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OBSERVER

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Bard College's News, Arts, & Sports Weekly

Non-profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Annandale-on-Hudse

Like his comrades, he had been accustomed to think of the padrone as possessed of unlimited power, and never dreamed of anybody defying him, or resisting his threats.

-Horatio Alger

Volume 99, Number 4

Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504

September 18, 1991

Cleaning house



by Greg Giaccio

The college is in the process of choosing a sub-contractor for the cleaning services. The college has been having economic troubles recently and hopes that this plan will cut costs. So far, the college stands to save at least \$50,000 and perhaps more according to Vice President Dimitri Papadimitrou. The sub-contractors can save money through bulk discounts on cleaning supplies and through reassigning work so that the "struc-

ture will be more efficient."
However, John Muir, the vice president of the Service Employees International Union, the union

"The only way they can save money is to pay poverty wages."

-John Muir, vice-president of Service Employees International Union

which Bard's custodians belong to, doesn't feel that this plan will save money in the long run.

"This thing [the plan to hire a subcontractor] will not save them money...the only way they can save money is to pay poverty wages," said Muir.

The idea for hiring a sub-contractor to cut costs in the cleaning service came from other colleges who have done the same thing. The current custodial staff, ap-continued on page 2

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Citizen Lytle: Up and running

by Greg Giaccio

Professor Mark Lytle has announced that he will be running as the Democratic candidate for Dutchess County legislator against incumbent, John Kennedy.

"The Republicans point their cannon; it's the Democrats who have to elect theirs," Lytle quipped. As a Democrat against an incumbent in a largely Republican county, "campaigning is actually an exercise in futility," he

However, the Democratic party in Rhinebeck has had some unprecedented success recently. Not only did David Miller, who was a Bard student at the time, win 10% of the votes as a Democratic writein candidate against Kennedy, the Democrats have also won two village offices and two town offices. According to Lytle, this is the first time a Democrat has held



Professor Mark Lytle will be running on the Democratic ticket against Kennedy in November.

those offices in Rhinebeck since paign is Kennedy's voting record.

the turn of the century.

Kennedy has a record of voting

Dutchess County Community College.

"A community college is, for many people, their only route to higher education," said Lytle. Lytle believes that the government is there to "help those who can't help themselves.'

Kennedy, on the other hand, said that, "there's really only one issue...the tax rate, especially the property taxes." With cutbacks in aid from the state and the current problems with the economy as a whole, Kennedy is worried about forming a comprehensive budget with wide agreement on which programs to cut.

Another major issue in the campaign is the need for an addition on the county jail which is overcrowded. Lytle is afraid to take the cheaper \$20 million option since it may mean more spending For Lytle, the issue in this cam- against major county expendi- in the future. However, his oppo-

tures, including funding for sition is likely to go for the cheaper option because of the budget problems and the long-lasting impact on tax-payers.

> Kennedy's pro-life stance has been an issue with the Bard College club, the Coalition For Choice, for a long time. The Coalition will be helping Lytle with his campaign. "As a pro-choice activist there is no question that Mark Lytle is the candidate everyone should vote for," said Coalition treasure, David Rolf.

> Another issue that was important to Lytle was that his campaigning would show students how important government service is. In fact, Lytle was not eager to run in the first place but decided to at the persistent requests of Bard Trustee Jack Honey to restore "the high morale people once bought to government ser-

ore house cleani

continued from page 1

work with the new company, according to Papadimitrou.

The college has not decided on which company to use. Among the possibilities are International Service Systems Servicemaster. According to Papadimitrou, the decision will be made based on the way the new company treats employees, the amount of money they can save the college and their compatibility with Buildings and Grounds.

Different custodians have expressed concern about their job and benefits. Papadimitrou said that some benefits would be expected to change since the custodians would be working for a different company and not the college itself. Overall, I think the package will be the same," said Papadimitrou.

Muir said that while some colleges do sub-contract new managers, most do not place their workers under the jurisdiction of another company as Bard will be doing, "It's not in the best interest interest of the employees."

Bennington College issu contract to Allied Maintenance not be replaced." several years ago when they were it back in-house after they had saved enough money.

proximately thirty-five people that took care of cleaning, security, would be given an opportunity to and maintenance," said Bob Ayers, the director Bennington's maintenance department. "Using the outside contractor cut the amount of personnel."

According to Ayers, the con-tractor "did all the dirty work" of cutting personnel and budgets. Once the department was re-organized, the college brought it back in-house.

I'd say its more efficient inhouse," said Ayers who worked under both the college and the subcontractor, "you can get things done spur-of-the-moment." Under a subcontractor, the college had to pay extra for all the things cleaned or fixed that were not covered by the contract.

Although the subcontractor used by Bennington is not among the known contenders for Bard's contract, many employees are concerned about their job and benefit security.

"I'm sure they're concerned," said Papadimitrou, "[But] I expect that they would trust the college." Papadimitrou was not sure of the college, it's not in the best if the subcontractor would cut personnel or not. However, he did say that "some retirees will

The custodians do have a three in bad financial straits but brought year union contract which safeguards their current wages. Article 27 of that contract states: "Any

"We had a service contractor subcontracting will be based on legitimate business reasons and will not be undertaken for the purpose of undermining the Union's representative status or erosion of bargaining work...[and] there shall be no subcontracting of work customarily and routinely performed by the Bargaining Unit during layoff and recall conditions..."

"We have certain rights," said Muir, "There's all sorts of legal mumbo-jumbo we have to go through, and it's to protect the workers."

Papadimitrou said that any decision on a sub-contractor would be made in consultation with the union. "They [the employees] are our primary responsibility." The correct ext. for Health Service is 433

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(not 486)

Student Forum Schedule

Priday, September 20 at 7p.m. in Kline Budget Forum

Tuesday, September 24 at 8 p.m.

Forum to discuss the tenure decision of Dr. Carol Nackenoff. A resolution will be presented calling for an outside evaluation to be considered by the Board of Trustees.

This forum is open to all community members and faculty are encouraged to come and speak. However, only currently enrolled students may vote.

> Place and agenda to be announced for forums on: Wednesday, October 23 Wednesday, November 20 Wednesday, December 11

Questions regarding upcoming forums may be addressed to Erin Law, Secretary of the Student Forum, via campus mail.

