

Bard College
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OBSERVER

Vol. 98 No. 11 November 9, 1990

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Forum reaches quorum

Elections and discussion dominate agenda

by Emily Horowitz

Josh Kaufmann chaired the November 6 Student Forum Meeting, with a scant quorum of 21 people.

The meeting began with updates on old business. The opening of the student cafe/store has been delayed until next semester, announced Kaufmann.

Amy Rogers presented the ruling of the Student Judiciary Board on a case brought against five students last week. One student was suspended and has declared he will appeal the verdict to the Grievance Committee. The other four defendants received social probation and community service.

The Educational Planning Committee chair, Gavin Milczarek, reminded all present that faculty evaluations are due November 15. Emily Smith ran unopposed for the vacant Arts Division position on the Educational Planning Committee and was elected unanimously.

David Miller, Planning Committee Chair, reported that he received 149 responses to the survey which asked whether students wanted to raise the Student Activity Fee. The results were

80 in favor to 69 against. Miller will present the results to Vice-president Dimitri Papadimitriou.

Lisa Sanger, Secretary, announced that the Board of Trustees donated a copier for use by clubheads. There is no charge for use of this copier. It is kept in the Student Government Office in the Student Center and clubheads can get the key from Security.

Kaufmann, as Student Life Committee Chair, reported that the college wants to phase out storage if possible. The Student Life Committee is looking into alternatives to on campus storage. This would open current storage space for use as offices, by clubs, or by students as studio and practice space. Students present at the Forum expressed concern and the general consensus was that on-campus storage is a necessity for many students.

Kaufmann agreed to relay the students responses to the Student Life Committee when they next discuss storage. He also said that he would like to send a poll to students about storage options. He promised to consult the student body before making any formal decisions on the storage issue.



Marion Jones and Thomas Cooper of the King Institute for Nonviolence

The philosophy of Martin Luther King lives on

by Thomas Chase

On Monday, October 29 three representatives of the New York State Martin Luther King, Jr. Institute for Nonviolence addressed the Bard community in the art history room in Olin. The speakers were brought to the campus by the newly established Bard chapter of the Institute.

The first speaker was projects coordinator Marion Jones. Jones described the organization of the state wide group. She said the group was started a little over two years ago at the initiative of governor Mario Cuomo. The organization was begun to counter rising levels of violence in New York. Jones said the purpose is to "train, educate, and familiarize the people of New York state on the strate-



continued on page 7



Professor Carol Nackenoff, organizer of the conference on the Supreme Court.

The controversial 14th Amendment Equal Protection Clause

by Emily Horowitz

"It shall be an unlawful employment practice for an employer to fail or to refuse to hire or to discharge any individual, or otherwise to discriminate against any individual with respect to his compensations, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment, because of such individual's race, color, religion, sex, or national origin..."

The program for *The Supreme Court and Equal Protection: Race, Gender and Law for the 1990s* Conference, which

took place on November 3, 1990 at Bard, quotes this passage from the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VII, Sect. 703a(1). While the meaning of the quote might appear clear and specific, it is, as the conference illustrated, the subject of many different interpretations.

The Conference attempted to address the distinct and often conflicting legal interpretations of discrimination, and specifically, the 14th amendment equal protection clause. The panel discussions focused on race continued on page 7

Ford Foundation grants money to history department

by Sarah Gaughran

Bard students may be unaware of the scholarships and grants that are available to them. The Ford Foundation Grant is one such program. The Ford Foundation offers scholarships to encourage minority students to go to graduate school and to pursue academic careers. The Foundation also provides a stipend of \$1000 to the department in which a fellowship recipient majored.

Bard's history department will receive such a grant because of the outstanding scholarship of an alumnae, who was awarded a Ford Foundation Grant this year. The money will be used according to the guiding principles of the Ford Foundation, which states that the grant only go to minority students specifically to encourage them to attain a PhD degree. The history department established a 3 member subcommittee to

allocate the funds to minority students who are moderated history majors to fund various research projects, like the senior project. The research grants are not, however, limited to seniors.

The history department has been requesting a budget line of this nature for some time, but these are the first grants funds to be received. The Ford Foundation Grant will only be donated to the history department for this year, but Alice Stroup encourages minority students to apply for the fellowship when applying to graduate school for an academic field of study.

To be considered for a fellowship, students must enroll in a graduate program in a PhD granting institution for strictly academic and research based careers; they are not available for students pursuing a MBA or JD.

Alice Stroup admits her disappointment continued on page 7

L&T for grown-ups

by Angela Alexander

We think of voice as the sounds we make when we talk, but we also speak of voice as being expressed through writing and being expressive of certain aspects of our inner reality. Over one hundred people, mostly high school and college teachers, worked to discover their voices this past weekend in a conference entitled "Voice: Rhetorical, Psychological, Dramatic."

The conference was sponsored by Bard College's Institute for Writing and Thinking, which is also responsible for the Language and Thinking program for Bard freshmen.

The Institute's Director, Paul Connolly, Associate Director, Teresa Vilardi, and their staff worked for about a year and a half to bring together three distinguished presenters, representing the literary, psychological, and dramatic fields.

Peter Elbow, Professor of English at the University of Massachusetts, was the founding director of the Bard Freshman Workshop in Language and Thinking from 1981 to 1982. He has published several books on writing and is currently teaching a graduate seminar on voice at Amherst.

Carol Gilligan, Professor of Education at Harvard, teaches courses on the psychology of adolescence, clinical interviewing, and moral development and education. Her book *In A Different Voice* looks at the contribution of research on women to psychological theory.

Kristin Linklater, trained in acting at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, has taught and coached voice for various companies,

including the Royal Shakespeare Company in London, and for several Broadway shows. Her many other accomplishments include publication *Freeing the Natural Voice*, a leading textbook for actors, and co-foundation Shakespeare and Company in Lenox, MA. She currently teaches in the Acting Division at Emerson College.

Elbow's opening remarks centered around voice and writing, raising the question, "How come we get the sense of sound from black and white marks on paper?" He also said that the conference would seek to relate voice to teaching and to answer the questions "How can I

get voice in my writing? How can I help my students get voice?"

Gilligan followed, speaking of voice as a channel for the psyche which connects the "inner world of thought and feeling and the outer world of relationships." Linklater spoke of the need to hear not the voice, but the person through the voice. She also referred to the direct connection of the infant's voice to emotion and need, to the instinct for survival. As infants, we can make all the sounds that compose all the languages in the world, she said, but

when we learn to speak we limit ourselves to the sounds that will communicate with our environment, and we lose some of the original connections between voice and the "pleasure principle."

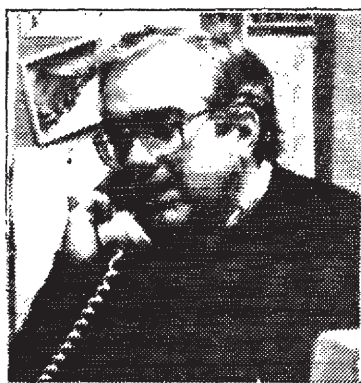
Throughout the conference, the presenters led participants in various workshops aimed at helping them to "find their own voice." Participants actively engaged in writing and voice exercises and participated in smaller group workshops led by faculty members of the Institute as well, some of whom also teach in the L&T program.

In one of the larger workshops, using their own writing, participants tried to separate their own voice from the "canonical voice," which is described as the "disembodied voice of authority."

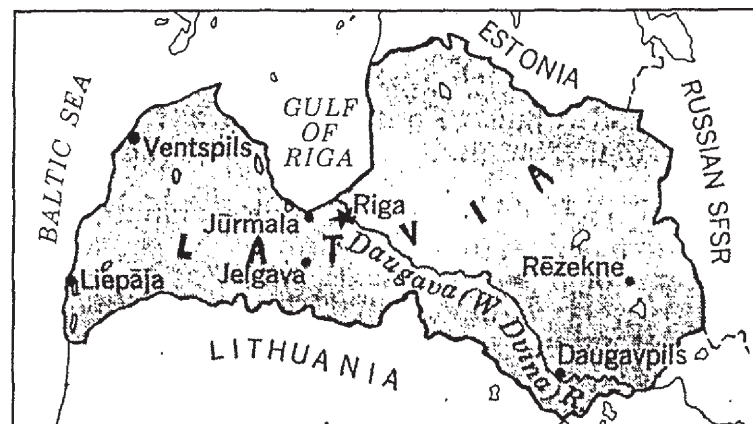
Linklater's "Speaking a Sonnet" workshop sought to "arrest the linear habit" of scanning ahead in a progression of words or sounds in order to find a meaning. Linklater led the group in physically and emotionally intensive activities which involved emitting different sounds and words, one

at a time, relating them to different parts of the body instead of to each other. In this way, voice can be separated from its usual home in the head.

In order to identify the voice of the psyche, participants applied Gilligan's "Five Psychological Truths" to their writing, exploring the statement "What is unvoiced or unspoken, because it is out of relationship, tends to get out of perspective and to dominate psychic life."



