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"Instead of accepting the division of mankind, it is our duty to act in the manner best designed to establish man’s oneness."

—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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"Politics in America"

A post-election conference at Bard College

Since the election many people have been wondering: Will there be isolationism for America after Bill Clinton is sworn in as President? Will there be a change in Congressional diplomacy now that there are more Democratic members? Answers to these questions were offered in Olin Auditorium last Friday where a small but interested crowd gathered to listen to "POLITICS IN AMERICA" — A Post-Election Conference. Ronald Steel, a Professor of International Relations at the University of Southern California, said that he was not happy with the topic description because he was not convinced "we’ve ever been isolationist." It is unfashionable for any president to decide to lead his country in or out of all foreign affairs. Although domestic issues took precedence during Clinton’s campaign, he too will inevitably have to deal with foreign policy concerns. "The American people" are, in any case, "looking to be very selective of what events the United States participates in globally."

It is Steel’s opinion that our country "is deeply dependent upon the world in a way we haven’t been recently," and therefore, the nation under Clinton’s administration will be moving toward less of an interventionist policy.

Michael R. Beschloss, an international relations historian and co-author of At the Highest Levels: The Inside Story of the End of the Cold War (coming out in January), said that Clinton will have to make a lot of "very hard choices in a very short time." Clinton made few commitments concerning foreign policy during his campaign, but this does not mean he was not expecting problems. According to Beschloss, the conflicts in Europe and Asia are not ending, but are rather unfolding; therefore, complete isolationism at this time would not be the favorable action for the United States to take. A new type of isolationism, however, could develop if the "president was willing to educate the public on involvement and sacrifice." Beschloss foresees a selective isolationism where major U.S. intervention would depend on an international crisis.

Charles Kupchan, an Assistant Professor of Politics at Princeton University and member of the Policy Planning Staff of the U.S. State Department, believes that although isolationism at times seems favorable it will not go into effect any time soon. He said that the theory that our interests as a country would be protected by pulling back is not true; while some think "over ambitious international objectives...create a whole realm of problems at home," he feels that "the administration must address these problems as domestic." According to Kupchan, our country has historically followed the policy of isolationism, and such a policy is politically appealing because of our geographic location, but "American prosperity is tied in with that of global prosperity; therefore, the..."
Should we talk about the government?

Busy Student Forum passes one resolution

The Student Forum meeting held last Wednesday evening featured an election and an impeachment committee. Moving through six agenda items in just under two hours, the planned discussion concerning "the efficacy of student government" was tabled until the next forum meeting scheduled for December.

A proposal concerning storage space in dormitories was introduced by the Student Life Committee; the proposal would redefine storage areas during the academic semesters so that the resulting space could be used for other purposes. Currently, the storage rooms in most dorms are overflowing with debris left behind from as far back as ten years ago, and the college is going to clean out these rooms and hold an auction for the unclaimed items this coming February. Student Life Chair Erin Law stated that the SLC "wanted to get input from the students about how this space should be used so we don't end up wasting it like in the past."

The proposal centered around the idea that during the semester four areas on campus would be designated for storage. With the assistance of Buildings and Grounds, students would pay to use these allocated spaces which might not be in their own dormitories. The resulting empty rooms could then be used for study space, practice areas, study lounges, or club space, depending on what the residents of the dorm choose. Between semesters, this space would again revert back to regular storage space. This resolution was met with approval by the Forum, but it was decided that more specific information would be needed about what space will be available before anything could be officially resolved.

Another concern of the proposal was the security of storage space in light of the high numbers of thefts recently. Law stated that "we need to take responsibility (for ourselves) that our own things are safe." The resolution called for students to work in conjunctions with the Peer Counselors and with Security to devise accurate lists of what items are placed in storage and where they belong. Coupled with the use of uniform labels, that will be made available by the College, the safety of everyone's belongings could be ensured.

An anti-litter resolution was sponsored by Greg Giacchino who stipulated that clubs be held accountable for the messes left behind by their parties and by the signs posted around campus. Clubs that failed to clean up twenty-four hours after the event would be fined by the Planning Committee.

