

Bard College
Student Newspaper Archive
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OBSERVER

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More money for student clubs?

by Emily Horowitz

Nina DiNatale, student representative to the Board of Trustees, reported to the Forum on Tuesday, September 4, that approximately \$15,000 would be made available to students. The money would be for student clubs who felt that they needed more funds for special activities. Clubs would have to apply for the money, and explain why they needed more than they were allotted by the Planning Committee in their budgets.

DiNatale said the money was to be available to student clubs this semester. At the Board of Trustees Meeting last May, DiNatale requested that the Student Activity Fee be raised. When the trustees asked her how much, she

suggested ten or fifteen dollars per student. President Botstein and Vice-President Papadimitriou said, according to DiNatale, that this was impossible. "They gave me a number of reasons why it could not be raised," said DiNatale.

Many of the trustees expressed concern that the students did not have enough money, according to DiNatale. "Someone figured out that I was talking about a \$15,000 increase for student clubs if the activity fee was raised. In response to the trustees' concern, Botstein and Papadimitriou said that they could supply the \$15,000 for student clubs."

DiNatale stressed that while she does not remember the details of the discussion, "I am sure that they said they had the 15,000." In fact, DiNa-

tale continued, "The issue of the discussion became who would control the money—the Dean of Students or the Planning Committee—not whether or not the money was available."

President Botstein and Vice-President Papadimitriou disagree with DiNatale about what happened at the meeting. Botstein said that 15,000 dollars was just an estimate made by someone at the meeting, regarding how much the total amount would be if the fee was raised. It was not ever promised to be in a special fund accessible to the student body. Botstein did say that "if groups are unable to do what they need to do I will support them...preferably not, but if necessary I will." This in no way, he stressed, means that there is 15,000 in

any kind of 'special fund' for students.

However, the president is willing to fund the activities of the Students for Educational Equality (S.E.E.) He does not see this group as a club, and therefore, it is a different situation than the other student groups whom he is discouraging from asking for funds. "S.E.E. was part of an initiative...It is not a club." At the end of last semester, S.E.E. met with Botstein, and as part of their negotiations, he agreed to fund their activities and programs. They have to submit a detailed description of what they plan to do before the money will be given to them.

DiNatale feels that this is unfair. "I have nothing against S.E.E. It's just

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HEOP - What does it stand for?

by Lynda Fong

Contrary to the popular belief that the Higher Educational Opportunity Program, HEOP, is a program for inner city minorities, it is actually a program open to all New York State residents. HEOP senior Grace Beniquez remarks that the reason for this misconception is because, "people are ignorant! They don't take the time to find out what HEOP is really about."

HEOP was first initiated in the early 1970's by Arthur Eaves, a New York State Senator. He felt there was a need to give the opportunity of a private college education to those who are unable to have one because of their economic and academic back-

grounds.

To be eligible for the program, one must be a New York State resident and meet certain economic guidelines, as well as be academically disadvantaged. Unlike other HEOP's, Bard's HEOP does not have strictly set academic guidelines because Bard is a more selective college. Bard's HEOP therefore looks for a certain profile, a profile not easily defined because each HEOP student is diverse in his or her own way. "It is very hard to have an average academic profile of a HEOP student at Bard because Bard's HEOP students run the gamut of academic skills," comments Donna Ford, Director of HEOP.

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Iraq, oil, and Bard

by Tanya Panin

The situation in the Middle East effects all of us, not just the 33% of students and 99% of faculty who own cars. Escalating gasoline and heating oil prices are not ignored on this campus.

According to a New York State Energy Office survey for August 16-22, the statewide average price for regular unleaded gasoline rose to 127.7 cents a gallon, which is the highest recorded price since January of 1984. Meanwhile, middle unleaded gasoline increased 1.7 cents to 138.0 cents, and premium unleaded rose 1.9 cents to 146.7 cents a gallon - this price being the highest average premium price since the survey was originated in 1982. Furthermore, home heating oil prices rose to the highest recorded statewide price since mid-February, 1990: up 2.4 cents a gallon to 108.1 cents.

Distributing energy by means of fuel oil, LP gas, and electricity, Bard College has a budget which is, of course, directly effected by the crisis. According to Richard Griffiths, director of the Building and Grounds Physical Plant, oil and gas prices were previously 69 to 70 cents per gallon. As a result of the oil crunch, prices have risen to \$1.04 per gallon.

Although presently there is a need for energy conservation, Griffiths believes that this need has not been previously ignored. Various methods of conservation have been utilized

on campus.

During the winter, daily thermostat temperatures average 70 degrees Fahrenheit. There is a supposed five to ten degree difference at night for fiscal concerns; this difference can save eight to twelve percent on heating bills.

Both styrofoam and fiberglass insulation are used in the buildings. A vapor barrier is built in with the insulation, and in the newer dorms it is six inches thick. A vapor barrier can prevent humidity, generated from such daily household activities as cooking or showering, from condensing on the insulation materials and causing them to deteriorate.

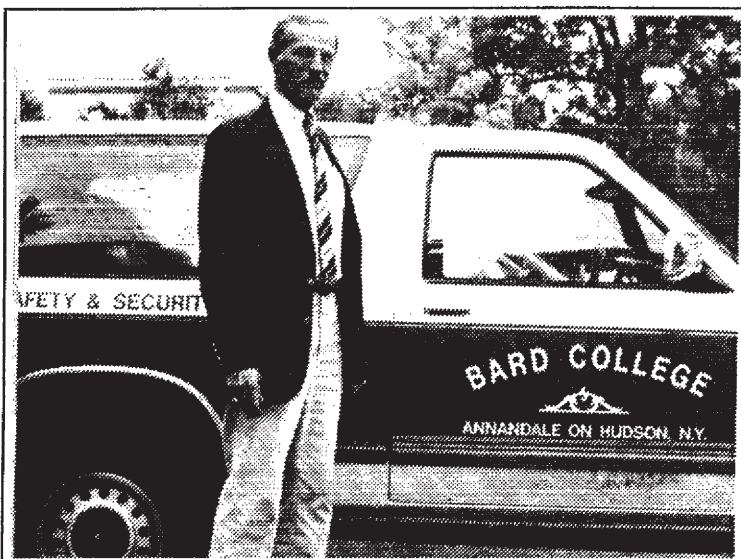
There are approximately eighty furnaces and boilers, each located in the basement of every building. Most of them contain #2 fuel oil, excepting those in the central heating plant, which contain #4 fuel oil. Griffiths says they are tested, cleaned, tuned and re-tested approximately once or twice a year, and range in age from "twenty years to yesterday."

Yet according to a recent New York State Energy Office report, heating systems older than twenty years old do not perform as efficiently as younger systems.

Griffiths also said that weatherstripping and caulking is used on doors and windows, air conditioners in buildings are often turned down, and a computerized energy system is used to allot certain amounts of en-

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Students concerned about security response time



Director Robert Boyce: Emergency calls lost in the change over?

by Angela Alexander

Security response to an early August incident involving a possible intruder or injury at Tremblay was reported to have taken over an hour. This report has generated concern among students over security response time and priority of emergency calls. Returning late one night, before residents had arrived on campus, PC Matt Kregor observed a light on in the dorm. He and a friend entered and found the bathroom door wedged shut. Thinking the door was locked and that an intruder or injured person might be inside, they called security for assistance. Kregor says that he called about half an hour later to find out why no one had responded and was told that his call might have been "lost in the change-over" between shifts. Approximately

one hour later, an officer arrived and explained the delay to Kregor by saying that the alarms had gone off at Blithewood and that it was "priority to check [Blithewood]." When told of this incident, Security director Robert Boyce expressed "strong doubts" that any security officer would fail to prioritize a situation that was clearly an emergency involving an individual. "We must respond [even] to false alarms," Boyce insisted. He suggested that perhaps Kregor's call did not sufficiently convey the nature of the emergency. According to Boyce, scheduled functions such as locking or checking buildings should be put on hold for any emergency, and, furthermore, had there been a concurrent emergency, there still should have been another person available to respond. Boyce also mentioned,

regarding this incident, that some of the summer dispatchers are no longer here. He emphasized that foot patrols have recently been expanded to include the Ravine, Manor, and Cruger Village, with a backup mobile patrol on duty. Although Boyce admitted that Blithewood is "very important" because of the antiques and the money involved there, he insisted that any student emergency is "our top priority." Boyce voiced concern about any bad impression that the peer counselor or other students may have formed because of this incident. He stated that he is "confident in officer response" and stressed that he maintains an open door policy for anyone on campus, "especially PC's." Any member of the community having a problem with security should be sure to bring it to the director's attention.

The crisis in the Gulf: a Saudi student comments

by Kristan Hutchison

Ten months ago the Berlin Wall came down and everyone toasted the post-Cold War Era of Peace. On August 2 Iraq invaded Kuwait.

"Global peace now seems to me like some platonic virtue that is unattainable," says Kamran Anwar, a Bard senior, was in Saudi Arabia in August to visit his parents. Anwar returned to Bard last week after significant delays in his flight out because refugees were given priority.

Like most countries in the Middle East, Saudi Arabia has a monarchy. According to Anwar, all government offices in Saudi Arabia are held by members of the royal family. They restrict the society, censor all literature, and ban influences such as movie houses.

The Saudi media is completely

controlled by the government and news of the invasion was not published for several days. "Qatar wins a football match in Yugoslavia" was the front page headline of Saudi Arabian newspapers the day Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait. Anwar and most Saudi's relied on BBC radio broadcasts and calling friends and relatives in other countries for news.

The Saudi government's opposition of Hussein comes partly from the fear that he would encourage an overthrow of the monarch. "I cannot go out of my home without my passport," says Anwar, "Even if there was some [anti-monarchy] movement you would never hear of it."

