

Bard College
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OBSERVER

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The Bard Observer

Vol. 2, No. 4, October 31, 1985

Serving the Bard College Community

Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504

Housing concerns resurface

Student housing at Bard, perennially a troublesome area for the administration, faced new complications this year as the Hurricane Gloria-forced evacuation of the ravine houses raised student concerns.

The handling of the hurricane evacuation — not an unusual precaution with structures such as the mods — was also a matter of controversy. According to Sharon Kuriger, assistant dean of students, on Thursday night, September 26, it was "recommended" to students that they "stay with a friend." Security guard Rich Goul alerted residents of Bourne, Bleucher, and Hirsch, she said, and peer counselors were warned. But several residents went to bed unaware of the "recommendation."

On Friday morning, with the storm's intensity increasing, the administration decided to take further action. Notices, signed by "B & G" and saying that the buildings were to be "evacuated by noon," were posted, and the doors were locked. Some residents, however, were left inside. Bourne resident John Fifer saw the notice only upon leaving the building at 12:30 p.m. Bleucher resident Rowland Butler remained in his ravine house for the entire six hour evacuation period. "I got bored in the library," said Butler. "Some people fell through the cracks," Kuriger admitted.

No one in the administration expresses any doubt that the mods are structurally sound. The houses that are closed, according to vice-president Papadimitriou, remain so not because

of safety considerations, but rather those of student comfort. These mods, he says, "require an extraordinary amount of repair," but only on cosmetic problems (e.g., carpeting, staircases, etc.). The money needed for these repairs, he said, will come as the result of the college's recent restructuring of its loan with the federal government.

Bard had been trying for years to restructure the terms of its original 1971 loan, from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, for funds to build the mods. Since the H.U.D. had approved the architects' design, the college's argument ran, they deserved to share some of the blame for the buildings' flaws. Last year, the college, in a joint session with the feds, succeeded in reworking the terms of the loan. According to Papadimitriou, those terms are:

1). That the period of the loan be extended 10 years, thus shrinking the size of Bard's yearly payments.
2). That the ravine houses be changed from single to double occupancy. The money that the college receives from the extra rooming fees is then sunk back into the buildings for repair.

3). That the houses be "recycled," that is, two of the mods are to remain unoccupied every year, so that repair work can be done and the life of the buildings can be extended. "If the mods are all used [at once], they won't last five years," Papadimitriou said.

This new arrangement, said Papadimitriou, has not been formalized, "but we are proceeding as if it were."

It is simply a matter of bureaucracy for the papers to be drawn up and signed."

Last summer, funds were used to refurbish Bourne and Bleucher. According to Griffiths, the houses were given

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Administrators mislead on asbestos clean-up

By Rachel Grella and Robin Sweeney

Bard administrators gave misinformation about, and seemed to give low priority to, the sealing of asbestos covered pipes in Albee dormitory.

Jim Kridler, dean of students, told the Student Forum on October 8 that an "international expert" had reviewed the campus and found there to be "no great danger" from campus asbestos. Upon questioning, Kridler said the expert had cited six rooms in Albee as having exposed asbestos, one of which was closed as "a health hazard." The student had requested and received a room change on September 26, before the inspector's assessment.

Sharon Kuriger, assistant dean of students, said in an interview on the morning of October 11 that a general taping and sealing of the pipes in the six diagnosed rooms had been carried out by Buildings and Grounds workers. Two Observer reporters, however, had made a preliminary inspection of the pipes in two Albee rooms the previous evening and that morn-

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ing, and had found no evidence of any repair work.

Later on the morning of October 11, Dick Griffiths, B & G head, also said that the sealing work in Albee had been completed, and listed the rooms in which work had been done. When Griffiths was told that no work had been carried out in at least two of these rooms, his attitude was jocular. When told at what time the reporters had checked, Griffiths asked facetiously, "Were you awake?" "I was told by my employees that the work was done," he insisted.

Observer reporters saw B & G workers begin the sealing work later on the afternoon of October 11. Other Albee residents also reported that repair work in their rooms had been done on that date. The workers wore no protective clothing and appeared to lack any concern for their personal safety. In one room the workers asked the resident for suggestions as to how the sealing should be done, and then followed the resident's advice.

In addition to the Albee dorms, Kridler reported at the Forum meeting that the inspection had revealed hazardous levels of asbestos in the locker room areas of the gym, and more of the insulating material in several boiler rooms on campus. Only the gym areas were sealed, pending the college's retention of a removal firm. Griffiths said that there has been some difficulty in getting a firm to complete so small a job. Other areas on campus, reiterated Kridler, posed "no health hazard to students at this time."

Though areas mentioned in the Observer article of September 24, such as the pipe near the entrance of the racquetball courts, were not mentioned, Kridler said that he could add nothing further to what the "international expert" had

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Five Receive FDR Medals

By Gavin McCormick

With speaking styles as varied as their pasts, five distinguished men accepted Franklin D. Roosevelt Freedom Medals last month in ceremonies at Bard.

Hurricane Gloria kept many prospective attendees away, including principal speaker Senator Edward Kennedy. But if there was anything that President Roosevelt stood for, ad-libbed Arthur Schlesinger Jr., co-chairman of the FDR Four Freedoms Foundation, it was the spirit of improvisation, and so the show went on.

The tone of the ceremonies, which the foundation holds annually to honor those who it feels best exemplify the ideals which Roosevelt listed in his 1941 State of the Union address, was relaxed and upbeat. But the messages of the honorees — Congressman Claude Pepper, sociologist Kenneth Clark, author Elie Wiesel, economist John Kenneth Galbraith, and physicist Isidor Rabi — were serious. All at least implied that while the spirit of Roosevelt's freedoms exists, it is in constant danger of being snuffed out.

Pepper, the oldest and longest-serving

member of Congress, was awarded the Four Freedoms Medal. Long known for his anti-isolationist views, he called for the revival of closer ties with the Soviet Union, including co-operation in cancer research. Arguing that arms negotiations are of world concern, he said that smaller countries should be given a larger voice in the talks. "It is our duty to remove from the world the burden of armaments and the burden of fear," he said.

Clark, who has been in the forefront of the battle against racism for 30 years,

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FDR HONOREES — 3 of the recipients of Franklin Delano Roosevelt Freedom Medals await the start of ceremonies at Bard Chapel on September 27. The recipients are, from left to right: John Kenneth Galbraith, a noted economist who received the Freedom from Want Medal; sociologist Kenneth Clark, who was awarded the Freedom of Speech Medal; and Congressman Claude Pepper, who received the Four Freedoms Medal.

Smoked out

Dean's memo sparks forum

By Nancy Galvin and Gavin McCormick

New non-smoking areas are to be set up in the first and second parlors and in one wing of the main dining hall in Kline Commons as the result of a Student Forum-sponsored referendum of October 10.

The referendum came after a series of contentious memoranda was touched off by a Dean Stuart Levine memo regarding smoking policy. That memo raised student concerns about administrative heavy-handedness and lack of communication with student government bodies.

The Forum's determination of non-smoking areas on October 8 overrode some of the restrictions expressed in Levine's nine-point memo of September 24. The Forum decided that Levine's edicts, which limited smokers to one parlor and one wing of the main dining area, were unrealistic to the actual propor-

tion of smokers on campus. The referendum ratified the Forum's decision on the number of non-smoking areas, and determined that the first two parlors were to be smokeless. The vote on which wing of the main hall was to be non-smoking ended in a tie. The date of a Forum meeting to decide the matter had not been set by Observer copy deadline.

