Page 8  A Particularly Graphic Page
The Babbling Brook
  The Girl With Pink Glasses
Cartoon
  Robin Cook
Cartoon
  L. D. T.
An Insignificant Puddle on the Sidewalk
  By The Martyr
Cartoon
  Threlkeld
Cartoon
  Threlkeld
A Murky and Brackish River
  By The Author
Page 11  Health Talk
Page 12  Computer Corner
  Matthew C. Duda, CDP
Cartoon
  M.
Al-Anon Supports Families of Alcoholics
Page 13  Arts and Entertainment
  Faculty Reads for Free Choice
  Joan Mielke
Students Hold Benefit
  Robin Cook
Hudson Valley Events
  Comedy
  Film
Page 14  Red Sourghum
  Chris Bonnell
Burbs is Nothing Big
  Jenny Bach
Hudson Valley Events
  Music
  Theater
  Workshop
  Lecture
Satan or Gabriel?
  Rob Dunbar
Page 15  Savoy Seems Savory
  Jonah Gensler
Co-op Serves Community
  Jaya Wittenberg
Page 16  Calendar
  Photo Contest
Students Protest Housing Regulations

by Cormac Flynn

The administration has announced a highly controversial set of new housing requirements for Bard College.

In a memorandum dated March 6th and received March 14th, fundamental and sweeping changes to the student housing policy were put forth by the Dean of the College and the Dean of Students. The administration claims that the new policies are needed to help with financial planning, but the plan has met with widespread and surprisingly virulent opposition.

As calls for lawsuits, student strikes, and still more drastic action echoed around the campus, the Central Committee called immediately for an emergency meeting of the Student Forum. Amid an atmosphere of crisis and outrage, some three hundred students jammed the Main Dining Room of Kline Commons. Every available chair was filled, many people resorting to sitting on tables and rows of angry students sat on the floor as Dean Nelson addressed the room.

Nelson spoke for over thirty minutes to the attentive and silent crowd before the floor was opened for questions and comments.

The torrent of opinion continued unabated for two hours, as the Dean answered questions and listened to complaints. The often contentious and unruly forum was a model of order and decorum as students respectfully listened to one another and the Dean, any outburst was quickly overruled by Chairperson Craig Oleiewska.

Also missing from the meeting was any of the usual notes of insecurity, the crowd was polite, but very serious.

The New Policy

The new policy consists of five main points, each a significant departure from past practices.

The first and most controversial of these points is a new limit or "cap" on the number of people who may live off-campus, with limited space obtained through the room draw lottery. This represents a fundamental change in the college's approach to housing and, in the opinion of the policy's opponents, to its educational philosophy.

The second point bars any move off-campus after room draw.

The third point extends the current one semester room commitment to the full academic year, effectively eliminating the option of moving off campus during the winter field period. This measure is intended to increase the spring vacancy rate for campus beds.

The fourth point is a new requirement that all students living on-campus must be full-time students, and the fifth sets new deadlines for fee refunds in the event of an academic leave.

The requirement of residents to take a full-time course load is not new, having been policy last year's housing crisis, but in conjunction with the other new requirements, many students see it as having an insidious new dimension, "if you don't get an off-campus slot, does that mean you're required to take 12 credits?" asked one deeply suspicious member of the Educational Policies Committee. The administration doesn't think that students have any reason to fear. Both Dean Nelson and Assistant Dean Morgan repeatedly asserted that there would be enough off-campus space for the next several years for all the students who wished to go.

The new policy was born of two major concerns, according to Nelson and Morgan. Firstly, the charges are designed to increase stability in residential planning. The college is currently facing a continuing shortage of housing in the fall semesters.

Post Office Vandalized

by Brenda Montgomery

On Wednesday, March 15, vandals broke into the Annandale Post Office between 11:30 p.m. and 1:15 a.m. Director of Bard Security Art Otey arrived on the scene at 1:15 a.m., Thursday morning.

A Bard student called Security to report the incident when they noticed that the Post Office door had been smashed open.

The west connector door between Hegeman and the Post Office had been forced open, and the offender entered the post room area and randomly vandalized several of the mail boxes.

The inner room of the Post Office, which contains packages and federal supplies, showed no signs of entry.

Ten mail boxes were smashed in, sending glass into the boxes. Others had been forced open. No faculty boxes were touched—only student boxes suffered.

Federal investigators were called in to examine the crime area. The United States Postal Inspector is currently in charge of the case. New York State Police and Bard Security are assisting in the investigation.

Inside

- New Journal........p.2
- Security.......p.6
- Buying a Car............p.7
- Arts............p.13
Campus News

Fout Edits Sexuality Journal

by Mark Nichols

The Journal of the History of Sexuality is a new international English language scholarly publication illuminating the history of human sexuality in all its expressions. It was recently founded by John C. Fout, Professor of European History at Bard and Editor-in-Chief of the Journal.

The Journal is open to contributions from all fields of scholarly research, including anthropology, sociology, psychology, literature, and philosophy. It is a new interdisciplinary journal that focuses on the history of sexuality in all its manifestations.

John Fout has published, among other works, European Women: A Documentary History, 1789–1795 and German Women in the Nineteenth Century: A Social History, and he is currently researching Politics in Wilhelmine Germany: The Sexual and Gender Revolution and Counter-Revolution.

The target date for the first issue to go to press is February 1998, with the first issue appearing in print in the summer.

The theme of the first issue will be the history of sexuality in the 19th century. Fout has already received a number of submissions from scholars around the world. The journal will be published quarterly by the University of Chicago Press.

Faculty to Live at Adolf's?

by Robin Cook

Bard is currently discussing the possibility of leasing houses in the Annandale area, including Adolf's, the bar that was popular with the Bard community until its closing two years ago. The buildings are currently owned by the Historic Hudson Valley, a non-profit organization that also owns Montgomery Place.

Edwards, the current owner of Adolf's, is considering converting the building into a restaurant that would be of benefit to the college.

Historic Hudson Valley had originally planned to restore Adolf's and the other buildings that had previously belonged to the Delevan family, former owners of Montgomery Place.

The Bard administration hopes that the houses can be used as faculty/staff residences, leaving more space open on the Bard campus for students.

Bard Goes to Spain

Professor Gonzalez would like to announce that its Bard in Spain program is accepting applications for the summer of 1998. Any Bard student in good standing is eligible to apply.

The previous knowledge of Spanish is necessary. The cost of the program is $700, excluding airfare. Students will receive a $500 credit upon successful completion of the course. Those interested are invited to come up to Annandale 300 and ask questions.
Collagen Revealed

Each molecule is made of three chains of polypeptides, which form a triple helix. The triple helix is very rare in nature.

The molecules are made within the cell, and then transported outside the cell into pseudopods where the molecules are assembled into collagen.

Dr. Fleischmeyer said that the mechanism for this would be similar to a car factory where the parts of the cars were made in the factory, and sent outside. The pieces of the car would then mysteriously come together, and a message would be sent back to the factory to stop making parts.

The molecule is made within the cell in three individual parts, each polypeptide chain individually constructed. The mechanism for forming the triple helix is unknown.

Before the molecule is incorporated into the collagen fiber, there is a small propeptide group at one end. The propeptide group determines the type of collagen molecule to be formed.

If the molecule has an amino propeptide, the molecule is called a collagen. If the molecule has a carboxyl propeptide, then it is called a collagen.

When a molecule is attached to a collagen fiber, the propeptide group is cleaved from the molecule by an enzyme. This propeptide group then returns to the cell. The release of propeptide groups that return to the cell tells the cell how many more molecules of that type are needed for the task to be completed.

Dyslexics Form Support Group

by Melanie Ghant

Do any of the following statements apply to you? If so, read on:

- a hard time memorizing even simple facts
- a problem with doing simple math problems
- any or all of these apply to you, you might be dyslexic. Since an estimated one out of every ten people is dyslexic, many famous people are. Examples are therapists, Tom Cruise, Tim Conway, Greg Louganis, Woodrow Wilson, Robin Williams, E.B. White, Albert Einstein, and Thomas Edison.

There are many definitions of dyslexia, some closer to the truth than others. Webster's Dictionary defines dyslexia as a disturbance of the ability to read. On the other hand, teachers who do not know the character of a dyslexic often perceive students as bored easily, underachievers or just stupid.

