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Safety Concerns Heighten; An Attempted Rape, New Security Head

By CHRISTINA GRIFFITH
Managing Editor

The Bard College community has become acutely aware of the necessity of a comprehensive security network. Less than a month into the fall semester, administrators have held numerous meetings to discuss security on campus as it will most effectively serve "the needs of the students." The urgency, in part, is a result of the recent attempted rape in the Tekwabury dorm. (See adjacent column.) On the morning of August 26, a freshman was assaulted by a resident of a nearby dorm. On Friday, September 14, the District Attorney of the Orange County Court reported that the assailant had been charged on three counts: two counts of first degree sexual assault and one count of second degree burglary. The assailant was incarcerated at the Orange County jail in Poughkeepsie and bail was set at $50,000.

The Tekwabury incident was the second reported rape incident in the past eleven years. The previous violations involved the same assailant. Student awareness has also been intensified with the recent appointment of Ed Martin as Director of Security. Martin, previously the Director of Campus Security at Castleton College in Middlebury, Vermont, has emphasized the importance of "being responsive to the needs of the students." Another factor in the heightened concern over security in Bard's large, open campus, as Dean Krikelis explained, the Bard campus is over 1,000 acres and has a county highway running through its center. In Krikelis's view, there is virtually "no way to stop people from coming onto campus."

Nationally, as reported by the College Press Service, college security is a growing concern. Reacting to an alleged rape at a fraternity house, University of Florida officials have considered joining many other colleges in enforcing more restricted visiting hours. Western Illinois University, for example, is planning to ban co-ed visits after midnight on weeknights and after 8:00 p.m. on weekends, the curfew ending at 8:00 a.m.

Such concerns at Bard, negotiations have been under way to develop a security system which, it is hoped, will alleviate student anxieties and intimidate would-be outsiders from wandering into and around the campus while maintaining a high degree of student freedom.

(Cont'd, p.3)

Club budgets face ratification tonight

By SCOTT PASS
Editor-in-Chief

During what is likely to be one of the most important forum meetings of the semester, students will vote tonight to ratify the club budgets proposed by the Planning Committee. Clubs submitted budgets to the Planning Committee on Thursday, September 13, enumerating their costs and appealing for their share of the student convocation fees, reported by Gary Mosca, Student Government Treasurer, to be "well over $25,000."

Tonight's Forum Meeting, to be held at 8:30 p.m. in Kline Commons, will be the second Forum Meeting of the semester. The first meeting, an "emergency meeting," was held on Thursday, September 13 in order to fill two seats on the Planning Committee left vacant when Valerie Thompson resigned this semester and Pam Poelsch did not return to Bard this fall. Both had been elected to the Planning Committee last semester.

The two newly-elected members of the Planning Committee are Lee Tracy and Karl Dickelspiel. They began their term immediately after the Forum Meeting, reviewing the clubs' proposed budgets with the rest of the Planning Committee. The other five members of the Planning Committee are: Dorothy Atkinson, Gary Mosca, Nadia Shafir, Della Melia, and Lazy Bilaiczu. During the same "emergency meeting" of the 13th, Kate Cherry was elected to fill a vacant seat on the Student Judiciary Board, whose main function is to adjudicate disputes between students and ensure that proposals passed at Forum Meetings are not in variance with the student-government's constitution. In an interview after the Forum Meeting of the 13th, Della Melia, chairperson of the Planning Committee, reported that

(Cont'd, p.2)

The Experience of "Me"

"At approximately 3:00 a.m. on the morning of August 26, a freshman was assaulted in the woman's bathroom on the first floor of Tekwabury dormitory. To protect the victim of an attempted rape.

I asked for information regarding the girl lying face down in a bathroom with a knife sticking out of her stomach. She was taken to the hospital and later released. I am OK.

The experience was very intense. I happened in a bathroom at about three in the morning. I was awake and lying face down on the floor when I heard someone in the shower. I turned on the lights and saw someone there. They were wearing a mask and holding a knife. I was scared and I didn't know what to do. I tried to fight them, but they were too strong and they pulled my shirt off and started to cut me. I tried to scream, but they covered my mouth and I couldn't breathe. I was so scared I couldn't move. Finally, I was able to get away and call the police.

I am still in shock and I don't know how I survived. I am glad that I was able to get away and call for help. I am very fortunate to be alive and I want to thank everyone who helped me.

The experience has been very difficult for me. I am still trying to come to terms with what happened. I am very scared and I don't know what to do. I am glad that I was able to get away and call the police.

Although I don't think that my situation could ever be improved, I am glad that I was able to survive. I am very grateful to the people who helped me and I am very happy that I was able to get away and call the police. I am very thankful to everyone who helped me and I am very happy that I was able to get away and call the police."

(Cont'd, p.2)
"Me" (cont'd.)

