Proposed TAP Reductions

by Pete Stone

In his State of the State address on Wednesday, February 3rd, Governor Mario Cuomo proposed that the "upper cut" of the TAP award reduction for juniors and seniors be eliminated. C. J. Lawton, president of the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities, said that the organization was grateful to the Governor for recommending the elimination of the long-standing inequity. The CICU represents 118 independent institutions of higher education in New York State.

Lawton is also looking forward to working with the Governor and the Legislature to increase the maximum TAP award and to recapture the needy students who are not currently eligible for the TAP program. "What the Governor proposes is a good beginning. It promotes a firmer base on which to rebuild TAP and meet the needs of today's students," said Lawton. "The TAP program's purchasing power has eroded and, consequently, now buys less education for students, and fewer students are eligible for funds because of inadequate adjustments in years past."

Unfortunately, not everybody is satisfied with the 1986-89 spending proposal. Connie Eno, president of the National Education Association of New York, called the budget a "basically good framework, but one that provides nowhere near the amount of funds required to address the needs of our schools. We need three times what he's proposed."

In an example of imbalance in the budget, Eno called its emphasis "heavy on kindergarten through 12th grade, but light on higher education." Cuomo has failed to mention the state's community colleges, as he has in the past, leaving their fiscal future to the discretion of the legislature. In addition, partly due to the lack of the Governor's support, community colleges have been put at a financial disadvantage in recruiting and keeping faculty. "Because salaries are on such a low scale compared to other occupations, our community colleges are having increasing difficulties retaining personnel," Eno said.

Eno summed up by saying that the spending proposals comprise an "unbalanced budget, heavy in ideas but light in money."

Black History Month

by Michele Berger

"The Black man must ..." - Joseph A. A. Ben, author of The Black Man of the Nile

See how many distinguished African-Americans you can identify without looking at the answers.


Black history month is upon us! If the amount of your correct answers was less than half, that indicates how scant your perception of African-Americans in history and popular culture is. If continued on page 3
Letters...

continued from page 2

of your hands. In the first issue I made a promise, and that promise was to deliver an issue every week. As long as the funding holds out, I will stay true to that promise.

In order to breathe life into this newspaper twice a month. The first is credibility. That means promising an issue every two weeks and sticking to that promise. As long as we get the funding, the community will see we mean business, and then we can get required funding. For too long the Observer has been a bag of empty promises. The second thing this paper needs is consistent contributions. It is not our policy to refuse contributions of actual news in favor of filler pieces, but we print what we have, and do our best to point a finger and scream bloody murder, but what have you done to help? Will blocking support and funding help to make the paper better? Or are you just out to destroy whatever doesn't agree with you?

To address the issues you raise, I'll take them on one by one. You didn't like the "Fun with Finance" article. That's fair. You have complaints about the moonies article. I'd like you to know that I consulted with the moonie's law firm, Philmore and McBraken in California, before I printed the article. On a college level the reasoning is the same as with it, and its following article. I'm sorry you don't think it's funny. As to your story suggestions, they have all been in the works a start of the year, and they are seamless as to when they will come in. However, I did not feel that it was a good idea to promote a paper every two weeks, and start an April. Waiting for people to deliver was killing the old Observer.

For all the fans of the old Observer, Cormac Flynn will return next semester. But instead of finding a paper gasping for funding and credibility, he will be able to work on a paper that's kept its promises, and delivered eight times. From this credible stance he will be able to put together the funding to make this paper great. As we are now, how can anyone believe in a newspaper that can't keep its promises?

Burning a cross outside my door isn't going to help. Only you can help. I will print every two weeks. If your articles are here on time, I will print them. If not, I'll print what is on hand. I'm not going to get bogged down in fighting over who is right and wrong, because doing that destroyed the organization preceding Cormac. Together we can make this paper great.

Another issue I'd like to address is hearing more from the rest of the community. So far the response has been slow, but mostly positive. Unsolicited questions so far show that students are positive about the Observer 10 to 1. However this represents a very small part of the population. Thus I would like to direct everyone to the final page, where they should fill out the ballot asking their opinion. We're all looking forward to finding out.