Paul Connolly, Director of the Institute for Writing and Thinking



Latvia's Singing Revolution

by Emily Horowitz

What do the revolutions in the Baltic republics of the Soviet Union all have in common? Each revolution had environmental degradation as its trigger, a folk song tradition as the means for sustaining the morale of its participants, and the specter of cultural extinction as the ultimate impetus for its sustenance. "Baltics in Revolt: Latvia's Singing Revolution," a lecture sponsored by the Soviet Studies Club, will examine these factors in Latvia in particular, at 7:30 PM on Thursday, November 15 in Olin 102.

Journalism Professor John Harsock will examine the factors that prompted the resurgence of nationalism in this small Baltic country and its declaration of independence from the Soviet Union on May 4.

Hartsock will also invite discussion on a comparison of the Latvian

Revolution with those of other Eastern European countries this past year.

Professor Hartsock spent nine weeks in Latvia during the summer studying the ongoing Latvian revolution and was an eyewitness to major events associated with it. He was credentialed as a journalist by the Latvian Parliament to cover Latvian issues, and interviewed leading personalities involved in the country's revolution. His lecture will be supported with slides he took of political demonstrations and environmental problems, and with video excerpts provided by Latvian Television of the country's National Song Festival, one of the most important events in the country's national life.

A former Washington correspondent for UPI and States News Service, Harsock currently teaches journalism in the Marist College communications program.

Race as a lens of American history

by Betty Lo Cualio

Taylor Branch, author of the 1989 Pulitzer Prize winning history of the civil rights struggle "Parting the Waters: America in the King Years 1954-1963" spoke on Thursday, November 1, 1990 at Dutchess Community College. Branch is a journalist, author and historian. Formerly a staff member of the *Washington Monthly*, *Harper's*, and *Esquire*, and the author of *Second Wind* with Bill Russell, *Blowing the Whistle* and *The Empire Blues*. He now lives in Baltimore, Maryland.

His lecture, entitled "Outsiders and Insiders: Race as the Lens of American History," sought to give a working definition of history as the

struggle between outsiders and insiders. In this context he also explained how we perceive history and what should govern the writing of history.

Branch began his talk by arguing that race is a permanent component of American history. Race, he said, is central to the perception of American democracy. Americans are overwhelmingly sensitive to race, and subsequently they often evade the issue. Perception of race works to hide recent realities. Once hidden, racial history reduced to myth, labels and symbols.

Branch's talk concentrated on proposing an alternative method to the writing of history. The method attempts to capture the cross-cultural experience through story-telling. Story-telling remains an integral part of the human experience, as opposed to abstract analysis. Traditional historical analysis may occasionally be static and "rearrange labels that are culture bound." The process, consequently, obstructs merely the learning of another experience.

This particular view of writing history, Branch stated, stemmed from his contact with the civil rights movement and his fascination with Dr.

continued on page 7

Walter Lippmann remembered

by Emily Horowitz

Walter Lippmann advised presidents, founded the *New Republic*, and wrote columns for the *New York Herald*. One of the most influential journalists of the 20th century, Lippmann lived through, and commented on, most events of this century, from World War I to the Vietnam War.

From October 26 to October 28, Bard College hosted a conference marking the centennial of Lippmann's birth. Organized by Bard

professor James Chace along with Lippmann biographer Ronald Steele, the conference participants included such notables as John Morton Blum, Sidney Blumenthal, C.W. Maynes, and Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.

While observers were permitted to sit in on the conference sessions, the conference was not widely publicized. "It was primarily a working conference," explained Chace, who expects the papers to be published together in a book or individually.

Ronald Steele, author of *Walter Lippmann and the American Century*,

spoke first on "The Relevance of Walter Lippmann." Chace hopes to publish a transcript of the talk in *Annandale* magazine.

Both Saturday and Sunday, Lippmann was discussed not only around the conference table, but at the dinner table as the participants shared their personal recollections of Walter Lippmann. "The discussion were illuminating in placing the relevance of Walter Lippmann in American intellectual history," said Chace. "In addition, the debate between Lippmann and Kennan is especially interesting today, since the Cold War is ending."

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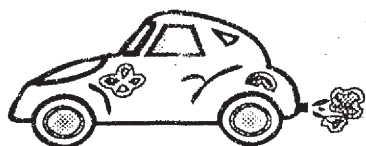
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Travelling for Bardians



Travelling: an odyssey for some Bardians

by Greg Giaccio

Getting to Bard is somewhat of a hassle for most students. For others, it can be a major odyssey. Missing that exit on the Taconic Parkway is small potatoes compared to this travel story.

Manish Desa, a student from Bombay, had difficulties before he even boarded a plane. The U.S. embassy flooded him with red tape when he tried to get a student visa.

"It's really hard to get student visas, especially if you're an undergraduate," Desa explained. Apparently, immigration officials are afraid that undergraduates will stay on to get their Master's degrees, and then their doctorates and who knows, they may even want to stay here. The government is particularly tough on Indian students who come from low-income families or who already have relatives in the United States, assuming they will have more reason to stay in America. Desa was the only undergraduate to get a student visa that month.

Desa flew for 11 hours from Bombay's Sahar airport to Heathrow in London, where he had a six hour layover. He killed time by trying his first Coca-Cola and by waiting in line for an hour and a half. At the end of the line an airport security guard asked him if he was carrying a bomb. He said no and the guard let

him go.

Desa was introduced to American culture on his five hour flight to Chicago by "I Love Lucy" re-runs and supermarket tabloids. "All the way from London to Chicago I was trying to figure out why people read that crap," Desa said.

Desa was surprised by the winter weather when he arrived in Chicago. Having lived in Bombay all his life, Desa had never felt cold weather before. It was such a novelty that he decided not to put on his heavy jacket.

Desa's cousin showed him around Chicago and bought him his first American junk food. Desa's first experience with an American city was a bit of a let down, because there was no snow or ice. It reminded him of "a concrete maze, something you'd play pinball in."

When Desa transferred to Bard from the University of Minnesota he had to take a bus cross country. On the way he met all sorts of interesting people. There was the little boy who made Desa pretend he was playing a video game with the bus window as the monitor. There was the ex-Moonie-cum-born-again-Christian who believed that his parents were witches who "flew around on brooms."

It was with relief that Desa ended his odyssey upon the shores of the Hudson.

Travelling on a budget

by Tom Hickerson

Bard students are almost unique in that their winter vacation is six weeks long. After the Christmas and Hanukkah holidays are over, many Bardians have time enough to work on an independent study project, complete an internship, take on a job or travel the world.

For many Bard students, traveling may not seem like an economical option. However, there are organizations that students can join that can offer cheaper and easier travelling both within the U.S. and abroad.

One of those organizations is the American Youth Hostels, Inc. (AYH). AYH is a membership organization offering opportunities for travel and outdoor recreation especially for young people by providing hostels in scenic, cultural and historic areas.

Members of the AYH can go to any hostel and enjoy simple and safe accommodations, usually for less than ten dollars a night. The AYH maintains hostels all over the coun-

try, from New York City to Los Angeles. The hostels can take the form of a treehouse, a renovated battle-ship or even a lighthouse.

Hostels usually have small dormitories with 4 to 6 beds, kitchens, common rooms and even special facilities for the disabled. Some hostels have bigger dormitories and offer low-cost meals and family rooms. There is no maid service; instead, overnight guests share domestic duties. AYH also offers World Adventure trips and other travel programs.

Joining the AYH only costs \$20 for an adult (18 or over) and can be bought either through a travel agency or by requesting an application directly from AYH at American Youth Hostels, P.O. Box 37613, Washington, D.C., 20013-7613.

The AYH is a member of the International Youth Hostel Federation (IYHF), which maintains over 5,000 hostels world wide, including hostels in Europe, the Mediterranean, Africa, Asia and Australasia. An AYH

card is good at any of the IYHF hostels. Additional information can be requested through the AYH offices.

Another organization designed for students wishing to travel abroad is the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE). The CIEE offers inexpensive travel arrangements abroad, including air fare, car rentals, accommodations, rail passes, and other expenses.

The CIEE also offers information about a number of study abroad programs and work abroad programs (see related article on page 4). Information on how to apply for CIEE's International Student I.D. card, which is a prerequisite for these benefits, can be obtained from Bard's Career Development Office or from CIEE at 205 East 42nd Street, New York, NY, 10017.

For students with a further interest in budget traveling, the *Let's Go* series of books published by Harvard Student Agencies are recommended as a source of helpful information.

A guide to local travel agencies

by Greg Giaccio

If you are like most Bard students, you live out of state where no one has even heard of Bard and they make you say the name over and over and over again. Any reason to go home is a good one and a Thanksgiving dinner not prepared by Kline is an even better reason. Thanksgiving is traditionally the biggest travelling day of the year. To go home this holiday, you will probably require the assistance of a travel agent.

Travel agents are the middle men between your transportation and you. Many people wonder how travel agents make a living when they only charge you for the cost of the ticket and not for their services. Well, travel agents make a commission from the airline for acquiring customers. For this reason there really is no difference between the the prices of different agencies. Travel agents are out to

get you the best price possible. This is a list of the local travel agencies and what they have to offer Bard students for the delight of organizing their travel affairs.

The travel agency that requires the least travel to get to is the Star Travel agency. They have been conveniently located on 12 South Broadway in Red Hook for almost five years. They handle travel arrangements for many of the Bard students and faculty. Their proximity makes them ideal for picking up tickets and such without much hassle. Star Travel's phone number is 758-6808.