WXBC: On the air (finally)

by Michael Poirier

last ten years, the Bard radio station named WXBC is entering a new incarnation at 540 on the AM dial. With the hierarchy of Matt Schickele and Alan Heifitz as program directors, Michael Beattie as music director, and Corin See as station manager surrounded by a core of disk jockeys from across campus, the station has begun cal lines to the dorms where a the new semester determined to transmitter converts it to a 30 watt become a permanent fixture of Bard College.

This is not the first attempt by students tto establish a campus radio station. There were ill-fated efforts during the 1950's and 60's, but it wasn't until the late 70's that WXBC was born, only to fade away slowly by 1982.

Four years ago, interest finally grew enough to try to bring the Hall, the Old Gym, Stone Row, station back to life. With help from the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System, which consisted of advice rently receiving. See said, "Most and experience, a club was formed that began the arduous process of fund-raising. By the fall of 1990, about \$12,000 was promised to WXBC. Transmitting equipment had already been ordered and when it was discovered that some of the WXBC money had been replaced into the general fund. The order had to be diminished, and the equipment arrived to be

installed this spring.

Buildings and Grounds inpraised for doing it for us, but we are frustrated now because it doesn't work as well as it should. The system is carrier-current and works as follows: A signal, generated in the studio (located in the basement of Manor House), travels through the phone and electri-AM signal. Then the signal passes through a coupler which prevents it from being destroyed by the electrical current."

At this writing, the only dorms which are receiving any signal at all are Manor, Cruger Village, Tewksbury, and Sands House. Conversely, the only dorms not theoretically covered are South Feitler, and Gahagen. The Ravines are hooked up but are not curof the locations on campus that are hooked up do not receive a clear or strong signal because of the complex and delicate nature of matching the transmitters and coupling units to building's, as some locations."

Money garnered from the fall budget will be used to hire an engineer and to bring South Hall, the New Dorms, and Stone Row

Informational

meeting re: Dr. Carol

Nackenoff's

tenure

will be held

Wednesday,

8:00 p.m. in Kline

the radio station needs a lot of After sporadic efforts over the stalled the system for \$750, but as money to establish itself full-time, See commented, "They should be a considerably smaller amount of funding will be needed in the future for only maintenance pur-

> The station has been met with enthusiasm by alumni, notably by Richard Greener and Charles Moore. Greener, a retired executive who holds a controlling interest in 23 radio stations, has pledged that he will send WXBC any excess equipment. Moore, who helped get WXBC started back in '77 and now works on "Late Night With David Letterman," has also voiced his support.

> Technical mishaps aside, See and his colleagues are encouraged by the large amounts of enthusiasm expressed by many people at the college, whether or not they choose to get involved. Discjockey schedules are being ironed out now with volunteers working evening shows for periods ranging from half an hour to five hours with single or multiple DJ's.

Since the signal is exclusive to the Bard campus, any broadcast is beyond the jurisdiction of the FCC. well as the odd wiring present in DJ's bring their own music and are free to speak or to play whatever or however they choose. The station offers an open-air format with absolutely no enforced play lists, and announcers are encour-

online. See commented that while aged to broadcast with complete serve as an entertaining and infreedom. Josh Dand, a first-year formative fixture of the Bard exstudent DI and part of the 12ti able to control what people listen fashion, and students could be

perience. Broadcasting "infoshow ("twelve throbbing inches tainment" campus news can be of vinyl") said, "It is exciting to be delivered in a more immediate



Spinning disks late into the night at WXBC

to. When they tune in, they hear what we want to play instead of catering to the teeny-boppers like so many other commercial stations." Anyone interested in becoming a disc jockey should send a note to Schickele or Heifitz through campus mail which should include preferred times and a description of the show.

Once fully operative with a complete schedule, WXBC could

entertained without commercials simply by plugging in their stereos and tuning in to 540AM. As See expressed in conclusion, "It is encouraging to see that Bard can be something other than apathetic. Bear with us. When the station is in full swing, we'll be able to see the diversity of this campus in one of the most creative and informative media possible."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Maxim!

by Greg Giaccio

On Thursday, September 12, at 11:55 p.m. a little seven pound, three ounce bundle of joy was brought to the family of President Botstein. At that time, Barbara Haskell gave birth to President Botstein's first son in Mount Sinai hospital.

Maxim Haskell-Botstein was named after Leon Botstein's grandfather and will be joining two sisters in the Botstein household. Botstein's wife and children live in New York City.

Meet the mighty

about the college during informal lunches with three administrators each month. Dean of Students Shelley Morgan, Dean of the College Stuart Levine, and Vice President of the College Dimitri Papadimitriou will be eating in the Kline Committee Rooms with

Students can express their views students on September 25 at 1:00 p.m. Dorm locks will be the focus of the first meeting.

> Future lunch meetings will be on Wednesday, October 9, at 12:30 p.m., Monday, November 11, at 12:30 p.m., and Friday, December 6, at 12:30 p.m.

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BARD COLLEGE LOCATION

OUR **SMART 24** ATM IS CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN THE STUDENT CENTER

by EphenGlennColter

I'm typing to those readers wearing Doc Martens for that militant activist in-yourface couture, a whistle for those everpresent bashings, carrying a condom or dental dam for that wanton safe-sex close encounter, sporting a tattoo and/or body piercing and or shaven head, work'n that Out-Loud-and-Proud attitude with "Fuck you" on the tip of the tongue, groov'n to

ueer

homework, is one of the few cities in the nation with an anti-sexual discrimination ordinance; you can be "out" in business or pleasure and take the bastards to court if they try to fuck with you. So, I am glad to be from Dayton because there I have recourse against hate crimes.

Here at Bard try to be aware that things may be liberal -and maybe it isn't you personally per sein the status quo-but this campus still has a few mysterious hang-

Lovechild from the House of "Over-and-Overness," The slutty boy in the sweaty chastity belt,

some club beat in lycra or latex, and wonder'n where your next drink is come'n

I'm typing for those ambiguous boys who dance, dress, and decorate in 3D so well, and those precocious womyn who take charge, kick ass, and don't take shit; the women not wearing a bra (burned during the women's movement) and the men who look like they're wearing no underwear (to be burned in the men's movement).

I'm typing to my sista's and my girlfriends, those estranged (like-minded, light hearted) bedfellows. Make no mistake, this is for you queers, those queries, and make them quaries (-my word for the closeted) who are wont to express themselves.

