Asbestos on Campus

by Edward Elgerman

In its September 24, 1985 and October 31, 1985 issues, The Bard Observer brought to light what was then the very real danger of asbestos in buildings on campus. It was reported that DEC-TAM, a professional asbestos removal company, removed "several hundred" linear feet of asbestos from Hegeman and the Albee Annex.

In an interview at that time, Dick Griffiths, Director of the Physical Plant, denied that there was a serious problem with asbestos in areas where students might come in contact with it. However, an employee of DEC-TAM said that there were pipe coverings that looked like they were asbestos in dorm rooms in Albee as well as in the basement and boiler room, where Griffiths claimed the problem was localized. Observer reporters identified similar pipe coverings in areas in Tewskbury and the Student Center, which was at that point still the gym.

Asbestos is a white fibrous material, because of its incredible heat resistance, was used for years as a fireproof insulating material until it was banned in 1973. The danger of asbestos comes from what is called "fibrous" asbestos, which can flake off in particles. In a 1985 interview with the Observer, Rhonda Kaplan of the New York State Health Department said, "Once you have asbestos fibers in your lungs, they never clear out." This leads to a disorder called asbestososis, a scarriing of the lungs which can be fatal. Asbestos has been linked to cancer in various parts of the body.

In a more recent interview Griffiths said, "I don't think it's necessarily dangerous. It's just that it's not good practice to have it in there because there's a risk of it flaking off." However, even if the asbestos is not dangerous, it is still potentially hazardous.

Miller Runs for County Legislator

by Jason Van Drescher and Valerie Scorto

In an effort to raise awareness at Bard about local politics, senior David Miller ran as write-in candidate in the November 7 county elections. He challenged incumbent John Kennedy, a conservative Republican, for the seat of county legislator.

Although Miller received only 110 votes to Kennedy's 1,211, Nina DiNatale, Miller's campaign manager, considered the campaign a success because "it got Bard students involved in the community and made them aware of the issues." Some of the issues raised during the campaign included Kennedy's opposition to sex education and AIDS education, birth control, and abortion. Miller's platform supported these issues; but more importantly, according to DiNatale, the write-in campaign "forced Kennedy to clarify his position on these issues. A recent interview with Kennedy in the Red Hook Gazette-Advertiser questioned the politician on his views, and his answers were very vague. They showed he was put on the spot," said DiNatale.

Miller's write-in campaign emphasized three main points: first, to show that a fringe voters, if unified, can swing an election; second, to put pressure on Kennedy; and third, to "show that we are frustrated and want a political change."Although Miller's campaign was funded only once and a half weeks before the election, he received 75 votes from Rhinebeck residents, most of whom were not part of the Bard community. All of the Bard voters cast their ballots in Barrytown. However, many people who tried to vote for Miller had a great deal of difficulty in doing so. As a result, the Coalition for Choice has filed a complaint against the Dutchess County Election Commission with the State Board of Elections.

Rape: An Act of Hate

by Valerie Scorto

"Rape is not an act of sex. Rape is an act of anger, violence, and domination. Rape is an act of hate," said Veronica Hammel in the film "Rape: An Act of Hate," winner of an Emmy Award and an American Women in Radio and Television Award.

Sexual Health at Bard

by Edward Elgerman

Recent revelations about the failure of the condom machines on campus as a method for distributing birth control to Bard students has brought the question of sexual health to the foreground for many members of the community.

Besides the non-functioning condom vending machines, there are two places to purchase condoms on campus. The college bookstore sells two kinds of condoms, both Trojan, one lubricated and the other unlubricated. Unfortunately, neither kind is the spermicide Noroxynol9, which has proven to be effective in reducing the risks of acquiring many sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS. The condoms come only in three-packs and cost $90 each. The biggest problem about purchasing condoms from the bookstore may be privacy, as students may be embarrassed to buy them in a store crowded with fellow students and run by such a maternal staff.

The Health Center sells several different kinds of birth control, all at cost, including Trojan Plus 2 condoms, which are lubricated with Noroxynol9. They are sold individually for $30 each or for $1.30 for a box of 12. They are slightly more expensive than the condoms in the Bookstore, but the Plus 2 condom is the top of the Trojan line, rated among the best for reliability by Consumer Reports magazine.

Most students seemed to be unaware of the fact that...
The Bard Observer
Friday, December 1, 1989

Fall Intergenerational Seminars offered at Bard

by Jason Van Dresche

The Bard College Center for Intergenerational Seminars at the community at large next fall. Students of all ages are invited to participate.

The seminars are offered each semester to bring together Bard undergraduates and Hudson Valley residents. Their goal is to provide access to cultural and educational opportunities for the benefit of all. Each seminar meets for a total of four evenings. This semester's seminars are:

- "Year's Tower," Professor of English William Wilson will lead this seminar on "The Tower (1928)," a book of poems written by W.B. Yeats during the Irish Civil War. Mondays at 7:00 p.m., beginning November 21.
- "The Dynamics of Cultural Development," Conducted by Professor of Foreign Languages and Literature Justus Rosenberg, this seminar will examine the assumption that all ancient and contemporary civilizations owe their birth, growth, and decline to a similar set of circumstances. Civilizations to be covered include ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome, the Dark Ages in Europe, the Moslem Empire, and the current western world. Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m., beginning November 21.

- "Computers: Fact and Fiction." Director of Computer Education Michael Lewis will lead a series of talks on such issues as rights and responsibilities in the "Information Age" and the impact of computers on the way we live. Thursdays at 7:00 p.m., beginning November 20.
- "China at the Crossroad." By Edward Eigerman

As reported in the Observer at the beginning of this semester, a much needed upgrade to the Henderson Computer Resource Center was postponed by budgeting problems. In an interview at that time, Michael Lewis, Director of Computer Education, said that the center's plans to purchase new equipment were scuttled because of the budgeting committee. The new equipment would have included Apple Macintosh computers to replace the obsolete Apple II computers in the computer center and a mainframe computer which could be used to network students and faculty computers both on and off campus. At that time Lewis said that the computer center would be looking to outside sources, such as grants and donations, to make the purchases.

In a more recent interview, Lewis said that there were no new developments in the situation and that students who were waiting to use up-to-date facilities had to wait until at least next semester.

Library Computers Stolen

by Aman Willey

On November 24, two computers were stolen from the library. Three were recovered early this morning from behind the nursery school after an anonymous phone call to security.

Two intruders, possibly students, forced entry into the technical services office on the first floor of the library at about 4 a.m. Friday by breaking a window. They took two computers from the BIN 256 and a Wyse PC 286, and left tiretracks, footprints, and two good sets of fingerprints at the scene. When recovered, the library's computers were apparently intact. The dampness and cold may have caused internal damage, though Director of Security Art Oetey wasn't too worried. I don't think they were in the cold more than 20 or 30 minutes," he said.

Security has been working closely with both the Duchess County Sheriff's Department and the New York State Police. They expect to be interrogating suspects within a couple of days. If the culprits are students, they will be prosecuted and possibly dismissed from school.