Peace Corps

continued from page 3

actively sought by leaders in business and industry. They even quote Lee Iacocca as saying, "If Americans wonder where in the world they can put their energy and talents to work, I recommend they consider joining the Peace Corps." Can you imagine the man who brought us the Pinto, developing and maintaining inland ponds in Angola, then appearing on Henry Ford's steps to become a corporate industrialist? Me neither.

Perhaps the best way to get the Corps will train you for 8-12 week intensively in language, culture, and technical aspects of the job. Free transportation to exciting third world cesspools is provided. During Peace Corps service, volunteers receive a monthly allowance for housing, clothing, and incidentals. Free medical and dental care are provided, as are 24 vacation days a year.

Following service, volunteers receive $175 for each month they spent in the service ($4200 for a two year stint). Ex-members are eligible for federal employment, and possible graduate school credit.

Certainly the Corps isn't right for everyone. As for me, I stick to the immortal words of Tom Hanks: "It's not that I can't help these people, it's that I don't want to." Same advice.

However, if the Peace Corps isn't for you after college, you might want to try the Central Intelligence Agency. Fundamentally, the two organizations are very similar. Each will train you for a service career abroad. Each offers challenge and opportunity to anonymous individuals. They also operate in similar parts of the world.

The CIA is responsible for gathering information, evaluating it, and producing finished reports containing accurate, comprehensive, and objective information concerning national security matters.

There are opportunities in domestic as well as foreign fields, such as engineering, computer science, electronic technicians, economic/military/political analysts, imagery analysts/scientists, intelligence operations, security, and administration.

The Agency offers a very comprehensive program of benefits including: life and health insurance; retirement, including voluntary investment opportunities; paid holidays; liberal sick and annual leave; recreational facilities and organizations; educational assistance; and relocation and other allowances for domestic and overseas assignments.

Of course, the type of work may differ between the two agencies. Therefore, this editor does not recommend that these choices are for everyone.

Events in the Hudson Valley


Feb. 28: Nancy Willard, poet, novelist, and award-winning children's author, will read from her own work at 4:00pm in the Barbara Fite Room at the House On The Quarry, located at 7480 Fite Road in High Woods, Saugerties. Admission is $12.50 for members and $15.00 for non-members. Call (914) 246-3400 for reservations.

March 13: The Germania Singing Society and the Bardavon Opera House are pleased to present a concert and dinner with the Vienna Boys Choir. Concert begins at 3:00pm. Tickets are available at the Bardavon Box Office at 35 Market Street in Poughkeepsie, or by phone, (914) 473-2072. Ticket prices range from $16.00 to $28.00.
History Month continued from page 1

all you know of black history is a cross between Martin Luther King and Diana Ross, then you are
realize and state of affairs.
Don't be idle this month. Take pride in the achievements of fellow African-Americans. Sit
down and argue with us on campus. Learn, grow, and in that process of growing become enriched.
Attend BBSO’s sponsored affairs.

A new sense of pride and identity is being developed among black students, citizens, or organizations for
their enlightenment. They must actively seek out and think about race relations, the black experience
in America, and racism.
Black history is too voluminous to be con-
tained in one month. It is a continuing search and
process of self-analysis. More importantly it is
a history to be revered and shared.

Answers to Black History Month Quiz
1) civil rights activist/creator of American
society theory
2) presenter of African/Caribbean dance
3) founder of first black newspapers/prominent
abolitionist
4) leader of back to Africa movement/development of
black nationalism
5) outspoken woman fighting for women's rights/
help for the Underground Railroad
6) recent promising filmmaker
7) has social commentary show on PBS: Tony
8) famous actor recently acclaimed in "Fences"
9) involved with the Black Panther Party/helped
desegregation of free lunch and breakfast program for
inner city children
10) congressman
11) African psychiatrist on American/consultant to Cosby show
12) civil rights activist
13) lawyer
14) Supreme Court Justice
15) poet, novelist - "I know why the caged bird

Angola bus

sings"

Missing Students Return

by Christopher Martin
Annandale-on-Hudson. Students missing from
Bard College for over two weeks began to return
to that institution this weekend. The first to
show up were freshmen Olga McPherson and Joshua
Rubenal. When questioned about their whereabouts
during the past two weeks, they replied, "We went to
Boston for Chinese food."
A total of one hundred thirty-seven students
disappeared during or shortly after the snowball
eight on February 2nd by the end of the day it became
to that the students might have been kidnapped by
Moonies, followers of the religious group led by
the Reverend Sun Myung Moon in the late
sixties. The sect is based at a compound in
Barrytown, which is down the road from the col-
lege.
The college was just about to begin the tremen-
dous job of notifying parents when Olga and
Joshua showed up. "We had put it off as long as
possible," stated a Bard staff member who wished
to remain anonymous. "We didn't want to cause
undue alarm. It worked out all right anyway."