The Barbara Lee Travel Service probably has the most experience with handling Bard student's travel plans. Having been in the business for thirty years, they understand a student's financial position, or lack of one. Their phone number is 876-7023 and the Musak plays some really nifty Julio Inglesias tunes.

Also in Rhinebeck is the aptly named Rhinebeck Travel Center. They have a few Bard students and faculty among their clients and, as employee Judith Nero put it, they will "explore many options for students." While the firm is small (just two travel agents) it can provide personalized service that may be hard to come by at other agencies. The Rhinebeck Travel Center is situated at 19 East Market Street. You can call them at 876-2076.

If you're a student with special travel needs, the Kingston Travel Center may be the agency for you. They have over 25 years of experience with "specialized itineraries and travel," and have worked with Bard students and professors before. The Kingston Travel Center is on 236 Clinton Avenue. The phone number is 331-7881.

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Down Under Awaits with CIEE

by Tatiana Prowell

If you've ever had a desire to know Australia from "down under," the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) has an opportunity for you to do just that. The program, which is anticipated to begin in February 1991, consists of a semester or a year at Murdoch University in Perth, Australia, through the Cooperative Studies Program.

Murdoch University is located seven miles to the south of Perth, Australia's third largest city. This city of just over 1 million inhabitants has been named "the sunniest capital in the country," boasting an average of 8 hours of sunshine per day year-around and a pleasant Mediterranean climate with dry summers (December through February) of highs

around 85° and mild winters (June through August) with lows around 50°. Located nearby are the famous and scenic Kings Park and Swan River. Public beaches and the Victorian-style village of Freemantle are only a short ride away and are fully accessible by public transportation.

Environmentalists, ecology students, and nature lovers alike will be pleased to find the world's largest "Great Barrier Reef," Ayers Rock, over 3,000 varieties of wildflowers, and carefully preserved woodlands and wetlands, virtually undisturbed by humans.

But enough about the setting. Murdoch University has approximately 6,500 students, 700 of whom are international. Students may choose from over 500 courses offered each semester, and a regular course

load includes at least four classes. The typical course at Murdoch has two to three hours of lectures and one to two hours of tutorials or lab work each week.

Murdoch offers placement in seven schools of study: Biology/Environmental Science, Economics, Commerce/Law, Education, the Humanities, Math/Physical Sciences, Social Sciences, and Veterinary Studies. Theological studies joint degrees are available through Murdoch and the Perth College of Divinity.

To be considered eligible for admission, international students must have at least a 2.75 G.P.A., although the college warns that Australian grading is much less generous than in the States, and the majority of students receive C's for their course work. Study-abroad students gener-

ally earn 14 credit hours for the semester, taking one required core course as well as three other classes.

The semesters run from February to July (Spring) or July to November (Fall) and include an orientation, two to three weeks of mid-term vacation, a one-week study period, and a two

week exam period, aside from the regular 13 weeks of classes.

The anticipated semester cost is \$6,500, as well as a \$1,000 round-trip flight. The above estimate includes all expenses except for meals, which can either be taken in the campus *continued on page 9*



Learning through Service: An experience of a lifetime

by Tatiana Prowell

"Once you get involved, the experience stays with you for the rest of your life." These are the words of Jason Leo, a college student who spent the summer in a Learning Through Service internship.

Learning Through Service (LTS) is a program organized by the Association of Episcopal Colleges (AEC) to allow students to affect the lives of others through volunteer work. Internships are available throughout the U.S. and in several foreign countries for a semester or a full year, the summer, or during January Intersession. Depending upon the program, it may carry as many as 12 to 16 academic credits.

Possible LTS service roles include teaching literacy basic skills to the uneducated or the homeless; caring for ill, handicapped, and elderly individuals; organizing community projects; and helping to build housing in low-income areas.

The LTS program stresses that it offers a secular environment. Although the program is run by an Episcopalian organization, none of the Service-Learning internships and only specific Students Serving Others internships ask that members be of the Christian faith. When such a religious environment will be the

case, students are informed before making any commitment.

As far as any required language experience is concerned, a background of two years of high school language instruction or one year of college instruction is required for the Service-Learning internships in France, Ecuador and Mexico. All other programs either provide training or involve working with primarily English-speaking peoples.

The LTS program considers itself well-supervised and safe. It has had no cases in which student volunteers were in immediate danger, despite the fact that some internships take place in nations with unstable governments. One student who was in the Philippines during a coup attempt was immediately moved to a secure shelter and was advised not to involve herself in the politics of the country. Under this close supervision, her internship continued without any disruption. In adherence to these safety standards, the "Service-Learning" program in Liberia has been temporarily discontinued.

Amy Egan, Assistant to the President of A.E.C., stresses that reactions from student volunteers to the program are overwhelmingly positive. "Almost all students return with a newer, sharper focus. Especially if they work around extreme poverty,

they come back grounded...and painfully aware of waste and societal values," she says. Even the somewhat negative experiences they have given them an optimistic outlook, Egan explains. "Even the students who were doing 'Service Learning' in Liberia during an extended power failure...found something rewarding [in the experience]. They learned to fall back on their own resources, which some of them were not aware of prior to that."

Although more detailed program information is available in the Career Development Office, here is a brief overview of some of the available internships:

Service-Learning in England

A semester or summer at Westminster College in Oxford and the U.K. Centre for Experimental Learning. Academic studies consist of: *Contemporary Britain, Literature and Writing, and Institutions in Society*, carrying 9 to 12 credits. Service involves health care and social services. Program costs, including meals, tuition and housing, are \$3400 per semester or \$2300 per summer, with a small weekly stipend paid to the student.

Service-Learning in Jamaica

A semester or summer at College of the Arts, Sciences and Technology.

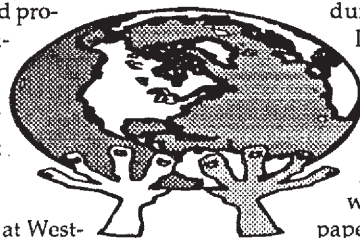
Academics relate to Jamaican studies and offer possible credit for history/political science, literature, sociology or psychology. Twenty service hours a week are spent teaching and providing care in children's homes, day care centers, and institutions for the handicapped. Program costs, including meals, tuition and housing are \$3300 per semester or \$2900 per summer.

Service-Learning in India

A 3-week experience undertaken during January Intersession. Academics include seminars, lectures, and field trips, as well as a 12 page paper completed upon return, for 3 to 6 credits. A minimum of 40 service hours at the Mother Theresa Homes for the Destitute in Calcutta and other service agencies is required. Program costs are available from AEC.

Similar service-learning internships are available in Ecuador, France, Mexico, the Philippines, and South Dakota.

Students Serving Others programs are also volunteer opportunities which differ in that academic credit is possible only in certain internships.



US/USSR Volunteers in Nicaragua

A four week program in late July to late August. American students receive an orientation in Guatemala City and Managua with their Soviet partners, and then travel to the site to begin constructing homes for those left homeless by the recent hurricane and ongoing political strife. Some Russian or Spanish background is useful, but not required. Total cost, including airfare and all living costs, is approximately \$1295. This program carries no academic credit.

St. Christopher's Home in Hong Kong

A generally year-long program beginning in early summer. Volunteers teach English, sports and basic skills and serve as role-models/caretakers to children who have been abandoned or who come from broken homes. Some Chinese is helpful, but not necessary. Cost information is available from AEC. Carries no academic credit.

Approximately 19 other Students Serving Others programs are in progress in over 31 countries, as well as in Virginia, Washington D.C., Detroit, San Francisco, Florida, South Carolina, Connecticut, Nevada, Alaska, North Carolina and New York City.

Leo stresses the impact of participating in one of these programs. "I often smile when I look at the program flyers because [despite the specific dates listed for them] from this point on, your life in some way will always be a life of service."

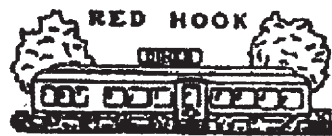
For further information, contact Harriet Schwartz in Career Development, or write to: The Association of Episcopal Colleges, 815 Second Avenue, New York, NY, 10017.



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by Heidi Tremaine

Combating Silence

I have not forgotten Michele Berger's opening phrase - 'I have been silent' in her article titled "Unbraiding the Sexual Politics of Black Hair". These words speak to problems that while often defined as personal, are reflective of a political and cultural climate in our society and on this campus. Silence is an intrinsic part of our social culture here at Bard. I am concerned about its presence and do not want to watch or participate in its continuation. I hope that this letter will help to inspire continued discussion about issues that I, too, have been silent about.

I am speaking to the issue that I would define as 'hot' now on campus - sexual harassment. As we currently face this problem the truth about how tolerant and silent we have been becomes painfully apparent. Think of all of the victims of sexual harassment that you know, all of the misunderstandings and miscommunications around our sexuality and all of the real psychological violence that occurs in our relationships with each other. It seems that we have been thinking of these things as our personal problems and resist labeling and confronting these as cultural problems, which they obviously are. While I believe that we are personally opposed to all forms of sexual harassment, this is not reflected in our community practices. This is evident simply because we know about the above instances and have tolerated them. I realize that a lot of the toleration is the result of confusion of what sexual harassment is. With this in mind it is even more imperative to put an end to our silence.