A dyke without boots ...is like a fag without a dyke

-Not! (the questions was rather I have settled my constitution-my gender agenda to refresh your collective memory). I'm outright queer-positive and downright Afrocentric, a bane to upright citizens, concerned with repro rights and acculturation. I'm still not concerned with what they feel -with what I'm made to feel and made to feel like. Folks should stop feel'n so guilty and start feel'n a'shamed of themselves!

So please do not feed or tease the straight people, their egos and libidos just don't take the heat, so we'll just have to quit our bitchin. Don't sweat it. This year we have to try to be more tolerant of the people who share our campus, on occasion our beds, but not our views. Contrary to what you may or may not have heard, there are straight people at Bard (shhhhhh). We all know who they are, and we all know they want to be just like us, so I think it's better to continue to humor them. Being queer is just like being -well, you know..."that

They live with the threat of violence, of being bashed and harassed; they live with encounters of hostility in reaction to public displays of affection with your girl-friend/boyfriend; they lie with the con-stant word of caution to "butch" or 'femme" it up to avoid discrimination; they live with the perpetual anger at hav-ing to defend one's humanity or play the fool; they live with the projection of blame and the burden of proof for the pandemic of AIDS; they've lived in fear, in the closet with the family skeletons, on the outskirts damnation; they've doubted their own

sanity for the sake of their sexuality.
We understand them, why don't they understand they're just like us when the segue off campus into the real world? Why

The Boy Scout who loves to "camp," The rhetorical oracle, Positively homoerotic, **ABSOLUTELY** queer!

don't they understand that we understand them in a sense of imposition rather than opposition?

A queer without attitude ...is like a nation without a health plan

Camping is allowed at Bard (and for those of you who don't know what's up I won't put you down: it has nothing to do with tents, however, unless it's for the shade) so "camp it up," "queen out" and "dyke it out." And here's a few acronyms to make it that much more fun; a tad more interesting than what's in the student handbook. I'm open to updates:

SNAGS are sensitive new age guys, not to be confused with the "fags," even though it's bound to happen, bonding or no bonding. They're not gay and they're not threatened, and they can generally be found at men's groups talking about how fucked their fathers are/were or how it is to be a male man in a hate-male world, and

they're usually sexy as hell.

LAFTER! are lesbians and feminists too empowered for rivalry!

CHOPs are children of homosexually out parents, a show you probably saw on Oprah this summer -or Sally, or Joan, or Geraldo (Phil has a less pointless gay/lesbian agenda). We have some celebrities in our midst.

SAGA - South Asian Gay Alliance; see

Santushi Kuruppu.

ACT BLK - Aids Coalition to (Unleash) Black (Power); listen to Renee Plummer.
PDAs are public displays of affection,
usually exhibited at gatherings and get-

togethers like art for art's sake. STDs are sexually transmitted diseases -Need I say more than "Free condoms at Dekline?"

HIV+Need I say more than "Lubricated and non-lubricated (for oral sex) condoms?!"

SWMP is "the" swamp of straight, white,

male privilege.

ABC is Albeit Botstein Controve No comment.

CD is civil disobedience, rather uncommon at Bard - but not unlikely. You remember Ludlow, but it resides under the category of "uncouth."

S&M is sadomasochism, or sensory deprivation and mindfucking at Bard.

And here's a flowchart of Bard's sexual

1) The closet: The clothes hamper (and hindrance) of society for all our dirty laundry and hand-me-downs, not to be aired in public but dry cleaned in hot air and dispersed into thin air.

2) Homophobes: The physically, emo-tionally, and historically ignorant -ignorance being the lowest common denominator of the people, and their power.

3) Homosexuals: Characteristically 'homophobic" and a constant textbook threat to themselves and others -to us all.

4) Heterophobes: The phase in which you don't front, in which your consciousness just can't stand to be raised around stupid, annoying, screwed-up, uptight breeders but rather reared in a genderfriendly zone.

5) By/Sex/You/All/It ("ee!")

6) Gay men and Lesbians: Unidentifiable "upwardly mobile" objects, with no moving parts, dreaming of the grandeur of assimilation -trying to pass or impress...According to the limited perceptions of the culturally illiterate who have forgotten Stonewall, 1969, and the American Psychiatric Association vote that "homosexuality" is not a "psychiatric disorder," 1973 (as if I need their okay).

7) Fags and Dykes: Those of us who have taken away the stick by the pointed (poignant) end and beaten them with it while shoving the carrot down their throat. Also referred to as "butthole surfers" and "muff

8) Queers! The "re" (as in Aretha Franklin's "...re, re, re, respect!") generation of activists fighting for all of the above to live -not in Imaginary America -not in the New World Order -not in the Real World of imitation emotion/ One Big Happy Family -but in the Personable Political without feigned shock and surprise at our humanity...In my understanding.

A fag with a straight face ...islikeagay with its original definition(?)

Dayton, Ohio, my home away from

ups that make us all a might uptight. Try, try to keep in mind the numerous differences of arousal and attraction. Someone aroused by you isn't necessarily attracted to you-and vice versa! And maybe eroticism is counter-intuitive these days, but it is definitely part of the puzzle. Sexual tension is inscrutable, so don't question it, answer it! -We're not trying to be shady, just queers!

T-shirt front: Is it a boy or a girl? back:it's a queen/it's a dyke

This is no-holds-Bard, where That Girl is! where The-Boy-Most-Likely-To is! abounding from abroad, domestic and domesticated, girly-girls and go-go boys, elflocks and dreadlocks; whether you believe in phone sex or TV dinners, the antichristor the afterlife, whether you think of God in drag or Jesus on drugs, whether you believe in love or rely on the rhythm method, whether you keep plastic in your wallet or latex, this is your place of resistance. It's a "snap" (no shade intended).

And it's just my opinion -not queer or

peer pressure- but it is quite the bisexual community. It comes as no great surprise since we all know how incestuous our campus is. We're all learning that sex/ism is not an either/or experience. Be aware: Disease can spread here like wild fire; jungle fever, cabin fever, sleeping sickness, mass hysteria, alcoholism -not to mention STD's. So whatever your unspeakable practice, your unnatural act, natural inclination or intellectual proclivity, you are not alone at Bard (or anywhere else actually) ... (Oh, I don't advocate "outing," unless of course I have to get you "out" of my way.)