Most of this morning, all but eleven of the missing
students had returned. Only one student, junior
Ben Icing, claimed to have been kidnapped by
Moonies. It was later discovered that he had
read about the allegation in a Boston newspaper.
"Most of them are back and they're going to go to
classes and I see them in the commons and stuff,
but they seem different," said sophomore Cat-
enina Punt. "Tracy and Terry are especially
weird. She's really quiet and she spends a lot of
time looking at nothing at all. When I asked her
if anything was wrong, she just said, 'Too
much Chinese food.'"

Bard faculty are of the opinion that if there is
indeed a change in the attitudes of the previously-missing students, it is a change for
the better. "Those particular students are much
more attentive in class," said philosophy pro-
essor Alfred Hitchcock. "They are a pleasure
to teach. It makes one wonder if disappearance
might be beneficial to the intellect."

Apparently the one hundred thirty-seven stu-
dents all stayed together at a Ramada Inn just
Civic Center Hosts Humperdinck

The "King of Romance", Engelbert Humperdinck,
will appear for one night only at the Mid-Hudson
Civic Center on Tuesday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m.
This show has been rescheduled from September,
and all tickets from that show will be honored.

Engelbert has tackled many parts of the entertai-
ment business with guest starring roles on
Hotel, Fantasy Island, and the immortal Love
Boat, where he may or may not have appeared with
Charo.

Following the Schwarzenegger approach to Hol-
lywood, Arnold George Dorsey changed his name to
Engelbert Humperdinck in an effort to immortal-
ize the composer of "Hansel and Gretel". Good
thing he didn't name himself after the Brothers
Grimm. His big break came in 1967 when his just
released version of "Release Me" knocked the
Beatles out of first place on Hit Parade. The
Beatles would later be quoted as saying that
this event made them realize that they were an
insignificant part of the 60's. This event would also be cited as one of the reasons
the Beatles broke up. George Harrison would
experiment in the song style of Humperdinck for
years to come.

"I like meaningful meaty songs that tell a
story. I lean towards more romantic tunes be-
cause they inspire a more responsive reaction with
an audience," says Engelbert. His current single
reaffirms his tenor musings.

In addition to his new sound, Engelbert has a
new look. He now sports a mustache and favors a
classier, more dresy style of clothing. He
maintains his.strand of pig tails just as his
250 fan clubs would attest to.

Reserved seating tickets are $23.00 and
$19.00, and are available at the Mid-Hudson
Civic Center Box Office, any TicketMaster loca-
tion, or the Chargeline at (914) 454-3388.
some trust between the housing department and the community.

BO: How would you say you and Stephen Nelson get along as deans?

SM: "So far, so good." I have not been here at Bard College for that long so that is hard to answer, but we work together very well. We are helping each other reach our goals that we have set for ourselves.

BO: How would you describe the position of Assistant Dean of Students?

SM: It is a very tough job yet it is a job that is very much so bound by system. I am here for the students mainly, to help them with any problems in their campus life. I am also here to help achieve a better residential life as well as campus life. That is the best way to describe the position.

BO: Tell us something about Shelly Morgan that will help the students get to know you better as a person and an administrator.

SM: I really don't have an answer for this question but I can say that I feel that I have been matched with the kind of students that I want to work with.

BO: What are your views on the current policies that affect student life here at Bard College?

SM: When it comes to this area of Bard, they are no different from any other school in their policies concerning student and campus life.

BO: Are there any policies that you would like to see changed?

SM: The one policy that I would like to see get changed is the idea of giving fines to students for things that they have done. Nothing is learned from a fine; Bard needs to take some other sanctions to correct these problems with students. You simply just do not get the message across with a little fine; you need to take more action.

BO: What can we students do to help you as the Assistant Dean of Students?

SM: The students can start by telling me what they want to see happen here at Bard College. They can get more involved in committees and organizations, and most importantly they must give me input; otherwise, how am I going to know what the students want to happen?