The fact that Levine issued his memo without prior consultation of any student government bodies elicited stronger student reaction than the actual regulations. Students Miriam Hammer and Cormac Flynn sent out strongly-worded memos that chastised the dean's action. Flynn, secretary of the Student Association, said that the dean was "violating the students' right to regulate themselves." The dean issued a formal apology to the Forum for his "non-consultative behavior," and

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A communication gap

There is a communication problem at Bard College.

It is easy to note examples. Dean Levine changes student smoking regulations without consulting any of the proper governmental bodies. Security and B & G men are sent to evacuate the ravine houses as a hurricane approaches, and students are left inside the buildings. Sharon Kuriger and Dick Griffiths say that, sure, all the asbestos in your rooms has been taped, when in fact it hasn't. A pattern emerges, and it ends up looking something like benign neglect.

Want more examples? O.K. Go back to last year. The students are making noise about the ravine houses. The walls are like paper, they say, the things shake and sway on perfectly calm days. How safe are they? Let's have an inspection, is the not unreasonable request. Let's have some student reps and an administrator or two walk around these houses with an engineer; if he says that the buildings are safe, all worries can be assuaged. The inspection takes place, all right, but Dick Griffiths is the only invited guest; a mod resident crashes the party only by accident. An unprofessional looking report is distributed; the thing doesn't even have a date on it. There you go, says the administration, there's proof that the mods are safe.

Or take the asbestos situation. The stuff's in our rooms, say the Albee residents. How dangerous is it? Should we be moved? Let's have an inspection. One takes place, all right, but no students are present; no one is even told the inspector's name. But there you go, says Jim Kridler at a Forum meeting; we've got proof from an international expert that everything's Jim Dandy.

To students who make further inquiries into these situations, the administration attitude is, Look, you've got the word of an expert, what more could you want? Trying to determine just who these experts are, however, is not easy. If Dick Griffiths is the only one who knows, he's certainly not telling.

No one is accusing the administration of anything as serious as hazardous negligence, or bad intentions. But the pattern here is of a body more interested in mollifying students than in serving them. In the interests of good will, open communication, and general campus welfare, that pattern should be altered.

One of the best ways to get your view heard is to write a Letter to the Editor. Letters should be short (under 300 words), to the point, and comment on issues of concern to the Bard Community.

Send to Box 123 by November 20 for next issue.

Viewpoint

To everything, turn, turn, turn...

By Gavin McCormick

I am currently experiencing my first autumn. I have lived all my life in the Central Valley of Northern California, and while you might hear otherwise from a farmer or two who has had a crop damaged by an unexpected frost, the only seasons there are hot and dry, and moderately chilly with a chance of showers. Indian summers can last into November. Leaves fall, but they do not *turn*.

So a Hudson Valley autumn is new to me. I had anticipated it. "The fall there will be so beautiful," I was told by bi-coastal types. They did not lie. Viewing, from my third floor fire escape, the segment of foliage between Robbins and Manor House in its daily metamorphosis is fascinating. A drive south through the valley toward New York City, with its panorama of hillsides dusted with dull browns and rusts, sharp golds and reds, inspires awe.

What is surprising is how much this environment has affected me. My morning excursion to the fire escape has become a test, as I gaze at the sky over the Catskills to the west and try to determine my day's wardrobe. This elemental watching—after all, if I don't look I'll likely freeze—has become a part of my day, and changed it. The world has forced itself upon me; I must pay more attention. My senses have sharpened. The air feels different—crisper, perhaps. As the temperatures drop and the leaves sharpen their colors in a last

protest, I sense winter coming on, my first real winter with snow and sub-zero temperatures. All this change, this activity, is exciting; I am more aware of Nature's indifferent power. This awareness makes my world more whole somehow, more complete.

I was thinking of all this on October 11, anti-apartheid day at Bard and across the nation. It was a few minutes before one, when a human chain was scheduled to form on the lawn in front of Kline Commons and observe a moment of silence for prisoners of the South African regime. A friend of mine asked what the chain was supposed to signify. She was not being cynical, or contrary; she really wanted to know why the chain was being formed, and what benefit it could have for the imprisoned South Africans. Demonstrations in front of embassies she could understand, she said, but who was going to see a chain at Bard, isolated and miles from any television crew? I wasn't really sure how to answer—I mouthed a few things about making a statement, and about spiritual unity, but I wasn't sure if I believed them. Logically, the chain made no real sense to me, either. An announcement was shouted to the stragglers in the cafeteria—"Human chain, front of Kline, one o'clock, be there!" "That's what I mean," my friend said. "How many of these people know about, much less care about, the real situation about South Africa? How many know how divestiture

Satire

Concerning naivete, and youthful innocence

By W. Rowland Butler

I am a naive freshman. I admit it. When you think of someone who knows his way around campus, please don't think of me. Instead of waiting until my junior year to laugh at my naivete, however, I will do it now, a scant month and a half into the year.

The Language and Thinking (henceforth L&T) workshop was a great time to be around. It offered the casual observer the opportunity to watch over two hundred people, all in a new environment, acting settled and secure. At our first gathering at Kline Commons, when Leon, et.al., spoke, we all acted mature and attentive, as if we were all accustomed to sitting through boring speeches. I remember clapping for everybody. We clapped for Leon. We clapped for the nurse. We even clapped for Stuart Levine. Had Dean Levine made his no-smoking announcement, we probably would have clapped and lauded it as the word of God.

I remember when I first saw my L&T teacher. Dean Levine introduced him, and then Jerry Garcia stood up. Goodness, I remember thinking. "My class will be conducted by the frontman for the Grateful Dead." He was a great guy, though, so I had to re-focus my naivete on other things, such as the cafeteria. Do you know that I honestly thought that for fifteen thousand dollars, we would receive good food? The innocence of youth, I suppose....

I came to Bard after spending eight years of my life at a very conservative all-boys school in Dallas, so there are some groups of people on campus that I'm not too comfortable with. Groups like militant feminists make me quite uneasy. These

people seem to have abolished their sense of humor for the ideals of female superiority. Don't get me wrong, I'm all for a woman doing all she can in this world. Women presidents? Great! They'd probably do a better job than Bonzo. I just need somebody to wash my socks, that's all. JUST JOKING.

Has anybody noticed that there seems to be a Cause-of-the-Month Club on campus? The members of this group go around and get mad at something, and then spend the next two weeks telling people about how mad they are. I'm not sure, but I think their motto is something like: No really—this time we're sincere. I just wish they'd lighten up a bit.

I suppose that I'm too naive to understand why the vegetarians don't eat meat. I know that beef is unhealthy, but who cares? We're all going to die someday. I suppose that the veggies think that they're going to live forever. Good luck, guys. Real good luck. Well, maybe they don't want to live forever. Maybe they don't like the slaughter of cows. That is all well and good, but what else do you do with cows? The females produce milk, but how do you justify the life of a male cow? WHAT DO YOU DO WITH A MALE COW? I'll stop now, leaving the last question open for all sorts of perverse speculation. That's me. Naive. But blissful in my ignorance.

Poll says alcohol laws will hurt

A huge majority of students feel that the new Bard alcohol policy will change campus life for the worse, but there is no consensus about just how it will alter social habits, according to a campus poll.

86% of those responding to the poll, which registered the opinions of over 50 students on October 11-12, thought the new restrictions would "have a negative effect on campus life." While the new policy, an administration response to the raising of the state purchasing age of alcohol (See story, Page 4), has not been formally announced, respondents were given a summary of its restrictions. 10% believed the policy would have a positive effect, and 4% said campus life would be unchanged.

