

Bard College
Student Newspaper Archive
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OBSERVER

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The Bard Observer

Vol. 3, No. 1, March 1986

Serving the Bard College Community

Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504

Editorship Controversy

By Rowland Butler

That the student body might better understand the story behind the Observer controversy, the leaders of the two warring factions, Scott Pass and Ben Fiering, were interviewed. They were both interviewed before the publication of the referendum. Since then, the referendum has been passed in favor of staff elections.

SCOTT PASS

Obs.: What do you feel is the problem that most needs addressing, concerning the Observer?

S.P.: The students must make an important decision. That decision is the referendum.

"We were brought up... before the SJB for violating the constitution..."

Scott Pass

dum. It is not as easy issue, staff election or student election. The student election would be nice, but since 1975, when the Observer editor became student elected, the Observer has been spinning it's wheels. The Observer is the way for students to voice their complaints to the administration. To allow it to falter is a real danger. The policy which we are advocating, the staff elected editor, is a more effective way to run a paper.

Look at the past. The school had a good paper in the 60's. Student freedoms still enjoyed today came through student editorials. There was a time when all the dormitories had proctors, or chaperones. That system was eliminated, thanks to some powerful Observer editorials. During this time, the Observer editor was staff elected. Staff elections have a cumulative effect, as they insure that a competent student will be editor. This was changed in '75, and if we had the same process today, we might be enjoying a weekly paper.

I know it sounds as if we are trying to be elitist, but we're not. I'd never argue for this if we had a strong Observer now, but we don't.

Obs.: Did you raise the staff election question before Gavin decided to quit?

S.P.: Yes, October 25, just after I had resigned. Gavin had been editor for one month.

Obs.: Would you like to comment on the current editorship controversy?

S.P.: We were brought up by Ben Fiering before the SJB for violating the constitution; that Gavin had resigned and appointed Rachel. We didn't. We were innocent. Ali this is a mistake by Ben Fiering - he thought we broke the law, and he wanted the case reviewed. Well, it was, and we are innocent.

"I... saw an attempt to keep things underground..."

Ben Fiering

Obs.: Comment on Ben's role in this business.

S.P.: Ben made a mistake. Ben felt that it was his duty to keep the Observer from breaking a law. He feels that we should have a student election, and that is valid. I don't think it is wise, but it is valid.

Obs.: What about the Left Press' saying, "keep the paper ours?"

S.P.: I think Ben is clearly an effective slogan writer. Let's examine those slogans - they are shallow. His poster that "Leon, and others, thank the students..." is incorrect. The past shows us that staff elections allow for a stronger paper. The administration has never had it so easy. The student elections since '75 have failed to establish a cohesive paper, and there has been little pressure on the administration. I hope that the students will think.

BEN FIERING

Obs.: Why did you come out with the statements against the Observer?

B.F.: Because I don't think that the establishment of a crony system is best.

Obs.: What do you mean by "crony?"

B.F.: "Crony" is a slang political term for "a tight group of connected people."

Obs.: Why do you dislike this crony system? After all, you did launch out strong-

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Sleepy Hollow Buys

Annandale Property

By Nancy Galvin

The fact that many off-campus residences are in the process of being purchased by an outside corporation has generated a great deal of concern among the non-residents at Bard. The houses lie on the 385-acre tract of land adjacent to Bard property, soon to be officially taken over by Sleepy Hollow Restorations, a non-profit organization based in Tarrytown.

The land, which previously belonged to the Delafield family, comprises Montgomery Place, a residence of historical significance in the Red Hook - Annandale area, the Montgomery Place Orchards in Annandale, and several houses there. There are plans to make The Montgomery Place residence a tourist site, possibly open to the public in 1987. A tourist site in Annandale? It hardly sounds likely. But when asked whether she thought the Montgomery Estate would become as well-known and frequented as their other estates, Ms. Gold, the director of public information for Sleepy Hollow replied, "We feel that the potential for drawing people to the area is great; even just the access to the river and to the grounds alone would make it popular." Sleepy Hollow is in an educational foundation, which restores and develops historical sites for tourism. It was founded by the Rockefeller Foundation which, in conjunction with two other corporations, the Jackson Hole Preserve and the Wallace Family Fund, has become a part of a movement to spur economic development in the Hudson Valley through tourism. Sleepy Hollow owns three other estates in the

area: the home of Washington Irving in Tarrytown, Philipsburg Manor in North Tarrytown, and the Van Cortland Manor in Croton-on-Hudson.

There has been some speculation about an art center to be constructed on Bard and by Sleepy Hollow. Bard does have indefinite plans about an arts center which would be maintained by Bard but constructed by outside efforts, those being most likely individual philanthropic concerns. In an interview, President Botstein said, "We have talked for years about holding a Summer-Arts Festival with leaders in the community who are also interested. It might include a dance studio, perhaps, and a theater." The groups this would attract would be, of course, the Bard College Community, the adult group that currently comes up to see concerts and art shows at Bard, and of primary importance, general tourist trade, which would operate mostly in the spring and summer.

How will all of this affect Bard? An increase in the interest in the area will most likely ensue. "Annandale has always been and will always be a small town," said President Botstein, "but it might be expanded to include a general store, a post office, a bookstore - things of student interest." Also, with the continuation of the property boom in the Hudson Valley and the present interest in property near Bard, concern over the availability of off-campus housing mounts. Sleepy Hollow Restorations could provide little information as to what the houses in Annandale would be used for, whether or

Cont. on page 4

Robbin's

By Gavin McCormick

Residents of rambunctious Robbins dormitory got a chance to air their gripes in an unusual meeting with the student deans last month.

