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John Kisch
DEAR PRESIDENT BOTSTEIN

October 8, 1976

Dear President Botstein:

On September 30, a meeting of the Bard College Student Association was held as recommended by the Student Senate meeting of September 22. The main business of this meeting was discussion of Larry Solomon’s motion to compose a letter expressing the concerns and grievances of students here at Bard. The motion was accepted by a majority vote of those present. Accordingly, an open ad-hoc committee was empowered to draft this letter. It has been the work of this committee to compile prevalent student grievances and to present them in as objective a manner as possible.

We understand some sense an erosion of the long-standing precedent of student participation in the administrative decision-making process at Bard. We read into our rights and responsibilities as expressed in the Constitution of the Bard Student Association and the Joint Statement on Rights and Freedoms of Students promulgated by the Association of American Colleges. Likewise, we seek a reaffirmation of these principles by the Bard administration.

Specifically, it is our opinion that the actions of the administration regarding seemingly "petty issues" constitute an abridgment of administrative due process. The attempted invalidation of the Pet Committee, which is legitimately incorporated under the Student Constitution by act of the Student Senate, is a prime example. The Constitution of the Bard Student Association (Art. III; Sec. II; Para. D; at 1,2) clearly delineates the powers of the Senate to act in matters such as these:

1. The Student Senate shall act as the legislative organ of the Association.
2. Its powers shall include...the power to serve as the official voice of the Association in legislating over the actions and policies it deems necessary for the good and welfare of the students of the Association, and which are not in violation of this Constitution.

Failure of the administration to recognize the Pet Commission as an abrogation of these, the legislative powers of the Student Senate. Moreover, the imposition of "automatic fines" for alleged violations of the internal rules (pet violations, fire extinguisher discharge, and fines charged against a student’s dorm deposit account) is a breach of the right of appeal to the Student Judiciary Board. The constitutional guidelines for the SJB (Art. III; Sec. II; Para. B; at 2) hold that the SJB shall have original jurisdiction in all cases regarding an alleged violation of the internal regulations of the College in which appropriate disciplinary measures do not include suspension or expulsion.

Recent actions of the administration thus stand as serious abridgmenents of not only legislative but also judicial due process. We believe that there is growing disillusionment and dissonance on campus which is directly attributable to a lack of regard for student opinion. This communication breakdown is most irritatingly obvious in the manner in which measures affecting residential life have been implemented. Such actions as the construction of a cornice directly behind Manor without adequate appraisal of students concern, the imposition of room deposits, and the excessive increase in off-campus fees are major causes of student discontent. The decision to cut back hot water for washing and bathing has had a direct impact on student life. Again, at what point were students consulted? The Peer-Counseling program, another highly controversial issue, is generally felt to be objectionable because of its potential for administrative abuse and the manner in which it was organized and instituted. All of the above are examples of situations in which your administration either disregarded or simply ignored student concern. It is our goal to once again have student input brought to bear on administrative decision-making at Bard.

Toward this end we seek the following:

1. Your written endorsement of the principles and procedures which comprise the Constitution of the Bard Student Association and the Joint Statement on Rights and Freedoms of Students. Such an endorsement carries with it the explicit understanding that the administration will deal openly and in good faith with the student body, its elected representatives, and appointed committees.

2. A joint effort by the students and administration to re-evaluate the Peer-Counseling program with the goal of placing this program under the control of the Student Association.

3. Your support of direct student participation on the Board of Trustees, the Executive Committee, and the Admissions Decisions Committee.

4. Recognition of the important role that joint student-faculty committee such as the ERC, ERC, DEC, and Long Range Planning Committee play in the evolution of policy at Bard.

We look forward to working with you and invite you to reply to the issues raised in this letter both in writing and at a meeting of the Student Association to be held at a mutually agreeable time. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Signed,
The Ad Hoc Committee on Student Grievances

Kevin Brus
Mark Callahan
Arthur Carlson
Susan Clancy
Mary Duffy
Clifford Hauserman
Charles F. Moore
Kathy Oehler
Scott Parker

Peter Purl
Andrew Reiff
Steven Solomon
Aurad Scott
Drew Shearer
Joseph Stoddard
Larry Solomon
Nori Sturgeon
Stevie Tetraut
Americans have always had a preoccupation with waste. Even during our most extravagant and carefree decades, a guilty voice kept whispering, *Waste is sinful.* It's a voice we can't completely ignore. Our national obsession with thrift, efficiency, and hard work began with the first settlers. They also bequeathed us a number of well-worn clichés, and the list has grown steadily ever since.