Recently there have been several women who have had the strength and courage to speak out about their experiences - many of whom have been raped. Because more women than before have spoken out does not mean that sexual harassment has increased. It does mean that the social climate at Bard has started to change. We have recently become less tolerant, more vocal, and hence, more supportive of rape victims. These factors have made Bard a safer place to

speak out about such negative experiences. We need to listen to these women, think of ourselves, and work to perpetuate this very fortunate beginning of change.

No discussion on sexual harassment is complete without integrating the very real and debilitating affects of sexism on this campus. For those of you who do not think this campus is sexist, I genuinely urge you to observe the interactions between students, look closely at what goes on in the classroom, listen to some of the comments being made about female professors and rethink your opinion. I think that no matter how socially conscious, or politically correct we are no one is fully removed from discriminatory attitudes and behavior. We live in this society - in this community and interact with its culture every day. Instead of trying to convince ourselves that we are exempt from all accusations that claim us racist, sexist, or classist, we should try to acknowledge and examine these things in our community.

The question 'Are women taken as seriously as men on this campus? in the classroom? at parties? during sex?' should not be limited to discussion in a feminist theory class or women's center gathering. It deserves campus wide attention and discussion. Women's silence is not only relevant to the issue of sexual harassment. It is a macro-level problem tied to personalized issues. Women are silenced politically and are often silent in classrooms cross-culturally. Women who try to speak up are often caught in a bind because they are perceived as 'hostile' women as opposed to 'assertive' men. If white, middle class women are silenced then women of color and working-class women are doubly silenced/doubly marginalized. (This is not doubly silent but doubly silenced - and has different social implications than for white, middle class women.) As a woman and as one who knows and talks to many women, I can hon-

estly state that women's classroom/intellectual silence is a personal problem that plagues us in every class, every day, and every semester. Whether we decide to speak up or keep silent, the issue is *always there*.

Sexual harassment is not something we can afford to be silent about if our real intention is to have equally bright men and women, and 'intellectually invigorating' (Bard brochure!) classrooms where there is a storm of different perspectives and ideas. Think about this striking, honest statement by writer/poet/feminist Adrienne Rich - "If it is dangerous for me to walk home late of an evening from the library, because I am a woman and can be raped, how self-possessed, how exuberant can I feel as I sit working in that library?" And I add - "If it is dangerous for me to assert myself, because I am a woman and because I may be labeled an 'angry bitch' (a statement made, heard and tolerated at Bard) how self-possessed, how exuberant can I feel as I sit thinking, listening, and speaking in that classroom?" I hope that a campus entirely intolerant of sexual harassment would be a campus that takes women as seriously as men - as speakers, as intellectuals, as writers, as artists, as entertainers, and as lovers.

It is most often men who sexually harass women yet by stating this I do not mean to discount experiences that do not fit this norm. Rape stereotypes, (such as rape occurs in dark alleys to women in mini skirts or that most rapists are black men or that men are innately sexually aggressive/violent) are extremely dangerous in that they contribute to destructive gender/racial stereotypes and skirt the real issues involved. What is pertinent in a situation where someone is being sexually harassed is that the perpetrator is using sex as a way to exploit (consciously or unconsciously) there position of power over the other. Sex is

not morally wrong, neither is power, but manipulating and debasing another human being with these two very seductive things is.

So, while it is true that men are most often the sexual harassers and women the victims (for reasons that go way beyond the scope of this article) it is both men and women who can be sexist and it is both men and women who can work to end the silence, confusion and violence around sexual harassment. As a woman involved in the issue I worry about my statements on this potentially alienating topic and am concerned about the potential silence of men. This is not just a women's problem, it is a campus problem - we are all affected and harmed by it. At the recent Poughkeepsie Pro Choice rally I attended I was moved by the angry, impassioned words of a white male speaker. He said that he felt victimized by and trapped within a culture where the people in power (white men) implement racist, sexist and homophobic policies. He screamed at us, an audience consisting of surprised male and female college students, "I am outraged because they are doing it in my name!!!!" His anger stemmed from his awareness of a culture and power structure where he is situated and where he has had to identify himself. By speaking out he is helping to break down destructive divisions (gender and other) between members of his community and within the political movement. He is challenging gender stereotypes. Likewise, I believe that the men on this campus (with exceptions that need to be directly confronted) individually condone rape/sexual harassment. Guys, the fact that men rape is a real burden on your shoulders. Gender stereotypes are as much of a problem, if not more, as the harassment itself. With all of this in mind I urge everyone to listen to and speak about the issues of sexism and sexual harassment that are being discussed on campus. This is *our* community, let's have our actions reflect this.



A response to Jonas Savilion's piece

by Jonah Gensler

With dismay I read Jonas "Joe in the Street" Savilion's piece on the Mid-East crisis, displaying his brand of aloof cynicism meshed with indignant scorn to attack Students Against Interventionist Policies. The blatant disrespect demonstrated by Jonas' words, as clever as he may think them to be, have no place in serious political discourse. But it is the substance of his argument I challenge here.

It is Jonas' argument that Bush had no choice but to commit U.S. troops to guard against Iraqi expansion in the Middle-East. He rejects the argument that economic reasons help to explain why the Bush Administration has deployed over 200,000 troops in the region. Jonas probably does his Republican heritage proud as he disregards a number of important factors:

1) The United Nations and the Arab League's efforts to negotiate a settlement were overshadowed by the U.S.'s imposing position. Given a chance, the U.N. might not only have provided the vehicle for peace in this particular situation, but also a historical precedent could have been established in the U.N.'s peacekeeping role.

There were other alternatives and the U.N. might well have filled the void had the Bush boys not been so gung-ho. The trouble with

that is some are not quite ready to give up the role of U.S. as world's policeman and the U.S. working under the U.N. would mean a significantly different "New World Order" than what George Bush espouses.

2) The Bush administration has explicitly stated that it has other objectives besides the protection of Kuwaiti, or Saudi sovereignty, namely protection of American and world economic interests.

3) The energy policies of the Reagan/Bush administrations are some of the worst culprits in our dependency on oil. (Symbolic of Reagan's wasteful era is his insistence on removing the White House's solar panels that my uncle had installed under Carter).

Now I do not agree entirely with Students Against Interventionist Policies' ideology or methodology but I do feel they are a necessary voice on this campus. These are difficult questions involving a deadly subject matter and I personally feel SAIP's approach is too absolutist, but Jonas' approach fails considerably worse. We are now on the brink of war and a U.S. already having trouble keeping afloat is grabbing on to a sinking ship.

Certainly energy conservation is crucial but distributing gas-guzzling blame to everyone does not absolve an adventurous foreign policy.

continued on page 6

Club Forum Bard Special Olympics

For the past three years, the Bard Special Olympics Committee has been working to establish a Special Olympics program at Bard. We are very close to achieving that goal. New York State Special Olympics is currently hoping to turn the Stevenson Gymnasium into one of their primary training centers for athletes. We would like the majority of coaches at this training center to be from the Bard community. We are currently working to get Bard students, faculty, and staff certified as coaches.

Coaching a sport for Special Olympics does not require any special skills, other than patience and an ability to communicate. We are holding a workshop to train people as coaches on Sunday, November 4th. We will be training coaches for swimming and basketball (the two sports we will most likely be coaching at Bard). The swimming session will be from 9am to 12pm. The

basketball will be from 12 to 3. A pizza lunch will be provided for everyone participating. Part of each training session involves working with athletes. When you participate, you will find out just how special these kids are, and how much fun they are to work with. If you are interested in getting involved in Special Olympics, or would like more information, please contact Gregg Beratan at 758-1944 or through campus mail at box 502. Or simply show up at the gym on November 4th.

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Don Juan: an unsettling comedy

by Jason Van Driesche

Don Juan by Molière
Directed by Garrett Kimberly
The Scene Shop Theatre, Avery
Arts Center

Merciless and soulless (but not without panache), Molière's Don Juan is one of the more despicable characters the theatre has ever seen. He promises true love and eternal devotion to anything in skirts, and then cuts down the women he seduces without mercy once he has had his fill. He has no belief in heaven and holds no fear of the devil. He lives however best suits his desires, and if this means destroying every woman who crosses his path, so be it.

But Don Juan has his comic side as well, especially when he and his servant Sganerelle play off each other's weaknesses and faults. Sganerelle is

hopelessly pious. He reiterates constantly the God-fearing litany that is the norm for his day, but he is too attached to the salary Don Juan gives him and too cowed by Don Juan's status as a nobleman to stand up to his master in any meaningful way. Herants constantly about his master's callousness, only to retreat into whimpering submissiveness as soon as Don Juan begins to show any signs of displeasure. His lightning-quick swings from thundering moralization to puppy-dog pandering are almost schizophrenic, for Sganerelle never seems to be able to decide who he is and what role he is to play in his master's inevitable demise.

Don Juan is quite a witty character himself, in an evil sort of way. From the audience's point of view, his wit is primarily a product of the juxtaposition of the noble intentions he professes to women he wishes to seduce



Don Juan is confronted by his father about his scandalous behavior

and the true motives he reveals only to his servant Sganerelle. Don Juan is proud of the deceptions he plays on everyone, for, as he declares to Sganerelle in church one day, "Hypocrisy is a fashionable vice, and all fashionable vices count as virtues... I shall set myself up as a moralist and pass judgment on everyone." However,

the judgments he passes on others can almost always be taken as a judgment on Don Juan himself.