Although the students are smart, creative and intelligent, they appear not to be putting time and energy into work. Therefore, their teachers do not treat them as though they are capable.

Most people who do not know about dyslexia may believe that a dyslexic mixes letters, mistaking b's for d's and d's for p's. These myths perpetuate a misunderstanding of dyslexia. The best definition, in my opinion, is that given by some dyslexics. Many dyslexics believe their problems relate to missing a vital piece of information. They feel as though they missed a basic building block and now have nothing to build upon. People who study dyslexia may disagree as to the specific definition, but one connecting idea is that dyslexics have difficulty in processing language.

If you are dyslexic or believe yourself to be a group is being formed, called Learning Disabled Students at Bard. If you are interested in dyslexia or any other learning disability you are welcome to come and join the meetings. LDSB meets every other Thursday at 12:30 at Kline Commons, starting April 4th. If you do not feel as though you are ready to join the group, individual help is provided for by Greg Barter, the counseling service on Thursday. All are welcome; please come with questions ideas or problems.
Editorials

His & Hers Morals

by Heidi Mattleton

As April 9th gets nearer, we have seen on this campus an increasing awareness of the present situation regarding abortion laws and women's rights. The legal status of the existing abortion rulings has been debated, publicized, and brought to many dinner tables.

The Washington rally promises to incite, alert, and move people to act on at least some level in response to the possibility of governmental authority over the private decisions of women. Heads are turning, yes, but there's much more to see.

On Sunday, March 12, the New York Times released a story about a State Supreme Court ruling in Rhode Island prohibiting a divorced woman from having an unrelated man stay overnight with her in her home when her children are present.

The story, as reported by the Times, says that Mr. P and Ms. P filed for divorce in 1986. At that time, Judge Wm. Goldberg of the Family Court entrusted Mr. P with custody of their three children (ages 12, 10, and 7), finding her perfectly capable of handling the responsibility. However, he surmised his decision with the following comment: "The court must infer overnight visits of her present companion and not conclusive to the welfare of the children (the Times adding: "at least not psychologically"), if she married this man, he's the stepfather. nothing could be done about (implication of sexual relations)."

A few months later Mr. P showed up at her home and smashed the windows of her companion's car. He said he was "upset" because he didn't want to put out for grocery money to feed another man. He had a sound argument, it's too bad that he couldn't follow through with it in a sane manner. He destroyed property and took money away from his kids; does he feel better now?

When Ms. P motioned that her husband be cited for contempt for the assault, Judge Goldberg refused and instead granted Mr. P's request to bar her overnight male visitor from his ex-wife's home when children were present.

If you think this logic is a bit warped, it gets worse. Judge Thomas P. Kelleher remarked (after the 4 to 0 vote), "We see no legal constitutional issue in this controversy." Adding that Ms. P's present companion "may still visit the marital domicile overnight, with the exception of those times when the children are with their mother."

If you're mouthing words "marital domicile" and contemplating a run to the dictionary, stay put. I've already looked. The "domicile" part is easy enough (it sounds particularly demeaning as it rolls over your tongue), he could have just said "house." It's the "marital" part that makes the phrase so confusing. Mr. and Ms. P are quite clearly divorced.

There are no "marital" affiliations tied with either person, much less the said "domicile!"

What is this guy trying to say? You're perfectly free to start over with another relationship, but you'll have to make it quick while the kids are at school...

First and foremost I'd like to address Judge Kelleher's comment regarding the constitutional merit, or lack thereof, given to this case. As put forward by Ms. P's legal defense (the lawyer for the RI affiliate of the American Civil Liberties Union), if the court has established that a woman is a fit mother (complying with the Family Court/Social Welfare standards), "to infer" that the presence of a sexual relationship in the house is detrimental to the children living there is unjustifiable unless such adverse facts are shown by that relationship on the children are proven.

Not only has this not been proven (in the three years since the divorce but Ms. P has testified before Judge Goldberg that her sexual relationship is kept "behind closed doors," that her children sleep in separate rooms, and that the household is not disturbed or put to risk by this relationship. She had to sit there, and explain herself, answering any questions pertaining to her sexual practices while this judge decided if they complied with his code of morals?!

Which brings me to my next point. Nowhere did he state that Mr. P has to follow the same rules. Mr. P's sexual conduct is not being held up to moral scrutiny. We're told that Mr. P was married for the 3rd time last October. Congratulations! Does that make his sexual relationship healthier or better for the welfare of his children?

Judge Goldberg is sure willing to give him holy clearance. But is he thinking about how many stepmothers these kids are supposed to "respect" and "obey" along the road to virtue?

In this case, if it's good for him, it's not good for her. There is just as great a chance that his sexual relationship will have a detrimental effect on the children as hers, and equally so, that they may corrupt a healthy atmosphere for these kids. Isn't this so basic that we shouldn't have to argue it?

As an exit Mr. P was quoted after the ruling as saying, "It's a very liberating world we live in today. I'm glad to see there's some old-fashioned morals in the court." The question I wish to raise is "Whose morals?"

I showed this article to a few people. The women who saw it were shocked, some more than others. The moral is: if you are surprised, ask. One woman said, "How can this happen?"

The men who saw it either said what I did, as far as I can tell, empty consolation. "Don't worry, I'll never stand up" or assured me that I was overreacting. Guess what? That ruling is standing in the state of Rhode Island right now.

It's got to make its way back through the court of appeals. Granted, there are hundreds of ill-decided court cases on the books. Am I supposed to write this one off as part of the error quota for the year?

If you feel you need to be convinced, I'll give you a copy of the article, you can come to your own conclusions. For those of you who are still unmoved, read Margaret Atwood's A Handmaid's Tale and maybe that will give you a good shake up.

Anybody going to Washington know that you'll be marching for much more than abortion rights. We want basic, fundamental rights to our own moral decisions.

The Bard Observer

Bard College
Annandale-on-Hudson, NY
(914) 758-6822

Mara Willey
Editor-in-Chief

Fernando Luera
Managing Editor

Valerie D'Urso
News Editor

Chris Bonnell
Arts Editor

Robin Cook
Features Editor

Brenda Montgomery
Graphic Design Editor

Lisa DeFaro
Production Manager

Gary Willig
Photo Editor

Any member of the Bard community may submit materials for publication. The editors reserve the right to edit all copy for style, content, and length. Opinions expressed on the editorial pages are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper. Letters to the Editor must be typed and signed. All submissions should be turned in at the front desk of the library by noon on the day of deadline.
Letters to the Editor

Housing Seems Less Than Ideal

To the Editor:

Fire alarms weren't enough to drive me out of Stone Row. They certainly drove me to the brink of moving, but somehow I changed my mind.

The shower being broken for a week and a half was not enough to drive me out. Certainly I had problems—what would anyone when 18 people are trying to shower and there are only two available? (only one creates a fine mist.)

Even the thickness of the separating wall between the lounge and my room did not drive me out. But you never know, this latest occurrence might be the last straw.

I heard what sounded like a kitten scurrying across my ceiling a few nights ago. Then again, the other day I heard the same noise. Curious, I asked an upstairs neighbor if someone had a cat. The answer was no. "It might have been the rat," my neighbor replied.

Rat?

A rat was seen on the third floor, scurrying across the bathroom. The maid calmly handed out the rat poison as though this was old hat. I'm too pleased about the mice here; but they're small and kind of cute. I'm not too concerned about the fuzzy, creepy centipede bugs—they're small enough that I can kill them. But a rat?

Rats carry diseases and can grow as large as a cat. I don't want to meet one of these creatures. In fact, I don't want to know if that crunching sound I hear at my feet right now is a rat or a mouse. I just want out. I agreed not to own any large pets when I moved in here—the college doesn't have to provide substitutes.

And the Deans expect us to want to live on campus?

Sincerely,

Brenda Montgomery

Discussion Closed

Dear Editor,

I went to the forum meeting on the housing-lottery issue. As I understood it, it was a chance for students to talk to the Dean and listen to his responses.

The chairman of the meeting himself announced that he did not intend to close the meeting, but rather give everyone a chance to air their own views. This was not done.

While there were still questions on the floor, the discussion was closed by a parliamentarian vote.

I am aware that there was much repetition of grievances, and many side issues were being brought up. However, there were still new and relevant questions left unanswered. At no point did anyone say let us stick to new issues or questions.

The only thing that this particular vote signified was that the students who had already asked their questions were ready for an end to the meeting.