BO: In closing, Shelly, do you think that you are going to be happy here at Bard College?

SM: It is going to be a challenge but I can do it and I think it will be a fun one at that. With lots of help from the students, we’ll make it work.
Return
outside of Boston. According to Ola, they
"shopped" and "sang a lot."
We decided we were a sort of team. We all
bought orange uniforms and sang team songs in
the subways. We even met a couple of people who
wanted to join the team, but when they found out
they had to shave their heads, they went away.
Why did they come back from such an idyllic
existence?
"For one thing, we got kinda bored," replied
Joshua. "There's only so much Chinese food one
can eat. Besides, it turned out there was this
other group of people who wore orange uniforms
and sang and stuff, so we sorta got disillusioned.
We realized education was important
anyway, and so we came back."
He chuckled. "I can't believe you knuckleheads
thought we were kidnapped by Moonies! I" He paused
reflectively. "Boy, wouldn't you like a flower?"

How to Find Chinese Food in Boston
Take the Taconic north to the Mass. Pike. Take
the Mass. Pike east until you hit Boston. Keep
going. Keep going. See the sign that says
"Chinatown"? Turn now!

Sex or Laundry: Good Clean Fun

Long before the advent of Maytag, Virgil an-
thropomorphized, "O tyrant Love, to what dost
thou not drive the hearts of men!" The answer
remains the same.
Laundry.
In college years the privileges and responsi-
bilities of "adults" are suddenly thrust upon
relatively impressionable adolescents. Often the
individual has not experienced such independ-
ence, and for the first time must balance the
delicate relationship between those things one
wants to do and those things one wishes they've
already done.
Sex. And laundry.
In order to determine which one of these acti-
vities is actually considered more important in
the Bard community a statistical analysis was
performed on the relationship between gender and
whether "it's easier to sleep with someone or
get them to do your laundry."
RESULTS
58.8% of males and 89.3% of females indicated
that it was "easier to find someone" to have sex
than to get someone to do their laundry.
However, having laundry done for oneself was
described as "more worthy of one's while" in 52.9% of
responding males, and 63.2% of females. Statis-
tically, males found it easier to get their
dresses done (as opposed to themselves), whereas
females suffered the contrary. One male wrote,
"Two women have done my laundry here. One has
made my bed. None have made me. Took me two
minutes to get them to do my laundry, taken me
about 25 weeks to get to third base..."
ANALYSIS
Society often influences our behavioral re-
sponses. Obviously thinking about more than
sex, a respondent remarked, "When one stares at
the blonde in physiological psychology class,
one is indeed contemplating a four-letter verb,
but 'wash' isn't it. During the initial sexual
encounter one tends to be more concerned with putting their best...uh...foot
forward, adapting to their partner, and exhibi-

by Dan Hillman, Science Editor
ing the persona of their choice. In a laundry
room setting, however, one must deal with more
personal matters, specifically whether changing
the sheets once a semester is too often. One
might wonder if there is a correlation between
one's sexuality and personal habits.
From a certain viewpoint one could assert that
the data indicates males tend to be superficial,
regarding sex and laundry as necessities of life
that have approximately equal importance, and
that females, relatively sure of sexual success,
harbor a desire to reveal the more intimate
details of themselves, i.e., their laundry. On
the other side of the coin, females may simply
be more honest in revealing their priorities. A
female participant in the survey mused, "I can
do myself but I'd rather not do my laundry."
Perhaps a volunteer would like to test this
hypothesis by offering to be either a confidant
or a laundry service for female subjects. Natu-
rally this would be a very dangerous experi-
ment, and the subjects must accept all risks.
Sure, there are risks involved. Whether "this
noble in the mind to suffer AIDS (or the next
trendy sexually transmitted disease), or have
some weirdo steal your clothes is a personal
decision that must be made by you and you alone.
The Bard Observer shall take no responsibility
for your actions. Both interpersonal relations
and laundry are dangerous and should only be
undertaken by professionals. Do not try this at
home. Be sure you know the subtle difference
between removing someone's pants and washing
'em. As an anonymous contributor observed, "If
you do your own laundry, there is less risk of
losing socks and no chance of others laughing at
your stupid, ripped underwear with the purple
hearts on them."

