. Few saw the advertisements, etc. I do believe, however, that those who saw the signs immediately dismissed the concert out of apathy. "I can't dance to it." Rather go hear feedback laden noise—ten tunes in one key with two chords—take draughts of draft.

Hey, rock is fun, but there's more to life than the blatantly visceral. There is another kind of visceral. This was even free!

The ensemble, led by faculty adjunct Megan Hastie, tackled choral works from the sixteenth and twentieth cen-

turies, interspersed with duets, in all spanning three languages: English, Latin and French. The composers chosen were William Byrd, Francis Poulenc, John Dowland, Claude Debussy, Benjamin Britten and Bard's own Akire Bubar and Gabriel Ian Gould.

The concert was the premier of Gould's choral piece *Opening the Door: A Remembrance*. It was written as a remembrance ("not a requiem or elegy") for his friend Galen Crotty Gibson, suddenly shot down at Simon's Rock in 1992. Gould chose Gibson's own poem "Opening the Door" as the text, from which he wrought a work nothing short of gorgeous.

The performance too was moving. Gould included a solo for each of the choral voices: bass, tenor, alto and soprano.

The soloists were William Brooks, Alex Greenshields, Akire Bubar and Gabriel Lally respectively.

Gould was the pianist for the *Remembrance* as well as his other piece, *Epitaph*, an art song for piano and tenor. Alex Greenshields, the only constant in the show, again took the solo part. *Epitaph* being a song, is a smaller and simpler work, composed of two motifs in the piano.

Akire Bubar, with Greenshields, performed two of her works, one an a cappella duet, the other a duet with acoustic guitar. The latter was a good love song, so difficult to write without falling into the trap of triteness. I particularly applaud the simple yet elegant bass figure in the guitar.

This was the sweetest concert, along with the ASO

Chamber Players April 21 performance, I have had the pleasure to hear at Bard, period. Sure there were mistakes, but the choice of music and the emotional content cancelled them out; they couldn't ruin it.

The ensemble members are: Sopranos—Anne Chandler, Kelly Jones, Gabriel Lally, Lillian Robinson, Erin Tedesco; Altos—Akire Bubar, Jane Galang, Sue Paquet, Emily Singer; Tenors—Jeff GiaQuinto, Alex Greenshields; Basses—William Brooks, Bob Capowski, Ben Epstein, Gabriel Gould, Rob Renbeck, Paul Spitz.

As a composer and a junior at Bard, my sorrow will be great to watch so many pass on to better things May 27. So much talent will be lost for those of us remaining. To all seniors: Godspeed. ♪

Editorial: Save Callanan

By Pedro Rodriguez
Managing/ News Editor

Three professors of the Languages and Literature Department of Bard College (Chair Nancy Leonard and Professors Mark Lambert and Frederic Grab) are petitioning against the recommendation that Professor Christopher Callanan receive permanent tenure. Apparently, Callanan holds unpopular views for the L&L Department. I do not know what these might be.

What I do know is that Callanan is one of the finest educators I have had the plea-

sure to study under. I'm taking Latin—not the easiest of subjects—and enjoying it, and learning one hell of a lot more than in many many other classes, Bard Lit. Department included.

Callanan cares about the students. He's more accessible than any professor I can think of. I've been to *three* schools; I've known *plenty* of professors. Some of these professors are friends of mine, but none are as easy to talk to.

I suspect Callanan cares more about the students than the institution. I suspect the faculty wants someone partial

to their agenda. That's the bottom line: what's more important? Students or faculty? While colleges and universities definitely forge careers for research academics, etc., students *must* be the main concern. We pay. We came for an education.

I don't know if permanent tenure is the greatest of ideas, but that's how Bard runs at the moment. If we have to have it, then deserving professors should get it.

I've yet to meet a student of Callanan that doesn't rave about him. If the faculty is

going to carry on a vendetta regardless of the interests of the students, then frankly, I no longer give a damn about that faculty.

I will be starting a counter-petition. If you don't sign, write to President Botstein and/or Dean of the College Stuart Levine. Be heard! Contact me, Pedro Rodriguez, through campus mail, box 451.