Don't abuse screams. Take every scream you hear seriously. Don't fool around with it. I hear a lot of screaming, I shudder and I am scared and remember my childhood. 1) If you are attacked, DON'T fight him if he is too strong or threatening to kill you. I don't want to talk him down but don't make him angry. He may do something if you are an innocent like mine, and to still able to have good relationships with men, and to move on from this. But little things can creep up. Whenever the word "rape" is spoken, I feel as though I could have been, I get upset. I don't like to be awake past midnight (when the incident occurred). And since the man is out of jail, I am rather nervous about his coming after me again. But I am O.K. And I hope the man who did this to me spends a lot of time in prison. And I hope that we both scare you all enough that you will take precautions, but also reassure you enough so that no one is afraid. Rape doesn't mean the end of the world.

Forum (cont'd.)

she had already received 17 club budgets and expected to receive three or four more over the next day. Among the programs she had received were several from new clubs, including proposals from a Photography Club, a Rock Climbing Club, and a political organization called "Students for a New Society" (SNOW).

Gary Nasca, while noting that not every department would be able to receive everybody they wanted, expected that there would be more funds to distribute this semester because of the large freshman class and the increased number of students enrolled. He cited the "human resource" grant as an example of substantial financial aid, saying it would fund $45 college activity fee which is paid by all students in the student association.

Other matters, beside the budget ratification, that are likely to be on the agenda of today's Forum Meeting are:

1) A proposal to change the student corporation's fee to $50 a year, from $45 to $55, probably sponsored by former senior Enterprize reporter Ben Fierling. According to Ben, this would provide for an additional $3,000 or more for club use per semester.

2) A vote on whether to not to create two advisories to the Entertainment Committee. One would be for student organizations in the last semester, but not voted on, in order to ensure that there would be a variety of positions available in selecting the entertainment provided for the Bard community.

3) A proposal to include a clause in the constitution that would require all club budgets to be approved by the Entertainment Committee before budgets are submitted.

4) Discussion of student attitudes toward the magnetic door locks that are to be installed to prevent the entrance of all student dormitories.

When asked about the importance of a high student turnout at the Forum Meeting, Bertha Helms replied, "We're hoping it'll be there because it does concern them. It (the budget) has to do with the money they pay for activities...They have a direct concern in it."

1984 Educators give Deegan low marks President's education policy doesn't exist — Botstein

By SCOTT PASS
Editor in Chief
and THE COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

As the campaign begins in earnest, Presi- dent Reagan's attempts to cut federal financial aid programs, so far unsuccessful in the case of civil rights, onions and a general "lack of interest" in higher education, some concluded Reagan has one of the worst track records on education of any president in recent history. "We are committed to something other than the '80s," said a Washington Post writer. "On the very day Reagan announced his proposed education cuts, four thousand students marched on the Capitol, protesting Reagan's proposed cuts. Many of the students were not just concerned with higher education. They were concerned with the future of their country."

The administration also proposed to begin granting tax exemptions to schools that discriminate on the basis of race.

For example, she said, the Reagan administra- tion backed off a strict enforcement of Title IX of the 1972 Higher Education Act.

Title IX prohibits federally-funded col- leges from discriminating on the basis of sex.

Reagan changed the policy, supporting court cases that made only those campuses which direct discrimination receive federal money swear they didn't discriminate.

The administration also proposed to begin granting tax exemptions to schools that discriminate on the basis of race.

The U.S. Supreme Court ultimately ap- proved Reagan's Title IX position, but upheld the Internal Revenue Service's right to deny tax exemptions to discriminatory schools.

At the same time, the administration supported efforts to take away faculty tax exemptions on job benefits like tuition breaks for their families and campus housing. Today, the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) will hear arguments on the issue of academic freedom.

Administrators, too, complain that the president has done little good for higher education in the last four years. "The president's education policy, frankly, does not exist," said Bard College's president Paul Botstein, when asked to criticize the administration's impact on education.

While President Botstein agreed with Reagan's highlighting of an improved educa- tional system as a national need, he felt that the president has "thrown it in with his general desire to strip federal funds from domestic services, giving the impression that money is unnecessarily wasted money, an abuse of the taxpayer—when in fact it is quite the opposite."

President Botstein also complained of a general mood detrimental to the environ- ment of higher education which he feels the Reagan administration has fostered. "I have developed, Botstein said, a repertoire of "disregard and isolation in interna- tional relations," "vicious disregard for the environment," "general spiritual awareness and excessive self-interest."

The administration has been more general in their assessment of Reagan's per- formance.

"We've simply been too overwhelmed with state funding cuts, and impositions that we really haven't noticed many of the effects of Reagan," said New College President of Orange Coast Community College in California.

Federal aid cuts, for instance, "haven't really affected us because we have a strong endowment," he explained.

President Reagan, however, is not with- out outright fans on some campuses.