The Devil finds work for idle hands. Waste not, want not. A penny saved is a penny earned.

Later generations grew up with:

Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today. A Boy Scout is thrifty...

And the all-time classic, Clean your plate. Don't you know that there are starving chil-dren in...

Twenty hours a day, the TV exhorts us: "Turn the channel on, come, a mind is a terrible thing to waste." As a community in its own right, Bard is in many ways a microcosm of the outside world. People, live, work, eat, sleep, and play here; goods and services are produced and used. And inevitably, there is waste on all levels.

**B & G**

Down at Physical Plant, Dick Griffths discussed the most obvious kind of waste: trash. The contents of trashcans from dorms and classrooms are hauled away to a landfill site by a private contractor. Has anyone ever thought of recycling?

About three years ago, when waste was a much more serious problem, students in the science department made an effort at a recycling program. But getting glass, metal cans, and paper is tedious and time-consuming. The project was dropped.

Not everyone abandoned the idea. At the Field Station, Erik Kiviat separates and stores re-useable material. Periodically, he takes it in his van to a recycling plant near Poughkeepsie. Of course, this is an individual contribution, not a large-scale solution.

Central Services also puts trash to use. Every day, they accumulate large amounts of waste paper, mostly from the xerox and mimeograph machines. Instead of dumping it, they send it over to the nursery school to be used as scrap paper.

Mr. Griffths, the long-suffering feelings about the conservation of energy and material. We're exploring a number of different areas... and we hope to solicit help from students, faculty, and staff in making it work.

We expect that he prefers conservation to cutbacks. We're not interested in cutting services. What we do want is to turn it off, rather than to use it as needed. We're not interested in causing any hardships.

**AWASTE OF MIND**

Other kinds of waste are less tangible, but just as real. What about the waste of time, energy, minds, resources? I asked five faculty and staff members for their reactions to some very open questions.

1. In many ways, Bard is a very free and unstructured school. Does this encourage new students—freshmen—to waste their time trying to figure out what they're head- ing for?

    Then Jolosky: Freshmen do have problems, which is why there were orientation meetings. Still, Bard students should be "self-start-ers," both in academics, and in other areas of college life. In many ways, Bard can be isolating and lonely- looking. People here are very open about discussing personal problems, perhaps too much so; and on the other hand, there is a loss of privacy.

    Prof. Walter: I think that free time often leads to problems, essen-tially in matters of self-organization. I think that some people can be helped by being told how to organize their time... People sometimes waste a year or two, when they're deciding they're serious. At some point a change comes about:

    something has happened, they've decided to get an education instead of marking time.

    Prof. Katz: I would hope that all of the students around here have a sense of the potential.

    Prof. Maple: Sure, I think it does... I know that the students know the potential. Why is that?

    The largest amount of waste comes from the students, he asserts, we have— from a production and— minimal waste.

    He cited milk as an example. He might take three glasses of milk and drink two and a half. If half of the students who eat in the Com-mon: were to waste half a glass of milk daily, it would add up to eight gallons. In a year, the figure would exceed 1600 gallons.

    Gaven admits that there is waste on his end. Some food can be recycled. Broiled fish is good for chowder, roast beef goes to the coffee shop for sandwiches; but items such as sraw or spaghetti just can't be recycled.

    Occasionally, waste is inten-tional. At lunch, the cold cut trays are trimmed with lettuce which is then thrown out. That's sort of waste, but it's eye-catching.

    Students maintain that waste is a direct result of the food's quality. A resident may ask for a serving of a particular dish, but wind up discarding it because he finds it unappetizing, or even inedible. The argument is likely to con-tinue, and so is the waste.

**AWASTE OF Time**

People get the kind of govern-ment they deserve. They get the kind of government they get. Arcie, Phil and Jamie, three perhaps naive members of the Bard community, embarked on a local political campaign in 1975. They tried to bring the "people" something better than they've been getting. Perhaps their experience proves something relevant to that truism.