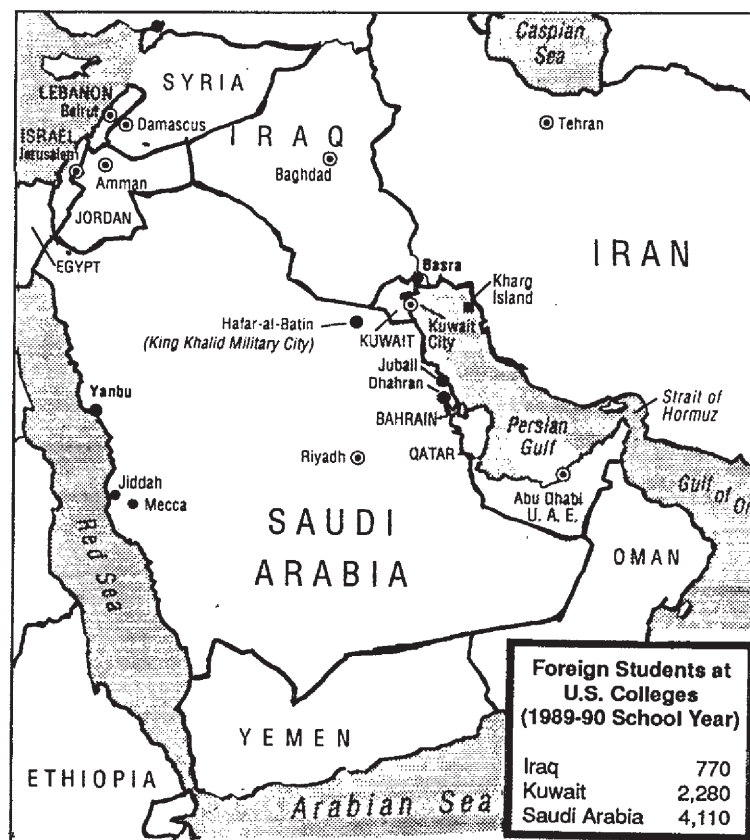
Iraq is one of the five Middle Eastern countries without a monarch, the others being Iran, Syria, Egypt, and Israel. Hussein invaded Kuwait

under the pretense that he was invited by the anti-monarchy movement.

Anwar finds this an unlikely excuse, since Kuwait was the most open and westernized monarchy in the Middle East with the highest per capita income in the world. It was so rich, in fact, that Rolls Royce banned the sale of their cars to Kuwait because they were being painted yellow and used as cabs.

The Kuwaitis have suddenly had all their assets frozen and refugees leave the city with material goods, but no currency. "We saw a Mercedes packed up with all their belongings, a television tied on top and a mattress and all. They had no place to go," says Anwar. Another refugee carried a color television on his back to the border and then did not have enough cash to pay the customs tax,

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and is generated by oil.

Currently there is little or no increase in the price of its oil because the company is still using oil that was purchased before the crisis. However, the price will increase in the middle to the end of September. There will be an extra charge on the customer's bill of approximately 2 dollars a month, and this charge will fluctuate with the cost of oil.

According to Massie, this crisis has less of an effect than that of the oil crunch of ten years ago. This is because Central Hudson was 95% dependent on oil. Because the company didn't want their customers to be "hostage" to higher prices, they converted their Danskammer plant so that it now burns either oil or natural gas. Money was also put into hydro-plants and other power alternatives. Massie's figures suggest that Central Hudson is currently 43%

dependent on oil, 33% dependent on coal, 11% on natural gas, 4% on hydropower, and 9% dependent on nuclear power.

"Ten years ago, Central Hudson was the eighth most expensive power company," quotes Massie. "Now our prices are below average for New York State and we are the third least expensive."

Bard's long January break seems to be another effort to conserve. Stuart Levine, Dean of the College says that the main consideration for the vacation was to allot time required for internships. The break was originally two months long, but was shortened to one month because the academic year ended later than that of other colleges.

However, Dean Levine feels that energy conservation was a consideration for the break and that many other colleges, Bennington College,

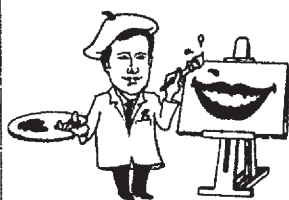
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Oil prices

continued from page 1

ergy to each system.

Furthermore, the power company that Bard receives gas and electricity from, the Central Hudson Power Company, is extremely cost and energy efficient. According to media representative, Tim Massie, Central Hudson uses pipeline companies located in Texas and Louisiana, which minimizes some of the price increase. Massie says that another reason why these companies' increase in oil doesn't compare with the high benchmark price shown in newspapers is because a heavier oil, known as #6 fuel oil, is used which is different from the oil imported from the Middle East.

Massie says that electricity is used in several of Central Hudson's plants

Bard's student forum: a continuing struggle

by Lavinia Yocum
and Kristan Hutchison

"In Forum, every student has a voice and a vote" reads the Student Handbook. The history of the Forum, which is the center of student government at Bard, has been a continual struggle to make this statement true in face of overwhelming student apathy.

Originally the Forum was called the Student Senate and worked on a representational system much like the United States Senate. Eight "senators" were elected by the student body. In scantily attended meetings, much like the meetings on Capitol Hill, the senators made all decisions regarding student government and allocation of funds.

By 1973 the Senate minutes show some concern that the student senators were "slacking off on their responsibilities. Recent examples are mix-ups concerning the elections committee and the budget committee."

Student attendance was low and attendees could not vote. In 1974 the minutes read "The general feeling at the meeting was that there is no communications between senate and the students." To increase involvement, they began to invite students to special lunch and dinner meetings. Eventually the senate resorted to serving beer at Senate Meetings to attract students. One forum member of 1977 commented on "...how sad it was that two kegs of beer were needed to assemble the student community."

On October 10, 1977, the student senate was thrown out in exchange for a student forum, in which all Bard students may participate. To change the constitution a quorum of 50% of the student body was required, which they didn't have. Those present declared themselves a quorum and passed the constitutional changes against the old constitution.

That was the beginning of student government as we know it. The forum is a direct democracy, like a typical New England town meeting

or "like the Athenian republic." Any student may attend a forum meeting and vote on matters shaping the policies of student government. A Central Committee of five elected members moderates debate on the floor of the forum.

Problems of student apathy plagued the student government even after the restructuring. Student apathy was the second agenda issue for the forum on the 4th of December, 1986. Currently, a referendum has been proposed at the first forum meeting to relax the use of Robert's Rules of Order on the theory that most Bard students do not know them and therefore cannot take part in the forum.

Student government has wielded its power before and has jurisdiction over a broad range of issues, extending from AIDS to sexual harassment and expulsion procedures. Past student governments have actively organized boycotts, appealed issues of student life directly to the Board of Trustees and protested laws of the

Red Hook township.

The allocation and oversight of the \$60,000.00 convocation fund is one of the primary responsibilities of the forum. The money comes from the \$120.00 activities fee each student pays at registration and is allocated among the clubs and organizations at the beginning of each semester. The Planning Committee drew up a budget last week to be approved by those present at the Tuesday night forum meeting.

There are four other basic committees which make decisions. The Educational Policy Committee, which is the students representation in curricular matters. Students elected from that body make recommendations on faculty tenure decisions.

The Student Life Committee addresses issues of the quality of life on campus, from hot water in the showers to parties on the campus. Originally it was formed as the Dave Griffiths committee to monitor the workings of the Physical Plant and insure that they responded to students

needs. Later it was renamed the Tenants Union on the assumption that all tuition paying students are actually renters and the college acts as a "slum lord."

The Student Judiciary Board is the judicial branch of student government, though the chairperson of the S.J.B. also sits on the Central Committee. The S.J.B. reviews violations of college policy and regulations, such as dining hall offenses, library offenses, motor vehicle regulation violations, dormitory rules violations and classroom misbehavior. It also interprets the Student Association constitution for the forum.

Elections to the Sexual Harassment Board, Library and Bookstore Committee and other committees vital to students are made through the forum.

Though the forum strives to be accessible to all students, they still have to struggle to achieve a quorum of 23 people some weeks. The direct democracy becomes a defacto oligarchy when nobody shows up.

Robert's Rules: a brief overview

by Tom Hickerson

Robert's Rules of Order was based primarily upon the procedure used by the British Parliament. After being utilized in the American Colonies for almost a century, an engineer and former general in the United States Army named Henry Martin Robert modified these rules to meet the needs of "ordinary societies". His first Robert's Rules of Order, published in 1876, was soon used widely.

Robert's basic philosophy behind these rules is as follows:

"The object of the Rules of Order is to assist an assembly to accomplish in the best possible manner the work for which it was designed. To do this it is necessary to restrain the individual somewhat, as the right of an individual, in any community, to do what he pleases, is incompatible with the interests of the whole. Where there is no law, but every man does what is right in his own eyes, there is the least of real liberty. Experience has shown the importance of definiteness in the law; and in this country where customs are so slightly established and the published manuals of parliamentary practice so conflicting, no society should attempt to conduct business without having adopted some work upon the subject as the authority in all cases not covered by its own special rules."

The rules cover a great deal of material, and is fully contained in a 130-page book. However, the basics can be expressed in a few short paragraphs.

graphs.

There are several types of motions classified in Robert's Rules; Main, Subsidiary, Incidental, and Privileged. The Main motion introduces new business to the meeting.

All of the Subsidiary Motions have to do with the business at hand. This includes amending, referral to committee, postponement, forcing an immediate vote, suspending until a later date, and reconsidering a piece of business that has already been defeated or voted down. They all require an immediate vote except for the forcing of an immediate vote, which is called "moving the previous question". This requires a two-thirds vote.

All of the Incidental Motions concern rules of debate. These include suspension of the rules, objection to the consideration of a question, request of information or correction and the appeal to the chairperson to reverse a decision. Suspension of the rules allows for a free debate on the subject and requires a two-thirds vote, as does the striking down of an improper question. Points of information and points of order are made during debate and can interrupt speakers, unlike most of the other motions.

Privileged Motions include such things as making a personal request during a debate and to recess or adjourn a meeting. Aside from the personal requests, these only take a majority vote to approve.

Robert's Rules in brief:

| Motion | Purpose | Debatable? | Required Vote | May Interrupt a speaker |
|---|--|------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Main Motion | To introduce business | Yes | Majority | No |
| 2. To Amend | To modify a motion or an amendment | Yes | Majority | No |
| 3. To Refer to a Committee | For further study | Yes | Majority | No |
| 4. To postpone until a certain time | Postpone something until a specific time | Yes | Majority | No |
| 5. Previous Question | To force an immediate vote by ending debate | No | Two-Thirds | No |
| 6. To lay on the table | To defer action, thus suspend consideration | No | Majority | No |
| 7. To take from the table | To consider tabled motion | No | Majority | No |
| 8. To Reconsider | To consider a defeated motion again | Yes | Majority | No |
| 9. To suspend the rules | To take action contrary to standing rules | No | Two-Thirds | No |
| 10. Object to the Consideration of a question | To suppress the action of an improper matter | No | Two-Thirds | Yes |
| 11. To call for division of the House | To verify a voice count by an actual count | No | None | No |
| 12. Rise to a point of information | To request information | No | Decision of Chair | Yes |
| 13. Rise to a point of order | To correct a parliamentary error or object to a personal affront | No | Decision of Chair | Yes |
| 14. Appeal a decision of the chair | To reverse the decision of the Chairperson | No | Majority | Yes |
| 15. Rise to a question of privilege | To make a personal request | No | Decision of Chair | Yes |
| 16. To recess | To dismiss the meeting for a specific length of time | No | Majority | No |
| 17. Adjourn | To dismiss the meeting | No | Majority | No |

Let's club some more!

by Tom Hickerson

This year, the Outing Club has a number of excursions and trips planned. Among a number of hikes, horseback rides and campouts, the club has also made plans to visit

nearby Howe Caverns, see the air show at the Rhinebeck Aerodrome, visit the Catskill Game Farm, and tour the supersculpture Opus 40.

