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Hike The Day Away

by Lawrence Turner

An appropriately green information sheet entitled "Bard Hiking Expeditions" was recently distributed through campus mail. It promises some good hiking for the remaining portion of the semester.

The hikes will be led by the self-termed "intrepid explorer and biologist", Professor John Ferguson, who came to Bard in 1977 and is now Associate Professor of Biology (on sabbatical this semester). He has participated in the Bard hikes in the past, but wants to be even more involved.

The first of the three hikes planned for this semester is "The Trapps to Gertrude's Nose" on 16 April. I have been wondering for years about what this hike is like, if for no other reason than the name. The second trip (7 May) is "North Point". This should be the easiest of the hikes, for those who do not wish to strain themselves too much. The season finishes up 21 May with a more respectable hike, the longest by a little, the steepest by a great deal (with a vertical rise of more than 2000 feet). Sign-up for these hikes is at the Dean of Students office.

Ferguson sees a need for more guidance in the Bard hiking program, and he hopes to be able to provide it, for those who want it. He will probably not, however, tie the people together and drag them along the trails, as this would limit his own fun. He just wants to make sure that people know where to go, and that everyone who goes up the mountain comes off the mountain.

Ferguson's goal, given enough participation in the program, is eventually to set up a series of hikes on a four-year rotation, so that any given student will have the advantage of a wide selection of hikes during her/his stay at Bard. This is clearly better than the yearly or even semesterly repetition that has occurred over recent years.

Also, to allay the concern of those who are terminally afraid of booboos, Ferguson hopes to obtain from the Dean of Students office a first aid kit to take along on the hike.

There has been fairly little participation in the hiking program in the past, probably due in large part to a lack of information about the trips, but Ferguson has already helped that situation with his information sheet. He has also made the hiking guide, Fifty Hikes in the Hudson Valley, by Barbara McMartin and Peter Kick, available in the bookstore for those people who might be interested in doing some ex-

And the Winner Is... Cassandra Hughes

Committee Report on Aids

by Bruce Chilton

The Committee came into existence only in February, and yet has been sufficiently active as to make a report appropriate. From the outset, the target of our immediate concern has been the palpable ignorance of the risk of AIDS amongst heterosexual students. The result of that ignorance appears to be both unwise behavior and unfounded fear. We determined to get

remediably, in the short term, in order to address the dangers of ignorance, and programmatically, in the long term, in order to integrate an intelligent awareness of the issues surrounding AIDS within the intellectual and ethical consciousness of the College.

The remedial actions undertaken by the Committee are straightforward, and yet considerably in advance of the recommendations of the American College Health Association. Since the College already had in place a system of making speakers...
Letters, We Get Letters

Dear Editor,

Some people have bad days, other people cause them. It is understandable for some people to be irritable once in a while. But to continually harass certain people is misanthropic.

I'll bet not one of you know when a local Post Office not only do I not get a smile and "a thank-you," but I am usually ignored and I often receive a lot of grumbles and snarls. It is understandable that the postal clerks cannot always wait for you at the window. But I should not be left waiting there for five minutes without a response. Then, finally, after much of my querying, (Hello, is anybody there?) someone finally appears but I am also seems by the window I often miss out on campus mail. Granted, it's not as though I frame the stuff, but it is quite aggravating to find out about an event "six post offices away.

And doesn't it seem odd that our post office refuses to sell mailing boxes and envelopes, and often runs out of books of stamps? What about the fact that you can't cash money orders over $30.00...and even change. If you ran can't of these boxes, the Box community may be small in size, but it is large in worth...we're certainly worth more than a shoddy postal service run by Attila the Hun.

Student L.

Dear Student L,

Life must be so hard for you here in the enchanted valley. You bet not one of you know you are serving you hand and foot. I'll bet you have to use an alarm clock to get out of bed, rather than have the bell ring a bell. I'll bet the ruffians at the commons won't even consider getting you breakfast in bed. Dare I say you probably have to go to the bathroom by yourself...