But as to what concrete changes the policy might elicit, no consensus emerged. 52% thought the policy would not affect how often they drank, and 66% said they would not drink in greater quantities when they did drink. There was an even split about the possible effect on specific drinking habits: 50% said that, with the potential loss of both Adolph's and the coffee shop, they were more likely to drink in private (e.g., in private dorm parties), with half responding less likely or unchanged; 52% said the No Keg rule made them more likely to drink stronger alcohol.

Opinion about other effects of the policy was also divided. 52% said they were likely to increase their use of drugs aside from alcohol.

Responses were split evenly as to whether on-campus socializing would decrease.

The Bard Observer

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Housing questions

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all new carpets; walls, steps and porches were repaired; and new furniture, designed to better accommodate two residents per room, was purchased.

Bard plans to make similar repairs to all the ravines before they are put in use. "It is our intention to bring two more mods on line each year," said Papadimitriou. Said Griffiths, "I hope we can do one or two a year. It depends on our other projects and priorities. It's certainly reasonable to expect one per summer."

This year's freshman class was the largest in Bard history, and the school plans to admit more next year. But the real housing problem, said Dean Jim Kridler, is not the rise in enrollment, but the fact that more students are living on campus each year because of rising rents in the Red Hook area. But there are no plans for any new dorms to be built. "As the mods are brought on line," said Kridler, "they will alleviate problems."

The housing flux has made annual allocations a difficult experience. "It is difficult to plan," said Papadimitriou, "because many students do not notify us [of their room needs] until the summer." A housing overflow this year caused an extra mod, Hirsch, to be opened, despite the fact that cosmetic repairs had not been done.

Such contingency plans for the future are vague, at best. Papadimitriou said that those mods being "recycled" in any given year could always be used in an emergency. "But we need to keep as many open as is feasible," he said. There seems to be some confusion even amongst administrators about long-range plans. For example, Hobson, Seymour, and Fairbairn are scheduled to be renovated. "They are to be converted back to dorms," said Kuriger in an interview. Moments later, Kridler

told reporters that Hobson and Seymour were to be used "for a purpose other than student housing." When told of Kuriger's statement, he said, "Well, the space could go two ways, depending on the housing situation."

Student concerns about the safety of the mods led to an inspection of the buildings last year. Though students had requested that they be present at the inspection, Dick Griffiths, head of Building and Grounds, and the inspector, Elmer Smith, began the tour alone. A resident of the ravine houses joined them midway through the inspection and pointed out such things as rotted handrails and raised carpeting. An undated, unsigned report was then submitted by "Elmer Smith, P.E. [professional engineer], R.A. [registered architect]."

The report, which did not contain a letterhead or embossed seal, maintained that the mods were "absolutely safe for their intended design loads." Though the repairs pointed out by the student were necessary, it said, these were "basically maintenance items" and were "relatively minor." The structures "are safe for occupancy as is," it went on, and are "equal to or exceed requirements of the New York, State Building Code."

When the mods were originally proposed, the February 25, 1970 issue of the Bard Observer printed the original architect's report. The ravines are designed, according to the report, for 12 occupants per house: two floors each consisting of two units, with three students per unit. Now that the rooms are all doubles, the weight has doubled that of the "intended design load." No one in the administration office was able to furnish the address of Elmer Smith, and Griffiths refused to do so, saying only that he worked for a "private firm." Efforts to contact Smith were unsuccessful.

New smoking regulations

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admitted in an interview that if he had to do it again that he would handle it differently.

But in no way were student rights violated, he said. Paragraph A of the "Joint Statement on Rights and Freedoms of Students" says that "the institution has an obligation to clarify those standards of behavior which it considers essential to its educational mission and community life," and Levine thought his memo concerned "community life." "It is my responsibility to decide on some aspects of student behavior," he said.

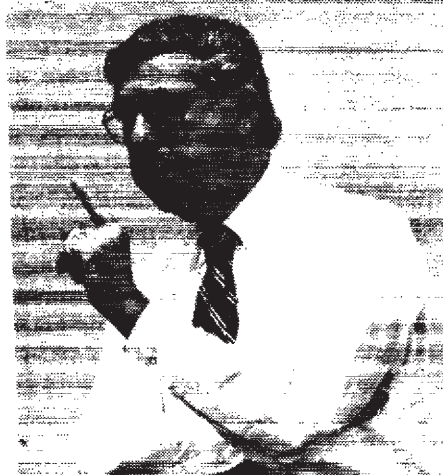
Flynn felt the dean's move was something of a power play. "Yes, the school regulates student behavior, but the school does not only mean the dean," he said. "We give the dean the power to regulate matters which affect us—security, etc.—but to use that power to impose rules without discussion or as an attempt to circumvent participation is an abuse of that power." The Forum's justification for overriding Levine's regulations can be found in the same paragraph concerning student rights cited by Levine, which concludes, "... the student should be as free as possible from imposed limitations that have no direct relevance to her/his education."

Levine did not take issue with the students' right to override his regulations. "It would trouble me very much if there had been no response to the memo," he said. "It is the responsibility of the students to question and, if they deem necessary, object to administrative actions."

But he does not agree with the students' final resolution. Consistent with his belief that the non-smoking area of Kline should

be greater than 50 per cent, he plans to propose at the next Forum meeting that both wings of the main hall be designated as such. The decision to make it otherwise was to him illustrative of what he said might be called the "pessimism" of the student body. Where he believed that people could and would refrain from smoking, he said, students repeatedly made it clear that they felt "no behavioral change was possible."

In Flynn's view the very fact that the dean would send out such a memo, without realizing the inflammatory effect it would have on the student body, exhibits the growing acquiescence of students and its effect upon the student-administration relationship at Bard. "Students have become too willing to go along without questioning or involvement," he said. "To the administration the student body has not been a force to be reckoned with. It's not a matter of malice. It's a matter of lack of communication on the part of the students and the administration."



Dean Stuart Levine.

Freedom medals given

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noted the irony of his accepting the Freedom of Speech Medal when he was so nervous about giving one. The freedoms of thought and speech, he said, are all that make possible the differentiation between humanity and barbarism. "These are as essential to the survival and growth of human intelligence and values as oxygen is to the growth of the human organism," he said.

Wiesel, perhaps the world's most eloquent writer about the Holocaust, accepted the Freedom of Worship Medal. To those living under the terror of Nazi domination, he said, Roosevelt had stood as a symbol of idealism and hope. "All Jews were convinced that he was our savior," he said. He called for the opening of Allied files to determine what was and wasn't done to save the Nazi's victims. "We must show that we are faithful enough to Roosevelt's message to determine the truth," he said. Noting that freedoms are today assaulted from those on both ends of the political spectrum, he said man must be prepared to pay a high price to defend freedom. "I can accept my suffering," he said, "but I can never accept that of others."

Anti-apartheid day stirs campus protest

By Cristina O'Connor

Approximately 100 people held hands for a moment of silence to honor those killed or jailed in South Africa and Namibia as Bard participated in National Anti-Apartheid Day on October 11.

Highlighting the day's activities was an evening lecture by prominent political activist Manning Marable, professor at Colgate College. "This is a great day all over the country," he said, adding that it demonstrates that "a revolution for social justice" is taking place.

Students distributed anti-apartheid literature, and three petitions were circulated. One was geared towards the freeing of students in South Africa, another for trade unions, and a third was written by the Bard Left Press regarding the deferment of investment in South Africa made by the Board of Trustees with the new endowment. According to Elaine Barber, coordinator of many of the day's events and organizer of Students for a New Society, the petition emphasized the consideration of where the board is investing its money rather than asking it to divest completely.

Black arm bands symbolizing solidarity and sympathy were also distributed. "This is to show that something very sad is happening, something very wrong," remarked Barber.