Please note this is not an *Observer*

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 Opinion 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.

Performer acknowledged

To the Editor,

I wish to publicly acknowledge the work of Scott Edwards. This past Sunday evening he performed a recital of solo piano music that was challenging to both the performer and the audience—a challenge which was especially impressive to have been taken by a student performer. To say that Scott rose to the occasion is an understatement.

He played music which one could spend a lifetime discovering, and he is off to an amazing beginning. It was one of the best concerts, student or professional, that I have heard at Bard College.

Sincerely,
Jason D. Durham

LSAT
GRE
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Abolish the Q-course

To the Editor,

It is like having our shorts dropped to our ankles in public, akin to feeling the doctor's hand down there, being told to cough, and that he suspects a hernia; like having our knuckles smacked by Miss Elderbud while she chides us for mediocre recitation (and we have endured the hardship of it for close to twenty years). Mathematics allows Man to sever himself, not only from his flesh, but also from his soul. The torture of it, the unnatural sterility of it, has caused us delirium. Our predicament is much worse than can be told: mathematics has had the resilience of the devil—it has never ceased in its efforts to brutalize.

But we will leave assertions behind us to put forth this appeal to the community: that we be freed from the Quantitative Skills Requirement in the name of progressive education and liberal thought. Since it would not be education and liberal thought. Since it would not be persuasive for us to lash out with exaggeration, we will give a brief and accurate account of our mathematical history.

We spent our first four years of mathematical training in a public system which suffered from neglect—at the end of which time even the procedure for long division eluded us. Our parents became aware of the problem and transferred us to a progressive institution. The solution was found. In this new environment we performed Maypole dances and stood over tidal pools, sketching their contents. Since we had no interest in mathematics, we were not asked to participate. When it came time for high school, we transferred to a bilingual French school that used

a British math system. But again, since this institution was progressive, and we showed interest and ability in other subjects, we managed to slide through without understanding the Pythagorean theorem, or speaking more than a few words of French. We cultivated an artistic sensibility and an admiration for Freud (to the embarrassment of our family, we still harbor such qualities). We did not receive grades of any kind until we entered college.

The founder of our high school admired John Dewey, and we in turn learned to admire the hands-on, experiential approach to education that Dewey theorized. We left for college knowing that abstraction, in its various guises, was the problem with education. Reality, with all its odorous sensuality, with all its color and heat, was the true source of knowledge, as the minds of Heraclitus, Diderot, Rousseau, Goethe and Faraday taught us. Besides, ever since we learned about mustard gas and the first war we knew that abstract thought led to death and destruction. The disgusting effect of mathematical thought on molecular reality is all too apparent. As Professor Peter Skiff has commented, "You want proof? Think about it—how many people can you vaporize with a symphony?" Since Skiff's question, which he dramatically dropped on us at the end of his lecture last Thursday, is taken out of context, we should probably mention that he was speaking of the proof that the mathematical-scientific mind has described (Skiff does not use the word "discover") Truth with more accuracy and power than the arts. We do not mean to suggest that Professor Skiff lacks humanity, but merely that he

was aware that the first atomic explosions were ironic events.

Hence, the class of '95 is not graduating from the school it applied to. This great sadness reveals itself to us without the least hope of catharsis, though cathartic release is the goal of our appeal. When we looked at schools we were pleased to find a small progressive college that did not require the understanding of basic mathematics or the submission of SAT scores, and instead focused on the great liberalizing forces of literature, music, and the other arts. The Quantitative Skills Requirement, now in its fourth year, is a stain on progress, and a deep insult to the healthy minded. We beg the Anglo-Saxon analytical mind to realize that there are various styles of learning and forms of intelligence.

It seems best to keep philosophical and religious arguments aside, and instead speak with humble detachment. We are victims of progressive education—and the submission of this appeal to the faculty, administration and community is done with the hope that it will serve to destroy, and satisfy, our Quantitative Skills Requirement. If our words have their intended effect, we trust that Ethan Bloch and others will act swiftly to dismantle the requirement they fought so hard to establish, and notify the registrar and other important administrative persons of the change.

