OBSERVER
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The Bard Observer

ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON, NY 12504 SEPTMBER 22, 1997 ISSUE 1, VOLUME 8

Sheriff Considers Cutbacks in Rape Case

By MEREDITH YAVANOS, Co-Editor-in-Chief

Although the Tirol Bay's rape case is not closed, Dutchess County Sheriff Fred Scordelis has recently stated that he is weighing cutbacks in the investigation team, due to a lack of new developments.

Community members have voiced concerns over a shortage of new information pertaining to the investigation of the rape of a Bard student by her seven-year-old daughter in the Tirol Bay on June 14. The possibility that resources may be pulled off the case prior to its conclusion has greatly alarmed the Bard citizenship.

Articles published by the Register Sun this week suggest that at this time there are apparently "dozens of investigations and even more unidentified personnel" working on the case, including Capt. Dennis O'Rourke of the Dutchess County Sheriff's Department. (Register Sun, Sept. 17)

Scordelis now says that his department will need to shift its resources toward solving other cases and the size of the investigative team now working on the Tirol Bay's missing center cannot be increased further when new information has been received.

However, the mayor of Tirol has stated that as many as 200 possible suspects will still need to be checked in the upcoming investigation activity on the case has increased at least threefold, state police working with Scordelis's department have not obtained the results of DNA tests which would determine if the attacks in June were committed by the same man responsible for the rape in the Bay in 1995.

When interviewed by the Register Sun last Wednesday's headline article, Scordelis would not be specific, saying that the department has "a lot of good information, but we don't have enough. We're still getting leads in.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Alcohol, Drug Policies Take Drastic Effect

By BASIL BOURIS, News Editor; Reporting by JEFFREY GIAQUINTO

Over the summer, at least seven students became outraged upon receiving a letter signed by the former Dean of Students, Shelley Morgan, formally revoking their on-campus housing eligibility. The letter cited the students' behavior at a party on May 21, 1997 (the last day of the spring semester), as justification for the decision.

"When I arrived [at the party] students were drinking from a keg of beer and many students were openly smoking marijuana...I requested assistance from the state police, a first in my nearly ten years at the college," says Morgan.

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Controversy surrounds Northern Dutchess-Benedictine hospitals' union

By MICHAEL HAGGERTY, Contributor

In May of this year, Northern Dutchess, Kingston, and Benedictine hospitals began talks on a proposed merger which may now take place within a year. Since then, several organizations in the Mid-Hudson Valley area have been campaigning against this proposal because they believe the merger will be detrimental to the health care services available in the community. Their main complaint is that Northern Dutchess and Kingston, both non-sectarian hospitals, will be subjected to the religious regulations of Benedictine, which is affiliated with the Catholic church. Save Our Services (S.O.S.) collected nearly three-thousand signatures in two weeks from people opposed to the merger.

Due to the rise in managed health care programs, cutbacks in Medicare and Medicaid, and other recent health care reforms, hospitals across the nation have found mergers such as the one taking place in this area to be a financial necessity. Victoria Best at Kingston hospital says, "When it gets down to it, it is a matter of "our survival." Instead of competing with one another, the three hospitals have decided to work together.

The actual merger is to take place between Northern Dutchess and Kingston. They will share one administration and budget, and two campuses. The hospitals will be referred to as Cross-River and Benedictine hospitals. Although the promotion of contraceptives is forbidden by natural law, the hospitals will be able to continue to offer the services they own's identity was respected.

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Instead of competing with one another, the three hospitals have agreed that Northern Dutchess and Kingston will share two non-sectarian campuses, cutbacks in the terms of the agreement, which finalizes the merger, will not be signed until a corporate board consisting of one-half Benedictine officials and one-half Cross-River.

There are severe regulations prescribed for Catholic hospitals by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops' "Ethical and Moral Directives for Catholic Health Care Facilities." The local hospitals have agreed that Northern Dutchess and Kingston will abide by six of the directives. These prohibit abortions, the promotion or condoning of contraceptive practices, sterilization of men or women, artificial fertilization, experimentation on living embryos or fetuses, and euthanasia or assisted suicide. S.O.S. says that this "is dangerous, it's bad medicine, bad for the women of the Hudson Valley." However, only two of these six directives would in actuality affect the services provided in the hospitals, according to Victoria Best. None of the hospitals involved in the merger have the capacity to perform artificial fertilization nor, since none are research facilities, do experimentation on fetuses. Since many insurance companies won't reimburse the cost of elective sterilization, none of the hospitals will do the procedure, except when deemed medically necessary. Best said that last year there were more sterilizations performed at Benedictine than at Kingston or Northern Dutchess. Euthanasia is prohibited by New York State law, and so is not applicable. And so, the only changes would be with abortion and the promotion of contraceptives. "In actuality, it's not going to effect medical care," Best commented.

A poll of 678 voters conducted in August by Family Planning Advocates of Albany showed that 70 percent of those polled would not want their community hospital to accept religious rules and ban reproductive health services in order to merge with a church-run hospital.

The ban on abortions is only applicable to Kingston since Northern Dutchess stopped performing them in 1977. Best did say that Benedictine performed several abortions last year when doctors deemed it medically necessary. Although the promotion of contraceptives is forbidden, information will still be available. There are many in the community who think the directive regulating the distribution of contraceptive information is in effect a gag order. Best says that the "reference to a gag order suggests there is policing. That is simply not true." She did say that they wouldn't have a formalized program in which they would solicit people.

In order to preserve the health services that will be lost in the merger, Westchester County Medical Center plans on establishing a women's health center in the area. The Master Affiliation Agreement, which finalizes the merger, will not be signed until the center is open. Best says that if the services they are "losing," it is our responsibility to assure that these services are available in the community. Those opposed to the merger wonder if all the services needed by the community will be available at the women's health center, whether it will be financially sustainable, and if women seeking care there would be a target for local anti-abortion protesters.