Jack Fishman, Aric McKnight and Phil Carducci, politically active members of our community, sought to reach out into town politics back in 1973. Phil and Aric were residents of Germantown (Columbia County) so they decided that was the place to volunteer their ser-vices as candidates. Jamie had political experience working for McGovern and other Democrats so he felt qualified to manage the campaign.

The tight trio met with the Dem-ocratic party of Germantown and Phil and Arcie were welcomed as the ones who raised their hands for the jobs of Town Clerk and Town Supervisor. They were warned by an old life long Demo-cratic resident of the sleepy little town, the last four elections had ended up with three hundred voters, more or less, and things never change around here.

In the course of their efforts, they explained their qualifications, their cam-paign strategy. Phil was a book-keeper and Arcie a Notary Public. The issues would be change and the obvious credentials of the candidates. They left with the endorsements, blessings and good wishes of the tiny gathering.

For the next two months they ran doorbells, printed pamphlets and burned up the telephone wires. The response was politely not in-thusiasic and the undercurrent of She's only lived here two years and he's only lived here two years from Arcie was to be expected.

When funds ran low, they went toward the end of October some interested Bard students took up a collection, and their contributions saved the day.

Jamie's big finale was an election eve parade down Main Street. The triumphant trio, with leaders of a forebodingly small crowd, started a procession. Only six towns-people marched in the Hudson Register Star sound. The newsmens fanatic efforts to cover the event was cut short by a story seemed ludicrous and he left marching under his breath.

Meanwhile the Republicans (Waste continued on Page 6)
Too many musicians today are in control. Bobby Dylan has lowered himself to the point where he is just another. People have been turning to new forms of rock as well as jazz for fresh listening experiences. Fortunately the harrowing but beautiful result.

Two of the finest albums of the summer were by Henry Cow, a highly progressive English jazz-rock group, and Anthony Braxton, a jazz artist living right across the river in Woodstock. His record is called Creative Orchestra. Sa "76 and that is a good description of it. Anthony Braxton is at the apex of his most thrilling Middle-East-Collandre school in jazz. This group of musicians went straight from New York and Chicago and been recorded and organized by such groups as the AACM on Chicago and the ICA in New York. Where as most contemporary musicians spend their time either ignoring, trying to prove by invitation, the works of such columnists as Cotteleer, Dolly, Sun and Olette Cullman. The new musicians of the late 60's do have the ability to draw in one step one, however, relying more to the rhythm. These while at the same time developing more complicated and controlled structures which are immediate.

Among the seminal groups of this movement are the Art Ensemble of Chicago, the Revolutionary Ensemble, Circo, and others. Of course many groups often led by or including members of these groups. Many of these musicians, like Dave Douglas, Barry Altschul, Phillip Wilson, Roosje Nijland, and Richard Abrams, are on the Creative Orchestra Music, along with a whole host of young talent like Leo Smith, Kenny Wheeler, George Lewis, Selvon Douglas. The meeting place is a studio where are just now getting recorded. The record itself contains 6 Anthony Braxton compositions which are titled by means of schematic diagrams, which illustrate the parts and form of the composition. Two of the compositions are what are called "traditional" big-band compositions utilizing written arrangements as well as sectional improvisations. The better of these compositions, and possibly the best cut on the record (side 1 track 4) was inspired by Duke Ellington's "Concert in the Stars," and the other is an ump-ump song which should put to rest forever the accusation that Braxton can't swing.

There are 3 other cuts on the album that could be called extended with texture. These cuts employ a lot of spaces, particularly for soloists with one of the features of which is a duet with Roosje Mitchell on Bags, Sun and the late John Constabulass Sah. One of these cuts, the last one on the album, is entirely without a rhythm section or percussion. The orchestra plays two duos of voices and voices in which sections are left to improvise their own parts. This result is remarkably coherent and reminiscent of Dixieland in its use of polyphony.

The other cut on the album reflects Braxton's interest in traditional music of another sort. It's a parade song in which traditional rhythms and ideas are extended and placed in an improvised context, yet without losing sight, to speak of the parade.

