Police Training School Planned For Bard

Student Senate Announces Student Association Meeting

Larry Solomon  Student Senate Co-Presidents

Green Revolution

Green World Consciousness

Pierre Gremaud

Photograph

Wayne Cozzolino

Bard

Stone Row Renovation

Lisa Foley

Botstein’s Curriculum Committee

Siobhan Silag

The Bell Will Toll

Peter Kosewski

Tales of Courage


In The Increasingly Obscure and Unlikely Excerpt From “An Exercise For Its Own Sake”

Andy Abbatepaolo

Observer

Communications Breakdown

Commendations To:

Kim C. Graves Editor

Quote From Moral Man And Immoral Society

Reinhold Niebuhr

Letters

[“... Role this paper has been forced to assume when many issues ...”]

Lance A. Tait

[“... Memorial service for the six million Jews killed ... Armenians killed ...”]

Submitted By Some Of The People Who Attended The Service

[“... Some form of general education might best serve students' ...”]

Burt Brody Professor of Physics

[“In feminist terms lesbianism is woman-identification; that means viewing ...”]

Nancy Schiff

[“... The natural beauty of Bard.”]

Jeff Connor

Notes

Senior Projects Available

Alex McKnight

Women Students

Mary Sugatt Dean of Students

Correction

Get Well Soon

Reviews

Rats

Alex N. McKnight

Overtones

Alex N. Mcknight

Chamber Music

Alex N. McKnight

Dr. Bush

Photograph

Hugh Crawford

Quote From Tulley

Photograph

Hugh Crawford
Police training School
Planned for Bard

by Catherine Williams

Rumors, accusations, uproar, but most of all misinformation and failed communications have recently caused one of the most controversial issues to embold the Bard student community. The news of the prospective police training program at Bard first appeared in an article in the Poughkeepsie Journal, dated March 29, 1977, and it was there that the entire student body, and, in fact a good many administration and faculty members, first heard of the program. Although a similar article appeared in the same newspaper on March 30 referring to Dutchess County as a probable location for the program, the community seemed to know nothing whatsoever about it until the second article sparked many rumors and questions implying that the program was in its advanced planning stages and would be implemented at Bard beginning in September. Using as many facts as the OBSERVER staff was able to obtain from administrators, state, county, local police, and law enforcement officials, this article will attempt to dispel many rumors and misinformation regarding the issue.

285 Standardized Hours

Basically, the proposed program is a coordinated effort undertaken by the Dutchess County Sheriff Lawrence Quinlan, Police Chief Robert Lipsky of Tarrytown, Westchester County Sheriff Thomas Delaney, Red Hook Town Supervisor Richard Bowman, and Richard Griffiths, who serves as Red Hook Town Councilman, Dutchess County Deputy Sheriff and Director of Bard’s Physical Plant. At the suggestion of Mr. Bowman, Griffiths, acting in his role as Town Councilman and “salesman” for Bard, proposed the College as a feasible site for the training facility. The purpose of the program is to bring its participants up to the standards set by New York State’s Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). These provisions require that part-time police and sheriff’s deputies receive 285 hours of training in specified areas. According to Undersheriff Schachter, assistant to Sheriff Quinlan, the curriculum will consist of courses in safety and first aid techniques, criminal investigation, the writing of reports, procedures for automobile accidents, rules of court evidence, the rights of the accused, police procedures pertaining to search and seizure, and rules of evidence. Griffiths commented that recent changes in state and federal law require added emphasis in these areas. He mentioned that the course would be taught by various instructors including representatives of the District Attorney’s Office, the Poughkeepsie City Police, several other employees of the New York Department of Correctional Services, and representatives of the County Coroner’s Office. Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation are also being considered as police instructors. The program is slated to run for 17 to 18 weeks, with officers attending 16 hours of class per week with two 4-hour classes on weekend nights and 8 hours on class on Saturdays. The fee per officer will range between $100-$150, paid either by the individual or by the communities for which they work. The town of Red Hook, for example, will be sponsoring their own officers. Let them eat SAGA

Griffiths initially contacted The Bureau of Municipal Police Training in order to have Bard approve and submit his curriculum program. It is assumed that Bard was approved for the basic reasons that it can supply adequate physical facilities, a good teacher, and it is in a good location. Further criticism of their program is not known at this time. It is interesting to note that the Bureau of Municipal Police is a non-profit organization as an advisory agency to the New York State’s Division of Criminal Justice Services, which administers state and federal grants to law enforcement agencies. Mr. Joseph McGraw, an administrator at the Bureau, said that he was not aware that any state or federal monies were being used for the program at this time. He could not, however, rule out the possibility that funds would become available in the future from the D.C.S. or appropriate federal agencies such as the Department of Justice’s Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, L.E.A.A.A. Considering the array of state, county, and local agencies involved in the sponsorship of this program, serious questions may be raised as to the body exercising ultimate control over the whole program. Taking into account this arrangement, it is unlikely that Bard, although contributing its facilities, should have any say in the direction of the program.

