The Bard Center

Letters—Editorials

[I am unsettled...to receive computer printouts from...
WATCHOVIA SERVICES, INC., reminding me that they
have my best financial interests at heart.]

Stuart Brown

["21 year old imprisoned college student needs friend to correspond with."]

Kevin Tribute

[Cartoon]

Leila

Townhouse Terror

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ICS Report...
"A writer should never do anything ordinary. That is for the journalist."
- James Joyce to Djuna Barnes

"Used to have a reputation among the journalists, but I must confess I can't compete any more."
- William Burroughs

BARD TIMES
The Official Publication of the Bard College Community
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The Bard Center

Although its purpose is still somewhat of a mystery to much of the Bard campus community, the Bard College Center has made its presence felt on campus this semester. The Bard College Center is an umbrella name for a series of programs which represent a cooperative effort to reach out to the community of the Hudson Valley region. The purpose of the Center is to make the educational resources of the Bard College available to people of all ages in the local community through lectures, conferences, seminars and action-oriented community outreach programs. The Bard Center differs from other "continuing education" programs in that lectures and seminars will not be offered as courses for credit but as forums for public discussion of important social and political issues and for enjoyment of works of music and art. The Bard Center will also serve as a resource for information and expertise for local interest groups working on such issues as nuclear energy, health care delivery to rural areas, and prison reform.

The two Center programs which have attracted particular attention this fall have been the Visiting Fellows program and the inter-generation seminars. According to Gene Mason, Vice President for Program Development, who is directly involved in developing the Center program, the visiting fellows - scholars, journalists and artists affiliated with the Center - will serve as public faculty offering seminars, lectures and debates open to public participation. They will also offer undergraduate courses to Bard students. The inter-generational seminars are designed to bring adults from the community together with Bard students and faculty to talk about such issues as "work in American life" and "sharing the family." The visiting fellows this fall were Rene Dubos, an eminent microbiologist and environmentalist; John Gerassim, former editor of Ramparts magazine and official biographer of Jean-Huiz Hartley; and Elliott Skinner, Professor of Anthropology at Columbia University.

Bard and the Hudson River Valley were obvious as he spoke. "Dubos expresses a concern for what he perceived as a "fundamental premise" - among many Bard students, a pessimism which paralyzes them," he said. "That often students do not see clear sense of direction in their work or in their lives because they do not believe that anything they do will have any effect or consequence. Dubos feels that he has been contributed to opening this pessimistic attitude in some of the students who have taken his courses because he's emphasized the importance of "beginning where you are," in helping students to determine which were the most important environmental problems he encouraged them to begin with their own experiences - how they became aware of the problem; how they contributed to it; what small contribution they could make to the solution of the problem. Dubos doubts that any action or change is possible as a result of talking about global issues such as population and environmental preservation. "In order to begin, about change," said Dubos, "one has to begin with your own life." Commenting on the Bard Center, Dubos compared it with Gerassim in the view that a college or university has a responsibility to the community beyond its walls. Dubos also sees the development of educational resource centers as an important step in the growth of regionalism - a subject of great interest to this microbiologist whose best known work was the 1968 best-seller "Man and the Microbial World." The Bard Center begins its description of the regions which have been most important in its own development - the French countryside and the Hudson River Valley.

Dubos feels the inter-generational seminars would be more effective if they focused specifically on issues of immediate concern to the local community. He cited community crime control and inflation as two possibilities.

When asked about Bard, Gerassim replied that "Bard is a contradiction," According to Gerassim, Bard students are knowledgeable about the social and political inequalities which dominate American life and are theoretically committed to changing the social and economic institutions that contribute to these inequalities. But, Gerassim feels, most students will finally emulate the professional elite which they will join upon leaving Bard. Gerassim predicted that most students will end up as part of the problem rather than contributing to the solution. He also expressed surprise at the fact that so few Bard students seem to work while they are in college (in part-time or summer jobs) and enjoy so much leisure time: "I've never been at a college where students have so much free time," said Gerassim, who has taught at MIT, Columbia, and the University of California at Irvine.