Although Oetey thinks the probable cause of the theft was to resell the computers, Head Librarian David Tipple is not so sure. "The fact that it [the equipment] was dumped on the other side of campus makes me feel that it was malicious," said Tipple. He has also confirmed that the library computers did not produce offsite, so if you are the owner of the third computer that was found, contact ext. 460.
As the Berlin Wall crumbles...

by Jonah Gersler

On Thursday, November 9, one of the most highly fortified borders in the world came down. Bard Student Jonah Gersler, who is a participant in the International Honor Program, was in Berlin for that historic moment. He sent us this news analysis from Universität Witten/Herdecke in West Germany.

On Monday, November 13th, I joined thousands in one of the biggest symbolic events of the decade—the breaking of the Berlin Wall. The party at the wall had been going on for three days and within that time tens of thousands of East Germans had already flowed into West Berlin and West Germany, many for the first time in their lives.

Having felt the tension of the Berlin Wall only one month earlier, I shared in the frustration and disgust toward this monument to the Cold War. I recalled struggling with uncooperative East German border guards because they wouldn't let my Polish friend Asiah return to West Berlin after a day's excursion into East Berlin. The Polish embassy eventually got Asiah through the next day after some heavy diplomacy, but the lesson was clear—in forty years East Germany had founded a police state. These complicitous border guards seemed to hate out of fear—fear that their power was based on intimidation and force, and that they were resented by those on both sides of the wall.

As I chipped away at the wall with a hammer and chisel to get my piece of history, I realized how changeable the world can be. At this point things in East Germany will happen at a quicker pace with only one certainty—that the East Germany of yesterday is falling like the wall that symbolizes it. But the change will not happen smoothly. When I scrawled my name on top of the Wall in front of the infamous Brandenburg Gate, an East German soldier came over with an outstretched hand. I reached out to shake it and to my surprise, he used it to force my hand and take my crowd. But like most of the other soldiers, he had a just doing my job attitude. Soon his job will be redefined. Perhaps he will oversee the destruction of the Wall once protected.

The feeling on the crowded streets is that of those who once held absolute power would become absolutely powerless. Just as people react negatively to the Wall—to put it mildly—they have clearly realized the system it was built to protect.

But what should now happen in the wake of the crumbling wall is unclear to most. All of a sudden the smoldering "German Question" begs for an answer. And, having vehemently pushed away Communism, East Germans are waiting to embrace the promise of Capitalism. The West portrays it in terms of capitalism's victory over communism, implying that they have won the Cold War, rather than dissolved it. Clearly, central planning has failed, but has capitalism really succeeded?

There are essentially two questions at hand: the German question and the East German question. The German question is not whether the two Germanies will work together, but how. Non-cooperative separation is not an option at this point. Reunification is a real possibility but would justifiably frighten the two countries' European neighbors. The question is how will the three Germanies work together (Berlin playing a unique role as the third Germany)? Peace re-

The California quake: being there

by Fernando Luna

Fernando Luna was an undergraduate at Bard last year. He is now enrolled at Stanford University in California. The following is his personal account of the earthquake that struck Wednesday, October 17, 1989.

O.K., so I'm in class and I've just given an oral presentation and it's gone well and the students are participating and the professor is taking his time expressing himself like he always does and then the windows start to rattle and the tables are bouncing and the walls are swaying and the floor is making this gentle roll. The professor says we should get under the table and I don't really want to but everyone is already down there, so I muddle in next to a girl who is whimpering, but softly, I know the procedure is to face the center of the table and protect yourself from flying objects and shattered glass, but I want to take it all in so I keep on looking out. If the windows start to break then I'll cover my face. There will be plenty of time for that. So I look out and I'm waiting for the "real thing" because this all seems so preliminary and nothing has really happened yet. I want to see it, to feel it, so take it all in and somehow record it.

And this is my first time and I've only heard about earthquakes and read about them and sometimes seen them in movies, but this is the real thing, I'm surprised and I'm terrified because it's going to be a long time before I can feel at ease. And there are aftershocks and the building is damaged. So we walk outside and I've got sea-legs like after I've been out sailing all day. I'm876-2555
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Student literary works featured in Bard publications

by Tom Hickerson

Being a diverse campus, Bard benefits from a variety of student publications produced on and off campus, by students and alumni alike. During this semester, the Planning Committee sponsored four student-run magazines, while two other magazines are being produced without funding.

One of the publications, the Bard Observer, is one of the oldest publications on campus; Bard Papers. The beginning of the magazine dates back to around the 1950s. However, due to several production problems, the last issue of the magazine was published back in 1987.

Interested in restarting the publication, Bard College began soliciting applications for an editor for this year's issue of Bard Papers. Senior Suzin Haggar was finally chosen. An Anthropology/Literature major, Suzin hopes that her work on the Bard Papers will serve as good preparatory work for any future career she will have. "It's been interesting for me just learning all the details about taking care of the technical aspects of laying out the magazine," Haggar said. "So far, I've really enjoyed editing and working with authors."

Submissions dealing with nearly any subject may be sent into the Papers for consideration. "We'd like to have a cross-section of work representing all of the divisions here at Bard," Haggar said. "I would like the Bard Papers to make work done for a class or outside of class available to a larger audience." Haggar hopes that the magazine will be sent to several surrounding colleges, establishing an exchange of writing between Bard and other colleges.

This year's issue of the Bard Papers can be expected to be published by March. Also helping Suzin Haggar is Michelle Thomas, Kim Miller, and Andy Maloy.

One of the more recently founded magazines at Bard is Treswell, edited by Jennifer Klein. Originally begun with the working title "Private Language," the title Treswell was inspired by a story submitted last year.

Klein, a senior Creative Writing major this year, originally began Treswell because of an experience she had while at another college in Boulder, Co. "I realized that we had nothing at Bard where writers could display any of their work," she said. "We're trying to expose good work of every style, not just those who are obvious." Klein makes a point of being very selective and unbiased about submissions to Treswell. "We're at a point where we're contemplating whether or not we should ask for revisions," she said. "We've got some stuff that's good but could be better."

This semester's issue of Treswell should be published by the first week of December. While Klein notes that there is no central theme to this issue, the title is, "My Dog Died Twice." Among the publications at Bard, the News of Music caters to the broadest range of writers; while most are Bard students, submissions are received from alumni, professors, and other college students from around the nation. The News of Music is distributed not only around the Bard campus, but around Bard's colleges and libraries both near and far.

News of Music, which originally began in 1982, is edited by Bard alumni Penny Hyde '84, senior Tildy Bayar, sophomore Saul Pintinger, and sophomore Paul Winkler, and Dan Sedia, secretary for the offices of Music Program Zero. Unlike other publications, News of Music does not operate on a strict deadline; instead, submissions can be sent in at any time to the Music Program Zero offices.

We always love receiving things. Readers are always submitting things," said Hyde. "There is a longstanding invitation to submit." The five editors also develop different projects that go into the magazine, from descriptions of music to a series of entries from old journals. "The magazine is not running presentations and presenting forms that express voices so that each piece in it is performed in the way that it looks," said Hyde.

The next issue of News of Music will be printed in January or February.