Bard’s Roll

This issue of control raised further questions as to what Bard’s involvement with the program would be. Bard’s administration’s initial defense of a police training program was predicated on the belief that the college could have effective input in the areas of humanistic and liberal studies. Bard would not be making any financial profits by sponsoring such a program, provided that it would be paid only for the use of its facilities. Bard invited Bothein and Vice-President Wagner, when questioned about the validity of having such a program on campus, to continually dismiss the merits of the program for two basic reasons; the first, already stated, is that we would be giving up support to a program which we would not be involved in “humanizing” the police force by offering courses tied in with the liberal arts courses of the office, these classes would run for seven weeks through fall and would involve assistant D.A., police,里程, and possibly even F.B.I. agents as instructors. As one prominent member of the Bard community has said, “the plan would be an outrage to the students.” The Bard Student Senate met last Wednesday evening to deal with a very real threat to the student community’s proposed Police School to be held at Bard. As announced in the Poughkeepsie Journal, (3-29-77) and confirmed by concerned students and OBSERVER staff through the Dutchess Sheriff’s Office, the plan is exactly what the title of the Journal article implies. Considering the array of state, county, and local agencies involved in the sponsorship of this program, serious questions may be raised as to the body exercising ultimate control over the whole program. Taking into account this arrangement, it is unlikely that Bard, although contributing its facilities, should have any say in the direction of the program.

about 1) the nature of the program, 2) the curriculum as outlined by Sheriff Quinlan’s office, and 3) the purpose of the program in terms of state requirements, there seemed to be a rather alarming discrepancy between how Bard’s administration was envisioning the program, and how in fact the program was actually taking shape in the offices of law enforcement agencies. By no stretch of the imagination could topics such as the writing of police reports, or procedures pertaining to search and seizure be construed as coming under the rubric of “humanities.” Another unaccountable discrepancy was the fact that although the funding, organization and control of the program was clearly in the hands of state, county, and local officials, Bard’s Office of Program Development, under the direction of Dr. George Mason, was in the process of drawing up a grant proposal which could have something to do with the police program. The proposal, submitted to the New York Community Fund, should provide funding for a weekend symposium program in the humanities which would cover such topics as health/card, women and religion, and humanistic police education. This particular plan, about the community Focus Program, was the administration’s attempt to influence the police students’ studies with a liberal arts oriented course. The subjects would be covered by guest speakers whose educational backgrounds were in areas such as philosophy, sociology, constitutional law, etc.; the symposium would take place on weekends during the school year. The overwhelming problem with this proposal is that if police students were already engaged in taking 8 hour courses on Saturdays, courses which would be mandatory to the men for completing the requirements of the training program, there would be no way for them to attend a humanities symposium occurring at the same time. The situation was at best confusing: did the administration actually believe in the community Focus Program, that there were two completely separate programs in the works? Did they know that only one of them dealt with liberal arts issues, and that this program was apparently unharmless in the light of the fact that the other program would take precedence over the former? The confusion encountered when it comes to the administration Continued on Page 3
Green Revolution

Among the many topics that have managed to occur to me through the minuscule shadow of a senior project, I have chosen that of resources, in particular, fossil fuels. A lengthy "fossil fuels" section is also humbly offered.

We flip the switch and the light snaps on. We pull the cord and the toilet flushes. We push the button and the washing machine begins to attention, What is going on here? This is something new in human history. When people live by their own means (and I like to stress that this is the rule for most of the world), conservation is a built-in practice. It takes time and work to chop and haul wood. It takes time to collect water and to harvest food. It takes all available time. These things are not wasted because the result of waste is immediately felt.

When people walk into a classroom here, a frequent first response is to flip on the lights, this despite most of Bard's building (e.g. Hegeman) being wonderfully designed to capture the existing light. If we Bardians were actively engaged in maintaining our indoor light, by gathering wood or making candles, we would certainly be more cautious about using this. This applies to all the uses of water and energy. But let us leave the lines and light bulbs there. What if one member of the class was responsible for keeping the lights lit by personal effort? The generator? We would then readily see and feel that electricity is not a magic fountain of energy. The mechanical watts would be felt, whereas the electrical watts were not. This is not an absurd exercise; somewhere the generators are turning, and in 1976 three quarters of them were turning through the combustion of fossil fuel: coal, oil, and gas. These are non-renewable resources.

The discovery and recovery of these three resources have dramatically changed the face of the earth. The awesome superstructure of the technology would not have formed without them. Life would of necessity be much simpler and more spartan now if vast under-ground reservoirs of carbonaceous fuels had not been discovered in the last two centuries. Petroleum does work for us; it is our army of slaves. It has permitted the incredible expansion of the Western lifestyle and spawned all sorts of decadence never before possible. It might as well be called "petroleum that is the root of evil all.

By basing our daily lives on coal, we are living on borrowed time. We are exploiting the lives of plants of past ages; they are doing our work for us.

In the wink of an eye, we are ox-idizing the carbon it took these plants millennia to fix. And the clock is still ticking.

This month's HELPFUL HINTS concern the outdoor activities that we are again taking up in this fine weather. I wander a lot and I find that for the most part the present Bard community is a pretty responsible bunch. Still, these items may be of interest.

ORANGE PEELS are bio-degradable but take from one to two years to decompose. Carry them back home - they make for nice smelling pockets.

CIGARETTE BUTTS are a complete blight. If you are trying to leave a legacy for future generations, don't litter them on every campus tree, fence, if not, pocket them.

SNEAKERS are advisable for playing in the Sawkill to avoid the sharp edges of flip-flops and gators. Fortunately but true.

When going to the LOWER FALLS take the path that runs by the mouth of the creek. Don't clamber down the steep bank; it is a menace and to be disturbed as little as possible if it is to re-stabilize itself.