Rene Dubos sees Bard students from a very different perspective. According to Dubos, who taught two courses on the environment this fall, students here are aware of the complex choices that they will have to make after college; and they are often on wavy's of the contradictions between their ideas - and ideals - and their own lives. But Dubos feels that this awareness is important in itself, because it can create the necessary condition for change. A remarkable optimistic man - whose affection for
To the Editor:

I write this letter to ask for a favor. You see, I am in prison and I'm lonely. My family fell on me and what friends I thought I had kinda blew with the wind. In short, I have no one to write to. The favor I ask is that you place a notice in your paper such as:

21-year-old imprisoned college student needs friend to correspond with.

Could you do this for me?

Thank you very much!

Very truly yours,
Kevlin Tribute
Box R
Sapamoch, N.Y.
12459

To the Editor:

Editor's Note:

This first issue of Bard Times is dedicated to Djuna Barnes whose literary masterpieces have been an inspiration to many Bard students. Miss Barnes, author of novels, short stories, poetry, and playwright, has written The Book of Repulsive Women, Under, Highwood, and feature articles for McCall's, as well as contributions to Vanity Fair and Smart Set. In 1938 she was elected to the National Academy of Arts and Sciences in recognition of her journalistic and literary accomplishments.

In Cornwall-on-Hudson, New York in June of 1992, Miss Barnes now resides in New York City.

This dedication is presented with gratitude and admiration for Miss Barnes, and with the hope that writers of this community will be inspired to devote themselves to the mastering and application of their individual styles.

R.B.

Many thanks are extended to: Dan Kaminian, (see you at brunch, Dan), Teresa Vilardi, (you're an angel, Teresa), and of course my loyal staff, (you know who you are)...

and to all students and faculty who once again like to stress the importance of a newspaper as an essential vehicle of communication, opinion, humor, and of course, news. So let's get this high quality publication going next semester so we can win all kinds of neat awards and accept fantastic grants from I.B.M., etc... OKAY???
to provide access to the Townhouses will have to be modified, and the traffic on Route 9 in the village, already congested, will become insufferable.

It is true that this plan is much more modest than Wald- garten's plans of previous years, which would have created a "mid-city" on Route 9, but neither his past plans nor his present ones take Rhinebeck into consideration as a locality. And if Rhine- beck is foolish enough to allow this plague to be vis- itated upon it, it deserves the consequences.

-George Smith

To the Editor:

In the course of my last exploration of the Observer backlog, I encountered this quotation:

"God forbid we should ever be twenty years without a revolution." -Thomas Jefferson 1787

The quotation appeared in the midst of articles pleading for the hiring of a black professor, supporting women's lib. That was in Sep- tember of 1969. Somehow I am tempted to believe that Jeff- erson's estimate can no longer be applied to today's situation. As increased war has cut the revolution rate down to something like eight and a half years. Unfortunately, somebody forgot to orga- nize the revolution this time around.

Tell me, as I just getting old, or has the universal fox which inhabits our minds actu- ally gotten so thick that it is affecting our vision? I am saying about the present atmosphere at Bard, which has an appearance of more tangible offspring than the multi-headed graffiti, which is even less original. I have remembered it in earlier days.

No, I'm not bemoaning that state of apathy, but the time has long passed, and the condition I speak of now is far more frightening, because it is one which, in a certain sense, removes the boundary between existencialism and nihilism. More simply it is making the transition from car- rying only about the here-and- now to caring about nothing. The distinction was formerly made not so much through an intellectual process, but through the intensity of the existencial connection with present reality; knowing damn well that the only re- ality is the present, and being determined to make that reality vital as full of enjoyment as possible - made existencialism a living, moving philosophy, hearing psychic energy and inspiring mental and physical energy.

With that in mind, the subtle evapora- tion of the emotional involve- ment with the physical world.

-Phlebas through any me- thod is not so much the ab- sence of emotional drive or the "conservation of energy" that one might initially assume, however. Energy is not necessarily to spur the emo- tions into action; it is on- ly in suppressing them that we find ourselves draining psychic and physical resource- ses, thus intensifying the inertia we have consciously created.

