# Bard College Student Newspaper Archive (1895-1999)

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# OBSERVER

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# **UBSERVER**

VOLUME XCVI, ISSUE EIGHT October 27, 1989

BARD COLLEGE ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON, NY 12504 "The best newspaper in Annandale."



Dean of Students Steve Nelson addressing concerns over the parking issue.

### photo by Valerie Scurto **Botstein addresses** torum

by Cormac Flynn

President Botstein addressed a sparsely attended Forum meeting last Thursday. Although the original impetus for the appearance was to respond to Forum criticism of the new Distinguished Scientist Scholarships, Botstein's remarks touched on a wide range of matters and constituted almost a "State of the College" address.

Most significantly, the President outlined the college's new \$70,000,000 capital campaign. The sum, to be raised over a five year period, is to include funds for the soon to come library expansion and the much promised student center as well as the long awaited theater and other projects.

Botstein's appearance, a somewhat unusual occurrence, was triggered by a letter of protest voted in Forum

earlier this month. The letter criticized the new Distinguished Scientist Scholarship program which is to begin next year. The program will give scholarships and research grants to new students who have excelled in the sciences in high school and who agree to concentrate (major) in science at Bard.

It was this last requirement that the Forum objected to, labeling it a significant departure from the College's current liberal arts philosophy.

Botstein agreed, calling the question "very well taken," but said that the scholarship

would only amount to a "slight deviation," justifiable in light of the "tremendous national crisis" in science students. "We have a first-class science tor of Campus Security and division. We are a leader in Safety, the Ravine houses educating humane scientists, scientists who understand the arts and humanities."

standing was too often lacking Security must then be called. in those who have been and narrow environment."

The effect of the program on the College's educational approach would be minimal, the pillow and carried the Botstein claimed, emphasiz-Continued on page 2

photo by Valerie Scurto

# Fire! Fire Everywhere!

by Valerie Scurto

This past week was quite busy for the Bard Security Office. Two fires broke out, the famous egg throwers are close to getting caught, and a new break in the car vandalism series came through.

### Obreshkove Fire

On Thursday, October 19, a fire broke out in a student's room in Obreshkove. The student left for a class, and his pillows fell off the bed onto an electric heater. When he returned, he smelled smoke and upon opening his door, saw the flames. He immediately pulled the fire alarm and called Security.

According to Art Otey, Direcalarm system is not connected to the office's main system. connection of science to the When an alarm sounds in one of the houses, it only allerted Botstein said such an under- those persons in the house.

Officer Shawn Ost, Deputy taught in a "highly technical Sheriff for the Ulster County Sheriff's Department, responded to the call. On arrival, he extinguished the flames on smoldering comforter and pil-

lows out into the rain.

### Stone Row Fire

On Tuesday, October 24, the Stone Row fire alarm went off at 7 a.m. Officers arrived on the scene at 7:02 a.m. to find the cause of the alarm. Due to the cold weather, students were allowed to remain in the buildings near the exits.

Within a few minutes the cause was determined. Inside a flourescent light in the bookstore, the lighting element broke down and shorted out. This started a small fire inside the metal box which caused the oil, used to cool the light, to boil and drip out and form a thick black smoke. The smoke triggered the alarm.

The Red Hook Fire Department also responded to the call. They brought fans to help ventilate the bookstore of the smoke.

Otev said the minor fire did not cause a threat. However, students felt otherwise. A senior student noted, "Everyone could have been dead."

Stone Row, in addition to Warden's Hall, and Manor House and Annex, have only one alarm system. "This doesn't cause a problem, yet it would be nice to have separate systems," added Otey.

Continued on page 9

# Alumni Witness Purgatory

by Valerie Scurto 1

On Saturday, October 21, alumni/ae returned to campus for "Come Back to Bard." A special presentation of graduate Steven Sapp's show Purgatory and a panel discussion of "the Arts and Social Responsibility" took place.

Sapp's Purgatory had its debut in April of this year. With a cast of 18 Bard students, Sapp wrote, choreographed, and directed the musical

Purgatory is based on the life of Edmund Perry, a black male from the Bronx who attended the Philip Exeter Academy, a predominantly white school. In 1986, Perry was killed in the Bronx by a policeman, after having completed his education at the academy.

Like Perry, Gregory Johnson,

Purgatory's male lead played by junior Anthony DeMoore, is a black male from the Bronx going to a predominantly white school. Johnson experiences the same feelings of alienation; no longer fitting into the world at home, and not fitting into the new world at school. Johnson, "hearing maddening screams inside his head," kills himself.

The cast of Purgatory expressed its views about racategorizing individuals, where they came from, and how things have not changed over the years in their monologues.

Sapp feels the world is in a very destruct state. His mesself-destruction."

As an artist, Sapp worries



cism, putting labels on and Gregory Johnson hanging out with 'his boys' before school.

about the show turning into a bunch of "hype." "It's all about the work and the message being spread," added Sapp.

Following the performance, a panel of five alumni/ae dissage through Purgatory is that cussed the topic of "the Arts "if we don't pay attention to and Social Responsibility." the signs, we are heading for Professor Joel Kovel moderated the panel.

Kovel began by discussing the role of artists in our society. "The role of artists has to be constantly negotiated," Kovel.

He then asked each member of the panel to relate to the audience their struggles as an artist.

Hansi Durlach '52, a photog-\* Continued on page 7



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### President Botstein and Dean Nelson answer student queries at the forum

continued from page 1 ing that the scholarships were a "one-shot deal" and not a continuing program.

President Botstein also said that half of the ten total scholarships would be reserved for women scientists. Calling the shortage of women in science "acute," he said that it stemmed partially from "the tragic fact that highly technical institutions have extremely sexist environments," and that Bard was a much more hospitable atmosphere.

Addressing the heart of the issue, Botstein promised that there would be "a safety net" so that holders of the scholarship would be financially able to continue at Bard if their intellectual interests change.

Turning to the new capital campaign, Botstein announced that the lion's share of the funds will go to faculty retention and student scholarships.

The first new construction will be 32 new dorm spaces to be ready for occupancy by next fall. These will be entirely new spaces and not replacements for losses elsewhere. The beds are to be used to reduce the current overcrowding, which will be further alleviated by what Botstein said would be a decrease in total enrollment next fall. Such a reduction would be the first such drop in ---- years and signals, Botstein said, the end of the student population growth of recent years.

Since the college does not have the funds for stone dormitories at this time, the new units will probably be detached buildings which can be converted to one-family faculty housing when a future residence hall is constructed. No site has yet been selected.

In addition, Botstein announced that the college was once again in negotiations to purchase buildings in Annan-

dale for its space needs.

Botstein announced the selection of Robert Venturi, the leading architect widely regarded as the farther of postmodernism, as the designer of the new library expansion. Expected to double the existing shelf space, and renovate existing sections, the \$9,000,000 project will break ground next fall.

Following close behind will be a \$1,600,000 renovation of the Student Center (designed by Cathy Simon, architect of Olin and New Hegeman), a \$1,000,000 renovation and expansion of Kline Commons and the long delayed theater. The theater was originally planned as part of the Avery Center, but was never constructed due to fiscal limitations. Also promised are new arts facilities and a new music building.

Responding to questions, Botstein assured students that none of the anticipated \$70,000,000 is to go to graduate or "satellite programs."

Botstein reacted vigorously to criticisms and doubts expressed regarding the usefulness and desirability of the "satellite programs." The programs, Botstein said, "are intended to enrich the college in its resources and create positions to help us retain the very best in faculty."

Expressing incredulity at student assertions, Botstein insisted that the books and periodicals in the Levy Institute's collections were available to undergraduates: "There are no restrictions on access. If you try to get anything that's in the Levy collection and you can't, you bring me a librarian's slip saying that that item is there, but you can't have it. You bring it to me!"

He also settled a recent issue by saying: "There are no restrictions on the [Blithewood] grounds that I know of. I have not approved any such policy." Dean Nelson supported the assertion that the "restricted access" policy applied only to the building itself.

Botstein went on to discuss the new Black Center for Twentieth Century Art and Culture, construction of which is to begin in April on the site of the old Blithewood greenhouses across from Gardener's Cottage, and to discuss the new Master of Arts in Teaching program.