Sincerely,

Russell Glickman

One Woman's Response

Dear Editor,

I write in response to the letter "One Man's Opinion." I am so horrified that I almost don't know how to react. The writer's letter shows a degree of internalized homophobia that I had thought went out with the gay-dar ages, the fifties.

During that period being gay could land a person in jail; until 1972 when the American Psychiatric Association removed homosexuality from the list of psychological diseases, being gay could send a person to a mental ward; even today in many parts of the country being openly gay can cost a person their job, their home, or their family and friends.

Those social obstacles are definitely problematic, and for a gay person about to leave a liberal college environment, very scary. However, these problems are not the only problem of a gay person.

"No one knows whether or not people are "born" gay, but whether gay people are "born" or "made" is not the point. Gay people are if they want to be whole people, with a full potential for personal and professional success and fulfillment in spite of the social constraints made by a bigoted society.

In terms of emotional and creative potential, the contributions of gay men, in particular, to our culture have been outstanding. In the area of emotional expression, it is often straight men who are handicapped.

I am surprised that the writer "craves" the admiration of women. True, most people desire the admiration of other people, 51% of whom happen to be female.

In sexual terms, I wonder how he managed to overlook the fact that many straight women are attracted to gay men, and are then disappointed when they discover that they are not sexually interested in women.

There is absolutely nothing physiologically that prevents a gay man from fathering children. Sex, or lust, specifically, have nothing to do with reproduction. Referring to heterosexual love-making as the "greatest, biological task" is ludicrous. In an overpopulated world, not reproducing is perhaps the greater task.

I am truly sorry for whichever feels the same way the writer of "One Man's Opinion" does. Fortunately, none of the gay people I know feel that way.

He is obviously reacting to the conditions of a society that for the most part still believes that there is something wrong with gay people because they are gay. However, to transform the very real fear and sorrow of having to live in a world that often doesn't accept gay people into a belief that one's self is diseased because one isn't accepted or doesn't accept one's self is perhaps the greatest self-limitation that one can impose.

Sincerely,

Joan Hilde

Corrections

The last "Health Talk" was about urinary tract infections (UTIs) for those wondering.

The Elvis Presley Fan Club's Novice Marathon ended on March 12th.

It's Break Time Homeward Bound

1. Stew your prized possessions out of sight—in a closet, locked trunk, or campus storage—or take them home.
2. Be sure to lock windows and doors. Before you leave—double check.
3. Own a bicycle? Take it home or lock it to a stationary object in your room.
4. Using three basic necessities—TV, issues, refrigerator—keep your place while you're gone.

The Oregonian, The Oregon State University Press; all rights reserved. Reproduction or republication prohibited without written permission.
What is the Future of Feminism?

by Valerie Scuoto

On March 8, Jo Freeman, an activist in today’s politics and the feminist movement, spoke to the Bard community. The topic of discussion was American Politics and the Future of Feminism.

In the lecture, Freeman gave a history of the political parties and the feminist movement, in order to show where the two stand today.

In 1972, the ERA platform was reinstated in both parties. The future for women began climbing upwards. Thus in 1976, 30 percent of the Democratic delegates were women. Freeman commented that the Democratic party will not provide support for anyone who does not support the ERA.

The ERA was retained in the Republican platform by President Gerald Ford, but lost again in 1980. However, in the 1984 election, the Republican party platform passed everything relating to women.

In 1989, women were such insiders and so anti-Reagan they supported Bentsen, said Freeman. None of the candidates came to talk to women caucuses because they had everything, Freeman continued.

Freeman also explained the difference in the structure of the political parties. Republican power travels downward and they feel like outsiders, even when they are out of power. While Democratic power travels upward, and they feel like outsiders when in power.

"The fact that you can fight and organize gives you legitimacy and power," said Freeman.

And what of the future of American politics and feminism? Freeman said that the future of feminism lies in the realization that party politics is harder than ever thought it would be and we even want it to be.

The political parties were at first non-supportive of women, especially the Democrats. In 1914-1916, the Democrats voted down the Suffrage amendment.

From the 1920’s to the 1950’s, feminism was connected with the Republican party. The Democrats were again anti-feminist. However, this later changed.

Even in the direction of the feminist movements there were conflicts.

Florence Kelly sought to improve working conditions and to protect women from industrial exploitation. Yet, the AFL and CIO did not want to support women’s labor. They felt that women would not be around long enough and did not earn enough to pay the dues. Also in contrast, Kelly’s followers were against the ERA.

In 1914, Alice Paul founded the National Women’s Party with the intent to defeat the Democrats. Then, in 1920, the party reorganized to abolish all laws discriminating against the sexes.

In the 1940’s, the Democrats opposed the ERA. However, in 1950, the ERA passed on the Democratic platform.

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy formed the Commission on the Status of Women. Then, in 1963, an equal pay law passed.

Freeman’s education was the beginning of her activity in the nation’s political processes. She received a political science degree with honors from the University of California at Berkeley in 1945. Then, in ‘63, she earned her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, also in political science. Finally, Freeman received her J.D. from the New York University School of Law in 1982.

She is currently the Associate Counsel for the Office of the Speaker in the New York State Assembly.

Her written works include the following: The Politics of Women’s Liberation: A Case Study of an Emerging Social Movement and Its Relation to the Policy Process; Women: A Feminist Perspective, a text used here at Bard; Social Movements of the 60’s and 70’s; and various articles in periodicals such as Ms. Signs and Political Science Quarterly.

Security Alert

by Jim Trainer

In a response to the overwhelming demand for the services of the Bard Security department, Art Otey, the college’s director of security, has incorporated money for an increase in the number of officers and for a new program designed to ease the strain of the department’s man power.

In the first term of this year, security handled over sixty thousand students and from August 30 to February 9, they escorted two hundred and sixty seven students to and from various points on the campus. According to Otey, each escort takes about ten minutes for an officer to accomplish, including time spent going to pick up students as well as time to take them to their destination.

These demands produce a heavy drain on the ability of the officers to look out for the physical security of the campus. Last term fifteen cars were vandalized and there were many reports of suspicious vehicles on the campus.

In an interview Otey said, "Right now the amount of people on duty is inadequate for the amount of area that security has to cover, but we’re doing better than they were a year ago."

In response to the man-power problems, Otey has requested that an additional officer be hired for each shift as well as additional dispatching staff in order to provide round-the-clock service.

The increase of officers would result in there being three patrols on each shift, two in vehicles and one on foot. The money for this has been included in the departments 1989 budget request.

According to Otey, President Botstein has accepted the idea of expanding the security department, but a final determination about the money is not expected until May.

Another item in the security budget plan is for hiring students to serve as campus service officers. This program would consist of about three teams of student officers (two teams on foot and one in a vehicle) who would concentrate on handling lock-outs and escorts. This would allow the regular officers to concentrate more on the overall security of the campus.

Similar programs are in use at Ithaca and Cornell Colleges for five and fifteen years respectively, where they have been very successful.

Allstate
Auto, Home & Life

MICHAEL HAGGERTY
Account Agent
Allstate Insurance Company
Route 9, Astor Square
Rhinebeck, NY 12572
(914) 876-3632
So You Want to Buy a Car, Pal?

by Daniel John

What should you look for when you buy a car?

Decide in advance how much you want to spend, style, and color, but listen, if you haven't driven much and this is your first car, don't go out and buy a '71 Malibu with a full-blown top end and Holly cards. Get it! Do for cheap and easy to maintain.

First, just look at the damn thing. Is it cool? Check under the carpets for rust; check inside the door handles around the wheel wells and under the hood. Once it's started rusting there isn't much you can do.

On the other hand, most rust won't stop it from driving either. If the doors, hood, and trunk aren't in any danger of falling off, and your feet don't go through the floor, like Fred Keston, then it's mostly okay.

How long it will keep running is a big thing, shine a light through the oil. No grit or tar-like stuff. It's black on tan and no light could get through it; then bad news. It is light in color and exactly the right amount; then check it later, after the test drive.

Start it up. It should idle smoothly and rev up without a lot of smoke or excessive noise. If it doesn't have a murrin, listen very closely, that often hides noises.

While it's running, check all of the lights and dashboard stuff. Don't feel stupid playing with the wiper switches, electrical stuff can be fixed, but it's a real pain and it never is quite right again.