Wolfe says that the new terms are "fragmenting Catholic Health Care Facilities." For example, if a woman giving birth by a Cesarean section wanted to have a vaginal ligation at the same time, which is a common procedure, she would not be permitted. Instead, she would have to undergo a separate procedure done at a different facility after she had recovered from childbirth. To Wolfe, this is "soul-destroying." Another unclear point is what treatment surivors of rape will receive after the merger is complete. Benedictine has a nationally acclaimed rape unit called S.O.S., which offers counseling services and coordinates with local police. Tracy Doolittle at Benedictine says that "they will give an anti-rape pill to a rape victim if they have tested negative for pregnancy." Yet the Ulster County Coalition for Free Choice comments that a pregnancy test done directly after a rape is inconclusive.

Wolfe says that these things lead to a slow erosion of Roe v. Wade, and are a real infringement on women's rights and religious freedom. People don't want religious doctrine guiding their health care. A poll of 678 voters conducted in August by Family Planning Advocates of Albany showed that 70 percent of those polled would not want their community hospital to accept religious rules and ban reproductive health services in order to merge with a church-run hospital.

S.O.S., Family Planning Advocates, and the Ulster County Coalition for Free Choice urge the hospitals to find a way around the religious issue. There are many alternatives. Vasser Brothers, which is non-sectarian, and the Catholic St. Francis hospitals in Poughkeepsie collaborated so that Vasser Brothers would not be subject to ban on abortions. In Port Jefferson, Long Island, John T. Mather Memorial Hospital and St. Charles Hospital formed a joint venture so that each could retain its own identity, mission, and board of directors. In Vermont, when Fletcher-Allen Health Care was formed from three hospitals, the agreement was structured so that the two non-sectarian hospitals could continue to offer the services prohibited by Catholic doctrine while the Catholic hospitals' identity was respected.

Community Awareness Day Approaching

By ARTHUR R. ROSENBERG, Opinion Editor

April 24, Stewart Library Seminar Room: Workshops presented by Counseling Center, "Coping with Stress and Guilt at the Aftermath of Tragedy," led by Beverly Bettinger; "Understanding Adult Learning: How to break the cycle of violence," led by Eric Kelly, and Althie Middaugh, "How to Talk to Children About Sexual Violence." 4:30 p.m., Kiwanis Club: The Outing Club will sponsor a walk through the Bard Woods, emphasizing in a visual presentation created by Chaplin's. The walk will begin and end in front of Kiwanis.

April 25, Kiwanis Club: Musicale, featuring Tormoe Band's music. The proceeds of Bard Community Day encourage all faculty, staff, and students to attend.

For more information, contact Eric Cusano at the Dean of Student office.
Self Defense Training Instills Confidence
By STEPHANIE SCHNEIDER, Art and Entertainment Editor

"Confidence-building through physical exercise." That's how instructor Brandon Ramos describes the basic premise of the new self-defense class being offered at the Stevenson gym.

The class, which meets every Tuesday at 8:30 p.m., has recently gotten underway with much success, according to the instructors, Ramos and Eva Olsgard.

Ramos said he has been happy with the turn out and that the students enrolled are "genuinely interested."

Olsgard and Ramos have been considering teaching this class since last semester and cited the rape which happened at the beginning of the summer as another important reason why Olsgard wanted the class to be free and tried in hope that it would be available to all more conveniently. The class fee is $10.

Fall Budget Forum: Brief, Bland, and Even Beautiful
By SEYIL MIYHANDAR, Contributor

It may have been one of the shortest budget forums in Bard's history. At 7 p.m., on Wednesday, September 17, the fall budget forum was underway and proceeded for an unprecedented 25 minutes.

The forum was led by Student Life Committee Chair Kate Shelton and the recently elected treasurer, Bryan Shelton. Also present were Central Committee members, Mark Todd, Chair of the Planning Committee; Ruby MacAdoo, Chair of the Educational Policy Committee; Muni Citrin, Chair of the Student Judiciary Board; and Chris Planer, secretary.

The agenda for the budget forum included the election of two members to the arts division of the Educational Policy Committee, the election of two members to the Health and Counseling Service Advisory Committee, as well as a call for amendments to the budget. Sharon Levy and Max Dube were elected to the EPC, while Seth Goldfine and Larry French will be serving on the HCSAC.

Elections were followed by the announcement of the forthcoming Community Awareness Day, which is scheduled to take place on Friday, September 26. Additionally, it was announced that Shelton and Director of Activities Allen Josey will be meeting with club heads. The floor was then opened for amendments to the fall budget. Unlike previous years however, there were no hostile amendments made.

Shelton believes the main reason for this is the approximately $15,000 which was carried over from last year's conversation fund and added to this year's fund of $65,000. He added that "not all the clubs used all the money that was allocated to them last spring. The Planning Committee had a large amount of money to work with and therefore was able to reasonably fulfill most of the clubs' budget requests."

He adds that "apparently everyone was happy with the budget." He added that it is sure for there to be no amendments made to the budget, and does not foresee future forums bring "boring breeze."

Shelton hopes that "the clubs will spend all their money" this semester.

While it was definitely an unusual budget forum, some things did not change. There was the usual beer drinking, cigar smoking, and informality which have come to characterize Bard budget forums, and of course, the irrevocable presence of the boisterous Josh Bell.

Get a Life: SLC Addresses Student Issues, Questions
Member points to three immediate problems
By SHILLI AAREH, Contributor

The Student Life Committee (SLC) is comprised of student representatives who meet regularly to consider a plethora of campus life concerns and needs. According to the Bard TURF (The Undergraduate Executive Leadership团) handbook, the SLC seeks advice and formulates policy recommendations for the Student Association in all matters concerning students services and residential life. In addition, SLC members regularly visit with departmental officials, college administrators, student service personnel, Peer Advisers, SLCs, Country and other members of the community to gather additional information. SLC budget requests are sent directly to the Board of Trustee's Committee, the election of two members to the arts division of the Educational Policy Committee, and the election of two members to the Health and Counseling Service Advisory Committee, as well as a call for amendments to the budget. Sharon Levy and Max Dube were elected to the EPC, while Seth Goldfine and Larry French will be serving on the HSCAC.