TREES are not inanimate objects, they are living miracles. Each bad contains the primordium for an entire branch. Please be careful with FLOWERS. They are blooming in order to survive. Many in New York and elsewhere are endangered species; some are gone forever. Enjoy them where they are.

SIDEWAY wastes - PISS OUT.

Bard

STONE ROW RENOVATION

by Lisa Foley

Bard is currently in the process of re-paving for a Housing and Urban Development Loan to re-novate Stone Row. Originally, the loan for $589,000 was approved in 1972, but was not used because the amount was insufficient to carry out the approved plans. The obstacle was the discovery, after the loan was approved, of the Bacon Act which requires Federal loan projects to employ workers at union wage. Since Building and Ground employees are not unionized and are paid below that wage, an additional $300,000, says William Aasp, would have been needed to engage the outside con-tractor not originally planned for.

The college is going to make another attempt at renovating the crumbling Stone Row by re-paving for the loan with some modifications. These modifications should be in the form of an increase in the amount loaned, or appropriate changes in the proposed guidelines within which the college can work, using the original amount.

BOTSTEIN'S CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

by Siobhan Silag

On March 23, President Bot-stein announced that a committee of ten faculty members would be formed to examine the curriculum at Bard and to make recommendations for realigning Bard's goals through education practices and policies. The ten faculty members (Boretty, Baumbach, Grab, Kelly, Kollet, LaFarge, Phillips, Rockman, Schifer, Wiles, and Stuart Levine as Chairman) were appointed by President Bot-stein without help from the Faculty Senate. No provision was made for student representation on the committee. Several students were upset with this lack of student rep-resentation for obvious reasons.

Stuart Low, Chairman of the Educational Policies Committee, felt that since students were to be directly affected by any changes recommended by the committee, they should be adequately rep-resented. He suggested that the number of teachers on the com-mitte be decreased to make room for an appropriate number of student representatives. In this way, a proportionate ratio of facul-ty and student interest could be achieved. He felt, too, that there should have been more coopera-tion with the EPC on Botstein's Continued on Page 6

The Bell will TOLL

by Peter Kosewski

As it has come to my attention that since the commencement of the Class of '76, the bell has not rung, it has become necessary for the legend of that bell to be aired out and, hopefully, for things to be set to rights. The legend is sim-ply this: "The bell will ring until a virgin graduates. "Unlike the lyrical Simmons College fable that links sex with money- "A ring by spring or your money back" - that Bard legend is, according to Profes-sor Walter, "a private necklace and a public albatross.

There are three questions of ourselves: where did we fall with the Class of '76? Was the absence of peer counseling their collective Waterloo? Then, too, we must wonder: who was it? Will the malevolent bell-buster ever be seen lurking by the baked bar at an Alumni-Trustee Dinner?

But there is hope. On one occasion early in this semester, a near-miracle, the bell was heard to ring, feebly for certain, but heard nonetheless. Hence, I should like to advance the theory that: that the vitality of the bell, like Peter Pan's Tinkerbell, is dependent on our belief in it. If a Bardian pleads to us all to clap our hands may be applied here given a slight shift in specifics. I, the spirit of the thing is what is important.

This work is taken from:

(1) We might request that the film committee review the classic 1977 film of Jeffrey Noyes Scher, "The Volga Ballet." And it might be quite substituted "First Sieve" or perhaps "Fun in McVicker.

This should prove instructive.

(2) We might add to the Horace Donniglen collection of Bard mem-orabilia that is on display in the Kellogg Library a photograph of that notorious '76 graduate who shall be known here only as "The Blither-wood Stalker." This should prove inspirational.

(3) We might re-establish the Bard Pep Club to propagate the legend of the bell and to provide half-time entertainment at basketball games. We should ensure the student body with the sense of what Bard is all about.

Given these steps, there is hope.

But in a larger sense, it is up to each one of us. A chain cannot be as strong as its weakest link. If you spot one of those wolves in sheep's clothing, a closet virgin, strike out! We cannot let the bell cease to peal forever lest the old Bard fade away, leaving only a myth, a hollow shell. It's up to you...

ANNANDALE HOTEL

BRUNCH
Served Every Sunday 11:00-4:00
Onlettes Toast English Muffins Crepes Bagels Sausage Bacon Home Fries Eggs

FOD SERVED UNTIL ½ HOUR BEFORE CLOSING

MONDAY
Mon 5-8 TUE 12-1 Sat 12-3
TUESDAY
Wed 12-1 Wed 12-3
WEDNESDAY
Thurs 12-3 SATURDAY
Sat 12-3
Tales of Courage

GOATSONG: “I Had My Reasons.”
A (intransparent reasoning) Progress Report Part The Fourth In The Increasingly Obscure, Incoherent, Inexplicable Excerpt From “An Exercise For Its Own Sake”
By Andy Abatebepalo

Inspector Notaman was careful to refer to “Boss” Tweed, the Sector Coordinator, in respect. The port, at one time famous throughout the galaxy for its proximity to a planet which gave it a wealth of resources, for its restless potencies, had grown complacent and inactive. When IQQ had been routed from here (currently being found out Notaman’s ears by the elaborates bloric circuitry housed in its crowded titanium skull module) the “weed’s telepathic narrative, (phyre) would be displeased, no doubt, by its amazing lack of content. The former vanguard of the Gobindos’ guerrilla effort in North America had once been the desirability and adaptability of such a program to the Bard community, the man confusion, ruffling the fur of the scruffy bastards that subsequently floated around the council. Notaman had felt the administration themselves not knowing what was really going on? When the spring had truly been launched in early last week, they met with Notaman, to go over the Program Development and obtained very few details. Notaman learned that Program Development has a standing policy of not divulging information about proposals until they are accepted. Most to the administrators who were talked to didn’t seem to fully know the nature of the program that was under way. And the people who were to be the only two who could answer the questions, explain the program and clear up the ambiguity - Richard Griffiths and Gene Mason - were both on vacation. As the weekend symposium program, which in itself has attractive and desirable possibilities in terms of company’s potential growth, not an intrinsic part of the overall police program.