Sganerelle's pathetic comedy and Don Juan's evil wit often seem incongruous with the gloomy "all sinners will pay in the end" morality of the play as a whole. While it is obvious that Molière's intention is more to poke fun at this morality through comedy than to pay homage to it, the fact that Don Juan has to pay for his sins makes the comic aspect of the

play difficult to pull off. Don Juan must be more evil than he is witty and Sganerelle's piety must be more important than his pratfalls in order to make it work.

This production of Molière's *Don Juan* placed heavy emphasis on the comedic aspect of the play, which left the audience with a feeling of ambiguity and uneasiness, especially at the very end of the play. After Don Juan is finally made to pay for his sins and is carried down to hell by a statue of a man he had killed, his servant is obviously distraught at his master's demise.

Sganerelle's last words, however, reveal his true intentions. "My salary... he never paid my salary!" he moans. In the end, he shows his character is much closer to that of Don Juan than he ever admitted—that he shares much of his master's callousness and hedonistic materialism. The way his character was portrayed, however, was too comic to make any amorality credible.



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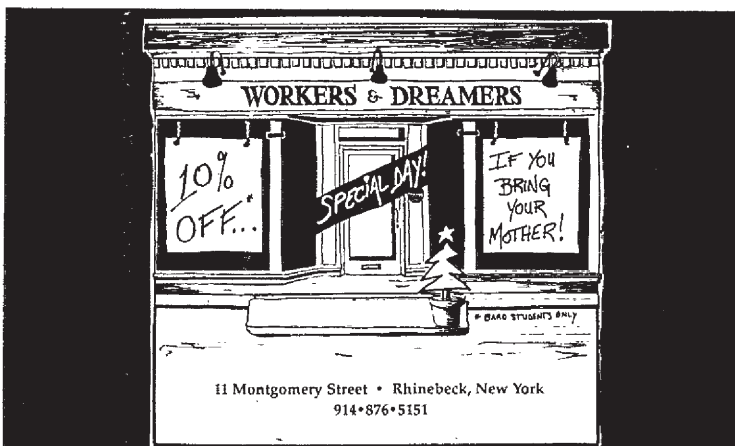
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Jonah Gensler

(the one without glasses)

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icy. On the contrary, energy conservation goes hand in hand with a more modest U.S. presence in the Middle-East. Jonas' "real answer" of wood stoves and bicycles is a partial answer, but a costly and bloody war is not.

My most immediate concern is that Jonas' opinions are not attributed to me, Jonah, as has already been done by a few people. Jonah (the one without glasses) will take responsibility for many things, but not the words of Jonas (the one with glasses).

α β χ δ ...

There is still time to register for intensive Greek and Latin courses over January intersession. The courses will condense a full semester (4 credits) into three weeks. Contact James Romm, ext. 397, or Chris Callanan, ext. 279.

14th amendment

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and gender issues and the 14th amendment.

The morning panel discussion examined the question of race and the 14th amendment. Randall Kennedy, of Harvard Law School, Charles Stephen Ralston, of the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, and Alan Freeman, of SUNY Buffalo looked at the various meanings of the recent court decisions concerning racial issues and discrimination cases. They also discussed the October 22, 1990 veto by President Bush of the Civil Rights Act of 1990. The three panelists agreed that it was an important and necessary act and expressed regret about the veto.

Kennedy said that the "formalistic reading" of the Civil Rights Act of 1866 "gave rise to the Civil Rights Act of 1990." He cited the case of a black woman whose employer "treated her differently" making her "sweep up trash" for example, than white employees in her same position. The woman filed charges against her employer, and the case was eventually brought before the Supreme Court and "was thrown out." This happened because, according to Kennedy, the Court interpreted the 1866 Act as "covering only hiring, not treatment." Similar cases described by Ralston and Freeman illustrated, the panelists believed, the need for the Civil Rights Act of 1990. "The results [of the decisions of these cases] is no redress from the courts for violation of civil rights," said Ralston.

The afternoon discussion focused on gender and the 14th amendment.

Linda Chavez, Senior Fellow of the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research, Kathryn Abrams of Cornell Law School, and Jo Freeman, author of *The Politics of Women's Liberation* and editor of *Women: A Feminist Perspective*, all offered different views of the future of civil rights and gender discrimination.

Chavez, who was appointed by President Reagan as the Staff Director of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights from 1983-85, expressed optimism about the defeat of the Civil Rights Act of 1990. She felt that "it was not a defeat for civil rights establishment." The 1990 Act, said Chavez, is "different" than the Civil Rights Acts of the 1960s. "It is more like a special interest bill...filled with incomprehensible jargon, [and] it addresses legal principles and not moral ones," Chavez explained.

Freeman and Abrams did not address the 1990 Act specifically, but they expressed the need for new ways to look at gender discrimination. She argued that we need to "look for new models" of equal opportunity. While it is possible to imagine a race-blind society, she pointed out, "there is no such thing as a gender-blind society." The models of equal opportunity that we base our legal system on are "based on a male model." She stressed that this model is not an accurate one in which to judge American society. In fact "only 10% of the population" fits into the model of a married couple, with one working spouse, and children, according to Freeman.

Following each panel discussion, the audience had the opportunity to choose a workshop with one the panelists that examined the specific issues in depth.

MLK lecture

continued from page 1

gies of non-violence." The group is working with police organizations and state elementary and secondary schools. The receptiveness of these groups to the strategies of nonviolence has been encouraging.

The second speaker was operations manager Jim Whaley who helps provide funding for activities related to the Institute. Whaley said that if Bard's chapter develops an active program the Institute would be willing to provide financial assistance for workshops and speakers. The Institute is funded by the State of New York.

The final speaker was the Institute's executive director Tom Cooper. Cooper stressed the power of "Kingian" non-violence in the past and its pertinence for the present and future. Cooper stated that without King, the civil rights movement could have been radically different. "Montgomery was a powder keg," he said. Without King, "there could have been a racial civil war." Cooper used the events in Eastern Europe and Tianamen Square as examples of attempts at Kingian philosophy.

Cooper also sought to dispell some misconceptions about nonviolence.

To Cooper, nonviolence is not pacificity. It has to be "learned, practiced, and studied. It is like a gun, it can be dangerous if not used properly. King studied Gandhi, Tolstoy, and Niebuhr extensively." Also, said Cooper, King would not attack individual people that were opposed to his reforms. Cooper said this type of attack does not promote understanding only opposition.

Cooper then opened the discussion to questions. In response to questions about rape and sexual harassment Cooper stressed the need for creativity and understanding in "Kingian" philosophy. Also, he stressed the need not to scapegoat "institutions" as the producers of evil. "The power to change all this lies in ourselves not in the 'institutions'."

The Bard Chapter of the organization was begun by Scott Heckendorf and David O'Reilly. Heckendorf stated that the group was planning to survey the campus, including faculty and administration, to find out what issues are important at Bard. The group also wants to work with other clubs on campus to help them "thoughtfully define their goals," said Heckendorf. So far, the Women's Center and Amnesty International have shown interest in working with the organization.

see either Karen Greenberg, Myra Armstead, or Alice Stroup, the 3 subcommittee members, for further details. The Ford Foundation Grant defines the minorities covered by its program to be Alaskan natives, Native American Indians, African-Americans, Mexican-Americans, native Pacific Islanders), and Puerto Ricans. Students of Asian decent, however, are not eligible.

Taylor Branch lecture

continued from page 1

Martin Luther King Jr. Branch became interested in the civil rights movement when, as a graduate student at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, he decided to spend a summer working in South Georgia registering voters. Through exposure to blacks and the movement at the grass-roots level, he began to gain an understanding of the civil rights movement.

Branch stressed the importance of story-telling and narration as the key to writing history. He contended that the "notion of story-telling is congruent with the movement." Dr. King's movement, Branch stated, was grounded in the notion of a common humanity which stemmed from the belief in religion and democracy as the moral basis for justice. King's movement had a sense of internal enlargement, a "leap of faith" which allowed belief in strangers. The concept of non-violence, thus, strove to maintain a human contact with other participants in the movement.

Branch concluded that America, in the 1990's is "far from taking leaps." Instead, he claims that we have turned inward, abstracted the race issue, and thus, enclosed ourselves around our own pride and "cultural selfishness." We have become deaf to human stories because we respond to labels and symbols rather than to human experiences. Branch hopes to use story-telling to recapture and reconstruct histories that have been lost to ideological definitions and analyses.

Ford Foundation scholarships

continued from page 1

ment that the grant is not available to all students conducting research, but she points out that "their hands are tied by the nature of the grant." Any minority student interested in applying for a history research grant should



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Bard's Richman heading for national meet

by Jody Apap

Bard Richman led Bard's men's cross country team to a 3rd place finish at the district meet on Saturday, November 3. With his 5th place finish, Richman will travel to the University of Wisconsin at Parkside to run in the national NAIA tournament along with over 550 other runners.