Don't Drive Drunk
Call Saferides any Thursday, Friday, or Saturday nights from 12 a.m. to 3 a.m. Call 758-7460, ext. 460, or just call the switchboard.

Dissection: An avoiding killing... or a necessary evil?

by Sarah Chenven

Two years ago Jennifer Graham went to court to protest a requirement set up by her California high school that forced her to dissect animals in her biology class. By refusing to dissect a frog, and pursuing her right to do so, Graham sparked the passage of a bill in the California State Legislature that gives students throughout the state the right to object to the dissection of animals in their schools. Graham maintained that dissection, to her, was abhorrent and strongly conflicted with her personal morals.

Graham set a precedent in 1987. Since then, groups such as the Animal Legal Defense Fund, which is composed of approximately 300 lawyers who support and work for animal rights, have made the California court decision an integral part of their own cause. Others have joined Graham in her fight. Pat Graham, Jennifer's mother, has set up a hotline for "students against dissection." The "Dissection Information Hotline" was set up to answer calls from students across the country who for whatever reasons wish not to dissect animals in their science classes. Graham and the ALDF state that biolo- gy is a "life" science, not a "death" science. These groups fight specifically for the lives of animals used for dissection in science courses. Members of the ALDF are available to answer questions high school or college students may have about their rights to object to dissection.

The hotline (1-800-922-3804) provides alternative ways for students to learn about animal anatomy outside of the use of dissection. Pat Graham, who is Director of the Dissection Hotline, has also put together a "College Student's Handbook" which outlines reasonable ways for a student to object to dissection in a class. The handbook also includes letters from college students who have done so, and provides alternatives to animal dissection. The pamphlet provides suggestions for teaching students about animal anatomy, such as computer, plastic, or drawn diagrams. Graham and those who helped to publish the booklet believe that such alternatives are humane and perhaps more accurate than learning exact anatomy than dissection.

The ALDF, which has been a non-profit organization since 1979, works in coalition with the hotline. Among other animal rights activists who are working strongly to protect and support students' objections to dissection, actor River Phoenix is a spokesperson for the campaign. Animal rights are exceedingly important to those who wish to maintain them, and emphatically oppose dissection.

Before you dissect... 

...reflect.

For more information about humane alternatives to animal dissection in classrooms, CALL TOLL-FREE DISSECTION INFORMATION HOTLINE 1-800-3804. (ALDF is a student outreach project of the Animal Legal Defense Fund.)

by Amy Schistich

"It's very difficult to non-destructively explore living material and still have a serious expectation of learning anything." This was the main point of Professor John Ferguson's argument when, after giving his thoughts on animal dissection in the classroom, Ferguson defended the practice of using small animals as part of the scientific learning experience.

Although dissection is not part of his courses, he feels that in higher biology courses, dissecting is a good instructional method. "If one does not take living things apart, one is limited to observing an intact organism, which is like learning to be an auto mechanic without taking apart a car," he said. "You can learn a lot that way, but you can't learn everything."

About the claim that students can learn about organisms from books and films, Ferguson stated, "The appearance of a fresh organ is very different from that of a preserved organ, which is very different from a drawing or photo. Drawings in books are abstract, simplified, and cartoon-like, and photos are even worse. I certainly would argue that the experience (of using a living, animal) is very different." Ferguson explained, however, that scientists do not enjoy their roles as destroyers of animals, mainly because we are excited by living things, yet paradoxically, it is nearly impossible to study without destroying," he said. "There is no biologist who has not consciously wrestled with the problem."

Ferguson used the example of food choices to illustrate a biologist's dilemma. "Most people know that to draw when deciding what to eat," he explained, "some people (will) not eat animals, which seem genetically too close to them. They will eat plants, which are genetically very distant. Others eat animals but not people, and still others eat humans, as long as they are not part of their immediate family. Every culture has its limits. Biologists do the same thing. Each biologist defines his or her limits and decides what he or she will not kill." Ferguson prefers not to kill mammals, but has no problem with using fruit flies and bacteria in his classroom. Here at Bard, professors are very flexible about the dissection policy. Biology Professor Bill Maple, for instance, does not insist that his students participate. For, as Ferguson said, "Physicians in training must dissect, but for the Biology 101 student, if they can't tell a liver from a pancreas, well, that's not the end of the world."
Indoor Tennis Raises Serious Questions

By David J. Geil

Indoor tennis has come to Bard College, but its arrival has raised some serious questions about the use of student facilities here.

Different from other facilities at the college, the indoor court carries with it a $20.00 per hour fee for students as well as all others. The court, an $8,000.00 system of mats and a net, is put up weekly, taking up one side of the Stevenson Gymnasium's basketball court.

And unlike other facilities at the college, the indoor tennis court was not purchased by the college directly. Instead, it was bought by a group of six investors, made up of faculty members. During the community meeting who pay to use the Stevenson Gymnasium. Three members, headed by Mark Lytle, a Professor of History at the college, each paid $1,000.00 to facilitate the purchase of the mats and net. Two more investors are still being sought. Mr. Lytle explains that the return for their investment, "the donors," which he prefers to call them ("investors is overstating the case"); "one receives only one hour of free court time every week for the next two years.

In a memo, issued recently by Joel Tomson, Director of Athletics for the college, the schedule of available court time was outlined. The courts are open for use a total of 27 hours over Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays, according to the mem. The college has no plans to purchase the court, he adds. Mr. Tomson assures the Bard, "To the extent that the tennis court will not take away from student use of the basketball court." "One-half of the court is still available even when the mat is up," he says. Final approval of the proposal for the mat's use in the gymnasium was made by Di- mity Papadimitriou, Executive Vice President of the college.

But most students interviewed by The Observer indicated that those three hours of free court use time did not represent complete fairness to the students, headed by one student, who is a member of the Student Life Committee. He expressed his discontent with the policy stating that, "students should be able to use the court free of charge any time it is up.

Mr. Nelson feels that complete free use by students is unlikely, but that, "the current schedule is still flexible." "We may allow students to use the court at $10.00 per hour, instead of having the free time, if we find that would work better," he said. Both Mr. Nelson and Mr. Tomson stated that the gymnasion's main function is to serve the students. But Mr. Tomson views the court as an "extra." "They're the best of the bunch," he adds. Mr. Tomson assures the Bard, "We are not going to pay for anything for such activities.

"The fee is unfair," one student said. About a week later I was comparing the quality of friends made in college and those made in high school with a dormmate. He was saying that high school friends are always better than any friends made in college. "In college, the only reason you're there is because you're all here to learn," he said, "but your friends from home went through one of the most important times of your life with you. There's more of a bond." Although I argued with him about this at the time, as the days went by and the separation from my friends began to sink in, I started to see what he meant—my friends from high school understood me so much better than did anyone at Bard.

One day when I was feeling particularly home-sick for them, I felt this incredible urge to let someone here at Bard know how important these people are to me. I somehow had to express my love for these people and talk to them about them was the only way I knew how.