Giacchino commented, "We can do this voluntarily, we don't need this because the Student Life Committee can get with clubs on a voluntary basis." Ideas such as clubs dating their own signs or using fewer but larger posters were introduced to help cut down the litter, and many expressed the need for more bulletin boards on campus.

Giacchino sponsored another proposal which established an ad-hoc committee to draw up impeachment proceedings for the Student Constitution. "This is not meant to get anyone," stated Giacchino. "It's just to make the Constitution complete because the issue of impeachments was left out as an oversight." This resolution nearly passed after Lee commented that impeachment procedures were needed because "if you think there is nothing the six of us on the Central Committee can do, then you are mistaken."

In other Forum news, an ad-hoc library committee garnered five volunteers to work with Head Librarian Jeffrey Katz and a committee of four faculty members concerning such issues as the new library addition and book selections. The SLC has also been looking into getting change machines on campus and has constructed the ride board located in the Post Office.

One seat in the Arts Division still remains vacant in the Educational Policies Committee after Meghan Stern was nominated for the remaining Language and Literature seat. The EPC has been working on facilitating the upcoming class registration and providing more support services for learning disabled students. Campus wide elections in the near future include the offices of Student Life Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, in addition to a seat on the SLC, and an alternate for the Student Judiciary Board.

Addressing the continued occurrence of clubs organizing events conflicting with Forum meetings, Secretary Sally Mehrten pointed out Clause 2A in Section 3 of the Student Constitution which states that clubs could lose their "remaining monetary allocation" if they plan "an event or activity opposite a regularly scheduled meeting of the Forum."

"This is just a warning because it's been happening too much," threatened Mehrten. "We will become a bit stricter."

The next Forum will be held in two weeks on Wednesday, December 2nd at 7pm.

Students walking to the Bard bookstore Saturday morning were greeted with a strange sight. A blue Ford Taurus in a handicapped parking spot behind Stone Row was discovered Saturday morning with its windshield smashed in. The remains of its front side windows littered the car's upholstery.

According to Director of Security Bob Boyle, the car had been illegally parked that afternoon as its owner, a resident of Stone Row, moved items between the car and the dormitory. The student had asked a friend to move the car afterwards, but Boyle said from his observation the car was still there, undamaged, as of Saturday at 1:00 a.m.

Boyle noted that there were footprints on the car's hood, roof, and trunk, and inferred that the damage to the windshield was caused by repeated kicking and someone actually sitting on the windshield to create an indentation. The front windows were cleared out, but nothing was stolen from the car. There were apparently no witnesses, and there are no suspects, as Boyle said, "There's no way of knowing who did it."

"The vandalism was an act of pure maliciousness," Boyle continued, "It doesn't make any sense."

Boyle added that the car's owner plans to drive the car to New York to replace the windshield. The owner of the car could not be contacted before the Observer went to print.

* the Entertainment Committee presents

**STYVE**

Hip-Hop/Funk from NYC
Fri., Nov. 20th at 11pm

Free w/Bard ID in the Student Center

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**Matthew Apple**

Editor-in-Chief
No Rights For Blacks?
Alton H. Maddox, Jr. speaks at Bard

On Saturday, November 14th, Alton H. Maddox, Jr. gave a talk entitled "After Four Hundred Years in America Do Blacks Have any Rights that Whites Are Bound to Respect?" Maddox, who was the chief counsel in several controversial court cases including those of Howard Beach, Tawana Brawley, Bensonhurst, Rev. Al Sharpton and the Central Park Jogger, was also the founder and, at the time of the talk, the director of the Bard Student Organization.

"White people will never understand what the black man and woman," said one student, "yet whites will never love us." This was just one of the many emotional statements Maddox made as he tried to illustrate that blacks must fight for the basic human rights they deserve. He explained that many blacks do not feel they are part of the American family.

First of all, blacks were slaves, and therefore, were not given consideration when the constitution was written. "Anybody who is not white cannot be a member of Uncle Sam's family," he said. Perhaps if Uncle Sam had been depicted with a black face, blacks would have felt more welcome, but this is just not the way things were and blacks cannot be expected to "cooperate with evil.