I myself have gone past the point of fighting the inertia, and offer no rally- ing cries to those in similar state. I am only curious as to when the revolution will finally get here...and hoping that it happens in time for us to remember that our exis- tence depends on recognizing it!

S.A. Spencer

HUNTERS!!!

-Bruce Buchanan

So, how would you like to be shot in the woods? It could happen, as hunters have been frequenting property on or adjacent to Bard.

Several people have voiced an avid concern over Bard students ending up as trophies. Even Sue Nason, wife of Bard's Vice President, has told us that she's been compelled to restrict her walk, ever since she observed reckless hunters shooting at dawn near anything that moved. This is especially true for the Ward Manor area. The problem is said to be worsen during deer season more than duck season because the ducks look less like people.

Rob Moore, a Photo I stu- dent, who is an intern in animal photography, has found it hard to find live models. He has to compete with the big guns that threaten and severely restrict the activities of four- footed and winged camera targets.

Recently several students have voiced apprehension at hunters that have been spotted on Bard property and the deserted village road, Dick Starkie and Dick Gohl from security and Dick Griffiths from Bard have begun to take ac- tion. They've had several instances in the past few weeks when they've had to urge trespassers, in- cluding all types from local farmers to the slicker New York breed of hunters away from our school.

We hope to rid ourselves of these unwelcome invaders entirely, both for a safer environment for students and faculty, and also to pre- servate the tranquility on and around the campus.

E.P.C. REPORTS...

Students should have an acti- ve role in making educational policy at Bard. When students don't participate in the planning and evaluation of academic policy, their only involvement can be to com- plain when these decisions ultimately affect them. It is much harder to stop the ad- ministration once they have started something in it to deal with the matter while it is still being discussed.

The Educational Policies Com- mittee is trying to establish the means for student opinion to be included in the deci- sion making process.

Beginning next semester, the EPC will be meeting with the faculty senate at their weekly sessions. The faculty sen- ate has promised to give us a two week notice of the agenda for their meetings so that we may respond to issues which are of students concern. We are also going to be meeting regularly with Michael Simp- son, who will keep us informed of plans for major changes in the curriculum, such as "senior seminars", altering of freshmen seminars, etc. We also plan to collect opinions from you on any of these proposals and submit them to the administration. The EPC

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BOUGHT & SOLD
I have been taught to regard Ibsen as a realist. This implies that to properly produce his plays, the acting, sets and effects are traditionally meant to be as close to the realistic as possible. But then, I have also tried to keep my mind open to new approaches to theater. In the course of exploring and evaluating revolutionary productions, I have often found myself simultaneously re-evaluating the necessity of convention. However, the liberties taken with this particular presentation did not, in my opinion, strengthen the work but rather made it a disjointed and confusing affair.

The distorted music and sound of coughing which filled the preshow blackout produced an eerie, surrealistic effect which was strengthened by the appearance of the stage as the lights rose. The narrow downstage area and vaguely-defined upstage area were separated by translucent "windows"; both areas were meticulously symmetrical. The initial movements and positions of the actors were similarly balanced - to a disturbing degree. Disturbing, that is, because the acting itself attempted realism, thus contradicting everything else which the senses. Had it followed the pattern previously established, it might have resulted in a unique and successful surrealistic presentation of a realistic play.

I say "attempted" realism because even that categorization of the acting is inaccurate. Claudia Sherman's compulsive lip-licking throughout the first act made the character of the secretary appear intensely neurotic rather than distraught. Milton Cokayndall often escaped his song-song monotone, but that made the rehearsals even more difficult to bear. Michelle Smith, as his wife, similarly alternated between a very sensitive, moving portrayal of the strong but disillusioned Mrs. Solness, and an empty stock impersonation of a simpering prig.

Tom Maiello had evolved remarkably good makeup and movements to use in his portrayal of the old man, but his strong, relaxed voice marred the final image. Peter Selzin, as his son, was a haunting figure whose presence could be felt for moments after he left the stage. His psychic connections with the other characters were powerful and frightening - his character not only lived, but radiated energy at almost an unbearable intensity.