The club's leaders, Jocelyn Krebs and Amy Bernard, are anxiously seeking people to go on or to lead excursions. Interested people should contact Krebs or Bernard through Campus Mail or call Krebs at 758-2196.

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Bardians abroad

Florence, Italy: the experience of a lifetime



Lisa Perles and Rebecca Ames spent time abroad last year.

by Greg Giaccio

"The experience will stay with me for a lifetime!" That is how Lisa Perles described spending her junior year in Florence, Italy. She was just one of about 300 students to take advantage of a Syracuse University program to study abroad.

Florence is a unique city full of anachronisms. It has an archaic feel with twentieth century problems.

Bread is still baked in brick ovens and one can see mule carts on the streets alongside modern cars.

Lisa opted to live with an Italian family for her first semester and then struck out on her own for the second. She found this to be an advantage over dormitory style living which shielded students from experiencing Florence.

"Meeting people is the best way to see a country," Lisa remarked. She

believed that meeting new people was the best part of her trip. Socializing with the natives of a country allowed her to see "things I never would have seen otherwise."

Lisa was drawn to Florence as an art history major but she also enjoyed the diversity of the courses offered in her school away from school. The program offers courses in everything from creative writing to opera. Lisa also took advantage of the many educational field trips offered by the program such as a performance of Verdi's "Aida" in Rome. Italy's central location made individual travel to other places in Europe and the Mediterranean easy.

Spending a year in Florence has definitely changed Lisa. She claims that she can "never eat in Kline again" after partaking of authentic Italian cuisine. She strongly recommends that Bard offer courses in Italian language and culture. As of now, the only way a Bard student can learn Italian is to go to Vassar, a luxury available only to students lucky enough to have cars.

Of course, one could always learn about Italy directly, as Lisa did. The cost is roughly the same as a year's tuition here at Bard. More details about international studies are available from Harriet Schwartz at the Career Counseling center.

Senior encounters the Classics in Athens

by Jennifer Reck

Last fall, while most Bard students were preparing to spend another year tucked away in the Hudson Valley, Rebecca Ames was heading for sunny Greece where she took part in a study abroad program known as College Year in Athens.

Much like an ordinary schedule at Bard, she took four classes that met twice a week. However, most of her classes met in museums and some were held on the Acropolis in view of the Parthenon.

Ames, who is a senior this year, speaks positively about her year spent in Athens.

"I wanted to be there and I'm glad that I went," she said. "It was an amazing experience. Words can't even describe it."

Although the program does include a normal work load, it also allows students time to see Athens and its environs. This gives the students an opportunity to be exposed to the people and their culture.

The program concentrates on the study of Greek Civilization, both past and present. The courses offered are

divided into the following categories: History, Literature, Art and Archaeology, Philosophy, Anthropology, the Classical Languages, and Modern Greek. Many of the courses involve field trips to sites in Athens and the surrounding areas.

In an effort to integrate the students more effectively into Greek culture, the students live in apartments in the city rather than isolated student dorms. However, all the apartments are located in the same neighborhood. Ames said she was surprised that the program didn't take more measures to immerse students in Greek culture, though she also added, "The program was what you made out of it. It was good for me and I am glad that I went."

Any students who wish to apply for the College Year in Athens can pick up a brochure and an application in the Career Development office. Ames also said that she would be willing to discuss the experience with other interested students.

Ames, who is an Ancient Art History major, hopes to return to Greece to do graduate work in the future.

Francisco Oceda tastes Mexico

by Tatiana Prowell

Most Bard students never get any closer to a taste of Mexico than the Santa Fe restaurant in Tivoli, but junior Francisco Oceda spent six weeks of his summer at the Ibero Americana Universidad in Mexico City. A photography major, Oceda felt that it would be broadening to know about Mexican anthropology, archaeology, and folklore (the courses which he studied) and to experience, first-hand, a Latin American country.

Oceda, already a Study Abroad student from Spain at Bard, found this opportunity to study in Mexico through the Bard Career Development Program and the Summer Study Abroad Program with Loyola University of Chicago.

Upon arrival, Oceda found himself basically on his own, living with a local family, and "waiting for the weekend to learn independently because the education is not very good even at a private (and a little pretentious) university." This is the complication of Mexican education: students who have the necessary motivation to learn either cannot afford to attend college or find little assistance with the inadequate classes, even at a private, reputable university.

In fact, "a depressing ambience of hopelessness, of no reason to hurry" shadows almost every aspect of the country. "Everyone knows it's really poor, but it doesn't strike you until you see it," explains Oceda. "Many people sell their plots of land and go to Mexico City trying to get rich, but actually they just become poorer. The housing, the starvation, and the overpopulation of the (supposedly) most prosperous Latin American country is shocking." Even the facilities which are supposed to be impressive, such as public transportation, are slow and very outdated.

So what did Oceda gain from studying abroad in such a despondent country, whose language he already speaks? "It makes you realize how much you take for granted—the standard of living and the affordability of a good education," explains Oceda. Also, speaking Castilian Spanish is very different than speaking the Mexican language. The usage and the accent vary widely between the two countries, and many ethnic groups have their own language altogether, so linguistic immersion is still necessary.

When asked if he would recommend studying abroad to other students, he responded with a chuckle,

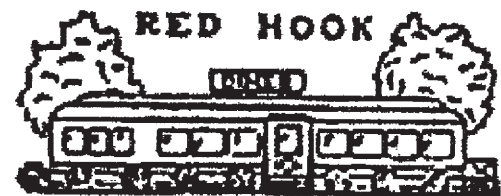
"Absolutely not. Stay in the States; go to Red Hook for a cultural change." More seriously, Oceda remarked upon the great hospitality extended to him by the Mexican people, calling it "the best thing" he got from his trip. "The interaction is different there; people say 'please' and 'thank you' so much more often than in the States. They really appreciate everything they are given because they have so little."

Having studied abroad, Oceda advises students who plan to do so to try to be very extroverted and talk a lot with the people to develop language skills and become a part of the culture. He also suggests being prudent as far as food, beverage, and drugs are concerned, since sickness from these foreign substances is common. Finally, he strongly recommends avoiding countries whose governments are unstable, to avoid becoming involved in the internal strife of the nation, as well as a potentially dangerous situation.

Oceda's future plans include studying abroad at least once more during his undergraduate education. He will be spending next semester in France, most likely taking courses in French and photography, to become trilingual and acquire yet another perspective on his major.



Sometimes even dead goats suffer jet lag!



The "Historic" Village Diner

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The first diner to be listed in NY's historic register

Spandex's Return

(part the first)

by David "Zzyzx" Steinberg

When I walked out of my room, I was amazed to discover that my old friend had shown up. I thought he was down in Florida living the good life & having fun in the sun. What would bring him to the not-so-sunny climes of Annandale in February? Was it just the pleasure of the drive, or was there some more important news he had to deliver? News that might affect the fabric of the universe as we know it.

"Look, ZZYZX, a baby was born with 6 toes on each foot, 7 fingers on each hand, and 4 nostrils." He handed me the Weekly World News, that had the evidence. This was more urgent than I could ever have possibly imagined; the

Second Coming of Spandex was at hand and I had better be there to greet him. For as it is written: "In the end days there will be true signs and false signs, but those who know what there is to know will trust his instincts. And know that all true signs lead one onto the highway to the sight of his return."

I couldn't just hope that this would prove to be some evil hoax. There was only one way to check the validity of the article. My friend was right, this called for action. I quickly packed, throwing my clothes, some tapes, the I-Ching, a case of Dr. Pepper, and THE GOOD BOOK into the ZZYZX mobile. My friend and I would part ways here, for he knew I was the one appointed for this task. He shook my hand and wished me luck on the journey that might lead to the single most anticipated event in my life: His return. I quickly ran back in my room to grab some fish food — just in case. I checked the article to see where the baby had been born. It was in California. In the middle of the Mojave Desert. The sight of one of my greatest victories, I just hoped it would not also be witness to my worst defeat.

— TO BE CONTINUED —

Heresay

by Ephen Glenn Colter

Should I say Black, Afro-American, African-American, or Person of Color? Do you speak English, or are you English-speaking? Do you all look alike, or is it just me? Are you Indian — or Native American? Are you Asian or are you Sri Lankan? Are you Russian or Soviet? Are you European, East-European, or Scandinavian? Should I still write West-Germany on my letters, or just Germany? Are you mixed, interracial, or just you? Are you the product of a interracial marriage, or a bi-costal divorce? Are you vegetarian? Or do you just not eat meat? Red meat? Fish? Animal by-products? Are you Vegan?! (Do I know what that means?) Is this a Political, Ecological, or Moral issue on your agenda? Are you a hippie with an over-active imagination? Or a optimist with an innate sense of humor? Are you here to learn? Or are you here to stay?

Do you believe in God, or the Creator? Is that what you think, or is that what your parents believe? Do you have the time? Or are you having the time of your life? Are you going to church, a cathedral, a synagogue, a temple, a mosque, or to your room? Is here now or never? AM I: a woman trapped in a man's body? a woman in a man's world? a man among men? Or will boy's be boys? Are you getting old? Or older? Am I tired or bored? Are you still awake? Or are you still alive? Am I more mature or more reasonable? Am I well-rounded, or still open-minded?

Are you Gay? Am I Lesbian?...Or is it Bisexual? Or Homosexual? — Or Homophobic? Non-sexual? Asexual? Amoral? Virgin? Sexually dissident? Simply discreet? (A credit to your kind or a chip off the old block?) Did you have sex or did you get fucked? Have you had an orgasm, or did you just cum again? Is that your manhood, your member, your dick, or your penis? Are those beautiful ripe melons, bosom buddies, bodacious ta-ta's, or breasts? Will you respect me in the morning? Am I being myself tonight? Am I alone? Or just lonely? Is it me? Or you? If you whispered someone else's name in my ear would I be angry — or would I rather be that someone else — that sweet nothing? Is this my body or my temple? Am I Pro-Life, Pro-Choice, Anti-Abortion, or antecedent? Are you

a male chauvenist pig? Or a gentleman who prefers blonds? Are you a femme fatal? Or a career-minded woman with a breast to feed?

Is it Ms., Miss, Mrs., or PMS? Is it Doctor or Doctorate? Are you a girl, a young Miss., a woman, or female? Are you married — or getting a divorce? Do you sleep around or shop around? Is Bitch positive, negative, or constructive criticism? Is a Bastard just another sexist term because it refers to an unwed mother? Should I call your mother Mrs., or are am I on a first-name basis like you and the rest of your family? Should I call you what your mother calls you, or by what you told me to call you because most Americans don't pronounce it correctly? Should I say your whole hyphenated last name, just the first part, or just the last part? Did you forget my name, or did you remember my face?