In the the women's race, freshman Dawn Gray finished in 7th place to

make the All-District team with an outstanding 22:15 for 5,000 meters.

Gray was supported by Kristin Cleveland who finished 9th at 23:43. Cleveland, only two weeks ago, made it to the district finals For Bard's tennis team; a 2nd and 9th place finish in two different sports in one season. Bo don't know that!

The men's team finished with 67 points overall with Lucas Alm taking 11th (33:21); Bill Yeskel, 17th (39:24); James Kelly, 18th (39:32); and Kevin Allen, 19th (40:48).

Richman, a sophomore, is heading to his second straight national tournament. This year, however, he hopes to turn in a better finish. "We're expecting a good time and finish from him this year," said Bard Athletic Director, Joel Tomson. "That is, if he can

keep his shoes on the entire race."

Last year during the national race, one of Richman's shoes came off during the first stretch.



Sports

Women Spikers finish 3rd in district tourney

by Jody Apap

Bard entered the tournament seeded 6th, but with strong matches throughout the day found themselves in the semifinals after upsetting 3rd seeded King's College.

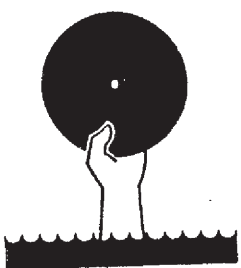
Bard cruised through the pool play matches by first upsetting King's 15-5, 11-15, 15-8. This surprise gave the women the inspiration to go on and crush Dominican 15-8, 15-3, and St. Joseph's 15-4, 15-1.

They lost to the College of St. Rose 4-15, 7-15, but that still left them 2nd in their pool and propelled them into the semi's.

The next match was not expected to go well for them, and it didn't. St. Thomas Aquinas, the defending champion from last year, and better than ever, easily handled the Blazers, 15-2, 15-4.

The entire team and coach Willie Davis were all extremely happy with the day. The women unquestionably came a tremendous way this season, and certainly can look forward to a good year.

Willa Concannon was named to the All-Tournament second team after a strong day of spiking.



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After Australia—the world

continued from page 4
cafeteria or elsewhere. Some financial aid is available on need from Murdoch, but they suggest seeking funds at your current university or college first.

Now for the required core class: The CIEE, with one of its main motives being to explore the idea of continental interdependence, requires all international students to enroll in "Australia & Its Asian Context." The class includes lectures and seminars, extensive preparatory reading, and 2 hours per week of related cultural activities, such as films, readings, and museum visits. The focus is on the economy, politics, and society of 20th Century Australia, with the context of interaction with its foreign

neighbors. As one individual within the program states: "We must seek through education, and especially through international education, to develop empathy, that rare and wonderful ability to perceive the world as others see it." Students who remain interested in Southeast and Asian Studies can link Murdoch studies with those at another Asian institution during the semester. The council already has opportunities for studies in China, Japan, and Indonesia, with programs being established right now in Thailand and Vietnam as well.

The CIEE also offers 28 other programs in 16 countries, including Brazil, Czechoslovakia, the Dominican Republic, and Hungary, with

summer study available in China, France, and the USSR. The council emphasizes the benefits of living within a foreign culture for development of another language and for a heightened international awareness. Students interested in finding more details on the Murdoch program or in studying in another CIEE program can contact:

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Wanted: Musicians wanted for 30's band—Tango, Beguine, Waltz, Swing—all instruments considered, especially brass, violins, smart piano, and smooth snare. For local gigs, Bard gigs, and/or fun. Contact Pola Chapelle. 876-6116.

Death row prisoner, caucasian male, age 44, desires correspondence with either male or female college students. Wants to form a friendly relationship and 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. Jim Jeffers, Box B-38604, Florence, AZ 85232.

Lost and Found: Knapsack found full of plates and dishes from Kline. Also photographs of sunsets and exotic places. Contact Elaine Sproat.

Caribbean trip by National Science Foundation, 2-6 credits from NC State U., 1-2 weeks in Dec., May, or Aug; Call prof Kimberley, (919) 737-7831.

Jakes Bikeshop—Repairs, parts, tuneups, etc. Certified professional mechanic. Call now—reasonable rates. 757-5006.

I need a ride to Boston—over Thanksgiving break. I will pay for gas. If you can give me a ride to, from, or both ways. Box 692, South Hall 110.

Travel Sales Representative. Wanted, outgoing, aggressive, self-motivated individuals or groups to market Winter and Spring Break trips on campus. For more information call Student Travel Services at 1-800-648-4849.

Don't forget to send in professor evaluation letters!

Well, if Sven is a friend of Flaubert and Emma's (NOT Dinkums, thank you very much), why doesn't he tell his friendly Production Manager to print their personals? Hmm?

Dani; May the winds of change blow swiftly across this barren wasteland of desire unfulfilled—oh what new chapters we shall discover. Even Salome lay naked under her resolve—Lisa.

My lovely and dear schizophrenic witches... More chocolate... Food... And wine... In Heinosterous... Excessive amounts. The light will never cease to shine upon us. Fields of flowers and oceans of tears forever... Your devoted witch 3 (The Pumpkin Princess)

You caught my fall under the rain... Will you now fall into my open arms and open heart? May this divine madness never end... 1. 2. 3.

If Love's Labour's Lost, you are an idiot indeed. You know where to find me if you come to your senses. I'll be nursing my wounded pride. —the blonde.

Kuruppu, you probably have many admirers, but only one will be wearing one black sock and one white on Fri 9.

I love my nerd herd, EVEN when they don't give me any sign at all as to whether they are still among the living. Sniff. Sigh. Ain't I subtle?

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What's in a name?

by Kristan Hutchison

Something good is happening at Bard. People are speaking up more on important issues. Posters have plastered the campus and *The Observer* has received more Letters to the Editor than we can print in any given week. Unfortunately, some people are not yet backing up what they say with their names.

A name is like a notary seal, saying that "I, the author of these words or actions, believe they are truthful and right and I am willing to back them with my identity." The protagonist of *The Crucible* recognized the importance of his name when he decided to be hung as a witch rather than signing a false confession. To any reader, an anonymous word or deed bespeaks distrust. If the person who said or did it was not sure enough of the rightness of those words or actions, then why should someone else believe them?

An identity also provides the context for anything said or done. Nothing in this world happens in a vacuum, nor is completely objective. Who says or does something affects why they take those actions and it also affects how their audience will view it. A used car salesman will not command the same trust on the issue of Shakespeare as will a Professor of English. The statement of a man convicted of perjury holds less weight than a well-respected judge. If someone speaks against another, and is known to hold a grudge or have other ulterior motives, what they say must be understood in that context. Likewise, if they have been friends for years the assumptions of the readers will be quite different.

Though we, as sayers or doers, may know that we are right, the viewers will not be satisfied unless they can judge for themselves. Something must be offered to them upon which they can draw conclusions and base their trust. I am particularly aware of this with *The Observer*, where effectiveness as a newspaper is based upon the reader trusting that we are providing all the facts as fairly and accurately as possible. We cannot ask them to trust that we have judged the veracity of our sources well. We provide the identities of our sources and allow readers to judge for themselves whether to believe what that person says or not. We attempt only to put the words into context, but not to judge the context.

Part of the reason to speak out and bring up an issue is to have other people consider it and to begin a community discussion. If the identity of the person who presents the issue, or responds to it, is not provided then others who would join into a productive debate have no where to address their responses. An anonymous and accusatory poster offers the accused no defense or recourse, and can not lead to a productive result because it is one sided.

As a newspaper, *The Bard Observer* often prints quotes, ideas, and allegations that are not originally ours. To protect our own veracity, and as a necessary service to our readers, we must attribute all of these to their sources. Additionally, proper attribution helps protect us from liability for charges of plagiarism (from the actual source) or libel (from someone defamed by a source).

The cases when it is excusable not to include one's name are rare and debatable. If a person is writing a personal testimony of a rape to provide comfort and courage to others, there is good reason to withhold the name. Even so, the reader may tend to distrust the reality of the case unless a second party who does know the identity of the source, such as an editor, backs it up.

The First Amendment protects free speech. Take advantage of that and don't lose your message to anonymity. If you believe in something enough to put up posters, write letters, or speak out in another way, attach your name to it. If you don't believe what you are saying that much, perhaps you should reconsider whether it needs to be said at all.

Dear T,

We anxiously await your full name so we may print your letter.

-The Editor

The Bard Observer

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Managing Editor
Jason Van Driesche

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Emily Horowitz
Features Editor
Tom Flickerson
Arts Editor
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The Bard Observer is published every Friday while class is in session.

Editorial policy is determined by the Editor-in-Chief in consultation with the editorial board. Any opinions which appear unsigned are those of the 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 all articles (except those intended for the *Another View* page) for style and length.

Classifieds: Free for Bardians, \$5 for all others. Personals are free. Display ads: Local @ \$5, National @ \$10.

Bard College
Annandale, NY 12504
(914) 758-0772

Observations

Letters

Let's make Bard a progressive example

To the Editor:

I am writing this in response to the Nov. 1 article concerning Bard's attention to the needs of the handicapped. In particular I would like to address two statements made by the Dean of Students Shelley Morgan.

Ms. Morgan in the article said "People cannot change what they do not know about the campus."