Second, "no woman in American history has the right to protect herself," he said. A woman in American history has never been put behind bars for raping a black woman. Cecilia was raped by a black man, and then forced to fulfill her master's sexual fantasies. When Cecilia decided she wanted to be a slave of her own, she was mistaken for a slave and then forced to fulfill her master's sexual fantasies. Cecilia was raped by a black man, and then forced to fulfill her master's sexual fantasies. When Cecilia decided she wanted to be a slave of her own, she was mistaken for a slave and then forced to fulfill her master's sexual fantasies. For instance, the master of这种方法 would be suspended if he ever was convicted of sexual harassment or extortion, but has not had his license suspended.

So, you want to piss people off? Why not? There is lots of value in shocking people and it's a good way to make that annoying personality of your work for you. That's how Madonna got to the top. That's what gives David Letterman the highest ratings in his time slot, aside from the fact that his show is run by the guy who runs the Superbad. The really successful people in the world know that there is no such thing as bad publicity.

People at Bard have recently tried to cash in on this pissing off trade. Most notably the enigmatic Mr. Armadillo X and the more enigmatic Oxy Guy. Are they the same, are they different, are they the same, are they the same, are they the best friend? We don't know. However, mysteriousness only works so far. Dr. Leonard Jeffries and Alton Maddox excel, succeeded in pissing people off and they even used their real names and faces. However, their method is all the same. They're my methods. I taught them everything they know. And if you read along you can piss people off like the pros do.

About now, you're probably saying to yourself, "Yeah, I'm a nobody now. But I could be a somebody if I could just get people angry at me. Now, how do I go about that?"

Yes, folks, there is a lot of work that goes into being insensitive and offensive. You don't just become sensitive overnight, unless you forget to shower and brush your teeth in the morning. You must ask yourself who you want to offend? For how long do you want them to be offended? What will their offense bring you besides riches, fame and burned efficiency?

First of all, start small. Start on a small college campus where people are pretty apathetic and you really can be insensitive for them to get off their backs and persecute you about it.

Then there is the problem of who you should offend. Ethnic groups are easy fodder for offense. They're very sensitive about things like being down trodden and oppressed for centuries and after all that time still not being able to get a fair shake in the modern world. What a bunch of whiners! What do you care if you're white, and male, you own everything! America's legal system was designed by guys like you and for guys like you. So go ahead and be insensitive. It worked for David Duke, state assemblyman in Louisiana. It worked for Pat Buchanan, ex-speaker of the house.

If you find this unappealing or you are a minority yourself, you could offend political groups. Even Rev. Jesse Jackson used to agitate the pro-choice groups of America by telling them they were involved in genocide simply because most abortion clinics in America are in poor neighborhoods in urban areas. The pro-choice groups used to be very active reactoerly. One letter in a public forum calling them baby-killers paged used to be enough to elevate you from nobody to evil oppressor of women. Sadly, pro-choice groups are hardly active anymore. They have finally realized that abortion is legal and no amount of marching, rallying and coat hanger displays will make abortion any more legal.

Some people think that feminists are a fun group to kick over. Actually, it's a lot more like kicking over a tertius post's nest.
Global warming and ozone depletion grab most of the headlines, but the less dramatic and more immediate problem for the world environment is the international economy. A clear link exists between economic pressures and the cannibalizing of the biosphere. The fact that so many so-called Third World nations have large debts owed to institutions in developed nations gives multinational corporations, such as Union Carbide and United Fruit, and international organizations, such as the World Bank and USAID, leverage to force the creation of counterproductive development projects in these nations. Many are calling for environmentalists, labor groups and human rights groups to consolidate in order to coordinate their actions and their programs across national borders.