Trevor Vasey seemed to be moving through molasses. Had we been in the world of surrealism, this would have been quite effective, but in this production it was merely incongruous. Likewise, Allison Foose's character was often too distastefully direct to be believable in a realistic setting; however, when she did not push as hard, she was extremely adept - and mesmerizing. She probably could have maintained this and perhaps reached even higher levels had she been given a competent foil.

The set for the second act was the most effective; its relaxed furnishings were spaced nicely before a charcoal backdrop which, though a bit disappointing in its futile attempt at realism, did tend to enlarge the stage considerably from the crampedness which plagued the set of act one. The third act backdrop of "castles in the air" seemed sentimental and ludicrous; the church cutout was similarly ridiculous. Here the staging, lights and sound reverted to the surrealistic, but after such a lapse of time since act one, it seemed more a Deus ex machina than an artistic or dramatic effect. Whatever tensions were created by the body of the play were shattered rather than resolved by the staging of masterbuilder Solness' "fall" from the church steeple at the end of the production.

Overall, the show lacked rhythm, flow, and consistency of acting and style. There was obviously a lot of energy devoted to the production, and a great deal of it evident on stage - unfortunately, not enough was directed and too much served to confuse rather than enlighten the audience.
A BOOK REVIEW: BARD CATALOGUE

Bard College Bulletin 115th Year Catalogue, Issue 1978-9
Annandale-on-Hudson, N.Y.
192 pp., Illust., 2 maps
Available at no charge upon request.

As a literary genre, college catalogues must fall between the state papers of Press, Pickard A. Laybourn, and the decrees of Pope Stephen I (who reigned for three days in the mid-10th century). One thing, though, can be said in favour of these delights of dullest: they are marvellously alike in style and content, making it very easy for the students to use the dozen or so college bulletins that the average High School guidance office throws at them sometime in their senior year.

The latest edition of the Bard College Bulletin lives up to the public's general expectations and standards. It gives the usual suggestions that the college is brilliantly and unusually unique in the groves of Academus. The institution is gloriously portrayed as being creative (more on this later) innovative, relevant, a real community, and having a famous academic program, a comprehensive library, rolling hills, historic buildings, a tremendously vast number of courses, an efficient administration, Junior Moderation (see p. 7), drinking parties (the real translation for Symposium), "sulphuric focused activities", a Spanish major, and, of course, more: it might make one want to pick up and apply immediately for admission to this intellectual fountainhead of the Hudson Valley, this creative beacon in an all too pragmatic world.

It might, indeed, one already read this institution to that group of discerning people who, after this review or other recommendations, visit the college and make up their mind. It is incomparably readable. Nothing is going to happen, particularly when read aloud. The first pages, though already must be considered a masterpiece of "administrative" and "cartographic" language at its most mundane, and when reread after heights it can almost bring a tear to one's eye. "Bard College believes that creative learning is... making of connections." One freshman told me that she was always true and that he had made several good connections during and immediately after Freshman Orientation. But despite its level of lucidity, the obvious grasp of reality, the understanding of student life, and the cohesiveness of exposition, one must remain in the little way of the realities of the catalogue. This is pointed home with quiet force when one reads the small statement on page 101, slipped under the heading "Accreditation". "The provisions of this catalogue are not to be regarded as irrevocable contract between the student and Bard College. The college reserves the right..." to change anything the catalogue says. This is not a mistake: it is honest, quite understandable. In business, a publication of a contract similar to a college catalogue would have a similar legal status. But why on the last page, literally in the fine print? And more important, what is the nature of the contract between the student and the institution? If this is not set down in the catalogue, where does it exist?

For a final and more serious note, though, it must be noted that the physical quality of the catalogue has improved dramatically over recent years. The binding and covers still need a little work, though this might be caused by cost problems, but the lettering and general format are a pleasurable surprise. Much easier to read and understand (though still some typographical errors).

Because of the low cost, I recommend the catalogue to all Bard Times readers; it can be of some real help to those many people who don't quite know what's going on here. With the catalogue, at least one is able to tell what is supposed to be going on.

