Budget causes discontent

by Cormac Flynn

The Fall 1989 student budget was ratified by the Forum last Thursday, September 14, after a brief but vigorous debate. The $55,560.00 budget was the largest ever allocated, among a record number of student organizations. Over 200 students filled the main dining room as the controversial budget came to a vote.

Originally the last item on the agenda, the budget debate was moved to the front by overwhelming demand.

The first criticism came from faculty member Gennedy Skilarevsky, who vehemently protested the Soviet Study Club's allotment of only $1000, a $323 decrease from last semester. The most virulent criticism of both the budget and the Planning Committee which wrote it, came from Entertainment Committee member Kim Harris, who protested her committee's allocation of just over $8000, as far too low.

When Planning Committee chair Matt Kregor, who also chaired the Forum, criticized the past semester's management of the Entertainment Committee, Harris abruptly resigned.

It was Harris' attack on the Coalition for Choice (06300.00) which caused Heather Baer, in a stinging rebuttal, to move for a vote. The meeting stalled with club members determined to ratify at all costs, the budget passed with surprising ease.

Following the ratification of the budget, the Forum returned to its regular agenda, electing junior Calvin Milczarek as the second Education Policies Committee representative from Natural Science and Mathematics. Like many of the EPC members elected in the previous week, Milczarek ran unopposed. Brad Reed and Whitney Blake were elected to the three member Entertainment Committee. Running as a team, they promised to get "real stompin' bands!" An additional committee member will be elected next week to fill the vacancy caused by Harris' resignation.

Elizabeth Reid was elected to be the final member of the new Student Life Committee. Reid, who was extremely active in last year's negotiations over the new housing regulations, has tried twice before to gain membership on the Committee. With Reid's election, the new Student Life Committee will work with a student membership consisting entirely of those seen as "militants". Besides Reid, the members of the Committee are Marcus Olin-Fahle (chair), Charlie Williams and Dave Reif.

A constitutional amendment providing for the direct election of officers, as well as several other reform motions had to be tabled until the next session when the official wording could not be found.

The Forum also directed the EPC to investigate and protest the matter of Professor Richard Reif. Reif, a widely respected and extremely popular literature professor, will be leaving the College at the end of the year for reasons which remain mysterious.

Meal exchange experiments with new times

by Edward Eiserman

Changes to the meal exchange system, whereby Bard students can swap meals in the dining hall for a credit at the coffee shop, were announced earlier this semester in a letter from Steve Nelson, Dean of Students. Beginning in the near future (an actual date has not yet been determined), students opting to use the meal exchange plan will have to eat in the coffee shop at times when meals are not being served in the main dining hall. Both Nelson and Donald Bennett, Director of Food Services, stress that this is not a permanent change in the meal exchange system, but rather an experiment.

According to Bennett, they are most interested in learning what the actual percentage of students on the meal plan would who eat any given meal would be given the extended hours. He estimated that close to 40 percent of students would eat each meal under such a system. The current rate is 71 percent. Both Bennett and Nelson point to problems in overcrowding as a major impetus.

Cashier's funds disappear

by Brenda Montgomery

Bard Security has launched an investigation into the disappearance of some funds from the Cashier's Office. The Dutchess County Sheriffs Department is currently assisting the Security Department in investigating the case.

No arrest has been made yet. Most of the people involved in administration have been cleared of involvement.

The Comptroller's Office immediately called Security when the theft was discovered.

The investigation is still ongoing. "It wasn't a humorous amount of money," said Art Oey, Director of Security. The funds were not denominalzed.

There will be a restructuring of how money is handled as a result of this incident. Oey did not mention what the punishment for this offense would be.

Bard music branches in two

by Jason Van Driesthe

Over the summer, a split occurred in the Bard music department. The department is now divided into two branches, Music Program One and Music Program Zero. Music Program One is comprised of the more traditional course offerings and theories of music of the original department. It offers a structured program, with emphasis on developing expertise in an established field of music. Music Program One, and the music department as a whole, are headed by Professor Sarah Rothenberg. The program is located in Annandale House. Music Program Zero is more experimental in nature than Music Program One. According to Professor Benjamin Boerner, head of Music Program Zero and former music department head, the program's goal is the creation of a radically context-sensitive and person-sensitive structure for music learning. The program, which is located in Brooks House, emphasizes development of a personal, individual form of musical expression, using whatever medium the student prefers.

The changes were proposed over the summer by the senior members of the music department, and were ratified by President Leon Botstein and Dean of the College Stuart Levine.

According to Rothenberg, the music department's split into two sections was a "natural evolution of different philosophies of teaching." Rothenberg believes that "the general sense in the music department is one of excitement," but that it is too early to be sure of the long-range effects of the change.