The February 10 meeting, called by the deans in response to increasing tension at the dorm since last semester, saw Jim Kridler and Sharon Kuriger face frank questions and criticism of their policies. "Communication" turned out to be the buzz word of the evening; each side felt the other needed to do a better job of it, both internally and between students and administrators.

The deans felt the meeting was necessary after a series of noise complaints and incidents of vandalism in the dorm. "There was a general feeling amongst the peer counselors that Robbins was not nearly as friendly a place to live in last semester," said Kridler. Several students felt much of their behavior was in response to dorm living conditions. "There is a lot of dissatisfaction of what people have been given as a residence," said peer counselor Wayne Berman.

The fire alarm system in Robbins is a running joke; the alarm goes off on the average

Winter Carnival A Success

By Christina Griffith

Students, faculty and staff, and members of the community raised over \$1,800 for the relief of world hunger in the second annual Bard Winter Carnival.

According to the carnival committee, over \$1,500 was raised in the memorabilia auction alone. Professor John Pruitt and George Lehman officiated, auctioning items from risque candy to a pat of child to President Botstein's bow tie which went to a student for \$250.

Raffle winners were Laurie Fisher, Sheri Michel and Dorothy Atcheson. Dan Cheribum and friends were the winners in the Medallion Hunt, sponsored by the Admissions office.

All proceeds from the weekend will be given to the Presiding Bishop's Fund of the Episcopal church in order to assist in the elimination of world hunger.

Uproar

of once a week, often times far more frequently, and generally late at night. It is almost unanimously disregarded by the residents, creating a heaven-sent fire trap. The problem has existed for the last three years. "The deans have been evasive about it, and there's no excuse for it," said Berman. "Any real fire authority would shut the place down in a flash." "We don't know what the problem is," admitted Kridler. It was one of several issues during the meeting on which he referred questions to Dick Griffiths, head of Building and Grounds. As a result, a dorm meeting with Griffiths was set up for Monday, March 3. Results of that meeting were not available by Observer copy deadline.

Sharon Kuriger's residency in the dorm was also discussed. "There is a feeling that people are boxed in by having a dean in the building," said Berman. Kuriger lived in the same Robbins apartment last year when she was assistant athletic director, but her relationship with the students is felt to have changed with her promotion. Kridler disputed this, saying, "It's the student attitude that's changed, not Sharon's." Kridler went on to say that her complaining, generally about noise after quiet hours, were one of a resident, not a dean.

Either way, much of the tension in the dorm could be traced to the general feeling that "Sharon was down complaining about the noise every night." There has been some consideration of Kuriger moving elsewhere, but it will not be decided on the basis of her being a dean, said Kridler. In any case, the apartment will continue to be used by campus personnel.

Several issues pointed to communication problems between the deans and B & G. For example, doors were painted over in the middle of last semester by B & G personnel despite a tacit student/dean agreement that any graffiti would be cleaned up by the students before the end of the term. Several residents lost posters or pictures in the process. While students were not charged for the paint job, the heavy-handed manner in which it was managed increased the residents' feeling that their concerns were not being considered. According to Kridler, the painting decision was Griffiths', and no one in Ludlow was aware of it until after the fact.

Cont. on page 4

Bard's New Scholarship Program

By Stephen Lippincott

On February 5th, President Botstein met with students to explain the new scholarship program that was advertised nationally in newspapers and on the radio. Entitled the Excellence and Equal Cost Program, this new scholarship is being offered to current high school seniors who have maintained the status of being within the top ten students of their class in a public high school, college preparatory program. Bard will, in effect, match the cost of their tuition to the cost of a public university in their home state as long as the student maintains a "B" average. While currently 60% of the student body receives financial aid, there are no merit-based scholarships. The incoming freshmen of the 1986-87 school year will be the first class at Bard to receive this scholarship.

Present students at Bard were quick to voice their concerns. Appropriately, the question was raised of where the money to finance this program would be coming from. President Botstein assured students that funds for the existing financial aid program would not be touched. The Excellence and Equal Cost Program is to be financed through the Capital Campaign though just how much it will cost is not known. Other points at the meeting included:

Will Bard take into account the high school of these candidates?

The program is limited to people in a pre-college program from any public high school. President Botstein went on to say that a top student from a small midwestern town deserves the same rights as a student from an academically superior high school in the northeast. "Determination," he said, "should compensate for sophistication."

"If you are one of the top ten students in the senior class at a public high school, you can attend a first-rate private college..."

Will this program increase enrollment and, if so, can Bard absorb the increase? What about present housing conditions?

President Botstein estimated that the increase of enrollment would be small, between 15-25 students a year, and stressed that though class size will expand, the student/faculty ratio is most important to maintain. As for housing, students brought up the subject of the mods where, presently, students are doubled into what had once been single rooms. President Botstein replied that the ravine houses are slated for renovation at two each year and that, if the program is popular, they will be renovated at

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Budgets allocated for clubs this semester

	Requested	Allocated
Anth/Soc	\$461	\$200
Art Club	\$1,200	\$200
Art League	\$1,442	\$100
Audio Co-op	\$3,450	\$505
BBSO	\$3,715	\$1,430
Cultural Events	\$3,450	\$550
Dance	\$2,565	\$250
Entertainment	\$13,500	\$5,000
Film	\$7,650	\$4,000
International	\$2,200	\$360
Iskusstvo	\$1,800	\$400
LASO	\$2,100	\$500
Left Press	\$400	\$100
Math	\$250	\$25
MAG	\$9,450	\$1,000
News of Music	\$700	\$350
Observer	\$2,499	\$700
Recording Studio	\$2,255	\$550
SMOG	\$385	\$175
SNS	\$2,613	\$800
Tertulia	\$100	\$50
Ultimate Frisbee	\$250	\$60
Unity	\$885	\$200
Weekly	\$942	\$300
Women's Center	\$866	\$250
Buffer		\$1,500
Student Government Payroll		\$1,500
Special Fund		\$3,000

Point/Counterpoint

By Ann Lewinson

President Botstein has promised the Observer a response to this piece in the next issue.