-Dan Rody

During their years together, the Moody Blues created some of the greatest rock music of their day. To call their music just rock would be an understatement; for much of it was a peculiar fusion of classical rock, and music that rarely taxed the mind with the music itself, but more so with the lyrics. Before the Moody Blues' breakup in 1973, they had respectable success with four hit singles and seven gold albums. Their last single, "I'm Just a Singer in a Rock and Roll Band", was a killer rock song unlike much of their mellower music but it left a potent memory of the band. In 1977, a live album was released: one I could never bring myself to listen to thoroughly because of its lack of innovation.

Now, in 1978, the Moody Blues are reunited and are currently completing their third month promotional tour for their eighth studio album, "Octave".

A couple of thorough listenings of "Octave" will surely convince the listener of the band's wise decision to break up with each other. The album contains almost no innovative material, yet it is quite experimental in that it fuses around with blues style "Southern California Rock" on "Had to Fall in Love" and "Philadelphia Soul" on "I'm Your Man, Country Western Rock-n-Roll" on "Pop Rock Suite", and straight rock on "I'll Be Level with You" and the album's "hit" single "Stop Moving in a Slide Zone". Well, despite this "experimental" fusion of styles, "Octave" is by no means, as promotional literature calls it, "ininnative". "Octave" would probably be a more suitable adjective.

As a final note, (excuse the pun), I would like to say that I think that "Octave" is a proof that the Moody Blues are about as played out as a band can get and would probably spare themselves much criticism if they were to keep it up again.

Red Patch-Taking Care of Business...

No, it's not a remake of the 1973 R.T.O., but of the same title. Red Patch is a comedy album, that only received minor recognition when it first came out (1961). Despite its lack of popularity, Red Patch seems to be undergoing a revival among a cult following of Bard students. Many people don't understand Red Patch because they simply think him to be "unfunny". But it is that unique "unfunny" style of Red Patch that makes him so hilarious. The Red Patch Revival is probably due to the fact that tasteless National Lampoon-type jokes and ridiculous Steve Martin-type humor is so popular in this age.

Red Patch's primial style and Quetaro Clara are bound to go over the heads of many suburban-influenced college kids. For those of you who have seen this is to be expected of most intellectual comedy albums. Of "human interest is Red Patch's ability to communicate on the simplest level to all people who allow themselves to be receptive to him. As Patch says: "I'll eat anything that won't bite me first."

Rush-Hemispheres...

Rush's latest album, Hemispheres, proves to be their best and most progressive, to date. Ayn Rand, as always was the main inspiration for the production of this album. Hemispheres is a combination of progressive jazz rhytms and what can at best be termed as "futuristic" in the pop sector.

Rush's interest in futuristic rock first became evident on their fourth album, "2112". "Ludicrous" an outstanding cut on the album, hits the listener with tough, relentless rhytms and conjuration with spacey guitar leads and clever use of the synthesizer. Rush's music is representative of music to come in the not so distant future. -Ashy Souths
BARD CENTER...

Common language with which to discuss issues of importance to them, students pointed out that the language of the academic community - students as well as faculty - does not always have significance for the rest of the population. In his characteristic optimistic view of the world, Dubois observed, however, that the very fact of the existence of an attempt to make the language of the academic community more accessible is itself a hopeful sign.

The Bard College Center is also involved more directly in community outreach projects designed to assist special interest groups in the local community to "help themselves." A project for which funding is presently being sought proposes to educate people in the Hudson Valley region about the rights of the handicapped. The project came out of a study done by Bard student Debbie Taub. Debbie studied the Hill Road Shopping Center (in Red Hook) to determine how effectively the needs of handicapped students were met and what changes might be made to better accommodate them. Barbara Morgan, Coordinator of the Community Outreach Program, and Debbie worked closely with Gene Mason to design a program in which Bard students would work closely with local schools and community agencies to educate the handicapped and especially the parents of handicapped children about the rights of the handicapped and on various opportunities and options available to them. Students would write the literature and run workshops in the community. According to Gene Mason, the cooperative project would not only meet an important social need but "would enable us to develop a constructive role for the college vis-a-vis the community."