Hug and low beam, horn, all dash lights and gauges, turn signals front and back, tail lights, and especially brake lights should work. Get out and walk around. It's still running. Is the guy getting nervous? Look for sweat on the upper lip. So far so good. No smoke, it still idles and all of the stuff works.

Check the mileage. A lot isn't necessarily bad but it should make sense, if the driver's seat is really worn and it only has 500 on it, then that's no good.

With the hood up, look at the engine. It will be dirty and dusty - bumpy oil that is sloshing around isn't good. Look under the car for oil spots. As a matter of fact, anything coming out of the engine is bad news.

Check his lip for sweat again.

Did you bring a friend? Good. Let's go for a drive. Have your friend drive behind you in the car you came in, start it slow and go through all the gears. Even if it's automatic, shift it manually up to drive, overrev back and forth and hit the brakes hard a few times. Your friend behind you should be watching the exhaust smoke and wheels.

If the oil changes color or the wheels lean back and forth through the turns, then look out, when braking, all of the wheels should brake the same. Une tire locking up is bad.

Drive it as fast as you think you ever will and keep listening. Any harsh noises? Is a new noise start up? It should sound pretty much the same, only louder.

Get on a flat road and let go of the steering wheel. The car should stay on course. Lose it veer to the side. Does it pull to the side when you hit the brakes? Bad news. How far can you turn the wheel before the car responds? It shouldn't be too much.

Drive up a hill and around some curves and over bumps. How park it but let it run, get out and check under the hood again. Check the transmission fluid now while the car is running in park. As long as it's not black or dark brown it's okay. It should still be smooth without any junk in it. Still no leaks, take it for a test drive.

Check the brakes. If the car stops running, it's not the end of the world but it will only get worse as time goes by.

Everything still okay? It it gets this far then take it to a mechanic because you missed something. As a matter of fact, call me. A wheel should also be removed. It's easy and you can see what kind or care the engine has received.

Finally a compression check should be performed. This will tell you about engine wear and possible internal problems. If you want to go to it alone at the least take out the spark plugs. They should all be of the same color and condition. If they are black and sticky and white and crusty that's bad. They should be black or tan but not burnt or oily.

Check one in a car that runs well and compare. When you go to pay for it take out twenties. Offer him a lot less than he asked for and take that exact amount out of your pocket and wave it under his nose and sweaty lip. He'll take it.

If he doesn't weigh your desire and his needs, tell him you'll think about it and go home. Call him in an hour and tell him your next offer. I hard cash don't get him, he's a tough one. You decide.

Remember: if it's old and it's still on the road it's pretty good.

The Weekly Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1. Oriental nurse
2. Eight birds
9. Cleaning utensils
12. Story
13. Region
14. Time gone by
15. Printer's measure
16. Dignacious
18. Mary
20. Paid notice
22. Overdue
24. Rodents
27. Maladies
29. Black
31. Small rug
32. Cattlemate
34. Wild plum
36. Japanese drama
37. Firepiles
39. Vegetable

DOWN
1. Devoured
2. Control
3. Indian mulberry
4. Chop
5. Fertile spots in desert
68. Sty look
69. Carry
70. Sneeze
10. Takes from
11. French article
12. Carpenter's tool
13. Title of respect
14. King of a basin
15. River in Italy
17. Negative prefix
19. Teutonic deity
21. Brass printing
23. Sanguine
25. Equivalent in value
26. Transgressions
28. Graces like a cow
29. Reflect
30. Girl's name
31. Arthritis
32. Dry
33. Decayed
34. Insects
35. Pigeon
36. Spirit of alcohol
38. Greek letter
39. Symbol for thin
40. Vagabond
41. Suitable
42. Disease
43. Roman gods
44. Attaches
46. Hebrew letter
66. Maiden loved by Jesus

COURSE PRESS SERVICE

PUZZLE SOLUTION
by the girl with pink glasses

note from the person writing this column in an effort to appease the editor, we are trying something new.

There are times when I think that my grandmother was not really cut out for the job. She wasn't a bad grandmother to have, but there were moments...

Take, for example, the time she didn't recognize me when she saw me on the street. I went up, said hello, and told her who I was. It still took ten minutes for her to recognize me.

It occurred to me, five minutes into my explanation, that I could have gotten away, and she would never have known what had happened. I did not think it would be kind to leave.

As soon as she recognized me, my grandmother took me out for lunch, and ice cream, her favorite food. She was very happy to see me.

As a matter of fact, my grandmother always seemed happy to see me, once she realized who I was. She never forgot my birthday.

One of the most endearing things my grandmother ever did was to write my uncle a note demanding to know who all those "damned pixilated ladies" running around her hospital room were. They turned out to be her old schoolmates.

As soon as my grandmother found out who the old ladies were, she demanded a mirror and started to put on makeup.

She asked me if she looked that old. I told her certainly not.

by the author

The author and the martyr were drinking in the winter scenery on a breezy afternoon stroll by the Hudson the other day when a remarkable thing happened.

A strange noise, upon investigation, proved to be two strangely dressed men lashing the Hudson River with whips.

The martyr was amused. The author was not.

One of the men caught sight of the martyr rolling amongst the fragrant brown leaves, in paroxysms of laughter.

"I am Ozymandias!" He cried in a loud voice, obviously meant to impress. "Look on my works and despair!"

"What works?" gasped the martyr, rolling under a bush.

Ozymandias was nonplussed.

Xerxes, his cohort, dashed forward, whistled in haste, hair flying madly about in the breeze, demanding to know what the author had done with his army of three million men.

The author had last seen them wandering about in Poughkeepsie, looking for Vassar library.

Xerxes was perplexed. His chariot was nowhere to be found, and the last time Ozymandias had seen his pacing steed, they had been somewhere in France.

"Why don't you try the loop bus?" asked the martyr, picking leaves out of her sweater, and pulling the author out of the way.

Xerxes and Ozymandias dashed off towards 9G.

Later, on our way to the Galleria, the girl with pink glasses spied the loop bus on the street. Two men in white robes were busily lashing the headlights with whips.

The martyr began to giggle.

The girl with pink glasses hoped that the author had nothing to do with it.

The author hopes that everyone is satisfied.
Observer Classifieds

How to Place an Observer Classified in our next issue:
Because we have been swamped with classifieds, The Observer will now change $0.25 for classifieds under 25 words and $.50 for those between 25 and 50 words. Please send your classifieds and money to the Bard Observer, campus mail.

HELP WANTED - The Observer is planning to restructure, redesign, and expand. There are many openings and opportunities to work with our staff.

Do you have a camera? How about joining the Observer staff as a photographer?

Interested in Sports? Combine your knowledge of sports with your talent for writing. Become a sports writer for the newspaper.

The Observer is looking for talented and experienced writers to become staff reporters. Send letters of intent including qualifications and samples of your work to the Bard Observer, campus mail. Be a part of our exciting plans.

Wanted:
The Observer is looking for a laser printer to use a few hours a week. Do you have one that you'd be willing to let us use?

Send a note through campus mail to the Bard Observer.

PERSONALS

Andy ate P.O. - You did what with Shelley? - (North)

To the Drama Major
I'm not saying that I'm not married to three women, I just thought you would believe this if it were in print.

Judy (tmi)

Marilyn - Field Hockey?

I'm sure gonna miss you next year! - (Mental)

To the Observer readers:
I am not the girl with the pink glasses. I am the features editor. - (Correction for Features Editor)

To Bernie: You are my long lost sister! How did I ever find you? Thank you, fanatical-fangeling fan of Bard. This feels really how I found you. I'm glad. - Your SISTEREE

Seth - Would you kill yourself to get into the Dead Shows?

Blessed is the man who, having nothing to say, abstains from quoting evidence of that fact. - George Eliot

I need a woman...well, you know the rest.

Who is the lonely woman from towns? She has an astounding purple aura.

One to Joy, an innumerable Metro-North experience.

Me Beans, me dead space NICE!

(Dear friend, I feel really isolated...now)

Julie, is this really real? Anyone who is that made-up woman going around wearing clothes at random?

It was a night for women's rights.

Chris, you still be my Magnus.

Three men and a scientist.

Billy, one cigarette equals one less cell to security and Shelly Morgan.

Nothing outrageous, I wasn't lied to a shop or anything.

Mon-Chi-Di, 'Life hung up on me again.'