The announcement of the Excellence at Equal Cost program has once again provoked speculation that we are on the inevitable road to "Barvard." Our President has assured us that applicants in this program will be scrutinized with the same care as any other applicants, but honestly — will Admissions really reject any student in the top ten of his high school class?

The EEC program has stimulated yet another wave of national recognition for Bard. More students are applying to Bard, especially through IDP. Anticipated yield (Admissions jargon for the projected number of accepted applicants who will actually attend Bard) is higher here than at other "highly selective" private liberal arts colleges. Now is the time to take advantage of the publicity in building the school's most valuable resource, the student body — by finding the two hundred most interesting students in the country.

Here is my proposal: All applicants will be required to submit work in a field of interest — a portfolio, stories, critical papers, audio or video tapes of performances, etc. This work will be evaluated by appropriate faculty members by the same standards that would be used to judge any freshman work. A critique sheet, complete with grade, would be forwarded to Admissions. This information would be given primary consideration in the admissions decision.

Enough Already

By Rowland Butler

I hope that we never have a fire here at Bard. Should we, I fear that more than a few students would refuse to pull the fire alarms, just so they could bitch about the length of time it took the fire department to arrive at the blaze.

The scandal over the Editorship of the Observer has lead many students to voice their complaints about the paper. These people are easily spotted; they usually talk in a voice which is just loud enough to insure ample overhearing, and with a tone that implies, but only implies, that somewhere along the path of their Liberal Arts education, they have multiplied their I.Q.s by a factor of three. The use of adjectives such as 'boring' and 'junk mail' are a sure sign of these critics, as they throw these words around as freely as grapes in a Kline Commons food fight.

Forgive me for being so condescending, but it angers me no end to hear such complaints, when the situation is so easily resolved. These people, and anybody else, have always been welcome to submit articles, letters, and editorials to the Observer. I realize that the Observer might not be a fitting place for the works of genius that these vociferous critics are apparently capable of producing, but I feel that they ought to at least try to rectify the situation before they launch into one of their lengthy monologues.

We have been called a 'clique.' We have been called a 'Pabulum Tabloid.' Pabulum, according to Ben Fiering, was a baby food which was taken off the market because it had no nutritive value. But I regress.

Last semester, we were forced into this so-called clique because of the lack of submissions. The result was that the articles had to be written by a few number of reporters, who consequently had to write several stories for each issue. Had we an adequate number of outside articles to print, we would have printed them; things would have been much easier for us.

Now, what if these people who ridicule the Observer were to submit articles? What a grand idea. Given the amount of time they spend talking, it might be hard for them to express themselves in 600 words or less, but I'm sure that we could work something out.

Here is the straight dope. In future issues, this column space will be reserved for people who want to write editorials about school policy, American politics, etc. They can be humorous. They can be controversial. They can be anything that you want them to be, **although**, articles which mention Jerry Gar-

This, of course, would necessitate certain changes in the IDP process. This work would have to be submitted in advance of the IDP day, in order to give the faculty sufficient time to evaluate it. In addition, I'd like to see the interview moved to an earlier part of the IDP day. Since the admissions decision is revealed at the end of the interview, either the interviewing officer is given the tremendous responsibility of making the decision or, more probably, the interview is **pro forma**, since the decision has already been made. In any case, it relegates an important part of the admissions process to the status of a confirmation. In my proposal, the ap-

plicant interviews with the professor who evaluated his work and a senior in the department, who would then report back to admissions. At the end of the day, an admissions officer would give the student the decision.

These proposals have many advantages. Successful applicants would have to demonstrate a high level of interest in a field of their choice. Boring kids with 4.0 averages would not be accepted. Furthermore, faculty and students could no longer complain about the vapid freshman class, since they would have an active role in the admissions process.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I would like to speak out regarding this recent "Observer/Ben Fiering" issue. I don't consider myself a part of either one of these groups.

Ben does have points which are hard for me to disagree with. It does seem that the Observer works in somewhat of a "cast" system — basically perpetuating objective newswriting mostly concerned with administrative stories. There are editorials as well as some interesting features but usually they don't tackle major issues such as world hunger or for that matter any issues not concerning Bard. Most students, if asked, would not say the **Observer** is a bad or boring paper but instead that it isn't vivacious, it doesn't have students talking feverishly about different articles they have read. The **Observer** seems to be accepted with apathy. Having quality articles on news, politics, poetry, and art, as well as literary works of merit would, for me, be an ideal paper which I think this student body is capable of making work.

My problems lie mostly with Ben Fiering himself. I don't trust his motives. I don't get a sense of strong conviction on his part. I sense that he is mostly concerned with anarchy itself; proving to himself that he and his flock can indeed overthrow the **Observer** "dynasty." He has attempted to do this by using a system (working closely with the "proper" channels) he claims he doesn't want to be a part of. Actually he is quite talented at knifepicking at technicalities. Indeed, he seems to be much more in tune with policy than the last **Observer** editor who seemed to be unaware of all that entails being an Editor-in-Chief as far as the tedious technicalities were concerned. I believe that editor focused all his energies on getting out a quality newspaper with the goal being to recruit as many different voices he could find. He found apathy and people who didn't want to work. We are told by Ben that supposedly there were people who would write but would never send anything to print in the "conservative" **Observer**. This is bullshit. I believe that Ben is an excellent rallier, he has charisma. I am sure even he did not know some of the supporters that

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 March 23 for next issue.

cias and 'genius' in the same sentence will not be printed. They won't even be kept. The first person to take advantage of this offer is Senior Peter Holland. Submit all articles to Box 123.