That day a letter arrived from Eileen, one of my favorite people in the world. It was typical Eileen that it made me laugh out loud. So when I found someone to talk to, I started telling him all about Eileen—her future bid for the presidency, her problems with bug spray, her chasing after headlines while driving...everything. I even sweet so far as to make him read the letter she sent me, although unconsciously I knew that, not knowing Eileen, he would find it unbearably boring, which he hastened to inform me ("I can't stand that stuff!") he complained. "This is so boring!"). But as I spoke of Eileen that night, my distant friend felt more real and important to me than anybody I had met in the past month—and-a-half.

I went back to Somers during Reading Week, and one night I had Eileen and Susie, another very good friend, over for the evening. It was just like "old times," the only difference being that instead of talking about Somers people and Somers things, we talked about college people and college things. In fact it was so similar to any day of the presummer that it seems almost as if this was still one of those carefree nights, and that Bill and Anne, the absent remainder of our foursome, were not there simply because they had made other plans; it did not seem at all that they were off at college, hundreds of miles away, which made me happy.

As I told Eileen and Susie about Bard, I went on and on about the people I knew here—there was so much I had to tell them. I wanted them to know about Charlotte, who can stick her fist in her mouth, and Je- shua Egrem Isral Atems, who can make the sound of a Chinese man as he rolls down the "OOP". Some- time that evening, I realized how much I really wanted Eileen and Susie to know about my college friends. I wanted them to know these things just as much as I had wanted my dormmate to know about "El- leen for President.

It was then that I realized that those people at Bard are im- portant to me. Not only did my trip to Somers make me realize that I was now a part of Bard, and that it really was "home" to me, but it made me see that the people at Bard are also part of my life and thus mean something to me. True, as of yet I have not made the same friendships as strong as those I have with Eileen, Susie, Anne, or Bill, who are still four of the most impor- tant people in the world to me, but I now realize that there are many Bardians who I do care about. Sometime I know that among my closest I will be able to count several people from this school because, just as my high school friendships took time to develop, so too will my friendships at Bard.
Jackie Mason lets loose the laughs

by David Biele

It's kind of hard to ignore Jackie Mason these days. Oh, sure, for twenty years after that infamous night when he was supposed to go on the Ed Sullivan Show insiders tried to keep him under the carpet and pretend he didn't exist. But as they say, it's hard to keep a good man down, and Mr. Mason has proved it in the past few years with his triumphant return to the national spotlight. His Tony Award winning one man show The World According to Me broke box office records and was national broadcast on HBO, his album of material from the show was a best seller, he appeared in Caddyshack II, and this season he had his own television show with Chicken Soup. So he even entered the political forum as a spokesperson for New York City Mayor David Dinkins, candidate Richard Gullianli. And so, with all of this attention, the Dutchess County Community Center could not have picked a better box office draw than this King of Comedy for their benefit performance—"An Evening With Jackie Mason," as the show was billed, was performed on November 18 at the Mid-Hudson Civic Center in Poughkeepsie. Before the show began your intrepid reviewer approached Mr. Mason as he went to his dressing room in hopes of obtaining an interview. Upon being stopped, Mr. Mason immediately asked "What? Do you want a fight?" Although unable to be interviewed then because he was due on stage in a half-hour, he promised an interview after the show.

The show opened with an amusing sketch in which one of the benefit's organizers pretended to call up Mr. Mason and convince him to do the show. After a brief musical interlude with singer Lynn Gerb, also an integral organizer of the show, and another mock telephone call, Mr. Mason came on stage to resounding applause. Dressed in a stylish suit and tie, Mr. Mason was comfortable and self-assured and wasted no time in breaking out the laughs. He spoke first of his ill-fated foray into politics in the Gullianli campaign by commenting, "I said the same things for two years on Broadway and they gave me a Tony." He also added, "I would never think of being a racist more than I would think of being a murderer or a pimp."

Mr. Mason's material was polished and pure "Masonian"—loud, brash, and to the point, but always, always pointing out the essential humanness that ties us all together—and although he promised all new material, almost anything he said would have fit perfectly in with his Broadway sketch. His material ranged from politics ("I liked Reagan a lot better than I liked Bush...he stayed out of politics—he knew it was none of his business."); to Doctors ("All doctors are crooks. All they want is your money. Why do you think you can read their prescriptions? it's because they make the pharmacist say, 'Get my money—now you give yours').

To Poughkeepsie ("You've proved one thing in this town—that the look of the building doesn't count. It's the spiritual essence that matters."), to his favorite topic of Jews versus Gentiles ("You can always tell the Gentiles after the show, they're the ones who are saying 'It was good. It was not so good. It was funny. It was not so funny...'. The Jews are all saying one thing: 'How old do you think he is?'"

Mr. Mason loves to go into the psychological makeup of people and find what is so funny in our mixed up minds. He discussed at length the mindset of Jewish people and their pride in their heritage versus their dislike of appearing "Too Jewish." He found the humor in this by noting that "Jews are proud of their heritage until you tell them they look like a Jew. A Jewish girl would rather be seen shopping in K-Mart than be told she looks like a Jew."

Much of Jackie Mason's humor is not for everyone. It requires a good knowledge of all that is "Jewish," and bow Jews perceive the rest of the world. But when he takes that mixed up mindset of his fellow Jews and applies it to the rest of the world, or when he talks about other subjects such as politics and current events, the laughs come in mass. The gun fire knocking you down one by one until you are a helpless pile of quivering jelly. (And on this night Jackie Mason succeeded in making lots of jelly.)

EPilogue: After the show was over our intrepid report attempted to gain access to Mr. Mason but was stopped by a surly security officer who steadfastly contended that there were no interviews. Upon your reporter's request to speak in his superior's office, the officer reluctantly complied. He returned after a good wait with the Manager of the Radisson Hotel which is attached to the Civic Center and in which Mr. Mason was staying. He duly insisted that the Jews were against hotel policy and that Mr. Mason had to have the permission of the Manager of the Radisson Hotel which is attached to the Civic Center and in which Mr. Mason was staying. He duly insisted that the Jews were against hotel policy and that Mr. Mason had to have the permission of the Manager of the Radisson Hotel which is attached to the Civic Center and in which Mr. Mason was staying. He duly insisted that the Jews were against hotel policy and that Mr. Mason had to have the permission of the Manager of the Radisson Hotel which is attached to the Civic Center and in which Mr. Mason was staying. He duly insisted that the Jews were against hotel policy and that Mr. Mason had to have the permission of the Manager of the Radisson Hotel which is attached to the Civic Center and in which Mr. Mason was staying. He duly insisted that the Jews were against hotel policy and that Mr. Mason had to have the permission of the Manager of the Radisson Hotel which is attached to the Civic Center and in which Mr. Mason was staying. He duly insisted that the Jews were against hotel policy and that Mr. Mason had to have the permission of the Manager of the Radisson Hotel which is attached to the Civic Center and in which Mr. Mason was staying. He duly insisted that the Jews were against hotel policy and that Mr. Mason had to have the permission of the Manager of the Radisson Hotel which is attached to the Civic Center and in which Mr. Mason was staying.