Asserting that Bard has "a moral obligation" to train teachers in the face of an emerging shortage of alarming proportions, Botstein said that while the program hoped to grow to 100 students, it was not expected to exceed "12 to 15" in its first few years. "The difference between the MAT and the other masters programs we have, however, is that the MAT will be in session during the undergraduate year and not just in the summer." The program's students are expected to be several years older than undergrads, he asserted, and will therefore live off-campus and be unlikely to burden already strained student facilities.

President Botstein also mentioned the proposal for an amphitheater on the campus and addressed a general unease, expressed throughout the evening, with the college's land-use policies.

Describing proposals for the 3000-seat structure as still "in the very sketchy stage," Botstein labeled any existing designs "feasibility studies" and assured students that no final site for the controversial project had been chosen. "If we build an amphitheater, if we do, then student input on seting and design will, of course, be welcomed, but its far too preliminary right now."

Botstein announced that a

campus land-use master plan had been completed by the firm of ----

The firm is know for its environmentally sensitive work, the President asserted, defending himself against charges of recklessness and disregard for environmental concerns. Botstein further emphasized the col-

environmental credentials (Hudsonia, Field

lege's

Station, MSES) and insisted that the college had taken great care in all recent work. He said that he was "not oppose" to the idea of elected student land-use "watch dogs."

Turning his attention to some more current issues, Botstein said that the new east parking lot (behind the student center) would not be lit or graveled until it had settled, an essential ecological concern. Settlement takes one full year. ('til next August). Botstein praised beleaguered Prof. Richard Reid as "an excellent scholar, an excellent individual, and a great asset" and expressed the hope that a permanent position could be found for him at the college. (Reminder: Letters about Reid should be sent to student rep Nif Kline, not to faculty reps).

Botstein sheepishly defended himself against an assertion that the EEC program was at odds with statements he makes in admissions pamphlets. "I said that in 1975, and they keep printing it over my objections." Smiling goodnaturedly he admitted: "My thinking has changed, I decid-

ed not to hold it against people that they did well in high school!"

Botstein's good humor turned to indignation when the discussion turned to drugs. "Drugs are the most serious crisis in the nation. It is societal suicide!" he declared. He said that some who regard the college as tolerant with regard to drug use are severely misinformed, "We are not tolcrant! We have limited resources to fight this problem, and we choose not to spend them wastefully on police to chase you around the block, but we will not tolerate drugs in this institution."

The subject was raised when someone repeated the recent rumors that President Bush had given the college a grant to fight drugs. For the record, the money comes from the Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education, a non-partisan public endowment created in the early 1970's. The Fund is beyond Presidential control, and besides the grant dates from before the election. The new money will be spent on drug education programs.



# ACT-UP, Fight Back

by David Miller

ACT-UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) gave a presentation on October 19 about unleashing anger, combating AIDS, and political protesting.

The three speakers, Joey Nelson, Kent Lebsock, and Jack Ben-Levi, from ACT-UP first gave their personal accounts of joining the aggressive activist group.

Nelson said, "I joined ACT-UP after my lover died. I was so angry and outraged. I found out how much the government does not care."

Lebsock echoed the same

sentiment in his account of joining ACT-UP. He spoke of being attacked for being a "faggot" and having to take verbal abuse from heterosexual men. "Now with AIDS, these same people are trying to kill me, through President George Bush and other elected officials."

Ben-Levi, a college student, addressed many campus issues such as organizing and planning demonstrations. He stressed that students can change the environment on a college campus. Ben-Levi organized a demonstration in Cleveland, Ohio against a company who had cancelled

insurance coverage for employees with AIDS. The company changed its policy as a result of the action.

Another major topic of discussion at the meeting was turning anger into action. One of ACT-UP's premises is turning frustration and anger into action and empowerment. Lebsock stressed visibility and confronting institutions which are homophobic.

They all agreed that the Catholic church was a major target. "The Catholic church oppresses almost everyone it can," stated Ben-Levi.

ACT-UP plans to protest during mass at a Catholic church in response to the church's hatred of homosexu-

Continued on page 11,

# Chinese Table in Kline

by Jason Van Driesche

On Tuesday, October 18, a Chinese table was started in Kline, both for people interested in speaking Chinese and for people interested in discussing Chinese culture, history, politics and art.

Conversations are conducted in both Chinese and English, therefore, knowledge of the Chinese language is not necessary for participation. Discussions are led by one or more members of the Asian Studies faculty.

Four faculty members and three students took part in the

first table. The faculty members included Helen Dunstan and Hong Jin Kang, professors of Chinese history and literature, and Professor Lin, who teaches the Chinese language. The three students who attended were all Chinese citizens, thus the discussion was held in Chinese.

Interested students, faculty, and community members are welcomed and encouraged to sit at the table for lunch this and every Tuesday. Once again, knowledge of the language is not a prerequisite for participation in the discussion.

# Features

# Club Actively Plans Events

by Andrea J. Stein

The majority of Bard students have attended at least one comedy performance, Coffeehaus reading, or other social activity, but may be unaware of the people whose time and energy have gone into the preparation of such events. Those unknown people are, in many cases, members of the Student Activities Club

The Activities Club was originally founded by Assistant Dean of Students, Shelley Morgan. "Activities are part of my job," she explained. "Yet the time constraints I was under made it difficult for me to devote as much time to them as I would have liked." After talking with many first year students, Morgan determined that many felt that, other than band parties and club activities, there was not a lot to do on campus. Thus, she decided to form the Student Activities Club, both to help her in line with her duties regarding campus activities, and to provide her with more student in-

"It's good for me because I really know what students want. I'm not just planning random activities. I'm also getting students to take on leadership roles since I can't be at every event," Morgan stated. She has found that most of the student response has been from first year students, although those who have become involved with certain campus activities often remain so throughout their years at Bard.

Senior Nif Klein, for example, has been very active in organizing the "Coffeehaus" readings on campus. These are held every three or four weeks in Albee Lounge. Those students interested in performing (reading their own or others' writing, playing the guitar, etc.), need only show up and sign in at the door. Refreshments - cookies, coffee and tea - are generally served. "They [the readings] have been really nice so far," said Klein. "It's a place where writers feel their work will be ap-

Activities are part of my job, yet the time constraints I was under made it difficult for me to devote as much time to them as I would have liked.

preciated."

The Activities Club has also brought comedy nights to campus, the last of which for this semester will be held on November 13. It has also been active in organizing theme weekends, such as Winter Carnival and Spring Fling. At the moment, the club is planning various events for the year, including bringing more jazz to campus, showing more "mainstream" movies, hosting DJ dances featuring alternative types of music, and providing trips, perhaps to New York City for Broadway matinees, to Boston, or to "any place else where people want to go," as Shelley Morgan explained.

Tomorrow night's entertainments are thanks to the Activ-

ities Club. Beginning at ten o'clock, Halloween celebrations commence with a DJ dance in Kline Commons. In response to student interest, the music will be a change from the usual rap, hip-hop and house, featuring more new wave and dance music. It is hoped that many will come in costume, and to that end, prizes are being awarded for best costumes. First, second and third place winners will receive, respectively, dinner for two at Santa Fe, a gift certificate to a record store, and pizza. The club is also requesting a donation of two dollars from each attendant; the money will then go to the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund for the San Francisco earthquake victims.

The Student Activities Club hopes to improve student life on campus and is always eager for new members and more input. Anyone who is interested should speak with Shelley Morgan. Morgan also emphasized that anyone who is planning an event in conjunction with any campus organization should schedule it with her as early as possible. Scheduling conflicts may then be avoided and all programs will receive maximum attendance. At the absolute minimum, forty-eight hours notice is required to schedule campus events.

The Student Activities Club wishes the campus a Happy Halloween and hopes to see many faces, both new and old — and preferably in disguise — at the Halloween bash tomorrow night.



Students dining in Kline await positive changes in food quality.

# Students respond to new Kline

by Tom Hickerson

Many of the Bard students have mixed reactions towards the reassignment of former Kline director Donald Bennett. However, Bard students agree that future changes should be made.

"I think the food's better, on a basis of two to three days," said freshman Petris Wendler. "It's hard to judge, though."
"The food quality has improved greatly," said freshman Jenny Gerbie, "It's warm, fresh, and tasty. I'm very pleased with the improvement." Many changes have gone unnoticed, however. "I'd tell [if there was a change] if I could taste the difference," freshman Eileen Williams noted, "but I can't."