According to one student, a traditional music major, the change was necessary because "the different sides had different priorities, and there was no way for them to exist together."
Break-in at Blithewood Thwarted by Alarms

by Brenda Montgomery

Last Friday night intruders forced open a window at Blithewood and tried to enter the building. The alarm went off and the intruders fled the area.

Security is following up on a tip and investigating the movements of certain students for that night.

"If we apprehend a student burglarizing the place (Blithewood), we will turn over the investigation to administration," said Art Oney, Director of Security.

There is an elaborate alarm system in the building now. Students have already broken into Blithewood a few times this semester.

"It would be better for students to stay out of Blithewood late at night," warned Oney. There will be "new constraints placed on the area because of this," he continued.

Health Board Shuts down Dragon East

by Tom Hickerson

The restaurant Dragon East was forced to close its doors last Thursday after a surprise inspection by the Dutchess County Health Department. The inspection was prompted by a call from Bard student Peter Wendler, who had discovered a cockroach in his dessert while dining at Dragon East last Sunday. He called it in Tuesday morning.

That afternoon, Karen Simmons of the Health Department discovered serious sanitation and was forced to close Dragon East. The restaurant's septic system was also working improperly. Before the inspection, an exterminator had been making regular visits, but no other attempts to curb the infestation had been made.

Dragon East, located on Route 9, will be shut down until a hearing is held between the owner and the Health Department. The restaurant will also be fined an undetermined amount.

New Resident Director

by Simon Campbell

Tom Burbhoe, known to many through his work in the Stevenson Gymnasium as Assistant Director, is now serving as Resident Director for Bard. This is the first year that the position of Resident Director has existed. According to Shelley Morgan, Associate Dean of Students and Director of Housing, the idea of having a Resident Director has been discussed often in recent years. With Burbhoe's desire to fill the ten-month live-in position, a welcome opportunity arose to put the idea into action. Burbhoe's interaction and involvement with students through his coaching of teams and position at Stevenson also presented an ideal situation.

Burbhoe's responsibilities include resident advising, working closely with the Dean of Students office and the peer counselors. To help maintain the operation of the residence halls, Burbhoe will be in frequent contact with the Building and Grounds, Security and custodial crews. Also, he is on 24-hour emergency call every fifth weekend.

His residence on North Campus, in the north-wing Robbins apartment, provides the approximately 220 residents and peer counselors of Robbins, Manor, Manor Annex and Cruger Village with ready assistance. He will be available for referral, personal counseling, and guidance for North Campus residents. Burbhoe can be reached at the Stevenson Gymnasium at extension 330 or at Robbins at 798-4513.

Safrides a Success

by Jason Van Drinich

A group called Safrides was recently formed at Bard to reduce drunk driving on and around campus. The group provides rides home from 12 midnight to 3:00 a.m. on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights to people too drunk to drive.

However, according to Penny Kranin, the group's founder, Safrides is not meant to be used as a taxi service. The group's purpose is to prevent drunk driving.

The group was already well-known by its debut on Thursday, September 14, thanks to the flyers that were sent to the entire Bard community on Wednesday via campus mail. Most students seemed very enthusiastic about Safrides. Those who used the service on Friday all agreed that Safrides was a good idea, and some even expressed an interest in participating as drivers themselves.

Calls for Safrides go to the security office, where they are sent by radio to the Safrides team of one driver and one radio operator. For the present, Safrides relies on private vehicles for transportation, but once students are able to get New York State chauffeur's licenses, Bard vehicles will be used.

Funds for Safrides come in part from a $300 grant from the Student Convocation Fund, and in part from the Dean of Students Office. The group has approximately 150 people signed up as drivers and radio operators so far.

People who are too drunk to drive or any weekend should call Safrides from 12 midnight to 3:00 a.m. at 587-7460 from off campus or extension 460 on campus, or just call the switchboard. Use of the service is kept strictly confidential.

Friday, September 22, 1989

Bard College and Red Hook complete joint water project

by Tom Hickerson

A collaborative project to build a water tank for Bard and the Red Hook community is nearing completion. On September 29, the new water system will be completed and waiting for integrity checks and painting.

The 900,000 gallon tank has been built a half-mile east of campus, and the pipeline is currently being laid along the west side of Route 9C. The water outlet will be placed on the east side of the Student Center. After the pipeline is built, zinc oxide will be painted on the inside of the tank and the outside will be sandblasted and painted. The tank will then be filled over a period of ten days to check for leaks. After this period, the tank and the water system should be fully operational, placing the final completion date sometime in October.