And so, defeated but not humbled, our intrepid reporter marched out of the main lobby (which is quite tacky decorated with putrid pastel colors, if I might doze to mention.) and vowed, "As God as my Witness I shall never go to The Radisson again." And with that our intrepid writer was gone with the show.

Continued on page 9

Visiting professor lectures on the golden age of photography

by Jen Anonis

Ellen Handy, visiting Assistant Professor of Photography, gave an inspirational talk on the Golden Age of Photography on Wednesday, November 15. The photography club sponsored the lecture to commemorate the 150 year anniversary of photography. Handy, who has done graduate work and written articles on 19th century photography, presented photography as an art and as a science. She explored the works of six English photographers, first talking about William H. Fox Talbot. Talbot reputedly invented positive/negative photography because he could not draw. In the 1830's he surveyed all the uses of photography including the photograph as a means of art reproduction, for botany studies, and even for duplicating documents—the forerunner of xeroxing. He also experimented with artistic photography, staging scenes of daily occurrence. Talbot considered his photography as "quite a little bit of magic realized."

The next discussed works of David O. Hill and Robert Adamson. Hill was a painter who along with Adamson, used photographs as studies for painting portraits. In the process of creating a painting of over 200 clergy, men, however, Hill and Adamson realized how much more interesting the photographs of the individuals portrayed were than the paintings. They were some of the first to create portrait photography.

In the 1850's-60's, the public demanded documentary photographs of exotic places. One of the forerunners of documentaries was Francis Frith. Frith's photographs are now more admired for their striking lucidity and unique composition than for their subject matter.

Henry Robinson's photographs resembled the Victorian paintings of the day. He was one of the first to use different negatives pieced together to create one photograph. Robinson was also admired for the dramatic staging of his photographs.

Julie Margaret Cameron, the only woman covered in the lecture, was in love with the effects of the camera. She could turn any figure into an allegorical subject matter. Through Cameron's lens, her cook became Ophelia. She considered any photograph, even ones out of focus, to be correct because it was something the camera had created. The last photographer, and probably the most interesting, was Peter Henry Emerson, a man in love with nature. Emerson was a key figure in both art and science, considered a generation ahead of his time. He was a strong proponent, at least for a while, of differential focus, having only one subject focused in

Continued on page 9

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Continued on page 9
 Forgotten in the Flood

The Bard Observer

By Seth Holander

Punk wasn't the whole story in '76. It had a comrade with a beer bottle: "Pub Rock." Rooted in a love of U.S. folk music, particularly Southern backdrops, and their countries, and R&B, the music was light-hearted, no matter how bitter or witty the lyrics tended to be. The earliest experimenters were Brinsley Schwartz and Ducks Deluxe and the genre's vanguard was a group led by Ian and Asia or Cream. Dave Edmonds and Nick Lowe's Rockpile. Lowe was also in Brinsley, which '70s public figure and the Rumour, with Lowe producing. Parker and Elvis Costello would hit their clearest heights, the former's lesser known Squeezing Out Sparks being every bit as much a definitive work as the latter's better known My Aim Is True.

Meanwhile, Lowe and Rockpile put together a bunch of recordings in August of '72 from some songs called the Spindles, but most obviously forecast both Squeeze and Costello. In '73, to mention the occasional Greg Kihn style cut (the catchy "Cruel To Be Kind" in particular). This retrospective of the '70s recording heyday of Lowe and Rockpile (considered to have peaked in Rockpile's Seconds Of Pleasure) lays out 7 Rockpile cuts and 7 Lowe tunes, all with Lowe on lead vocals and the bulk of the songwriting.

From "Marie Provost" about the Donavan Posse crew. Ciji and a silent movie star, to "Little Hitler," perhaps about the city and society of children, Lowe serves up word-play, insight and wit. On the

Black Dahlia: Not Delilah

by Robin Cook

It was a sunny but chilly afternoon. After grilling some brusch, Black Dahlia's John Robinson (bass), Don McKinney, guitarists Carlos Luna, guitarist Nick Mitchell, and drummer John Milici. Robinson gave me a quick, brief tour of the studio, showing me around, playing at the Student Center because of the poor acoustics. "They were the worst acoustics, you've ever heard. It's really bad. I like it..." much better," says Robinson.

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Bard Basketball opens season with Winning Record, 3-1

by Jody Apap

Yes folks, it’s true, the men’s basketball team has its first winning record in living memory. Bard opened the season with a win against Albany Pharmacy, and since then has not dropped below .500.

Albany Pharmacy 11/14

The game against Albany Pharmacy was a thriller, with Ernest Reese winning the game with a three-pointer with five seconds left in the game. The shot incidentally gave Bard its first lead of the game.

The Blazers had to battle back from a 19 point deficit at halftime to come up with the victory against a team that Bard has never beaten.

Maritime Tip-off Tournament 11/17-18

On Friday and Saturday, Bard traveled to New York City to play in the Maritime Tip-off Tourney. In the opening round, Bard drew Maritime while Webb played Mt. St. Vincent.

Bard lost to Maritime 87-85. The team was led by co-captains, Ernest Reese and Chris Hancewicz, with 12 and 12 points respectively. Of his thirteen points, Reese sank three three-pointers.

Freshman Sean Alford added another 13 points and grabbed 12 rebounds.

The tournament was divided into three divisions, Men’s A, Men’s B and Women’s B. Carl Berry won the Men’s A division, beating Warren Replansky in the finals. Meanwhile in the B bracket, Ben Lackey and Ron Diaz easily handled the competition, beating Susan Phillips in the third round for the championship.

This Week in Sports

Saturday 12/2
Men’s Basketball at Utica College 2:00 AWAY

Monday 12/4

Tuesday 12/5
Men’s Basketball vs Nyack College 8:00 HOME

Wednesday 12/6
Intramural Volleyball Finals 8:30 Center Court

Thursday 12/7
Men’s Basketball at Post College 7:30 AWAY

Friday 12/8

Fencing in the Spring

by Tom Hickerson

A new addition to Bard’s athletic program is in the works for the spring semester as the Fencing Club begins to train for competition. The new fencing coach, Hope Kosecny, has had considerable experience with the sport of fencing and hopes to create interest in the sport at Bard.

"Fencing’s a wonderful sport. It takes a lot of timing, discipline and patience, and also you have to use your head."

Hope began fencing when she was eleven years old, and has won many honors in her long career. She was on the National Collegiate Championship Team for four years in a row, and has competed successfully in international competitions in Romania, Canada, and France.

During her fencing career she has worked with Olympic fencing coaches Gabo Elshes and Mike D’Aparo, and Olympic fencing gold medalist Witold Wypsda. In 1981, Hope was ranked second in the nation’s fencers, and since then she has taught fencing at Trinity, Julian, and the Fairfield County Fencers’ Club.

Hope came here in the spring semester to replace her husband, Joel. Currently, she is giving individual lessons and teaches two fencing classes on Thursdays, from 7:00 to 8:00 and from 8:00 to 9:00. Next semester, she is going to begin a more advanced class and start spring competition against neighboring colleges, including Vassar and SUNY.

"Fencing takes a long time to excel at," Hope said. "but not many typical athletes are into fencing. Many people who aren’t usually the athletic type are often excellent fencers."