Students also held different opinions about Bennett's promotion. "I'm somewhat pleased that he left, if for no other reason than he liked the food he was serving us," said sophmore Keighte Sherrod, "The vegetables have im-

proved, as has the overall quality of Kline Commons."
"Maybe [the new director] will let us identify what we eat," junior Jessica Swirnoff remarked. Many were also sad to see Bennett leaving Kline. "I'm sorry to see him leave," said senior Colleen Blackwell. "He didn't get as much credit as he deserved, having the hardest job in the administration."

And what changes do Bard students want to see from Kline Commons in the future? The changes are countless, from an increase in entrees low in fats and cholesterol to a decrease in shortages of trays, utensils and glasses during meal hours. "The changes are nice," Wendler continued, "but I'm afraid it might just be all for show. They've been trying to make Bard a model school among liberal-arts colleges as far as meal services go. They've still got a long way to go."

# Parents' Day Agenda Planned

by Amy Sechrist

Today and tomorrow the Bard Campus will be swarming with an unfamiliar species. These beings will roam about, inspecting the library and dorms. They will sample the food and admire the falls.

The campus isn't being visited by creatures from outer space, but by parents, who are just as strange a sight at school.

On Friday, parents have the option of attending that day's classes to get a taste of the intellectual life here at Bard. Later that night, President Leon Botstein will conduct the Hudson Valley Philharmonic

Chamber Orchestra at Olin.

Saturday will be a day of seminars and presentations. After registration, Language and Thinking, Freshman Seminar, and select course sessions designed for parents will take place, as will panels on Student Life and Special Bard Features such as Moderation and the Senior Project. Naturally, Botstein will speak at the end of the day on the topic of Bard's academic program.

Usually first on the agenda for students is taking their parents on the grand tour and introducing them to their friends. This includes time for moms to thoroughly inspect dorms for cleanliness and good strong locks.

Afterwards, some ignore the college's schedule and spend the day at Woodstock or Poughkeepsie, shopping and sightseeing. Popular for dinner are the Culinary Institute, which offers a seven course meal for twenty dollars, and the Beekman Arms in Rhinebeck.

Although it can be a fiasco for some, most students enjoy Parents' Day. It's a chance to show them how you live, who your friends are, and where you attempt to study. And as one student said, "Hey, we haven't seen them for two months, we can live through a weekend with them." I'm sure our parents are saying the same thing.

# Bring Back Joy and Other Good Things

It isn't easy to live in our sometimes superficial society and still feel the deep-down fun called joy. Our Unitarian Universalist churches know that. So our intellectual, social, and worship celebration events are planned to help you find substance and satisfaction. Try one of our joyful churches. There is always room for one more. Choose the Unitarian Universalist group nearest you, or write:

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# Green" products complete the recycling cycle

Because of the growing interest in environmental protection, many communities and individuals have made an effort to recycle materials. Even at Bard, recycling is a major concern of students and faculty. Unfortunately, very few manufacturers and distributors sell recycled products. Although more materials are recycled than ever before, very few of these products ever reach the market. The conscientious public is recycling materials, but these materials are then not being reused. The recycling cycle is stuck in a glut.

To combat this problem, in 1983 in Madison, Wisconsin, two environmentalists founded a mail order company that only sells what are referred to as green products. Green products minimally impact



Earth Care, Inc. creates new paper from old paper.

the environment and are often made from recycled materials. The company, Earth Care, Inc., has a catalog offering over 200 récycled paper products. Items include college-ruled notebooks and computer printing paper as well as stationery, and calen-

Recycled paper products not

only reduce solid waste, but also conserve resources and energy. According to the World Watch Institute, recycled paper production requires 74% less energy than virgin paper products. By minimizing the use of fossil fuels, manufacturing recycled paper also cuts down on acid rain and other pollutants. Recycled paper produces 35%

less water pollution than manufacture of other paper and saves 17 pulp trees for each ton of paper.

In a recycled paper mill, waste paper is mixed with water and heated to turn it into pulp. Then, all contaminants are removed, and the pulp is cleaned, bleached, and reinked. Next, the pulp mixture is spread over rotating screens, pressed, and dried to form paper. Recycled paper is impervious to humidity and temperature changes, has greater flexibility and opacity and feeds into printing presses better than non-recycled pa-

Earth Care Paper, Inc., also sells items made of cellulose instead of plastics. Any plastics used today will not decompose for 200 to 400 years. Plastics are made from petroleum, a non-renewable resource, and their production also

Even degradable plastics are not full proof. Virtually no testing has been done to insure degradable plastics actually do decompose. Most degradable plastics are partially made of cornstarch which is eventually digested by microorganisms. But, the plastics still contain potentially dangerous chemical additives, plastic resins, and toxic metals. No one knows what happens to these components.

Cellulose, however, is completely natural. Made from wood fiber, it is biodegradable and non-toxic. Earth Care Paper produces spice, sandwich, bread, and product bags, all made from cellulose. The products are also packaged in cellulose.

Anyone interested in Earth Care Paper, Inc.-green products can write to Box 3335-GRN, Madison, WI 53704.

# Comparing pain killers and how they work

This column will be a regular feature the fourth week of each month, discussing health issues affecting Bard

by Meadow Goldman

As most people know from the barrage of advertisements, we are all subjected to, most hospitals trust Tylenol, but, aspirin is gentler to your stomach. Doctors would choose Bayer if left alone on a deserted island, and, after the next commercial, the headthat ache screamed "Excedrin!" will disappear. Over the counter pain killers are a fact of life for many Americans. However, many people take anaglesics not knowing exactly what they're consuming, how what they've taken works once in them or which of the myriad of pain

killers would be the best for their ailment.

The three main nonprescription (over the counter) pain relievers are aspirin, acetaminophen, and ibuprofen. These have multiple brand names with which everyone is equally familiar. The brand names use either one of the three drugs in its pure form, in combination with each other or with additives such as caffeine or antiacids. For example, Excedrin contains aspirin (194.4mg), acetaminophen (97.2mg), salicylamide (129.6mg) and caffeine (64.8mg). If you're curious about what else you're taking besides the anaglesic of your choice, it would be wise to check the contents. Other combination drugs on the market (for allergies, colds, etc.) usually combine one of the three anaglesics and an antihistamine (primarily used as a decongestant) - but that's another topic.

All of the drugs work in essentially the same way: they inhibit a hormone-like substance called prostaglandins. Prostaglandins are produced by the body at the sight of injury and their production is closely related to inflammation and pain. Fevers are also associated with prostaglandin production, which explains why anaglesics can reduce them. Exactly how prostaglandins work in the body is unclear, but more is understood about how anaglesics inhibit prostaglandins. Because of the variations on how the three drugs inhibit prostaglandins, they have slight therapeutic differences.

Acetamenophen, aspirin, and ibuprophen all relieve inflammation, pain and fever. Ibuprophen, however, is superior to both aspirin and actamenophen in the inhibition of what is known as e. prostaglandin. Muscle cramps, especially menstrual cramps, are caused by the excess production of e. prostaglandin. Therefore, ibuprophen is the best choice for muscle cramps or soft tissue injuries.

Headaches are another comion problem for college students. Of the three types of headaches (tension, migraine, or a rare type called cluster) analglesics help only the tension headaches.

Stress causes a tension headache by forcing the muscles of the neck and head to contract. Migraines are from swollen blood vessels in the head that irritate nerves, and cluster headaches (which effect 2-3% of the population) are caused by a calcium imbalance. Anaglesics will not help either of the former two.

Although all the anaglesics in consideration have antiinflamatory properties, aspirin has traditionally been favored for its antiinflammatory action. However, according to a 1984 Consumer's Report article, the ordinary, occasional doses in which people take aspirin have no greater therapeutic value than acetamenophen or ibuprophen. It's only in large, regular doses that aspirin has any advantages. In general, the aspirin and ibuprophen are superior to acetamenophen for inflammation management. However, for most tension headaches and common aches and pains, inflammation is irrelevant, and any of the three drugs will do. The claim that aspirin is gentler to your stomach is also dose related. Only 2-10% of aspirin users experience stomach upset. No therapuetic differences exist between aspirin and the other anaglesics for most people who take anaglesics in oridinary doses on occasion

All three drugs have a number of side effects that vary dramatically from person to person, and one can find a full exposition of what they are on the packaging of whatever brand one chooses. A severe side effect largely overlooked in the past, however, is potential kidney damage. This aspect of anaglesics pertains to those who use these anaglesics abusively - at least daily for three years or more. This type of kidney damage is senseless and preventable (by just following dosage recommendations). Furthermore, it's a serious concern for all considering that it costs \$40 million a year to care for such patients--and much of that is often government funded.