Out of the $1.2 million cost of the tank, Bard paid approximately $600,000. The 450,000 gallons that Bard has at its disposal will mainly be saved for emergency situations. Normally the Sawkill gives us all the water we need. The new tank will provide us with more than enough water to handle an emergency," said Steve Keiser.

The other half of this water supply will be used by the community of Red Hook to increase the reliability of their water system and for storage purposes. "This gives us storage where there was none," said Raymond Rhodes of the Red Hook Water Board. "We now have a four-day reserve, whereas we once had a one- or two-day reserve." However, in the case of a serious emergency, either Bard or Red Hook will have the entire water supply at its disposal.

This is the first project that has been developed, and both Bard and Red Hook on this scale, and both parties seem satisfied with the completed water tank.

The tank is located on Kelly Road, on high ground and close to several buildings, which will be the original source of water for the tank.

Safrides will be giving rides to anyone too drunk to drive this and every weekend.

Thursday, Friday, Saturday nights from 12 a.m. to 3 a.m.

Call 798-7460, ext. 460 on campus, or just call the switchboard.
Coalition for Choice gathers support, plans rally for Poughkeepsie clinic

by David Biele

It was an event that participating Bard students will long remember and probably speak of proudly to their children: Over 400 Bard students, roughly half of the school's population, took to the streets in buses and innumerable cars to participate in the "Women's Equality, Women's Lives" march on Washington D.C. this past April. Along with 600,000 others, the Bardians waved signs and wore T-shirts which read "Uncle Sam Keep Out of My Pants," marched through our nation's capital to urge the Supreme Court to protect Women's rights in the case of Webster vs. Reproductive Health Services (which was decided on last July).

It was that same case that spurred five Bard students to form an organization that would mobilize Bard support; and so, Elizabeth Felekia, who graduated last May, and returning students Hester Baer, Nina Bialystok, Terrence Lewis, and David Miller formed the Coalition for Choice. Though it was in seven of the Bard contingent had one of the nation's highest percentages of a college student body to attend the march. In an interview last week, Miller cited this march as the organization's genesis, but also said, "It has sort of branched out from there."

It is not just a group to keep abortion legal. Miller went on, "It's larger than that. We hope to keep reproductive rights and sexual freedom. In this respect, the group is also dedicated to ensure that abortion and birth control are accessible to all women through public facilities and government support such as Medicaid.

The group intends to be more active in its second semester. They will organize Bard participation at marches and rallies in such cities as Poughkeepsie, Binghamton, New York City, and Washington, D.C.

The first of these events, the Speewah rally, takes place next month on Friday the 13th, and will be held on the doorstep of the National Right-To-Life headquarters on 31st Street. The Poughkeepsie march, scheduled for Sunday, October 15, is sponsored by Planned Parenthood and is part of their effort to obtain a court order to force their clinic in Poughkeepsie. The Binghamton rally, advertised as an "Educational Rally," is slated for October 29 and will protest a radical Pro-Life group. This Pro-Life group, or as CFC prefers, "Anti-Choice Group," because the connotations of saying "Pro-Life" are that the other side is Anti-Life and this is not true, "Operation Rescue" has its headquarters in Binghamton.

Finally, on November 12, there is another march in D.C. sponsored by the National Organization for Women. The march was organized in reaction to three upcoming abortion cases, Tumnock vs. Ragdale, Hodgson vs. Minnesota, and Ohio vs. Akron Center for Reproductive Health, which could further limit the scope of Roe v. Wade. The case concerns a law which mandates a 20- hour rental notification before a teenage girl can have an abortion, which requires abortio clinics to have the same facilities as hospital operating rooms (requirements that Baer calls "excessive and unnecessary"). NOW hopes to top last April's march with nearly one million marchers in attendance; in anticipation of the greater attendance, the CFC is reserving three more buses.

CFC is also planning fund raisers, so students with financial difficulties can attend. The firs of these fund raisers will be held tonight in Kline commons at nine with the performance of the band False Profits. Liquid Rent, a Bard band, will open for them. Tickets cost three dollars. In addition, the Coalition intends to have another fundraiser featuring faculty talent in October, and a lecture by the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP) on Civil Disobedience and protestor's rights.

The coalition feels that the administration has been "very supportive this semester," and that student support has been "phenomenal." In regards to this, the organizers compared 150 families (a school more than four times Bard's size) contingent to the Washington march to Bard's group: Vassar. Bard seven. This backing seems to have increased since last semester, if the 100 people who showed up at last Wednesday's meeting is any indication.

The organizers of the Coalition urge students interested in joining the group to contact any one of them through campus mail, or to attend one of their meetings.