A year without Ménage A Troisis like a day without art

BBLAGA: Bard bisexuals, Lesbians, and Gays...and their Admirers; We're here, We're queer! Get out and get over yourself! Whatever your orientation constellation-divination, I don't care what you are as long as you have your shit together. Don't sweat it, whether you're one of the Two-Sprited or Thunder People described by the Native Americans, bisexual lesbian, a celibate virgin, macho slut or retro femme, male feminist or female impersonator, Sappho or De Sade, Latino, Latina, black dyke or Asian fag, Goddess or mountain man. Schw Lesbisch, or Khush, queen, queer or un-Bothered my dear, my agenda is -safe sex - safer sexuality -safety from sexual harassment and an eventual safari into the jungle out there ("snap").

Confirmation process questioned

by Jennifer Reck

Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas could have offered the following in response to the demand that he express his stance on the abortion issue:

"Gentlemen, your task as a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee is to determine whether or not I would make a competent member of the Supreme Court. Demanding that I formulate and express an opinion on an issue such as abortion is not in the best interest of your task. Demanding an answer to the abortion issue is a test as to whether or not I would decide a case in accordance with your own opinions rather than a test of my competency as a judge. In fact, in this situation I think that the only response that would rightfully make you question my competency as a judge would be if I did, in fact, offer an answer to this question, as reserving one's opinion until all of the particulars of a certain case have been weighed is of the utmost importance in making a responsibly unbiased decision."

All of us have at least some special interest in how nominee Judge Clarence Thomas would rule on issues such as abortion and affirmative action. As a

woman, I admit that I would prefer to know without question that Thomas would rule in favor of abortion, yet I also wonder about the cost of such an assurance. Must nominees be pressed until they supply the 'right' answer in order to be confirmed? Are we, perhaps, acting against our own best interests by demanding that nominees make decisions on the most challenging issues before they are presented with a particular case, even before they are confirmed? Do we want our Supreme Court to be puppets of popular opinion rather than a group of impartial judges? Unfortunately, our confirmation process appears to be one that seeks nominees who will vote correctly, i.e., ones that will vote in accordance with committee members' opinions.

Perhaps it is due to the extremely personal nature of issues such as abortion and affirmative action, and their potential to impact the life of an individual so intensely, that we are so eager to make sure that only those with predetermined, acceptable decisions are confirmed. This desire is certainly understandable, though nonetheless remains an unfortunate and damaging misapplication of the judicial system.

by Andrew Yoon

The white liberal media has mounted an attack against the nomination of Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court. And in the process, they have used misinformation to sway the apathetic American public into opposing his nomination. So here are some facts.

Mr. Thomas opposes affirmative action if it means quotas or preferences. But he does support, according to The New York Times, efforts to seek out and enlist fully qualified minorities. He also believes in the principle of self-help. Self-help has been a part of African-American nationalism from the time of Marcus Garvey to Malcolm X. And it has been used today by such people as Benjamin Hooks, the president of the NAACP, and Jesse Jackson. The problem with affirmative action is that it does nothing to solve the underlying racism in this country. And a beneficiary of affirmative action will always be seen as just that. A person's rise in power will be credited to affirmative action and not their intelligence or hard work.

Mr. Thomas' belief in natural law does not necessarily mean that he will vote to overturn Roe v. Wade. Natural law is a

broad and ambiguous term that has been used by liberals and conservatives alike to justify their respective beliefs. Most people will agree that there are some moral laws not written in the Constitution. Otherwise, they would be strict constitutionalists and Robert Bork would be in the Supreme Court. Although he did not come right out and give his opinion on abortion during his confirmation hearings, Mr. Thomas did say that he believed in a person's right to privacy, and that is the key argument for a woman's right to control her own body.

David Souter, who happens to be white, was confirmed to the Supreme Court with little opposition. In the past year, he voted to restrict federally funded health clinics from providing information on abortion. He will almost definitely vote to overturn Roe v. Wade. Yet, no table was set up in Kline Commons to oppose his nomination. Clarence Thomas, who happens to be black, has not publicly stated his opinion on abortion. He is clearly more qualified than Mr. Souter, as evidenced by his number of writings and opinions. Do not give Mr. Thomas special treatment for being black. Just give him an equal chance.

Bass Whit. Wat. John 3 3 3.5 1.5 3.5 3 2 2.5

Γ HE f BEER OLUMN

Sorry about the delay on the column, but Finnegan and the phantom are back for another year of consumption of prized elixirs, beer. And not just beer but Ale, stout and the rest. Anyway, our rankings are the same as last year- we rate each beer between 0-4 depending on how many 6packs we would buy. This week, The Beers Of England. The Phantom speaks:

Of the 4 beers that were tasting tonight, three are affiliated with major Breweries. Surprising to some, Watneys Red Barrel is the one that is not. In England it is actually difficult to find a Watneys, but here it is not, which is good, for it resembles many "English" beers. Bass Ale is in a similar situation. Through its affili-

ation with a Ma jor Brewery the American version is quite different from the English version. Whitbread Ale is excellent as it, most resembles a true English Ale. It packs a serious punch though, and its taste may throw some, though its draft version,

now served at the TapHouse is lighter and easier to handle. John Courage Amber Lager, though my personal favorite, is much like high quality domestic dark beers

Finnegan Yells: I'll be short and sweet-We all know Bass, and if you don't, get to, 'cause you'r missing out. Whitbread is real interesting. If you'r a connoiseur/ euse or an adventurer/ess, by all means, try some. If you'r less so, try it at the TapHouse. John Courage and Watneys are similar because of a weird reversal in tastes. Watneys is definitely a beer, but is more bitter than Courage, which is far smoother than Watneys, but is clearly a lager. Go figure.

Why right is wrong than some perfect people and don't be-

by Matt Apple

I consider myself a pretty open-minded, accepting, liberal kind of guy. That's why I decided to come to Bard, the college where everything is accepted and you can say whatever you want.

Then I actually came here and was educated in the true meaning of "openmindedness": wholeheartedly accepting another's political belief as long as it is the same belief as yours. For example, take the "Sound Your Voice Now" letter drive in Kline this past week against Clarence Thomas' nomination as Supreme Court Justice. As I am open-minded, I am naturally curious about all sorts of troublemaking campaigns like that. The "facts" about Clarence Thomas immediately convinced me I had yet again misunderstood the word open-minded. Probably the most interesting fact about Thomas was "He is extremely conservative." Wow. What a shocker. How in the world could a conservative President possibly nominate a conservative judge? If Thomas is rejected, does anyone expect Bush to say, "Gee, I better find the most liberal, open-minded, pro-choice, free-thinker I can find"?