"Boston University and its students are far better off now than they were four years ago," proclaimed BU president, John Silber.

An improved economy and lower inflation and interest rates "have been of enormous benefit to students," and allows schools to moderate the drastic tuition increase of several years ago, he pointed out.

And the administration's support of the Solemn Amendment, sponsored by Congress- men Jack Brooks and John Ivie (both re- quires male students to prove they've registered for the draft), requires federal aid—"demonstrates that students are still citizens of the U.S. and we should be proud to serve our country," he said, adding the new law is a "valuable lesson in civics" for students.

President Botstein disagrees. "I think that John Silber forgets several things," Botstein said. "Sure, everyone does some- what better (when the economy improves). But that does not resolve the problem that the tuition gap between public and private institutions is larger than ever...and none of his (Reagan's) policies provide direct supports for the private sector in higher education," Botstein said. The Solemn Amendment, Botstein feels, is "an extremely vicious abuse of the idea of patriotism...It is a corruption of education that turns us into an enforce- ment agency."

"The reason that we have the vehicle of this Solemn Amendment," Botstein said, "is because they can't en- force it (Selvige Service registration)—and they don't know how to enforce it."

"Ask to summarize where Bard College stands as a result of Reagan's educational policies, Botstein said, "We've been very successful in a very competitive time. We would say that terms of federal support of student aid, of research grants, of arts, and education we are worse off than we were four years ago."

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CAMPUS NEWS BRIEFS

Bard Observer changes

The Bard Observer has undergone several changes this semester. Most importantly, the staff has been increased to 27 members, with additions to those who worked on the paper last year, members of the Hispanic Outreach Task Force, Mary Mason, Advertising Editor; Thom Belenick, Graphics Editor; Jacqueline Glennen, Graphics Assistant; Thea Nor, Arts Page Director; Thomas Buckley, News Director; and Patricia Adams, Business Director.

Staff writers include: Betts Anishin, Claire Greedy, Chris Bird, Nancy Klein, Anne Lwinson, Aaron Lichtman, Amanda Maguire, Michelle Prile, Dan Schotten, Juliana Spahr, and Scott Thompson.

The Observer's new photo

The paper which is printed by the Southern Dutchess News in Wappingers Falls, will be published five times a semester, roughly every three weeks. The Observer's format has grown from eight to twelve pages, with a new format and nameplate. We hope you find it pleasing.

In addition, the Observer has joined the College Press Service (CPS), a nationally distributed college information resource. The Observer office (above the gym) will be open Monday-Friday from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Students are encouraged to stop by or call (518) 250-5425 if they have any questions, problems, or news information.

"Wellness Evaluation" program

Today from 1:00-6:00 p.m., the Northern Dutchess Community Hospital is sponsoring a free, computerized "wellness evaluation" program. The event will promote this week's theme as "Emergency Medicine Week."

All current students, alumni, and faculty will be given a questionnaire, individuals will receive a computerized printout of their health risk factors and areas of possible health improvement. The Bard Infirmary to DCM will be provided throughout the day.

In addition, at 7 p.m. tonight, Wayne Thatcher from Northern Dutchess Council on Alcoholism will discuss the topic of alcoholism. Intoxicated will speak at a seminar in the hospital's cafeteria.

A note from the Dean...

Students are urged to keep Parents Day (October 13) in mind when planning to visit campus on that day. We will be presenting the fall assembly of Alpha Omicron Pi, "Melania in the Fifth Century." There will be a chance for your parents to spend some time with your teachers and experience what classes are like at Bard.

I want to publicly thank everyone for a very orderly and effective opening of the semester, this despite the crowded conditions on campus. Now that the semester has begun, I would appreciate your comments on the procedures we used this year for formal registration for courses in the spring. How has it all worked? Please send me a note with your comments and suggestions.

I also like to remind students that I have information in my office about the Hebrew Fellowships for graduate work in the Humanities. The application deadline is December 10, 1984.

Stewart Levine
Dean of the College

Over The Summer:

SUPREME COURT OKAYS SOLOMON AMENDMENT

The justices ruled the Solomon amendment, which requires students to verify they've registered for the military in order to receive their student aid, is constitutional.

PIRGs WIN A VICTORY, BUT PENNSYLVANIA STUDENT GROUP LOSSES

The New Jersey Public Interest Research Group had their "positive checkoff system" for collecting student fees overturned in college registration, a New Jersey federal court said. The group said they had a constitutional, legal, and political foundation, a conservative legal group, had claimed the system was a tax and the PIRGs around the country was an unconstitutional infringement of some students' rights.

Last year, a lawyer for the Pennsylvania higher education board erroneously reported the case had been settled, and that a court had ruled the checkoff system illegal.

On the grounds, the Pennsylvania board junked the checkoff system used by the giant Commonwealth Association of Students (CAS), which lobbies in Harrisburg on students' behalf.