College Outreach Group enlists volunteers

by Kristian Hutchison

There are over 9,000 adults in Rhinebeck and Red Hook who are homeless. The College Outreach Group (COG), is an organization of five students last spring.

"There is a lack of connection between administrators, faculty, and students and between the college and surrounding areas. We feel this would break down these barriers," explains Mark Nichols, one of the founding members.

"A few people in the past have done volunteer work, but it was very scattered and unorganized. One of COG's purposes is to bring these people together and have a more concerted and organized effort," says Nichols.

The Snaphot program, presented by COG during L & T, brought volunteer work "from a theoretical to a real level because for some people it seems out of reach, out of touch," says Ian McGady, a COG founder.

About 20 freshmen visited Northern Dutchess Hospital and Castle Point Veterans Hospital as part of Snaphot. While there, they played Bingo with the patients, talked one to one with them, and saw the difference volunteers make.

Ian McGady admits that he developed the "Snaphot" program to mimic the Campus Outreach Opportunity League Conference which brought the founding members of COG together. McGady, Nichols, Dave Rolf, Chris Rikly, and Grace Benique developed the idea for COG at the conference last March.

During the conference they visited soup kitchens and homeless shelters, attended seminars, and met people who had dedicated their lives to volunteer service.

The freshman "went out to the streets and they got inspired, and we went out into the streets and we got inspired," said McGady.

Joe O'Brien, a community organizer, came to speak on volunteer service and its benefits as part of Snaphot. He works in the South Bronx and is organizing the occupant power in low rent apartments so they can become low lease apartments. Rather than doing it for the tenants, he finds a leader within the building and provides the materials and information that enables them to organize themselves. This ensures that the project will continue after he leaves for another project.

McGady envisions COG working in the same way. From their new office in the church basement, they will provide a plethora of information on how to start a volunteer pro-
Do the Right Thing: Learning about racism and still having fun

by Tom Hickerson

I could have reviewed Miss Firecracker for the Observer. Or Scarface. They wouldn't have been nice. But when I went to Upstate Films last Friday, what was waiting for me to watch, enjoy, and have a moral conflict over? Spike Lee's Do the Right Thing.

I'm not writing this way because I didn't like the movie; as a matter of fact, I loved it. But I'm no pro in the review business; I've never seen a Spike Lee movie before, either.

So why am I placing this delicately-worded disclaimer before I start my review? Because the way this movie above all movies has been talked and talked and talked about, someone with a strong moral conscience will take this review the wrong way and scream "No, No, NO! YOU'VE GOTTEN IT ALL WRONG!"

But now that I've declared my fear, on with the review. Submitted for your approval: Spike Lee's Do the Right Thing.

It all begins with a dance, gyrating to the beat of Public Enemy's "Fight the Power." The movie moves right up from there, employing unique camera angles and characters to create the microcosm of a New York neighborhood in the heat of the summer.

The characters are anything but boring, from the WB-Love radio disc jockey to the witty and well-meaning Smiley. It is a movie to build your past. If you've never seen it, this is the movie to see.

The rest of the movie, as the climax came and went, as the screen faded to black, that question bothered me. After the screen faded, two quotes began to roll across the screen. One was from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: "The other was from Malcolm X. A picture of King and X replaced the quotes. Credits began to run after:

"Strange feeling rushed over me as the movie ended. Was violence the right thing? I wondered. I felt sad about what happened to the characters: they had been so real. I saw the racial violence I had heard so much about in the sixties happen all over again. That may have been Lee's purpose."

By the time this article is published, Upstate Films will have finished running Do the Right Thing. But if you have not seen this movie yet, take my advice: go see this one.

Detour provides alternatives to drinking

by Julie Carter

What is all this racket about a "Detour raffle"? Before we talk about the raffle — what is Detour anyway? Well, if you wandered by the old gym last Saturday night and heard lots of loud music and lots of people dancing and hanging out, that was Detour.

Detour was born three semesters ago when a small group of students decided to try out a different kind of party. Many Bard parties had a keg as their main theme. This was great for many students, but Bard had virtually nothing to offer for students who just wanted to mindlessly boogie for a couple of hours on a weekend night — without the keg.

With the aid of the Dean of Students, Detour DJ parties sprang into action. The parties were meant to rival the idea of the keg party, they were meant as an alternative to the keg party — one which many progressive colleges around the country had already tried successfully. The parties came stocked with a DJ for those who want to boogie and refreshments for those who want to munch. Refreshments are also for those who might have already been on an empty stomach before the party.