It is not the duty of the post office to be at the beck and call of students who wish to buy stamps; it is their sacred duty to shove pieces of campus mail into little boxes to create the illusion that the people care if the average student is dead or alive. This is done in an effort to keep the average user separate from the fact that there is no chance in the outside world who give a shit about themselves.

Several semesters ago, as part of an experiment by the Observatory Post Office, every piece of campus mail I received. By the end of the semester I had accumulated 28 pounds of campus mail, a mass multiplied by the number of students, and you'll begin to realize the magnitude of the job the postal personnel are responsible for. If you don't seem to have the proper campus mail in your box, look in the garbage pails. Campus mail changes its color to allow you to distinguish it from mail in your box. If you see 600 copies of a blue paper that you didn't find in your box, pick one up. If you are fortunate enough to have this form, you must have noticed that the Bard post office is not exactly a real post office. Sure it looks and seems like a normal office, but this is not to the knowledge of AIDS. If you want to learn about AIDS, go to the library. Perhaps you should concern yourself more with facts that are accurate, while Ms. Brown's letter addresses it.

Gavin McCormick

Hillman responds:

It's a shame how one sentence of my article has been taken out of context and blown up into the biggest ongoing controversy to hit the Observer in years. The article, "Sex and Laundry: The Great Divide" was a legitimate scientific study of one aspect of Bard life, not AIDS. If you didn't like the article, that's too bad. My point was to bring awareness to the possibility of infection with AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. If you want to learn about AIDS, go to the library. Perhaps you should concern yourself more with the facts that are accurate, while Ms. Brown's letter addresses it.

Gavin McCormick
The Decade You Love to Hate

1977

Cast your mind back, back to 1977. It’s been said that “it’s always 1977 in Hell!” but try to put that aside and think about it objectively. It wasn’t like any other decade. The world was full of political uprisings, natural disasters, the threat of nuclear war hung over everyone’s heads, an idiot lived in the White House, and it was the 1970s—all that good stuff. But think of it this way: you lived through it, did you not? Are you badly scarred? Not really, unless you were one of the lucky few who had to hear “You Make Me Feel Like Dancing” will pass eventually. Besides, you have 1977 to thank for punk rock. If you couldn’t damage to it, you could at least laugh your ass off at it.

In January, London’s Roxy Club converted from a gay disco into the premiere punk rock club with an opening show by The Clash. A few days later, the Sex Pistols were ousted from their label, EMI, after a three month joy ride. The reason? "inappropriate, aggressive behavior." Bassist Glen Matlock departed in February and was replaced by Sid Vicious. Johnny Rotten claimed that Matlock was actually kicked out because “he wanted to make us fun like the Beatles.” In March, A&M foolishly signed the band. Nine days later, the Sex Pistols were labelless again. On April 9th, the band played at New York’s CBGB- the first appearance of a British Punk group in America. The Pistols finally found a home with Virgin Records for the release of their next album: "God Save the Queen," lead vocalist Rotten and drummer Paul Cook were severely beaten by two officers.

While the Pistols were successfully converted, released in the States in October. It was virtually ignored, reading only 106 on the album charts. To this day, no one knows what that album was called.

And speaking of Elvis, he’s really dead somewhere around here? Why, yes he did. On April 25th, he made his last three recordings at the Studio out of the middle of a concert in a recording studio. The production staff has never seen something he never did expect except for a kiss. In June, he made his last public appearance at the Madison Square Garden. In Indianapolis, Indiana. On August 16th he was dead. He was found on the floor of the master bathroom by his girlfriend, Ginger Alden. Cause of death was listed as coronary arhythmia.

Spring Break

by Dan Hillman

While some would like to believe that “no news is good news,” this is not true. As Bob Dylan says, “no news means we have to make news.” With few people on campus last week, we’ve had to search further than ever before for our biweekly Pulitzer Prize-winning articles. Luckily, the recently-launched Observer News Satellite has been steadily transmitting breaking news data to the Observer Cray-5 supercomputer to be analyzed by our team of experts and presented to you.