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Miming physical exertion with informative advice and facts, Ramos said he wanted to strike a balance between teaching a lot of facts and good responses. He described the class as teaching high-impact self-defense. According to Olsgard, high-impact means strikes with big parts of the body such as elbows and knees. She added that the students are taught the four main vulnerable places of the body so as to where they should aim their strikes. Those are the eyes, knees, groin, and throat. Olsgard stresses that this class is most importantly trying to give people the sense "that they could get through a situation." And Ramos agrees, reminding it will not make them instant but rather that perhaps it will teach them the most important aspect of self-defense, which is to become confident and comfortable with the body.

Ramos said that he runs his class by sticking to the pragmatic. Although both Olsgard and Ramos are quite familiar with martial arts themselves, both said this class is not about fancy kicks and blocks but rather made up of "confidence building exercises," as Ramos describes.

Such concerns were in the class are escapes, how to deal with a weapon, multiple assailants, working with a partner and learning how to fall. Olsgard said she wants the people enrolled to "leave feeling like they've done something." The instructors hope to continue the class in the spring semester.
Upcoming Events

Sept. 22, Monday
Nine a.m. Blithewood. Call B&G for more info.
Victorian Studies Organizational Meeting.
Call Prof. d' Albertis at x7393.
Bard Cinematheque:
Charlie Chaplin’s Lime-light. Preston (7 p.m.).

Sept. 23, Tuesday
Eucharist Service.
Bard Chapel. 12:12-30 p.m.
Informational meeting about Study Abroad in
Zimbabwe and South Africa.
Committee Room. 12-2:00 p.m.
Women's Soccer vs. Mount Saint Vincent.
Home. 4 p.m.
Graduate and Professional School Fair.
Old Gym. 4-7 p.m.
Tea with Dean Levine.
Ludlow 201. 6-30-8 p.m.

Sept. 24, Wednesday
Men’s Soccer vs. Manhattanville.
Home. 4 p.m.
Women’s Tennis vs. SUNY New Paltz.
Home. 4 p.m.
Open Concert.
Bard Hall. 7 p.m.
Lecture
“The Mixing of Peoples: Intermarriage and the
Making of Americans—History, Prospects, Policy” by Joel
Perlmann, senior scholar and Levy Institute Research
Professor of History. Blithewood. 8 p.m.

Sept. 26, Friday
Day of Community.
Music, readings, counseling workshops, self-defense and community walk. For more info call
7688. 12-6 p.m.
Film Committee presents
Flirting with Disaster. Old Gym. 7, 9 p.m.

Sept. 27, Saturday
Men’s Soccer vs. Baruch College.
Home. 2 p.m.
Women’s Tennis vs. St. Joseph’s College.
Home. 1 p.m.
Free Movie Night at the Lyceum.
Van leaving from behind Klirn. 8 p.m.
Paleontologist Jack Horner,
Museum of the Rockies, Bozeman, Montana,
will speak on “The Science and the Fiction of
Jurassic Park and The Lost World.” Other 3 p.m.,
introductory lecture at 1:30 p.m.

Sept. 28, Sunday
Sunday Worship.
St. John The Evangelist. 10 a.m.
Film Committee presents...
Kiss of the Spider Woman. Old Gym. 7, 9 p.m.

Oct. 3, Frady
Swing Dance Lessons, The TLS

Oct. 4, Saturday
Play:
Through the Leaves and Farmyard by Xaver
Kroetz. Directed by William Driver. Scene
Shop Theatre, Avery Arts Center. 8 p.m.;
Sunday matinee 3 p.m. (runs through Oct. 7)
Reservations recommended. 914-758-8622

House of Pleasure,
Old Gym. 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Classifieds

DO IT FOR A DIME!

CHEAP RUBBERS
The Dime Store would like to welcome you all back! For
those of you unfamiliar with us, The Dime Store is the only
place around to get cheap rubbers. Forget paying the high
prices at the Bookstore or X-tra Mart, we’ll sell them to you at
cost, 10 cents each!

Here’s the drill: pick up an order envelope at the post office,
next to the campus mail drop-off, or make up one of your own.
Write down what you want, how much money you’ve enclosed,
and your box number. Send it through campus mail to The
Dime Store, box 774. Please don’t include your name since The
Dime Store would like to keep things anonymous.

We have lubricated Lifestyles, lubricated Rough Riders,
lubricated assorted colors, non-lubed Gold Coin, non-lubed
Kiss of Mint, mint flavored condoms, and non-lubed
Lifestyles originals.

We’re here to keep all Bard students and their partners safe
and satisfied. If you have any questions or comments, please
write them down and send them to box 774.

Do It For A Dime!
Convocation Fund Awards

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EMERGENCY FUND: $10000

Appended arbitrarily chosen students. In a last-minute attempt on the part of the Dean of Students to avoid a potentially violent dispersal of the crowd, it was suggested that two of the more vocal students present move the party to the Old Gym and officially register it as a spontaneous event. This fact is omitted from the official response to the party which criticizes the students’ lack of understanding of “a provision for registering a spontaneous event that is clearly outlined in the Student Handbook.” Of the students to whom the suggestion of officially moving the party to the Old Gym was made, one graduated and the other received the news that he could no longer live on campus at Bard College.

This student cites a second letter from Mary Backlund (the new Assistant Dean of Student Affairs), dated July 15, 1997, which in essence is a recital of all punishments that the first letter handed down, as evidence that the administration had overstressed its bounds in the initial handling of the situation. This second letter (cf. p. 12) presumed that they could indeed live on campus; however, they had already lost their original room. Thos three students have either settled for vastly inferior rooms or have moved off campus anyway.