The Probing Reporter

By Peter A. Holland

After having read the **OBSERVER'S** two probing investigations of the threat posed by asbestos, which by the day grows faster than the cancer which it will one day implant in all of us, I got to thinking: am I, Peter A. Holland, really **passionate** about asbestos? Having been exposed to it all my life, has it really made a difference? After thinking about the effects of the carcinogenic agent which unceasingly leaks its poisonous dust particles into the lower level of Bard's "gymnasium," I am forced to the conclusion that, frankly, the presence of asbestos in the lungs of Bard's athletes has **not** impaired performance. Believe me, someone who knows the lives of many of Bard's top athletes; asbestos is, in most cases, the least of their problems. Besides, what right does the **OBSERVER** have to go probing around the pipes of Bard's "gym", that sacred shrine of the soccer team? I know that I never felt endangered there. On the contrary, that "gym," with its unquestioning white walls, was always for me a place of comfort and refuge after all of those double-digit defeats on the soccer field.

Anyway, I thought I would write a letter about a topic that is more tangible — something that **really** affects either the majority or a sizable minority of us in our daily lives at Bard. The results of my investigation are addressed mainly to men, but if you are a woman, I think you should read it anyway, because I am a feminist.

I am not an **OBSERVER**, but rather a **PROBING INQUIRER**, a muckraker. I

realize that I am setting a precedent by talking about this heretofore "taboo" subject at Bard. Nevertheless, if just **one** person gets some relief from this article, then it will have been worth my effort.

I chose to rake the muck of one of Bard's TOILETS. My first sit down study was performed in the recently renovated men's bathroom in the basement of Hoffman Library. I have never seen such a potpourri of potti problems!

I'll never forget that first time I walked into that remodelled bathroom...new white tiles, a new mirror, and that shiny silver stall. It all seemed so serene. It seemed like a place where I could get relief from that tension filled library with its lonely carrels. I had a sense of impending elation as I approached that shiny stall of silver. Little did I suspect that it would turn out to be just another of my idyllic fantasies. What awaited me inside was, well...was a toilet that is **improperly mounted to the floor!** First of all, the darned thing actually **wobbles** when you sit on it. That first time I sat down, I thought I was going to fall over! If that wasn't scary enough, I then proceeded to bang my knees on the stall door. The toilet doesn't sit flush against the wall! It is 10 1/2" too far forward! Why has this administration remained silent about this?

Do you know what else occurred to me since I began my study? — I have **never** seen a B + G worker enter that bathroom. It is as if they are trying to **avoid the problem**.

We must all think about these problems, and **do** something about them. **Consciousness and Activism**. — That's what **PROBING INQUIRY** is all about. We all know where the toilet troubles are seated — i.e., no privacy at Adolph's, no sound absorption in the computer center, and that unpleasant odors strong enough to kill a horse in the basement bathroom of Hegeman. We must push to make some agenda!... Don't dump this load on my shoulders. We must all band together to get this job done. Don't just sit there. Give a shit!

popped up to speak at February's forum meeting. Ben's problems in the past with getting more people involved in his newspaper have not been because he had a smaller office than the **Observer** or because he didn't have a computer, or even because he had less money. It was simply the same problem the **Observer** has had; finding people who were dedicated and who worked.

Ben seems overly paranoid. I can't believe the **Observer** is trying to squelch his voice, or anyone else's. Anyone who writes in the **Observer** will be looked at individually by most readers of this community. Anyone who has something they feel they must convey to the public must do so by any means available or else they are foolish. I think a more reasonable plan for the future of the **Observer** would be for it to be what it is now, a solid, **newspaper**, plus more. These changes can come without destroying the paper as it stands now. We must realize that many dedicated, hard-working people have made the **Observer** what it is now. No one has the right to destroy this. I think the staff on the **Observer** does have changes in mind for the paper and I don't think the key members of this staff are content with leaving it the way it is has been for so long. Changes should occur to make the **Observer** a better paper but these changes must be made by someone competent and by someone whose overriding interest is their ideology of what they want their newspaper to say.

(Submitted to the Editor unsigned)

Dear Editor,

Because my curiosity has been sparked by the liberal arts education I've been receiving here at Bard, my interests have led me to the art department to explore what it is they have to offer me, a poor soul in dire need of personal knowledge.

Upon close examination of the Spring course list, I discovered drawing, painting, sculpture, graphics, printmaking, and varieties of art history courses. I found all of this to be intriguing and even chose a drawing course. As I sit with my pad of newsprint and charcoal, however, I am dissatisfied and disconcerted by the fact that Bard offers **no** course in pottery.

Considering that the tuition for Bard is enough to force our parents to eat off of their own homemade wares, I feel the purchase of a pottery wheel to be a small expenditure, making but an indent in the college budget fenders.

Those of us who are interested in the Arts, can be enriched by learning the skill which pottery demands and the creativity it can unleash.