Rock has been moving along progressive lines recently, finally, finding a producer that takes the efforts of early jazz rock groups like Soft Machine and Miles Davis, and brings it into a truly transcendent realm. This is Henry Cow and their latest album, Henry Cow Concert, is one of those albums where every second is truly good. Their songs combine complex chordal and rhythmic patterns, producing beautifully rich and driving music which is reminiscent of the old S.F. domino. For in this context they have the singer who can do it. Dagmar. On side 2 of the record she is joined by Robert Wyatt, most vital element in the whole Soft Machine-English Rock movement.

The record is organized so that sides 1 and 2 contain songs and material from the previous Cow albums while sides 3 and 4 are free improvisation. As well as the Cow material they play 3 Robert Wyatt songs, with him assisting on two of them. Henry Cow is one of the few groups who can duplicate live and even improve the material from their records. These systematic formal, which would be worth having alone as an introduction to Cow, but are the two sides really show where they're coming from and where the music is headed. The third side is a long, improvisation building on codominating noises and sounds to a soaring unity. Dagmar demonstrates the full potential of the human voice in her scat singing, just as Fred Frith by "playing" his guitar a la Cage coaxes a full range of sound from his instrument.

Firth is really something. He is light years ahead of nearly everyone in the current generation of technical and seemingly endless flow of ideas. The improvisation on the third side is influenced by the contemporary classical music (Cage, Stockhausen, Varése) as well as the jazz (Cage, Sun Ra and Coltrane), even resembling Braxton at points. They also bear some resemblance to King Crimson particularly on the last cut which drives the album home.

And these sides of the Braxton is not only great music, but serves as a demonstration of try and listening to any group of improvising musicists.

Arthur Carlson

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**ANTIOCHUS AT BARD**

Bard College/Hudson Valley Studies Program will present the Rhinebeck Antiques and Fine Art Show on Oct. 15, 16, and 17.

Features at the show will include exhibit halls, sales, and demonstrations of participating in the Hudson Valley Studies Program. The FDR Library will be showing an exhibit entitled FDR As Collector.

The Albany Institute of History and Art presents a show entitled John James Audubon at Katonah, The Dutchess County Landmarks Association, and The Hyde Park Visual Environment Association will also be showing.

Seventy dealers from six states will show a wide variety of antiques, paintings, decorative objects, and jewelry.

There will be hourly drawings awarding merchandise certificates, redeemable with any dealer on the floor during the show. On Sunday at 4:00 p.m., a $5000 prize will be drawn. Proceeds from the show will go to the Bard College Hudson Valley Studies Program.

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**Faculty Art Show**

What is a good art? How does a painting "work,"? We didn't have much idea, so the Observer staff thought it would be a good idea to get our unprepared opinion of the faculty art show. So we went down to Proctor, and solicited the opinions of other non-contradictory artistic illiterates, and compiled this review, which makes up with fresh viewpoints what it lacks in artistic lingo.

The reaction to Murray Reich's work was vaguely favorable:

"Nice use of coloration of form. I see more than one color shape by the shape because of the perfection from space to dense color.

My favorite thing.

"Simple to cut and reguire propulsion pattern. Jake Groesbeck's work proved some confusion:

"Reeling nude in sepia - good start, but naughtiness in art for Bard has been hasted at last. A new toy (the plastic body) played with ad absurdum. Put a nude in and at least these will fit it."

"Three defestillated pine trees."

"Spherical object with holes - liquid oxygen tank."

"Looks like a volleyball game on Mars."

"Alan Cote got mixed reviews:

"Strong drawing. Tension between wined down and uncharged forms, lines which draw your eye in and out of the picture."

"Alans's drawings look like him."

"I like the way they move when you look at them. They make me think of drowning in swimming pools."

"Nothing special."

"Jim Sullivans's got the most surprise:

"Von Kurrent's drawing of an anchor (Breakfast of Champions) as copied by a person growing deeper and deeper into psychosis."

"Distracting."

"The evaluation of Jim Sullivans's work was seen in the Kellor Library, the week "hailing" her ummerry at CHRISTINE FITCHET, librarian. Ms. Fitchett's only remarks after Professor Sellev's depart was, Who the Hell was that?"

WILLIAM WALTER, Professor of English, discovered the presence of a dead pigeon outside his office door. NOEMI KNAPP, Professor Walter's neighbor in the North Hoffman basement, assumed that the bird was a pet which had fallen under his care.