The same week the New Jersey court okayed the PIRG checkoff system, CAS sued state officials and later its system broke. CAS argued the state was retaliating against CAS's effective lobbying efforts.

ADMINISTRATION, THEN DEAN MAKE DEAL, BLOW TO FACULTY UNIONS

Faculty members at private colleges and universities last week were feeling their effectiveness as groups with administrators for wages and working conditions.

In June, a regional National Labor Relations Board director ruled teachers at the Polytechnic Institute of New York are managers, not workers.

As managers, they can't force administrators to negotiate with their union.

In July, Administrative Law Judge George McNewly similarly ruled that Boston University faculty members are managers because they participate in hiring and curriculum decisions.

SUPREME COURT BEREGULATES COVERAGE OF COLLEGE FOOTBALL

In June, the high court ruled the National Collegiate Athletic Association could not long maintain exclusive control over when, where and how college football teams appear on television.

In the weeks that followed, the College Football Association, a coalition of 63 college sports programs, and Pac Ten all signed TV contracts with the three broadcast networks.

PARENTS ARE FORCING STUDENTS TO PAY MORE COLLEGE COSTS

Students themselves have been paying the biggest percentage of their college costs ever since the mid-1960s, according to Martin in Higher Education.

Kramer said the shift to student self-financing has been occurring more low-interest college loans.

"Security" (cont'd.)

Meetings have taken place between Vice President Dmitri Papadimitriou, Dean Marshall, Chuck Griffiths, Dean Snyder, and former Security Director Richard Spreen. In addition, Ed Martin was consulted, and Dean Snyder officially began his role on Monday, September 10.

Several possibilities were raised, including an overall dormitory lock system, full-time proctors in each of the dorms, added security staff, more frequent security rounds, and a formal student escort service.

It was soon decided that a "Core-Key lock system" would be installed in each of the dorms. This system maintains security through electronic locks to be installed on the front doors of each dorm, which are operated only by core cards which will be issued to students. All core cards will be locked.

Dean Snyder explained that this lock system will be "the best thing for a number of reasons. Though each dorm will be locked, all dorm residents will be able to decide if they wish to maintain an open door or a closed door. If students vote that their particular dorm should be closed, then after 2 a.m., only those students who live in the dorm will be able to enter. Otherwise, a dorm will be open to all students, for their cards will be "comparable" to allow them enter several different residences. Krider added that off-campus residences will also be issued these cards and allowed to enter any open dorms.

Another asset of the system will be its minimal expenses in the future. Though Martin has estimated that the initial installation will cost close to $3,000 ($75 dollars for each lock, $1 per card), in the long run, maintenance will be saved since the college will no longer have to pay for new locks and installation. As Martin explained, "the beauty of the lock is that the combination can be changed in 30 seconds and it takes less than 20 seconds to change a combination on a card."

Kriger chose to respond to student concern in this way: "This system is simply a way to stop students who have no business in the dorm at the wrong time. Students should be allowed to decide. If a dorm decides that any student should not be in the dorm, then the college has done nothing to the coming and going of the student.

Kriger closed and paused, "No matter how much we do, it will be a change. It will be different and it will take time to get used to."
Opinion

WHY MEAL INTERCHANGE IS A PROBLEM

The Observer found this letter on the bulletin board in the Commons last week. We felt it was one of the best letters of complaint to the food service we’ve seen.

Equal space will be reserved in the next issue for Donald to respond.

Donald,

Technically, you are correct. Since meal plans students pay to eat in the cafeteria, the coffee shop interchange is a “privilege” rather than a “right.”

However, when the “food” in the cafeteria is consistently unappetizing and/or non-existent, while the food in the coffee shop is at least tolerable if not half-decent, the matter becomes more complicated. This, of course, does not mean that students should be allowed to eat in both places in one meal period, nor does it mean we should be lazy about our cards, nasty to your employees or anything else.

But if the food in here were as fair and comparable in quality to the food in the coffee shop (which it is not), you would not have so many problems with interchange program abuse. Who would eat in there if they could get decent food, all-you-can-eat, at breakfast?

When I come into the cafeteria only to discover that the main courses are X-ray beef gravy, and there are:

- no milk
- no soda
- no lettuce for salad
- hardly anything in the sandwich bar

I am tempted to go into the coffee shop, not with the intent to cheat you, but simply to eat a normal meal—to eat the foods I should have, but did not find, here.

There are other issues, but this one seems central to serve us reasonably good food inside and you will have fewer problems all the way around.

Karen Brierie

Letter

WANTED: HOT WATER

To the Editor:

Why is there no hot water to be had in any of the washing machines? Other than making your white clothes gray, it perpetuates certain skin diseases which are nearly impossible to rid oneself of without washing one’s sheets and clothing in hot water.