But, I forget that I'm at Bard, where heaven forbid you be less open-minded

lieve what they do, because if you're a conservative, pro-life, anti-individual, minority-hating, facist, wealthy, poor-excuse-for-a-human-being-who-is-so-narrow-minded-he-won't-do-exactly-as-wesay kind of person, we just can't accept you around here. You better just go to Dartmouth, or something.

I have an idea of my very own (for once). Why don't we tell everybody how competent Thomas really is as a judge and let them decide by their very ownselves, without any help, whether Thomas should be nominated?

Sorry, I forgot again. If people knew Thomas is opposed to affirmative action because he believes it makes minorities completely dependent on the government for their entire lives, people might not oppose Thomas like we more-openminded-than-thous want them to. And what if we make it look like being a conservative is all right? Bard could become a haven for future Clarence Thomases! What a horrendous thought - no more Keggers or Coalition for Choice!

Take this as a warning, all you closeminded people out there. Because, as we all know, at Bard the right way is always the wrong way, if you catch my drift.

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In 19 years, I've seen

Rondout evolve from a

dump to a budding town

with three galleriesw and

three tourships.

-Bob Heggers, Rip Van Winkle crew member

An abundance of riches

by Peter M. Boriskin

had the pleasure of traveling down the Hudson on the M/V Rip Van Winkle to the historic Rondout II lighthouse. The vessel, which left from the Rondout waterfront, was the M/V Rip Van Winkle, piloted by Capt. Girard Henne. At one point, the old offshore drilling platform was used by the navy, as a ferry in New London, and in September 1985, it came to tour the historic Hudson

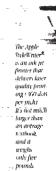
Says Joe Aiello, one of the RVW's 'elite" crew members, "Working here, I've learned a little seaman- coordinator, Jeanne Kelley. Inside,

Rondout Creek out in the Hudson, lation of the ship through the jetpassing the recently restored On Saturday, September 14, I Rhinecliff landing, and the "illustrious" Rhinecliff Hotel. Once out in the Hudson, the boat traveled north and then headed for the Rondout II lighthouse. Getting there, however, was not an easy task as the water was at extreme high tide and the dock only inches from the waterline. However, under the keen eye and steady hand of Captain Henne, the large vessel glided to a halt alongside the lighthouse, and we were able to disembark without a problem.

At the lighthouse to greet passengers was the Maritimes' events

Future projects include: the "An Abundance of Riches" exhibit at the waterfront location of the Maritime Museum in Kingston, the "Shad Festival," the "Pumpkin Festival," and the "Apple Festival," as well as plans to turn the lighthouse into "a bed and breakfast at sea." For more information about the Hudson River Maritime Center, call 338-0071.







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the RVW, most of the crew are of an "executive" class. Retired IBM executives, artists and fashion designers grace the Rip Van Winkle. Says Bob Heggers, crew member, artist and gallery owner, "In nineteen years, I've seen Rondout evolve from a dump to a budding town with three galleries and three tour-ships." The crew and clientele are warm and friendly and are by no means an "exclusive" club; in fact, the Hudson River Maritime Center is always looking for volunteers, and they did let me on! There are many historic sites on the Hudson that have not yet been restored, and there are cruises and festivities that also need volunteer help.

ship and a lot of history!" Aboard

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there were wines (red, white and blush) from Rivendell Winery in New Paltz, as well as a myriad of cheeses and breads. Atop the lighthouse along the "widow's walk," one can get a panoramic view of the Hudson with the Kingston-Rhinecliff bridge.

The Rondout II lighthouse, built in 1913, was a family lighthouse, used to guide boats around the precarious jetties. The lighthouse was automated in 1954 and has only recently seen the light of restoration. The museum is attempting to obtain all the old furniture and to redecorate the lighthouse the way it looked 78 years ago. On the return voyage, I was able to see the shimmering Hudson at night. We then entered Rondout The RVW traveled from Creek, by way of careful manipu-

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Entertainment

Pinocchio Alive

by Jonathan Miller

Back in the seventies,a writer named Phillip Jose Farmer produced a book called Tarzan Alive, with a very simple premise- his life. With his calm, biographical style, Farmer produced a pastiche of serious biography that left you half-believing that Tarzan was a person who lived. Robert Coover, the author of Gerald's Party has followed the same possibilities for another fanciful figure with his new book Pinocchio in Venice. What if Pinocchio actually lived? What would his life have been like after becoming a real boy? What would become of him as he

Coover more or less ignores the sappy Walt Disney version of Pinocchio, and bases his book around the original Carlo Collodi novel for children. Before Disney (the Anti-Christ of children's literature) got his chance to neuter it, Pinocchio wasa powerful story about virtue, and the lack of it. Like C.S. Lewis' Narnia series, Carlo Collodi's book had overpowering Christian metaphors running through it - the Heaven of being a real boy, the Hell of Pleasure Island, and the unfulfilling Earth of being a selfmobile puppet. Pinocchio wasn't just a moderately disobedient child running away from home, he was a vicious little bastard who beat up Geppetto, threw rocks at the Blue-Haired Fairy and deserved to stay in Monstro the Whale's stomach for the rest of his life. (Which, guessing at whales' digestive processes, would have been about 12 hours.)

In Coover's book, the errant boy-puppet has grown to be a Professor Emeritus, an old man

who has come to Venice seeking a and putting him in the post-modfinal metaphor to finish his magnum opus. In Collodi's novel, being "good" was symbolized by going to school- it was through "being good" that Pinocchio could stay out of danger and become a real boy. The grown puppet has embraced academia fully, yet he is still victimized, exploited and left penniless on the street. Tracing back his childhood adventures, Pinocchio rediscovers the gets swallowed in the same site of Pleasure Island (now turned into condos), the faithful pup Alidoro (now a half-blind police dog) and the puppets he once performed with in the show (now playing in a neo-psychedelic alternative band). There is no joy in the reunion, however. Pinocchio is regressing. After almost a hundred years of being a real boy, Pinocchio is turning back into it easy to miss. His prose gets so wood.

Of course this isn't what the book is really about - Coover would have his post-modernist art, but he doesn't know what he license taken away if it was. He likes. belly-flops into the joys of language; pirouetting colorful Italian phrases, slipping in exquisite academic puns, wrapping his actions in layers of lingual gauze until it becomes hard to tell what's going on.