To date, all students who received letters revoking their off-campus housing claim to have had extreme difficulty contacting Bard administration regastnesting this issue and in fact that they have been unable to contact either Shirley Morgan or Leah LaValle (the only administrators present on the evening in question). This situation is the result of changing attitudes within high-level Bard administration concerning implementation to its drug and alcohol policies, but it is by no means the sole example of such changes. Of related interest is the recent firing of a Peer Counselor on the grounds that he and one fellow P.C. violated their “Peer Counselor Contracts” by assisting in carrying alcohol into a dorm where underage drinking may have been taking place. The ex-P.C. and his friend (the driver of the car) claim to have offered two students (with whom he was not acquainted) a ride down Amendale road and then assisted in carrying their packages (which contained alcohol) inside their dorm before departing.

The following morning this P.C. was informed by Resident Director Terry Nordrup and newly promoted Dean of Residential Life, Leah LaValle, that he was to be fired with no compensation, due to a breach of contract. The driver of the automobile was only placed on probation. The fired P.C. claims that the harshness of his reprimand stems from a previous incident involving a pillow fight in Robbins Lounge that was not cleaned up properly. The former P.C. insists, however, that a “furi­ous” Leah LaValle never informed him, in writing or otherwise, that he would be placed on any kind of official probation as a result of the pillow fight.

Following this administrative decision, the remaining Peer Counselors held subsequent meet­ings to discuss a request for clarifications of their contract. Officially, the fired P.C. was in violation of the expectation “to uphold policies and the procedures set forth by both Residential Life and the College.” The official Qualities of a Peer Counselor statement stipulates that a peer counselor position requires a responsible, mature, dedicated, trustworthy, and enthusiastic individ­ual. Commitment to the program, its goals, the student body, and the college, is essential.”

Those punished were informed that they “should have used better judgment” in this situa­tion. The former P.C. was, in the end, offered some compensation, including a $1500 Federal Perkins Loan, for the $3,000 in lost wages he would have received as a P.C. in good standing. Feeling that these offers were nominal and insuffi­cient, he is considering filing an official complaint with the Grievance Committee. As of the dead­line for publication of this article, the Dean of Students office had not issued a more concise Peer Counselor contract.
Memphis Slandered by Red Hook Rib-joint

By CAITLIN JAYNES, Assistant A&E Editor

Driving out of Red Hook past the Lyceum 6, you might find yourself startled by a yellow and white building on the right side of the road, adorned with a Greek pediment and columns. This "uniquely" styled building certainly contrasts with the surrounding architecture of the area, and suggests a distinct "Southern style" restaurant; it goes by the name of Max's Memphis Barbecue.

Beyond the reference to Memphis, that famous city located on the bluffs of the Mississippi in the state of Tennessee, acclaimed as the home of Elvis, and internationally known for its tasty barbecue, the restaurant severely lacks the ambiance typically associated with a Southern bar and barbecue joint. You just have to walk through the doors to know that this is definitely still the Hudson Valley.

Attention is drawn to the ceiling, as a gongstamped paper maché pseudo-graffiti, griffin-like creature swoops from the "rustic," wooden beams of the ceiling. The light color of the interior, the polished cleanliness of the bar, the bizarre creations decorat­ing the interior, and the soft, hazy mood lighting reveals an aura that is more comparable to a restaur­ant in New York City, rather than the down home atmosphere of "Authentic South," where are the grungy wooden bar stools? Where is the juke box? Where is the dim dingy lighting from randomly placed, exposed light bulbs? Where is the beer atmosphere of Memphis' South. Where are the restaurant's attempt to create Southern atmos­phere?

One might be startled by a yellow and orange cardboard sign atop the door, reading "Memphis Slandered by Red Hook Rib-joint." By CAITLIN JAYNES, Assistant A&E Editor

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The restaurant's attempt to create Southern atmos­phere?
The Many Shapes of Tunga: Performances Opened Show

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

backs against one another in the corner of a stark room which was divided symbolically into three sections by an eerily surgical rubber cord. At the convergence of the three sections in the middle of the room was suspended a grisly collection of bloodied clothing, cups of an opaque liquid (spilling occasionally onto the floor into an unsightly puddle), and thermometers. A participant was at once fervent to submit the possible victims to a devouring gaze, yet at the same time ashamed and unnerved by the graphic suggestiveness of the piece's play with animate and inanimate matter. The day's events culminated in an out-of-doors spectacle which only added to the feeling of hyperbole and theatrical exuberance of the show at large. The colossal outline of a couple engaged in an embrace (while, disturbingly, the male member brandishes a club), was transposed in gunpowder onto the concrete loading ramp behind the building. One of the artist's cronies casually lit the fuse with a cigar and Tunga's rendering of Eros and Thanatos, creation and destruction, went up in glorious flames, testimony to the transience of the natural world.
First-year Survival 101

By ABIGAIL ROSENBERG, Opinion Editor

LAIt is a strange phenomenon indicative of the uniqueness of Bard. Three weeks is quite a long orientation period and most of it is spent on campus. Don’t get me wrong, campus has a lot to offer but ask anyone who’s been here for a semester or more, getting off campus is extremely important for one’s sanity. The following is a list of places that I wish I had discovered earlier in my first year, places to get a cheap, non-Kline meal, to buy CDs, to get expresso.

To Eat for Cheap:

“The Diner: (Red Hook) One of the most important places to know is the Historic Village or Red Hook Diner. Breakfast is served all day along with typical diner food. Another thing about the Diner is every month they have a website, table, and booth (except for two) are “the smoking section.” That means coffee and a cigarette are once again possible. The Diner is open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. To get there from the main Bard campus, go straight onto 9G, turn left at the light onto 199 and turn left onto 9. The Diner is about a block up on the right.”