Desperately Seeking Jimmy Elbow get densities for you.

-Jenny/Buddy

Steve, the happy moments in my life are those that I spend with you. Those days, that smile, a tender hug, a loving kiss, your soothing touch. Show me that our love is real. I LOVE YOU - Mired.

Hey - Sperghetti?!!! Oh my... - (TJ)

Rudy: You can't bring my belt, ring, slings, or anything else.

Reason is spoken here.

Review time for a new movie.

227

Oh fair Linda and heroic Price. How lovely you are, perfect and nice. We are sorry for our deceiving and cruel. Because of us, it was your desire - to lose sleep.

Saturday night, outside, from the North Hoffman wilderness, we apologized.

99 Which foot? - Max

Buy in every way. No one can do anything about it.

Jeff - Thanks for the card and such. - (HH)

To the Girl in the Film. Leave your Geek Boyfriend with the public. Both on his head, and in with the new.

Hot Hot Hot!!!

If Jane Mansfield was around and she be eating Pleasious too!

To the Administrator: The furniture in Olm will soon rearranged.

To the resident loud-mouth in Leonberg. Why don't you show me what I need? I can only imagine for so long.

-The Caffeine

Brown Girl

You've found your calling in life. Remember we wear the same size. Thanks for your open heart policy. Thank you ever make up our minds? Want anyone stashed?

M&Ms

Past, ennui bug a true?

Christian you're a puppy dog. But we love you. Little fact

Matt

Aprons for you this week. Sorry.

Yo Man, What's the similarity between Benny HOTT and 65? (They both have Queen)

Hey David - Don't you ever go home? Your favorite beer extinguishes. (Clint Hill)

To The Skirt.

What, was I not good enough for the bed.

Max Snap it up, Chief

3rd Floor

The best kike, disinterested, laughing people ever.

-Moonie, Tread has the challenger.

0.3 Stop thinking stupid P.O.

P.J. Personals is not good for your complexion.

R.I. Make up your mind.

S.C. Don't look so sad.

JL Dink.

BILLI-MEP? the ultimate question/or answer?

J.P. - How to log colon - Leo and kisses those.

Mom - I am happy, joyous, joyful, merry, married yet you are back on American soil. I hope you didn't have too much fun on those I'd class fairs & festivals. If you did Grant's get the letter 117. Love always, Mini

Classifieds to my advisor: Why am I sending you a classified? You won't read it. Professor never read the Observer. Only students do. Well, I will send this ail anyway. I guess it's funny to send a classified to someone you never meet.

I hope you don't get mad at me for saying this. Sincerely, your house.

HOUSING

HOUSE-MATE NEEDED: Large bedroom, shared kitchen, living room, 2 baths with two friendly theater majors. State College in Annandale, walk to Bard. $167/mon. - cell. Pats, extensions OK. Read: Annandale. Ph. cell 731-4209 or cell 224, ask for Olm or Tisdale.

HELP WANTED

Summer jobs: Sp aware Round/Rochester. Bard College is looking for college students interested in working as residential counselors and/or as tutors for six weeks (June 25-August 8, 1989).
Students Protest

In order to solve that situation and meet the need for additional space, the administration would like to build at least one new dormitory this summer. While new beds will no doubt be filled in the fall, the college continues to have a large number of vacant beds in the spring semester.

It would be financially irresponsible, the administration argues, for the college to undertake the construction of new beds or to invest funds for increased maintenance and improvements, without having the security of knowing all the beds will be filled.

Each resident student's housing fees represent continuing income for the college. When a dorm is unused, therefore, the investment in it is wasted. "The truth is," says Nelson, "that the college is not rich. It remains highly understaffed, highly tuition-driven and, for very good reasons, fiscally conservative."

With so many other desperate needs and so fragile a fiscal picture, the administration says that they can't afford to be risk-takers. Said Shelly Morgen, "The students look at this as a sort of insurance. No one is trying to take anything away, we're just trying to spend money more effectively to improve residential life."

The second major concern which the administration hoped to address was the question of the atmosphere of the off-campus dormitories. Alarmed at the recent increase in the number of students housed off-campus, they felt the residential nature of the campus had suffered. The Deans said that their goal was merely to return to the historic average of approximately 12%, pointing out that even this is considered an extraordinarily high percentage for a college such as Bard.

While the number of off-campus students has increased substantially during this years, the number of students in general. The percentage of students living off-campus has ranged from 14.3% to 16.3% in the last few years, with a decrease from the fall's 14.6%. And, contrary to administrative claims, a substantial drop from the 20-30% it often averaged in the sixties and seventies.

Craig Gwiazdowski leads an orderly forum on the policies with promises of his use of discretionary power, one student stood up and said, "That's very nice and paternalistic of you but that's not why I came to Bard. I am an adult; you can't tell me where or how to live. That's why I came here." The room erupted in applause.

One practical concern raised by many students was that the new rules living spaces the rooms students now consider inappropriate. Many temporary arrangements were made in order to deal with the shortage of the last few years, and students are plainly worried that this would be made permanent. "If we get into a situation of extra beds" asked one student, "why don't you start restoring lounges and undoubled singles that are now doubled up?"

Students pointed out that while there may currently be a surplus of beds, there is a shortage of singles, and a long digression clearly showed that the student body still refuses to accept the doubling of the Ravine Houses.

Remarkably, the entire meeting was dominated by new faces. The rave discussion was led by freshmen. Often preparatory forum-goers turned silent as the protests and criticisms were hammered out by students who had never before attended a forum meeting.

Student leaders found themselves in the unusual position of having to urge calm and moderation rather than to rally people. "These aren't the usual suspects," noted one regular attendee. "This is a whole new crowd."

One senior veteran, sitting silently in the back of the room and surveying the situation, discounted all class divisions and Old Bard/New Bard mythology when he said simply, "My God, reinforcements."

Indeed, the spirit of student unity reached even beyond the current classes. Several speakers cited the obligation of the present group of students to the succeeding generations of Bard students, noting that few in the room would be represented by the cap.

Levine Criticized

Dean Nelson made a very strong defense of the administration's record on student involvement. "We have bent over backwards in the last year to involve students. If we dropped the ball, the policies were not promulgated, one student stood up and said, "That's very nice and paternalistic of you but that's not why I came to Bard. I am an adult; you can't tell me where or how to live. That's why I came here." The room erupted in applause.

One practical concern raised by many students was the new rules living spaces the rooms students now consider inappropriate. Many temporary arrangements were made in order to deal with the shortage of the last few years, and students are plainly worried that this would be made permanent. "If we get into a situation of extra beds," asked one student, "why don't you start restoring lounges and undoubled singles that are now doubled up?"

Students pointed out that while there may currently be a surplus of beds, there is a shortage of singles, and a long digression clearly showed that the student body still refuses to accept the doubling of the Ravine Houses.

Remarkably, the entire meeting was dominated by new faces. The rave discussion was led by freshmen. Often preparatory forum-goers turned silent as the protests and criticisms were hammered out by students who had never before attended a forum meeting.

Student leaders found themselves in the unusual position of having to urge calm and moderation rather than to rally people. "These aren't the usual suspects," noted one regular attendee. "This is a whole new crowd."

One senior veteran, sitting silently in the back of the room and surveying the situation, discounted all class divisions and Old Bard/New Bard mythology when he said simply, "My God, reinforcements."

Indeed, the spirit of student unity reached even beyond the current classes. Several speakers cited the obligation of the present group of students to the succeeding generations of Bard students, noting that few in the room would be represented by the cap.

Levine Criticized

Dean Nelson made a very strong defense of the administration's record on student involvement. "We have bent over backwards in the last year to involve students. If we dropped the ball, the policies were not promulgated, one student stood up and said, "That's very nice and paternalistic of you but that's not why I came to Bard. I am an adult; you can't tell me where or how to live. That's why I came here." The room erupted in applause.

One practical concern raised by many students was the new rules living spaces the rooms students now consider inappropriate. Many temporary arrangements were made in order to deal with the shortage of the last few years, and students are plainly worried that this would be made permanent. "If we get into a situation of extra beds," asked one student, "why don't you start restoring lounges and undoubled singles that are now doubled up?"

Students pointed out that while there may currently be a surplus of beds, there is a shortage of singles, and a long digression clearly showed that the student body still refuses to accept the doubling of the Ravine Houses.