Streamlets of subtext flow into the proceedings. Coover takes on some daunting questions as to what being human is. The promise that the Blue-Haired Fairy made to Pinocchio was, that if he was good, he would be a real boy - a living person. Comparing Professor Pinenut's scholarly life in America and his wild adventures in Venice pointedly contrasts ivory tower drudgery with actually being alive. Taking Collodi's

with a nearly completed novel, pilgrim-on-a-quest-for-virtue, ern world where right and wrong are interchangeable starts raising prickly questions about what being virtuous is (albeit ones that have been raised before.)

The one area Coover seems to fail in is sustaining a sense of interest into the book. Lyrical writing and soft-focus description only gets one so far, and after the first hundred pages or so, the book deadening ennui that nearly engulfed his far superior Gerald's Party. In the effusively lyrical description of location and scene, the actual sense of things happening gets lost. The revelation that Pinocchio is turning back into a puppet should have been a jolting climax, yet it is breezed by in an off-hand manner, that makes hot and bothered with itself that the inherent sense of excitement is lost. Coover knows a lot about

Still, Pinocchio in Venice has undeniable rewards. Coover paints in the electric colors of the Italian language, freely translating loose phrases and bits of business. Paying careful enough attention reveals outrageously funny bits and cracks that wallpaper the solemn salon of Coover's philosophy, the twisted hallways of his social and political satire. Anyone who's ever wondered about how sweet and innocent a bad little puppet can be should take the time to explore Pinocchio

(Pinocchio in Venice @ 1991 by Robert Coover is published by The Linden Press for \$19.95 and is available in the bookstore.)



hat is thi

An anonymous letter on the Observer office door Friday, September 13 led us to this sign, Panacea's commentary on the the treetrimming behind Blithewood.

Art to expand awareness

by Susan Goedel

In the fall of 1989, the Board of Directors of the Dutchess County Arts Council collaborated on a way to both get the people of the county more involved in the arts and to "recognize the achievement of people of various minority ethnicities, creeds, physical capabilities, ages, and sexual orientation." After exploring several different options for six months, the Board of Directors instituted the Special Constituency Art and Community Award. Sherre Wesley, Executive Director of the Arts Council, said of the program that it was "a new, exciting, important way to involve diverse peoples in the arts community".

The Special Constituency Award for 1992, the first year of the program, will go to an African-American person or group, but theminority eligible for the award will rotate on a yearly basis. The recipient must have exhibited artistic achievement as shown by the application form, a resume, two years prior to applying. The the twelfth.

deadline for application is September 20, 1991.

Along with the recognition involved with such an award, \$5000 is available. The first payment comes after a public service activity. Through the public service, the people of the county benefit, as well as the artist. Ms. Wesley stated that the public service is "an integral part of the award." Depending on the nature of the artist receiving the award, the service can take any form from painting a mural to a performance or writing workshop and can last anywhere from a few months to a few days. The awards ceremony will be a dinner, and will take place on Tuesday, October 15.

Ms. Wesley encouraged all Bard students eligible to apply for the award, and if not eligible to become involved with the Dutchess County arts community in another way, such as, the upcoming Artscape. Artscape, a visual arts show, will be held in Poughkeepsie, and will involve individuals from several differand either an audiotape, video- ent schools and communities. It tape, slides, or a manuscript. Eli- will take place on October 11 and gibility is also contingent upon 12, with a performance for the residency in Dutchess County for Dutchess County Arts Fund on

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Sports

Blazers just warming up

by Matt Apple

only cooking on the back burners scores of 3-1, 1-0, and 1-0. for the first week of play - the defense was hot, but the offense was still warming up. Between two shutouts by Drew and New beat the King's College at Dietz Stadium 3 - 2, thanks to Deirdre Mahoney's winning goal with less than three minutes to play.

After winning their season 15-9, and 16-14. opener 2 - 1 on a second half goal

by first year student Javier Salinas, the men's soccer team lost their Both Blazer soccer teams were next three games by very close

The women's volleyball team, on the other hand, kept a perfect record at 3 wins and no losses under new coach, Kris Hall. They Paltz, the women's soccer team swept past King's College and Bloomfield, winning three straight games in each match, and defeated Steven's Institute in a close fourth and deciding game, 11 - 15, 15 - 7,

Sports schedules:

Women's Tennis 21 Sat. Albertus Magnus College home 2 pm 25 Wed. at Russell Sage 4 pm

Women's Volleyball 19 Thurs. at Russell Sage 6:30 pm 20 Fri. St. Joseph's College home 7 pm 21 Sat. Vassar Invitational Tournament 10 am 21 Sat. Dominican College - at Rhinebeck High School 2 pm 25 Wed. Albertus Magnus College at Rhinebeck High School 4 pm

Women's Soccer Sat 21 & Sun 22 Wells College Tourney 26 Thurs. at Southern Vermont College 4 pm

> **Cross Country** 21 Sat. The King's Invitational

Women's tennis on its way

by Laurie Curry

In terms of numbers and the coachmanship of fabulous Fred member team gives Bard the desperately needed depth of past captain, and Olivia Schoeler are (home courts) at 2 p.m.

among returning players. The team challenged New Jersey Institute of Technology last Saturday. It secured three wins, and Feldman, this year's women's Coach Feldman felt "very optitennis team has the potential to mistic" about the improvement of go somewhere. The eleven the players from just one week of practice together. The women's tennis team plays Albertus seasons. Christa Shute, team Magnus College this Saturday

Play Ultimate Frisbee every Monday and Wednesday at 4pm behind Kline Commons.

Classifieds and Personals

Scholarship Money: Are you a Lefty? An Ex-Paper Carrier? There are Thousands of little known general scholarships, grants, and fellowships for which YOU might be eligible. The search fee (\$55) will be discounted to \$40 for Bardians (and children of Alums, etc...) Send a SASE (no money yet!) to Old Frog Ltd. PO Box 188, Hicksville, NY 11801-0188 for more information. Campus rep wanted.

Volunteer Babysitters are needed so local men and women can take classes to get their GED. If you are interested in volunteering at the Community Action Agency in Red Hook on Tuesday, or Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until noon, please contact Stephanie Dopson through campus mail.