It was deliciously gratifying when a professor noticed at registration that we had mistakenly marked on our card eight more credits than his course would yield. He bellowed:

"Really trying to get your money's worth, huh? It'd take you ten years to do that!" Another professor, though fatigued, began to chuckle in his seat at the registration table. He added:

"With the current fees students could go to the opera 25,000 times. Everyone within earshot enjoyed a chuckle at this joke.

Our only wish has been that we could be complaisant and without cynicism, like a minister or a peasant, but the absurdity of college—especially college mathematics—has made this impossible.

(There is hope: In coming to terms with our collegiate experience, Mary McCarthy's *The Groves of Academe* has proved indispensable.)

With love,
Seth Gardner Prouty

Classifieds and personals

ENTREPRENEURS: Start your part-time business. Residual income monthly. No inventory, No retail sales, NO RISK! Sound intriguing? Call 679-4150.

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.

Beautiful lake house to rent academic year 1995-1996. Situated on 1/2 acre, 20 minutes from Bard, 125' private lake frontage. Private dock, car port, finished basement with entertainment center, washer/dryer, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, dishwasher, LR with fireplace, antiques, decks, views, passive solar. Responsible people only. No smokers, no pets. Call 212-595-8618.

Open, loft-like residential and/or professional co-op on Riverside Drive in a designated landmark area. Architect: H.L. Meader, built 1916, 1000 sq. ft., faces South and West, original ceramic tile floors. Location: corner Riverside Drive and 96th Street. Maintenance \$418.00. Asking price \$165,000 (negotiable). Owner will hold a partial mortgage. Call for fact sheet: 212-595-8618. Leave return fax number or address.

Need some spending money for the summer? Do you have a knack for appeasing large crowds? Do you have good organizational skills? Do you like Bartok? The Bard Music Festival needs people to do a variety of jobs over the summer including the two weekends of the festival (Aug. 11-13 and 18-20). If you are interested, please call Robin at 758-7410.

House (2 bedrooms), Rhinebeck, \$600 a month for 3 summer months. Call Marisa at 876-8355.

House for rent on Annandale Triangle, a short walk to campus, June 1st through August 27th (dates negotiable). Two bedroom/one bath with workshop and loft, kitchen, large living room, fully furnished (gas stove, fridge, beds, desk, cupboards, shelves, futons, chairs, tables, etc.). \$550/month. Contact immediately: Call 758-3325 or Box 780.

Musicians performing with the Bard Music Festival would like to rent a house during August.

If you are going away and need a housesitter please call Robin Leebardt at 758-7410.

Bard Grad seeks cat sitter for summer, June 1-August 8. Care for me personable, well-behaved cat. Small stipend available. Contact Peter Criswell through Shelley Morgan, Dean of Students.

Fuck you, Gladys.

I'm looking for a roommate for a large, 2-bedroom house in Tivoli for the summer. \$275 a month. Call 752-7428.

Summer sublet, large one-bedroom apartment. \$500 a month, June-August. Call 339-6631.

Are you having trouble committing yourself to Bard life? Do you find it hard to overcome the apathy and spend time with "friends?" Join the "Antisocials Anonymous." We'll make you a social butterfly in no time. Look for signs around you.

Dearest M, We shall meet again...

Basement apartment for rent on Annandale Road—between Kline and Kruger Village, a 5 minute walk to main campus—June 1st through August 28th. Looking for 2 people responsible to share 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, large kitchen/dining area, partially furnished (1 bedroom fully), tables, chairs, rockers, stove, full-sized fridge, some cutlery and cookware, private parking space, free cable TV hook-up (all u need is your own TV), toaster oven, cleaning supplies, rugs, lamp. \$550 a month, all utilities (except phone) included, direct rent from owner (not sublet). Contact immediately—this won't be available for too long!!! Call 758-2243, ask for Khyle (present tenant), or Tim and Ann Ross at 758-3903 (owners) or drop Khyle a note in campus mail box 1055.