GAIL LENVISON, editor of the Observer, was wandering distractedly around Hegeman Hall last week with a Duchess County Fair bumper sticker attached to the bumper of his car. It was not until this decorative item was noted by BURT BROODY's physics class that Gail realized her advertisement.

By a strange coincidence, THEO VOJAK received a three inch rubber spider via campus mail a scant two hours before the appearance of the last issue of the Observer.

CONFIDENTIAL TO DICK STARKIE: Don't worry, Dick. We won't use a bit of it.

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**DISHWASHER**

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The Observer is an independent student publication of the Bard College community. Publication is biweekly during the Bard College academic year. Letters to the Editor and other inquiries should be addressed to Box 85, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York, 12504. The contents of the Observer are copyright ©1976 by the Observer. In the absence of other notice, the Observer is a member of the Alternative Press Syndicate and subscribes to the Alternative Press Syndicate College Press Service. The opinions here expressed are those of the Board of staff editors, unless otherwise indicated.

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Typical: Lisa Foley, Lori Carlson, Bonnie Galandy, Glyn Monr, Theresse Mudd, Sylvia Stites, Maryn McCowan and Cathy Williams.

With special thanks to Jackie Kevos for Consequence contributions.

To the Editor:

This year’s Presidential campaign is a typical example of the subversion of democracy by the corporate-capitalist power structure. No matter what petty differences Foul and Carter have in the specificities of their programs, their aims are the same: to preserve the power structure and maintain the concentration of wealth in its current hands. Neither the Peasent Farmer from Georgia nor the Jack from Michigan will provide a significant change to the Rockefeller-Hughes-CIA coalition which presently governs our national policy.

Since this is the case, it is useless to spend time considering the possibility of such a thing as “Car- ter or Ford as racists, lying, corrupt jackasses.” It is useless to show that anyone who supports the corporate state is a racist, fascist pig. It is purely academic to attempt to dis- cern “liberal” or “conservative” postures and assign values to them, because neither candidate will sup- press the people, be it under the guise of welfare and job programs or under the guise of “conservative” business-oriented policies.

The answer is clearly to over- turn the current racist economic system which suppresses the re- sources of our working people. It is a myth perpetuated by bourgeois editors that the working poor do not know what is happening and aren’t ready for social change. The capitalist political machine is built to work for all working people, which is the reason why they will stay away from the polls in record numbers. Instead of voting, the working people are turning to more direct ways of express- ing their rage. Primarily econ- omic sabotage, which can take on any form if the current policies are al- lowed to persist.

All of this points to the upper banks and international eco- nomic philosophy in both its nine- teenth and twentieth century vari- eties. Indeed, it is now clear, particularly of the McCarthy-

Civil rights are not just as new as most of us would like to believe. Look at the last ten years of this publication alone shows that Bard is a history of students, who believe that this is their school and that they have a right to participate in it. Unfortunatly this perception is one that seniors go- ing to Bard should take to heart when they undertake the long, dark journey of their senior year project, leaving the old Bard behind.

We don’t seem to utilize the lessons that has gone before, our predecessors’ efforts to make Bard a better place are all useless if we include in complacent thandlessness.

OBSERVER
Alternating Viewpoint

McGovern-Carter type, who are most pathetic in their disinterested efforts to keep capitalism alive and well. Sensing the inadequacy of the current structure, they subject it to a palpable, blindered analysis, and attempt to correct it by patchwork. Fingers-in-nosehole social welfare programs. While perhaps feeding people for a while, these programs only serve to support the aims of the current capitalist system, which is to keep the masses quiet and in their “place.” These policies can only accelerate the degeneration of capitalism and bring about more quickly the inevitable, hopefully not violent, resolution of the contradictions inherent in our society.

The only candidates who address these issues and whom have a logical policy concerning the transformation of capitalism is Peter Cameo of the Socialist Workers Party, a group that has been under surveillance by the FBI for many years. Instead of forming Student for Carter committees, the school should devote its re- sources to publicizing and inform- ing the students about such candidates, particularly the Cameo campaign, which has been widely ignored by the media, but which "provides the only logical approach on these problems and which attempts to seek a realistic, decent solution.