De’s Daisy Cream: (Rhinebeck) While its architecture looks like something out of a 50’s post-nuclear nightmare, De’s has good ice cream, cheap burgers, and the Rib Eye sandwich. Your favorite burgers are the chicken gyro and french fries. Great salads for the vegetarians, too. At De’s, you drive up, place your order and wait for them to call your name over the loudspeaker. You have the choice of to stay or go, or you can “pick up in your car.” From Bard, go south on 9G past the Rhinecliff Bridge light, and turn right at the light onto Route 9. De’s is about a half mile on your left. (Brand Union (Rhinebeck) Or G.U., as seasoned students refer to it, is the largest supermarket in the area; it has everything from deodorant to beer. Cooking your own food is a great alternative to the digestive bombshell of Kline and can be done cheaply. G.U.’s open 24 hours (except Sundays). There is a shuttle from Bard campus once a week (check schedule for times). If you’re making a run on your own, head south on 9G, past the Rhinecliff Bridge light, and turn right at the light onto Route 9, past De’s Daisy Cream. G.U. is a shopping center on your left.

Bev Way: (Upper Red Hook) Bev Way is a discount alternative to the beer scene at night. Pretty good selection of beer and mixed drinks. Smoking during bar hours and on the porch.

Bard Dells: A great place to pick up a paper, some milk, or OJ. Located in the old church, Bev’s is a typical deli where you can get a roast beef sandwich or some personal frozen margarita stories to tell.

The Hotel Money: Serving drinks from behind the 100-year-old bar, fights! Irish Annie keeps the bar open every night. Great place to go to have a beer and watch the game; they have pitchers of Bud for $5 and a pretty good beer selection. Smoking allowed. Sit on the famous porch for the best seats.

Miscellaneous Cool Places:

Beverage Wines: (Upper Red Hook) Bev Way is a discount beer and soda store. They have a great selection of beer at good prices. Bev Way is the place to get legs and lotto tickets. You can also bring them back your empties. To get there go to the southern entrance of Bard at the triangle, and go straight through the light. Go straight from the stop sign until you get to Route 9. Make a left and Bev Way is about one mile on your right, next to the Cornucopia Deli.

The Hudson Valley Mall: (Kingston) The only mall within an hour’s drive. A knot of Long Island-esque children check out the HVM, department store, record stores (two installations of The Wall), The Gap, Victoria’s Secret, and a Food Court with a Tic Tac Bell. They just opened a new cineplex with 12 theaters and sterile sound systems, $7.90 for a ticket. The Mall is across the Rhinecliff Bridge. Take 209 until the 9W exit for Kingston and it’s about half a mile down on the left. Look for signs.

The Laneway Theater: Also known to Bard students as the Red Hook Marquee, it consists of a six movie multiplex and an arena where they show another one. They generally have family-oriented movies, but can be a beer hat for adventure flicks. Most popular for their $3 Tuesday night, the regular admission is only $5. To get to the theater, turn right at the Red Hook intersection onto Route 9. The theater is one mile on the right. The Annex is straight through the intersection, two blocks on the left.

Bard Campus can seem really small and isolated at times. Some people refer to it as Planet Bard because even we liberal students can lose perspective every now and again. It’s a good idea to familiarize yourself with the community in which Bard is situated, because now that you live here, you are a member. A word to the wise: many businesses will not accept checks from Bard students. Most restaurants in the area are closed on Mondays.
ASO Glibly Navigates Troubled Waters

By MEREDITH YAYANOS, Co-Editor-in-Chief

These days, Abiect Terre isn’t commonly associated with classical concert-going. It wasn’t always so; recall the boulevardier riots at Stravinsky’s Rite of Spring premiere, or Mahler’s “unreceptive” audience. They really did throw tomatoes, you know. But in the modern times, brawls revolve around the fin-de-siecle legacy of opera-intrigue, when dueling debutantes tumbled over the bassoon to their social deaths and squirmed some poor unsuspecting concertmaster in the process (it happened at least once, I swear it). And it’s about to be like that again, right?...

Tower’s amazing piece is perfectly named. Much like a rampaging Steinway on a collision course with fate, Rapids, with its precarious pace, always seems to be on the verge of a watery grave. Touched partially off the edge. Spectators gasped and the pearl-bedecked woman shrieked quite loudly as beads of sweat and bulging veins rose upon the brows of the tech crew. They struggled valiantly with the lurching, teetering Steinway. After an executing moment, the bear was subdued and trundled into position. Praises be. Soloist Ursula Oppens is truly a wonder of the music world, but it’s doubtful that even she could have maintained any semblance of clarity while tickling ivory embedded in her patrons’ craniums. She snatched the bow, sending it clattering loudly to the floor. What a performance!...
Meet the Dean of Students Office

Monday, Sept. 22, 7:30 p.m.
Kline College Room
Tivoli: After the Bard Exodus

Spending summer as member of small community instructive

By ABIGAIL ROSENBERG, Opinion's Editor

I did something crazy this summer. At least that's what the looks that people gave me conveyed when I told them that I stayed in Tivoli this summer. Yep, according to my family, I stayed "up at school". It didn't strike me as being that unusual, as the entire area has become my home, at least for the three years that I've been at Bard and I wanted to see what this area was like after the Bard students made their mass summer exodus. What a displaced age to be! The "home" where I grew up isn't the same, but Bard life only functions for eight months out of the year. Being a Bard student, I find myself getting caught up in the reality only of Planet Bard. Most of us are able to realize the narrowness of this lifestyle, but it's hard to see outside of our social/academic society. The current events of the outside world filter in slowly, if at all. Who is that man standing in front of the post office? He's a State Senate candidate! Would you buy a candidate be here? I go to Bard, I'm not a member of this outside world. All of us students are guilty of this isolationist thinking. It seems to be a combination of our age and the structure of Bard which doesn't foster a community—minded atmosphere.

The rape of the woman and her little girl in late July instantly created a sense of community in Tivoli as well as proved that Bard is part of it. The rape of the woman and her little girl in mid-June instantly created a sense of community in Tivoli as well as proved that Bard is part of it.

The prior rapes were seemingly forgotten soon after they happened. Because the date of the Tivoli Bays rape happened close to Tivoli Day, the town's community pride day, and the fact that parents had to figure out a way to talk to their children about the incident, discussion was rampant about the issue.