Although this semester’s class is drawing to a close, she encourages anyone who is interested to come and watch.

"People can really learn a lot just by watching," she said.
Sexual Health continued from page 1

Condoms are available from the Health Center. In fact, Marylin Skiba, Director of Health Services, said the Center had not sold a single condom from the beginning of the semester up until the time of her interview with the Observer. Privacy may be an issue in this case as well, but students who have dealt with the staff at the Health Center know them to be friendly and extremely discreet.

Also available from the Health Center are diaphragms, sold for $14 each, and Skiba pointed out that the fitting, which could cost a lot more, is free at the Health Center. The Center stocks most things, though some students have not been pleased with the type of diaphragms they carry.

The Nurse Practitioner Marsha Ral Davis, can also prescribe birth control pills to interested students. Prices range from $13.67 to $17 a month, depending on which type of pill the student chooses. Birth control pills are also available from the Planned Parenthood offices in Red Hook, who can sell them for as low as $6 for a month's supply because of their huge buying power. Their offices are at 10 Prince Street and they can be reached at any of the clinic phone at 758-3202.

The condoms available from the condom machines, when they are functioning, are “Carex” brand and are lubricated with the Noroxyl9 spermicide.

The Health Center has, according to Davis, filled a fair number of diaphragms this semester and has put about fifty new users on birth control pills, and even more students have been going to Red Hook to get pills from Planned Parenthood.

She also stressed that these days there are two compelling reasons to use birth control: the prevention of pregnancy and the avoidance of STDs (Sexually Transmitted Diseases). The only means of birth control that is truly effective in stopping the spread of STDs is the condom. “Condoms should be used all the time, any time, if I were between 15 and 29, I would not have a sexual encounter without a condom,” said Davis.

The big risk to Bard students today is HIV/AIDS, according to those at the Health Center, but rather Chlamydia and Condyloma acuminata (Veneral Warts). Chlamydia (pronounced cla-MID-ee-a) is currently the most prevalent sexually transmitted disease in the United States. It can cause inflammation of the urethra in men and eventually sterility and Reiter’s syndrome, which resembles arthritis. In women, the disease can be even more severe. Approximately 12,000 women become sterile each year from it and another 3,600 have tubal pregnancies caused by the disease, about 10 percent of which are fatal. Pregnant women with the infection have a much higher rate of stillbirth and spontaneous abortions and run the risk of giving the disease to the child when it is born. A child born with the sickness may develop cataracts, a serious eye infection, or pneumonia.

The biggest problem with Chlamydia may be that 60 to 80 percent of women and 10 percent of men who have it show no symptoms. Often the disease is not detected until serious complications develop.

The symptoms, when they are present, are painful urination and a watery discharge from the penis in men; itching and burning in the genitalia, vaginal discharge, dull pelvic pain, and bleeding between menstrual cycles in women. Genital warts are second in number of cases to Chlamydia, but are on the increase.

There has been a substantial increase in cases in the past few years and it may become the most common STD in the near future. The warts are caused by a group of viruses called Human Papilloma Viruses (HPV) and appear as soft, generally, painless, growths around the genitals or anus. If left untreated, the warts may get worse and spread the urethra or complicate child birth. More importantly they can contribute to various forms of cancer, including cervical cancer. The treatment for genital warts is described by Davis as being “frustrating and very expensive.”

If you show symptoms of either disease or any other STD, contact the Health Center immediately.

Davis points out that while there have been more pregnancies on campus so far this year than she would like there to be, STDs are a much larger problem. At the beginning of this month she gave a talk on sexual health, including birth control and STDs, but only two students attended. If there is interest, she would be willing to give another talk next semester; otherwise, there will not be one until next year.

She stresses that she would welcome the opportunity to talk to students individually in her office. The Health Center’s extension is 443.

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Photography continued from page 6

the entire photograph. He believed that differential focus would draw the eye to the main points of interest, such as the interacting plants and animals and the insects. The other problems he faced were the difficulty of adjusting the camera to the light conditions and the difficulty of focusing on the moving subjects.

Elena’s exposure was a double exposure, combining two images in one. She was impressed with how easily the camera handled the task and the results were stunning.

The prints from the camera were then taken back to the studio and printed in the darkroom, using a large format printer. The prints were then trimmed and mounted on a black background, creating a final image.

David Miller continued from page 7

tions. Their complaints stem from problems with both the write-in capacity of the voting machine in Barrytown and the delivery of extra paper ballots to the voting place.

The write-in capacity in the Barrytown machine broke down at about 9:30 a.m. and the machine was not fixed at all that day. The voting place ran out of write-in paper ballots around 12:30 p.m. and did not receive any more from the central office in Poughkeepsie until three hours later. During this period, people wishing to vote for Miller were unable to do so, and many who tried to use the broken voting machine found that doing so made them ineligible to vote with the paper ballots.

"We didn't even put up a sign saying that the machine was broken," said DiNatale. "Lots of students lost their votes.

Other complaints stemmed from County Election Commissioner Walter Jablonski's response to concerns about election proceedings. DiNatale said that when she called Jablonski on the night of November 7, he told her, "Why do you care? You don't vote." The result of the complaint filed with the State Board of Election is still unknown. However, "the number of complaints the Coalition has received from voters is very encouraging," said DiNatale.

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Black Dahlia singer in the Families, and we're gonna try her out.'"

As for the group's eventual plans, McKinnon says, "We wanna tour with Iron Maiden, or Judas Priest, or New Kids on the Block."

Editor's note: Black Dahlia will play with the Foo F's on December 1, at the opening for Susan Tager's senior project exhibit in Proctor, and at the disco club in New York City December 15.
Change is needed in the Bard condom policy

The goal of a campus condom distribution system should be to easily and discreetly get as many condoms as possible to students who need them. For those students who became sexually active in the years when AIDS and AFRAIDS were suddenly added to the risk of sexually transmitted diseases and good-old-fashioned unwanted pregnancy, condoms should be accepted as an automatic part of any sexual relation. But we cannot assume that all college students are fully informed or aware of the risks, nor that all students are comfortable enough with their sexuality to openly buy condoms.

Condom machines in the dorm laundries and bathrooms were meant to provide a private manner of buying condoms. Unfortunately, not only were the machines pink, but they were neither well maintained, nor well built. Now only two remain of the original 16 machines have been destroyed by vandalism.

A new condom distribution system is being considered by the AIDS committee in which Peer Counselors would have condoms in their rooms to sell or give to students. But will a shy freshman be capable of looking his/her P.C. in the eye and asking for a condom? Another problem with the P.C. distribution is expense. In the dorms that have begun this program, the P.C.’s have to pay for the condoms originally. They are then expected to charge students who ask for condoms. In practice, they are giving the condoms out free, which saddles them with the costs of concealing it. If the P.C.’s are expected to provide them, they should be paid for by a student fund (possibly Conversations, the Entertainment budget, or the Athletics department) and then provided free of charge.

The Health Center and Bookstore continue to sell condoms. But the Health Center hours are even more restrictive than a P.C.’s and they are closed on the weekend, probably the time condoms are in highest demand.