Smitu Kothari is one of the leaders of this movement to make international organizations accountable for their destructive actions upon the world’s ecosystems. A Humphrey Fellow at Cornell with a doctorate in film, Kothari spoke at Bard last Wednesday, thanks to the efforts of the International Relations Club and Air, Water, Earth. He addressed the current opposition to the construction of thirty large dams on a river in India. If completed, these projects will displace about one million people in a nation with no alternative land on which to rehabilitate the dispossessed. Kothari has recently testified before the U.S. Congress, the Canadian Parliament and the World Bank about the destructive results these dams would bring. He reminds them that no nation is isolated in the modern world—smokescreens in Britain bring acid rain upon Germany’s forests, and that deforestation in Nepal brings floods to India’s farmlands. He has also helped to organize an advertisement in the New York Times signed by 850 environmental groups worldwide, protesting this dam project with an unprecedented coalition. Kothari’s efforts have helped turn large dams from being a symbol of progress and development to one of looting for sympathetic environmentalists across the globe.

"Nature is not a passive entity to be dominated or expropriated," he told the Bard audience. "It is dynamic, a life-supporter." He advocated using a supra-national power to protect the environmental "commons" instead of continued reliance on market forces to create "ecologically-safe" technologies.

Kothari’s concern is that the global economic reorganization disguises what is really a pattern of recolonization. Here, his logic is presented: Who is paying for these large dams? Western interests. Who will get the electricity? The local industries run by Western interests. Who will get the goods and services these industries produce?
U.S. should work for more equal partnership [with other nations] and try peace-keeping instead of peace-making.

James Chace, the Henry R. Luce Professor in Freedom of Inquiry and Expression at Bard, said that “foreign policy is a parasitology.” He believes that Clinton should be able to concentrate on domestic problems. “First and foremost, the deficit must be reduced now and not later.” It’s a serious step and not taken to put the economy in order, said Chace, there will be no money with which to have a foreign policy. “The United States is not a superpower; there are no superpowers! Superpowers can pay for their own wars. [Desert Storm was for the most part funded by other nations.]” Chace believes that there should and will be severe reductions of European troops. He also believes that we should start concerning ourselves with other things, such as a possible build-up of military power in Asia and a move towards overall weapons reduction.

Those that think the Cold War is over are wrong because the Cold War was not a war at all, but rather a long peace.

Some of the questions following the presentations were: What are the country’s interests? Chace replied that one of the nation’s primary concerns is to ensure that Europe is not dominated by one power and that there is a balance of power in the region. He then replied that another interest is that the spread of nuclear weapons be confined. Will there be a power split between the northern and southern parts of the world? Chace answered this question as well by saying a money split already exists; “there are the Yen, Dollar, and Euro blocs.” What about environmental issues? Moderator Sidney Blumenthal answered this question by saying that Clinton has already appointed Gore to deal with those issues and that his role will be very active on one side by a “very radical, different, view.”

The second half of the conference was concerned with “Breaking the Congressional Deadlock.” Throughout the presidential campaign, Bush blamed his administration’s lack of significant activity upon a Democratic Congress that rejected his proposals and which he had to continuously veto more than any other president.

Jane Mayer of The Wall Street Journal agreed with her fellow panelists that much of the friction between the White House and Capitol Hill would lessen with the arrival of both a Democratic President and Congress. But deadlock won’t mysteriously disappear over eight, she cautioned, while attributing much of the current paralysis of government to the conflict of special-interest groups. “It is only a matter of time until money finds its way to the politicians,” she predicted, and questioned whether or not Clinton’s administration was “going to set a new tone” in relation to catering to the special interests.

Assistant Professor of Political Studies and History at Bard College, Jonathan Kahn, discussed budgetary gridlock as politicians pointed to the abstruse origins of the budget in every campaign. Kahn described the budget as the symbol of how we think of government, in terms of its efficiency, and as a political tool of policy control. The budget is not really about economy and efficiency but about finding fraud to keep resurging,” he commented. “It facilitates growth by opening channels but does not monitor how that money is used.”

The “privileged” language of the budget makes it difficult for the public to understand and allows only “experts” to introduce new ideas. The Republican device of “central clearance” is a major source of deadlock by appointed committees that review legislation and decide how to regulate it. Congress can be “out of the loop” when a law can be dismissed as not cost-efficient, summarily deregulated, and made effectively useless (which has happened to many environmental laws because the Committee on Competitiveness). “This practice involves excluding groups from substantive discussion of politics,” he continued. “If laws are passed and not implemented, deadlock will remain.”