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The New Enforcers in Words and Practice
New policies infringe upon students rights, fundamental liberties

By IAN COLLIN GREER, Contributor

The purpose of this comment is to frame the issues in such a way that students can do something to correct the problem. It is clear that the new way that the drug and alcohol policy infantilizes students gives Bard a new policing function which it has lacked before and makes Bard students less human. It is unjust, lacks a consistent rationale, and is formulated and enacted by deans who cannot have independently made the decisions. At most, their actions are the result of a direction decided somewhere above the Dean of Students office (perhaps physically, and certainly in terms of power). The deans have deliberately formed the language of the letters and the student handbook vaguely, have often used the passive tense (lacking subjects), and have abused language to deprive students and anyone else of having any say in the status of the enforcement. As was stated in a letter from Mary Inga Backlund, "who ever does not respect the rules of community, which include civility," can be expelled from Bard! Civility? Community? After making personal interpretations of the terms, many who received this letter honestly don't even think that they defined the policy!

Thus we can see that it is dehumanizing and makes us, enforcers and "guilty" ones, less than human. It is pointless to say that the administration isn't listening to us without figuring out how this lack of responsive- ness works. Who is placed in positions to ignore us? How do they get here? What are the power relationships involved? What are the connections between this dehumanizing policy and others on campus such as tenure? We do not have the space here to discuss all of these issues, so this week we will stick to examining the words and practice of the newly enforced alcohol policy.

When the students received the dean's "formal response" to the incident that took place at a party held on the last night of school last semester (see related article in News Section), they also received a photocopied section of the Student Handbook. Under sanctions, the recipient learned that "after a hearing, either formal or informal, in which guilt is established, an appropriate sanction will be imposed." No students who were punished the night of the party had a chance to defend themselves, and the recently fired Peer Counselor never had a real chance to defend himself. The phrase "Guilt is established" does not mention who "establishes" the "guilt." Does a student have a right to defend herself? Is she innocent until proven guilty? In practice, no, and no. In the experience of students in these cases, the judge, jury, and executioner is the same dean or group of deans. The doctrine of "guilty until proven innocent" would be an improvement to the status quo.

When the students received the letter they learned that the drug policy "places the bulk of the responsibility on the individual student," and that "the college will not actively police students but does expect students to observe and respect college policy as adult members of the community." Yet the deans expelled students from their housing whose guilt has been established without telling their side of the story. The deans fire students from jobs much-needed for their income. The deans send letters threatening "the jeopardization of your student status." We have known for years that the bulk of responsibility has been the students'. And yet now the deans are pouring out people's beers! It is a different kind of responsibility now. It is the "individual students' responsibility" to prove one's own innocence in the absence of a formal hearing. It is the "individual students' responsibility" to fear the enforcers of rules. "Individual students" are expected to follow college policy, are told that this is "adult"

Sarcasm Strikes Deep, Into Your Life It Will Creep

By DAVIS CARE, Contributor

I know that many of you are什么地方 about the "Booz Booz Super Bazi" party [when we find out about it, you all students should be taken seriously not only by the administration, but by all of us. The purpose of this article is to inform everyone that there seems to be a trend in one sense. It is noticeable that people would only be caught in "recreational" behaviors that children think the people who claim to remember that speech and bring T-shirts from other ways of doing drugs. It is hard to believe that the administration is now pushing responsibility into the student's hands which is actually not in the hands of the students. I say that we should all go to "my country, and then give them a beer bag, perhaps followed by some of the evidence that the new students receive, and have them be made to go: counseling from the highly qualified staff of staff. Remember, we won't even know who the new students are, or what it is that they become responsible for, or how many people are there. I say that we need to be more careful with our language and the way we talk to the students. We must be more careful with the words that we use and the way that we talk to each other.

We will be the only ones to make the decisions. We must be the ones to ignore the students. We can't assume that the administration is listening to us without figuring out how this lack of responsiveness works. Who is placed in positions to ignore us? How do they get here? What are the power relationships involved? What are the connections between this dehumanizing policy and others on campus such as tenure? We do not have the space here to discuss all of these issues, so this week we will stick to examining the words and practice of the newly enforced alcohol policy.
behavior, while our supposedly mature deans ignore any rights of students which may be incidentally, and certainly sparingly, spared throughout the student handbook.

Upon reception of this letter, students read that when the helicopter landed, it cut down a scene which blatantly violates college policy and the law...I must respond. Crimes such as underage drinking or smoking marijuana are justifiably a serious concern. The policy to "reprimand" will necessarily threaten students and violate the very next sentence of the letter: "Bard offers students an immense amount of freedom." This is partially true — many of the people who were loud and drunk at the party received no letter, no expulsion from campus housing. The freedom which "Bard" continued to "offer" stems only from the fact that the deans could not punish everyone. The people who received the largest punishments were not drinking or smoking any marijuana; they were simply protesting the arbitrariness of the way the rules were being enforced. The deans called the police to break up a party on a night when nobody was studying because classes were over for the semester. When asked what the police would do if the students didn't leave, the police said "arrest you for trespassing." Trepassing where we live! As for the freedom with which "Bard" provides students, while Bard can give, Bard can take away.

Sooner or later deans might start getting sanctioning for breaking rules; now students can count on getting sanctioned regardless of guilt or innocence. Now, the most a student can hope for is that the deans will be in a generous mood and follow the rule from the student handbook, providing for a "formal or informal hearing after which sanctions will be imposed." For too long, however, students have provided the enforcers with freedom, the freedom to enforce a deliberately vague student handbook, written in the passive tense and with the freedom to ignore any part therein. The enforcers didn't abuse this freedom back in the old days. Now they do.

And then, as in Leah La Valle's case, they get arrested for breaking rules; now students can count on those arrest warrants as they start filing suits in an attempt to discover the kind of respect for individual and collective human rights we deserve, and organize against this infantilizing assault. We've already begun the work. We met every week in Klune on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Come, if you want to help and agree that these new measures are "incompatible with the life of the mind."