CONCLUDING NOTES
52.9% of responding males and 63.2% of females
desired having laundry done for themselves more
worthy of one's while than sex. Think about it.
And don't wash red socks with white shirts.
Raising Monetary Awareness

Are you in a constant state of indebtedness? Do credit card companies have bitten after you? Do you owe money to long-toothed men with names like Guido and Cheech? If so there may be help for you. Although they won't give you money to support your credit lifestyle, the Self-Help Clearinghouse in Ulster County is interested in starting a support group for anyone who has a problem with money. The group will be based on Debtors Anonymous model and will adhere to the Alcohols Anonymous 12 Steps and 12 Traditions.

A meeting time and place has not been set, but interested persons should contact Linda Cooper of the Self-Help Clearinghouse of the Mental Health Association in Ulster County (914) 336-4747.

Alternatively the Observer would like to extend its helping hand to anyone with this problem. Since the root of the trouble is money, we suggest that said funds be sent directly to us. Money in the wrong hands can be a dangerous thing, so trust an expert to deal with it.

The Mental Health Association also announced that County Treasurer Lew Kirschner will be the honorary chairman of the MHA's second annual Mile of Quarters fundraiser. The drive will culminate on Saturday, April 23rd with an evening of music and entertainment at Kingston High School. All proceeds from the event are earmarked for the MHA's programs for youth depression and suicide prevention. The agency hopes to raise the equivalent of a mile of quarters which is $16,500.

Unique fundraising events like this can also work for Bard clubs and groups. A mile of beer bottles (approximately 25,344) might even work better. At a case and a six for every student, by the end of the event the participants will be so crooked they won't notice how much money they've donated.

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Observer Classifieds

Dear Land's End Lady: That guy sounds like something from a bad 70s movie. Try him.

Wanted: same as "optimistic" two weeks ago, but two. (2) Send all stuff to "Insanely Optimistic".

Attention, ladies! Want to work part-time for no money? Bleacher is looking for a floozie. If interested, call John at extension 310 to arrange an interview/audition.

Redhead: Get a haircut, you're making me look bad. -- The ex-president of your fan club.

Dear "not really my sister," I hate it when that happens. Don't you? -- Just look alike.

Dear all-knowing, most omnipotent "observer", you should try the abyss sometime; it's really quite nice down here. -- over-the-edge.

Dear Norman Bates, keep the Guttenberg Bible. Will you give $20 for the Monet originals, but can I have the car too? -- Ernest & Trevor, how does it feel to have the wind whistling across your naked scalp? -- Just curious.

Dear Masked Observer, if you don't go to your grave with that flower I'll hate you forever! (harsh, huh?)

To whom it may concern: I'm fed up with your silly lies. I'd rather die alone.

Miss February: Hope you enjoy your reign and the quirks that go along with the extra size.

Flat-top girl: classified romance is decidedly tacky, but perhaps this message could prevent future transgressions. It's your watermelon; you can drop it from a great height, or you can eat it. -- CSCH.

Michele, you gorgeous woman you, I think I want to know you better, but I can't get near you. What do I do? There's only one worm.

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See you in the Observer issue three - March 1

SEND SUBMISSIONS TO BOX 635

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What's it like to be part of the Observer staff?

It's an adventure!

It's expense accounts, business lunches, exotic travel, meeting attractive people, accumulating experience and being a working part of the world's best little newspaper.

ALL THIS PLUS

State of art facilities, access to celebrities and world leaders, the news helicopter, high salaries, paid vacations, automatic prestige and the instant respect of your peer.*

Life's an adventure — Live It!

Join the Bard Observer Staff

CONTACT BOX 635

*Does not imply contract or guarantee. Statement of one slightly damaged and deluded staff member.

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Letters, we get letters

I was going to write an editorial about the lack of response the Observer had had over its first issue. Luckily I was spared from the task by three critics who had the good sense to respond. But into it, I have to think of three critics for having an opinion. By having opinion, whether it is good or bad, these people have contributed to the Observer, and in the future they will broaden its appeal.

Two of the critics came in the mail, and one I found posted in the commons. The more creative of the three was an issue of the Observer, redone in red over the areas that expressed his/her gravest concern. Of the three I feel that Mike Katell showed the best, no nonsense approach. His criticism is honest as well as accurate, and does not seem to stem from a personal vendetta.