Am I hitting my child, disciplining my child, teaching my child violence, learning how easy it is to become my parents, or realizing how hard it is to be young? Should I hit the books? I hit the books, or beat around the bush? Am I a bad mother? Am I the father? Am I making this up, or have you been there? Is that a toy gun, or a real threat? Are you handicapped or disabled? Can I help you, or can I aid you? Are you Human? Human Being? Human conditioning? Or am I inhumane? Should I ask, or pretend not to stare? Were you in the war? Or in the Conflict? Would I kill? Or would I die first?

(Is that a Freudian slip? Or did you take a dive?) Does AAA mean Aids, Apartheid, and Abortion — or BYOB — hour-glass, glass slippers, stained glass windows? (Do I take drugs, or do I drink coffee, smoke cigarettes, and take it easy?) Do I say what I mean or do I mean what I say? Should I wash my mouth out with soap, or should I cut my teeth on this? Do you mean business, or do you mean pleasure? When does no mean no, and not maybe? Do you think about language, or does your language think for you? (Do I drive you crazy? Or am I driving you up a wall?) Are you in-love, or in-luck? Are you beautiful, attractive, or starving for attention? Does Art immitate Life, or is life impersonating Art? Can I go to the bathroom, or may I go to the bathroom? (Is a bathroom without a bath a restroom or a toilet?)

Rhinecliff

by Sol Pittenger

In my book, Rhinecliff is a very high class little town. It's actually called a hamlet, and I think properly so: it's got that feel of a cluster of houses (with a small grocery-deli) at a cross-roads or in a lush little valley on a small river, established long ago for a reason long since defunct. Even though Rhinecliff's train station still exists, it's still got a lot of buildings and remnants that make you wonder about its past identities. Rhinecliff is high class because though nothing big ever happens there (almost nobody is even employed except at the cafe and two family-run bars), almost every house has some very distinctive element or quality to it. About the only thing I could say about the village's architecture as a whole is that each place is genuinely cared about by the people that live there. During the week it seems that only the older people and kids (as watched by the village day-care lady) are around, while all the adults ride the train to New York or someplace for work. All these personal and beautiful places left vacant; it's a strange feeling. The story is probably that these houses are those people's escapes, from the city and from a thousand places and things that you occupy and use but are not yours in the really important sense. Having a fair amount of money (though not that much), and having been through different things and places in the world, is their homes' foundations. It's real life folk art.

Rhinecliff is unlike any other community in the area, it's separate and isolated by being strangely balanced, it's not a well-rounded town. There isn't much going on as a community here, and even the bars and cafe seem to be frequented mostly by nonresidents. People must have passed each other on many an eve-

ning stroll through the network of tiny streets before having the thought, "you know, this is a pretty nice little village we share," ...having had no previous expectations or particular inclinations toward being "villagers". The people here are geographically close while being actually close in only the most ethereal sense.

on Kelley St., there is a place the likes of which I've only seen in Northern California and Oregon, the kind built right in a forest, out of plywood covered with tar paper (siding gets put on years after you move in (the living being more important than the outside aesthetic coherence)), great big windows and about 40 acres of forest (this guy had about 1/2 an acre). notice the the beautiful collapsed white Cadillac and entrance to the house via makeshift bridge and the street behind.

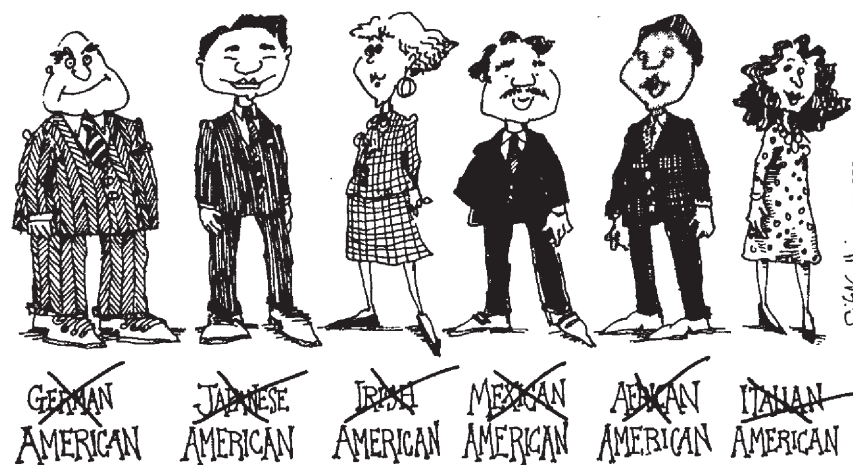
on Russell St. the owners conceived a simple outdoor amphitheatre for themselves to sit and look over their garden; it's walls are wood-piles and it's canopy, the giant hemlocks. at the same place was a young guy mowing the lawn with what must have been one of the first power mowers (great big spoked wheels and all); it was running ok.

at the corner of Grinell and Williams an old church must have looked out over the river. the foundation has been kept alive by a garden within, and an old church entranceway, and the frame of an altar at the far end.

this is a town in which could be proved that even old mobile homes are beautiful. check out the one on Howland St. with the 1872 marking stone.

it's interesting, in moving through the entirety of the village to notice how dense the buildings and vegetation are toward the center, and how the "forest" quality is continuous between buildings and actual forest as you move outward (not so much to the north).

ONE SOLUTION TO THE NAMING PROBLEM:



All submissions to *The Bard Observer* must include the author or artist's name. If they do not we cannot print them. (Whoever submitted "Sperm Art Volume II" please send us your name.)

Chris Thomas: a look at what we've been missing

by Mark Delsing

One of the fringe benefits of being on the *Observer* staff is that we get sent a lot of promotional items from records companies: photos, tapes, LP's, and CD's. Now, technically, we're supposed to review these albums and then send them back, but what usually happens is that, after a short period of oohs and ahhs from the Arts editor, they get shelved and Bard College never hears about them (we got photos from Megaforce Records of King's X a while back that just ended up in a filing cabinet; imagine seeing them in the student center). As you may have already guessed, I figured that this was pretty stupid, and so I looked through the old record pile to see what we might be missing.

This week I'd like to focus on an

album dedicated to "all 'modern hippies.'" My initial reaction was, understandably, "uh-oh." It is entitled *Cry of the Prophets*, "written, arranged, and lived" by Chris Thomas, a kind of Ziggy Marley/Terence Trent D'Arby looking guy striking a Our-savior-who-art-Jimi Hemdrix-nailed-to-a-crucifix pose on the cover of the album. By all means, this should have been a sixties Lenny Kravitz psychedelia riff-rock Beatles-ballad extravaganza; I am quite pleased to announce that it wasn't.

Chris Thomas is a passable, though not amazing, vocalist and a pretty good guitar player with a B.B. King sound and Clapton's phrasing, who has put together some solid, soulful, and admittedly old-style rock. The production of the album is noticeably dry, that is, free of heavy studio effects on the instruments and vocals, but is very appreciated. It seems

that Thomas wants to convey is a greater concern for the song as a whole than beefing up his personal role in the music. The songs are very much his, yet he is not that far forward in the mix, playing and singing all his lines at about the same volume and presence as the rest of the band. He is somewhat political in a Living Color kind of way, for he speaks about oppression without focusing on any specific issues.

Gospel is probably the best word for the music on *Cry of the Prophets*. His chord progressions on ballads like the impassioned "Help us, Somebody," or the more conventional, and somewhat bland, "I Need You," harken back to Otis Redding's R&B and older Gospel standards. Most of the songs have decidedly religious themes: "Dance To The Music 'Till My Savior Comes," "Alpha-Omega," which places Thomas in the role of, in a sense, God

himself (It was I gave water to Moses in the desert sands/I guess you wonder who I am/I'm the original man), and "Cry Of The Prophets," a semi-spoken spiritual which ends with Thomas crying out, "How long before we reach our home?"

For all my approval of his intentions, however, I must say that I have some problems with this album. Overall, there is nothing remarkable on this album. The songs have a lot of catchy verses and choruses scattered throughout them, but none ever converge to form a single, superior song. Thomas is much too guarded. His solos repeat many of the same phrases, and they never seem to take the songs anywhere. Each song introduces a dynamic level and never leaves it, that is, they stay at one volume, one level of intensity, and then they end. All of the songs, except for "Last Real Man," a funky tune with one hell of a hook in the

chorus, seem to just begin at a point, continue, and then end. I guess you could say that it is a structuring problem. There is no build-up, no crescendos, no climaxes, just an even groove that begins and then fades out. Thomas' backup musicians hold their own, but that's it; they play what is required and nothing more.

I know that this seems kind of schizophrenic, but that's how I feel about Chris Thomas. He has a lot of potential, but he's playing it too safe. As background music this album is fine, but when studied, when actually listened to, it becomes lacking. I'm not sure if I would recommend that anyone go run out and buy *Cry of the Prophets*, but I can say that people should give him a chance. This is not a bad album, it's just not a great album. There's nowhere that Chris Thomas is going that hasn't been gone to before, but it's not a bad place to visit. [Chris Thomas. *Cry of the Prophets*. Sire/Hightone Records, ©1990]



Coming Events

Friday
Sept. 14

WPDH
welcomes

**Blue Oyster
Cult**

with Denamora

Tuesday
Sept. 18

WPDH
welcomes

**JOE JACKSON'S
WORKSHOP**

Tuesday
Sept. 18

WPDH
welcomes

SAVATAGE

with TROUBLE

Friday
Sept. 28

WVCR
welcomes

PHISH

Tickets available at Tickettron and at The Chance Bo Office, open 10 am - 6 pm, Monday - Saturday. Mastercard/Visa accepted. Doors open at 8 pm; age

18 and up unless otherwise specified.
ID REQUIRED

Applications to the
Special Fund must be
in by Tuesday Sept. 18
Room 102 N. Hoffman

Wild at Heart: it's all on the screen

(Winner of the 1990 Cannes Film Festival)
by C. Andrews

What can one say about a David Lynch film? It was amazing, it was distressing. The difference between this movie and other Lynch movies (*Blue Velvet*, *Dune*, *Eraserhead*) was in the obvious. While other Lynch films leave much to the viewer's imagination, *Wild at Heart* puts it all on the screen, sparing no graphic detail.

The story, a dark, bizarre and twisted *Wizard of Oz*, is based on a novel by Barry Gifford. It stars such names as Nicolas Cage, Laura Dern, her mother Diane Ladd, and Willem Dafoe. (Many of these actors have worked with Cage before.) Cage and Dern play a romantic couple, Sailor and Lula, surrounded by a world that's "wild at heart and weird on top," as Lula remarked to Sailor.