Remarkably, the entire meeting was dominated by new faces. The rave discussion was led by freshmen. Often preparatory forum-goers turned silent as the protests and criticisms were hammered out by students who had never before attended a forum meeting.

Student leaders found themselves in the unusual position of having to urge calm and moderation rather than to rally people. "These aren't the usual suspects," noted one regular attendee. "This is a whole new crowd."

One senior veteran, sitting silently in the back of the room and surveying the situation, discounted all class divisions and Old Bard/New Bard mythology when he said simply, "My God, reinforcements."

Indeed, the spirit of student unity reached even beyond the current classes. Several speakers cited the obligation of the present group of students to the succeeding generations of Bard students, noting that few in the room would be represented by the cap.

Levine Criticized

Dean Nelson made a very strong defense of the administration's record on student involvement. "We have bent over backwards in the last year to involve students. If we dropped the ball, the policies were not promulgated, one student stood up and said, "That's very nice and paternalistic of you but that's not why I came to Bard. I am an adult; you can't tell me where or how to live. That's why I came here." The room erupted in applause.

One practical concern raised by many students was the new rules living spaces the rooms students now consider inappropriate. Many temporary arrangements were made in order to deal with the shortage of the last few years, and students are plainly worried that this would be made permanent. "If we get into a situation of extra beds," asked one student, "why don't you start restoring lounges and undoubled singles that are now doubled up?"

Students pointed out that while there may currently be a surplus of beds, there is a shortage of singles, and a long digression clearly showed that the student body still refuses to accept the doubling of the Ravine Houses.

Remarkably, the entire meeting was dominated by new faces. The rave discussion was led by freshmen. Often preparatory forum-goers turned silent as the protests and criticisms were hammered out by students who had never before attended a forum meeting.

Student leaders found themselves in the unusual position of having to urge calm and moderation rather than to rally people. "These aren't the usual suspects," noted one regular attendee. "This is a whole new crowd."

One senior veteran, sitting silently in the back of the room and surveying the situation, discounted all class divisions and Old Bard/New Bard mythology when he said simply, "My God, reinforcements."

Indeed, the spirit of student unity reached even beyond the current classes. Several speakers cited the obligation of the present group of students to the succeeding generations of Bard students, noting that few in the room would be represented by the cap.
**Health Talk**

Due to the recent outbreak of measles in the upstate New York area, the Bard Health Service is advising all students, faculty, and staff to check the status of their measles immunity with their personal physicians as soon as possible. Students should be aware of this status before they return to campus on April 2nd.

- **1.** The New York State Department of Health has recommended that all students, faculty, and staff determine proof of their measles immunity, as follows:
  - 2) Physician-documented history of measles disease.
  - 3) Birthdate prior to January 1, 1957.
  - 4) Serologic confirmation of measles immunity.

If you are unable to confirm your measles immunity by any of the above-listed methods, it is recommended that you receive the MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) vaccine as soon as possible. Students should receive this vaccine before they return from spring break on April 2nd.

If a case of measles should break out at Bard, the sick person will be requested to return home to recuperate for a period of one to two weeks. Bard does not have the facilities to quarantine and care for such a patient.

If you have any questions, please contact the Health Service (ext. 439).

---

**Students Protest**

continued from page 10 on this one, you must believe it wasn't anything sinister on our part. We weren't trying to sneak anything by you."

Nelson left the meeting to loud and protracted applause; his performance appeared to have won him few converts, but a great deal of respect. "I know I don't agree with him, and I'm not sure I like him, but he was straight with us and he showed up. I respect him," said one student.

Nelson's good will was not forthcoming for other administration members. Nelson's apologies on behalf of Morgan were met with a sharp response from the floor. "With all due respect to Shelley Morgan, there are a few hundred other people here who had personal plans for tonight as well."

The harshest criticism, however, was reserved for Dean Levine, who had been scheduled to appear for the March Dean's Speak-out, but who did not attend when it was cancelled in favor of the Forum (despite a specific invitation). "I guess he just had more important things to do than meet with the student body," said one student sarcastically. "It just shows again how much contempt he has for everybody," said another after the meeting.

Indeed, although Levine's name appeared on the memorandum announcing the new regulations, he will be personally leading negotiations for the administration. The Dean has been strangely missing from the controversy thus far, leaving Nelson to be the point man.

Student leaders speculated that this was a deliberate tactic of the administration, "Stu is an abrasive, like sandpaper, he can turn a crowd against him just by walking in," said one student. "He has a real talent for saying exactly the ‘wrong thing,’" agreed another.

The administration has not announced within the required 48 hours, no action could be taken on the various calls for strikes and protest activities. It was announced, however, that the Tenants Union would meet to negotiate with the administration for a compromise, and that the Forum would meet again at the beginning of the next week to review this progress.

Time seemed to be a large factor in the decision-making, as any Student Action would have to take place before the recess beginning the 24th. The Central Committee strongly implied that a lack of significant progress by the time of the Forum would trigger a strike or more drastic action.

The initial two-and-a-half hour negotiating session took place between the Tenants Union and Dean Nelson addresses questions. The administration on Friday, St. Patrick's Day.

In an effort to buy the Tenant's Union some time, other student leaders were busy convincing a group of more militant students not to disrupt the following day's economic conference. At the end of the session, David Bogart, the Tenants Union Chair, announced that the document had been withdrawn in favor of another one, to be written with students as part of the negotiations.

He also announced that the committee and the Deans had agreed to meet again Monday, the 20th, and that the Rope Draw process would not go forward until all relevant issues are settled. When asked, Bogart said he was "optimistic" that a strike could be avoided.

---

**Meece & Pieces**

HANDCRAFTED GIFTS

TUES.-SAT.-10-5
FRIDAY-10-9
Extended Holiday Hours

Hardscrobbie Center
139 S. Broadway (Rt. 9)
Red Hook, NY 12571
(914) 758-0221

**Wooden Frames**

*FULL SERVICE CUSTOM PICTURE FRAMING*

James Ellithorpe
OWNER AND FRAMER

INSIDE THE BOOK CENTER
15 S. Market Street
Rensselaer, NY 12144
(518) 876-8003

---

**Balloon Emporium**

33 Benner Road
Red Hook, NY 12571
(914) 758-3335

---

**The Ehrlich Framing Gallery**

INSIDE THE BOOK CENTER
15 S. Market Street
Rensselaer, NY 12144
(518) 876-8003

---

**Kingston Counseling Center**

Telephone: (914) 310-2870

Robert L. Buhre, M.S.W., C.S.W.
PSYCHOTHERAPIST

234 Fair Street
Kingston, N.Y. 12401
By Appointment
Letters to the Editor

Housing Seems Less Than Ideal

To the Editor,

Fire alarms weren’t enough to drive me out of Stone Row. They certainly drove me to the brink of moving, but somehow I changed my mind.

The shower being broken for a week and a half was not enough to drive me out. Certainly I had problems— as would anyone when 18 people are trying to shower and there are only two available (one only creates a fine mist).

Even the thinness of the separating wall between my new lounge and my room did not drive me out. But you never know, this latest occurrence just might be the last straw.

I heard what sounded like a kitten scurrying across my ceiling a few nights ago. Then again, the other day I heard the same noise. Curious, I asked an upstairs neighbor if someone had a cat. The answer was no. “It might have been the rat,” my neighbor replied.

Rat? A rat was seen on the third floor, scurrying across the bathroom. The maid calmly handed out the rat poison as though this were old hat. I’m not too pleased about the mice here, but they’re small and kind of cute. I’m not too concerned about the fuzzy, creepy centipede bugs—they’re small enough that I can kill them. But a rat?

Rats carry diseases and can grow as large as a cat. I don’t want to meet one of these creatures. In fact, I don’t even want to know if that crunching sound I hear at my feet right now is a rat or a mouse. I just want out. I agreed not to own any large pets when I moved in here—the college doesn’t have to provide substitutes.

And the Deans expect us to want to live on campus?

Sincerely,
Brenda Montgomery

Discussion Closed

Dear Editor,

I went to the forum meeting on the housing lottery issue. As I understood, this was a chance for students to talk to the Dean and listen to his responses.

The chairman of the meeting himself announced that he did not intend to close the meeting, but rather give everyone a chance to air their own views. This was not done.

While there were still questions on the floor, the discussion was closed by a parliamentary vote.