Benjamin Barber is the Director of the Wall Waltman Center for the Culture and Politics of Democracy at Rutgers University and he focused on a “new form of gridlock in the election process.” Barber believes that the American people are deadlocked with their own politicians, which explains the enthusiasm for “independent” candidates such as Ross Perot. “A new form of populism that is unraveling the two-party system,” was how he described this phenomenon, which could lead to a “promising but exceedingly dangerous new world.”

“This could become the annihilation of democracy through redemocratization,” he stated, implicating that this populism contains elements of “demagoguery and a great deal of irresponsibility and finger-pointing.” By finding political scape-goats the American people can deny their own civic responsibilities and foster an unelected mob mentality that could overturn American politics. The only way to prevent this downward trend is with increased education; in Barber’s words, “it is crucial to create a thoughtful citizenry capable of responsibility and accountability.”

Barber concluded, “If Clinton is to escape the new gridlock of the public at war with the government, he needs to pay attention to civic literacy through education for the next generation to have prudence and responsibility.”

As Kahn commented, “Whether or not it is a good thing to break deadlock is a whole other panel.”

Moderator and Bard History Professor Mark Lytle said that “gridlock has saved us from our worst impulses; if we look at some of the examples of history.” Mayer responded that “gridlock can also save us from our best intentions...it is a virtue only to those who need nothing from government.”

Goat marches on

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Their responses tend to be long-winded and boring explanations of feminist theory quoting famous feminists like Molly Yard or Molly Pitcher or something. Even worse, they’ll quote an unknown feminist making you look dumb as well as ignorant.

Sexual preference groups, such as SM ACES or homosexual rights groups that seek equal rights for people doing something that no one else’s business anyway are also easily offended. Whether you attack them on the basis of religious taboos or with pseudo-scientific explanations of why they could go blind, they usually respond quietly and with great verve. Best of all, they have the coolest slogans and demonstrations. There really is a group that marches in drag chanting “Go left! Go Gay! Go pick up the gun!” And if you act now, they could be doing it outside your very window for your own personal fun and amusement. The only problem is that when they say “We’re here, we’re queer and we’ll never be silent again” they mean it. Pick up a pair of earplugs so you can sleep soundly before calling Queer Nation a bunch of queers.

“But Greg,” I hear you cry, “What about religious groups?” Sorry, there are no moral majority fundamentalist religious groups on campus. You have to take a bus to St. Patrick’s cathedral with ACT UP before you can earn the ire of organized religions. But here at Bard you can criticize anyone from Jesus Christ to Martin Luther to the Holy See and no one will know who you’re talking about, let alone be offended. Watch, I’ll show you...

CREATIONISM IS A LIE! E V O L U T I O N  I S T H E TRUTH! T H E B I B L E  I S A FAIRY TALE.

Goat marches on

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Person of the week

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The Western markets and the Indian middlemen, is this dam project truly aiding the local natives? No! Is the ecological devastation and the forced relocation of the local population truly a fair bargain to the people who will be dispossessed by the dam? Ultimately, Kothari would answer, no. His substitute solution is a series of miniature programs: one small dam, perhaps, accompanied by advances to make the most use of local water supplies for the needs of the local people. In India, the villagers’ lives are intimately connected to their local ecosystems. Environmental conditions affect culture. At issue is the disruption of an entire way of living.

And so, the Observer selects Senju Kothari as our Person of the Week. He believes in growth and progress, but insists that local lifestyle and consumption practices are considered and that new programs of multinational development are reexamined. The existing programs are simply unacceptable and it is necessary to sustain our planet, he helps us to sustain all.
**The Bard Observer**

**November 18, 1992**

**Sports 'n Such**

**Shameless Filler!**

Most people at Bard first meet me during their Freshman L&T period, as I work at the computer center, or the friendly person begging for scraps outside of Kline after lunch. Either way, I become a trusted and respected figure in their Freshman year, because I have the reputation of getting you into your room a few minutes earlier than anyone else. Computer geeks tend to these people. They have no reason to believe that anyone in their right mind should want to know as much about computers as I do. Just a few of my lessons learned:

- Never try to explain a computer concept without using the computer itself. The computer is the source of all knowledge.
- Computers are just like jockeys, they have to be treated with respect or they will bite you.
- A computer is like a dog, it needs to be walked and it will eat you if you don't.
- Computers are like children, they need constant attention and care.