Now, about this raffle. In the past Detour had to hire off-campus DJs simply because they have the own equipment. The raffle was implemented to raise money toward the purchase of two turntables which could be used to sponsor our own, talented, on-campus DJs for Detour and any other campus organization.

Thanks to all of you and a generous matching grant from the Dean of Students, Detour raised $320. The raffle drawing will be held at the next Detour party (tentatively Saturday, September 25) and the prize will be won include a $50 gift certificate to Santa Fe Restaurant, $25 gift certificate to Records World, $25 gift certificate to Berken Books, and $25 in movie tickets. Make sure to drop by the next Detour party to eat, dance and maybe win the raffle. And while you're there, buy a gander at our DJ and our new turntables.

DANCE CONCERT

Creach and Koester enliven the stage with unique athletic dances

by Nancy Seaton

A contemporary dance group, Creach/Koester, was presented in the Dance Studio of the Avery Arts Center on September 16, at 8 p.m. Terry Creach, Stephen Koester, Kevin Campbell, and Sean Curran were the dancers who performed.

A partnership between Creach and Koester developed in 1986. The two are now opening their company to include dances for four men. To "expand and define their partnership," they commission other choreographers. The dance company had performed in the United States, Canada, and Europe, and has been dance/chorographers in residence at art centers and universities all around the country.

Saturday's performance included four dances: "Protest Act," "It Takes Two," choreographed by Bill T. Jones, "Copeue," and "Team." The dances were athletic and full of energy, each being unique. My personal favorite was "It Takes Two," which was danced to music by Ray Charles and Betty Carter.

The Creach/Koester dance presentation was founded in part by The New York State Council on the Arts and the Bard College Center. This was the second contemporary dance company to come to Bard in a series, the Jane Comtois Dance Company being the first. It is hoped for the future that these series will continue.

Enter

The Bard Observer raffle

WIN

WIN
Meal Exchange

continued from page 1

ous for the experiment. Many members of the Bard community who are not on the meal plan, such as non-resident students, faculty and staff members, often eat in the coffee shop in Kline Commons during meal times. If students are also eating there at the same time under the auspices of meal exchange there can be quite a bottleneck. Nelson also pointed out the greater convenience to students, who will now be able to eat meals at more flexible times.

The food service will post information on the new meal exchange times when they go into effect. Until then, the meal exchange plan will function as usual.

Also, in the possible future of the meal service, according to Nelson, is a Valdine system, where each student's ID card would have an encoded magnetic strip and a main computer system

tem would track meals eaten and not eaten. This system would "open a whole world of options," said Bennett.

Among the possible meal plans that might become available to students under this system are, besides the current nineteen and fifteen meal plans, could be a ten meal plan, a five meal plan, meal plans for non-residents, and what Nelson referred to as a "Diminishing Balancer" plan in which students would have a dollar balance paid to the school at the beginning of the term with which they would "buy" food, either from the dining hall or the coffee shop, throughout the semester, if the balance is depleted more money can be put into it.

If the college does purchase the Valdine system it could be in place as early as the beginning of next semester, with new meal plans becoming available in the following fall.

Both Nelson and Bennett also stressed the necessity for changes to the physical plant of Kline Commons in the next few years. "Something has to be done," said Bennett, referring to the overcrowding in the dining hall and the service area, the lack of proper cooking equipment for the volume of food currently being cooked, and the lack of storage space. Under the current conditions the food service is having to accept deliveries much more often than would be ideal.

A consultant called in by the college to examine the problems in Kline has proposed a four-stage plan to renovate the building and bring it in line with the burden placed on it by the Bard community. The total cost of the renovations is estimated at just less than half a million dollars.

Nelson said that no definite steps have been taken to begin the remodeling, but it is something that the college will have to act upon within the next two to three years.

For Information contact Tim Clifford, Box 609 or Ext. 329. Special thanks to Alice Bernstein, of Rhinebeck, for organizing these sales.

WANTED: 10 Sharpshootin' men and women to join our posse to round up the ornery villain who stole our Oxbow cow. And, to that dastardly vermin, Watch out.

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Organic Produce for sale every Wednesday evening in the Bard Co-op office in the Student Center. No synthetic fertilizers or sprays are used on the produce. Volunteers needed to help with this new project. For sale now, Carrots, Red Beets, Potatoes, Celery, Spinach, Kale, Swiss Chard, Eggplant, Green Peppers, Cucumbers, Butter nut Squash, Pumpkins (for pies), and Apple pies. For Information contact Tim Clifford, Box 609 or Ext. 329. Special thanks to Alice Bernstein, of Rhinebeck, for organizing these sales.

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The Bard Observer

Calendar

Friday,
September 22
Der Rebbe's Tisch (Rabbi's Table): Meet Amy Hofman for lunch at 12:30 p.m. in Kline Coffee Shop.
Shabbat Service and Israeli dancing.