Students were not consulted

When students first learned, in the Keephouse Journal article of March 17, 2015, about the police training program the Richard Griffiths, they were asked (or not asked) only at the prospect of having police officers on campus, but also because of the fact that a program that of this nature was apparently in its final planning stages before students had even been informed of it. The Journal article of March 10 stated that Bard was being viewed as a possible site for the police training program. Be-cause students felt the administration themselves not knowing what was really going on? When the spring had truly been launched in early last week, they met with Notaman, to go over the Program Development and obtained very few details. Notaman learned that Program Development has a standing policy of not divulging information about proposals until they are accepted. Most to the administrators who were talked to didn’t seem to fully know the nature of the program that was under way. And the people who were to be the only two who could answer the questions, explain the program and clear up the ambiguity - Richard Griffiths and Gene Mason - were both on vacation. As the weekend symposium program, which in itself has attractive and desirable possibilities in terms of company’s potential growth, not an intrinsic part of the overall police program.

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Police Program

Continued from Page 1

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Unfortunately, all risks thus far have been relatively minor. Several students have complained about being reconocquenced and had to deal with the frustration of not being able to contact someone in this congresses has been unacceptably (and formally recorded) and formally received. Once per six months, IQQ is required to provide general infor- mation to its door. Thus, any such problem of this nature is a result of students’ behaviors and their preferences to their preferences. Even when she led her students at Monopoly, essentially, still not much. We appreciate and/ or suggestions on the problems.

As for that Taiwan fiasco: I am not going to say that this is a tr-oubling country. We will keep these bridge is closed on the inability of the furthering of the Chinese civilization. We did not find the US in this event. This is to say that we are currently discerning whether governments of the other more current and investment-tac- tical approaches might be used in the furthering world-resolution of this planet. No I am not.

As you are aware, my material form on this planet is that of a lower-order creature that the falling species here. Please do not mistake my im. I am not complaining! I know that much have done them wrong. But for purposes of avoiding; being righteous and moralistic, I keep to the simple fact that I registered Caltech of the šest-acting-sensory speculation. This is so if ever I were to find myself in the presence of more than a few of the other more current and investment-tac- tical approaches might be used in the furthering world-resolution of this planet. No I am not.

“Boss” Tweed was suddenly in- verted as a sign that the police officers would be going into his inner circle, and that his personal space, was opening up for his visions. He had been a figure of great importance in the past, his influence being felt across the galaxy. Now, it seemed as though he was shifting his focus, and that he might be interested in making new connections. The Turbulent, date source, and an unexplainably vital manipul- ative attempt, it was thought. The council, that I registered Caltech of the šest-acting-sensory speculation. This is so if ever I were to find myself in the presence of more than a few of the other more current and investment-tac- tical approaches might be used in the furthering world-resolution of this planet. No I am not.

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A week before Spring Vacation, an article clipped from the Poughkeepsie Journal appeared in the program bulletin board. The article referred to the proposition for an educational program for local police officers. The article stated that Richard Griffiths, director of the educational and group-building department, had said that the program would start at Bard in the fall.

When the OBSERVER inquired into the matter, it found that only President Botstein, Vice-President David Wagner, Director of Program Development Gene Ma-son, and Dick Starkey knew about the program. Further investigation showed that Botstein and Wagner knew very little factual information about the program. Both insisted that the program would be designed to give police an appreciation of the humanistic concerns of police work. They both felt that the liberal arts program, here at Bard, was an excellent resource for accomplishing this task. But David Wagner and Dick Starkey had not been told or consulted about the program beforehand.

When Leon Botstein was asked whether or not he had consulted the Faculty Senate, Student Senate, or the Educational Policies Committee, he replied, "No, (the decision) does not involve students, it does not involve faculty.

President Botstein does not seem to realize that he and his administration are not supposed to run this community without the input of its constituents. Decisions that he and his administration value do concern us. If they do not concern us directly, for example, the decision to appoint a curriculum committee, we care about and respect it. Indirect decisions such as the recent publicity, change the way we view ourselves and our life style.

Mr. Botstein's actions do not seem to take into account an appreciation that this is a community where people work together, where communication and honesty are the most prized attributes of this community. This must be run by the collective students, faculty and administrators. Their input is useful, informative, and essential to making rational, objective decisions regarding complex issues. The mere fact that the Bard community had to find out from a local newspaper article that plans were being made, shows that the resources of the community are not being utilized and that the program is not appreciated. The Bard community shared orally and must, pragmatically be the first to know of potentially dangerous plans that will affect its welfare. Before instituting something which will have the effect of an added "security" force on campus, the students and faculty must be consulted.