LOST: Little red address book. Causing much stress. Please return. Cash reward. Box 1254 or x7244 or security.

Fritz+Fitz=Friendz. Happy early B-day. Love Raymond Sophiac & D.

Dearest Moose, That's not a parachute, it's not a knapsack... it's a Bartok doll(?)! Love, Goose

To the "writers" on campus: maybe next year. PER

The Bard Observer

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The Bard Observer Calendar

Brought to you by the Dean of Student's Office

May 17 to May 23, 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 (4:50 train), 6:00p (6:31 train) and 7:20p (7:51 train). Vans to Poughkeepsie Station at 5:30p (6:12train), 7:35p (8:20 train) and 10p (10:45 train). Trip to the Poughkeepsie Galleria Mall, 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 6:07p and 8:55p and 10:06p. Pick ups at Poughkeepsie Station for trains at 6:46p, 8:46p and 10:52p.

Meet all vans behind Kline

Wednesday May 17	Thursday May 18	Friday May 19	Saturday May 20	Sunday May 21	Monday May 22	Tuesday May 23
<p>Visions of Childhood. A student-curated show featuring photographs by Barbara Ess, Wendy Ewald, Sally Mann and Nicholas Nixon. Center for Curatorial Studies, 4p-7p.</p> <p>Table Française. Kline President's Room, 5:30p - 6:30p.</p> <p>Recital. Gabriel Gould's Senior Project Concert. 6p. in Blum Hall.</p> <p>Songwriting Class Concert. Works composed and performed by students. Blum Hall, 8p.</p> <p>The Women's Center meets tonight from 8:30p to 10p.</p>	<p>Russian Discussion or Russki Stol. All are welcome to come from 5p 'till 5:30p. Kline Commons Committee Rooms.</p> <p>Sister Cities Project Meeting. Kline Committee Rooms, 5p.</p> <p>S/M ACES meets at 6pm in Kline Committee Room.</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>Electronic Music Studio Concert. Blum Hall, 7p.</p> <p>All you Wanted to Know About Heroin but Were Afraid to Ask. Presentation by J. Murdock, P.h. D. Kline College Room, 7p.</p> <p>Night Tennis. Amateurs to Pros should bring a racquet and play a few games tonight from 8p.</p> <p>Dance Theatre II. Senior and Faculty work, tonight at 8p at the Dance Studio.</p>	<p>Bard Christian Fellowship Meeting. Bard Chapel, 7p. All are welcome.</p> <p>Dance Theatre II. Senior and Faculty work, tonight at 8p at the Dance Studio.</p> <p>Jewish Students' Organization meeting. Kiblat Shabbat: Wind down after your hectic week. Olin Moon Room, 8:30p.</p> <p>Midnight Movie. Come see John Travolta strut his stuff. Old Gym, midnight (match).</p>	<p>Dance Theatre II. Senior and Faculty work, this afternoon at 3p at the Dance Studio.</p>	<p>Dance Theatre II. Senior and Faculty work, today at 1p and 9p at the Dance Studio.</p>	<p>Dance Theatre II. Senior and Faculty work, today at 8p at the Dance Studio.</p> <p>Performance Class Concert. Blum Hall, 8p.</p>	<p>PENULTIMATE DAY OF THE SEMESTER!!! THE CALENDAR EDITOR WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU ALL A GREAT VACATION. HAVE SOME FUN, GET PLENTY OF REST AND COME BACK FOR MORE IN SEPTEMBER!</p>
<p>Shuttles to Tivoli and Red Hook</p> <p>Monday - Thursday:</p> <p>8:15a - 8:45a: Bard-Tivoli-Bard 11:45a - 12:45a: Bard-Tivoli-Bard 2:45p - 3:15p: Bard-Tivoli-Bard 3:15p - 3:45p: Bard-Red Hook-Bard 5:30p - 6:00p: Bard-Tivoli-Bard 6:00p - 6:30p: Bard-Red Hook-Bard</p>						