A series of creative performances, designed to display a sense of struggle and conflict in South Africa, went on in front of Kline Commons all day. Musical pieces by Erin Steinberg and Josette Love, as well as a solo dance by Pieroette Glemand and a jazz improvisation by members of the music department were amongst the creative performances.

"I thought it was a very positive day. I think that everyone who performed was in effect, giving a piece of themselves to support their belief in the cause," said sophomore Jonathan Lybrook.

In his lecture Marable called South Africa a totalitarian regime, and said, "[Apartheid] is a distorted democratic legal justification of white supremacy. It is in the process of social reformation... but social controls are pervasive. Whites of all social classes clearly have more privileges."

Galbraith, former ambassador to India and a frequent commentator on developmental problems of the Third World, was awarded the Freedom from Want Medal. He called the history of economic thought "to a substantial measure the means through which society avoids concern and care for people," and cited Ronald Reagan as an inheritor of this tradition. Roosevelt "had for the first time made responsibility and compassion part of the public interest of the republic," he said. "Now there has been a far from unsuccessful effort to reverse this sense of responsibility." Nothing could better serve FDR's memory, he said, than to recover his sense of compassion in public policy.

Rabi, a Nobel Prize-winning physicist who has provided leadership in the fight to confront and understand the problems of the nuclear age, accepted the Freedom from Fear Medal. He called for the separation of scientific research from military control, and called the use of the spirit of scientific discovery to destroy people "a sin." "With this knowledge," he said, "we have become the custodians of something deep and holy. We must weigh our objectives with a profound sense of the sanctity of humanity."

As an example Marable cited the fact that in order to earn enough money to buy a quart of milk, whites on the average must work a total of five minutes while blacks must work about thirty-five.

Turning his attention to the United States, Marable said, "President Reagan stands arm in arm with this apartheid regime. Reagan is an ignorant, reactionary bigot." A similar struggle for gentrification is taking place in this country, he said. "What about the displacement of Puerto Ricans and blacks in New York City? Isn't the U.S. a state of social development? We need to understand the nature of the system," adding that America will be a landless people if this situation continues. "The fact is that there cannot be peace until the people receive full economic rights and land, and until racism no longer exists," he said.

When asked if actions such as petition signing can make a difference, Marable said, "People are making a public statement—the move to sign a petition important to affirm for yourself what you believe. It doesn't really make any political impact. We sign for ourselves; it's an act, and it counts."

Asbestos clean-up

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reported. Kridler downplayed any danger, saying, "for years you've all been living with asbestos." Kuriger was unable to disclose the name of the expert in her interview, and Griffiths refused to do so.

Observer reporters conducted an inspection of campus areas on October 16. Pipe coverings similar to the asbestos which was sealed were found in seven more rooms of Albee. In rooms where work had been done, seams running down the lengths of the pipes were not thoroughly sealed nor, in most cases, were the edges of the insulation at the top of the pipes.

Praying, damaged covering was also found in the classroom in the basement of Albee. In the gym, there remains what appears to be asbestos on a pipe just outside of the sealed area, as well as on the pipe above the racquetball courts. Both areas remain open to students.

Blithewood's varied, curious past, present

By Rachel Grella, Adam Frank,
and Jonathan Lybrook

The Blithewood estate has a fascinating and varied history. The evolution into what is now the Blithewood mansion has occurred over a period of hundreds of years since the land was first purchased from the Indians in 1689. Blithewood is currently the subject of much interest and intrigue and has captured the appreciation and interest of visitors as well as the surrounding community. Aesthetically, the Georgian style mansion has elements of romance, mystery, and adventure. Since becoming a part of Bard College in 1951, Blithewood has given way to a new topic of interest: Ghosts.

Spirits have long been an inspiration for poems, legends, and fairy tales. Reportings of spiritual experiences — those with no easy, logical, or rational explanation — have continually been put forth for both entertainment and serious consideration. What are those things that men have labeled as ghosts? Do they exist externally, apart from our physical bodies? Are they merely creations of the mind? In attempting to grasp a complete picture of the many aspects that create the unique atmosphere of Blithewood, we must look at the land itself, the construction of the mansion, and the fascinating individuals who have resided there.

The land upon which the estate is built was acquired from the Indians by Colonel Peter Schuyler and has changed hands many times since then. The property was first developed in 1810 by John Cox Stephens, and was named Blithewood upon its purchase in 1835 by Robert Donaldson. John Bard bought the land from the Donaldsons in 1853, and it was in the year 1860 that St. Stephens, now Bard College, was founded on the northeast corner of the estate. The name of the property at this time was changed to the name of Annandale in honor of the town in Scotland from which Bard's first wife's ancestors had come. The estate was renamed Blithewood by Captain Andrew C. Zabriskie, who purchased it in 1899 and whose family lived there until 1951.

It is the inhabitants of the estate who have given it its character and charm.

Blithewood has had a curious array of occupants, each contributing in some way to its evolutionary process. For example, John Stephens, who possessed a great love for horses and yachts, was one of the first leading amateur sportsmen. The chapel now stands where the upper curve of his race course was once located. The next owner, Robert Donaldson, had a great interest in the layout of the estate and helped to bring about its fine landscaping. In the principle living room in his house, there was a large oval window placed so that, upon entering the room, the window and frame produced the effect of a landscape painting on the wall. It was Captain Zabriskie who built the home as it appears today.

The Zabriskie's were the longest owners of the property. Mr. Zabriskie attended West Point and was active in the 7th and 71st Regiments. He was well known for organizing the Blithewood Light Infantry in 1900. According to Jim Kridler, dean of students, Zabriskie was convinced that the U.S. was going to be attacked by a foreign power by way of the Hudson River. "He tried to convince the Pentagon that they needed to fortify the Hudson, but they wouldn't, so he created his own little army. The infantry was composed of both Red Hood and Rhinebeck men. Captain Zabriskie died in 1916, leaving his widow, his son Christian, and his daughter, Julia. While the Captain was still living, Julia committed suicide. According to Professor Dick Wiles, a noted local historian, she had fallen in love with a man whom Captain Zabriskie did not approve of." There was a confrontation, Julia became very upset and threw herself out of her Park Avenue apartment window. George Jordan, a long time resident of Annandale, recalls the Zabriskies as being "not only quite eccentric, but withdrawn unto themselves. Father Schaeffer recalls Mrs. Zabriskie as being a "very refined, delicate featured lady who lived in the house with her son Christian. In September of 1951, Mrs. Zabriskie died.

On November 1, 1951, Christian donated the entire estate of Blithewood to Bard College. The legal title had been given to him in 1936 in exchange for a ten dollar check. It has been noted that



Blithewood Mansion as it looks today. The mansion is located at the northeast corner of Bard campus, on the Hudson River. The mansion, unlike most houses on the river, faces south, guaranteeing full advantage of the southerly winds in the summer and a great deal of sun exposure in the winter.

Mrs. Zabriskie did not want the mansion to go to the college, perhaps due to the fluctuating animosity which the Zabriskies held towards the college.

It was when Blithewood became part of Bard that much speculation about ghosts began to appear. There had been some mention of ghosts even while the Zabriskies were living there. George Jordan, who knew several of the Zabriskie employees, said he had heard rumors that Blithewood had ghosts, but he doesn't believe employees paid any attention. Father Schaeffer believes "stories of ghosts in Blithewood have become a part of Bard. He is skeptical, but doesn't doubt that "people have had powerful impressions. Many people hold with this attitude. "It gives the

place a bit of character. The stories don't alarm me, they entertain me, says Dean Stewart Levine.