One final consideration on the topic of painkillers is that they aren't always necessary especially if you are a cronic pain suffer and pill-popper. Some alternatives include acupuncture, massage, meditation, hypnosis or imaging. Each of these have foundations through which you can receive more information such as:

Chiropractors-

Dr. M. Skolnick ...679-2601 Holistic healing-

E. Schrank-Hagen...679-5134 Davida, Lic. M.Th...679-7981 Homeopathy-

R. Stewart...679-2875 Hypnosis-

P. Blum, R.H...679-7655

R.Sussman...657-8016 J. Lofstrand, M.Th....246-0163 Lomi Wor.....679-5439

If you have any questions concerning this article or any health re-Ing Ims article of any hearing re-lated topicss you would like ad-dressed, send your comments through the campus mail to: Health Column c/o The Bard Observer.



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# Broadway at half-price

by David Biele

Given the interests of Bard's student body, it is not surprising to find that many of its students are interested in attending dramatic productions. And with New York City, one of the major hubs of modern theater, or, as some would say, the hub, relatively close by, many students desire to attend productions there. The problem is that the monetary expense of spending up to \$55 for a ticket is often more of an insurmountable barrier for many Bard students than is the hundred miles that separate the Bard campus from the Big Apple.

That problem, however, is not quite as severe as many might think because of the availability of half priced tickets that can be purchased at Bard and down in the city. These tickets can cut down the price of attending a show by as much as \$27,50 per tick-

One way a Bard student can see a Broadway show at half price is by picking up a coupon in the post office. Although these are not always available, sometimes one can find them in envelopes hanging on the bulletin board near the back of the post office for a limited amount of shows. All one has to do is bring this coupon to the theater on the day of the performance and if there are any seats available for that day's performance, one can purchase them at half price.

-The other way of getting half-priced tickets is by buying them through an official outlet down in the city. At the northern end of Times Square, on 45th Street and Broadway in the center island there is a large white semipermanent structure which is topped by large white signs with orange letters that read simply "TICKETS." This is is where the half-priced tickets are sold. Every day theaters send their unclaimed tickets for that day's performance to this outlet, and these tickets are made available to the public at half price, plus a \$1.50 service charge.

These discount tickets come from two sources. The first is simply regular tickets that were left over when a particu- lar performance was not sold out. The seats from this source are usually not very good, either in the back mezzanine or in the balcony.

The seats from the other source, however, are excellent. At every performance several seats are reserved for visiting friends and family of people involved with the show. These seats are usually center orchestra seats, within the first few rows.

The shows available from this outlet include all but the most popular and newest productions. The shows are predominantly from Broadway, but a smattering of Off Broadway productions are available. Most Broadway plays have available tickets, but there is less selection among the musicals.

For example, on the Wednesday matinee during Reading Week, tickets for such musicals as Cats, A Chorus Line, and Sweeney Todd were available, but Broadway's three most popular productions, Les Miserables, The Phantom of the Opera, and Jerome Robbins' Broadway (The respective Tony Award winners for Best Musical for the past three years) were not; but such plays as Neil Simon's Rumors, and M. Butterfly and The Heidi Chronicles, the 1988 and 1989 Tony Ward winners for Best Play, all had seats available. As for off Broadway productions, only tickets for Nunsense and the Pulitzer Prize winning Driving Miss Daisy were for

Tickets for matinees, which are usually performed on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons at two, go on sale at ten in the morning and are sold until two. Evening shows, which usually run every night of the week but Sunday; go on sale at three and are sold until eight in the evening. If one has a specific show that he desires to see, he should get there early because of the outlet's popularity; usually, there are at least 75 people waiting on line by the time it opens. To ensure seeing one's first choice, it is suggested that one arrives at least an hour before the windows open.

As for getting a good seat, that is really all a matter of chance. Personally, I have seen three shows through

these methods: twice through the outlet and once with a coupon. Using the outlet, l saw Lend Me a Tenor from a third row center seat, but M. Butterfly from an aisle seat in the very last row of the mezzanine; I bought my ticket to The Mystery of Edwin Drood through the other method and saw the show from a center seat in the front row of the balcony. So it all basically comes down to chance: If one wants to ensure a good seat he should buy his ticket at full price through the theater or Ticketron.

Although the expense for Bard students to see a Broadway or Off Broadway show is at least \$35 (counting train fare), using these services can help students take advantage of their proximity to the Big Apple by greatly reducing the crimp on the money supply.

### Announcing ...

Submissions to the Calendar should be sen to the Dean of Students Office, and not to The Bard Observer.

Deadline for submissions is the Friday before publication.

## Classifieds

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### Personals

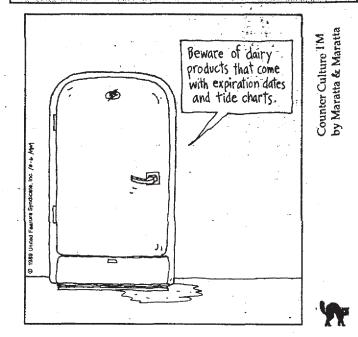
If you're gonna wear black at Bard, wear reflectors at night.

RED HOOK, NY

Seth: You are wonderful! Sincerely, your boss.

### Cartoons! We've got cartoons!

If you would like to submit a cartoon, send it to The Bard Observer, c/o Brenda Montgomery. All cartoons should be drawn with black ink on white paper.





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# Beer Column

### More Mexican Beer

by Jody Apap and Chris Hancewicz

Thanks to the overwhelming amounts of wonderful fan mail, pleading us to continue our column, the editorial staff has decided to keep us around.

Why more Mexican beer? Why? because we like it. We thought a theme would give us direction, besides, important serials have themes. Oprah had serial killers on all last week, while Pat Sajak had Black entertainers on. So, in emulation of our heroes of talk show TV, we do what we do. Now on to the beers of the week.

This week we tasted Superior and Soi. Sol was very similar to those other Mexican beers in a light and sweet tasty sort of way. Superior, however the most enjoyable Mexican beer that we have ever tasted. The only other Mexican beer that is similar would be Dos Equis Dark. But we're not comparing those two so we can just skip that.

Much of what we said about Corona and Chihuahua can be said about Sol also. It does not have the heavy taste that one associates with those "pretentious" German beers that we hear about all the time. The statement that we used last time was something to the effect of the drinker can slam one quickly to quench a major thirst unlike Guiness Stout. This holds true for Sol.

Superior however is more of a beer. The taste of this beer has much for oomph than other Mexican beers. This is the best Mexican beer that we have found. This beer is a beer to have when you want to drink a beer. That is not to say that it is too heavy to drink in quantity, if you so desire. The flavor however is one that is very enjoyable to have run-

ning over your taste buds.

The best comparison would be to a German wheat beer, it is light in color with a heavy taste, yet not very similar to a dark beer. This difference has to do with the fact that Superior ferments rice instead of wheat.

Wheat simply has more taste to it than rice, wheat tastes slightly woody, while rice tastes like bland starch. Most large American beers use rice because it is cheaper.

Also there seems to be more hops used in the brewing process to give Superior a fuller taste.

And all this can be yours for only \$4.49 a six-pack, unquestionably a great buy, while Sol is \$4.89. Both prices are from Bev-Way in Red Hook, Sol costing up to \$5.69 elsewhere. We couldn't find Superior anywhere else.

Superior gets a vote for style for not painting its label on the bottle in the Amerxican style of Sol, Corona and Chihuahua. Sol however gets a small point for imprinting its symbol on the neck of the bottle (a very small point.)

Sol received the same score as Chihuahua did last week because they are very similar beers, perhaps slightly stranger, but hardly worth

Sol: Jody: 6 Chris: 5 1/2

Superior: Jody: 8 1/2 Chris: 8 1/2

mentioning

Superior however is our definite choice of the week. For those of you looking for a flavorful beer at a reasonable price, you can't go wrong.

Even though our secretaries are snowed in by the thousands of letters, we'd love more.

Please recycle this paper

# Arts & Entertainment



A mixture of paper mache, latex, metal, and blood: the members of the band GWAR.