If the washing machines were free, I could (maybe) understand why this is being done; but they are not.

We pay to use the washing machines. And, as any consumer should, we demand satisfactory results. If we can’t get hot water here (at Bard),

why doesn’t Bard supply transportation to a laundromat that does provide hot water for our money?

Gray and Dingy
## Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday, Sept. 20</th>
<th>Friday, Sept. 21</th>
<th>Saturday, Sept. 22</th>
<th>Sunday, Sept. 23</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DDS Staff Meeting, Committee Room</td>
<td>Women's Tennis vs. Marist, 3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Cross Country King Invitational, 2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Bus trip to House Caverns, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>DODA Drunk Driving Seminar, 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Concert: Toshi Reagon and the Agitones, SUNY New Paltz, 8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Bus trip to N.Y.C., 10:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.</td>
<td>German Language Table, College Room, 5:30-7:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forum Meeting, Dining Room, 8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Poetry Reading, Robbins, 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>WRKC &quot;Disaster Party,&quot; 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Thursday, Sept. 27</td>
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<td>Monday, Sept. 25</td>
<td>Tuesday, Sept. 26</td>
<td>Wednesday, Sept. 27</td>
<td>Thursday, Sept. 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Self-Defeating Attitude Forum,&quot; Stone Row 43, 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Women's Tennis vs. College of St. Rose, 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Preslaff Concert at Simon's Rock, bus at 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Film: &quot;The Tortured Dust,&quot; Sottery, 8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>LAO Meeting, Committee Room, 6:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Volleyball vs. St. Thomas Aquinas</td>
<td>Van to Temple Emanuel, 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, Sept. 28</td>
<td>Saturday, Sept. 29</td>
<td>Sunday, Sept. 30</td>
<td>Monday, Oct. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concert at Simon's Rock, 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Horseback riding in New Paltz, sign up in gym, 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Holy Eucharist, Bard Chapel, 11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Self-Defense Attention Seminar, 7:30-9:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus swimming, van at 7:15.</td>
<td>Bus trip to Hudson Valley Mall, 6:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Film: &quot;Unfaithfully Yours,&quot; Sottery, 8:00 p.m.</td>
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### Housing shortage problems

By NANCY ELEID
Staff Writer

Housing shortages have occurred on the Bard campus in the past. However, this fall semester, Bard College is experiencing one of its worst housing situations ever.

A lack of communication between students and the Housing Office seems to have been the main problem. Many students did not inform the office that they would in fact be returning to Bard and thus, the office was unclear as to how many students would actually be living on campus in the fall.

In attempting to eliminate this sort of problem in the future, Housing Director Tom Maiello has devised a housing notification form. Each student will receive a form early in July in order that they can officially inform the Office of their intentions to return to Bard. The forms are then to be mailed back to Maiello within 15 days.

There are other reasons for the housing problem. More students have chosen to live on campus this year than in past years. According to Maiello, such an increase may be due, in part, to escalating rents and utilities in local areas. Bard also has a very large student enrollment this year.

Currently, there are over 700 students, a major factor in this large number being an unusually large freshmen class. For this reason, the Housing Office was forced to make doubles out of singles in the Raven Houses.

According to Maiello, these dorms were carefully inspected three weeks prior to their use and deemed safe to live in.

Students who were assigned to one of the Raven Houses have agreed with the Housing Office that they will move into other dorms as soon as rooms become available in the course of the semester. According to Maiello, seniors and juniors will have priority over freshmen and sophomores in these moves. At present, 67% of the rooms at Bard are singles and 33% are doubles. Maiello explained that every Bard student has been housed and that the Housing Office is doing its best to cope with the housing problems.

### Quote of the Issue

"It is, Sir, as I have said, a small college.
And yet there are those who love it."

-Daniel Webster
Theft curbs WXBC

By JULIANA SPARK
Staff Writer

It has been reported that eight hundred dollars of new equipment was stolen over the summer from WXBC, Bard's radio station. Reported stolen was a tape deck, approximately one year old, and two turntables, both less than one year old.

Many details of the theft are still unknown. According to Scott Thomas, Station Manager, "They (the thieves) didn't break into the studio, but they used a key." Thomas based this statement on the fact that there were no signs of tampering with any studio entrances.

Keys to the studio, as far as is known, were given only to the four officers who managed the station, and those keys were turned in at the end of the summer. The only other people with access to the interior of the studio would have been Buildings and Grounds and Security personnel, according to Thomas.

The time of the theft is also unclear. Thomas suspects the theft took place sometime early in the summer, as dust was found where the equipment had been.

The theft will, for the near future, keep the station off the air. "I can't see any way of operating," Thomas said. He plans to replace the equipment when the club budgets are ratified for this semester.