If a swimming pool can be considered for our future, why not a pottery wheel for our present? It is but a small price for curiosity's fever.

sincerely,
a student

The Bard Observer

Editorial Board

Gavin McCormick
Rachel Grella
Nancy Galvin
Rowland Butler
Amanda Maguire
Adam Cameron Frank

Staff

Christina Griffith, Peter A. Holland, Chris Hume, Ann Lewinson, Stephen Lippincott, Jonathan Lybrook, Adriana Scopino, Robin Sweeney, Ray Watkins, Philip Carroll, Masud Husain

Opinions expressed on the editorial page are not necessarily those of *The Observer*. Letters to the Editor must be signed and should not exceed 300 words in length. Send to *The Bard Observer*, Box 123.

Currently the Bard Observer is without an Editor-in-Chief; this issue, however, was composed mostly under Gavin McCormick, whose resignation was effective March 5. By a two-thirds majority vote, the Editorial Board decided to bring this issue to press. The Editorial Board is answerable for its content.

The election for The Observer Editor-in-Chief will be held this coming Sunday, March 16. Students interested in running for the position should send a 3x5 card to **The Bard Observer**, Box 123.

10,000 Maniacs Kick Off A New Season

By Chris Hume

Thomas Glynn, the newly elected chairman of the entertainment committee, has big plans for the future. He certainly provided a promising start by booking the band 10,000 Maniacs as the first event of the winter. The name, suggesting some psychotic thrash band, bore little resemblance to their actual music. The clear, rhythmic music and the hypnotic voice of Natalie Merchant, lead singer, threw the audience into a curious hush as well as enthusiastic dancing. As far as the rest of the music planned, Thomas wants to provide a wide variety, including funk, new music, jazz, and more. Thomas wants to bring in acts with a social statement attached to them...not hardcore leftist music, (does such a thing exist, I wondered?) but not bands that are apolitical...bands that are socially aware in our times," are the goal. (Try that on one for size!)

However, there are obstacles in the way.

Bard Crowns Gallery With Dual Exhibits

By Masud Husain

From the catacombs of time, a bold myth is revived in an exhibit at the Blum Gallery titled "Herakles-a passage of the hero through a thousand years of classical art." Herakles, or Hercules, who was ironically designed to be the greatest hero of both mortals and immortals, is depicted with supreme

extravagance in archaic amphoras, bronze and marble statuettes, gold earrings, marble reliefs and a unique sarcophagus, that are included in the exhibit. The varied art forms that are presented range in date from the archaic period in Greece (6th century B.C.) to the end of the Roman Empire and the early christian era (4th-6th century A.D.)

One is permitted to experience a visual feast with religion, myth and art as close

Quite a few changes have trimmed the function of the Committee. The budget that they have been awarded this year is considerably less than usual. In contrast to last semester's grant of \$9300 dollars, this semester a mere \$3000 was awarded, apparently due partly to mismanagement of funds by the former convocation treasurer. His not getting the receipts back after performances last semester caused a deficit of \$2000.

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Bard In France

By Adam Cameron Frank

Culturally, the Bard In France program, which took place during the field period, offers students a rich experience. The group spent eleven days in Angers and seventeen days in Paris.

As a participant of the group I found Angers to be superb for anyone who is interested in learning about medieval art and architecture as well as how some of the best wine of France is made. We visited the chateaux of Saumur and Chenonceaux and also explored Rabelais country where we saw villages that have remained virtually untouched since the fourteenth century. Our instructor in France, Guy Ducornet, lives in a small medieval village not far from Angers. I believe that this helped the group to view France from a French perspective, not entirely American. Monday through Thursday the group met and discussed the day's major articles from both socialist and communist newspapers, the daily french assignments, and any other questions or ideas that were of interest. Most of us left Angers with a good ideas of what life in a provincial town is like. In Paris, we traced the development of art beginning with prehistoric man and then the impressionists before studying more modern art forms.

There were problems that arose during the program. The differences between French food and American food caused discomfort

for some. Also, it seemed to me that some resented being "dragged" around to castles and museums and would have preferred a greater emphasis to have been placed on entertainment (restaurants, stores, clubs, etc.) rather than on a discourse of history and culture. Certain female members of the group found the social mores of France to be considerably different from those at Bard. The most legitimate criticisms were against the french language tutorials. They varying degrees of fluency made it difficult to teach us as one group. We were eventually split into two groups, which improved the situation, though this was not until the trip was half over. Professor Justis Rosenberg, in charge of the program, acknowledges that this was, indeed, a problem but is certain that it will not occur in the future.

Bard In France is ideal for a person who is open-minded enough to see beyond his own American viewpoint while in France. Professor Rosenberg is interested in the possibility of expanding the program to include other colleges. He would also like there to be stricter requirements regarding a student's ability to speak french. This would help to insure that applying students would have a higher motivation towards learning as well as a greater appreciation of the french culture. Also, he would like to have financial aid available for those who would enjoy the program and are qualified to go but who can't afford to do so.

Observer Classifieds

How to place an Observer Classified in our next issue:

- 1) Think of something to say (sometimes the hardest part).
- 2) Write it down (try to keep it less than 30 words).
- 3) Send to Box 123 by March 23 for next issue.
- 4) Keep your money — Observer Classifieds are free to the Bard community.

APARTMENT FOR RENT in the Skyler Mansion. If interested call 876-6398 or 876-2597.

THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS CLUB meets every Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the committee room. Anyone interested in helping to make the club more successful is welcome to attend.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING AND JOURNALISM please reply to the Observer, Box 123. We want to make the paper more interesting and will need your help.

Shep: We know who they are.

Leave the Cruger pay phone alone, jerk.

Bill: All My Moments Of Being, first edition. Hardcover, Vol. II. yours for only \$9.95 if you act now!

40 corpulent women, 30 balding men, and a partridge in a pear tree; shall we light the light this semester?