In the spotlight, Bob Winiarski, national representative of the American Council of Frozen Food Moors, declared on Friday that a newly advertised frozen food month was marked by an unprecedented 6.1% increase of frozen food consumption. ‘Says Winiarski, ‘Earth’s frozen food month was such a success that we’re petitioning Congress to declare a frozen food year. At this point we’re looking at 1990.’

Monday, March 28th, three young gentlemen filled the back of their car with beer and packed in chipped ice and were driving south when the ice melted, shorting out the electrical system and causing the car’s fuel tank to ignite. Authorities are still trying to determine the identities of the bodies. If anyone has any information about a 1973 Vol’swagen Bug with Vermont license plates CPD-1 I please contact the Dade County sheriff’s department.

Meanwhile, in Annandale, New York, with five weeks remaining before due date, many students stayed on campus to begin and/or finish their senior projects whilst enjoying the luxuries of the vacant dorms,개발, and absence of meals. Infrared photographs taken by the Observer News Satellite indicated students were both burning the midnight oil and burning the candle at both ends. One student explained, “It’s very simple. If my advisor doesn’t like my project, I’m going to kill him.”

Just in, scientist Lindsay McGregor of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration reported this week that his team of scientists have discovered life on the planet Neptune. At a news conference Thursday Dr. McGregor emphasized that the life forms are primitive by human standards, and pose no threat to humanity. “They only have one radio station, a 24 hour broadcast,” said McGregor.

Rumors that these creatures have migrated to Bard and are posing as neighbors have been denied by NASA officials.
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with herpes.

Do people choose to get AIDS? In a roundabout way, yes. Now that routine screening has stopped the spread of AIDS from blood transfusions, contact with the AIDS virus is a matter of one's luck. You can't walk near door knobs nor under toilet seats waiting to jump on innocent bystanders; one has to do something to get it, whether by being engaging in a high-risk sexual activity or sharing needles. It's a shame that you have to take responsibility for our actions, as you also have the responsibility to yourself. The Thinking program, everything that you do should be acceptable. Your lifestyle—your probability for certain activities—determines how likely you could get hurt and to what degree. If you ride a motorcycle without a helmet you increase your probability of dying from head injuries. If you swim while intoxicated you multiply the odds of drowning. If you useScar needle into your veins or make lots of new and special friends without appropriate protection, then you are increasing your chances of catching something—something which could be AIDS.

There are a lot of nasty things out there. Folks every year you get in a car, you risk becoming one of the 3,000,000 people who die on the highways each year. You make a decision to put on an extra belt to decrease the probability of being hurt if you have an accident. Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to wear the shoulder harness or not, the risk of getting a car accident must be made by you alone. It's your responsibility to yourself to ensure you don't get hurt. Why should sex, or any other aspect of life, be different?

AIDS merely illustrates the concept of accepting responsibility for your action. If an adult, you have the right to exchange secretions and infected needles with consenting partners. No one else has the responsibility to yourself to ensure that the people you do these with are healthy.

So, don't spend your evenings doing laundry, that's fine. If you want to sleep around or share infected needles, increasing the probability that you'll acquire some form of infectious souvenir, that's fine too. It's your life; these are decisions that must be made by you alone.

Dan Hilleman

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ploration on their own.

Looking for something to do during the latter half of the semester, consider hiking. You can do it transportation and food provided by the Office of the Dean of Students and the food service. All you have to do is sign up at the DGSF by the preceding Monday and show up at the same place by the time listed. The project goes up at the end of April. No matter what the weather is, you can't fix this activity. Bring a friend if you have any interest whatsoever in the outdoors, it should be well worth your while.

Aids...continued from page 1

available and distributing literature, we decided upon a less conventional, more personal (and therefore more expensive) plan of attack. Briefly, our program over the short term includes:

1. a series of workshops to be held in dormitories and other locations, in order to encourage students to inform themselves and to enter into frank discussions

2. a series of workshops for faculty and staff.