# GWAR, for that Halloween frame of mind

by D.J. Spoon

Youngsters, beware! On Sunday, October 27th, Bard will be invaded by Gwar. Back from the frozen wastelands of Antarctica (via Richmond, Va.) this bunch of axegrinders will "bring the pain of the

past, the pain of the present, the pain of the future. They're gonna shove heavy metal so far up yer ass, yer gonna shit molten lead for a year!" A mixture of papier-mache, latex, metal and blood, these are the gods reanimated by Cherno-

# Phish: Coming to a town near you (Poughkeepsie in fact!)

by Seth Hollander

Phish. Junta apparently available only at Phish shows. Cassette only c. 80 minutes.

With the suprising success of the (awful) New Bohemians, and the buzz over Dharma Bums and New Potato Caboose, it seems neo-Hippy bands are trendy. Hence, Phish, from Vermont (neo-Hippy state/home of Ben & Jerry's), coming to the Chance — fresh on the heels of a rave review in *RELIX* (The Deadhead magazine), and loved to a (quite laudably) irrational extent by my neighbor, Jasmine, who lent me the tape.

So, Phish, a guitar/ keyboards/bass/drums combo, sould like Camper Van Beethoven covering Steely Dan, or Steely Dan covering early Pink Floyd. (Got your attention, huh?) This is a band for Deadheads, fusion fans, and other light-hearted druggies. The music is often reminiscent of Up On the Sun-era Meat Puppets. A few songs are very reggae-influenced ind all of it is (hippy) dancea ble. If you like Shooky Bones or the other local bands of that ilk, you'll like these guys. If you like New Order-type groups, or hard core, or heavy metal then probably this won't appeal to you.

Speaking of Shooky Bones:

they're opening the Chance show! If you go, be sure not to miss their set. Not only are they worth the effort, but a strong contingent of highly demonstrative fans will certainly, well, increace their

"chances." (Ouch.)

The Phish cassette will be available at the show, as will be the sight of the band members playing while jumping on the trampolines (well, not the drummer or the keyboardist). This is the truth, if Jasmine is to be believed. Apparently, all show long they do that...look, man, trails... I think the Chance show will be the best choice for a great Hippy (rhymes with...) Halloween.

Editor's note regarding Phish show: There will be a costume party at the Chance during the show. The person with the best costume will win a year's pass to the Chance, and even if you don't win, you will receive a drink ticket if you wear a costume, enabling you to drink for free — if, of course, you are of legal age.



byl. Crawl under your desks, and assume the position, 'cause our homey little neck of the woods is about to be decapitated! (Opening for GWAR will by JOT. Hailing from Indianapolis, their funky-punky sound comes from too much "coffee and bowling").



# Upcoming Films at Bard

You've probably gotten them by now, those schedules of upcoming films at Bard College, presented to you with love from the new Film Committee, comprised of Jesse Kleitman and Rory Treat. Thanks to these gentlementor providing the paper with a copy.

The schedule for this week is tollows:

Friday, Oct. 27: "An Amercan Werewolf in London", 7 p.m., and 9:30 p.m., in the Student Center.

Sunday, Oct. 29: "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?", same time, same place.

Meanwhile, over in Preston, the follwing silent films will be shown:

Monday, Oct. 30: "The Mark of Zorro". Wednesday, Nov. 2: "Man With a Movie Camera".

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# Children of the sun

by Max Guazzoni

"Yeah, a pretty good fucking show," as one spectator who saw it put it.

Well put, spectator, and I don't know what else to say. Just saw it myself, and I can say I've come away pretty stunned! by the whole experience.

Good job on everyone's part, man. Clear evidence of good work. Every single one of you guys was on the ball all the time, the whole way through. It was really good to see. And you guys had a lot to work with, too, which is cool. Great set, I mean, water... a forty foot rake to way the bum-fuck high hell. Must have been really interesting to work on. A great head working behind it all, no doubt.

Let me look over my notes for a second, then I'm gonna cut out and go to sleep, because I'm tired as hell. Yeah, there was a lot of stuff in there, I'm pretty exhausted now that I think about it. This isn't gonna sound very professional, and if that offends you, well then fuck off.

"It deoxidized..." No, it did

## Purgatory

continued from page 1 rapher whose work of Vietnam, Arab Israel, and Mexico is on display in Kline Commons spoke first. Durlach stated that she has supported herself by teaching photography.

Aside from her teaching, she has made special visits to other countries. On her visit to Vietnam with American veterans from the war, she focused more on the response of the Vietnamese, especially the children. Also, while in Israel, she focused on the domestic life of the Arabs. Her interest is more on social and political issues.

Actor Richard Edson '74, who plays the role of Vito in Spike Lee's film *Do The Right Thing*, then spoke. Edson re-

not, at all, deoxidize. It oxidized, in fact, and pretty nicely, too, and very brightly. Gave off a lot of energy. It emitted, you know, energy. A lot of good moments, too. Like really powerful, crushing moments and then something really funny, almost slapstick. David Sochet. Splash, man, catch it all from the front row, live, from Bard Center. Insane, if you think about it. And then these twisted, kind of wrenching feelings from strange things like apparitions and the color red. Lot of stuff in that play...I think it deserves like five, five and a half hours, but what can you do except sit back and ride the emotional rollercoaster for a bit. Well let's see what

"C. Markle brought out the ghostly shadow of the ever present peasantry in perfect, blunt, but well excecuted juxtaposition with one moment of sharing together of a funny D. Cote story..." Yeah, I remember that, it was nice, really interesting, I don't feel like writing a paper about it though, but I could see where it could only have been through ah, what's his name...Boris Boriso-

else I've got for you.

vich Chepurnoy like the only overlapping point of contact between him and yeah well I'm not going to go on.

"Evidence of hard fucking

"Evidence of hard fucking work." yep, I think we covered that...

"Wonderful play (playage, I should have said,) with the text." Mmmm-hmm. Used it for all it was worth, got a lot of milage out of it.

"Sharp sarcasm." Yes, there was, and: it did entertain.

"It was really interesting to see how you guys handled Stacey's little ankle problem. Fit right in with her illness, period crutches and all."

Maury, man, good job. And Morgan, and Carla, and Stacey. You guys'll have no sweat, I bet. And Larry, you were excellent, and Cote, and Rob, J.J., and Olivia, you guys were great, and Eric, in a special guest cameo appearence as a drunken half-crazed lunatic, good fucking stuff. Man, right down to the last miserable peasant, you guys were on. But I'm left wondering: are you all gonna loose those studly beards now?

So I'm gonna go deoxidize, good night.

called his part in a 1987 film titled Walker. Although, as Edson says, the film was a failure, he likes to be a part of an individual's attempt to radiate his concerns. "Commit yourself to what you believe," stated Ed-

Kathleen Mandeville '76, an Episcopal priest, made an analogy of artists "feeding the lake." Her church is literally a theatre, where "social reality bump into each other in the environment of God," said Mandeville.

First, she states that the "action of being an artist is spiritual, where one experiences being true to oneself." Second, in support of her lake analogy, Mandeville notes that the "process by which you create is transformative, a social transformation, in which you

create a gift economy."

Playright Steven Sapp '89 then noted that his job as an artist is to "excite and provoke." With *Purgatory*, he was trying to bring forth something positive.

Sapp adds, however, that although he said something, he didn't do anything: nothing has changed. "If I don't go back to where I'm from, my home, it doesn't mean anything," stated Sapp.

He feels part of his role as an artist is "showing America what the lower class can do."

The final member of the panel was novelist Joan Williams. She pointed out that one can only write what one has experienced.

"You have to be moved, then the words will come out," said Williams.

lems when they are just changes." He added that "I don't foresee a major problem. DAKA has committed itself to sending enough help to make a smooth transition."

According to Dean of Students Stephen Nelson, discussions about Donald's transfer definitely preceded the Salmonella outbreak. On Bennett's handling of the Salmonella incident, Nelson commented, "Donald did quite well — We got very, very high marks as an institution from various state and county people at every stage of their investigation."

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# Donald goes away

by Amara Willey

After an eight-year reign of the kitchens, Director of Food Service Donald Bennett is moving on.

This move is no surprise to him or to the college. Bennett has been trying to obtain a transfer for two years for personal and mental health reasons, he said.

In the past the college and DAKA, the company that he works for, refused to let him go. Finally, however, they have agreed to the move.