Nancy: It's so important not to be bogged down by stupid things like problems. We love you. Good luck.

"You know?" (Cough)

To R.G.: Did you get my note at the party? I'm waiting. - A

Faith: You're delightful and have been a true inspiration.

Shep: You traded in your heritage for a quickie with destiny.

"But, my dear little bairlings, don't prick up your ears nor suppose I would rank you and Bryant as peers;" - Lowell

Beware of a Bust!

Masud the Dude: Bus those trays, you do it so well. I know. - One of the many

"Hold On! Hold On! Hold O-on!"

To Captain Chaos and Energy Boy: You can shake-buku me any time! Thanks for helping me purify my Karma. - Love always, Demanda

In the rooms, the women come and go, talking in Esperanto.

"I'm empty!" cried the mailbox. "I'm choking on campus mail." replied another.

To T.S.: You have a beautiful girlfriend, I want her.

Doe A Deer Dear's Female Rose.

Allison: Against satin, my brown skin shines will it be your place or mine?

To Masud: Right, Right, you're bloody well right you got a bloody right to say... Who loves you baby? Me. - from A

A.S.: Watch out for the next full moon. - Love, Me

"We had no comeras to shoot the landscape. We passed the hash pipe, and played our Doors tapes..." Write that project, P.O.C.!

To the library sleeper: Can I join you sometime?
"Evelyn! Phone call!"

Hey Barry: Can I be a part of the "cool" crowd too? - Poindexter

Diana: Be ready to be more than drunk. Today's special. - Mushroom Soup

Nuziata says: "Plasticman without cigarettes ain't no plasticman a tall.

And Here's to the majestic SALMON, looming large on the horizon.

Tol Damien-Cat-From-Hell: Look after your mommy, we loveher, - The Godparents

To Ben F. and Todd J.: Haht! y'all losel - T.N.E.

One day Shep, the Deb. party will be over... and don't come running back to us to pick up the pieces.

Yes, as a matter of fact, I DO own the whole damned road!

Gregor: You're a hell of a guy. You're a vision of inspiration, guts, and determination. Keep up the good work. - A

To the Junior with the red ribbon: You remind me of someone I once knew. Can we meet? -P

Auntie Em! Auntie Em!

Ted: We'll meet you on the soccer field when the sun goes down. - A & L

Shweethart: Louie's horn blows
I think of unrequited love
A melancholic cracks a smile
Thinking of you...

Why can't I find a "Duck Man" of my own?

Shep: We gave you all we had and you slapped us in the face.

To C.K.: I've seen you in the library and think you're beautiful. The next time you stamp out my books, know that you stamp my heart as well. - Love

The following statement is false. The peric ding statement is true.

Jan is coming.

uh-uh-uh-uh- O Superman- uh-uh...

To Chris and Ray: Froot loops! Fig Bar! Man-hole cover! It was my idea, you boneheads!

To A.S.: Have you talked to Tipple yet?

My name's not Fred, but you should see my Ha-Ha.

Michelle: I like the "Dead," the "Doors," "Janis," and I am a hip beatnick like you. I think we are like destined to meet and mate. - Starstruck

Punk band lookin' for musicians- must be classically trained, and have the ability to bleed.

Darlin: You can have it, just as soon as my new ones come.

Hector arose, was killed
As we live and breathe
We live in regret.

SCOTT: Gosh, we just can't thank you enough. You're A-OKAY indeed. -The Editors

Sink or swim! They said, but we sank to the bottom.

Hey Jon: I love to make noise and talk late on the telephone. It's all for you. Love you babe. Learn how to live!

Jennifer: Mona Lisa, Mona Lisa, Mona Lisa- I miss ya honey! -the hunk who was down the hall from you

Andrianna: I am him and you are me and we are all together. See how they run like pigs from a gun. I'm crying.

My senior project blues have turned a rich shade of cobalt.

Things base and vile, holding no quantity,
Love can transpose to form and dignity,
Love looks not with the eyes, but with the mind,
And Therefore is winged Cupid painted blind.

For Ted: Hit me, whip me, beat me, one more notch on your spotless record. Relax and enjoy.

Bratt: Kitty is your alterego. -Love, Cat-girl

Shep: Our hearts are bleeding but don't you worry yourself, we'll carry on.

"Do you come here often?" "I never leave."

Jennifer: I live to stare at you.

Hey I'm lonely you all
Ain't anybody gonna love my ass
Come on, I need ya
-For you Monsieur Magnifique

March is Gotee month.

Rachel: You're coping so well. You're mahvelous- we all love ya oh so much, we really do. -Signed, four of the most desired men on campus

Sweeney: "...and when I am pinned and wriggling on the wall - then how should I presume?"

It was a dark and stormy night. Suddenly, a shot rang out! A door slammed, the maid screamed. Just then a pirate ship appeared on the horizon. Meanwhile back in Iowa a small boy was growing up.

Who organized this "bonfire" anyway, the Girl Scouts?!!

Ben — Wanna go double or nothing again?

BRIAN!!! Where the :#@! are you? You haven't been here for a week!...Do I have a single or not?

Duhmystic - "Is it true that Magic-Users have crystal balls?" -Duhranger

To that waggish cur: Am I really such a bitch?

Cort: You are simply wonderful.
Hi Mom, Hi Dad.

To the floppish fellow in Cruger: A pity that the pay-phone has caused you such arrogant display of emotion. In the barracks we are all well aware of who you are. Might I suggest not doing it again and saving yourself tremendous public ridicule. We choose to behave like adults but may have to acquiesce to your boorish standard should the situation not improve.

I've seen the best minds of my generation picking their noses in toilet stalls.