When the Bard Observer spoke with Jim Kridler, dean of students, he said that concern about ghosts peaked right about the first week of classes. "Three or four students' parents called about rumors in Blithewood and also the particular geographical region. What it boiled down to was a lot of misinformation. One worried student was a freshman not living in Blithewood. Her parents called because she was upset and preoccupied with the notion of ghosts being in Blithewood, and her work was suffering as a result. Kridler believes that "upperclassmen were goofing on

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New alcohol regulations force changes

By Gavin McCormick

Changes in Bard's alcohol policy will force students to search for new forms of entertainment after December 1, when the state alcohol purchasing age is being raised to 21.

Wary of newly liberalized liability laws, the college will implement a four-point policy that will take it out of the business of providing and selling alcohol, according to Jim Kridler, dean of students. Though at copy deadline the language of the policy had not been finalized, its major points are:

1). No Student Activity funds may be used for the purchase of alcohol. This means the Entertainment Committee, for example, can no longer furnish kegs or other alcohol at its functions.

2). All kegs will be eliminated from campus. Even if someone over 21 furnishes a keg for a private campus party — still permissible under the new state law — he will be violating school policy.

3). No beer or wine will be sold in the coffee shop.

How To Replace Adolph's?

Bard students face the additional loss of their major off-campus alcohol and enter-

tainment supplier, Adolph's. Faced with the loss of a high percentage of his customers, proprietor Mike Apap has placed the bar up for sale. Kridler admits that he doesn't know how this tried and true "release mechanism" will be replaced.

"It will be the hardest thing to deal with," he said. The dean's office, planning commission, and student organizations will have to work together, he said, to beef up programs for other socializing outlets. But Adolph's represented an "off-campus" activity, and Bard events cannot replace it.

Effects on Social Life

No one seems to have any concrete ideas of how campus life will change after December 1. Students seem to feel that the campus will be negatively affected by the new restrictions, but are fairly divided about how the new laws will alter their social habits (See Poll, Page 8). The administration is equally unsure. Kridler does not feel there will be necessarily less drinking — "alcohol will not be that much harder to get" — and does not think that use of other recreational drugs will increase significantly.

Some of the changes, Kridler feels, will paradoxically make it more difficult to

monitor student drinking. Since much public drinking will be eliminated — Adolph's, the coffee shop, college-sponsored social functions — he assumes there will be more drinking in dorm rooms or other relatively private areas. With the No Keg rule, he admits that the consumption of hard liquor, for which there is no restriction, might increase. And if it is no longer possible to drive the short distance to Adolph's, drivers purchasing booze will have to go further, increasing the risk of drunkenness on the roads.

"From the dean's point of view, we are losing all control and influence on responsible drinking," he said. "There have always been faculty-student events where alcohol was available; students see teachers and administrators at Adolph's. It was a way of subtly monitoring social drinking. All of that is out the window now; it's an ironic, unfortunate result."

Purchase of Adolph's 'Unfeasible'

Bard is not considering buying Adolph's. The \$350,000 asking price and potential maintenance fees make the proposition "financially unfeasible," according to Kridler. Even if it were, the administration, having gotten out of the business of providing alcohol on campus,

is not likely to turn around and sell it a quarter of a mile away. And even if the campus were to lease the building out, said Kridler, it would still psychologically represent a "Bard activity."

Kridler's hope is that whoever purchases the bar would maintain it as an attractive alternative for students. "If it were a bar/restaurant or a pizza place, students could still congregate there, and it would serve the purpose of an off-campus activity."

Liability Problems

More than the age change, the new campus drinking policy will reflect the heightened possibility of liability suits under the new law. Any person injured by a drunk will have a right to sue the person or institution who illegally provides alcohol for the drunk. This applies not strictly to underage cases, but those are the ones the college is concerned about.

"There was always a danger in providing alcohol on campus," said Kridler, "but now the risk is greatly increased. If we provide alcohol to an underage person, we are now held directly accountable for that person's behavior. We could conceivably be sued for our entire endowment. The college must protect itself, and that's

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Welles' death parallels that of Citizen Kane

By G.W. Hicks

Film maker-actor-writer-producer-innovator Orson Welles died on October 10. Though he worked in radio, on the stage, and as an author, his most distinguished accomplishments are those of the screen. His films offered a new vision, seducing and startling our perception: "The Magnificent Ambersons," "The Stranger," "Touch of Evil," and "Citizen Kane" are still held in high esteem.

At 26, Welles created Kane, first on paper, then as a physical entity, as a man of many faces. Most suspect Kane to be the portraiture of William Randolph Hearst; though the similarities are apparent, they go beyond biographical realizations. Kane becomes mythical, an angry giant longing for something he cannot grasp. He dies in his castle, a grotesque tomb that isolates and shields this dying giant.

If a documentary were made synthesizing Welles' life, it might mirror, surprisingly, the movie newsreel which introduces us to Citizen Kane. Though not an inheritor of immense wealth, Welles was regarded as a genius by his early 20's. His work, both on radio and the stage, provoked controversy and interest. He had acquired the necessary clout to proceed

with a new endeavor: movie making. Like Kane, Welles insisted on going beyond the norm. "Citizen Kane" did just that. Though not commercially successful, Welles' masterpiece opened our eyes and cleared our ears.

But with his next effort, "The Magnificent Ambersons," Welles was made aware of his extravagances. The film was edited by someone else before its release at the studios' demand. His following films suffered under similar types of executive control. The promise of his initial dreams and aspirations were slowly and irreversibly diminished. As Kane attained prestige and then watched it wither, so did Welles, never able to create as he had before. Not that the genius was gone; it had only been capped.

I doubt that Welles' death occurred in an edifice such as that which shrouded Kane, but the being inside, the man who had been promised so much, who had strived and succeeded, was left defeated and incomplete. We never knew what "Rosebud" was. Of course, it was Kane's sled, a remnant of childhood. But was it more? Could we understand Kane, the human creature? Welles may have known. But now he too is gone. Another mystery is added along side of Kane's, that of Citizen Welles.

Review

Meg Tilly entrances in 'Agnes of God'

By G.W. HICKS

With a trio of America's finest actresses starring in "Agnes of God", it's not surprising that the most notable characteristic of the movie is a performance. Yet it's not given by the two most likely candidates for such a distinction, two women whose portrayals of screen personas over the last 25 years have earned them innumerable plaudits and recognition. Sorry, Anne Bancroft and Jane Fonda, but the glory, the all-too limited passion of this film rests squarely in the satisfying characterization gingerly granted to us by Meg Tilly. What a delicate treat!

"Agnes of God," a screen adaptation of the Broadway success a few years back, comes to the screen wobbling in two directions. It first establishes itself as a quest: a psychiatrist (Fonda) is appointed by a Canadian court to unravel the ambiguities and personality of a young nun (Tilly) accused of killing her baby at birth. Realizing the limitations of such a Kane-ish expose, screenwriter John Pielmeier (adapting from his own play) dives deeper, pitting methodology against theology. He places Agnes between this rock and hard place, and attempts to reveal what feeds the innocence and devotion which sustain her. The psychologist's quest and Pielmeier's probing alternately propel the film forward, uncomfortably averting each other until, perhaps, Agnes is last seen, singing in a pixyish, translucent voice as frail as the body from which it emanates. Her uncertainty seems to represent an ending of the quest, and a revealing of her soul.

Tilly's performance is all the more amazing for its unexpected definition and power. Though appealing in her previous films, "Tex" and "The Big Chill," neither presaged her present intensity, which doesn't ooze with "method," but is

driving, compelled from within.