I am aware that there was much repetition of grievances, and many side issues being brought up. However, there were still new and relevant questions left unanswered. At no point did anyone say let us stick to new issues or questions.

One Woman’s Response

Dear Editor,

I write in response to the letter “One Man’s Opinion.”

I am so horrified that I almost don’t know how to react. The writer’s letter shows a degree of internalized homophobia that I had thought went out with the gay dark ages, the fifties.

During that period being gay could land a person in jail; until 1972 when the American Psychiatric Association removed homosexuality from their list of psychological diseases, being gay could send a person to a mental ward; even today in many parts of the country being openly gay can cost a person their job, their home, or their family and friends.

Those social obstacles are definitely problematic, and for a gay person about to leave a liberal college environment, very scary. However, these problems are not the result of a physical infirmity. Nor are they the “fault” of a gay person.

No one knows whether or not people are “born” gay, but whether gay people are “born” or “made” is not the point. Gay people are (if they want to be) whole people, with a full potential for personal and professional success and fulfillment in spite of the social constraints made by a bigoted society.

In terms of emotional and creative potential, the contributions of gay men, in particular, to our culture have been outstanding. In the area of emotional expression, it is often straight men who are handicapped.

I am surprised that the writer “craves” the admiration of women. True, most people desire the admiration of other people, 51% of whom happen to be female.

In sexual terms, I wonder how he managed to overlook the fact that many straight women are attracted to gay men, and are then disappointed when they discover that they are not sexually interested in women.

There is absolutely nothing physiologically that prevents a gay man from fathering children. Sex, or lust, specifically, have nothing to do with reproduction. Referring to heterosexuality as one of the “greatest biological tasks” is ridiculous. In an overpopulated world, not reproducing is perhaps the greater task.

I am truly sorry for whomever feels the same way the writer of “One Man’s Opinion” does. Fortunately, none of the other gay people I know feel that way.

He is obviously reacting to the conditions of a society that for the most part still believes that there is something wrong with gay people because they are gay. However, to transform the very real fear and sorrow of having to live in a world that often doesn’t accept gay people into a belief that one’s self is diseased because one isn’t accepted or doesn’t accept one’s self is perhaps the greatest self-limitation that one can impose.

Sincerely,
Joan Nieke

Corrections

The last “Health Talk” was about urinary tract infections (UTI), for those wondering. The Elvis Presley Fan Club’s Movie Marathon ended on March 12th.
Faculty Reads for Free Choice

In stark comparison to the personal, introspective quality of La Farge's rhyme, Reed's free verses were predominantly a mournful montage of classic pastoral American fifties images mixed, often in irony, with images of the nuclear horror of our age and the detachment and self-alienation of modern life.

The final performance of the evening was of a set of six improvisations, on trumpet, by music professor Leo Smith. Starting off innocently enough with melody, the notes became a review of all the interesting, things, noises, and sounds that can be made with a trumpet. Ultimately Smith stood on the very edge of the stage and made whistling noises. His heartfelt performance ended with the fact that the Olin Auditorium is acoustically awful for brass instruments, a handicap for which Smith compensated remarkably.

In all the enthusiasm for abortion rights, however, one thing was made particularly clear at the faculty benefit. No one is championing abortion itself. The tragedy of unwanted children in the world, though exaggerated upon the beauty of the child's image at the end of "Landscape for Man", is a sentiment that runs through the beauty of all the faculty's work.

What was championed? Thursday night, through film, music and poetry was the right to choose, to self-determination, and to freedom for life. Leo Smith's final, simple statement about choice and freedom expressed a sentiment probably felt by all there: "A choice isn't just worth living for; it's worth dying for."

The showcase of faculty creativity and talent, was brought together through the work of student Nina DiNatale, and the combined efforts of Liz Pellicelli, Hester Bayer, Torrence Lewis and David Hiller.

Students Hold Benefit

The Faculty Benefit for the Bard Coalition for Choice last Thursday night may well be remembered as one of the best events of the semester. It was well attended by students, faculty, members of the administration and one Bard dog.

The evening opened with a film by Peter Hutton entitled "Landscape for Man", his daughter. The silent black and white film consisted of still, moving, and time-lapsed images of trees, mountains and clouds, including many views from the Bard campus. Many of the images were arresting; the last image was a forest floor of dappled sunlight, superimposed on the face of a sleeping child.

Professor Ben LaFarge began his reading with a sonnet titled "View of the Catskills from Judi's Porch." He continued with several monologues about love and death and love and birth, as he put it. He also included a villanelle. His last reading was titled "To My Unborn Son" which he advised the audience not to take too literally, and to hear rather as a poem about creativity rather than a literal child.

Sarah Rothenberg's performance of Chopin's Scherzo No. 1 in B minor, op. 20 was truly fabulous. Opening as a dark and difficult piece, it relaxes into a "bubbling-up" theme, before returning to turbulence again. It lifted Rothenberg from the piano bench in fervor and roused students to cheers and applause.

Richard Reid opened with comments about his Irish Catholic grandfather, who would have had nothing to say about either reproduction or choice, never mind both in the same sentence. He modestly apologized that his contribution to the evening was "not poetry and fiction, as advertised." Rather he had "some pieces which aspire to verse...and others which don't."

A line from his first poem, spoken to a contemporary Elektra by her brother, set the tone for the rest of his work. "Hope, I would mean the mending of an atom."

The show was a satisfying one musically, and a financial success. However, a small controversy erupted regarding Trimpfest. Rumor had it that the group was pressured to change its name by the Abortion committee, who didn't like the supposedly sexist connotation of the group's name.

Trimpfest's John Robinson denies this and insists that the matter was exaggerated. The band had been considering a name change long before they were approached by the committee; when they were asked to perform under a different name they agreed. After a lot of discussion, they agreed to keep the name Trimpfest, but they decided to use the name FT for the benefit.

"We just didn't care," Robinson said, "We were happy just to get out there and play."

The Trimpfest controversy was all but forgotten as the bands performed for a worthy cause. The enthusiasm that the audience showed surprised Robinson. "I think it's wonderful that they raised $3500. It shows that people care. I think Bard has this image of being very apathetic; I think that this whole thing proved that, to some extent, that isn't true."

Hudson Valley Events

COMEDY


FILM

Mar. 28—He Who Gets Slapped, 7 p.m., Red Sorgum, 9 p.m., Upstate Films, 976-2515.

Mar. 24—Animation—21st International Tournee, Upstate Films, 976-2515 for times.

Apr. 20, Apr. 6, 13—Classic British thrillers at the New York State Museum in Albany, 7:30 & 9:30 p.m. (518) 474-5877.

Red Sourghum

by Chris Bonnell

Coming to Upstate Films March 17-23 is the spectacular Chinese production "Red Sourghum" (1980).

When most American audiences think of Chinese films they first think of the crazy antics of Jack Soo in "Fright Night," or the Shanghai Ballet's "The Lion King," or perhaps the martial arts movies of Bruce Lee and the scores of Kung Fu movies on late night TV. The truth is that most of those films are produced in Hong Kong. The People's Republic of China, on the other hand, has been producing amazing films in the last few years by what is called the fifth generation filmmakers.

These are a group of young men who are making films that are significantly different from the rest of the world. They are using Chinese culture, Chinese language, and Chinese philosophy to make films that are both entertaining and educational. Their films are not just entertainment, but are also a way of preserving Chinese culture.

"Red Sourghum" (1980) is the first film by Zhang Yi-mou, who previously did the award-winning cinematography for "Yellow Earth," has been at Upstate all week.

It is the story of a grandma and grandpa who were young together, as seen through the eyes of a little boy. The grandparents, who are old and sick, live in a small village in China. The boy, who is young and healthy, is used to their constant bickering.

Unfortunately, as a whole, the film seemed disjointed, with the occupation of the murderous Japanese army in sharp contrast to the lovestory and somewhat twisted sense of humor which develops in the first half of the film. The rest is held together in epigram form by its depiction of tradition and the brilliance of its picture. The most amazing part of the film is the cinematography, with its vibrant array of colors and panoramic landscapes. The story is thoroughly absorbing and entertaining as both a lovestory (of life) and a tale of violence.

You shouldn't miss this one, especially if you've never seen a real Chinese film. Tonight at 9 p.m. is your last chance.