Bennett will travel amongst

various DAKA clients as a troubleshooter in the coming months. Then he will be placed permanently with another and, according to him, bigger DAKA client.

Bennett will miss his job here, he said. "Bard is very well suited to me in terms of mission in education, the way it operates...It's more relaxed and informal in terms of doing business" than other places.

Optimistic about the new director and assistant directors, Bennett still cautioned,

"There will be changes that people will perceive as prob-

# Sports

by Jody Apap

# **Women Trounce Columbia Greene** Men Fall to Nyack

Chalk one up for the women. Yes folks, it's true. The women's soccer team has gotten into the victory column, and with little time to spare.

With only a couple of games left in the season the Blazers decisively beat Columbia Greene Community College 4-2, Wednesday 10/

Leading the scoring attack was freshman Ann Steinke, who tallied two of the scores. Dorothy Wallace-Stenf and Eileen William each added another.

"We dominated the game from beginning to end," said Bard coach, Steve Hubbard. "We finally put all the basic elements together into a strong effective unit."

"By creating spaces, then filling them, and combined with the best passing of the year, the women controlled the ball and the tempo of the game," Hubbard said.

Hubbard went on to congratulate the outstanding players, "The defense has been improving steadily and played an outstanding game, Judy Nelson deserves notice for her aggressive play at right full-back, denying the other team the ball continually. Completing the back line, Ann Steinke and Karma Kriezenback combined with Nelson have been playing as a solid

"On offense, freshman Ann Finnerty has been the leader with solid ball skills and a good field sense. Michele Widrick and Dorothy WallaceStenf have been offering Finnerty full support."

The team has been plagued with morale problems partly stemming from the change in coaches over the off-season. But the bad attitudes are disappearing and finally, maybe, perhaps the players can concentrate on improving their record from last year and win a second game.

### Bard vs. Post

On Monday, 10/16, the women lost to Post 4-1 at home. The highlight of the game came when Dorothy Wallace-Stenf gave Bard its first lead of the season 1-0 early in the first half.

"There was a confusion and I kicked it, and wouldn't you know it, we scored," said a joyous Wallace-Stenf after the

### Men Choke at Nyack

In fine Bard fashion, the men's soccer team blew it again. A 4-1 trouncing delivered at the hands of Nyack College has all but eliminated the Blazers from post-season tournament play.

Torrence Lewis tallied the only goal for Bard (3-11) after the slick ball slipped through the Nyack keeper's hands.

Grant McDonald returned the favor later in the first half when a ball slipped between his legs for Nyack's second goal of the game. Nothing like being a good sport about things, right Grant?

Basketball has Begun Again at Bard

Loren Rees a few games ago

Last year's co-captains Ernest Reese and Chris Hancewicz led the returning players through the first week of basketball practice.

Head Coach Bob Krausz is very pleased with the turnout of nine returning players along with six freshman. "There is a good chance that we will be able to run two full teams this year, a quick fast break team, and a more patient, slow-thetempo team."

Leading the freshmen is highly touted Sean Alford, a local standout from Rhinecliff. Alford dominated the MHAL last year, while propelling his team to very successful sea-

Roger Scotland will also probably see a lot of playing time, "He must have had a great high school coach; he really has the basic fundamentals down," said Krausz.

Of the returning players,

Matt Taibbi, a junior, is the standout of the team, ranking 12th in the nation last year in rebounds.

"With the depth of the team this year, we should be able to

The first home game will be at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, November 21, against St. Joseph's of Brooklyn.

# Be There!

run a much faster game, more fast-breaks, full court pressing when possible or at least putting more pressure on their guards at half-court." Krausz added, "We also need more pressure on the forwards. Last year they were given too much space to receive the passes that led to easy scores."

Krausz is setting the goal of ten wins this season, three up from last year's record. "It's going to be tough, but definitely possible," Krausz added.

The beginning of the season will definitely be tough; six of the first ten games are against teams that Bard has never beaten in the history of Bard basketball. However the Blazers finish the season with ten out of thirteen games "definitely ours, if we're up for each of them."

Krausz, along with assistant coach Chuck Sherman, are switching to a 3-2 offense, using three guards and two forwards, without the conventional center position. "We want to open the box up to give our tall guys some room to score and control the boards," said

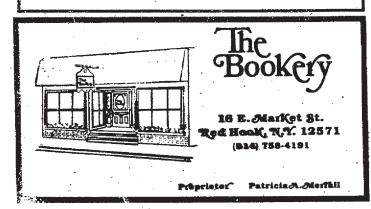
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# Parents' Day Schedule

Saturday

12:00 Bard Coss Country Invitational starts at Stevenson Gym 12:00 Women's Soccer vs. Mt. St. Vincent at Kline Field 2:00 Men's Soccer vs. Dominican at Kline Field

Women's Volleyball at Skidmore Tournament

# LIP at the Gym

On November 7th and 8th, the Stevenson Gymnasium is sponsoring LIP, or Lifestyle Improvement Program. The purpose of the program is to develop a personal program for every individual who participates.

The sessions will run from 7:00-9:00 p.m., both nights. The structure will be a discussion group with three different speakers each night, covering such topics as stress management, nutrition, and smoking

The program is free and all are encouraged to celebrate the gym's first anniversary by getting some LIP at the gym.

### At the Gym

Winter Intramural sports will begin next week. There is still time to get your rosters in for Volleyball, Waterpolo, and 3 on 3 Basketball. Don't delay,

the more teams, the better. 3

# Fire!

continued from page 1

### Students pelted with eggs

On Saturday, October 21, around 1:25 a.m., Security stopped a vehicle described in the egg throwing incidents that have been occurring since last semester.

Students have been pelted with eggs by a passenger of a passing vehicle. The victims of these actions were mostly minority students, both female and male, and the eggs were not just raw, but frozen.

Due to descriptions of the license plate and the car, Security Officer James Cauldwell noted a vehicle fitting the description driving north

on Ravine Road. He contacted Bill Foster, the supervisor on duty, and together the two blocked off the road near Bard-Hall, trapping the vehicle.

Deputy Matthew Clark of the Dutchess County Sheriff's Department arrested Jim Simmons, ex-employee of Bard College, on criminal trespassing charges. Simmons identified the passengers of his car, suspected of throwing the eggs.

A victim of the last incident gave a name she had heard from the car in passing. The name coincides with one also given by Simmons. The suspect had been arrested last year for vandalizing vehicles.

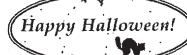
### Car vandal

Security has continued its investigation in the vandalism of vehicles on campus. Otcy commented that Red Hook, Rhinebeck and Rhinecliff are also being hit by car vandals. "It is not confined to Bard," he

Otey noted that the New York State Police are close to an arrest for last semester's vandalism. In addition, information has been gained for this semester's incidents.

In fact, on the morning of October 24, a suspect was identified in a photo line-up.

"It is gratifying when you can put something together and find the resolution," concluded Otey.



Here it is, buck again. It's the Weekly Crossword Puzzle?

### ACROSS

- 4 Equally 6 Sumptuous

- 6 Sumptuous meal 11 Stay 13 Sword 15 Near 16 Frowns 18 Sun god 19 Latin conjunction 21 Certain 22 Without end 24 Cicatrix 26 Rise and fall of ocean
- of ocean 28 French for
- 'summer 29 Small stoves
- 67 Individual 29 Small stoves 31 Small children 33 Teutonic deity 34 Liquid measure 36 Gangster's girl friend

### DOWN 1 Anglo-Saxon money 2 Discover

40 Want
42 Approaches
45 Wine cup
47 Hospital
section
49 Food program
50 Writes
52 Extremely
terrible

55 Negative prefix 56 Make ready 59 Ma's partner 61 Mend 63 Silce of fish without bone

65 Cares for 66 Symbol for tellurium

terrible 54 Fufili

3 Morning

# 5 Long nose of

# 7 Organ of hearing 8 Part of church 9 Spanish for "yes" 10 Cylindrical 12 Symbol for silver 14 More unusual 14 More unusual 17 Court order 20 Zest 23 Brother of Odin 24 Compass point 25 Shower 27 Short jacket 30 Killed 32 Winter vehicle 35 Chlets 37 Deposited

- 35 Chiets
  37 Deposited
  38 Nocturnal
  mammai
  39 Egg dish
  41 Fail in drops
  43 Unlock again
  44 Street: abbr.
  46 Article
- 46 Article
  48 Tentative sketch
  51 Bridge
  53 Great Lake
  57 Free of
  58 Spanish article
  60 Consumed
  63 Hobrew letter 62 Hebrew letter 64 Behold!