Sailor and Lula are on the run from his parole officer, her mother "the wicked witch of the east" - played by Ladd, and to top it off, various hooligans that her mother sends after her in an attempt to try and track the couple down. Defoe plays one of the hooligans. They are running to California, much akin to the fantastic *Oz*. Unfortunately, they never make it to California; instead, they end up in Big Tuna, Texas with Lula clicking her heels in wishful thinking after the notorious bad guys catch up with her.

One of the best scenes of the movie takes place before they reach Texas. Lula is driving so Sailor can take a rest, she attempts to find a radio sta-

tion with music, but finds nothing but distressing news accounts. She stops the car on the edge of a corn field to get out and scream in anguish. The news has gotten to her. Sailor searches on the radio to find her a song, he comes upon "their song," a violent, threatening tune to which they dance, kick and scream. The scene ends with them hugging in the corn field. This scene and others suggest the complexity of the main characters.

Lula, decked out in various types of lingerie, is a person who revels in her own sexuality, but is still as innocent and idealistic as Dorothy in *Oz*. Lula is still pure in her way of thinking, even after she is raped by Uncle Pooch, has an abortion and witnesses her father burned to death. She recounts these experiences without emotion. Somehow she sees these experiences as bad dreams, rather than reality. This allows her to survive, and continue innocent and untainted.

Much like Lula's dynamic between innocence and sin, Sailor's dynamic is between sympathy and brutality. On one hand, Sailor listens to Lula's stories and can relate to her, but on the other, beats a man to death in the first scene of the movie.

Lynch makes great use of sound in this movie. There is, of course, the actual soundtrack that contain similarities to Lynch's *Twin Peaks*. It varies from violent guitar to soft Elvis. Aside from the soundtrack, Lynch experiments with individual sounds: the midget voice, again from *Twin Peaks*, but this time is used in a less

garbled version. Lynch also magnified quiet sounds for greater effect. A good example of this is Lula's breathing against her mirror after she succumbed to sexual violence. Her breathing is very loud, very jarred; it portrays all her emotions at the same time. The guilt, love, repulsion and fear she is feeling is wrapped up into this one sound.

The photography in this movie is outstanding. The abortion scene was shot from overhead and through a device in the operating room. The close-ups of her face and her body from these angles were different and new. The low angle shots on Lula's mother conveying her power were refreshing. Lynch uses a great deal of close-ups on cigarette match flames every time Cage and Lula smoke after sex. These images are juxtaposed with the scene of Lula's burning home, in which her father died. It is as if every match, cigarette, and flame reminded her of her father's death.

This movie is, without doubt, technically great. The editing by Duwayne Dunham is sharp and crisp. The movie is very sensual and imagistic. There are glimpses of character development in Lula and Sailor that are interesting. The graphic quality of the film is disturbing and thus provocative. Not many people come out of the theater smiling. Most come out confused as to whether they liked it or not. Yes, the movie is very violent and graphic. But then again, what happens in the movie happens every day. Lynch won't desensitize you, he will sensitize you.

There's just something about Woodstock

by Gregory Donovan

What to do? Nice weekend? Good weather? Then it's time for Woodstock. Where's that? Well, leave the main Bard entrance with a right. Keep going on 9C past a set of lights, at a second set of lights there will be a sign for the Kingston Bridge. Read it. Take another right. Go over the bridge, look at the water, look at the boats. Keep on going straight, you'll see a sign marking the Kingston exit, don't take it. Next you will see two signs, one for the thruway and the other for Pine Hill. You want the Pine Hill exit, so take it. Follow the highway till you see a sign (a lot of signs, huh?) for Woodstock. Read it. Take your next right, even if you don't read the sign. Travel down this road till you get to a T intersection, take a left. In about a mile you'll be in the center of Woodstock. If you drive by it entirely, then forget about going back - you won't like it anyway. But if you do realize that you've entered a small "charming" town, look out for the public parking lot - it is on your right. Once out of your car, things are basically up to you. Be forewarned, this requires some walking. Hopefully, you'll notice the flea

market. It is in this wondrous bazaar that you can find pocket watches for three dollars, and tapes of old seventies music for two dollars. This flea market is a must for all college students who are poor, yet desirous of vast materialistic plunder. By the time you leave the flea market, pockets bulging, your normally cynical mood will have changed to a nirvana-like bliss. It is about this time that you will have to wander down the left side of the main street to come upon the most obvious ice cream shop. With wallets emptying you will purchase the finest ice cream cone. Outside you will sit, licking the now dripping, annoying cone. Your ears will tingle to the street music that comes from the Woodstock green. Possibly after finishing your dessert, you will travel past the multitude of craft and clothes shops till you reach the "Tinker" restaurant. Here, you will either purchase (with the emergency credit card) a fine snack (a la potato skins with cheese and bacon) or you will indulge in just a few "drinks." Whatever the case may be, the stop in will be well worth it. Nevertheless, you will continue your pursuit (after a full stomach) to finer things, namely the art galleries. Both galleries are on

Tinker street, so there shouldn't be much trouble finding them. At the Byrdcliffe Barn there normally is some concert or performance happening, which might be neat to catch (call 914-679-5444 for information). The art galleries usually have shows up that reflect the work being done by the artists involved in the Woodstock Guild. Thus, the galleries have pieces of work that you can buy. Most of the stuff is priced out of range for a college student budget, but sometimes you can find something cheap. Try looking for custom made earrings or some kind of jewelry, a lot of craftspeople make these things. Actually some shops, instead of the galleries, seem to be specifically set up to sell hand made jewelry. If art or jewelry is not your cup of tea, you might try just hanging out with the natives, they certainly are an interesting lot. Whatever you do, Woodstock is an entertaining place. Just remember the Tinker restaurant, and the flea market; they are for everyone. The jewelry shops, art galleries, concerts, craft and clothes stores, are for the more channeled people. Woodstock for a weekend trip is a must.

Club money

continued from page 1

money to fund student clubs and activities...yet they have the money to fund them [S.E.E.]. They say that there is no fund; obviously, there is a fund. Why can't all clubs have access to that money?" Michele Berger, a leader of S.E.E. who was among the students who met with Botstein last semester, disagrees. "We are not a club. That is why we did not apply to the Planning Committee for funds. We are going to hold a community meeting in the future where the student body can decide together what events we should sponsor."

In response to DiNatale's claim that \$15,000 was committed to the student body, the Vice-President said "our recollections [of the meeting] differed." Papadimitriou insisted that "15,000 was just an estimate...no promise was made." In addition, he noted that "the activity fee cannot just be raised — there is a process that must be followed in order to raise the fee." The process entails getting 65% of the entire student body to sign a petition that would approve the raise. The petition has to be given to the Vice-President by the end of the fall semester. He would then present the petition to the trustees at the January meeting, and it would be approved at

the January meeting. "A student came to me last year, in the fall, and I explained what they had to do; the student never came back to me."

The minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting, which could clear up the differing stories, are not available as of press time. However, DiNatale insists that the money was promised to students. "I specifically remember that the bulk of the discussed was focused on how the money would be administered...not whether or not it was there." She emphasized that she left the meeting with the impression that the student activity fee did not have to be immediately raised because the \$15,000 would be available to students this semester.

come from? The program is provided funds from the state and then the college matches it. Bard, in fact, gives a considerably high contribution to the program, compared to other schools.

HEOP is a statewide program, but Bard brings it down to size. Bard's HEOP presently has a total of 52 students, all of which receive the support they need available - financially, academically, and socially, to successfully make it through college. "The HEOP staff works with the students, faculty, and administration to insure that they have a fair chance at success," explains Donna Ford. The support is always present as the students have tutoring and counseling readily available for them, as well as the use of the computers in the HEOP

office.

A HEOP senior, Vashine Brown, comments that HEOP has "enabled me to attend a college that I would have not otherwise been able to afford. It has provided a strong support system - one that developed during the summer HEOP program and has grown stronger over the years."

HEOP at Bard has been one of the most successful programs in the state as the rate of retention and graduation are the same as the general population at Bard. In the future, Director Donna Ford hopes to see the program grow in size to 75 students, and she ideally wishes that the HEOP privileges and services could be available for regular admit students as well.

MOVIES AT PRESTON

Monday, September 17th
7pm *Kiss me Deadly* (1955)
by Orson Welles

Wednesday, September 19th
7pm *Voyage to Italy* (1953)
by Roberto Rossellini and
Il Fasto (1961)
by Ermanno Olmi

Tuesday, September 18th
9pm *Kiss me Deadly* (1955)
by Orson Welles

Thursday, September 20th
7pm *Los Olvidados* (1950)
by Luis Bunuel

Poem for the week

by Jonathan Manitsky

With all my love, I could not change your fall
Too many times I asked "please change your ways"
And Destiny, within her hands, holds all.

And God, be true, take heed my words and all
Please forgive my boy, do not make us pay
With all my love, I could not change his fall.

And Destiny, within her hands, holds all
Your path was set, I could not stop your stray
With all my love, I could not change your fall.

And God, be true, take heed my words and all
Since you, my son, have chosen your own way
And Destiny, within her hands, takes all.

And God, be true, take heed my words and all
Though, my son, I lose you this night, I pray
With all my love; I could not change your fall
And Destiny, closed her hands and took all.

HEOP

continued from page 1

As a HEOP student, one attends a mandatory summer program, to help him or her to prepare for college level work. Four classes are given - math, literature, writing, and study skills. At the completion of these four classes, the student is issued four college credits towards graduation. This summer program is taught by Bard faculty and thus, it gives the student a sense of what classes would actually be like. In addition, the student must take Basic Essay Writing or Advanced Essay Writing, another state requirement.

One aspect of HEOP is to help the student afford a private college education, but where does the money

UPSTATE FILMS

RHINEBECK 876-2515

Fri., Sept. 14 - Mon., Sept. 17: a new classic 1974 French film about two drifters on a trip to nowhere who live to offend... cast includes Gerard Depardieu, Jeanne Moreau

GOING PLACES

Fri., 8pm only: IN PERSON: Critic David Edelstein
\$7.50 incl. film, discussion, refreshments

Sat. - Mon., 7:00 & 9:30

DISAPPEARING LANDSCAPES, DISSOLVING IDENTITIES #1

Tues., Sept. 18 -

Thurs., Sept. 20, 8:00 only

TONG TANA

First in a series about Rainforest issues focusses on Malaysia's Borneo, the Penan Indians, & amazing Swiss naturalist Bruno Manser who went native trying to save both & is wanted dead or alive

FOR A COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF FILMS,
WRITE POBX 324, RHINEBECK, NY 12572

Men win home opener

by Jody Apap

Well folks, it's true. For the first time in a God awful long time, the men's soccer team is at .500, after a long hot win over Nyack on Thursday and a close loss to Dominican on Saturday.