New staff in Admissions

By BETTA ANICHINI
Staff Writer

Among the changes that have taken place within the Bard Admissions Office this semester has been the appointment of Mary Backlund as Director of Admissions.

Previously a Bard admissions counselor, Backlund has replaced Karen Wilcox who has moved and is presently living in Massachusetts. Wilcox, however, will maintain a role in the office, consulting on various projects and programs connected with the Bard community.

In addition, two new Admissions counselors have been hired: Richard Fallis, a recent graduate of Hamilton College; and Karen Flom, from Wesleyan.

Like Wilcox, Backlund views the admissions process very seriously. Says Backlund, "Students who apply here feel they have something personal and valid to share. Therefore, they receive an open frankness from faculty members, alumni, and currently enrolled students."

Backlund and other staff members will soon begin their travels, informing high school students about Bard. In addition, the office is currently preparing for the first Immediate Decision day (IDD) which will begin later this fall.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

"ETHNIC FAIR" PLANNED

The International/Intercultural club is currently planning an "Ethnic Fair" which will be held on October 17. According to Maria Belessis, club president, the fair will take place in Kline Commons and include continental cuisine, dancing, international music, and poetry readings in different languages.

CEIN FORMED

The Citizens Education and Information Network has been formed by Aaron Lichtman, Dennis Turner, and Andrew Chasick. The club will concern itself with political issues and procedures and will focus a great deal of emphasis on "Voter participation and citizen involvement in local politics."

The event will be open to the entire Bard community. Anyone interested in helping or participating in the event is asked to contact Belessis or Reyneke Ariconi through campus mail.

In addition, the club is planning an International Concert on October 7 and a United World Dinner on December 7.

Club heads: get news of your organization before the Bard Community. Send news items to Box 123 by October 5 for next issue. Please try to keep notices below 100 words.

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Auditioning sometimes an ordeal

By AMANDA MAGUIRE Staff Writer

Auditioning for a dramatic role can be an emotional, sometimes painful, experience. Students try to become colorful characters in their director's eyes; they try to determine, from their short "cold readings," how good they are, how different from other people. Moreover, directors, actors, and even agents can be selective and perform well without allowing their nervousness or personal feelings to interfere.

On the evenings of Sept. 8th and 9th, Professors Anne Rule and Bill Driver held the first auditions for the Bar under roles in Pires-dello's Right You Are If You Think You Are (1616 to If You Think You Are (TCF)). Simon's Play, Body of the Western World, and the stage at the play Female Transport.

Many auditions troubled with excitement, excitement, or fear as they practiced their lines. Among the hopefuls, some wore some costumes, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some costume for the role, some 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Remember the Preppy Handbook?
Well, Birnbach's at it again

By ELLEN BARKER
Features Editor

Remember looking through the stacks of college catalogs in your high school guidance counselor's office, in order to find the college just right for you?

Lisa Birnbach, the author of the Preppy Handbook, recently sent the Bard Observer a copy of her latest book, Lisa Birnbach's College Book. According to the book's publisher, it is a "state-by-state, school-by-school, first and only college guide to tell it like it is." And lo and behold, there on page 229 is a review of Bard College.

Bard is one of 166 colleges and universities that Ms. Birnbach visited, ate at, interviewed students from, and reviewed. Along with the author's personal breakdown of each of the colleges' personality, she talks about roommates, sex on campus, religion, and certain images particular colleges maintain. It seems odd after having been at Bard to read about its image in an opinedate guide book.

One of the essays in the book is entitled, "Whatever Happened to Hippies?" She writes:

"The word conjures up someone given to true satirical eccentricity, dropping foreign phrases, smoking foreign cigarettes, donning a preference to Edith Piaf...If one could generalize about this not one would assume that he or she attended a bohemian college or university like Antioch, Bard...."

The author goes on to describe the definition of a bohemian student. See if any one you know fits these descriptions: a bohemian student "lives off campus in a cramped but interesting apartment...and drinks heavily." Birnbach states the words "bohemian-hippie" are outdated, so those that do fit these qualifications are now known as "granola" or "crunchy-chewy (referring to the texture thereof)."

Along with Bard's image of producing students that are like a breakfast cereal, the college made the "Lisa Birnbach's list of lists," for having the "smallest post office." Bard won this title, while others like Lake Forest College were voted to have the "best salad bar," Caltech the "worst hygiene," and "Windbreakers Most Popular Article of Clothing" was downed upon the University of Idaho. In the personal review of Bard alone, Birnbach fills three pages of fact and fancy about the college's environment, student life, academics, and President Sobelstein. "Everyone at Bard College smokes," says Ms. Birnbach. "People complain that the food is 'lousy,' but maybe that's because their taste buds have been flattened by the killer salad Bar. Birnbach says that the Bard environment looks like a sect from the movie 'Sedon' with 'farms, and carriage houses of faded grandeur.' According to the author, the environment might have something to do with why most students at Bard don't finish their degrees; "they either hang out as students or become neighborhood fixtures."