This statement implies that handicapped students and faculty have never made their particular needs known to the college until these interviews with professor Rodewald and myself and therefore we are being unfair. Well it is pretty evident that Professor Rodewald for the last twenty years has been making his needs known to the college. Over a year ago I sent a ten page overview of the needs of visually impaired Bard students to the administration. This outline was the result of a request by the administration as they were about to receive a large donation earmarked for the needs of Bard's visually impaired students. I might add that the open loading dock was mentioned in this outline as a significant danger to all students and faculty. My little trip over the edge, which happened after the outline had been reviewed, was NOT the fault of B&G because there was never a rail there to begin with.

The Dean of Students was also quoted as saying "We must bring in people from the outside to train us on matters of sensitivity and expose people to the problem of handicapped students."

The insensitivity and failure to act that Professor Rodewald pointed out is the result of the ignorance which I tried to point out. This ignorance is not malicious but rather simply a failure to think. This is what is so counter-productive about categorizing people as "handicapped" or "non-handicapped" or whatever patronizing phrase is popular this year. We do not need outside "experts" in sensitivity training to come to Bard and teach everyone how to become more sensitive to any one group of people. What we are essentially talking about here is becoming aware of the fact that you live with others, all of whom are different than you. This sort of "sensitivity," or common sense, can only begin in your own head.

Trust me, you will do fine if you just start there. Anyone who took just a few seconds to simply think about the fact that professor Rodewald is on wheels would become aware of the difficulties he must put up with to go about his daily activities and it would be clear that what he needs is simple accessibility, not sympathy or sensitivity trainers. It would also become clear that he is not being

allowed to exercise his civil rights

And the next time you see me coming stop for a second and think about the fact that if you hold a door for me or do anything else for me that I am fully capable of doing myself that you are putting me in an unfamiliar situation which usually leads to problems instead of the help that you intended. And if you are not sure about what to do or not to do just ask.

Most importantly I would like to add that progress is being made in coaxing Bard into the late twentieth century. After a year of personal effort the endowment I mentioned above has been put into place. This money will be set aside to meet special needs of individuals at Bard. This funding is only the beginning as I intend to see that an institutional structure is put in place so that it will be there to meet current and future needs of members of the Bard community. The first planning meeting for this structure is November 5 and I am optimistic about its potential as, even in light of past administrative tapdancing, that the current efforts of all involved in this project are sincere. So let's cut the crap and get to work and make Bard the progressive example that it can be.

Sincerely,
Scott Heckendorf

Observer needs to clarify priorities

To the staff of *The Bard Observer*,

I have been accused by the editor of *The Bard Observer* of having no understanding of journalistic ethics. It is unethical, she tells me, to print anonymous quotes. On October 23 Emily Horowitz interviewed me for an article that appeared in last week's *Observer* that concerned, among other things, the events that took place on Parents Day. I only found out that this article was being written after speaking with Shelley Morgan and finding out that she had been interviewed for said article. Upon further investigation, I stumbled upon the fact that Leon Botstein had been interviewed as well. I confronted Emily and asked her if she was planning to write an unbiased article. She said that she was. "Why then," I asked her, "have none of the students involved in Saturday's activities been approached?" She agreed to interview me, but I would have to call her, she said. She couldn't possibly remember my phone number.

So, that afternoon, she interviewed me. I had decided for reasons that are none of anybody's business, that I did not want my name attached to the quotes. Emily didn't see any problem with that, but she'd have to consult the people in power regarding editorial policy. She consulted and that night I got a phone call from the Editor-in-Chief. She explained

that it was good editorial policy for all quotes to be accompanied by names. "What will happen if I don't agree to having my name printed?" I asked. She explained that she would have to paraphrase. So I was left with the choice of compromising my principles or having the *Observer* "paraphrase" my words. It was probably too late to retract my statements, so I chose the former. I could have argued until I was blue in the face. It wouldn't have done any good. She knew that she was right and that I just didn't understand journalism.

I wasn't surprised to find myself in this uncomfortable position. Just a week earlier Michael Beattie had been placed in a similar dilemma, being told that it was time he "took responsibility" for his actions. The actions that they shook their fingers at had included taking the words of a trustee out of context. The words of that trustee had been disturbing, even in context, yet Emily Horowitz chose not to concentrate on the content of the ugly statement by Martin Peretz, but instead on the irresponsibility of the student who had exposed the man's tacky disregard for the seriousness of the date rape issue.

Anyway, that evening the Editor-in-Chief said she'd let me read an article (presumably written by an expert), which would make it clear to me why the editorial policy is the way that it is. She has since sent that opinion piece to Michael Beattie and myself. The first line of this piece entitled "Journalists suffer their own deadly AIDS" reads "The acronym is AIDS for Anonymous Informants Defamatory Statement, and this highly contagious disease is destroying the credibility of the press in the United States." The analogy to the real AIDS, not a highly contagious disease, is disgusting. Furthermore, even if this essayist is correct about the importance of attaching names to defamatory statements, it was incorrect of the *Observer* to try to apply this "ethical" editorial policy to words that were in no way "defamatory."

I hope that in the future the *Observer* staff will stop worrying so much about the "good editorial policy" that they've been taught to adhere to and work to be more fair and considerate. If they have any hope of gaining the respect of the Bard community, they must be more receptive to the validity of our concerns and criticism. The excuse "we wouldn't be a good paper if everybody loved us" isn't good enough anymore. *The Bard Observer* receives its funds from the student activities fee and they must work harder to present a more realistic and intelligent view of our college community and be more respectful toward the students who provide them with informed insight and valid commentary.

Thank you,
Fiona Lawrence

The saying Lawrence uses is in reference to the basic nature of the media, that we seek the truth even when it is unpleasant or doesn't match the preconceptions of our readers. -Ed.

Reader responds to "Vocabulary for Sex at Bard"

To the Editor:

Sexism is sexism. Whether it's you calling me cocktease or me assuming you're only making small talk to get in my pants. The "Kline shuffle" is by no means one-sided and sexual harassment or just plain superficiality have no gender specific definitions. By presenting your "vocabulary" as if this were the case, you are merely aggravating a social problem of which lack of communication and reinforced stereotypes are a major part.

Certainly there is a higher rate of violent sexual crimes committed against women by men than against men by women; certainly there is a socialized role of aggressor for most men, and frequently a more emotional role given to most women. In the face of these things, a stereotype arises that the man will be the one who initiates, even forces a sexual situation, and thereafter will be unable to look at you in the post office. He will be the one whose vocabulary has suddenly shrunk to the occasional "how are you?"

In attempting to overcome the problems of sexual harassment, sexual lies, and sexual politics, however, it seems important to remember that as two separate genders, we must meet in the middle to facilitate any sort of effective change. Your "vocabulary" implies that women aren't ever (or can't be) guilty of the insensitive actions therein; it could very well give some (ignorant, mind you) men the idea that if women think that they will be assholes, then they don't have to feel so bad about doing so. It could give other men the feeling that they shouldn't approach women on this campus at all for fear of the assumption of insincerity that will be made about him if he is genuinely interested and sounds cliché.

Your piece implies that he can only be a "sensitive," manipulative bastard, or an overbearing, violent one. Basically, people harass people, and to approach the issue as a gender-specific one only increases hostility and is the two steps backward to the one step forward of increased awareness.

Furthermore, on a more personal level, I'd simply like to address the issue of sexuality itself, and how it is presented through your "vocabulary." If this is supposed to "describe some familiar sexual situations at Bard," then sex is only presented as a crime, as perverse and manipulated in a gender power struggle. The woman appears to be victimized in every sexual situation that you "define," unable to realize that she is being taken advantage of, and thus sex seems to exist solely for her degradation and for Male X's ego boost. Sex can and does exist also as a personal experience equally shared and enjoyed by two people. It can and does exist in a healthy context, even

in a situation where two people have just met, and decide to go home together. Sex, like most interpersonal issues, can be a good thing with clear initial communication, and that is the bottom line here.

Jennifer Goebel

By way of clarification...

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter in an attempt to clear up the Bard community's lack of understanding of the positions and functions of the Women's Center regarding campus activities surrounding the issue of sexual harassment. I have repeatedly asserted that the Women's Center is not a group which is willing to take responsibility for the spray painting and leafletting of the campus on the eve of Parents Day. Although individual members of the Women's Center, myself included, did participate in those activities, our actions were not in any way endorsed by all members of the Center. Nor were all the participants in the Parents Day action members of the Women's Center. I am concerned that people might feel uncomfortable participating in Women's Center activities because they think that we are simply an activist organization. I hope that this is not the case. The Bard community should know that the Women's Center serves a variety of purposes and that we would welcome any member of the community, woman or man, faculty, staff or student, at a meeting or event. We hope that everyone will join us in our efforts to make Bard a college at which all people, regardless of their gender, age, race, or ethnicity are treated equally.

Sincerely,
Fiona Lawrence

P.S. We meet every Monday night at 7PM on the top floor of the old gym.

Dean appreciates coverage

To the Editors:

I would like to commend the efforts of *The Bard Observer* staff and contributing writers for addressing the issue of sexual harassment on campus. This topic is complicated and exceedingly difficult to discuss. Your coverage was objective, comprehensive, and educational. As a community, we have a duty to maintain an open dialogue between men and women, regardless of our status on campus. It is encouraging to see the community responding constructively to this national concern. Many thanks to *The Bard Observer* for taking this issue to heart.