In the home opener, in front of thousands of loyal fans, Bard kept Nyack scoreless for the regulation 90 minutes, however things weren't falling for Bard either, so into a 30 minute overtime period they went. In the 7th minute of overtime team captain Colin Clark faked out and blew by a couple of Nyack defenders and crushed the ball to far post for the only goal of the game. Count it! Bard wins 1-0.

The Bard defense led by stopper Jody Apap and sweeper Max Malmquist limited Nyack to only twelve shots, most of which were hurried and off-balance, while keeper Chris Waddell had hands of glue that saved the day for Bard more than once.

"They played as well as anyone we're going to see this year," commented Bard coach Joel Tomson. "I have no doubts that this will be one

of, if not the most, successful seasons that Bard will have had in many years."

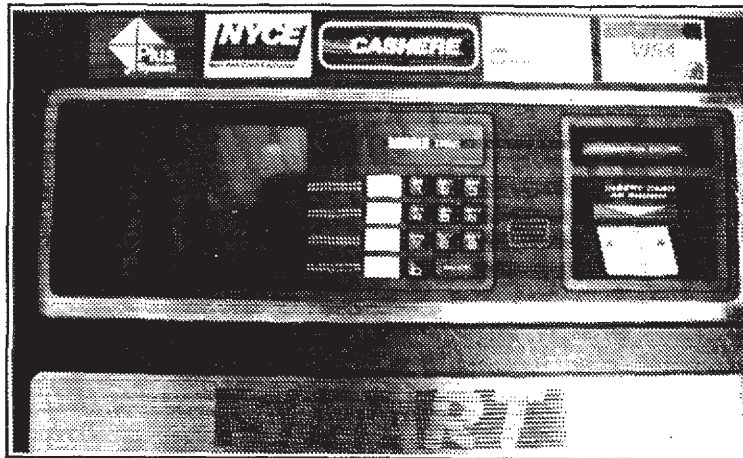
"This year we have a lot of talent on the team. We can match up to any team we play this year, we ARE going to turn some heads."

And turn some heads on Saturday they did. Even the Dominican head coach recognized that Bard had upped its level of play. "I wouldn't be surprised if we see them again this year," referring to the four team conference playoff at the end of the season. A playoff which, by the way, Bard has never, ever qualified for.

Bard held very tight the entire 90 minutes against Dominican but one fluke goal that popped between the legs of the Bard keeper was the difference in the game as Dominican won 1-0.

"I don't really care who won," said a proud Bard coach, Joel Tomson. "We outplayed them in the second half, and we had our chances. It could have just as easily been 1-0 in our favor."

"I am really pleased with these guys and I know that we are going to have a successful and enjoyable season if we keep working."



Cash machine working at last

by Jonathan Kushner

The Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) located at the Student Center is now fully operational!

Up until Friday, September the 7th,

the machine was down. Between that and the fact that bookstore wasn't cashing checks, many students found themselves without cash.

The ATM is affiliated with the 1st National Bank of Rhinebeck. Any-

one with an account there can easily acquire a cash card. Otherwise the machine accepts the NYCE card for those without accounts.

According to Shelly Morgan, Assistant Dean of Students, the installation of the machine was "an idea whose time had come." Bard, being a relatively isolated campus, hinders those without cars from going into neighboring towns. "The ATM will offer great convenience for everyone on campus," says Morgan. She expressed some concern for the safety of the ATM regarding vandalism. She says that the machine is a privilege here on campus that will require everyone's respect if it is to remain.

About half the students on campus have cash cards now, along with many professors. People interested in getting a cash card can call the 1st National Bank at 876-7041. The person on campus to address with any questions is the Controller, Chuck Crimmens, at Ext. 511.

Anwar

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so it was confiscated.

Anwar suspects that the riches and oil tempted the war torn Iraq to annex Kuwait. Kuwait produces 20% of the world's oil, far more than the quota assigned to it by O.P.E.C. It had been underselling O.P.E.C., supplying 80% of Japan's oil at lower prices. Iraq's economy is dependent on oil, 95% coming from oil.

Saudi's are fearful that Iraq will turn to take them next. The addition of Saudi's 25% share of the world oil market to what Iraq has already acquired would give Hussein control of half the oil in the world.

Saudi Arabia has an army of 65,000, compared to Iraq's one million. Iraq also is rumored to be building air bases on the border. The two types of air missiles they have capable of carrying chemical weapons can travel up to 900 kilometers, far enough to take them over the border and into the cities of Dahrn, Jeddah, and to destroy the desalination plant for the region.

Anwar thinks that it is more likely chemical weapons will be used on civilian cities than in desert warfare, because mustard gas and sarin evaporate in minutes in the desert heat. "Chemical weapons are much better in cooler weather. Cities are much cooler," he says.

However, with foreign troops building up on the Saudi-Iraq border "Saddam Hussein is very scared about launching an attack," says Anwar.

"[Hussein] is going to invade Jordan," predicts Anwar. "There is a lot of pro-Saddam element in Jordan. When U.S. troops landed in Saudi Arabia there were huge movements in Jordan saying 'Why are there foreign troops in our holy places?'"

Such a war would lead to a conflict with Israel, the first step to an all out war in the Middle East, says Anwar. Saudi Arabia would then be in the difficult situation of deciding whether to side with the Arab forces and with Hussein or with Israel and the American troops already within Saudi Arabia.

It is unlikely that America will attack Iraq, says Anwar. "I think America suffers from a big Vietnam mentality. They burnt their fingers in Vietnam...they are not going to be the first aggressors. They are not going to use chemical weapons," says Anwar.

Anwar views the American presence in the Middle East as partly a protection of oil interest and partly a cultural need to play the "superhero". "Americans live in what I call a celebrity culture. Americans love to look for heroes... Superman... Ronald Reagan... They look at the Third World as barbaric...with one super-

villain," says Anwar. He says that the Ayatollah was the supervillain during the Iran-Iraq War and the U.S. supported Hussein, ignoring the fact that Hussein was using chemical weapons on the Iraqi people. Now that the Ayatollah is dead and Manuel Noriega is in Miami, Hussein is the new "supervillain".

In Saudi Arabia and other Middle Eastern countries it is not so simple. The large royal family and their rich friends oppose Hussein because he is a threat to their absolute control over the country. "The poor Saudis would think very differently," says Anwar. "They would think 'What has the monarchy done for us? Let the economy open up. Let Saddam Hussein come in.'"

In Iraq, Hussein appeared to be popular. Anwar visited Iraq several years ago and saw a pro-Hussein demonstration while he was there. "Everything is Saddam Hussein- the Saddam Hussein Airport, Saddam Hussein Road, Saddam Hussein Hotel Intercontinental," says Anwar. "There was no anti-Saddam movement. Whatever movement there was has been crushed."

To Saudi's, the American forces are not superheroes, but a foreign influence in their country. "The Middle East will never be the same again because Americans never do anything for free...They are not going to leave Saudi Arabia," says Anwar.

The Week in Sports

Saturday 9/15

Women's varsity volleyball vs Bloomfield and St. Joseph's 12:00 HOME
Women's varsity soccer vs Post College 12:00 HOME
Men's varsity soccer vs Post College 2:00 HOME
Men's and Women's -country at Vassar Invitational 1:00
Women's varsity tennis at Plattsburgh State 2:00

Sunday 9/16

Women's varsity tennis at Champlain College 11:00

Monday 9/17

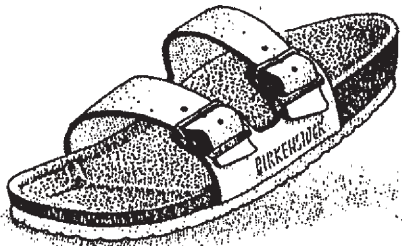
Captains' Meetings and Roster Cards are due for Flag Football, Ultimate Frisbee, 3 on 3 Outdoor Volleyball & Bowling

Tuesday 9/18

Women's varsity soccer vs Dominican College 4:00 HOME

Wednesday 9/19

Men's varsity soccer vs College of St. Rose 4:00 HOME



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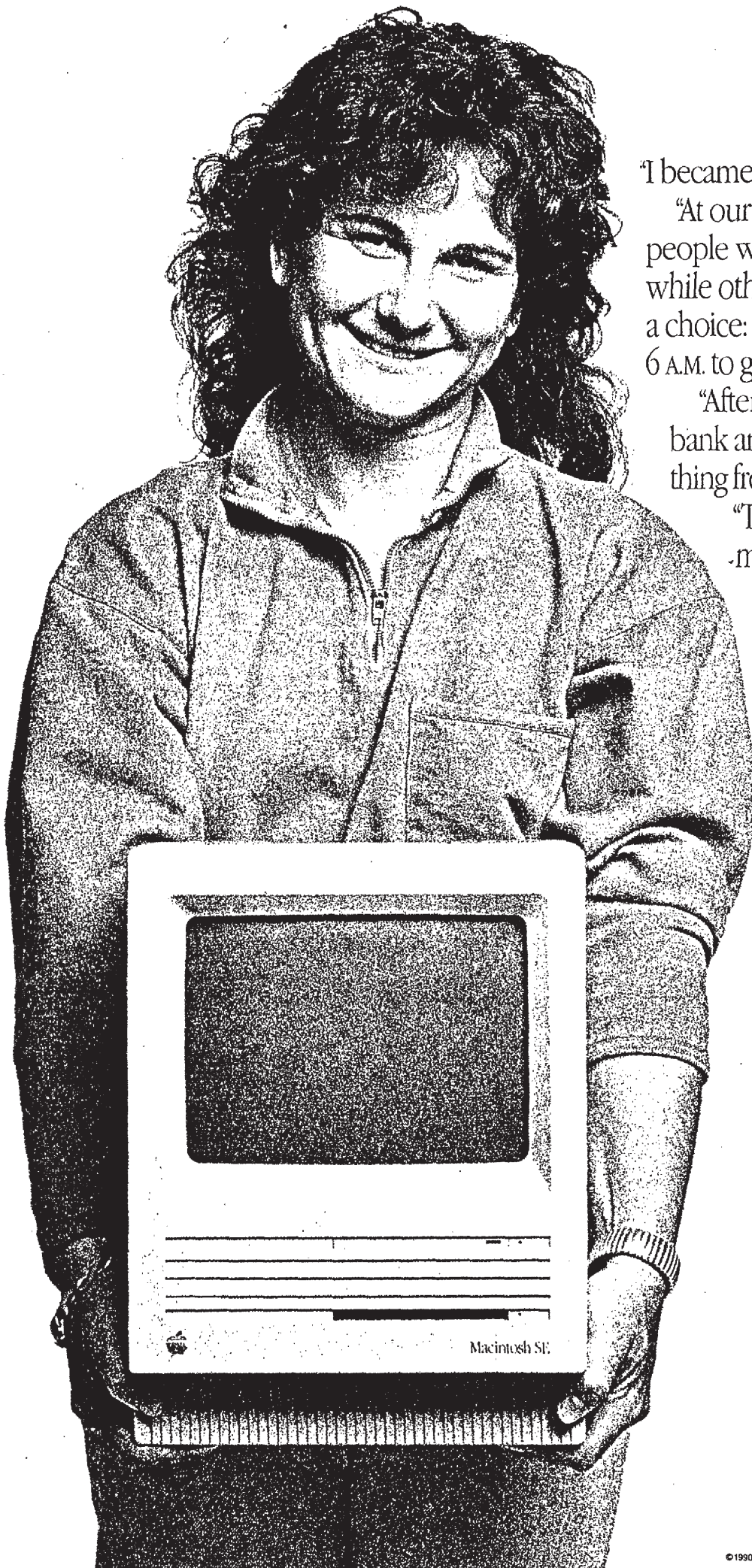
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I'd never have believed that one little computer could make such an incredible difference in my academic and working life.