Sunday,
September 24
The Bard Observer Features meeting on the 3rd floor of Aspinwall at 5:00 p.m.
Eccumenical Worship in the Chapel at 6:30 p.m.

RAFFLE: The Bard Observer is raffling off a pair of tickets to The Chance in Poughkeepsie and two large cheese pizzas from CJ's in Rhinebeck. Tickets are $1.00 each. GREAT ODDS! Bring your money to lunch and dinner. (Winner announced after dinner).

Friday,
September 29
Co-op Orders Due by 6:30 p.m. Orders may be dropped off in the bookstore in the Co-op box the week of September 23-29 or at the Co-op table at Kline Sept 27, 28, and 29. Delivery is October 6 and may be picked up October 6, 8, and 9.

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Home away from home: Bard's International Population

Part one of three
by Andrea J. Stein

This is the first of a three-part series discussing the international students on Bard Campus. Next week's article will feature interviews with individual international students. Ed.

"Diversity" is currently one of the most popular themes to come home for many colleges. Here at Bard, the international students play a large role in increasing the diversity within the student community. It is rare that you find yourself in a class without international students; in my classes alone, I can discuss literature with a Swedish classmate, political studies with a Tanzanian, or American history with an Indian.

"Home away from home" to over 30 internationals, Bard boasts students from nearly 30 countries on 3 continents. While Pakistan, Turkey and Sweden alone are home to six of these, others hail from nations as diverse as El Salvador, Mayasias and Iceland.

The majority of the international students are underclassmen, several of whom will obtain their degrees from Bard in four years. Some, however, have been abroad for four years. This is the result of their more intensive high school studies. Generally, these students enter as freshmen, but then skip their junior year after a successful moderation. Occasionally, international students may receive even more than one year's credit, as in the case of Frederick Ostberg from Sweden. A physics major, he entered as a freshman in the fall of 1998 and is now doing his senior project.

Considering Bard's small size, it may seem curious that so many internationals have matriculated. However, Bard is fairly well known abroad, and the Bard International Students Coordinator, Jane Camp, estimates that the Admissions Office generally receives over 400 requests for further information and/or applications each year. Between 93 and 95 completed applications were submitted last year.

In addition, Bard is an associate member of the European Council of International Schools (E.C.I.S.). This organization arranges visits to national schools in Europe and Asia for visiting college representatives and organizes college fairs to permit direct contact with high school students abroad.

Karen Wilcox, Dean of Admissions, and Mary Backlund, Director of Admissions, generally travel abroad themselves, annually to Europe and biannually to Asia, in search of interested students.

In addition, Bard is a member of the Institute of International Education (I.I.E.), a New York-based organization which processes applications from foreign students interested in studying in the U.S. Generally, I.I.E. forwards any foreign applications to Bard, particularly from students interested in studying in the U.S. However, I.I.E. forwards any foreign applications to Bard, particularly from students interested in studying in the U.S.

Finally, Bard subscribes to Peterson's International, a service which compiles academic and financial information about foreign students. Bard receives lengthy, printed materials from Peterson's, from which the Admissions Office sends the names of those students who seem to be searching for a school like Bard.

In general, the Admissions Office attempts to establish personal contact with international applicants, sending handwritten letters and postcards, addressing concerns expressed in the applicant's letter. For the most part, however, the procedure is the same for international students as for non-international, with the exception of the preapplication requirement for internationals. In the preapplication, they must indicate the finances available to them and their TOEFL (Test of English as Foreign Language) score which must be 500 or above.

The greatest obstacle to international interest in Bard may well be the fact that creates difficulties for non-international students, as well. The potential prohibitive cost. As Gerald Kelly, Director of Financial Aid, stated, this producers a severe drawback for the international student who demonstrates great financial need. Because internationals lack U.S. citizenship and state residency, they are ineligible for any of the aid, as well as the two major sources of additional monies for American students. They are subject to the funds that Bard can provide, in the forms of grants, loans, and work/study, and is prepared to offer financial support only to those international students who can fund half of the comprehensive fee, approximately 8,000-9,000. Not only is this a large sum of money on its own, but some foreign governments impose restrictions on how much money may be taken in or out of the country. In addition, exchange and inflation rates in their own countries are not always stable.

Continued on page 8

Chinese professor reflects on situation at home, here
by Robin Cook

For the past ten years, Prof. Hongjun Kang has repeatedly ventured back and forth between his native China and the Western world. Kang had her first experience outside China in 1978, when she worked in Rome as translator for the United Nations.