3. regular screenings of video materials.

4. the establishment of a reserve collection of literary materials in the Library.

5. the provision of reading materials, in order to augment the availability of condons in the Bookstore and at the Health Service.

6. the new availability to students of professional

7. mailings.

8. public service announcements.

Two factors have permitted the rapid development and incipient execution of the remedial program. First, the Office of the Dean of Students has become a powerful instrument of action. Second, the Chair has taken considerable power to act in an executive capacity.

Now that the remedial program is in place (although no execution has been published), a modulation of the Committee's approach is warranted. We will need to look more reflectively at the problem and your--the student's--concerns, social, sexual, psychological, and ethical. We will wish to monitor and, no doubt, modify what we have already accomplished. Your lifestyle--your probability for certain activities--determines how likely you could get hurt and to what degree. If you ride a motorcycle without a helmet you increase your probability of dying from head injuries. If you swim while intoxicated you multiply the odds of drowning. If you useSharing needle into your veins or make lots of new and special friends without appropriate protection, then you are increasing your chances of catching something—something which could be AIDS.

In this vast unexplainable universe, you can be sure of only one thing. What you do, do it, and who it affects, ultimately affects you. On March 19th, there was an opening reception scheduled for the new show. Artists Working. Usually, our openings are on Wednesday nights; this was the exception. Usually, the art is present at the opening, but this was the exception. This was the exception. Our openings are for the artists, who usually come from the city, or another long distance. The artists were one hour late in arriving. The food was out. In one hour, a group of people came in, and without conscience, devoured the whole show and left. When the artists arrived, there was nothing but embarrassment and anger. One can only surmise and say that the art is not worth it if it's open to everyone...The point is that something like that—happening is just plain disgusting. There was no thought behind this action, no sense of common courtesy, no sense of the purpose of an opening. Well, fellow students, the purpose is not to stuff your stomachs and leave. It shouldn't matter what day it is, or who's there or not there. It's a matter of respect.

If this wasn't enough, Sunday, March 27th, I walked into Proctor, walked into the old art history room where I had past showings out for a crit on Friday. To my horror, one of my paintings had oil paint all over one of the walls. I couldn't believe my eyes. What a project goes up at the end of April. No matter what the weather is, you can't fix this activity. Bring a friend if you have any interest whatsoever in the outdoors, it should be well worth your while.

WorldTeach...continued from page 3

the program will continue to expand in 1998.

This summer, a new program will place undergraduates as English tutors at Kenyan schools during their college summer vacations.

No teaching experience is required to be a WorldTeach intern. Applicants must have bache-
lor's degrees or be graduating seniors and make a one-year commitment. Interns are sent to Kenya every April, August, and December. In Kenya, the students will work with students of all ages, from small children to adults. The program is also open to students of all ages.

Interns receive a small salary to cover their cost of living expenses, orientation, health insurance, and administrative support. The cost of travel is $3500 for a student who is going to teach for two months. Interns also receive $500 to help with airfare. Interns receive $3100 and are required to bring $700 in spending money for travel during vacations.

For more information, visit the WorldTeach Web site or call WorldTeach, Phillips Brooks House, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138, (617) 495-
Events in the Hudson Valley

Apr 7-9: Flea market at the Lockey Platt Building, Main Mall, Poughkeepsie. Th: 4-10; Sat. 11-6; Su. 10-4. 99 cent admission. Call (914) 471-1155.


Apr 14, 2pm: Special sneak preview of the movie "Chief Zabu," which was filmed in part at Bard. See it at the Lyceum in Red Hook. Admission is free with Bard ID. Contact Susan Bart in the Career Development Office for more information.

Apr 15, 6:30pm: Penney social at St. Joachim's School Hall, Leonard Street, Beacon. Free admission. Call (914) 831-5411 for info.