Arthur Carlson

To the Editor:

We realize the procedure used to allocate funds for the NSA conference was erroneous, but necessary. The funds were allocated without dissent from the Planning Com- mittee Chairmen or the Senate Treas- urer. Also we tried to reach all senators, but could contact only two. They did not disagree upon the procedure for the allocation of the funds or the specific use of the funds either. We felt the confer- ence was necessary because we saw it as a logical step in the develop- ment of student government and a return to democratic student ac- ticipation in the governance of Bard. We also believed the workshop format was to be offered were valuable information place, where we could pick

and forgetfulness until some prob- lems disturb us personally. Examples cited of this issue’s overwhe- ming page of constitutionally guaranteed rights are a definite move towards progress.

Each time we lose hold of these rights by falling to exercise them we ask for such a confrontation. Cer- tain rulings must be made and if we are too lazy or careless to specify where things will be built, to control our animals and the rest of our lives, something will grow.

Bard is not a nursery and its stu- dents no longer require parents (not to substitute to make their decisions for them. Allowing the sages of Lidjaw or other, we hope, will aid us in making decisions for us is just another more emotional, true proof of our ability to control our lives is the demonstration that we are responsi- ble enough to enforce our rules when our personal pleasures are not being threatened.

We would like to comment on the misinformed and slander- ous Observer editorial of two weeks ago. Is the Observer a collegiate newspaper or is it a high school paper? From the lack of serious thought and maturity, as observed in the last editorial, we wonder if the Observer understands the seriousness of the subject editorialized. They obviously did not thoroughly research the subject. We are also wondering if they understood the implications of the headlines which were used. Two of them were, “Take the Money and Run” and “Is it True what they say about California?” The informa- tion in the first headline is that we stole money. We did not. In the second headline, the implication is that we are lying about the conference. Well, there is nothing to lie about. These attacks of innuendo are uncalled for, and are indicative of an irresponsi- ble editorial policy. The Observer may have felt that these headlines were humorous. We did not.

It is unfortunate that the editor is not as well informed as she thinks, concerning the NSA surrounding last years budget deficit. If we did not agree NSA and NISA went to begin with last years budget deficit.

$363.64 (we were told on June 28th by last years treasurer that there was excess of $500 in the conviction funds. Secondly, NISA does not have formal status against NSA. It is curious that one of the first items of any conference is a supporter of NSA, and he attended the NSA conference.

Alternation Viewpoint

It was in September if we can believe the diaries of the last generation and all that tumultuous year. It was the “old Ba- rd” who ruled Kent State and the nation. The student protests created much talk, I guess the result was almost no rise, to equal new. To look, the Bard student is still green to freshmen class is to know how change in recent years. We are relatively conservative.

Early years were us: the place blossomed centric individualism. In seventies were not Bard’s Reamer Kline was a tire who had done a fine job. Selinger, then academic’s son. Though we had a new di- mension, the library was even bigger. Thirst... The Beach burnt down. I know, it was the privilege of living with roommates in the Student Residences. Pat DeFate, then I Security, has a must of the chapel on care office wall bore the false voice.

What you see here, hear here. When you leave here stay here.

Now things are quiet. People does appear. College will continue to be fairly solvent, that of the academic integrity time to improve along with quality of teaching and the old Bard. At least it time.

And if Leon would be the pet i...
that time, may
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Senate
questions & answers
All letters welcome. Briefly stating letters, answers, problems, comments, dreams, to: Dr. W. Bush (Box '79).
If your letter is not answered, try again— we will print as many as space allows.

Items: The Bush staff was unable to find a complete answer to the question submitted, before last issue by Quin Perkins. Apolo-
gies, responses continue. — Ed.

Achievement Award: to Laura and Edna, Ward Manor, for saving some half-dozen cars and kiting
abandon last June and cared for by various summer residents. Dr. Bush asks you all to please take care of
your animals. Domesticated an-
imals do not do well when left on their own. Even God needs someone to feed them. Thanks.

(Excerpted from a letter dated Aug 17th.)

Dear Doctor: The question has arisen in our correspondence regarding teacher and student: from Swami Chimalayananda's Gita, I quote, "A teacher can feel really inti-
spired and instruct efficiently only when he or she establishes a certain type of affectionate rapport with
his students.