"I didn't enjoy the work very much," she says, "but Rome was great."

Travel outside China is not so much a means of embracing a new culture as it is of developing a new outlook on her own. "You have to make up your own mind what is good and what is bad. To lose contact with your culture is not a good idea."

Prof. Kang first became aware of Bard College in 1984, when she was doing research at the University of York in England. She stayed with Philip Tristram, an English professor who had taught at Bard in the early 1980's. A friend of Tristram, Bard professor William Wilson, invited Kang to visit Bard and give a discussion on campus. She arrived in October, as the leaves were turning. "It was gorgeous," she says.

Thus, plans began for the creation of an Asian studies program at Bard College. One of the first Chinese teachers at the college, Wei Ying Zhang, was a former student of Kang. Kang was born in Shanghai and attended college at the Foreign Studies University in Beijing. She major in English, and remembers that the government exerted considerable control over what was taught. For instance, while she read many Victorinan authors, she was never exposed to twentieth-century modernist writers, such as Pound and Joyce.

"We were never taught Faulkner, and we never heard of him," she recalls. "Friend was never introduced until the '90s. Both the social sciences and the literature were very backward."

The Chinese government was suspicious of intellectuals, and during the Cultural Revolution...
Dear Editor,

After last Thursday's student forum meeting I believe of a number of people, went home feeling angry. Apparently, I am angry for two distinct reasons. The first is the way in which the student body dealt with the budget ratification; the second is the campus attitude towards the abortion issue. I would like to discuss these questions.

For the first issue I should more accurately say my frustration at the student constituted that guides the student forum. I was amazed to discover that debate about the student activities budget could be completely silenced by a simple majority vote in the middle of a lengthy and informative debate session. Obviously happy with the budget, and knowing that she had considerable support, moved to end discussion. Unfortunately this majority reordered the 50% necessary, thus completely eluding the questions that many of this school's clubs has had about the controversial budget.

The campus should be concerned by this. When decisions are made as simple majority vote, the students should not be left to majority rule. It is imperative that the student forum amend the constitution to allow concerned minorities the right to publicly express concern. Thursday night's forum was a disgrace. Might does not produce right.

Secondly, I am concerned with the almost holy sanctimony that has come to surround the issue of abortion on Bard campus. There is no questioning the fact that a legal and safe abortion in the U.S. is being threatened. Yet this doesn't mean that the actions of funding of pro-choice groups is above criticism. There is a feeling on campus that any critique of the Coalition for Choice is a criticism of a woman's right to abortion. This is unfortunate.

Yet it was for this reason that some people were uneasy about vocally opposing the massive funding for the Coalition for Choice received. After Thursday's forum these people have even more reason to keep quiet. Only one person, Kim Harris stood up and voiced the feeling (which I believe to be shared by other clubs) that while the newly formed Coalition for Choice received 13% of the total budget many older, much older, clubs experienced large cutbacks. She was subsequently heckled to such an extent that she resigned her seat on the Entertainment Committee.

At Bard, the actual question of whether or not a woman should be able to get an abortion is pretty much a non-issue. The remaining debate lies within the pro-choice community itself. There are some important questions that should be addressed and these questions should not be portrayed as somehow anti-theological, as the pro-choice movement. What are the benefits for the campus of spending $56,000 on buses to take students to a march that is 350 miles away? We would win more hearts and minds for the cause if we were to transport most of the Bard community to Washington through carpools and fundraising like last year, and used the allocated funds for the transport of generally less affluent and certainly less organized residence of the surrounding area to the march? Would it further the cause more if we donated money to local lobbying and education groups?

I think these questions are important. The cause is extremely important. However, that there is no reason in an open-minded community like Bard that it should be above question.

Sincerely,
Thomas Chace

U.S. The Planning Committee decided that this event was "not beneficial to the community." Apparently, the Committee feels that meeting actual Soviet students is a useless exercise. How many Bard students have less money to give, hope to meet a Soviet citizen and talk to him or her individually.

We had hoped to invite the Yale Slavic Choir to come back to Bard and give another concert. The Committee accused us of lying about the cost of the event ($40,000), which was actually a refund price for the choir normally charged $800.00 + transportation, an accusation which we can easily refute. We were also told that the Choir was "entertainment", and would do little to increase Bard students' knowledge of the Eastern European culture. This is the equivalent of saying that every American theater does little to increase one's knowledge of Japanese culture.

We are acquiring monies for the Spring for choir, but now it is "entertainment." Why the change of heart? Is it that money to local lobbying and education groups?

I think these questions are important. The cause is extremely important. However, that there is no reason in an open-minded community like Bard that it should be above question.