Donald - Why is the coffee so bad, huh? Got problems at home, or what?

"Fetch!" they said to the dog. "Get it yourself." Rover replied in a brusque tone of voice.

Art!...Art!...

When penguins shed their coats and bark, we shall call them dogs. But a dog in a tuxedo is a sloth.

Acey: I do believe I'm finally out of difficulties. Shall we rejoice?

Does anyone go to the bar anymore?

Celine: Is it REALLY true?

S.T.R.J.L.V & K: Come to my tropical wonderland and have some fun.

Robbins Meeting continued from page 1

He admitted that inter-departmental communication was flawed. "I can't stand here and tell you the system is perfect; obviously there are breakdowns," he said at the meeting. Kuriger is supposed to receive a daily schedule of B & G activities, but there are complications. "A lot of work is dependent on factors such as the weather, or changes from hour to hour," said Kridler. "B & G can't guarantee what they'll be doing two weeks in advance." To help have a better idea of what work is planned, Kuriger will attend a weekly meeting with Griffiths and his staff. "Our relationship (with B & G) is better than when I came, and will continue to improve," said Kirdler. The general student opinion that Dick Griffiths does whatever he wants, whenever he wants, is not likely to change until it does.

The general tone of student bitterness at the meeting was thought by some to be overly hostile. "Sure, everyone wanted to nail the deans to the wall," said peer counselor Berman, "but some people appeared almost disappointed whenever they made sense." He felt some students were also unrealistic. "It was painfully clear that a lot of students had never worked a day of their lives. They had unrealistic expectations of what it takes to run an institution." Said Kridler, "We don't expect students, with their necessarily limited perspective, to understand the day-to-day operations of the campus."

There was also criticism of the dean's attitude at the meeting. "Their general feeling seemed to be that if we communicate with them there will be a sudden social utopia," said junior Todd Johnson, "and that's simply wrong. We can communicate until we're blue in the face and that won't change the problem. For an issue like the fire alarm, communication is a useless scapegoat. What is needed is a change in the system that will make communication effective."

The exact role of the deans was also questioned. "It seems like they should represent (the students) with someone like Dick Griffiths," said Johnson. "Why should we have to deal with the administration's political infighting? I would think they would serve as liaisons between students and the administration." Kridler said that indeed one of his duties is that of student advocate, but that another aspect of his job is to facilitate discussion, such as the dorm meeting with Griffiths. He also feels that the philosophy of the students has changed. "The attitude of 'Why should we have to talk with Dick Griffiths?' is very different from that of student participation and involvement (in managing the environs of the campus) that can be seen in the student handbook," he said. "That loss of the sense of communal discussion and agreement is something that's changed since the 1960's and '70's."

The consensus is that things have settled down since the meeting. Kridler says that from the beginning of the semester there was a decrease in complaints from Robbins. Said

Interview contined from page 1

ly against it.

B.F.: Because I think it will create an Observer which is rigidified, and unresponsive to change.

Obs.: Unresponsive in what way?

B.F.: Non-reflexive.

Obs.: Non-reflexive?

B.F.: I think that we ought to have a newspaper that is subject to the politics and motions of attitudes of the students; to have something subject to flux rather than something consistently well laid out.

Obs.: Did you plan to run for editor if the student elect system was approved?

B.F.: There was talk about it among several people: Me, Hans Solbrig, Jim Moske, and Todd Johnson.

Obs.: What did your goals for the paper include?

B.F.: A more open, less structured paper, less concerned with conformity to the modes of journalism used by the New York Times.

Obs.: Content over form?

B.F.: Exactly.

Obs.: Anything in closing?

B.F.: I wasn't against Rachel as editor. I have no opposition to the clique but rather the move to solidify that clique. When I first opposed this position, I had no intention of running; I just saw an attempt being made to keep things underground, and it made me mad.

I'm concerned with maintaining the potential for an effective political pressure in the Observer, but maybe not right now.

Berman, "There is generally less tangible dissatisfaction." He thinks that, in addition to better direct communication, the deans can help in other ways. "Taking small steps like tuning the piano makes sense; it shows a concern for our mental health," he said. "Problems can be alleviated by making things more comfortable, and with less disciplinary pressure." Johnson agrees. "It seemed as though their stance was disciplinary, like they were high school vice-principals...(but) they've stayed off our backs (since the meeting)." Said Kridler, "We will continue to confront individuals we, and other students, have problems with...We haven't backed off from confronting anyone, we just haven't had to do so."

Scholarship Program

continued from page 1

three each year.

One student questioned the stipulation that scholarship recipients must maintain a "B" average and the difficulty that this would entail. It was observed by the President that he had never met a student at Bard who did not have the capability to maintain a "B" average and that the failure to get a "B" is simply the factor of laziness.

Through his replies to questions, President Botstein asserted that the new scholarship would not discriminate against inner-city high schools but would benefit candidates from very rural, remote areas. Asked whether there would be a more aggressive stand on affirmative action, President Botstein replied "yes" - "it remains to be seen."

Sleepy Hollow continued from page 1

not students would be evicted, or if rents would be raised, saying that, although a contract has been signed, the final papers will not be signed until April of this year. Said Nancy Gold, "This project is opening, and storing the property will require a great deal of time. We have consultants beginning the planning, but everything is still in the most preliminary stages." "Within the next eighteen months we will be considering the necessity of increasing campus housing. This might include doing some expansion of dormitories, and possibly the construction of a new dormitory in the Ravine-Tewksbury area."