Miriam Stoll
B.A. History, Dartmouth College
M.B.A. Stanford Graduate School of Business



"I became a Macintosh convert in business school.

"At our computer lab I'd always find lines of people waiting to use the Macintosh computers, while other computers just sat there. So I had a choice: wait for a Macintosh, or come back at 6 A.M. to grab one before they'd all be taken.

"After business school, I took a job at a large bank and used my Macintosh for producing everything from spreadsheets to a company newsletter.

"Today I use Macintosh to help me run my own management consulting firm. When I give a presentation, I can see in people's faces that they're really impressed. And that makes me feel great.

"Sometimes I take Friday off, put my Macintosh and skis in the car, and head for the mountains. I ski days and work nights. It's perfect.

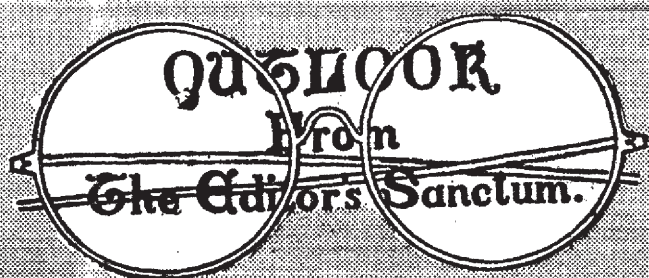
"You know, I can't say where I'll be in five, ten, or fifteen years, but I can say that my Macintosh will be there with me."

**There will be a MAC Fair
on September 20th.**

**Check with Bonnie Gilman
at Ext. 496 for location
and details.**



Why do people love Macintosh?
Ask them.



Forum for the people

The Forum must be accessible to all students. Whatever system is used to keep order in its proceedings should be known and easily used by all. It should not bar people from speaking, but should ensure them their 5 minutes of floor time in due order and without interruptions.

Clearly, Robert's Rules of Order haven't been satisfactory, since they haven't actually been used, even though the Forum constitution specifies their use. Perhaps if everyone knew and enforced the rules they would work. Robert's Rules are designed to focus debate on a single issue and resolve that issue before moving on. Though debates at the forum are officially limited to 45 minutes, they tend to drag late and end without a conclusion.

The Preface to Robert's Rules admits that to move debate efficiently to a resolution, "it is necessary to restrain the individual somewhat, as the right of an individual, in any community, to do what he pleases, is incompatible with the interests of the whole." The forum and many Bard students object to this, yet any system of rules will have to balance the right of each individual to speak against the need to come to a decision and leave.

One reason given for not using Robert's Rules of Order is that it scares students away from the Forum meetings. Whatever validity this argument has, it must also be recognized that Robert's Rules have barely been followed, and nobody comes anyway.

Nobody comes because nobody knows about the forum meetings. Nobody knows what will be discussed and decided. Nobody thinks it has any power to affect things.

Students are protective of their limited time, allocating it judiciously between studies, sleep, and socializing. Sitting late into the night in Kline for the forum does not fit well into busy schedules, and as people get tired their concern with student government dissipates quickly.

This is not a new problem, but it needs a new solution. Perhaps we should consider moving forum meetings earlier, or even holding them during the dinner hour when everyone has to be in Kline to eat. Another possibility is to send out a detailed agenda of issues to be discussed so students are aware of the importance of attending.

Changing the rules will only help if the new rules are clear, easy to use, and known by all. They must be written down and distributed. The same goes for Robert's Rules, which have never been given a fair chance. If they were rewritten in a clear, easy-to-understand format and sent to all, they just might work.

It doesn't really matter what system is chosen so long as it is used and students actually come to the Forum.

Bottles, bottles, everywhere...

by Jason Van Driesche

This year's freshman class seems to be about average, despite claims to the contrary by nostalgic upperclassmen. They philosophize on the meaning of freshman seminar, they complain about Kline food, and they go out and get drunk on weekends. A normal, healthy bunch of Bardians, right? Yes, except for one thing: they seem to have an unusually strong penchant for throwing their beer bottles around after they are done with them.

Ever since I got here at the beginning of the last week of L&T, I have seen an abnormally large number of broken bottles on campus. Whenever I go out, I can always find a few smashed to sharp splintery bits right outside of Tewksbury and a couple along Ravine Road.

And then there are the piles of bottles that lie broken and dangerous above the falls on the Sawkill. This is far more serious than the broken glass elsewhere on campus. Many people go down to the falls barefoot to swim or just to hang out. While they may be able to avoid the broken glass on the ground next to the river, there is no way for them to know where the glass that inevitably gets swept into the river ends up. One of these days, it is going to end up in someone's foot.

Bardians being Bardians, it is unlikely that these bottles are the work of freshmen alone. There are inconsiderate jerks in every class. It just seems that the freshman class has more than its share.

I am not asking that everyone stop drinking — that would go completely against the grain here at Bard. All I ask is that everybody take a measure of responsibility with their fun.

An unfunny thing happened when I got to the Forum

by Ian McGrady, Guest Columnist

Central Committee members and students at the forum meeting of September fourth groaned in discontent as Jeff Bolden said that the forum acted illegally, violating standard operating procedure in ten counts.

For the sake of this letter, the aptitude of most of our elected officials to run a meeting by a set of rules isn't in question. Odds are good that most of them can't, and one need only have attended this last meeting to find this out.

But here's why Jeff Bolden's commentary was discounted.

Our forum now consists of a Central Committee and a group of people that consistently show up to meetings, and votes uniformly on certain issues. This group can dump thirty people into a forum meeting at whim and control the fate of issues by voting uniformly as a bloc. Currently, there is no other entity with voting power to check them.

Under the copper aegis of empowering individuals with political expression more expansive than Robert's Rules would allow, the C.C. and the party voted to institute a new meeting procedure. People would then be recognized in the order that they raised their hands, then they would speak their mind on whatever issue they feel appropriate. This, within a "skeletal" structure of Robert's Rules of Order, which was never detailed to the people at the meeting. I presume that the two-thirds plus people had some motive to believe that these officials would act selflessly, in the forum's best interest.

So when came his turn to speak came, as deemed by the Secretary of the Central Committee, Jeff Bolden said that there had been some procedure violations. This comment was then symbolically discounted by the upward-rolling eyes of the party and several members of the C.C.

I believe that the C.C. defended their *errs carte blanche* by saying that they had voted earlier by two-thirds to suspend the rules. I guess this meant every single Robert's Rule, save the ones which they then chose to employ without re-instituting any formal sort of rules.

"Yeah, procedure violations are stupid," the party and various C.C. members seemed to say. "No procedure violations here."

But really, what procedure was violated, and by whom? Was it that the C.C. would actually act lawlessly? No, because they believed that they'd suspended Robert's Rules *carte blanche*, save the ones that they used later but didn't re-instate.

Then it must have been Jeff Bolden who violated procedure. By Their definition.

Bolden spoke only when recognized by the Chair, or the Secretary who sometimes spoke on behalf of the chair (beware secretaries of Central Committees involved with a one party system). At his turn, he pointed out illegalities. Rocked the boat.

One party-aligned student slammed his fist on a table, obviously discontent with Jeff's topic. His party cooed in approval, wading chest-high in their power bath. And the C.C. didn't call this Khrushchevish-outburst out of order. (I'm sure the C.C. would have acted with blinding speed (relative to bureaucratic process procedure) to call Bolden out of order and/or employ some thick-necked lackey to eject him from the meeting).

Bolden was an individual with a dissenting opinion. In the system employed only moments earlier to empower individuals with free speech, he was confronted by condescending officials and a body politic that wouldn't listen.

Free speech and democracy were gone. The forum is now a self-interested body of about thirty people.

So how do we combat this?

Go to a forum meeting, and bring some friends. Then participate fearlessly.

Oil crisis

continued from page 2

for example, do the same to cut down heating costs.

Despite the college's colossal efforts to conserve, Griffiths feels that many Bard students take advantage of the salvaged energy. He says that he has taken many trips to the new dorms and found doors and windows running "full blast."

Granted, there are those students who have little concern for or have little knowledge of energy conserva-

tion. Yet, for the most part, Bard students do make serious efforts to work with the environment. After all, the Environmental/Recycling Club, a student-run organization aided Physical Plant personnel in setting up the various recycling bins (which are still used efficiently) around campus last year. The Environmental/Recycling Club was then abolished because the Physical Plant funded the bins.

The Bard Observer

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The Bard Observer is published every Thursday 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 editorial board and not necessarily of the Observer staff. Letters to the Editor must 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 Friday a week before the publication date. The Editor reserves the right to edit for style and space.

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Observations on an issue of color

To the Editors,

The first response to Michele Tracy Berger's essay in *The Observer* must be one of respect. It is good that she felt comfortable enough to share with the rest of the community her feelings about her relationship with it. It is only fair, then, that I, as a member of that community, though I claim no right to speak for it, respond.

I had problems with her letter from the beginning, problems not so much with the content as with the terminology. Personally, and again I don't claim to speak for anyone else, I resent being referred to as "Anglo-American." I am not one and I am quite proud of what I am. If the term "white" is too non-politically correct to be used then please say non-Afro-American or person of no color, but do not call me an "Anglo" anything. While I do have some English blood I am a Jew. This is what I am and, if my race must be addressed, please call me Jewish American. I am no more "Anglo" than Ms. Berger.

I resent it less, merely because it does not really reflect on me, but was much more surprised than Ms. Berger would lump being "lightskinned" [sic] in with being "strictly middle class" as a reason why her parents would object to her braiding her hair. Is she stating that having less pigment means less culture? Is she really equating appearance with behavior? Is that any different from any other form of racism?

The reactions Ms. Berger got to her braided locks do not to me seem surprising and unusual. She seems to have overlooked the fact that many Bard students come from areas where their intercourse with Black Americans is slight and to them her hair style was quite new. And it may also have been quite attractive. If she really feels strongly that to be other is to be worse then perhaps she should

cultivate a style which is as much like the average Bard student as possible. Doing so would be a terrible loss both for her and for the rest of us, but the only way to be "other" is to be the "same."