Bard students, or "Bardors" as Birnbach calls them, are a "proud, proud race, existing at times a jaded 'seen it all, done it all' worldliness." Socially, the Bard granola bar oops, student--"mundane"-ly takes drugs, using New York City as a "reference point...where people shop and get new wave haircuts."

According to Birnbach, social survival at Bard implies allegedly on respect for one another in general, and for members of the opposite sex in particular. She interviewed a Bard student who said: "There's no dating here. You can sleep with people, but if it doesn't work out, maybe you won't talk to each other afterwards."

And another who said, "No one's interested in what's going on outside the school; we're interested in personal stuff. People only read the New York Times on Sundays."

Ms. Birnbach claims this attitude is the way history foretold it to be: "This staidly liberal arts school is known as a relic of the sixties and seventies, due in part to many icons of that time that are adopted or dropped out of Bard."

"Bard caters to students in transition. When asked what year they are, students will compromise with 'almost a junior,' or 'I took some time off.'" The writer does say that the students at Bard are "nevertheless as grade-conscious as students anywhere."

Bard goes on to describe the language and look of Bard shop and the Immediate Decision Plan (IDP) at Bard, as important academic and "slick" administravite moves.

The one administrative official that Birnbach notes is Bard's president. "The name "Leo" is heard constantly around campus. It's not the nickname for a building or a program. It's not a fuzzy mascot of any sort. It's the president, Leo Sobelstein.

In the "Lisa Birnbach College Date Line," that describes milestones in student life, "Leo" makes the headlines for July 1970 for becoming the youngest college president in history. Birnbach contends that President Sobelstein is the center of many lower-bate relationsh,ships, reporting tat some people say he "doesn't have anything to do with Bard," and others think he's "brilliant and an able fundraiser."

No one person can ever really determine whether or not Lisa Birnbach's review of Bard College is wholly, partially, or even slightly correct, it is a matter of personal opinion

It would be interesting to see how people felt about Birnbach's review, for not only is she reviewing the Bard community as a whole, but also its individuals.
Auditioning — an ordeal
(cont'd.)

was high and frenetic but seemed positive on September 7th. So far, the students who were asked generally agreed that the drama department at Bard is a fairly friendly environment in which to work.

Chris Paul, a self-described "broken-down actor gone astray from the New York chaser scene," has kept coming back to Bard to take part in school productions, asserting that compared to other drama departments he has had contact with, such as those at Cornell and Albany State, Bard has a much lesser problem with "manipulation and backstabbing."

Other students find that when nervous energy makes them afraid of the next guy, warming up helps: Lisa Joley, a senior drama major, enjoys a long physical workout before auditions and feels much more relaxed. While Lisa admits she "feels less auditions," she's got to be prepared to do her best. "It's the crucial point in the acting process," she says, "when you are judged unapologetically on your appearance, talent, and expertise."
Cross Country (cont'd.)

be able to fill his spot easily. "I was very pleased with this first race," coach Bill Griffith said. "We have a very strong team." All the runners appreciated the good support shown during the race last Saturday. It definitely moved them along and they were encouraged to know that they might get a lot of support this year. Some big meets that the team is looking forward to this month are the Kings College Invitational on September 25, and the Vassar College meet on September 26. Bard has not beaten Vassar in two years, although they have been capable. This year's cross country team is capable of going to the Division III National Championships in Wisconsin, so let's hope they capitalize on their talent.

Personal computers are so exciting, you may be tempted to do just about everything with them. But be warned. Never, never send your girlfriend a word processed letter. I did, and she would hardly speak to me for a week. One thing personal computers cannot do is communicate the warmth of your own handwriting, imperfections and all. Computer text is cold.

Some things, love letters among them, are beyond the realm of personal computing. That's nice, isn't it?

Note: For those that are interested, probably the best book written on personal computers and word processing is Peter McWilliams' The Word Processing Book. (Yes, amazingly enough, there is a copy of it in the Bard library.)

Sophomore Jessica Klein practices for the 1984 Women's Tennis team, coached by Dave Parker. The first home game is Friday, September 21.

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Men's Soccer

By DAN SCHOLTEN
Sports Writer

The 1984 Men's Varsity Soccer team has started off to a slow start with a 2-0 loss to Vassar College and a 1-1 tie against Clarkson College. The team managed to hold the ball for 51 minutes, but lost again next Saturday to Berkeley County Community College with a final score of 2-3. Nevertheless, coach Jon Tomson is optimistic about the season. “The main reason we lost the first few games,” said Tomson in an interview, “was just lack of experience together. We didn’t have a lot of our skills or ourselves as a team because we had a lot of freshmen. That should clear up as we get more into the season.” This was evident from the second half of the game, after which Tomson described the level of play as “the best since the start of the season.” “We seemed more confident,” he said, “more aggressive. We were winning the ball much more and making smarter runs. We were just playing better.”