Sincerely,
Thomas Chace

Soviet Studies Club

Dear Editor,

The offices of the Soviet Studies Club, would like to call attention to the recent decision of the Planning Committee to severely limit our funds for the Fall 1989 semester. We have been extremely active for 3 years, yet we were allocated only $500 by the Planning Committee for the entire semester. This sum was insufficient comparing to the budgets received by other more newer and has active clubs.

In our budget we listed several activities which we hoped to sponsor during the fall semester. All but one was dubbed "not enriching to the Bard Community." The continuing of our biweekly film series was approved and the $500 is to go for the purchase of new Soviet films.

We had hoped to arrange an open reception for a group of Soviet exchange students attending Arlington High School in Hyde Park. Members of the Bard community could mingle with the Soviet students and question them about their lives in the Soviet Union, as well as tell them about the
Fall Sports

Contributors: Valerie Searles, Judy Jepson, Greg Micheli, Ron Greenstein and Claire Terre

With the fall semester under way, the sports teams have now all begun their seasons. With returning and new talent, the teams look promising, yet, their records show the need for team unity and development.

Soccer Kicks Into Action

The men's soccer team has undergone a few changes which have a definite impact on the team. Already the team has lost its goalkeeper, along with a returning player due to a head injury. In addition, three talented players did not return to the team this year.

The men's record of 0-5-1 has not put a dent on Coach Joel Tomson. I realize that we're young in many places, but with some effort, we can improve our aggressiveness and speed and we should start winning the close games," said Tomson.

Tomson was quite pleased this past Saturday against nationally ranked Port College even though the Blazers lost 0-1. "We're getting there," added Tomson.

The women's soccer team has also experienced a change which has affected the philosophy of the team. Steve Hubbard, the new coach, has brought a more serious attitude concerning sports and winning to Bard.

The team has played in last two away games three times before the players, leaving only eight players on the field as opposed to the full team of eleven. Last Saturday's game was one prime example when they played against Eastern Europe. "They then had the opportunity to see a game played in front of four of their eight players being injured during the game."

Suzanne Bergman scored the one goal for Bard in the final of their short team played against Albany Farms College.

"Those that are regularly participating and laying their bodies on the turf are much appreciated," said Hubbard.

With a 0.3 record and adjustments being made by returning and new players and a new coach, "We will arise at a higher level of performance as they are smoothed out," added Hubbard.

Volleyball spikes the net

Bard's women's volleyball team, coached by Anthony Bonilla, has started bouncing, setting and spiking their way through the season. With nine players, the team has placed Marist College, Kings College and Bloomingdale College on their toes. The team's record is 0-3. The closest score was against Bloomingdale.

Tennis Aces the Courts

The women's tennis team opened their season, "Early Monday, September 11 against Marist College. The team consisting of only six players lost out against one of their toughest competitors of the season, although none of the matches went in their favor."

Music Department

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any desire of mine, or to any principle or concept of music, music education, or social structure to which I could possibly subscribe." But Boretz accepted the change, stating in the aforementioned letter that "I have felt it more constructive to formulate Music Program Zero, both as a way to preserve the integrity and continuity of work and thought which have been evolving in the Bard music department for the past sixteen years." Many hands in Music Program Zero feel that the split was not positive; however, most feel that the change was necessary and that there are no major differences between the students in the two programs.

Foreign students

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may augment the financial strains of foreign students. Kelly stated, "We do what we can possibly do to permit them to stay here for four years. We look for stretching on their end and we attempt to stretch as much as we can."

Geographical distribution is a commitment at Bard. Eight to ten of the new international students each year generally receive financial aid.

Although Bard can make sacrifices, they are financially fluctuating exchange and inflationary rates over the course of an international college career, complete compensation is not possible. Therefore, the financial aid office urges that foreign students attempt to assess their finances for the full four years before making any financial commitment.

Such financial assessment is also necessary for the international student to obtain his or her student visa from the U.S. Office of Immigration. The Visa is contingent upon the completion of the I-20 Form which verifies that the student has the funds to finance his or her education. These financial requirements make it difficult for many international students to attend Bard. As freshman Nimya Bucha, from Pakistan, explained, "Everyone from Pakistan applies to Bard, and most of them get in. It is very expensive, though, so many don't come because they can't afford it." And, as Dutch freshman, Olve Te Bockhorst stated, "Bard wants diversity, but they're going to get a certain kind of international student — very healthy!"

It is unfortunate that finances are so limiting for international students. How, then, has Bard demonstrated its commitment to some degree of diversity by the larger number of matriculated international students? It is the personal stories of the students themselves which are truly fascinating; they will be explored in the next issue.