Not that Fonda and Bancroft are entirely unsuccessful. Considering the didacticism and near-caricatured natures of their roles, both play very well. Bancroft is the Mother Superior at Agnes' convent, a rural, self-contained community isolated and regulated by the confining dogma of the Catholic Church. But her character becomes more a symbol of the institution's repressive nature than a human being (which she makes, occasional, not wholly convincing allusions to being). Fonda suffers similarly, her chain-smoking, near-Freudian shrink an emblem of the world of science and fact, in opposition to the fiction she must infiltrate to unveil "the truth."

Though director Normand Jewison's reputation as an accomplished craftsman is substantiated by "In the Heat of the Night" and last year's "A Soldier's Story," the film's specialness is better conveyed by director of photography Sven Nykvist and production designer Ken Adam. Best known as accomplice to Swedish master Ingmar Bergman, Nykvist permeates the convent with a sense of spiritual sterility (a la "Fanny and Alexander") with feuding blacks and whites, while showering Agnes herself, innocent angel or tainted mortal, in cascading brilliance.

As a treatise on the possibility of immaculate conception (the dichotomy of religious faith vs. scientific reality), "Agnes of God" does not succeed; in fact it becomes bothersome with obnoxious, unrealized intrusions. Truer beauty is Agnes, whose porcelain skin provokes ambiguity—the face of a whore of a virgin? If Jewison and Pielmeier had focused on her tale, the result might have been a poetic miracle. Instead, it suffices as an act of mere mortals—simply a good deed.

New drinking policy

Continued from pg. 4

what the new policy is designed to do."

The No Keg Rule would seem to go beyond what the law stipulates—after all, the college itself would not be providing the alcohol—but reflects administrative caution. "Even at a private party, it is a reasonable assumption that those drinking will be predominately underage," said Kridler. He feels the policy will help keep those drinkers, and thus the college's potential liability, restricted.

Court Decisions Worry Colleges

It is not only the new drinking restrictions that have the administration worried about liability suits. Several court cases, in which large suits have been successfully levied against colleges who were ruled as failing to provide a "duty of supervision," have made administrators across the nation nervous. A Denver University fraternity student was awarded \$4 million for injuries suffered on a trampoline at a frat party. That large award came despite the fact that the trampoline had been bought with fraternity funds, and despite an appeal court's admission that the college did not bear the majority of the "burden of supervision."

Closer to home, the father of a student at SUNY New Paltz is suing the college because his son died after an alcohol binge in a private party in his dormitory. (The boy supposedly downed 50 shots of booze in an hour, and choked on his own vomit.) The resident assistant of the dorm was away for the weekend, and since the party was a private one and never got disruptive enough for security to be alerted, no campus personnel were aware of the situation until it was too late. The father is seeking damages on grounds of "lack of supervision."

A few cases like these tend to make campus lawyers nervous, and presidents in charge of large endowments pay attention to nervous lawyers. Campuses across the state are imposing new restrictions on student drinking, some even banning alcohol altogether. Kridler is wary of this move,

"A dry campus is an impossible thing to enforce," he says, "and if you say you're dry and then have an accident involving a student, you're wide open for a suit."

The bottom line is that with millions of dollars at stake, pressure will be on administrators to keep an ever-tightening rope on student freedoms.

The aura of Blithewood

Continued from pg. 4

her, feeding her a lot of stories which contributed to her fear. The only other mention of ghosts that Kridler has heard is the long standing legend that the ghost of Julia Zabriskie exists in Blithewood. Kridler considers reports of a "sweeping sound, made by a number of B & G workers, to be legitimate.


Professor Dick Wiles, who has been with Bard College since 1967, has no doubt that "something exists in Blithewood. He has an office on the first floor of the building. Three years ago he and a student were working in the basement library when they heard someone coming down the stairs. Both looked to see who it was; no one was there. During the summer he repeatedly heard sweeping upstairs. He went to investigate; again there was nothing. When asked about this sweeping sound, Wiles commented, "Several times I've heard it, but never when students are there; it's always when they are on vacation.

Students Karin Eckert and Erin DeWard related to two reporters one incident. They were in Erin's room in Blithewood at around ten o'clock in the evening. There were two cigarette packs on the dresser, one empty, one full. Erin took a cigarette from one pack, lit it, placed the lighter next to it and then stepped away. Both girls saw the empty pack of cigarettes "flip over on the dresser. Both asked, "Did you see that? They remembered that the room grew cold, and they became frightened and left.

Siri Soderblom, currently a resident of Blithewood, spoke of an incident that occurred in her room on the afternoon of September 27. She was sitting on her loft listening to an album and writing letters when she heard the door open. She then heard someone walk across the room and rummage through her roommate's belongings. Siri called her roommate's name twice but received no answer. She then felt "something bump rather hard into the loft and her record skipped. The same thing happened a short while later after friends had entered the room. Siri said that the incident happened again that same day and that by this time she was feeling that "something just a little bit creepy was going on. She did not sleep in her room that night.

Recently one of Bard's security officers had a strange experience at

Blithewood. The officer has worked for security for over ten years. Part of his daily routine is checking the boiler room in the basement of Blithewood at least three times. The incident occurred this past August at approximately 7:30 P.M. No students were on campus. He had returned to the boiler room for the second time that day. Everything seemed in order; he closed the door. The instant the door shut, he heard a loud hissing. Thinking that a pipe had burst, he opened the door, and the sound ceased. He investigated the area and found no problem. He shut the door and again the hiss was heard. He opened the door and once more it stopped. He slammed the door, heard the hiss, and fled the area. The officer told the Observer, "I don't believe in ghosts but, goddamn, something hit me that night, scared the hell out of me and I was gone. He has not heard anything unusual since.



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Hercules, where are you? I am losing my immortality, hurry up.

A.C.H.: Once it was there, but now it's gone. But watch for the Do Not Disturb sign.

"We've come for your elephants," they said.

Yes, it was wonderful, o.k.?

Why aren't there more people in the S.N.S.? Some hotbed this place turned out to be!

Dan: This is it. I'm serious. I'm going to shave off all my hair, including the eyebrows, if Kingston isn't reached soon! Only you can stop me - don't let me do this horrible deed! AAARGH...

Bwhoop, bwhoop, bwhoop...

Dave—I wanna borrow your pan-pipes record, y'know, the one Simon and Garfunkel stole it from...

Kannst du halten wie ein Dachdecker. Ellen S. — Hi.

WOC: It seems that fall has thrown me a few more curve balls again. Where are Mount Malibu and Harrison Ford when I need them? Thank you for understanding. I love you. POC.

ROC: Congrats on the race! Can we call the fact I am installing an air conditioning system in WOC's room—over all it has been a fanable season! Love ya. POC.

To those two geeks who go on the geek bus all the time — I love you—G.

BSOC: I know she'd rather be watching star search, but what would he rather be doing? POC.

Hey Kuriger you rock the house! We just thought you needed to know! With love from the Cheese Board.

Nancy K. Now that it is cold where does one go besides the falls? Thanks for dropping in at the right time.

Duffy, file this whole reading week under Hello?

WOC and ROC: Happy Anniversary! Always thought that down on the shore everything's all right! Don't be afraid to walk in the sun. And most of all you're both pulling out of here to win! I love you guys! POC.

BSOC—you rock the house. Thank you for joining the executive board.

Mr. S. Will you please run away with me? I love you. Love always, D.

To the evil yellow fungus that broke the side mirror off my Toyota. Come talk to me. You don't have to pay for it, I just want to stomp on your face a little. —T. Scott.

To the injured player on the soccer team: Two is company but three's a crowd... Forget it! From your red and pink dream girls.

C.G. Will you please run away with me forever? Love C. B.

Dear Mr. Tall, Dark and Handsome: Please stop exiting me, but don't apologize, can't get enough... of you! Savage Tan.