PROJECT SELF-DEFENSE

On Thursday evenings, from 7-9 p.m., several Bard students, under my instruction, have been learning the art of self-defense. I teach practical classes designed to basically teach students how to defend himself/herself. But, getting away from basics I don't portray to be able to teach it "all" in short and easy lessons. The art of self-defense is an ongoing process that involves building a personal self-defense mentality. This "mentality" is a state of mind that will breed the capacity for an individual to be able to make split decisions in the event that he/she is attacked. As instructor, I attempt to let each student's natural reflexes so that they can be put into effective use. Remember, the art of self-defense is not easy to learn, and requires a good amount of time, energy, and perseverance to become mentally and physically capable of handling oneself in an unfortunate attack situation.

Classes are held during Term II on a larger scale and everyone is welcome.

CIA in SAGA

On November 14th, at approximately 3:15 p.m., as I was sitting in the coffee shop sipping on a cup of SAGA's "charcoal-mellow" coffee, about a dozen men and women, all decked out in white, filed in through the side door. Who were these intruders? Recruiters from the Ku Klux Klan? No, escapees from the Hudson River Psychiatric Center? No. It turned out that they were students from a Food Service and Institution class of the C.I.A., or the Culinary Institute of America. I'm sorry about the anti-climax, but let me introduce an even more curious mystery: What the hell were they doing here? These students, along with group leader Ronnie Kirchheim, were about to embark on a "tour of our very own" SAGA kitchen, under the guidance of "our man behind the scenes," Gregory Finch. Greg has informed me that the California-based SAGA corporation is the largest "feeding" company of its kind, with over 1000 restaurants catering to institutions all over the U.S.A. and, according to Ronnie Kirschenbaum, maintains close ties with the Culinary Institute. As a matter of fact, the SAGA corporation has recently interviewed 40 C.I.A. graduates for possible managerial placement.

The Culinary Institute of America offers a two-year program leading to the Associate of Occupational Studies degree, and is considered to be the finest culinary school in the country. The C.I.A.'s curriculum begins with an introduction to the Culinary Arts course, and proceeds to train students in such diverse areas as sanitation and nutrition, next cutting and buying, binging, sauteing, roasting, simmering, stewing, tabling, serving, and even psychology and assertiveness training.

That was quite a mouthful, eh? Well, if you can stomach all that, I hope you can handle not knowing what the visiting class' impression were of the SAGA kitchen here at Bard. You see, after their tour, they cut out of here so fast that I didn't even get a chance to find out what they thought or how they felt but don't worry, though, I'll track them down one of these days. So, in the mean time, stay tuned for next semester's continuing saga....

A NEW GENERATION AT BARD

The Generation magazine staff, Tom Kinder and Mini Katzenbach, along with their four-footed companion, Snap, have trotted into Bard campus. They have been occupying an office on the first floor of Blithedale since November 15. Generations hopes to work with the Bard Center in a joint effort to fulfill their community's dream: a humanistic, inter-generational approach to solving America's problems. Along with a humanistic view, exploration and promotion of America's cultural resources is an important theme in the Generation magazine.

Generation is a young general magazine that started out in Princeton, N.J. The co-editors-in-chief, Tom Kinder and Sarah Finnie are the founders of Generation. Both Princeton and Bard students Sarah and Tom founded the magazine in the spring of 1976 and have had a steady membership since then. The reason for only two publications, and the limitations of the people the magazine appear (several months apart) is that Generation is still in its development stage. It, as yet, is not regularly funded. All of Tom's time is devoted to finding support for Generation. In addition to writing articles, Tom and his staff hold fund raisers, "sell all the fund raising ourselves," comments Tom, "and we have lots of friends and friends of friends." Kinder himself contributed a great deal of the capital it took to get the magazine off the ground with the money he saved one summer working on the Alaskan pipeline. Generation has solicited advertising, sold stock, applied for grants, and has received "good will" contributions from a generation of Generation.

The magazine's format is a variable one, as it is divided into three distinct sections: Profiles, Articles, and Ideas. These sections include drawings, photographs, essays, fiction, non-fiction and humorous cartoons.