Burbs is Nothing Big

by Jenny Bach

Tom Hanks is coming off the best year of his career. In 1986 he starred in the hit film "Big," as well as the critically acclaimed "Punch Line," and even received an Oscar nomination for his performance of "Big." His first film of 1989 is "The Burbs," directed by Joe ("Gremlins") Dante. The film, indifferently reviewed by critics, certainly showed the potential to be incredibly lame. The impressive list of co-star scrub includes Carrie Fisher, Brother Theodore, and Corey Feldman is quite promising as well.

When I entered the theater, five minutes before showroom, I was pleased to note that my friend and I were alone. Some of the most enjoyable bad movies I have seen have been in empty theaters. Being alone in the theater is one of the great advantages. First, there is the obvious bonus of being able to smoke in the theater.

Especially in a bad movie, about half way through, there is something I like more than smoking a cigarette. Of course if you are with a date the possibilities are endless. This of course can be risky considering that someone, perhaps a theater employee, might happen into the theater.

If you have a pretty good idea beforehand that the theater is going to be empty, it is probably a good idea to bring along some beer. When you get there don't be afraid to get comfortable, put your feet on the seat in front of you. Spread your stuff out, you know, put your jacket on about three seats etc...There is no risk of offending anyone so feel free to yell at the screen, or just carry on a conversation with your friends.

This relaxed atmosphere takes a lot of the pressure off the movie itself. If the movie really stinks, one person can ask an eye out for really stupid things, while the others hang out and talk. You don't have to compete with some other jerk who is sitting behind you yelling lout things at the screen either, you and your friends are the only ones who can yell lout things at the screen, because you are the only ones there.

Overall, I'd have to say that going to the movies when the theater is empty is a whole heck of a bunch of fun. I recommend it for anyone.

The movie itself was pretty mediocre. It consisted mainly of a series of lame pratfalls and inept slapstick bits. One would think that Tom Hanks has reached a point in his career where he could turn down such pitiful scripts. The story, which centers around Hanks and his neighbors' suspicions that their new next door neighbors are cannibals is not only unbelievable, it's completely unengaging. By the end of the movie, when they do turn out to be Killers, there is no shock because nobody really cares.

Films such as this, which seem to strive for some sort of mediocrity are the real downfalls of Hollywood cinema. Producers seem far too unwilling to admit that a movie is going to be really bad and try to milk it for all its worth.

I'm out there searching for a really lame movie that is worth seeing, but if you can't just wait, try renting "Satisfaction" starring Justine Bateman as a cool Rock n' Roller. Well, until next time, save me a seat in the back, where I can be alone.

Hudson Valley Events

Music

Mar. 25—Glen Velez, Steve Gorn, and Layne Redmond at The Woodstock Guild, 8 p.m.
Contemporary music following traditions. 679-2079.

Mar. 29—Kantovaru Orchestra, Apr. 1—The Woodstock Guild, 7 p.m. 679-6068.

Mar. 31—New Stockholm Chamber Orchestra at Bardavon, 7 p.m. 473-5288.

Apr. 2—Paul Winter Consort at Bardavon, 7 p.m. Blend of jazz, classical, and ethnic music. 473-2072.

Apr. 4—Ann Murray, featuring new album "As I Am," 7:30 p.m. 454-5000.

Apr. 8—Neil Rolnick, The Woodstock Guild, 8 p.m. 679-2079.

Apr. 15—Beatrice Roth, The Woodstock Guild, 8 p.m. 679-2079.

Theater

Apr. 5—Freedom Train at UPAC, 10 a.m. 399-6068.
Apr. 22—Boy Meets Girl at Bardavon, 4 p.m. 473-2072.

Workshop

Apr. 4—June 20—Ted Castle will teach writing workshop at The Woodstock Guild, 7:30 p.m. 454-5000.

Lecture

Mar. 30—Rabbi Michael Robinson to speak on recent trip to Nicaragua, 8 p.m. Vassar Temple.

Apr. 2—Philip Agee on "Covered Action," SUNY New Paltz Lecture Center, 7:30 p.m.
Co-op Serves Community

by Jaya Vitterberg

The Bard Community Co-op has been going on for seven months now. It is a monthly food buying club from which thirty to sixty faculty, students, staff, and friends order food each month.

I've been hearing a lot of reasons for not ordering from the BCC, and they tend to go like this:

1. I don't eat anything they order.
2. We order what we like to eat, a selection of grains, staples, snacks, mixes and a specialty item or two. What we order now are cheeses, yogurt, chips, beans, dried fruits, granolas, noodles, breads and cookies.
3. If you don't eat any of these foods, I don't know what you eat. If there is something specific you would like to order, we are open to suggestions and always willing to try something new. This is a community co-op trying to satisfy the community's needs. Please tell us what you are.
4. They're more expensive than other places I could buy from.

Not true. Compared to the Kingston Health food store (the cheapest, I'm told) and the Grand Union, the Co-op is never more expensive and is often cheaper. For instance, Nussarella at the Grand Union is $3.19; ours is $1.92.

C) Why should I bother when I have a car and can go to other health food stores?

Co-ops get food cheaper by ordering in bulk. So, the more people who order from us, the more bulk orders we can fill. The more variety we can provide and the cheaper it is for everyone. (Plus you always know it's fresh). The next order is due on Friday, April 14. Order forms will be available in campus mail or at the bookstore.

Please leave your order and money at the bookstore.

Be sure to remember to pick up your order! The next order can be picked up Friday, April 21-Monday, April 24 from 4-6 p.m. at the Co-op office in the Old Gym.

If you would like to help out at the Co-op we always need people to make and hang up signs around campus, to sit at the co-op tables or to give out orders. Talk to us!
**Calendar**

**Thursday, March 23rd**
- Buckner Silver Jewelry, Klene Lounge, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Conventus Classics, Preston 127, 6:30 p.m.
- Narcotics Anonymous, Aspinwall 302, 7:30 p.m.

**Sunday, April 2nd**
- Film: What Have I Done to Deserve This? Student Center, 7 & 9:30.

**Wednesday, April 5th**
- Cellist Andre Emelianoff (Bard Center).

*continued from page 14*

Satan

become a grotesque monster, is kind and well-meaning.

The book moves liberally in both time and setting. It explores their pasts from Bombay to London and then back to Bombay.

Gibreel does a bit of imaginary traveling as well. He has dreams which "leak into his waking life."

Gibreel's dreams are the source of controversy which now surrounds the book. These dreams embed upon the life of Mohammed and the founding of Islam.

Rushdie revives a story about Mohammed's acceptance of three local deities as intermediaries for Allah. The Islamic prophet supposedly did this for diplomatic reasons since he was having a lot of trouble convincing the leading members of Mecca to convert to monotheism. Mohammed then renounced the acceptance, saying that the devil had put the words into his mouth.

**Monday, April 10th**
- Play: Bluebeard, Scene shop theater, 8 p.m.

**Tuesday, April 11th**
- Family vs. career. A discussion at the women's center, upstairs at the student center, 7 p.m.
- Play: Bluebeard, Scene shop theater, 8 p.m.

**Wednesday, April 12th**
- Distinguished social scientist lecture: Gorbachev's Revolution, Committee Room, 8 p.m.

**Thursday, April 13th**
- Learning Disabled Students meeting, Klene, 12:30.

**Friday, April 14th**
- Film: Wise Blood, Student Center, 7 & 9:30.

**Sunday, April 16th**
- Film: Girl from Hunan, Student Center, 7 & 9:30.

**Tuesday, April 18th**
- Fertility awareness class, College room, 8 p.m.

**Thursday, April 20th**
- Dance Theater, Dance Studio, 8 p.m.

---

**Submissions Wanted!**

**For The Bard Papers**

Designed to showcase work of merit produced by students, this journal has been resurrected (again!) and will appear November 1989.

Submissions from ALL departments are encouraged.

**Deadlines:**
- Papers, senior project excerpts, fiction, poetry: April 20.
- Photography, art: May 10.

Submit your work to Box 721, campus mail. Questions should be directed to Michele Thomas or Suzin Hager, ext. 332 or 758-1933.

---

**Photo Contest**

Photographs representing Bard life should be submitted by April 10 to The Bard Observer, campus mail. Winners will receive 2 tickets to an show of their choice at The Chance in Poughkeepsie, and the photos will be published in the April 20th edition of the newspaper. Photos can be returned upon request.

---

*Brenda Montgomery*