Issues of Sexuality On the Bard Campus

By JESS ADAMS, Contributor

"The majority of people (at Bard) don't accept homophobia, so that gets cloistered." This was one of the many comments made Wednesday, August 20, at the year's first BIGALA (Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian Alliance) meeting. Most of the session concentrated on introductory information meant to orientate interested students with the group's functions and activities. Pauline Gnesin led the meeting by questioning newcomers as to whether they preferred a support group to "Good Sex Talk," gay, bisexual and lesbian speakers and writers on some top topics, and Gay Out Week, which takes place in mid-October and is host to a multitude of music, parties, and lectures. The week's climax is the much-anticipated Drag Race, in which contestants compete for various prizes.

Bard has an interesting history concerning sexuality. Geinis assured the incoming students that the school has a very supportive atmosphere and a majority of people are either comfortable with homosexuality or polite in their homophobia. Therefore, the campus is a safe haven for diversity, and tension never comes up.

Though local coffee houses have sponsored gay nights, BIGALA addressed the need for awareness of differing attitudes among local residents. Two summers ago a waiter at Santa Fe in Tivoli was beaten severely in a gay-related incident. Tivoliites with too much alcohol in their systems have proved dangerous in both Tivoli and Red Hook.

The BIGALA organization of Bard continues to grow and the only complaint of members is a lack of heterosexuality involvement. "BIGALA is open to everyone. It is not infatuated, restricted in its membership," Geinis asserted. "The group is really what you put into it."

Scheduled BIGALA meetings take place every Sunday evening at 7 p.m. in Albee Social, all are welcome and encouraged to attend.

THE OBSERVER OPINIONS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1997 13

By SHAWNEE BARNES, Contributor

The date is January 12th, 1997 and my plane is about to land on Spanish soil. I feel myself pressed tightly to the seat, my hands gripping the armrest as I squeeze my eyes shut waiting for the crash I so graphically imagine. First I visualize scenes from "Alive," (a bit too dramatic) and then an abyss: a blackness, an openness that is colorless but feels like a pit in my stomach. I realize this is what awaits me. My only choice is to remain calm with my seatbelt fastened as I give all my trust to the pilots and the mercy of fate.

I arrive safely land the planes and I chuckle at my idiotic exaggeration of doom as I pick up my bags off the carousel in Madrid. I'm alone yet strangely feeling confident maybe unconsciously because I'm trying not to look as if I have no idea what I'm doing. I walk to the platform to get the cheap shuttle to the terminal downtown. It's a twenty minute ride through the packed, wide streets, rows of colorful buildings and crowds of Saturday shoppers. Big billboards written in vernacular Spanish flash smilies at me as I translate the words from Spanish to English and realize that I've only gotten half of it. This is it. My future is taking shape second by second. The next few months are going to be about translating, of assimilating into a new culture that I don't know too much about. In order to do that I have to give up part of myself, (I'll start with the idea of giving up smoking) and submerge myself fully.

My heart begins to beat faster as I explain where I want to go to a cab driver in Spanish. The voice speaking doesn't sound like me. I feel awkward speaking his language although somewhere in my head I know there is five years of Spanish. The cab pulls into the bus terminal marked "Palas de la fronteza" and I rush out hugging my frame pack, I run in praying to whomever is in charge of this universe that my friend is waiting for me. Sure enough I see someone who could be her and I call, "Natasha? Yes! The person turns around and screams "Thankyou, you're back?!! Drop my bags in exhaustion and we hug; never have I been so glad to see anyone. Together we buy our tickets to Oviedo and get on the bus. We're the only Americans and we gab in English the whole way to our destination in the middle of nowhere.

That night in the youth hostel was the turning point for me. I was freaked out by the fact that there was no way back. Here I was beginning my journey into the abyss in a small city which I knew nothing about, miles away from the comforts of home. My first instinct was to call my mom, but Natasha said it would be the wrong move. The best thing was to shower, eat and clear my head. I waited to call and by then I had clamed down and was getting excited at the realization that I was in Spain, Europe! My long awaited dream was coming true.

That night we set the tone for the rest of my semester long experience abroad. I was not going to look back. I knew that I had to trust the fall into the abyss and into my experience in being somewhere totally foreign. I worked, thanks to Natasha's Buddhist advice and the law of the Reja and busy streets filled with life. The experience proved to be one adventure after another and the abyss took beautiful form...The first things can be scary, but what's important is that one takes those steps and sometimes one just has to face failure and trust that the landing will be smooth although the visualizing of it can be gruesome. Take the plunge.
Fun at the Net

By ABIGAIL ROSENBERG, Opinion Editor

Yes, yes, Women’s Tennis coach, it’s the best team that he’s as all the streak shows no signs of weakening. Already tied the number of wins from last year and said “Good show!”

The season wears on and the academic work load piles up, the consistency of the onslaught of competition. The question is, can the women take it? If they can take it, the season is expected to be a defining moment in the New Vision of sports brought to Bard College. The 97-98 Women’s Tennis team is quickly rewriting the history books with a 4-0 record, and an unblemished 35-1 record, as the female student-athletes have blown the summer dust off their shoes, balls, rackets, and straps and tried, and tennis athletes have blown the summer

Fall Season Sports Revamp Champs

By ABIGAIL ROSENBERG, Opinion Editor

The Bard College juggernaut of fall sports is rolling again. Soccer, volleyball, rugby, cross-country, and tennis athletes have blown the summer dust off their shoes, balls, rackets, and straps and embarked upon vigorous training schedules. Preparation for such foes as Vassar, New Paltz, Felician, St. Joe’s, Albany Pharmacy, Seton Hall, Mount Mary, and Mount Vincent is intense but...
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College 3-1 but then losing to Albany Pharmacy 4-2 in the championship game. Bard Women's Soccer received a large shiny trophy that can be admired in the Stevenson Gymnasium trophy case. Bard was honored to have three players named to the All Tournament Team: Sarah Dreder, Margo Knight, and Paige Taylor.