Generation is an idea, a goal and a statement bound together in one magazine! Generation is people, with a well rounded curiosity, who want to continue a well rounded education. States Tom in an explanation of his magazine.

Here at Bard, Generation hopes to become a national magazine. It has the potential of airing the minds and talents of the Bard community. Generation would add a productive ambitious setting to Bard campus. Altogether, snap with Generation, financial resources come through. Located in office #19 at Blithedale, Tom and Mini may be found plowing away at the birth of a magazine that has grown people committed to constant consideration of their world. -Ruthie Blustefano
ENERGY, CENTRALIZATION AND DECENTRALIZATION
from Energy Galore. "Gene Dubos

Oil refineries, strip mines, etc. are considered by some people as evidence of progress and by others as a threat to civilization and to personal liberties. Sunlight, wind, running water, green plants and other soft sources of energy derived from the sun are appealing to those who fear the atmosphere of high power technologies. In fact, there is a fundamental social difference between the energy derived from fossil fuels and nuclear reactors on the one hand, and the energy derived from the various solar sources on the other. The likely outcome of the former is social centralization whereas the latter favors social decentralization. Fossil fuels represent highly concentrated forms of energy which can be readily shipped to almost any point on earth. Nuclear reactors generate enormous amounts of electricity wherever they are located and are two methods of energy production therefore lend themselves to the development of low-technology, economic and social systems which have been accepted as the norm of the present century.

In contrast, few are the sites with 300 days a year of unclouded sunshine, or with steady strong winds or with large volumes of falling water. Furthermore, such choice sites of solar energy are far removed from areas of large energy demands. The more general situation is that only small amounts of energy can be derived from the sun's rays at any given time in any given place. Similarly, conditions suitable for the exploitation of water falls, tides, and the force of wind tend to be highly localized and limited. As to the biomass, it represents a form of energy much less concentrated and more costly to ship than coal, petroleum, or natural gas. This is true even of organic wastes. Of the two billion tons of wastes produced annually in the United States, only 136 million tons are concentrated in cities, cattle feed-

lots, agricultural and timber industry locations. The basic problem in using most solar sources of energy is the problem of collection. These limitations of solar energy sources imply that the first steps in their use must be carried out in fairly small units, a necessity which favors and perhaps almost imposes some measure of social decentralization. The utilization of solar biomass, would provide a flexible and decentralized power source compatible with social structure. Essentially, it is based on the use of those based on huge electric generating stations - whether using fossil fuels or nuclear reactors as source of energy.

It is certain that many persons, perhaps the great majority, will prefer to have abundant electricity on tap without giving thought to its origin, its environmental effects and its indirect social costs. But others will favor smaller, more local technological solutions, more compatible with social decentralization and cultural pluralism. The tendency of emotions concerning these two aspects of energy can be appreciated from the following statements by Henri
d'a Roques, director of the Swiss Ecological Cultural Center of Geneva: "The choice of nuclear power stations and radioactive plants for the internal metal (Plutonium) from which bombs are fashioned is daily increasing the risk of atomic war." In contrast, "Opting for local and even domestic-sized solar energy units means giving...small communities a chance of independence...of re-establishing a framework of civic participation."

Politics is lord of the sham-
dow; he is as blind as a bat, but sunlight comes to us from the heavens. Jesus the far-seer." (Development Forum UN, May, p. 1-2)

The election of energy sources for the future will thus involve hard choices based not only on scientific knowledge and cost/benefit analysis, but also on judgments of value concerning the ideal form of society. It is doubtful that one approach to the energy problem will prove to be so much easier than the others that it will be universally accepted. It is certain, however, that more reasons of sentiment cannot be alone a basis for selection. The final outcome will probably be a complex mix of centralized and decentralized sources of energy, selected to fit the environmental and social conditions prevailing in a given part of the world, and compatible with the expression of the multiple aspects of human nature.

STUDENT FORUM ELECTIONS

The Student Forum meeting of Thursday, December 7th began in the usual manner of hard Student Forum meetings, with the Central Committee standing around the general area of the table where the students present stand around the general area of the beer jug. The meeting was soon called to order, though, by Treasurer Ezra Horn who was chairing the meeting that time around. Ezra informed those assembled that the meeting was just for the purpose of electing several officers of the Student Association.