Upon further investigation with the Dutchess County Sheriff's Department, the Department of Criminal Justice in Albany, the Red Hook Town Supervisor, and the Red Hook Board of Elections, the OBSERVER found that this Police Training Program was not as Botstein and Wagner had said it was. The program was to be 285 hours of law-enforcement course curricula. In no way did the Sheriff's Department see it as a "liberal arts" program. In no way did Bard have any input, into the curriculum. This training program was solely a stand-alone one that was designed to raise the level of proficiency of part-time officers up to the level of full-time professionals. Bard was chosen because it had a physical facility available. Students were to be able to attend classes at a food service open on Saturdays, not because it could offer a liberal arts approach. Bard faculty were not even going to be hired; professional law enforcement agents were invited to teach the courses. Clearly, Botstein and Wagner were mistaken. Why were they arguing for a program they knew next to nothing about? To make matters worse, when the OBSERVER went to speak to President Botstein he ignored our inquiries and pointed us to Richard Griffiths. Mr. Griffiths is the head of the Physical Plant. He has no authority to decide, to announce major policy for Bard College. We strongly suggest that Mr. Griffiths make sure that the mods don't fall into the ravine, make sure there is hot water, make sure that Stone Row does not come crumbling down around our ears before he takes on other responsibilities.

Even if Griffiths did not tell Botstein what was going on, Botstein should have found out. We agree with one Board of Trustees member who said, "The President is responsible for all that goes on." Along with the lack of communication with the faculty there appears to be a breakdown in the communication within the administration.

In response to the proposed program, the Student Senate has drafted a resolution to do everything it can to halt the implementation of this program. They have called for a student association meeting on Wednesday, April 20, in the committee rooms in Dining Commons at 6:30 p.m.

The OBSERVER strongly supports these moves and strongly urges all students and faculty to attend the Student Association meeting. We cannot allow the atmosphere of fear and apprehension that will be generated by the presence of thirty-five police officers on campus. This atmosphere would seriously disturb the academic and social pursuits of students. This fear, along with the fact that the Police Training would offer no training to the academics of the school and that the program is coordinated by Sheriff Lawrence M. Quinlin's office are sufficient reasons to rescind any college involvement whatsoever.

We hope that the events that have occurred will lead to a real and honest understanding between the administration and the rest of the community.

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Commendations To:

I would like to commend both the quantity and quality of the student input into the matter of the proposed Police Training School. Here at Bard, student input is always extremely valuable; no one can represent us as well as we can represent ourselves. This input has shown us that this institution belongs to all of us and that Ludlow is not the sole provider of information or direction.

With the support of the students, faculty and Board of Trustees, a small group of students has amassed a wealth of factual information. Within a period of twelve hours these students did more concrete research than any of the administrators directly involved in the actual decision making. Their information was so good that it demanded the attention and respect of President Botstein. I sincerely hope that this respect is appreciated setting. Too often, student input is ignored or treated as amateurish irrelevant, incomplete or even run on the bureaucratic ladder. Students are capable of operating on the same intellectual plane as their adult teachers. We are their equals and I sincerely hope that President Botstein remembers this.

It is disheartening to imagine what would have happened if students had not worked so hard or cared so deeply about this institution. I do not believe that the Police Training Program would have received the thorough investigation it deserved. I hope that President Botstein never again says, or even thinks, "If the decision) does not involve students, it does not involve faculty."

Kim C. Graves 
Editor
To the Editor:

I am dismayed at the role this paper has been forced to play when many issues of Bard institutional policy have arisen. The paper has become more of a vehicle for the President than one for the students. It is sad to watch the officers of the Observer police the Ludlow establishment and criticize (many times with lack of information) it. As a student, I feel the OBSERVER is sometimes made to look bad by the irresponsible editors.

When the administration bothers to disseminate information regarding their large scale activities to the average Bard student, they do so in a quiet, calculated (but always tardy) burst of obfuscation. The regular campus news services are avoided. An example is the ever popular issue of the Observer in which a rumtable old plow horse, which seems to have become an out-moded tradition.

The supplier of information to the Observer must equip himself/herself with cold, impersonal statistics and not human affects. Such statements, usually thought to spawn apathy, are usually missed. When they are missed, they sometimes make irreversable decisions made on issues that will affect us directly.

There is serious question in what good has been done by accepting the notion in the All Students Treatment—we have “community” meetings and teas; we have the senior basket. A splendid first name basis with those in Ludlow. The situation now prompts us to realize that cold “impartial” facts and debatable issues are some things that have not been found: warm “personal” greetings.

Thus the responsibility the Bard Journalists is faced with is not only that of producing information, but also that of seeing what dangers are lurking within this hard-won information.

It would be better if the OBSERVER could be a vehicle to weigh suggestion A or B, but the reporters are constantly busy writing executive order C, for being irresponsible to the community at large. Clearly the administration allows no A or B, merely C, so that the Observer writers are forced to an editorial stance that most people do not like.