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# Opinion

# Saferides condones alcohol abuse

To the Editor:

Bard students have at their disposal the recently established Saferides service. It is for driving people home who are too drunk to function to drive a car.

Saferides is a lukewarm and inevitably self-defeating response to that which has become a crisis in the United States: substance abuse, the fatal disease of addiction, and their toll. Saferides is the flimsiest band-aid.

Alongside posters for Saferides, one may note posters for Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, and Adult Children of Alcoholics. . These are recovery groups for people whose lives have become unmanageable and often devastated through drugs. These groups address solid issues, such as how to not drink and how to live without drugs, or how to deal with the effects of the substance abuse of others. Saferides condones suicidal behavior as long as "no one else gets hurt."

No one need feel ashamed at being diagnosed, yet the

disease of addiction carries a shameful social stigma. This social stigma is terribly destructive because it is not substantiated or supported by truth - it defies the reality of the disease.

Substance abuse is justified by those dependent on substances. We have reached a state of social crisis when alcohol is required as a lubricant because people are so alienated from themselves and others that they feel inadequate with their learned social skills. The inability to communicate or to "relax" without being chemically altered must be unlearned through practice. Another alternative is to learn to live in reality with its rough edges and its uneasiness.

We resist acknowledging serious alcohol problems because, while most people are able to glibly recite the phrase "addiction is a disease," an understanding of the physical phenomena that takes place is rare. Science is making slow progress in understanding the alcoholic body. Today we know the following:

THE BARD OBSERVER Bard College Annandale, NY 12504 (914) 758-6822

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Jason Van Driesche

The Bard Observer is published every Friday while class is in session. Editorial policy is determined by the Editor-in-Chief in consultation with the editorial board. Any opinions which appear unsigned are those of the Editor and not necessarily of the Observer staff. Letters to the Editor should not exceed 300 words and must be signed legibly. All articles, cartoons and photographs that are submitted by deadline will be considered for publication. Turn all material in at the front desk of the library by noon the Monday before the Friday publication date. The Editor reserves the right to edit for style and space.

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Alcohol is processed in the liver, where it is first converted into acetaldehyde, then into acetate. A liver enzyme has been discovered that breaks down alcohol into acetate at a rate of up to forty times faster in alcoholics than in nonalcoholics. The second stage of chemical conversion, from acctaldehyde into acetate, is SLOWER in alcoholics than in non-alcoholics. Acetaldehyde is produced in greater quantities in alcoholics, and it remains in their bodies for a longer time. This matters because surplus acetaldehyde travels to the brain and reacts with certain chemicals to produce tetra hydroisoqualines or THiQ's. THiQ's are chemically similar to the addictive substance found in heroin and morphine.

Alcoholism is not a disease brandishing little bumps that let you know you have it. It does, however, have symptoms, one of these being the black-out. Someone who has had more than three blackouts has, in all likelihood, an alcoholic body.

Because alcoholism is a progressive terminal disease, its many stages of severity enable us to remain unalarmed until we are in the later stages. An early-stage alcoholic ap-

pears to be neck-in-neck with social drinkers; of course, there is no sure way to distinguish them until the alcoholic is in the late stages.

Abstinence is, the saving grace of the alcoholic; alcoholism may be arrested at any stage through abstinence. However, alcoholism can never be "cured," especially not by capitalist-established rehabilitation chains that have mushroomed to turn huge profits from human misery.

The outrageous misconception that one "makes himself alcoholic" must be corrected because it is ignorance incarnate. Individuals are genetically predisposed to alcoholism or become addicted (certainly against their will) through prolonged substance abuse. This explains the tragedy of full-blown alcoholism in children thirteen or fourteen years old.

A nation or community that portends to be responsible and relatively enlightened cannot advocate playing with fire. While Saferides may be intended to combat driving while intoxicated and its attendant potential disasters, essentially it is enabling alcoholic drinking. Alcoholic drinking is emotionally, mentally, physically, and spiritually debilitat-

This letter is in no way intended to demean the effort that Saferides is. Action certainly needs to be taken over this issue. Yet posters for Saferides read, "You don't need a license...You just need to want to drive groovy drunk people home." The tone is far from somber when dealing with the issues of substance abuse and driving under the influence; it sounds like a joke.

It is truly abominable to witness those measures taken in the spirit of the delusion that we can control nature when we are surrounded by evidence of people's lives being ravaged by drugs. Saferides gives the illusion of being progressive when it is actually based in ignorance; it appears to be lifeaffirming when it is actually enabling suicidal behavior. It reduces people to warm bodies in need of transit. While Saferides is certainly a wellintentioned program, it indicates resignation to misery, rather than an attempt to break the chains that bind humanity.

Perhaps it is naive to hope to change our character; perhaps we will always be a race that glosses over and denies "the real problem." But unless we strive for a better reconciliation, we are guilty of wasting human resources.

The Editor has chosen to protect the identity of the author of this letter.

# Some suggestions concerning Bard transportation

by Sarah Chenven

Did you know that Bard sponsors vans which transport students to and from the train stations on the week-ends? Until I began this article, I had no idea such a transportation service existed at Bard, or at least existed for the benefit of the students. Though the college does provide this transportation for all Bardians, it is not a widely publicized service, and indeed, if seems a bit limiting. Let me begin by presenting the transportation schedule, as it was given to me by security.

The vans that take students to the Rhinecliff train station leave on Fridays at the following afternoon times: 4:10, 5:20, 7:00, and 8:30. The van that leaves for the Poughkeepsie station on Fridays, departs Bard at 6:30 plm.

School vans will also pick students up from the train stations on Sunday evenings. Students can catch a van back to Bard from the Rhinecliff station between 7:00 and 10:30 p.m., and from the train in that arrives in Poughkeepsie around 7:30.

All vans leave Bard from behind Kline Commons, and for more details on exact schedules students should contact either security or the Dean of Students office.

Though it is wonderful that the college provides this transportation, it is a service that really ought to be made widely known, and should be improved upon in an effort to attempt to accommodate Bard's 900 or so students. One of Bard's greatest attributes is its beautiful campus. One of the school's greatest problems, however, is the isolation students without cars or any other means of transportation, might feel.

I do not fault the school for its location, or even for the small amount of transportation it provides students with, but I do think by expanding on this particular service, the school might benefit both students and Bard itself. For instance, prospective undergraduates who like Bard College, but are turned off by its seclusion, might be more likely to attend the school if assured of a convenient way to get to places such as New York City.

Students already enrolled at Bard, who find it difficult to get to and from train stations in order to get elsewhere, might also be much more contented with the school if the transportation service was expanded upon.

Let's face it, school sponsored activities can be great, and the campus is beautiful, but for many students without cars, Bard can only offer so much. Thus, in my opinion, the school would do well to provide its undergraduates with an expanded version of the already existing transportation service (maybe two vans to Poughkeepsie?), or at the very least, information about this service should be more widely publicized and distributed.



# Our Mascot, The Dead Goat

There have been several requests that we reprint this column explaining our mascot, the dead goat.

You may be wondering about the dead goats that seem almost invariably to appear in issues of The Bard Observer. Harsh rumors have spread throughout the campus that the goats in question are merely space-filler.

O, ye of little faith. Goats, particularly dead goats, have a strong tradition throughout history.

Goat horns have long been a symbol of abundance. In Greek mythology, it was Amalthea, the goat, who fed the infant Jupiter with milk. She nourished him with her. milk, just as the Observer provides the campus with food ..... for thought,

The zodiac sign Capricorn is represented as the body of a goat ending in a fish tail. As a symbol of knowledge, Capricorn, the goat, is a particularly appropriate mascot for the Observer, where students can turn to find useful information about campus life.

The goat has a predilection for heights, a region of symbolic purity. Because of their association with high peaks, goats have often been associated with superiority. Just as the rugged goat, the Observer strives for the heights of perfection in the face of rocky slopes.

Yes, but why a dead goat? Let me tell you.

Tribes in what is now the nation of France valued the goat. The pre-French would sacrifice the goat to ensure prosperity. In light of our budgetary needs, we certainly need a talisman for prosperity.