The first order of business, however, was to take action on several absentee ballots which Planning Committee Chairman Rod Michael presented to the floor. One such absentee ballot was presented by Ezra Horn who was the only nominee and thus was elected by acclamation.

There were several positions to be filled on the Planning Committee, including Rod Michael, the incumbent, and Arthur Carlson, a regular member of the committee. Both Rod Michael and Carlson, in speaking for their candidates, pointed out that their experience on the Planning Committee as well as their interest in this position. Both also emphasized the great importance of the Planning Committee, a point all too often forgotten, and reminded the Forum that the Planning Committee was the organization with the greatest single concentration of responsibility and power since it controls the budget of the Association. Balloting for the position was very close, the first count giving the election to Rod Michael by one vote. But the Forum Secretary, Dan Wickersham, held further proceedings until another count could be done; it seemed as if there weren't enough votes for the number of ballots cast. The second count gave to Rod Michael this time by four votes, and he was declared the winner. Next there were three positions on the Planning Committee itself to be filled; two to serve for two semesters, one to serve one semester. Balloting took a little longer for this election, the number of positions and, therefore, requiring more time. Out of six candidates, the Forum elected: Tom Williams for two semesters and Steve Collette for one semester. The Chairman of the Educational Policies Committee did the job in great detail, but Scott Lithgow, the incumbent, felt impressed. Despite this, the nature of the position and the areas he hopes to continue if there is another candidate, George Schutz in the other position.

There was but one other candidate, George Schutz in the other position. The second position was taken by Robert Faygin. Faygin was asked by the chairman of the Student Judiciary Board, as he had been done with all of the positions, the question of the candidate's election. No second count had been held all nominations until a description of the position had been given. As there were three candidates nominated, these being Mr. Schutz, Mr. Faygin, and Mr. Faygin, it was necessary to hold a second count. If there was some question as to the procedure regarding such ballots but it was pointed out that the floor that absentee ballots had been used in previous elections of this kind. The Central Committee decided to put the matter before the Forum and the ballots passed unanimously.

The elections began with the position of Head of the Tenants' Union. It was explained to the Forum that this was a position which had a great deal of leverage in the job and would be done. Don Rossenthal was the only nominee and thus was elected by acclamation.

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MOONIES KIDNAPPED

Three Ulster County residents were recently charged with kidnapping a 9-year-old boy of the New Sun noon’s, as he left his home. Charged with one count each of second-degree kidnapping were Patricia Ljutic, 24, Ronald Thompson, 22, and Robert Piratsky, 19. The three were held in the New York State Prison at Otisville pending their arraignment.

MOONIES SUE

Sun Noon’s Unification Church is suing the New York State Board of Regents for $50 million, stemming from the Board’s refusal to accredit the church’s New York City school. The church claims that the Board discriminated against them on the basis of religion, race, and national origin.

TOWNHOUSE TROUBLE

The Village of Rhinebeck’s Zoning Board of Appeals recently granted a special permit for townhouse construction at the corner of Main Street and Ulster Avenue. The project, which includes 157 units of housing, will be developed by a local developer.

THE GARGOYLS SPEAK

Well, kids, it’s that time of year again. That white stuff is abundant on campus (or whatever you want to call it) and both teams are just about played out. Let’s do this in some rational manner...

MEN’S BASKETBALL

Charlie Patrick is trying to rebuild the men’s basketball team, hopefully trying to instill some morale and new blood into the players.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

The team has run into an unexpected difficulty. An avian flu epidemic has reduced the team’s numbers to a point where they are struggling to field a team. Carey is working closely with the Federal government to determine a viable standard for New York State students.

On other issues, Carey expressed his opposition to raising the threshold for the minimum TAP award from $2,000 to $2,500 and $3,000, which he believes is much too low. He believes that an increase of that size must be weighed against other desirable programs such as part-time aid. Legislatively, he believes that the student assistant program should be restored.