L.N. We have fun watching you from the stars. Can't stop looking at you... Wish there were two of you... to make our dreams come true. Starstruck.

To a scientific Greek: If your body chemistry matched your test tube, you might get more than closed circuits. From one who hates oil when combined with "playboys".

All I want for Christmas is Michael J. You - with the ray-bans - can you arrange that? Seeing you in Malibu.

Billy Joel was drugged.

P.O.C. Forget the porsche - your best bet's a baby blue Continental (More room for BSOC, ROC and WOC).

WOC and ROC - it's time to fess up about what's really happening with those fire extinguishers.

Dearest POC, To a wild modern woman—who has "Gotta know if love is real." Keep the faith. I love you. C.B.

JS. It's a matter of time. Soon you will be consumed by passion, enveloped in its depths. You will have no time to even glance at the classifieds. T.B.

Hugh Fink is coming! Hugh, we love Hugh! Get ready: Hugh Fink will be here soon!

Marcie, I love you. E.

Scooby—There's nothing like a wink when you save to make the ball go over and make me feel part of the team again. Thank You, Love Ellen.

Sawkill 103. I hope we have a lot more than volleyball in common. 581-628.

To R.G. You're absolutely stunning.

To A.A. What a dancer, and what a butt!

My mother wears army boots, but your mother ties your father up with the laces.

D.S. doesn't do pop-tarts.

Cheerios: Where were you? Captain Crunch got soggy so Froot Loops is taking over!

Mr. T., Blow all those Camaros off your back and drive your little girl away. I'll always love you. Love, your D.

Gloria, Down the shore everything all right. Remember that, o.k.? Love you, WOC and ROC.

D.S.:Life is more than just a social gathering! A.T. and G.L.C.

Army Boots Forever!

Check boy, Check Girl—Find it's not necessary or say it isn't so—no man is an Islande.

If life is a three ring circus they had to create a fourth ring for you.

Gayle—I'm freaking out—La Pandilla.

Out of Sync or Out of Time, remember the flowers don't grow forever.

An ear when needed; a slap as well—things seem to right themselves, if we only take the time.

Don't look at me. I don't want anything to do with it. — Chris.

— Arthur, I think you're a great guy. Let's find out.

Marilyn Monroe, Keep the fire burning. It looks beautiful against your eyes.

To the Arkmaster of the frisbee: I love the way you sweat and smile—a diligent observer.

Potter 104: This is October, guys!

J.C.: Can't I please have it back now?

Friendly, sensitive and lonely M. Looking for beautiful F. counterpart. Please respond to P.O. Box 258 through Campus Mail.

... and peacocks and ostriches and maybe boa constrictors...

Bula Bula! Eb - Ah - Doob - Ah - Ne9!

For my Schatz, Uck! Gross! Pfui! Clingy females. Das ist doof. Und wiet! From: one who's not depressed by a duprass.

So... running around Bartlett. That good for your health? To the tall attractive Freshman, what are you waiting for?—C.

Al—the debate is on! Are you a pseudo-intellectual or a Fulbright scholar? C.L.G.

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Viewpoint

Sports suffer growing pains

By Tim Leshan

The Bard sports program is growing. Women's sports have grown by leaps and bounds since Sharon Kuriger came to head the department four years ago. The cross country team was the first team in the school's history to compete in a national competition last year. And now Bard has joined two new athletic conferences, the C.A.C.C. and the N.A.I.A., a great improvement for the program. Why then isn't student and faculty participation in watching and playing sports growing?

"We are on par with other schools close to our size as far as providing sports for students goes, but that's not saying we're necessarily successful," athletic director Joel Tomson says. He implies that the sports are there, but people don't take advantage of them. Cross country coach Bill Griffith says, "The students are not familiar with competitive sports on the whole, and in some cases are afraid to try." This seems to be true. One sees this in the relative lack of interest in intramural sports, where winning is not as important as having a good time. This is not meant to belittle the intramural program, but rather to point out that Bard just isn't an athletically motivated school. One can enjoy sports by simply encouraging the players, yet spectators at any athletic event are sparse.

President Leon Botstien says, "In your generation there is a quite wide-spread and correct belief that sports are a good thing for our school." He may be right, but students seem not to care if that belief is not translated into action. Perhaps this explains why sports are such a low priority in the eyes of the administration.

There is wide spread agreement that the main problem is the lack of facilities. "It is an embarrassment to play in that gym," says Tomson. "We have to go to Red Hook High School because coaches and players refuse to play here." A swimming pool, taken for granted in many small schools, would certainly be well used. Coach Griffith would like to see a new cross country running, skiing, and walking course built between Sawkill River and Ward Manor. "It would be a relatively inexpensive project," he says.

"In 18 months we hope to be able to announce that we have the funds at least for a new indoor/outdoor pool," the president said on October 11. This is a good line, but Tomson has heard such vague promises before. Obviously, funds are hard to come by; besides, it would be an

over-simplification to say that the only issue is money. There are also questions of plans, locations, and what to build first. On the other hand, new facilities would be a good selling point for prospective stu-

dents, as well as elicit donations from people interested in athletics.

"Now that we are in the C.A.C.C. and the N.A.I.A., the program is saturated; something has to be done about it," Tomson says. But plans for a new gym seem to have been stopped cold. "I was told it was on top of the list last year, and now they aren't even talking about it." It seems odd that the head of the athletic department does not even know what the administration plans to do about his program.

No doubt one of the reasons that money is not budgeted for the sports department is that most of the teams are so small. Many people have to play more than one sport for teams to survive. In the women's department this is especially true; last year several women played volleyball, basketball, and softball. This year eight women went out for the cross country team, but none wanted to race, so there was no team. On the men's side, tennis is the only real sport offered in the spring, and it is not large.

The problem is something of a Catch-22. If there were better facilities available, more sports-minded students would be attracted to Bard, and interest would certainly rise from those already on campus. But without much student interest, the school feels no compunction to aid the department's growth; thus facilities are not built, and interest remains low. Until this cycle is broken, Coach Tomson and company will be stuck with an inferior department.

Ultimate: What 'Bee' Happening?

By Gary Baum

In the beginning of eternity, a time not so long ago, there were, despite popular belief, transcendental primates playing ultimate frisbee under the setting sun. These dormant primates have come to Annandale for the 1985 fall frisbee season, which has seen the rejuvenated Bard ultimate team functioning exuberantly. They have been playing other college and club teams, travelling in Fuzz-Buster led convoys to exotic places like Vassar, Purchase, and beyond, for games and tournaments.

The game, played with two teams of seven on seven, is akin to frenetic Philadelphia football with a flying disc. The offense tries intensely to score a point by passing the frisbee up the field, and catching the "bee" over the goal line. The defense tries for turnovers, so that they might head in the other direction to score a point. This causes non-stop action and excitement for both players and spectators.

The team, headed by Martain Simpson, Gary Baum, Brewster Bell, and Jono Korogoyoyo, is having considerable success, but most of all is having fun, playing despite blazing heat and torrential downpours (as in the last Purchase Tournament). The players take life easy, and the game seriously. Watch for upcoming home games, and the annual winter snowtime matches.

Sports Wrap-up

X-Country injuries hurt; spikers excel

By Tim Leshan

Bad luck and injuries have plagued the cross country team this season. It does not look as if the team can repeat its feat of going to the nationals, but it is possible that at least three runners from Bard will qualify to run in them.

The team began the year with more talent than any in Bard's history, but things

have gone awry from the start. As well as having at least four runners injured at various times, one was taken away to Brussels by his senior project.