Apr 15-17: "Rip Van Winkle" at the Vassar Brothers Institute, 12 Vassar Street, Poughkeepsie. F. 7pm; Sa. 2pm & 7pm; Su. 5pm. $4 admission. Call (914) 677-5358 for more info.

Apr 30, 8pm: Composers String Quartet at the Church of the Messiah, 47 Montgomery Street, Rhinebeck. Works by Haydn, Bartok, and Beethoven. $8 adults, $3.50 students.


THE MID-HUDSON CIVIC CENTER

Apr 21: Yahoo! It's the World Wrestling Federation right here in the Hudson Valley, featuring seven big matches! Tickets are $8 and $12. Show starts at 7:30pm.

BARD FILM

Fri, Apr 8 Silent Running, (c) 90 min. dir. by special effects wis, Douglas Trumbull. Based on the science fiction fable of a guy who lives in a big space terrarium with three tiny little robots.

Sun, Apr 10 Wuthering Heights, 1953 (b/w) 90 min. Span. w/sub.; dir. by Luis Bunuel. That lovable nut, Bunuel, makes the Emily Bronte classic his own in this original, offbeat, excessive, banal, ornate, incongruous, and generally super-duper film.

Fri, Apr 15 Suspiration, 1941 (b/w) 99 min. dir. by Alfred Hitchcock. A suspenseful film about marriage and Cary Grant and stuff like that.

Sun, Apr 17 Ivan's Childhood, 1962 (b/w) 84 min. Rus. w/sub.; dir. by Andrei Tarkovsky. With a style which alternates between the realistic and the surrealistic, this film tells the tale of a young boy, Ivan, caught up in WW II after his mother and sister are killed. Poetic and moving.

Observer Classifieds

SEND TO BOX 555

A comment for the classifieds: I find it prudent not to become entangled in the huffy, snarling, sniping, straining cage of spite and immodesty which is the Bard Observer Classifieds column, and so henceforth I shan't.

I'll grant I haven't caught her stealth at it, but I know and she knows: the Posh-Girl always rings once, twice, and how THREE TIMES--IN ONE NIGHT!!

Hey, is this a wild goose chase or what? Am I looking for something that is out there or did I just make it up? --Alone (forever?)

Redhead: Thank you.

My dear: You know who you are though I've been subtle about it. I've wanted you since the moment I first set eyes on you. What I want to do to you, I can't say here, but I'd like the chance to show you in the heated heaven of my bed. Please respond. --Still dreaming of you

WANTED: Someone to take a beautiful, sensual, intelligent, interesting, caring, loving, wealthy, but altogether too big, woman off my hands. Be careful about what you wish for...you might get it. --No longer optimistic

Dear Blonde, why do I write to you? You never respond. To you I'm a plaything, something to toy with whenever you find it amusing. I have killed over less. Why can't I be angry at you? Why do I let myself be cast upon the Barrier West of your Barren Soul? Am I that lonely? I suppose I am. Curse you for being you. Damn me for loving you.

Dear other half, I'm in love with your look-alike, but I don't know which one of you to tell. By the way, have you ever noticed that when you don't get what you want, you want it even more?

To the sensuous and very sexual brunnette: I want into your pants. Please help me with the slipper.

Llamas don't rambo. Llamas don't conga. Llamas don't liamo. But most of all, llamas don't surf!

Dear Wondering, in most instances. --Lisa

Lisa, that's what I thought. Love, No Longer Wondering

Esther: HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!! --Joe

Hannah, the school may have forgotten your birthday, but I haven't. HAPPY ANNIVERSARY on April 12. --An admirer from not-so-far

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Once again the Observer is proud to announce a photo contest. This time we are getting more specific. We want the campus shutterbugs to send in their photos of the woman they think best represents Bard.

That's right, it's the "Bard Observer Women of Bard Photo Contest!"

The contest rules are same as the ones for the last contest. The winning and the runner-up pictures will appear in issue seven of the Observer. The prize is still $25. So get permission, then get those cameras rolling. Photos will be judged on quality, subject matter, and taste.