TO: The Bard Observer Staff
FROM: Michael Katell
I read the latest issue of the "Bard Observer" and I would like to offer my opinion. The editing of the paper to be highly irresponsible and childish. The first story on pg. 1, "Fun with Finance" is a fascinate piece of literature on how to move "yuppie"s in the world through the practice of saving money--wow this is news to me.

The second article, "Aftermath of a Snow War", is a most irresponsible work of fiction which has no place on the front page of a newspaper, and certainly nowhere else with out a fiction disclaimer. If you were out in the "big world" the moonies could sue you for aggra-vation. They would sue you now, if they were stupid enough to read our poor excuse for a newspaper and crazy enough to care...I just don't get the joke.

Who do you people think you are? Children? The Bard Observer is a newspaper; its responsibility to the Bard community is to offer news, any news to a community of people who may not know what is going on right around them. What's that I hear you say? What is there to cover? I admit there is a severe lack of exciting news here. On the other hand, there is a new administration member, the former director of security quit only to be picked as a candidate for the vacant position, vacated student offices were filled at the last minute, and finally the housing crisis has been abated, with the new dorms opening incomplete. There are an incredible number of stories that are going uncovered. It's not funny; it's irresponsible.

There is a vast difference between journalism (the fourth estate) and public masturbation. I found nothing but the latter in the Observer's last issue. I find the paper to be an example of naive apathy, and to possess a blatant disregard toward its readers.

I've read the "Bard Observer" for four years. I've seen it slanted to the left; I've seen it reformed under Gavin McCormick; I've seen it act as a blind deaf and dumb mouthpiece to the administration and I've seen it run by Cormac Flynn. I have never been a Bystander as I am now to be a Bard student when I read your paper. On top of its irrelevancy as a newspaper, it's also just plain boring.

I am not alone in my opinion. My roommates commented that they are disgusted that our convolution is paid for this trash, a friend's father, who is a professor at Holyoke College, commented on his boredom with this issue and a student burned a stack of Observer papers in the commons to the cheers of many others.

If I disagree with you? Tough shit, the Observer is not your paper; it belongs to the students and we the students are far from satisfied. I have immediate plans to generate support for block funding of the Observer until a new editorial policy, i.e., NEWS is adopted by the Observer staff.

In the past, even when the news was boring or slanted, at least it was there. Yours truly,
Michael Katell

I'm glad you're upset. Kurt Vonnegut once wrote that he loved living in New York City. Not because it was a great place to be, but because it made him think. I find inspiration in write. This is what issue one was all about.

The Observer was a dying newspaper. Not because of improper editing, or lack of news, but because the students lacked faith. If no one believes in a newspaper, then it cannot exist. This analysis is hard to fully support for the Observer because it lacks one basic instrument: credibility. Over the past four years the Observer has blossoned and your newspaper should not reflect your lack of faith.

On February 8th, I received a newspaper in my mailbox. It is only an issue of the Observer. I can only respond by saying that I was in the mailboxes 8 days after the start of the new term, and one day ahead of schedule. As you read this a second issue of the Observer continued on page 7

More letters

Dear Editor,

I feel the need to protest the new direction of your newspaper. The only thing larger than your lack of talent seems to be your ego. The entire campus does not revolve around your newspaper, and your newspaper should not revolve around you. Don't you take anything seriously? A newspaper is one of the most powerful instruments of expression. Why not put it toward a good endeavor?

Sincerely,
Arnold Matlott

Newspapers are powerful indeed, but what power does this newspaper have? There has not been a serious driving force behind this newspaper in years. As the Editor, I think it is important to have an opinion, and be able to express it. You may not like mine, but you don't have to. I don't like yours, but I am willing to publish it because I feel it is important to represent all opinions. If I seem egotistical in my approach, it is because this is not an easy job. It requires a lot of patience and administrative skill to put the paper out on time. That is our goal this semester. A regular paper every two weeks. We may not have the most relevant news, and I may become sidetracked in areas of no interest to you. However, we are not trying to impress the intellectual side of your brain, we are trying to prove that this mountain we are at the base of can be climbed. By day six of the new term the first issue of the Observer was out. A regular schedule had been set up, and issue two was being assembled.