Buying a condom in the Bookstore means waiting in line for up to 15 minutes with Trojans in hand, and then buying them from a grandmothersly lady. It is a process neither discreet, nor easy. Furthermore, the condoms sold in the bookstore do not have nonoxyl-9, a spermicide that deters AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

Ideally, condoms should be available in all these ways. Machines fulfill the need for discreetness and are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Sturdier machines (in a more dignified color) should be strategically placed on campus. We suggest the bathrooms in Kline, the Student Center, and Stevenson Gymnasium as well as the laundry rooms in Treetop, Honey House, Manor, and Robbins. Maintenance on the machines should be frequent and thorough, either by the Health Center or of some private company. Peer Counselors should also be provided free condoms to distribute on request. The advantage is it’s within the dorm, cannot break down or run out, and does not require correct change. The Health Center should continue offering condoms and other forms of birth control along with instructions and advice when appropriate. The Bookstore should expand the selection of condoms to include those lubricated with nonoxyl-9. In fact, all the condoms distributed should use nonoxyl-9. We should do it to preserve our lives.

Additionally, condoms should be included in the “survival kits” given to freshmen in August, both to males and females. With AIDS most often caught between the ages of 18 and 25 Chlamydia and Veneereal Warts spreading among students, a condom is more likely to save a student’s life than shaving cream.

Geer, Mr. PC, may I have a condom?

Feb. 8, 1:00 a.m.

“Hold on a second, baby, I’ll get something,” she whimped.

Knowing the laundry room machine is broken in the Cruger Village dorm, Sally pulls on her parks, socks, boots, scar, earmuffs, mittens and hat before trudging through two feet of snow to the adjacent building. Once inside, she hunts for her PC’s dorm, then tentatively knocks. It is late; no answer. She knocks again, a little harder.

“What?” a voice moans through a crack in the door.

“Um. do you have any?”

“What?” the PC repeats.

“Um...” Sally is met with a strange look. “Pencils? no. um...paper...no, hmm. cocoa, yeah, do you have any coca?”

She is met with a quiet, yet firm, closing of a door. If only they had replaced the machines...And what’s worse, when Sally returns to her room, it is vacant except for the purifying smell of cigarette smoke.

That’s a different story.

K. Bannon
Yesilada's defense of habit doesn't wash with reader

To the Editor:

I am so glad that Daniel Sonenberg's eloquent, reasonable letter defending the "Open letter to smokers" appeared in the same Observer issue as Attila Yesilada's idiotic, self-obsessed tirade against non-smoker "soci- vists." I know that the best reply to Yesilada's brand of logic is mocking silence, but I just can't quite let this one go...

First of all, I would sincerely like to know how dipping for even soaking) a pint in water and vinegar is going to change the taste of that particular peel...I never actually tried it, but just did find the sexually explicit passage in "Open letter to smokers" in rather poor taste—mostly because it was not written particularly well. But I absolutely agree with Daniel Sonenberg that the passage in question is apparently what it took to bring some attention to this issue and in, in that respect, justified.

As for Yesilada—let me assure you that I have absolutely no objection to your locking yourself up in a hermetically sealed container and smoking yourself cheerfully to death. At the moment, I find that a rather charming idea. Suicide is actually illegal, but we all have our little self-destructive impulses, and I am sure your utterance will be damned proud of you for reflecting on its death in such a profound and sensitive manner. I apologize if I am coming on a bit strong, but I find your reconsideration alarming, and unfortunately I am too immature to really fight you at your level. I just want to be able to breatho- that "pursuit of happiness clause" you cited applies to me as well—how could that not have occurred to you? The statistics about second-hand smoke and behind—and possibly—may just don't want my clothes and hair to smell every time I venture outside my room.

I find it touching that you credit me with the moral inclination to interfere with your desire to do harm to yourself. I can speak for the other non-smokers, but my objection to your smoking is not quite so noble. Just as I would not hesitate to ask you to turn down any Ozzy Osborne music you were blasting late at night, so I would not hesitate to ask you to refrain from smoking in public areas. I hope that as a member of society you would be considerate enough to comply—I am not interested in obtaining government support (although I find it worth mentioning that, in the state of New York, I actually do have it). I am sorry that you feel persecuted and threatened, but I believe that the non-smokers are only asking you to stop as one group of human beings to another, to show a little consider- ation, and I find your smug reply undeniably insulting.

I am also sorry that you feel as though you are the smoking-as-poison-politician "careful consideration" by officialdom. If you Would "stop smoking the day our air is only polluted by cigarette smoke." I do really need to go into detail, but if the government is criminally insane and is currently endorsing wide-scale murder (Nicaragu- gua, for example), and still it is really awfully helpful if you can refrain from murdering anyone while we try to straighten things out. The Nazis prob- ably wouldn't have been stopped by a single dissenter, and still I hope I would not have been comfortable endorsing their actions. The cor- poration has made it a business to make people do enough damage to make one corporation's environ- mental consciousness falsely (albeit un- successfully) and still why shouldn't someone take the first step to make your smoking less bad?

Even if your smoking has absolutely no environ- mental consequences (which personally I don't believe) you let someone else do something-first attitude is another example of your shallowness. I wish there was something I could do to explain to you what it feels like to be a non-smoker in a smoking community. I am angry, I am frustrated, I am sad, and I am deeply hurt by the persistence of the smoking community's insensitivity. It is mostly an issue of conven- ience—find it very convenient to be able to smoke, and I get annoyed when that right is in- fringed upon. There is, however, another issue. Max Guazzoni's column insists on perpetuating his unfortu- nate addiction is "an acquired taste" that he has no need to re-think. Smoking is really incredibly inconsider- ate—It is not only blatantly suicid- al, but unlike drinking and other drugs, it affects everyone in the smoker's vicinity. Smok- ers ruin my clothes, my hair, my eyes, my lungs, my dinners, the movies I go to see; they laugh as they blow smoke into my face and tell me again and again about their right to hurt themselves so I can say as much like heroin addicts try- ing to rationalize their behavior that it makes me wince; and then they write nasty let- ters equating non-smokers with "right-to-lifers or religious fanatics." It is not a moral issue—you smoke because you like it or because you can't quit, and your justifica- tions are idiotic. At this point I'm not even asking you to stop—I'm just asking you to stop condoning smoking as the social norm and to stop presenting smokers as misunderstood martyrs and the last true supporters of the Constitution. Your smoking offends me, but even worse is the pride you take in your smoking. I hope your defen- siveness stems from your insecurities about your addiction and not from a belief that smoking is truly a beneficial or harmless habit. The former is unfortunate, the latter, tragic.

Jennifer Eisenman

An open challenge to Max Guazzoni

To the editor:

Someone's calling your bluff, Max. In November 17th's Ob- server, you spoke of smokers as "the more ronous par- ticipants." According to you after we non-smokers go home from the 7:30 non-smoking movie showing (presumably to go to bed I'm sure the real folks will come in, drink beer, smoke, and "behave like- stressed out college students on a weekend night." Interest- ing. Here is my challenge. I will drink you under the table. You choose the drink. You choose the table. If I win, I will never again respond to any of the hope- less and drummy pleas you make in your little column. If, on the other hand, you go under- first...the "Mad Max" col- umn becomes a thing of the past (and we are all spared the agony of your frustrations and your defective prose.)