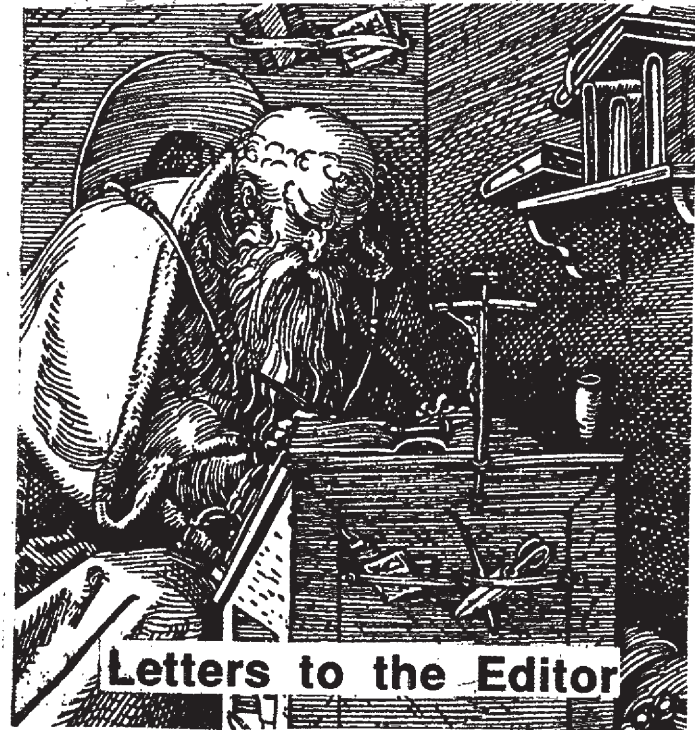
She seems to have overlooked something important. It is quite possible that her hair simply was very sexy. There is nothing unusual about some one getting a really great haircut and receiving a lot of attention, both from friends and from strangers, because of it. Add to this that the hair style was also unusual for some students and the reaction becomes not only understandable but also benign.

Ms. Berger doesn't see the hypocrisy in saying that her hair is medium through which she celebrates her "sameness" with other Black women and at the same time complaining that it has become an albatross of "otherness." To become same with one group of people you must become other to some other group. Instead of worrying that her hair has set her apart she should be proud that physical difference, which is clearly the only kind of "racial" difference that is valid, between her race and the race of the plurality of Bard students is seen as so attractive. That is clearly all anyone means by "exotic"; something from outside of their own experience that is interesting and attractive. When we start avoiding the exotic and avoid ever being exotic, stagnation will have more than begun, it will be the rule.

I must agree that the uninvited touching of her hair is a violation of her personal space (a terribly ambiguous and not terribly meaningful term, but one I will use here none the less), but did she talk to any women-of-no-color about whether they had similar problems? To me this is merely a negative aspect of what is otherwise, at least to many of us, a positive

thing. That thing being the tirelessly and anachronistically communal environment at Bard. The same people who have no problem touching some one else's hair uninvited are the same people that have no problem taking other people's stuff when they find it lying around and using other people's shampoo in the shower. I myself had a slightly odd haircut last year and people I didn't feel I knew all that well also felt obliged to run their hands through my non-Anglo mane. Personally I was grateful for the attention, but I understand completely feeling another way about it. Ms. Berger should simply develop the habit of saying, "please don't do that" or some such and help the rest of campus develop the habit of keeping their hands to themselves.

Edward Eigerman



Letters to the Editor

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Death row prisoner, caucasian male, age 44, desires correspondence with either male or female college students. Wants to form a friendly relationship and more or less exchange past experiences and ideas. Will answer all letters and exchange pictures. Prison rules require your full name and return address on the outside of the envelope.

MAIN CAMPUS SINGLE in South Hall will trade for a (single) room in New Cruger, Cruger Village, or the New Dorms. You may like it now, but you won't enjoy trudging Annandale Road in the snow. Contact Box 692 or x.342, rm 110.

Amy R: Bannanana, na, na, na, nah! Mark D.

Julie H. Hi. Um, . . . hi. I, um. . . I, um. . . dinner, maybe? Mark D.

Fear Mike. H.P.L.

Column Vaskit and Asahan Vasteel will not be stopped! White Boy.

Kurt, don't you ever do that to me again. Ever.

Gleeful greetings, o my Nerd Herd.

Michael & Elaine: How was the first week in the Pantheon? Do you feel any different? Do tell!

The secret is to bang the rocks together, guys.

SWM, English major, seeks mature SWF senior, lives on second floor Rovere, in 204 preferred; for winter warmth. Is this you? Then reply, Box 971. Hurry, temperature is starting to drop!

It's 4 am. Do you know where your friendly neighborhood production manager is? Neither does she.

Forgive my hubris. I'm really only a mortal striving to climb the Olympian heights and eat nectar with you gods.

-A.B. Zuss

MUSIC PROGRAM ZERO
BROOK HOUSE

**THE EQUINOX
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AND SPACES AND
OTHER POSSIBILITIES
September 21, 22, & 23**

You are invited to participate

The general structure of events goes as follows:

FRIDAY:
ONE CONTINUOUS SOUND will be collectively played all day by a widely spaced chain of performers, forming a line of sound snaking through the campus.

SATURDAY:
Clusters of events and exhibits, including
* Experimental spaces created at particular locations
* Performance events; outdoors and indoors
* Ritual events
* Installations
* Exhibits and objects
* Workshops, discussions, readings, meditations
* Expressive languages
* Electronic media
* Audio and video tape playback

We invite all of the Bard community (and families) to contribute — feel free to elaborate on or deviate from the above list of ideas.

To arrange, confirm, and schedule, contact Catherine Schieve (Box 17), Tildy Bayar (Brook House)

Reader finds more substance in "Flatliners" than reviewer

In response to "Flatliners": Medicine or morality?"

Sure, "Flatliners" may not be a classic, but let's give credit where credit is due. Aside from being enjoyable, dramatic, and ironically comical, there are moments of real substance in this film.

The science-fictional conjecture about life after life is merely an imaginative excuse for an examination of human conscience. It is NOT the premise for the movie — it is the part that sells.

The human need for atonement, for "expiation; satisfaction or repara-

tion given for an offense, injury, etc." — it is very common, and it runs deep.

This movie is not about demons to which one apologizes nicely. It is about a woman who is haunted by her need for forgiveness, about a man who feels he can only atone for his offense by suffering and dying in his victim's place.

"Flatliners" certainly has its weaknesses, but it is psychologically insightful and accurate. For this, at least, it is worth watching.

Kelly Eldridge
(sophomore)
9.2.90

WEEKLY COMMUNITY INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

Brought to You By The Dean of Students

Art History Department Lecture:

A lecture entitled *Michelangelo Rediscovered: The Cleaning of Michelangelo's Frescoes in the Sistine Chapel* will be given on Wednesday, September 26 at 6:00 PM in Olin 102. The lecture will be given by Dr. Walter Persegati, the International Coordinator of the Patrons and Friends of the Vatican Museum.

Math & Physics Lecture:

The Mathematics and Physics Departments present *Tea, Cookies and Talk* on Thursday September 20th in Hegeman 106 at 5:00 PM (Refreshments served at 4:45). This is the first in a series of lectures by members of the Division of Mathematics and Natural Sciences and visitors from other institutions. This week Peter Dolan will speak on Prime Numbers. For further information contact Peter Dolan at ext. 265.

Dance Workshop:

A master dance class and informal showing will be given by Sara Pearson and Company on Tuesday, September 18. Ms. Pearson is a well

known choreographer, performer and music maker who has taught worldwide for many years. The workshop is open to all levels and will begin at 6:30 PM in the Dance Studio of the Avery Arts Center.

Proctor Exhibition:

Word as Image, an exhibition of works of visual art by 14 contemporary artists that feature words exclusively as their imagery will be on view in Proctor Art Center from September 13 through October 10.

Minority Studies Workshop:

On September 17, Barbara Tedlock, Department of Anthropology, Suny-Buffalo will speak on *The Beautiful and the Dangerous: Multicultural Aesthetics in Zuni Pueblo Culture* in Olin 204 at 6:30 PM.

Music Performance:

On Tuesday, September 18 at 7:30 PM in the Bard Chapel, violinist Daniel Rains and Pianist Faye B. McCready will perform works by

Telemann, Brahms, Beethoven, Mozart.

Coffee House:

There will be a coffee house on Thursday, September 22 at 9:00 PM in the Albee Social Room, sponsored by the Women's Center. All students are encouraged to participate with music, poetry reading, skits, etc. Please contact Box 826 if you would like to perform.

Christian Meeting:

A Christian Meeting will take place on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM in the Chapel basement. All interested persons are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Box 630.

Bard Papers:

Submissions will be accepted throughout the Fall 1990 semester for the 1990-1991 edition of *The Bard Papers*. We are looking for work from all departments, including papers, senior project excerpts, fiction, poetry, photographs, and artwork. Send submissions and inquiries to Kim Miller, Box 901, Campus Mail. Deadline is November 21, 1990.

Calendar of Events

| Saturday 15 | Sunday 16 | Monday 17 | Tuesday 18 | Wednesday 19 | Thursday 20 | Friday 21 |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| Morning Bard van shuttle runs to Rhinecliff, Red Hook, & Rhinebeck 5:45 - 10:30 PM trip to Hudson Valley Mall, Kingston | 6:00 PM Ecumenical Worship Service Chapel 7:00 PM AA Aspinwall 302 7:19, 8:20, & 9:30 PM Van meets trains at Rhinecliff station 7:43 PM Van meets train at Poughkeepsie station | 6:30 PM Barbara Tedlock On Zuni Pueblo Culture Olin 204 6:30 PM Master Class Avery Arts Center 7:00 PM Observer Features staff meeting Aspinwall 304 7:30 PM Classical Music Bard Chapel 8:00 PM Prelude to the High Holidays Aspinwall 304 | 6:00 PM Observer News staff meeting Kline 7:00 PM Observer Arts staff meeting Preston 127 8:00 PM Observer Photo staff meeting Albee lounge | 7:00 PM Al-Anon Aspinwall 302 7:00 PM Christian Meeting Bard Chapel Basement | 5:00 PM <i>Tea, Cookies, and Talk</i> Peter Dolan speaks on Prime Numbers Hegeman 106 7:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous Aspinwall 302 | 4:51 PM, 7:36 PM, & 9:11 PM Bard vans to Rhinecliff train station 5:00 PM General deadline for submissions to <i>The Bard Observer</i> 7:13 PM Bard van to Poughkeepsie train station 12:00 NOON Deadline for all calendar submissions for the issue covering Sept. 29 to Oct. 5, 1990 in the Dean of Students office |