The injury list has been long. Although Willie Davis has not missed a meet he has had back and knee problems the whole year. Willie is lucky to be back running this year after an accident, Coach Bill Griffith said. Before the home meet

against Fairfield, Mike Fine, the squad's 3 runner, twisted his ankle so badly that he may not run again this season. Fred Perry was unable to complete the C.A.C.C. championships due to a twisted ankle suffered in the same meet. "Every one was twisting and turning out in the muck," Coach Griffith said. With all the physical problems the squad's morale has suffered.

Though the team has had its difficulties, some members have still been able to achieve individual goals. On September 28 Davis ran 30:00 on the Bard Course as the team lost to St. Thomas Aquinas College. He improved that time to 29:26 as the squad defeated Fairfield College in the only dual meet of the season on October 12.

Tim Leshan ran 29:45 against S.T.A.C. and came in fifth; in the league meet on October 18 he covered the course in 28:47, his best time ever despite muddy conditions, and finished fourth, beating out S.T.A.C.'s fourth place finisher of the earlier meet. Matthew Kogler was able to knock almost two minutes from his time from late September to the C.A.C.C. championships. Despite those perfor-

mances, Bard's injuries hurt the squad's depth, and they finished second to S.T.A.C. by 20 points.

Women's Volleyball

The women's volleyball team will top off its fine season with a trip to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics district championships.

Whether the Blazers will go as champions of the Central Atlantic Coast Conference was decided by last night's showdown with Concordia College. The teams went into the match tied for first with perfect 5-0 records. Bard is 14-7 overall.

Asked about her squad's play, Coach Sharon Kuriger said, "I feel the team is motivated and consistent in game play." She felt that strong hitting and serving would be keys to victory in the match with Concordia.

Not only the C.A.A.C. championship was riding on last night's match, but also the position as number one seed in the N.A.I.A. districts. Kuriger felt that if the team could maintain its recent level of play that they could obtain both.

Viewpoint

Football needs geeks

By Laurence Wachowski

Although the first game of the Intramural Flag Football League was scheduled for almost two weeks ago, it has not been played yet. The numerous reasons for the delay include: no lines on the field, no referees, no flags, and no players. Are these delays a sign of lack of interest? I don't think so. Rather, interest is confined to a small group of dumb jocks. Jocks, once they are out on a field with a pigskin, enjoy hurling their bodies at each other in a ritual of raw machismo.

The problem is getting lines, referees, flags, and players on the field at the same time. This of course requires organization. Organization is something jocks don't care about, let alone think about. So what the

football league needs is geeks.

Geeks love organization. They also like softball. (It's safe.) Thus every year the intramural softball league runs fairly efficiently. When something causes a problem, geeks get all riled up. Everyone fears a riled geek. Look at poor Dean Levine and his smoking dilemma. If a jock had even read the dean's first smoking memo, which is doubtful because it was so long, it wouldn't bother him. He'd smoke anyway.

However, since we all know geeks will never play football (getting hurt is so inefficient), what's the answer? F—the refs. F—the flags. F—the league. I'll see you jocks out there Sunday during halftime, and we'll play some ball.

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Thursday The 31st Boo

Seniors, just what exactly are you going to discuss in your Class Meeting? The curiosity is killing us. 7 P. M. at Kline Commons.

Yes! You too will eventually step out into the regime of the working world! See Metropolis and save your soul! Join Fritz Lang in Preston at 7 P. M.

Student Directed Repertory presents ... Am I Blue by Beth Henely, directed by Laura Caruso, and The Lover by Harold Pinter, directed by Chip Helman. 8 P. M. in the Dance Studio

An ear tingling performance of Howling Techniques will be performed by Bard's own. Kline Commons, Robbins Roof. Midnight. Come taste the darkness. Smoking broomstick is strongly recommended.

Friday The 1st

Film—The Plainsmen in Sottery Hall at 7 and 9:30 P.M.

The Hudson Valley Philharmonic Chamber with conductor Leon Botstein will perform pieces from Mendelsohn, Shoenberg, Grieffes, Beethoven. The concert is free of charge with identification at the door. Courtesy A.N.L. and the Amazing Renaissance Man. 8 P. M. Chapel.

Saturday The 2nd

Interested in molecular and nuclear structure? Radio and infrared astronomy? Charles Townes, University Professor of Physics at the University of California at Berkeley will Lecture on the topic 'Evidence for a Black Hole at the Center of Our Galaxy.' 7 P. M. at Kline Commons.

Cheer on the Soccer team as they ravage Kings College. 1 P.M.

Sunday The 3rd

Grease your joints with some sweat and exercise. Pick-up Soccer at 3 P.M.

Professor Munsterberg opens an exhibit of Japanese Paintings. Open through February 16 in the Blum Gallery.

Proudly we hail The Twilight's Last Gleaming. 7 P.M. at Sottery Hall.

Monday The 4th

Give your Monday morning a twist. Anthropology Film, 'The Feast and Her Name Came on Arrows: An Interview with the Baruya of New Guinea.' 10:30 A.M.

D.W. Griffith's Way Down East. 7 P.M. in Sottery Hall.

Tuesday The 5th

Stretch, move, and groove with the Dance Workshop. 5:30 P.M. in the Dance Studio.

Potemkin by Sergei Eisenstein is tonight's feature flick. Sottery 7 P.M.

Freshmen Seminar: Faculty Roundtable on Thucydides in Committee Rooms. 7:30 P.M. All members of the community are welcome.

Wednesday The 6th

German Table at 5:30 P.M. in the Faculty Dining Room. Machten den der Meister!

Return of Potemkin in Preston at 7 P.M.

Pretzel Logic, space, grace and balance - Yoga at 8 P.M. in Kline Commons.

Returning to Bard to tempt our ears with improvisational attitudes is jazzy pianist Rave Tassar. Don't miss this electricity! 8 P. M. at Bard Hall.

Hello 'Radical Ecologists: The Environmental Crisis Heats Up.' Join Gary Snyder, an environmentalist and Pulitzer Prize-winning poet for this Lecture concerning the state of American society.

Thursday The 7th

The film this evening is Nosferatu. Join Nurnau in Preston at 7 P.M.

Towbins Poetry Room is open every Tuesday and Thursday. Enjoy readings from various poets. The ear and page are a stage for words.

Friday The 8th

Artists salute the return of Halley's Comet through February 16 in the Blum Art Gallery. Tonight, Taylor Mead will present Halley's Comet, a film, sound, and reading performance. 8 P.M.

Rush, a modern dance company from N.Y.C. will present a new work about Halley's Comet to music composed by Carter Burwell. 8 P.M.

The New Music Network brings Continuum, a large chamber ensemble performing works from this century's composers. In the Chapel at 8 P.M. — Don't Miss It!

Film—Horsefeathers, at Sottery 7 and 9 P.M.

Saturday The 9th

Lose yourself in the shops of Quincy Market, sample the mouth-watering tastes and aromas of the Old North End, indulge in Boston's world-renowned seafood. Cherish the architecture of the past in the State House, Back Bay, and Beacon Hill. Embrace the boldness of the present in Government Center, Copely Square Plaza, and the Prudential Center, Copely Place and the Christian Science Center. Watch the bigots in Boston Garden cheer their basketball team because it has so few blacks. Discover Boston. Sign up at the Dean's Office. \$16 per person.

Thursday The 14th

A Halley's Comet Poetry Reading with Jonathan Williams and Robert Kelley, presenting their own works especially for the occasion. 8 P.M. at the Blum Gallery.

Friday The 15th

DaCapo Chamber Players in residence at Bard will perform works from Hayden, Wolpe, Greeson, Carter and Beethoven. 8 P.M. in the Chapel.

Crank up the tune-gears in your ears ... John Lee Hooker jumps in the Commons. 10:30 P.M.