During the Tuesday (9/16) rematch against Albany Pharmacy, the Bard Women's soccer team looked forward to re-taking the rivalry. After being defeated by the Albany Pharmacy last semester, the Sports staff decided a year ago that the "Blazers" were too obscure a name for a mascot and that something more recognizable should be chosen. "What are the Blazers anyway?" Kris Hall did say, however, that "the latest game, vs. New Paltz (9/17), Home), the team gels and the confidence will come last month. The sports staff sorted through numerous contenders. Some were bland and institutional while others had the flair of a true liberal arts college: the Bardbirds, Snapping Turtles, Hands, Clap, Bobcats, Red Devils, Flaming Stallions, Bowling, Black Hawks, Corn Huskers, Phantoms, Dirty Whores, Mountainers, and the Bard It Hurt When I Pee. Voting was tight and the decision process was done by dilution; the Dirty Whores made it all the way to the second cut. Eventually only two were left, the Mountainers and the Blazers, and the staff has been tight-lipped about the winner. "We want it to be a big surprise," says Kris Hall "the first symbol of our new athletic era."

Kris Hall did say, however, that she was pulling for the Mountainners because they are fast, agile, and had claws. Rumor has it that Steven Spielberg would be present at the unveiling ceremony and would not be pursuing copyright infringement but would have creative sway with the actual logo design.

In other related news Marcus Camby was seen wandering aimlessly around the Stevenson Gymnasium wondering out loud "What arc the Blazers anyway?"

Some staff members weretight-lipped about the winner. "We want it to be a big surprise," says Kris Hall "the first symbol of our new athletic era."

The strong and experienced leadership of captains Brand Beers, Jake Brewer, and David Zelick should get the team back on course soon enough. In the latest game, vs. New Paltz (9/17), Home), the team gels and the confidence will come. "We want it to be a big surprise," says Kris Hall "the first symbol of our new athletic era."

Bard to Appoint New Mascot

By JEREMY DILLAHUNT, Sports Editor

The sports offices are all a buzz with the news of Bard College's new mascot, to be released, along with graphics and the possibility of one lucky something later this month. The sports staff has been tight-lipped about the winner. "We want it to be a big surprise," says Kris Hall "the first symbol of our new athletic era."

Rugby Ritual and the Grisly Supping of Drinking-Boot

By JEREMY DILLAHUNT, Sports Editor

The rugby season has started! If you were any where in the New Paltz area on Saturday morning, you could see hundreds of students milling around the school band. The band had moved up top of the school and was playing the national anthem. The band then took to the field and played while the students sang along.

During the game against Marmion a goal was scored that caused some controversy among the players. The referee ruled that the ball was out of bounds and awarded Marmion a free kick. After some discussion, the referee overturned his decision and awarded Marmion a goal.

Men's Soccer: Off To a Slow Start

By JEREMY DILLAHUNT, Sports Editor

The Bard Men's soccer team has opened this season with a spotty. A 0-3-0 record is one of the worst starts in recent history for the team. Lackluster team defense and limited individual play have contributed to the team's overall poor play. In three games the team has allowed fourteen goals and only scored once.

Not to be overly pessimistic and harsh, the Men's team did start this season against tough conference squads on short unfamiliar fields which lend a new feel to the game. Also, with a five coach in five years, the team has had a difficult time getting used to a style of play and instead have been re-learning the game each year. The roster has also undergone some dramatic changes. The loss of two key defenders, Josh Bortzke (graduated) and Nick Bolden (red tape), has left the defense re-learning the defense. On the offensive end Dan Greenfield was also lost to red tape. Along with eight freshmen, four starting, it is going to take a few games before the team gel's and the chemistry sets in.

The strong and experienced leadership of captains Brand Beers, Jake Brewer, and David Zelick should get the team back on course soon enough. In the latest game, vs. New Paltz (9/17, Home), the team gels and the confidence will come. "We want it to be a big surprise," says Kris Hall "the first symbol of our new athletic era."

The team competed in its first meet at the Williams College Invitational in Williamsport, MA on Saturday, September 21. The Invitational, widely considered to be one of the most competitive Division III cross-country competitions in the Northeast, attracted many of the top teams in the country.

The team finished in 15th out of 16 teams, with overall time of 1:22:45. Although the team did not place as well as they had hoped, they were happy with their performance and are looking forward to upcoming meets.

On Empty...

By SCOTT COMMERSON, Copy Editor

What were you doing at 8:30 Saturday morning? If you were among the vast majority of Bard inhabitants, you were probably in the first hour of a long, peaceful slumber lasting until mid-afternoon. However, if you were one of the nine dedicated (some would say crazy) members of the track team, you were riding along in a shaky bus past the prime of your career at around 5:23 am. All for you.

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It was kind of disappointing with my performance on Saturday, but it's all the beginning of the season so we should all have a lot of time to improve, first-year Kenneth Lisch said. The team has 7 more meets in the near future and will be competing in the Sectionals on October 2. Bard will trek down to Providence to compete in the invitational of its archrival Vassar. Following Saturday's meet, October 2, Bard will be hosting its own invitational.

The team is in still looking for runners. If you're interested, the team meets for practice every day at 4:15 outside the couches office.
ANNANDALE ON HUDSON 1997

IT'S GOOD TO BE BACK AT BARD WHERE WE CAN SMOKE WHEREEVER WE WANT!

NO SMOKING IN KLEIN

MWAH MAHA MAHA MAHA

OH COULD I BUM A CIGARETTE?

COULD I BUM A CAN OF...

WHOOP ASS!

OH!

SURGEON GENERAL WARNS: SMOKING CAN LEAD TO... BROKEN KNEE?

OOF!

OOF!

CRUSH!

BUT... BUT BOT-MAN WE THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!

BUT HOW WE KNOW MORE... MORE MORE!

*SEE THE HOW CLASSIC, VERY FUNNY AND WELL WRITTEN AND DRAWN CLIMACTIC LAST ISSUE... END*