The relationship between teacher and taught should not be more a commercial arrangement of "you-
pay-and-take." Mind and Intel-
lect blossom forth only in a warm climate of love and freedom, friendship and mutual understanding.

Sincerely yours,
D. Ram Mitra.
Prabhudev Rl.
Bombay, India

Thank you, Dr. Ram Mitra of Bombay and thousands of other readers who have sent in letters; this column welcomes correspon-
dence from our local readers and from those living abroad. Our re-
grets to R. Buchwald for not pub-
lishing his letter from The Zeitung, 9-24-76, being just too lengthy.

Dear Dr. B.:

Appreciated specific suggestions last issue about initiative, inventiveness, creating new forms to serve the
present, rather than blind obedi-
ence to convention, habit, sometimes defense, etc.

Some particular yet unorganized discontent here, as everywhere I suppose, which probably springs from separation...between adminis-
tration and administration, between occupational sectors, departments, special interests between "views," etc. Our administration seems
really too remote and unfamiliar with everyday concerns of the school community. Their "Plan"
proceeds from a viewpoint with a seeming relentlessness that is disturbing to some of us. The management of the maintenance department,
though unquestionably a difficult and probably thankless task-carried on here with more than creditable
efficient solutions, still aims automo-
ously at times, sometimes over-
stepping its limitations, for ex-
ample, by entering private rooms or
studios without first obtaining the
resident's permission. A school
budget is apparently secret. It re-
" In modern world politics.
These latter are saying activism is
more a failure of the 60's than the
'70s. They know what they want from an edu-
cation and have mapped out the
direct route to their goal, the ma-
terially secure, comfortable life. How come everything has to be so half-assed?

D.R., Rhinebeck

Dear D.R., Rhinebeck: I can only remind you of certain perhaps
relevant historical phenomena from
our own century.

First of all, awareness and partic-
ipation in public life is essential in order to proceed with Man's natural urge for freedom, knowledge, com-
pleteness—all the same. Unlimited
governing power and a popular re-
action against it is not a particular-
ity of the American 60's. Not to be
too lengthy, let's just recall Gandhi's efforts in Africa and India to raise mass movements against
authoritarian imposition on the will
of a people. The shape of the In-
dian liberation movement of the
40's was at all costs peaceful and
loving—it was not really against the
British administration in a way—
that is, the Indians eventually pre-
nerved much of the former's system for administering, etc. This was
where the technique of the strike or boycott on the part of masses of people was used successfully, later by Martin Luther King in our South.

If and when people living in any
community find their governing
body one which for varying reasons does not respect them, this is a tool they can use. If it is non-vio-
cent, and carried out in a loving way which realizes the common human-
ity in all and the real fallacy in cre-
ating a fictional enemy or Other, no
rupture occurs and likely the best qualities of the temporal differences are put into service in an emerging form which hopefully becomes a better solution. Each Individual then has a sense of participation and a better sense of purposefulness. A shape to communal life has emerged which appeals to the reality of equality.

Not a Utopian idea, just an attitude and a few suggestions which derive from respect for life, a reverence, perhaps, which says, Treat your-
self well.

It is merely a convention, not
necessarily a given fact, that college
administrations must govern. It is only
that individual that custom or man or'woman—usually a man—will be presi-
dent of a nation, a single person
whom we now expect to contain all
the facts and figures, the details of all the complex fields of knowledge which are so influential in contem-
porary life. Presidency is a form; forms are containers which people invent to assist them in viewing and organizing an ever-changing present. Alternatives there are, for example, the representative council. But let us get on to concluding a reply to Mr. Rhinebeck.

Generally speaking, a disinter-
ested community, though perhaps characteristically "nice" people, can make themselves the thoughtful victim of secret victory, suddenly
deflected ideals which will always spring from the efforts to achieve another goal, ambitious and, desire. To maintain that following the system on made will not achieve its ultimate aim, etc.—the idea that one can get what one wants out of a situation, that we can di-
regard the present; just the more years and then some, that this is the face, which seems to be realistic thinking, becomes a disaster.