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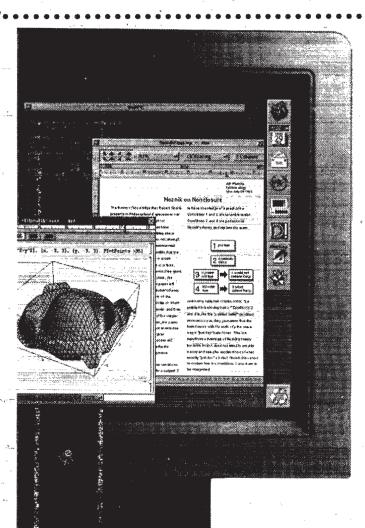
I'm looking for a good tennis player to hit with this fall. If available, please call Isaac, 758-3820.

Mona: I'm glad we settled our differences-Celeste Put that message in your

Susannah- a kinder gentler

L.B.: Have you read any good books lately???- Lytle Lytle: Not in English—L.B.

Wallet lost Friday night. If found, please send to Josh



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To test drive a NeXT Computer, come to Kline Commons, College and Committee room, on Wednesday, September 25th between the hours of 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Call Bonnie Gilman at 758-7496 or Doug Peters at 617-890-8848 for details.

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Public access: Rights and responsibilities

by Kristan Hutchison

The Board of Trustees have final say over the college and therefore students have a right to give them input. Only the Trustees have the power to hire, fire, or reprimand the president of the college. They are the final appeal for all cases which begin in the Student Judiciary Board, Sexual Harassment Board, or Grievance Committee. They are also the last ditch appeal on tenure cases, such as the recent Nackenoff case, which the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustee's denied a hearing.

Currently the list of addresses for the Board of Trustees is kept in Leon Botstein's office. The list is not made fully available to all the other administrators in Ludlow, let alone the students. The explanation for this, according to Botstein's secretary, is that "Somebody here likes to have some say about what is written to the trustees,"

Students wishing to contact the Trustees are expected to deliver the letter to Botstein's office to be passed on to the trustee's. Though two student representative's sit in on some parts of Board of Trustee meetings, they are briefed by Botstein in his office beforehand as to what subjects are or are not appropriate to speak about. Some of us at the Observer believe that students' should be able to directly contact the trustees, without middlemen, U.S. citizens can write their representatives directly and public colleges make public their trustees. Some colleges even have a regular voting trustee elected by the students. Therefore, we have printed the addresses of the

We do this with some trepidation and would advise that the newly discovered access be used responsibly. Though they have the final say, trustees should also be a last resort. They are not involved in the details of the college and should only be approached after all other avenues have been exhausted. Most certainly, it would be in ill taste to approach them for money for clubs, etc. After all, they give enough at the office.

The administration is right to be wary of what students will do with the addresses of the trustees in their hands. A great deal of harm could be done to the relationship between students and trustees if they are somehow harassed or deluged with trivial letters. On the other hand, if students use the privilege to address serious concerns to the trustees, to sometimes thank them for helping out the college. and perhaps keep them somewhat informed of campus events from a student perspective, then ties between students and trustees could grow stronger. (The Observer is currently delivered to the trustees every week and thus most campus news reaches them already.)

We understand the fears of the administration, yet trust students to act responsibly. Don't prove us wrong,

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Nackenoff deserved tenure

Dear Editor,

We, the Educational Policies Committee, wish to make clear our concern about the recent denial of tenure to Professor Carol Nackenoff. Our solicitation of student testimony resulted in a substantial student response, all of which demonstrated overwhelming support for the granting of tenure to Professor Nackenoff. She is clearly respected as a fine instructor whose diligence, concern for students, and contributions to the college community establish her as exactly the type of professor one expects to find at Bard, an institution committed to close studentfaculty relations and independent thinking.

Further, the EPC has recently considered the Criteria for Reappointment, Tenure, and Promotion found in the Faculty Handbook. We fail to see how the decision to deny Carol Nackenoff tenure is justified by these rules. The first area, teaching, is judged to be the most important, and her excellence in this area has not been questioned. The document also states that the teacher should have demonstrated accomplishment in each of the four areas. The reason for the denial of tenure, as we understand it, is Prof. Nackenoff's failure to meet expected accomplishment in her discipline. We feel we must question whether her work has been fairly criticized. The most prominent critics of her manuscript are not political scientists, and we feel that a fair judgment of Prof. Nackenoff's work can be made only by those within her discipline. As indicated in last week's Observer, she has already received an extremely favorable review from an outside evaluator in the field of political science, and we do not understand why this was not viewed as sufficient evidence of her accomplishments. If this evaluator is not seen as an acceptable authority, despite the fact that he was selected by the Faculty Evaluation Committee, then suitable authorities should be sought from her own discipline for a complete assessment of her work.

from its own research. The FEC it also means a jury composed of

has determined that she has met the requirements of each of the four areas. We urge you [Botstein] to reconsider this decision before community, especially in regard Bard College loses a source of the great teaching it so highly values.

The Educational Policies Committee Melissa Cahoon, Chair c/c President Botstein

Who's silenced now?

Dear Editor,

In regard to the lawsuit pending against Bard College, Bard president Leon Botstein, and a male student (referred to as "Jim" in Bard Observer articles relating to the case), I would like to make three points.

First, I was surprised to read in the August 28 editions of both the Poughkeepsie Journal and the Daily Freeman that, according to Pam Liapakis, the attorney representing the alleged assault victim, both students were expected to return to campus this week. As far as I know this is simply untrue; as the Observer reported last May during the student protest, the male student has chosen to continue his studies elsewhere.

Second, there was an incident last spring related to the case that has been completely absent from the press coverage. An article in the September 4 Observer states that: "Several exceptions were made to the probation by President Leon Botstein allowing Jim to attend specific events, including a party at which his band was to play..." What is not mentioned is that the band's performance was cancelled due to anonymous telephone calls made to "Jim's" home and to the campus security office, in which harassment and even murder were threatened. I think we in the community have a right to know about death threats made by and against people we live with.

Finally, I for one don't find the Student Judiciary Board's verdict in the case totally convincing, for the simple reason that on a campus this small, I don't think any student could realistically be expected to be objective in their view of the case. A jury of one's peers It is our opinion that Carol does not only mean a jury com-Nackenoff is a teacher of the fin- posed of people of your economic, est quality; the EPC knows this social, racial, sexual, orage group;

people with no personal bias in the case. I have to wonder if such a thing is possible within the Bard to such a highly charged issue as sexual assault.