The final effect that the opening of the Montgomery Place residence will have on us at Bard is yet to be seen. It is clear though, that it is only part of a much larger movement, that of the escalation of property values all over the area as it becomes a prime-site for second homes. In reference to this,

President Botstein said, "I think this must be faced up to. In the next ten years, property in the Hudson Valley will be increasingly sought after, and at the same time, there will be a corresponding effort to preserve the area." Whatever takes place, the community around Bard, and Bard itself, is indeed due for some changes.

Bard Sports Brief

Bard's Womens Basketball team finished their season in February, completing their "Best year ever," according to coach Carla Davis. Captains Thea Bloom, Debbie Waxman, and Dorothy Atcheson were cited as key contributors to the team's 4-9 season. Although Thea, Debbie and Dorothy are graduating this year, Coach Davis was optimistic about future performances by talented Freshmen Jody Kipper, Caroline Bacon, and Rachael Barret.

Wanted: A nice, tall, dark and handsome type - preferably a sculptor or painter with big hands. Send photo and hand print to box 750. Interviews by appointment.

Hey Merle. Hookupus-love ya, Granola...

D: Geeks make great pals. -M

Send money to Box 623 now and we promise not to beat you up -From Doug and Dinsdale

Once more unto the beach. Dear friends!

Fly to London for \$45.00. Call Air Hitch, 1-800-593-7500. Bring a towel.

So she said, "I need a man." And he replied, "So do I."

Classifieds continued from page 3

R.L.: You'll always be my animal with two long ears and a tail! Love, Your Kitty

We love living in Hell! Satan is welcome any time!

Caroline F.: I love you. -K.

Carolyn: You too. -K.

John Birch Society at Bard. Box #001.

IMPEACH CORMAC

What is black, white, and red, and can't get through a revolving door? — A nun with a spear through her head! Hal

Bill's pal smells Phil's chum's bull's tail.

Ooo...such strife at the Forum!

Really...honest...it was blowhard!

Woof woof woof woof.

Last day to send me your dollar.

It's gotta be the flouride in the pasta.

Hi Sunshine! I love you. -C.

Arts continued from page 3

allies cemented in the classical age. Tangible expression is given to the forces of nature and her relationship to the gods and heroes who dominated the existence of early man. The exhibit is worth a visit for those who are avid fans of Greek myths. It is also recommended for those who are skeptical of modern art - a visit to witness the germ of abstraction.

Another exhibit that graces the basement walls of the Blum Gallery can be viewed as a contrast to Greco-Roman art. Entitled "Style and Imagery - a survey of Japanese paintings," the exhibit is to place accolade upon the distinguished and widely acclaimed Professor Hugo Munsterberg upon his retirement from Bard. It covers 3,000 years of Japanese paintings (art and calligraphy) and was arranged from his personal collection. It is a fitting tribute, to precipitate the acquaintance of Professor Munsterberg as a teacher and to inspire the stimulation of Eastern Tradition in art amongst his students.

An opening reception was held at the Gallery on Sunday, March 9th and was marked by Professor Munsterberg's discussions of various works of art in the exhibit. He said, "Art is deeply embedded in Japanese tradition; a man's stature and culture are representatives of the art he admires and displays in the area he occupies." Most of the paintings on display are arranged from the early - middle to late "Edo" period in Japanese history. Both exhibits will be shown until the 31st of May.

S: Thursday night was great! Want to try it again soon? You not only move well on the floor you also move well...S

Da, da, da, I don't love you, you don't love me so ha, ha, ha. -P.O.

Anyone for guinea-plg molesting?

Come to Hell-Satan.

P.O.: How 'bout sometri-wedges and screaming yellow zonkers!? -K.M.

"One thing I know is dat life is short so lisen up home-boy give dis a thought, next time someone's teachin why don't you get taught."

"And it's like that."

"What?"

"And dat's da way it is."

Christ. All I want is some sleep.

Heaven, Hell, Purgatory too. These dens of inequity are in me as much as you.

Ah, yes. More futile sex acts to pass the hours of the night.

Disks for sale - \$1.50. Contact "Vi" or "Christopher" Scott Martin.

T: Ummmm...i'll sing you a song, paint you a painting, dance you a dance while you're waiting...don't wait too long. -C.

To my wonderful stage manager of hell - cheer up, baby! R.B. loves you.

R.L. Let's do it on the rocky beaches of Nantucket Island, K.M.

Bellissima Raída, you're so cute! P.C.

Dear T & T. Just to let you know that I love ya guys. F.T.W. and don't let the turkeys let you down. You've got an S friend.

Hey Rita. As I said, I hope it lasts longer than the half hour 3/9/86. Your midnight phone pal.

You're not white. You're not rich. And you're probably not straight. Face Facts...

"You are my lover, you're my best friend, you're in my soul..."

I love you dear one - please don't ever forget that! I hope we never lose each other, because I want to be close to you, and talk with you and hug you, forever. You have my love with you wherever you go - you know that, right?

Priests and Cannibals - Prehistoric Animals- Everybody Happy as the Dead Come Home! Big Black Nemesis-Parthenogenesis- No one Move a Muscle as the Dead Come Home!

Dear C.: The film major with the dimple - I've been watching you and think you're very sweet. - signed Your Secret Admirer.

To Keith: Don't be such a smendrick!

Dear Dominick: I want your ducky-wucky!

Ann: We're all thinking about you and love you.

St: I care. That's all. -R.

Yol Lady -
2 young to marry
#2 much to do.

4 both of us
Lets get it together before midterms.

The election for
The Observer
Editor-in-Chief
will be held this coming
Sun., March 16 — 4 p.m.

Students interested in running
for the position should send a
3x5 card to:

The Observer
Box 123