Sincerely,
Shelley Morgan



L&L faculty evaluations imminent

To the Bard Community:

This semester, Professor Terence Dewsnap is being evaluated in the Division of Languages and Literature. If you have taken a class or classes with him, we need your input. Please send letters through campus mail to Emily Horowitz or Andrea Stein by November 13. Oral testimony will be taken Friday, November 9 from 10:00 a.m. to noon in Preston 101. Thank you.

Emily Horowitz & Andrea J. Stein

Why the disclaimer?

To the Editors:

In the 11/2/90 issue of *The Bard Observer* there appeared an inoffensive advertisement by Birthright.

Since I have never seen a balanced presentation of the abortion issue in your paper, I was happy to see a different perspective presented, albeit a paid advertisement.

But is the editorial board that fearful of a different point of view on this issue that they saw it necessary to print a disclaimer alongside the ad?

Sincerely,
Gerald E. Kelly
Director, Student Financial Services

Disclaimer disgusting

After I had gleefully absorbed another episode of Zzyzx in the November 2nd issue of the *Observer*, I came across something that caused me great distress. I saw an advertisement for Birthright. It evidently provides "alternatives" to abortion. This advertisement was not the source of my troubles. Next to this ad was the editorial disclaimer, "This is a paid advertisement and does not reflect the views of *The Bard Observer*."

I am pro-choice. I do not believe government should have the power to limit or eliminate the opportunities a woman has to abort her fetus, if that is what she chooses. Consistent with my pro-choice view is that there are alternatives to abortion that should definitely be explored. Birthright claims to offer service in this area.

The Bard Observer's statement is not pro-choice; it is pro-abortion. Literally taken, it says that a woman should have no choice, but should abort all unwanted pregnancies. I inferred a more relaxed message. I believe it to say that it is undesirable to seek choices, and those organizations that offer them are "incorrect."

And I'm sure some bonehead is now whining about the implied politics in the ad. Yes, Birthright is a pro-life organization. Unless I'm mistaken, "pro-life" does not mean "inherently evil." However, Birthright is also an organization that uses reprehensible tactics to influence choice. If the *Observer* has an objection to this particular organization, then this objection should have been stated. Instead, the *Observer* left us with a truly disgusting political statement.

Robert Patrick Sharkey

When The Bard Observer's Editorial Board originally debated whether or not to accept the Birthright ad, we were under the mistaken impression that they had been successfully sued by Planned Parenthood for false advertising. We decided to run the ad with a disclaimer to insure that it was clear to readers that it was a paid advertisement because we believe all opinions should have equal opportunity to be voiced, and because we hoped it would open discussion on the issue. I have since spoken with Steve White of Planned Parenthood in Poughkeepsie who said that they actually refer people to Birthright and that it is a credible organization which truly tries to help women. We have removed our disclaimer. -Ed.

BARD COLLEGE NOVEMBER 10 TO 16, 1990

WEEKLY COMMUNITY INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

Brought to You By The Dean of Students

new Horizons Concert:

On November 9 at 8:00 PM in the Olin Auditorium, Leon Oststein conducts the Hudson Valley Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra in works by Joachim, Nicholas, Maw, Janacek and Beethoven. Guest pianist Rudolf Firkusny. Free for Bard students with I.D.s.

El-Salvador Discussion:

Bard Visiting Professor of Economics, Thomas Karier, will lead a discussion on November 9 at 7:30 PM at the Ulster County Unitarian Fellowship after a showing of *El Salvador in Crisis*, produced by the Unitarian-Universalist Service Committee. He and his wife, Ester Orellana, who is a political refugee from El Salvador, are members of the Woodstock-El Buen Pastor Sister City Project. The meeting is open to the public. The Ulster County Unitarian Fellowship is located on Sawkill Road in Kingston, one mile south of Route 209.

Musical Activities Group:

M.A.G. will hold an open concert for music, performance, tape-playing, film showing, artwork-displaying... Arranges something ahead of time or just show up with something to share. Time is T.B.A. Location: Brook House. Contact Paul Winkler via campus mail for more information.

Also, the *Jeff Presslaff Quintet*, a group playing jazz-based, composed and improvisational music, will play in Brook House on Friday night, November 9th (Time To Be Announced).

Bach & Scarlatti Recital:

J. S. Bach and Domenico Scarlatti is the final recital in the series *A Dance to the Music of Time*, featuring harpsichordist Frederick Hammond. 8:00 PM, Nov. 14 in the Olin Auditorium.

Math & Physics Dept. Lecture:

Tea, Cookies, and Talk will be held on Thursday, November 15 at 5:00 PM in Hegeman 102. David Rolfe of IBM in Kingston will speak on *Hypercubes*. All are welcome, refreshments will be served at 4:45 PM.

Bard Papers:

The Bard Papers is seeking submissions for the 1990-91 issue. We are looking for work from all fields, done in or outside of class, including: original papers, senior project excerpts, fiction, poetry, artwork, photography. The deadline is November 21, 1990. Please send to Kim Miller, Box 901, Campus Mail.

Proctor Art Show:

Paintings by six contemporary artists are on view in Proctor Arts Center from now until November 14.

Washington Internships:

Bard Students are invited to take advantage of the Washington Center's wide variety of internships in government and the private sector for Spring Semester 1991. To qualify for up to 12 Bard Credits, students should be either Juniors or Moderated Sophomores, and must have a G.P.A. of Approx. 3.0. Credit is possible for the internship itself (4), for the seminar chosen in conjunction with the Bard Campus advisor (4), and for an independent study and research project arranged with a Bard faculty (4). The deadline for Spring programs is **November 1** and students should contact Prof. Nackenoff (Ext 230) for more details and arrangements of the program. The cost of the program for next semester is \$1,995, and housing is available at an additional cost; some financial aid may be available.

Riverdance Auditions:

Riverdance, the regions newest dance company, announces company auditions for its upcoming 1991 season. Founded in 1989, Riverdance was conceived to bring quality classical and contemporary dance to the northern Dutchess and Ulster County Areas. Open auditions for dancers will be held on Sunday, November 18, between 2 and 4:00 PM at the Rhinebeck Dance Center in Astor Square Mall, Rhinebeck. For more information call Michele Ribble at 876-3303.

Weekend Movies

Showings are at 7:30 PM and 9:00 PM in the Student Center.

This Weekend:

Friday, November 9: *The Handmaid's Tale* (Co-Sponsored with the Women's Center)

Sunday, November 11: *Even Dwarfs Started Small*, Werner Herzog - little people revolt.

Next Weekend:

Friday, November 16: *Mystery Train*.

Sunday, November 18: *Malcolm X* (a documentary co-sponsored by BBSO)

Instead of wasting paper by hanging posters all around campus, announce your event in the **Weekly Community Information Newsletter!**

Calendar of Events

Saturday 10	Sunday 11	Monday 12	Tuesday 13	Wednesday 14	Thursday 15	Friday 16
Morning Bard van shuttle runs to Rhinecliff, Red Hook, & Rhinebeck	6:00 PM Ecumenical Worship Service Chapel	6:00 PM Environmental Club Committee Room Kline Commons	6:00 PM Amnesty International Olin	5:00 PM Spanish Table Kline Commons	5:00 PM <i>Tea, Cookies & Talk</i> Hegeman 102	4:25 PM, 7:25 PM, & 8:40 PM Bard vans to Rhinecliff train station
5:45 — 10:30 PM Trip to Hudson Valley Mall, Kingston	7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous Aspinwall 302	6:00 PM French Table Committee Room Kline Commons	6:00 PM <i>Observer</i> News staff meeting Kline	7:00 PM Al-Anon Aspinwall 302	6:30 PM BBLAGA Meeting Albee Social Room	5:00 PM General deadline for submissions to <i>The Bard Observer</i>
	7:19, 8:20, & 9:30 PM Van meets trains at Rhinecliff station	7:00 PM <i>Observer</i> Features/Arts staff meeting Preston 127	6:30 PM Debate Club Kline Commons	7:00 PM Christian Meeting Bard Chapel Basement	7:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous Aspinwall 302	6:30 PM Bard van to Poughkeepsie train station
	7:30 & 9:00 PM Movies Student Center (See Above)	7:00 PM Women's Center Meeting	8:00 PM <i>Observer</i> Photo staff meeting Albee lounge	7:00 PM Flute Choir Bard Chapel	7-10 PM Writing Tutors Albee Annex 103	7:30 & 9:00 PM Movies Student Center (See Above)
	7:43 PM Van meets train at Poughkeepsie station	7-10 PM Writing Tutors Albee Annex 103	8:00 PM Listening to Jazz Bring Your Records Bard Hall	7:00 PM Women's Center film Olin 204		
	7-10 PM Writing Tutors Albee Annex 103		8:00 PM Bach Recital Olin Auditorium	8:00 PM Bach Recital Olin Auditorium		
			7-10 PM Writing Tutors Albee Annex 103	7-10 PM Writing Tutors Albee Annex 103		12:00 NOON Deadline for all calendar submissions for the issue covering November 24 to 30 due in the Dean of Student's office