Let's make it public. Max. Why don't you propose a date and time in your next column? I'll be waiting.

Daniel Sonenberg

P.S. What does "ronous" mean? It wasn't in the dictionary.

Editor's note: Max Guazzoni read this letter before press time, and asked us in fairness to include this re- ply, as his column does not appear in this issue:

You are on, mother fucker. Kline CoffeeShop, Tuesday night, since I don't have classes on Wednesday, or Fridays, if you're more hip to that...Rum. Iced. Coca Cola on the side, let's be civilized about this.

But listen, I will never intend to jeopardize the purpose of my column. I feel it is very im- portant for things to be said freely and responsibly. So, even after I kick your ass, I'll listen to your voice. Oh, and about the "defective prose." How about "journalistic poe- try"?

The Bard Community Chorus presents the Magnificat by C.P.E. Bach.

This Sunday December 3, in the chapel at 8:00 p.m.

Letters should be 300 words or less and signed legibly.

Holy smoke!

To the Editor:

I read with total disbelief the letter by Attila Yesilada in the November 17 issue of the Observer. I found this person's ignorance quite re- markable, and would like to address some of the "argu- ments" put forth in the let- ter.

I gave up on trying to preach to smokers long ago. If they don't care about their health, then why should I? I do, however, care about my own health and the health of others like me who are gama- lily and, in some cases, se- verely allergic to cigarette smoke. I am an- noyed by Ozzy Osborne, but his music does not cause my eyes to become irritated, make me have trouble breathing, or give me the feeling that I have a honey- comb the next day even if I ha- ven't had a single drink. I don't believe that smoking should be banned altogether (I am not the "holier-than-thou" prig"), but a little simple consideration would be nice. For example, restricting smoking to certain areas of Kline Commons and having smoking and non-smoking movie showings would be great. It's not really asking all that much.

As for the comments about polluting the environment — if everyone quit smoking, the air at Bard would be a lot cleaner, especially in Kline, the student center, and most dorms. If everybody cared as much about the way they breathe (and forcing oth- ers to breathe) as they do about such relatively ab- stract things as the ozone layer, we'd all be in a lot bet- ter shape.

I don't think that asking smokers to have some re- spect for the rest of us is un- reasonable. In fact, it's quite necessary.

Looy Lockery
Weekly Community Information Newsletter

Public Relations Department:
The public relations office will publish 12,000 copies of a spring 1990 Calendar of Events at Bard College to be distributed throughout the college's mailing lists and at Hudson Valley visitors sites. The publication date is mid-January, and the submission deadline is Friday, December 15. Contact Jamie Moragan in Ludlow 310 for more information or to list an event.

Freshman Seminar:
Tuesday, December 5 at 7:00 PM in Olm Auditorium. Film screening of Antigone, a special preview.

Observer Meeting:
On Thursday, December 7, a meeting will be held in the Faculty Dining Room of Kline Commons for the entire staff of the Observer at 6:00 PM.

Women's Studies Program:
The Last Women's Studies informal Faculty-Student Seminar this semester will take place Monday, December 4 at 6:30 PM. Prof. Helen Dunstan, Visitor Assistants Prof. of History and Prof. Hongin Kang, Bard Center Fellow will discuss Women in China. Prof. Dunstan will address informally the question: "Were Traditional Women Meekly Chaste?" Prof. Kang will talk on women in contemporary China particularly women writers. The seminar will take place at Prof. Suzanne Vreman's house, River Cottage, Faculty Circle, on Monday December 4 at 6:30 PM. All Welcome.

Sociology Department:
On Tuesday, December 5 at 3:30 PM the filmmaker Myriam Abramovitz will present a videotape of her award-winning film, "As If It Were Yesterday." The film documents the little-known courage of the Belgian people who, during the Nazi occupation, hid over 400 Jewish children, saving them for arrest, deportation, and extermination. These "children" now grown, recall their experiences. The videotape will be shown for Prof. Women's Holocause class and the filmmaker will be available to answer questions after the showing. Tuesday, December 5, in Olm 202, from 3:00 PM until 6:00 PM.

Club Art:
Club Art will meet every Monday at 7:00 PM in the Proctor Arts Center to discuss various art-related topics. Anyone is welcome, it is not necessary that you are an art major or have any artistic ability, just an interest.

Senior Concert:
On December 9 at 8:00 PM in the Bard Chapel, Senior Concert I will take place. Michael Horley, classical guitarist, will perform works by Bach and others. Open to the Bard Community.

Photo Club and BBSO:
The Bard Photography Club and B.B.S.O present "Black Photographers Meet Winners: 100 Years of Social Protest." Thursday, December 7 at 7:00 PM in Olm 102. Lecture by Deborah Willis, curator of the exhibition that can be seen at the Schomberg Center at 135th Street and Lenox Avenue through January 2.

Blum Gallery:
"The Parade of Crafts from East to West," an exhibition of Japanese works of art spanning the 17th to 20th centuries and borrowed from the collections of three prestigious Japanese colleges will open on December 3 with a discussion of Japanese crafts at 1:00 PM.

Da Capo Chamber Concert:
The Da Capo Chamber Players will perform works by Bach, Mozart, John Harbison, and the world premiere of a new work written specifically for Da Capo by Bard Faculty member Loo Smith. At 8:00 PM in the Olm Auditorium on December 6.

Claire Bloom Reading:
On December 5, Actress Claire Bloom presents "The Feminist and the Novelist: The voices of Virginia Woolf." At 8:00 PM in the Olm Auditorium.

Drama & Dance Department:
On October 9 through 12 at 8:30 PM the Bard Theater of Drama and Dance will present Top Girls, directed by Debrah Nitzberg. A matinee will be held on December 10 at 3:30 PM. Avery Arts Center.

Community Acknowledgements:
To the Residents of the "Rhinebeck House" for carrying on the tradition of hosting fellow students for Thanksgiving dinner.

to Dick Griffiths, Chick Simmons, Shelley Morgan and the students of the Environmental Club for their work in establishing on-campus recycling.

To Susan VanScheeck and her staff for reoutfitting and publishing the Student Directory.

Should you wish to suggest a Community Acknowledgement, please send it to the Dean of Student's Office.

Classifieds:
Hatecrats by Jackie Carnegie will be given on Friday, December 8, 1989 beginning at 2:00 PM in the Student Center. Inexpensive.

December 7, Vintage Clothing Sale. Kline Commons Lounge.

Food Coop will sell organic fruits and vegetables every Thursday 12:30-1:00 PM and 5:00-6:00 PM in the Student Center, across from the security office.

Friday's Movie:
A World Apart, directed by Peter Menges. Showings are at 7:00 PM and 9:30 PM. The 7:00 PM show will be nonsmoking for the rest of the semester.

Calendar of Events

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Registration Day. All Classes Cancelled. Memo to be put in boxes from Dean Levine's office with further information.