Lance A. Tait

To the Editor:

The 3/23 Observer article, “Towards Liberal Arts,” in trying to my suggestion that a re-valorization of some form of general education might benefit liberal students’ long range interests, makes the counter suggest that over-regulation leads to an ideological approach to the world and short-circuits development of an ethical sense. My intention was not to constrain options, but to make pursuit of them more meaningful. For example, the article later in-GRANTS that the introductory physics course should consider mechanisms: in past years I have done this more than now, but in any event discussions of the epistemology are treacherous without prior knowledge of the mechanics. A structured circ- ular course is valuable as a package of answers: it can de- liminate doubt in a mutually cooperative or didactic or trite or highly speculative components which prepare the way for meaningful personal judgments. We need information about which to think: the alternative I too often see is words upon words, which are worse than empty.

As the article observes, college is expensive and it doesn’t even guarantee a good job! I believe liberal arts education is worth it, nonetheless, for its impact on development of individual style and character, which includes develop- ment of that ethical sense. If there were no some presupposition that the faculty at a liberal arts college had something special of which the price would be absurd: part of what something special may be is sight and dedication to what a student might appreciate knowing or doing, as material for personal growth. To begin with, I am the best judge of how to organize my physics courses since by assumption I know something about physics courses do not: I can be shown to be wrong, but not casually: my experience (and my successes) counts for something. I claim this insight can extend into broader educational domains, as well, with the same provision: Some work as well as students, demur, but for students who come to college seeking such guidance, rejection of the special commitment of the faculty of physics is simply a fact, if nothing else is its function to quit nihilism from amor.

Burt Brody
Professor of Physics

To the Editor:

In the article about the Feminist Alliance, it was stated that lesbianism is not an integral part of it. I am a member of the Alliance and take offense to this statement both personally and politically. In feminist terms, lesbianism is woman-identification; that means viewing oneself in the group (class) of women, and realizing that group’s strength as well as its oppression. It means defining woman by our own standards, not by those that men set up for us. The male society’s definition of lesbianism is a woman who engages in sexual relations with other women. This is another case of defining women primarily by our sexual- ity and not as whole people. Many feminists define lesbianism as a commitment to women and focusing energy on women not men. This can include sexual energy, but must also include emotional and political energy. This woman-energy is the essence of feminism; it is an integral and necessary part of feminism. It is also offensive that anyone feels it necessary to apologize to assure the Bard Community that the whole feminist Alliance is not lesbian. I think what was try- ing to be said was that the Feminist Alliance is not all gay women, which is true. It is equally true, however, that all the women are not straight, but I see new satisfactions or reassurances about that. The sexual orientation of members of the Feminist Alliance does not necessarily affect the work done by the group, although political commitment does.

Nancy Schiff

To the Editor:

Many people have come and gone at Bard spending a small part of their lives in the secure little world of college life, and after leaving Bard, men and women have all said more and less of a small piece of paper is about all that remains. A person can drift through four years of school, get a diploma and not learn a thing, or can make those four years the best years of their life. Whenever anyone asks me about Bard I usually start talking about independent work and teacher-student ratios, but time after time I find myself talking about the natural beauty of Bard. One reason I came to Bard was because of its location. Bard is one of the few schools in the country that is not within a town or city. Bard is a small community located in a bucolic setting where one does not have to use a tank of gas to drive somewhere to enjoy the solitude of woods, fields, streams and rivers. Bard is on some of the finest land along the Hudson River where land of this superiority is usually owned by a select few lives on large estates. This school sometimes has a tendency to function along a narrow path of classes, studying, eating, sleeping and other mortal necessi- ties, without even being aware that this path is a small part of an interconnected system of paths so complex that man since his begin- ning has never been able to understand it. This system of paths is a con- tinuous structure, a circle going on around us at Bard that many of us do not even know exists. This could be true for just about anything we are looking at, or because of our presence disturbs or upsets, but this delicately balanced environment. It is the world of the Barred Owl, Coyote, Bobcat, Skunk, Red-tailed Hawk, Hoot, Deer, Fox, Goose, Herons, Foxes and some eighty other species of birds found in this area throughout the year. It is the secret world of the racoons, opossums, skunks, field mice, voles, skunks, watermice, fish, and an array of vegetation. There are locations like Cruger Island, South Bay, North Bay, the deserted village and a path running from the field station along south and north by to the deserted village. Several of these paths lead to a swampy place one where one could sit all day and enjoy total solitude or go swimming in a private pool on a small creek. All of this within easy walking distance of the Bard campus.

Some of us follow the paths and roads leading to these places, some we do not. Very few step off these paths and wander into the woods where no paths exist. The woods are back in the woods, an old ski run winds through the woods, a rope a root cellar and a very fine area in the middle of the woods where the hibernation of the opossums is. A fox den with the remains of a skunk and opossum, the remains of a buck deer, and old red-tailed hawk nest also once used by great horned owls, squirrel nests, birds nest and small mammal runways, the overgrown forest floor.

It is also to be able to walk along a stream and see a track in the mud or snow and know what it did and what it was doing. It is to be aware of the death that goes on around us like following rabbit trail tracks, that the sky is the fruit bowl, to come to and abrupt end where all the color, where the trees and grass and leaves and flowers and knowing that the rabbit may meet its end by the talons of a great horned owl. A necessary part of life, but a part of life hard for many of us to under- stand.

Knowing some of this secret world helps me to understand my role in life and how I can make my path narrower or broad enough to not

Continued to Page 6
Notes

SENIOR PROJECTS AVAILABLE

Beginning this week, the Kellogg Library will have a special group of senior projects on reserve.

These projects, selected with the help of the faculty, are some of the best projects from the last few years. This choice group of student works is being displayed as models that should be of interest to the general student body and of particular interest to Juniors. Other titles of similar quality will be added later on in the semester.