Goat killing was a sacrificial pagan ritual. The priestess, through means of slaughter, would transfer the power of the goat's life-blood to the people, while the priestess was vested with the power of the people transferred through her from the dying animal. The priestess would then interpret the collective future of the people from the internal organs of the goat.

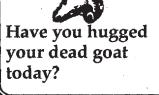
Any newspaper, or other medium, is indeed the embodied power of the people. Freedom of speech, through freedom of the press, is one of the most basic of human

A newspaper is a spokesman for the people and is responsible for representing the interests of its readers. The readers trust the paper to report accurately the events that are important to them. Through their trust, the read ers give a small amount of their power to the newspaper.

News is the life-blood of a newspaper; it is our organs, what makes us breathe. As college students, you believe that knowledge makes your future. The Observer hopes to be a part of your daily intake of knowledge.

Therefore, when you see a dead goat, in the newspaper or elsewhere, don't think of it as a space-filler. Think of it as a particularly suitable mascot of an information service. The Observer, at a center of learning, Bard College.

Desktop publishers need dead goats too



Thank you!

Many thanks to Ethan Bloch for his

timely computer help and to Mark

# Editorial

# The boy who cried "wolf"

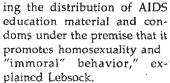
In December of 1988 we ran an editorial "Where there's dust, there's fire," complaining about the fire alarms on campus that frequently go off when there's no sign of a fire. The alarms back then were triggered by an accumulation of dust on the smoke sensers. But what if the alarms were triggered by a real fire? This question was recently put to the test when alarms were set off by small fires in Stone Row and Obreshkove.

The typical reaction of a student faced with ringing alarms. is to turn up the stereo, pull the covers over his head, or stick his fingers in his ears. Few students actually check to see if there is any true sign of smoke or flames. The number of times the alarms go off is inversely proportional to the student response.

For years, the fire alarms went off almost nightly in Robbins Hall, without apparent reason. Administration claimed that the alarms were being pulled. When, finally, they reluctantly inspected them, they found that there

was, indeed, a malfunction in the alarm located in the Assistant Dean's apartment.

Like the little boy who cried wolf, the fire alarms have cried "fire" too many times for students to believe that there is a fire. This week only seven students emerged from Stone Row when a fire was discovered in the bookstore. Fortunately, it was a small fire. But if there is ever a big fire in one of the dorms where fire alarms are a part of the daily routine, a lot of people are going to



Ben-Levi had another story about turning anger into ac-

At the march in Washington, D.C. for women's lives and reproductive rights, he and his friends engaged in a spontaneous "kiss-in" before several Operation Rescue members and they fled in disgust. "They could not fathom fags and dykes kissing right in front of them...they ran away, so we chased them," added Ben-Levi.

ACT-UP brought to Bard many insights into fighting AIDS and protesting. ACT-UP's slogans such as "Silence = Death, Action = Life" and "ACT-UP, fight back" focus anger into empowerment.

Ben-Levi said that it takes only a few students to change an environment, because few people expect you to fight

LANE

COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE



Joey Nelson, Kent Lebsock, and Jack Ben-Levi of ACT-UP!

### **ACT-UP**

continued from page 2 ality. Nelson noted that Cardinal O'Connor is planning a "pro-family" campaign for this spring in conjunction with several New York City newspapers and anti-choice organ-

"Pro-family" is a euphemism for being against women's rights, gay rights, birth control and sex.

Several Bard students expressed concern over pre-

venting the proverbial "little old lady" from going to church. Another student asked, "Won't negative action cause more hostilities?"

Lebsock responded, "I disagree that the action is negative. It's positive." He went on to say that confronting an institution that is trying to kill you is empowering.

The "little old lady" should know what the Catholic church stands for, and that they have been responsible for prevent-



Nichols for increasing our computer strength a hundredfold. Correction: The new Masters of Arts in Teaching Program is scheduled to begin during the summer of

1991.

The Dean of Student's Office Presents...

### Community Information Weekly Newsletter

October 28 through November 3, 1989

### Registrar's Office:

The last date to withdraw from a quests for graduate schools early, so It? that we may meet the deadlines.

## Philosophy Department:

nounces a lecture on a "A New Aprence" by Walter Sinnott-Armstrong of the Philosophy Department at Dartmouth College: Friday, November 3 at 4:00 PM in Olin, room 202.

### Poetry Reading:

November 2, at 7:30 PM in the Olin-Art History Room, David Matlin will be reading his poetry. He is the author of several books on poetry, including China Beach, published by Station Hill Bard Students are invited to take ad-Press.

### Torah Study Group:

Saturday, October 28, 11:00 AM in the

Committee Room of Kline Commons. This Group will meet over brunch to course is Friday, November 3rd, 5:00 read and discuss the weekly Torah por-PM. You may obtain withdrawal tion. Please bring an English Bible (any forms in Ludlow 201. Also, it is sug- translation) if you have one. This junction with the Bard campus advisgested that you submit transcript re- weeks episode: Creation - Who Needs or (4), and for an independent study

# Languages and Literature Divi-

The Philosophy Department an- On Monday, October 30 at 8:00 PM in Olin 102, the first lecture in the Lanproach to the Ethics of Nuclear Deter- guages and Literature Division's "Lectures in Criticism" series will be held. Prof. Mary Nyquist of the University of Toronto will speak on 'Milton, Narcissism, and Feminist Theory." She is the author of 'Joining Causes': Genesis, Discourse, Milton and Gender and the co-editor of Re-Membering Milton.

### Washington Internships:

vantage of the Washington Center's wide variety of internships in government and the private sector for spring semester, 1990. To qualify for up to 12 Bard credits, students should be either

Juniors of moderated Sophomores, and must have a G.P.A. of Aprox. 3.0. Credit is possible for the internship itself (4), for the seminar chosen in conand research project arranged with a Bard faculty member and approved in advance of departure (4). The deadline for the spring program is November 1, and students should contact Prof. Nackenoff (Ext. 230) for more details and arrangements of the program. The cost of the program for next semester is \$ 1,745, and housing is available at an additional cost; some financial aid may be available.

# Friday's Movie:

Bliss, directed by Ray Lawrence, is the film for this week. Showings are at 7:00 PM and 9:30 PM in the Student Center, Friday, October 3.

# Calendar of Events

F	Curentum of Events								
L	Saturday 28	Sunday 29	Monday 30	Tuesday 31	Wednesday 1	Thursday 2	Friday 3		
	10:00 AM Trips to Rhinebeck and Red Hook  11:00 AM Torah Study Group Committee Room Kline Commons  5:00-7:00 PM	5:30 PM Bard Observer- Features Section Aspinwall, 3rd floor 7:00-10:30 PM Vans to Rhinecliff Station 7:36 PM	6:00-6:30 PM Bard Observer-News Section Committee Room Kline Commons	12:15-1:15 PM China Table College Reom Kline Commons'	6:00-7:00 PM Dr. Seuss Club Committee Room Kline Commons 5:00-6:00 PM Environmental Club Committee Room Kline Commons		5.00 PM Last day to withdraw from a course Registrar's Office 11:00-6:00 PM Library Book Sale Kline Commons		
	Elvis Presley Fan Club	Pick-up at Poughkeep- sie Station	Kline Commons 7:30 PM BLAGA meeting Aspinwall 300 8:00 PM	E.P.C. Committee Room Kline Commons 5:30 PM	7:00-8:00 PM Campus Outreach Committee Room Kline Commons 7:30 PM Alanon-ACOA	L.A.S.O. Committee Room 6:00 -7:00 PM Amnesty International College Room	The Rabbi's Table Committee Room Kline Commons  4:00 PM Phil. Dept. Lecture Olin, Room 202		
	10:00 PM D.J. Dance Party Kline Commons (More information on P. 3, Activities Club Article)		Literature Dept. Lecture Olin Room 101 8:00 PM Beyond Apartheid	es Support Group Admissions Office (Ext. 472 for More In- formation)	Aspinwail	Kline Commons 6:30-8:00 PM Coalition for Choice President's Room Kline Commons	4:00-9:30 PM Vans to Rhinecliff Sta- tion 6:30 PM Van to Poughkeepsie		
	:		Lecture Committee Rooms Kline Commons	Alcoholics Anony- mous Aspinwall		7:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous Aspinwall 7:30 PM Poetry Reading Olin Art History Room	Station - 7:36 Train  12:00 NOON Deadline for all Calendar Submissions for issue covering November 4 - 10.		