The team, which is 20 large this year, with six new players joining 14 returning lettermen, has been working hard since August 22 to prepare for the season, but apparently this was not long enough. Senior Jim Toml, the team’s captain of 3 years who made All District 31 last year, attributed the weak jump on the season not to a lack of individual skill but to the team’s lack of group coordination. “We’ve got quite a bit of potential this year and we should do really well. It’s mainly a matter of putting it together on the field.”

Of the team as a whole, coach Tomson commended, “This is the most depth we’ve had in a long time. I will feel comfortable to make changes at any time in a match with the players I have this year.” Bard is currently a member of District 31 of the N.A.A.C.A. and is entering its first year of competition in the Central Atlantic Coast Conference. This is also the last year the Bard will compete in the North-eastern Athletic Conference. The Berkshire game was the first of eight home games, three of which will be played on Saturdays. All Bard students are invited to come out and support the team. Free beer will be supplied by the Bard Athletic Supporters Club.

Women’s Volleyball

By DOROTHY ATCHeson
Sports Editor

The 1984 Women's Varsity Volleyball team has gotten off to a slow start with a 7-7 record and a 2-game match that has been on hold due to their pre-season matches and is feeling the pressure of playing in front of a crowd. However, they are taking it in stride, as they prepare for the busy 22-game schedule ahead. The team is larger than before, with 17 players, and also stronger than before with 3 returning players and 6 of whom comprise part of the strong starting 6. Coach Sharon Kuriger took a lot of energy from players not playing in order to improve the team for next year when several of the players will not have graduation. The women started the season with a scrimmage against Dutchess County Community College last week, winning the match in three straight games, 15-12, 16-14, and 13-12. They then went on to place 4th in an overnight volleyball tournament at Green Mountain College last weekend. The team's overall record at the tournament was 2 wins and 2 losses. The losses were over the only other teams there representing the N.A.C.C., Green Mountain College and College of St. Rose--and both matches were decisive, with the women bearing C.S. 15-10, 15-1, and G.M.C. 15-10, 15-7. Neither of the losses was given up easily. The team played an extremely impressive game against Siena College, who took first place in the tournament, 15-7, 15-12. "We have a tendency of playing according to the level of the team we're up against," said Coach Kuriger. "Siena was tough, but we were just as tough back." Last week, the women upset the top two seeds at the N.A.C.C. Regional Qualifier to take home the first place plaque, establishing the first championship win ever in the women’s sports history at Bard. Kuriger says that the team has even more potential this season than last. "We are already playing at the level we were at towards the end of last year," she said, "and we only just started!" The improved level of play will be essential for Bard this season. The R.A.C. (Northeastern Athletic Conference) will be breaking up after this year and some women have moved up into two tougher leagues, the N.A.A.C.A. (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) and the C.A.A.C. (Central Athletic Association). "We have the skill to be very competitive in these new leagues," says Kuriger. "We’ve just got to learn how to handle the psychological pressure of being up against such high-powered teams." Aside from their playing ability, the women take great pride in the fact that they are an all-freshman team, representing four other countries besides the U.S. El Salvador, Greece, Turkey, and Brazil. Said one team member, "we’re all just to special!"


Cross Country

By TIM LESSIAN
Sports Writer

The 1984 Men's Cross Country team looks stronger this year than it has in the last few years. The team won its first meet against Vassar College at the Vassar Golf Course, 43, with seven of the top ten being Bard runners. The Women’s team, which placed third in the meet last year, has had a slower start. Several women have entered the race at the first, but due to ineligibility and some quitting, they have been unable to field a full team so far. However, Nancy Goodwin (61) did place an impressive third in the women’s 3.1 mile race against Concordia College.

The Men’s team has a lot of depth in this year with several returning and three new freshmen. Tim Lessian (Fr.) led the team in the first meet this year with the second fastest time for a Bard student on the 5.1 mile course, 28:56. Willie Davis holds the school record but is out for the season due to injury. Mathew Kogler (Ir.) ran the third fastest time ever for the course with his third place finish on Saturday afternoon. Mike Fine had an impressive first meet, placing fourth. Junior Vinnie McIlroy, who came in fifth, had a personal best of 20:32. Senior John Mossman and Larry Grossman came in sixth and seventh respectively. Larry Grossman, who is capable of running much faster than he did on Saturday, complained of a bad cramp which has been recurring in the last few races he has run in. Other good races came from Jan Carrol (Sr.), who came in ninth, Mathew Milkinia (Fr.), twelfth, and the team in twenty-seventh. With this kind of depth in the team we should be very successful this season. If one man does not feel up to par on a certain day the man behind him should (Cont'd p.11)