This material, for use in the library only, can be borrowed at the circulation desk by requesting the "Senior Project Special Reserve." - Alex McKnight

Women Students

Women students should be aware that it is very unwise and may not be safe to go to the falls to swim and sunbathe alone. When you explore the beautiful isolated areas of the campus PLEASE BE SURE THERE ARE OTHER STUDENTS WITH YOU. I say this because one morning recently a woman student was at the falls by herself and was accosted by a stranger. Her experience, although she managed to get away unhurted, was a frightening one and we urge you to try to get the license number of any car involved and report the presence of strangers IMMEDIATELY to the Deans Office or Security Office. The description of the stranger in this particular case is as follows: about 5'7" or 5'8"; overweight, fairly dark complexion, dark brown or black curly hair in a modified Afro cut. He was driving a dark blue sedan with some kind of white trim.

Mary Sagat
Dean of Students

Correction

Last issue we reported that Fritz had taken our cover photo. We apologize to Fritz for misapplying his name.

Get Well Soon

The OBSERVER would like to extend our best wishes to Richard Sarky who has just gotten out of the hospital.

Dr. Draper has said that yoga, meditation (TM, zen, etc.) will get you back on your feet.

Reviews

Rats

"Rats is a difficult play. "Rats" is a moving, emotional, occasionally funny play. Often a white audience finds difficulty relating to its poignancy, and its irony. White actors cannot play the roles the way Israel Horwitz meant them to be played, and so too, "Rats" doesn't quite come off.

Bard was lucky enough to have three brilliant young black actors do "Rats." Kevin McKiever, Jay King, and Arnold Scott were as perfect as any I've ever seen interpret this play. It was obvious that "Rats" meant something to them, and they helped us understand the bitterness and hopelessness of the ghetto.

The pace was brisk, the emotion disciplined, and the physical pieces of business well done. Arnold Scott was compelling as the baby and his crying and sobbing were almost too real to bear.

Neil Maguire directed with his usual enthusiasm and imagination. His interpretations and adaptations hit the mark, and made us forget some of the other inferior versions of this play we have seen.

Alex N. McKnight

Overtones

Egos and alter-egos have been done on death stage. "Overtones" by Alice Gerstenzang and a short play directed by Samuel Saltzman that did it a bit better than usual. Timing was the key to the sharp performances of the cast, and the sets added authentic simplicity and dimension to their dialogue.

Chamber Music

Eight young, talented women kept the attention of a jam-packed opening night audience in the Great Hall of Preston Saturday night. Perhaps the less visible women background should have gotten more attention, but then the director rarely steps into the spotlight.

Jane Perkel's direction of "Chamber Music" by Arthur Kopit was definitely worthy of applause. Her casting was courageous, the costuming appropriate, and the sets functional, but most impressive was her handling of the fledgling actors. Certainly the almost flawless delivery and confidence of the cast was due to the technical refinement, as well as the natural abilities of the young actors.

Many new faces were evident in "Chamber Music." Suzi Gifford and Rosemary Barlow were excellent with their Fanny Brice style dialect. Martine Bollin was strong and clear in an explorer, and Kristen Bundeson was majestic and confident as the chairwoman. Only Bonnie Gallda's Eva got a major role after years

Consider the laughs (of the receptive audience) as a barometer for effective comedy, this mini-playlet was entertaining. "Overtones" was interesting, "Overtones" was too short.

对应：Alex N. McKnight

Letters Cont.

so I'll remember early morning fog on the Hudson River, sunsets and sunrises, snow and rain, wind from the spring and fall sun, and cold from the winter sun. Saturday night's wintry nights with sometimes the aurora borealis shimmering in the sky, full moons and new moons, shooting stars, the sound of an owl calling at night, spring peepers, the sounds of a small mouse rustling leaves on the forest floor, and the touch and color of a newly opened leaf in the spring. All of this brings a smile to my face and a warm peaceful feeling to my heart and I know that my years at Bard were very good years.

Jeff Connors

CHAMBER MUSIC

Part of the appointment procedure, moving within the liberal arts institution of the EPC, which was also considering the formation of a curriculum committee, was an indication of a feeling that the EPC had no interest in the curriculum committee.

Another reason for student concern was the fact that Botstein had appointed the ten teachers without consulting the Faculty Senates, which was charged with the responsibility for the broad review of the curriculum. This criticism was leveled by the students who represented a wide range of opinion on the subject of Bard curriculum. The faculty members had felt that this would enable all viewpoints on the role and practice of the curriculum to be aired. Because these viewpoints would so seriously form the definition of Bard as a progressive, liberal arts institution, all had to be given equal representation.

President Botstein agreed to appoint four students to the committee on recommendation of the EPC. Kim Graver, Stuart Low, and Peter Pratt decided to take action to further the efforts of the committee's students and faculty. The Student Senate agreed to support their actions. The faculty on the other hand would not support them. War schools to sympathize with student concerns about the size and form of the committee, they saw no reason to block Botstein's action. Thus deprived of faculty support, no further action was taken.

Once Page 7

Backstage, could be considered a veteran. Her characterization was as "a woman with a notebook" was consistent and believable.