It seems to me that "Jim" has been run out of town on a rail. I don't know what the social, psychological and legal punishment that is being inflicted on him is supposed to accomplish, but I doubt it's productive for the individuals involved or for the community. Violence, physical or not, can only create more violence.

> Sincerely, Paul Winkler, class of 1992

Still more PC talk

Dear Editor,

It was a poor choice on the part of the Observer staff to print the chart that appeared with my letter, "Not Enough P.C. Talk." That chart was part of a handout which was returned to participants in the study. The chart is meaningless and misleading without the statistics and explanations which appeared in the rest of the handout.

I find Mr. Slocomb's knowledge of my study remarkable, especially from someone who has neither read the study nor spoken with the researcher on the matter. His critiques of my procedures and hypothesis are especially amazing as he has no idea what my procedures nor my hypothesis were. I feel that Mr. Slocomb's comments reflect the extent of his expertise.

If Mr. Slocombor anyone else has further interest in the matter, I would invite them to contact me personally at Box 742. I am confident that the results of my study reflect the reality on Bard Campus.

Neal Brofee

Addition to library article

Dear Editor,

In the article "Library addition unearths chaos" by Matt Apple (September 11, 1991), there were several statements attributed to me which were incorrect. I did not say that we were about fourteen years behind other college libraries in changing from the Dewey Decimal Classification System to the Library of Congress Classification System. In fact, I said this library started the reclassification project about fourteen years ago.

One would also get the impression from the article that the cataloguing department has no work-

present time, we have four. In addition, I made no specific prediction regarding the actual completion date of the reclassification project.

> Sincerely, Linda Crow Assistant Librarian for Cataloging

We welcome your letters, personals, and other pieces. Drop them in campus mail, the box in the library, the box in Kline, or at our office in **Tewksbury** basement. Letters should be under three hundred words to guarantee being printed quickly. All should include a name and phone number.





BARD COLLEGE: SEPTEMBER 19-25,1991

EEKLY OMMUNITY INFORMATION

Humanities Endowment:

Information and applications for the National Endowment of Humanities Summer Stipend are available from the Dean of the College. Deadline for submission is October 1, 1991. Each college can nominate three members of its faculty for these stipends. No more than two of these nominees may be in the early stages of their careers. That is, junior nominees - specifically, those holding the rank of Assistant Professor. The second category of nominee (Senior) are for those holding the rank of Associate or Full Professor. Please stop by the Dean's office for further information.

Speaker for Peace

The International Peacemaker, The Reverend Norman Bent, will be at Pleasant Plains Presbyterian Church, Sunday, Sept. 29th, 1991. He has served as a mediator during the crisis between the government and the East Coast Miskito people. Now pastor of the Moravian Church in Managua, he is serving as an International Peacemaker for the USA Presbyterian Church as well. Norman Bent will lead worship and preach at 9:30 a.m. at the church. He will speak again at 11:00 a.m. at a public forum on the topic of Nicaragua and the need for peace in Central America. Pleasant Plains Church is located on Hollow Road-7 miles north of Hyde Park off Route 9-G. Everyone is welcome. For more information, please call the Church at 889-4019.

Observer Meetings

There will be a meeting for writers on Monday at 8:30 p.m. in Aspinwall, third floor. Those interested in layout should meet Thursday at 9 p.m. in the basement of Tewksbury. The deadline for outside submissions is Friday at 5:00 p.m. Turn material in to the Observer office.

Join in the Dance

Take part in Scottish Country Dancing-traditional social dances of Scotland. There will be an introductory dance party in the Student Center (Old Gym) at Bard from 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 7th You don't need to bring a partner, you don't need to have experience, and you don't have to be Scottish to enjoy the dancing...but please wear soft-soled shoes if you have them; ballet shoes or moccasins are ideal. A new class will begin on Sept. 18th and will meet from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on the first, third, and fifth Wednesdays of each month (location to be announced.) For more information call:

#462-6056 Marsha Kent #757-4214 Bill & Sheryl Griffith #758-8273 Samantha Miller

Madrigal Singers:

Members of the Bard Community chorus are forming a madrigal group. Those interested in joining please contact Megan Hastie at Ext. 250 or Chen-Lay Ong at 758-0213. We are going to keep it a small group, so if you are interested, contact us by Sept 18th preferably. (Open to all members of the community).

Meditation and Discussion:

There will be a Meditation and Discussion on Sunday Evenings in the Chapel at 6:00 pm. Office hours for Ginger Grab, assistant to the Chaplain, will be on Wednesdays 3:45 - 5:45.

THE WEEKLY COMMUNITY INFORMA-TION NEWSLETTER IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE DEAN OF STUDENTS.

Services for Christian Students:

Sundays:

8:30 am: Ecumenical Service, Bard Chapel 9:30: Van to St. John's Episcopal Church and St. Christopher's Catholic Church, meet at Kline parking lot.

6:00 pm: Chapel Service

Tuesdays:

7:00 pm: Singing and Worship 7:30: Bible Study/Prayer Group (Both in Bard Chapel Basement)

Thursday:

9:30 pm: Women's Bible Study/Prayer Group (Cruger Village, Stephens 101)

High Density Abstraction:

An exhibition of painting by eight contemporary artists will be on view in Proctor Art Center from Sept. 13 to Oct. 15. There will be a party for the artists, with music and refreshments, Wednesday, September 25, starting at 8:00 pm. All students are invited.

African Doll Sale:

African Dolls will be sold on Wednesday, Oct. 2, and Tuesday, October 8, outside of Kline Commons.

Career Development Office:

For the next few weeks, the office will be run by knowledgeable students during the following hours: Monday-Wednesday 1:30 to 3:30 Thursday 11:30 to 1:30

-CALENDAR OF EVENTS-SEPT 19-SEPT 25

| THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY |
|--|---|---|--|---|---------|---|
| 9:00 pm Observer Layout Meeting Observer Office | 5:00 pm Observer deadline for outside submission | 7:00 pm Scottish Country Dancing Old Gym | 8:30 am Worship Service Chapel (See Above For More Information and other services) | 8:30 pm Observer writers' meeting Third floor Aspinwall | | 8:00 pm Bard Faculty Music Concert Olin Auditorium 8:00 pm Artist's |
| | | | | | | Party for "High Density Abstraction" exhibit Proctor Art |
| | | | | | | Building |

THROUGH OCTOBER 15: HIGH DENSITY ABSTRACTION. PROCTOR ART CENTER