If this paper has any hope, it is in its ability to know its limitations. No one will stand behind empty promises. They will stand behind an organization that has room for improvement. Improvement is all that is necessary, but we feel it can be more relevant if the product is distributed regularly. Once this paper builds credibility, then it can reach toward higher goals.

Incidentally, 90% of the mail we received about issue one was positive.

Dear Editor,

Although I am skeptical about your ability to produce an issue every two weeks, I like your off the wall style, and your move away from the normal stuffy kind of newspaper you were last year. In my three years here I don't think I received eight issues of the Observer total, but if you think you can do it, more power to you.

We must be doing something right. However, we'd still like to hear from the rest of the community. If you have an opinion, let us know.
Dormmate Revenge: A User’s Guide

by Dan Hillman

College is a traumatic experience. If you "decide" to live on campus, they'll ensure you share the building with a bunch of psychopaths cleverly disguised as your dormmates. Without fail, you won't get along with or even like everybody. It may be their dumb tapestries or AM-radio musical taste. Perhaps it's their high-decibel "conversations" at three in the morning, their frantic fornicating at four, or the phone calls at five. Regardless of the reason, at some point you will want to vent your wrath. This article describes 26 ways to do it right, all while avoiding extraneous property damage and a possible jail sentence.

1. Give their illegal agent an Ex-Lax "treat".
2. Put your stereo speakers against the wall and crank up the Jimi Hendrix.
3. Tape record the Bard dogs having sex. Play it on repeat mode all night when you're away. (Use interchangeably with #2).
4. Stuff tuna fish under their door. Fetch the dora cats.
5. Lee Press-On Nails make great doorknob accessories. Be creative!
6. Leave a message on their door that their parents died. Conversely, leave a message that their parents are coming to visit.
7. Fill a trash can with BBs, ice cubes, or marbles. BBs work best if you're expensive. Lean it against their door.
8. Fill a record jacket (Van Halen works just fine) with shaving cream. Shove the business end under the door and apply body weight.
9. Scour 9-G for a roadkill. Blu-tack it to their door. If roadkills are scarce it's okay to use a dinner entree or Madonna poster.
10. "Borrow" some bricks from the construction sites. Nail up their door and window(s).
11. Wait until they're in the shower. Take a bite'outta crime and lock their door.
12. Paint their windows black in the middle of the night. You might consider hiring a professional for third floor enemies. This works best if they do a lot of drugs.
13. Replace their laundry detergent with Folget's crystals and/or cement mix.
14. Leave lust notes on their door from imaginary one-night stands. (Use only if they have a steady lover who comes by their room.)
15. Send deodorant, mouthwash, soap, or any hygiene aid anonymously through campus mail. They'll wonder for weeks...

16. Get 'em all excited for no reason. Send them a useless, oversized package through campus mail. Those ol' Whitesnake albums work just fine. If you bought the Whitesnake CD through the mail, you can also send along those silly styrofoam packing things.
17. Campus mail them an "assignment list" from one of their professors. Or a comptroller "pay-or-leave" note. How about something "neat" from the registrar? Be creative.
18. Get together with your friends! Stuff eight pounds of campus mail under their door.
19. Give 'em a good name with security. Call up seven times a day saying that "you're" locked out.
20. "Write" their name in the snow next to the commons. (This will involve some practice, especially if you're a female.)
21. Have "them" ask Leon and Stuart to lunch on the Invite-a-Professor-to-lunch Plan.
22. Put "For Sale" signs in Jamswaye and Grand Union. Anything really good really cheap. Use their name and number.
23. At dinner, have the Commons Crier announce a party in their room with free beer.
24. Be generous. Order a pizza for them. Or two. And remember, no party's complete without lots of gross diet soda.
25. Ensure they sleep through the big exam. Cut the power to their alarm clock by means of the handy hallway fuse box.
26. The Wrath of Grapes. Get really drunk and puke outside their door on the way to the bathroom. Twice. (Accidents will happen.)

[The Observer does not condone such activities. They are meant for entertainment purposes only.]

The Bard Observer
Established 1895

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Did you like the 1st issue of the Observer? Y/N
Do you like the second issue? Y/N
What type of material would you like to see in the next issue?

Observer Ballot and Opinion Poll #1

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Q AF

TENKS 219, OPEN MOST EVENINGS UNTIL MIDNIGHT

an alternative to starvation

G a f