The surest way that anything could happen is to be anywhere at any time. The audience therefore had to erase any image they might have of the foibles and characteristics of these noted figures. Granted, it was characterization, not make up or costume that was meant to provide the illusion, but this took time. I never quite bought such a beautiful Susan B. Anthony. The characters are considered crazy if they excel, and that men sit in judgment of their words comes across well enough.

However, the empathy that other women feel toward their ideals seems lost in the shuffle of nomenclature.
Dear Dr. Bish,

We are concerned about the police training course that may be on campus next semester. We are also concerned, as are many others here at Bard, with our administration's approach to policy-making without reference to the community-at-large. Any advice or comment would be appreciated.

R.S.

Dear R. S.,

There is only space here for what must be a limited commentary, but I feel that beyond the clear anxieties some will hold toward having policemen on campus and what kind of training they may be receiving, it may be a good idea: a positive opportunity, perhaps, to work towards a reduction in the friction which exists in society between law enforcement and the ordinary public. Within an institution of higher learning policemen and women can be given a reminder course in attitude, a difficult but not impossible educational problem, and an essential yet disregarded area. Wearing the emblems of authority and in particular carrying a weapon require a great deal of self-knowledge and control, self-observation and correction. The basic task of a policeman, who is a civil servant, is to enforce our laws; he is neither superior nor inferior as a human being. This kind of thing, along with an obligatory yoga session for example, might tend to offer an alternative to the office environment that comes as on a result of the profession. Finally, administration will all be studying in the same area and might, hopefully, come to see a common humanity in each other, as often happen when artists or athletes from other nations perform and visit - erasing prejudices which grow when distance separates us. It would take a positive view and extended effort on the part of all but that I see that beyond, wisdom, and Civilization are about. In other words, you decide what this new course will be, along with the representatives of the law enforcement community.

As to the other aspect raised here, it seems a college has the unique opportunity to invent and test forms for self-government. For a healthy community and toward a serious educational policy it would seem that we must begin to integrate the varied human and societal problems rather than cling to the old line of drawing sharp distinctions between each other and the work we do in the world; between the old and the young, the sexes, old and race, etc. We cannot educate and at the same moment isolate.

Further, a given individual should not in wisdom expect or be expected to contain all the qualities, information, skills, and so on, to govern. In our society "public relations" is a dominant area, but it is only a part of the total function - leadership in whatever form must be balanced: we have need for real teachers, innovators, inventors, men and women of wisdom who are centered and hopeful, Packagers and planners, those endowed with universal imagination and intellect, along with every voter, and what-have-you ... in a loving, unselfish concern for the whole.

To put this together takes effort and seriousness of purpose within an individual or an institution. Your current administration, I believe, has a chance of turning out all right.

If a collection of human beings you are both interested and willing to get together, you might find your capacity for inventiveness and general curiosity for the adventure will give you a form for approaching this particular problem and for going on from there. If dullness, vacuity of mind, frenzy or fear dominate, then you might expect to be "ruled" indefinitely.

Sincerely, W. Bish

TODAY'S BISHERY

"Man can be understood only by ascending from physics, chemistry, biology, and geology. In other words he is first of all a cosmic problem."

- Teilhard de Chardin, NYC, 9 - 21 - 52.

Dear, you know that girl is a miracle
: way she can rust a rat
: she can boil an egg in a Stonelon hat

— Talley

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Awards

Billy Bish Awards for excellence in the field:

- Jesus of Nazareth, major TV work by Nino Zifferlli, broadcast over Easter. Excellent film bringing to contemporary mass audience the heart of the life and sacrifice of Jesus Christ: transcending dogma, 2,000 years of bullshit, and the big money producers, in this case CM, who are told dropped their names from sponsorship after their original financial support. One large-scale example of the potential of Media.

To Prof. M. Rosenthal for his yearly efforts to keep the environment free of trash and litter . . . the 3rd annual road-side clean-up, April 16, the most successful in some years.

- To Charles King III (deserted village Charlie) for his singular efforts in building a 30-some foot concrete hull sailing boat; entirely on his own, year after year - some 5 years now. The Bish Foundation recommends Mr. King this year for an honorary PhD from Bard College.

- Non-Achievement Award to the student body for the following example: an estimated 12 lb. of choice roast beef was thrown out as garbage on a recent Saturday evening after dinner! Unimaginable.

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Curriculum Committee

Continued from Page 6

When informed that these students had gone to the Faculty Senate, Botstein told Stuart Low that the Faculty Senate would have no right to overturn his committee in any case. Because the Committee was Botstein's own, the Faculty Senate would have had no ability to pressure him. Finaly, we are all to be studying in the same area and might, hopefully, come to see a common humanity in each other, as often happens when artists or athletes from other nations perform and visit - erasing prejudices which grow when distance separates us. It would take a positive view and extended effort on the part of all but that I see that beyond, wisdom, and Civilization are about. In other words, you decide what this new course will be, along with the representatives of the law enforcement community.

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Recipe

Dr. Bish's Elixir for blender: Pineapple juice thinned with spring water. While mixing add:

- green grapes, grow malt powder, real Louisiana blackstrap molasses, . . . in proper proportions. After enjoying, rinse mouth and gargle with warm salt-water.

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Notes

- Rumor that Charlie (cement boat, deserted village Charlie) has his dingy shot up by an enraged Tivoli lady with shotgun untrue.
- Overheard while walking, "What will you do with all your keys?"
- "Oh, I'll lose them" - somewhere in the leaves.

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