Freedom is not static but dynam-
ic; not a vested interest, but a
prize continually to be won. The
moment man steps and resigns him-
self, he becomes subject to deter-
minism. He is most ensnared when
he thinks he is comfortably settled in freedom. In this modern world, the most
dangerous form of determinism is the technological phenomenon. It is not a question of getting rid of it, but, by an act of freedom of tran-

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He who would live
must give up life. —Lao Tsu

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SPORTS

1. BARD vs. SOUTHERN VERMONT COLLEGE
On Monday, Sept. 20th, the BARD MELLOW-TONES smashed a new S.V.C. team at Hoosic, New York. When the final whistle sounded, Bard was on top 5-1. It was Bard’s first win, but Coach Charlie Patrick’s rigorous and innovative practices prepared the team well.

Mark Callahan

Goals:
Scott Lithgow 2
Dave Fleming 1
George Dobbs 1
Jim Chambers 1

4. BARD vs. COLUMBIA GREENE C.C.
On Monday Sept. 26, Bard travelled to Hudson former mining capital of the mid-Hudson, to face a tough C.G.C.C squad. Initially gaining the upper hand on Jean-Louis’ beautiful shot Bard broke the 1-1 tie in the last seconds of the first half on Jeff Kinnard’s goal. C.G.C.C. tied it up again, but Dave Fleming’s well placed penalty shot put Bard ahead 3-2. Dave scored again on a screen shot through Jean Louis’ legs and Jeff Kinnard scored again to make it 3-2. Dave Kelly’s many ace saves held off a final C.G.C.C drive enabling Bard to clinch a wet weather victory 5-4.

Goals:
Dave Fleming 2
Jeff Kinnard 2
Jean Louis 1

2. BARD vs. BERKSHIRE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
On Wednesday, Sept. 22nd, the BARD FALCONS (A.K.A. MELLOW-TONES) lost a close match to B.C.C., continuing the traditional rivalry. This year’s Pagans are a much stronger team than last year’s team which beat B.C.C. 4-2, but the Christians outran them on the strength of their strict training program. The Pagans were also hurt by the loss of fullback Mark Callahan, who missed the game due to illness. Bard almost made a heroic comeback in the last few minutes, but the Christians were too strong. Stay in the goal played an excellent game as did every one.

- Scott Lithgow

3. BARD vs. ALBANY PHARMACY
Arriving late at Albany’s unified field the Bard Mellowtones (A.K.A. Pagans) beat back the clumsy but aggressive Albany Pharmacy team. In an aggressive comeback by the last 12 minutes, Jeff Kinnard scored his third goal to a ‘hat-trick’ and Dave Fleming scored in a fast break, allowing Bard to come from behind to win 4-3.

Goals:
Jeff Kinnard 3
Dave Fleming 1

6. BARD vs. CHRISTIANS
For its first home game the Bard Pagans faced the tough B.C.C. squad which had handed Bard its only defeat earlier in the season. Against a background of country music by Ramblin Jack and Free, the long awaited rematch began. B.C.C. scored early on an excellent shot by Dino, B.C.C.’s high scorer. This goal tally, unmatched by Bard until the second half, when the Pagans exploded for two quick goals by Trevor Verssey and Jeff Taylor. B.C.C. tied it at twice more at 2-2 and 3-3. But despite the wet weather Bard scored again on Jeff Taylor’s third goal to go ahead for 4-3. Both teams put out a maximum effort, but the superior team of the Bard defense and the finesse of the Bard offense proved too much for B.C.C., who could not beat the quick hands of Bard’s stellar goalie Dave Kelly often enough to win.

Goals:
Jeff Taylor 3
Trevor Verssey 1

Mark Callahan

5. BARD vs. SKIDMORE
Travelling for over 2 hours, Bard arrived on schedule to face a seemingly make-shift Skidmore team. But Skidmore’s shabby uniforms belied their formidable team. Skidmore, supported by 250 screaming fans scored first, Bard rapidly tied the score; however, and scored twice more to go ahead 3-1. In a play indicative of Skidmore’s lack of finesse, the home team scored again after the referee failed to penalize Skidmore for a high kick which landed just below fullback Callahan’s shoulder. Coming on strong in the second half Skidmore quickly tied it up at 3-1.

At this point the gaiter entered its now legendary phase of fierce play and near fights. Bard had many opportunities but could not score again even though Bard dominated the second half. At the whistle the score was 3-3 and Bard’s record was 3-1-1.

Mark Callahan

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