In reality, there is a lot of truth in the above statements. Many students, once they realize the power of computers, are willing to do whatever it takes to get into the computer center. And while I may not be the most popular person on campus, I do have a few tricks up my sleeve to keep the computer center running smoothly.

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**Athletes earn recognition**

**Five Blazers awarded All-conference distinctions**

Welcome again to the wild and wacky world of Bard sports and related events. Please forgive me if I seem a little fazed this week; it's just that I am still recovering from a bout with the frostbitten toe syndrome. Knees, you were right; I should have been wearing a sock. Anyway, on to the sporting news of the week.

**All-Conference**

Five of Bard's distinguished crop of athletes were selected by the Independent Athletic Conference's coaches to receive All-Conference recognition in their respective sports. In cross country, Evan Rallis and John Hannon were chosen to represent Bard among the conference's top runners. Chris Turcott and Ian Brandt were chosen from the men's soccer team as a result of their outstanding play throughout the season. Also, Cara Graninger earned honors on the court for the Women's Tennis team as she was also singled out for All-Conference recognition. Bard athletes will also garner more honors later as the All-District, and All-Conference players are named for the other fall sports.

**Basketball**

During the week, the Bard Blazer basketball team hosted Dutchess Community College for a scrimmage. Bard lost by a mere three points, 55-52, despite getting 18 points from transfer Doug Young, and another 14 from sophomore center, William Purod. The Blazers' first regular season game will be Nov. 20th at Albany Pharmacy, with their first home game coming on the 24th against Vassar. Come out and support your team.

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**Intramurals**

In intramural floor hockey, the captain of the Mother Puckers (3-0), Javier Salinas, wanted to make it clear that, "We're gonna win!" Salinas seemed disappointed at the amount of press, or lack thereof, that his team has received, commenting, "Write something about us!" All I've got to say to Javier and his team is, don't lose or there will be hell to pay in these pages. The Mother Puckers did however defeat the Weed Wackers, 6-0, and the IRB Crew, 3-0. The IRB Crew was apparently over confident, coming off a win over Sons of John Glenn. The Sons of Glenn also tied the Weed Wackers 1-1 earlier in the week.

Intramural volleyball continued last week, with the International Attack again destroying anyone in their way to the title. This time it was the Dirty Dogs who got cleaned up on and off, 15-7, 15-3. Next in line for a stomping by the Attack is Soufflie Potentate and Her Minions of Despair, whose record is already 0-2. In those competing for the "best of the rest" title, Something in the Air, captained by Dana MacDonald defeated Soufflie 15-3, 15-7.

Oh, by the way, Men's volleyball practice will be starting on Monday, November 30th, at 4:30 pm, in the gym. If you have any questions about volleyball, contact Carla Davis, at ext. 529.

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**Men's Fencing**

Saturday, November 21st vs. City College of NY

**Women's Fencing**

Saturday, November 21st vs. City College of NY

w/Vassar College

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**GREAT AMERICAN SMOKEOUT**

On the fourth Thursday of November, Americans get lots of turkey. On the third Thursday of November, they get to go cold turkey. Join the Great American Smokeout—millions of Americans across the country will take a break and try not to smoke for 24 hours. How about you? Or, if you don't smoke, adopt a smoker for the day and promise to help that friend get through the day without lighting up!
Sean O'Neill's guide to identifying intellectual terrorists

Emotionally charged references based on incontrovertible facts to peg any theory outside this dualistic view as disloyal, unpatriotic, sacrilegious, and possibly a moral offense to a portrayed God. No one is to question who gave these IT's the right to take God and convert Him into a bullet to be shot into the hearts of men and why there are many saviors on Jesus' cross.

Smearing Tactics—For example, after World War II the globe was divided up essentially into two armed camps and all questions of international relations were forced into a constricting, bi-polar view of the world. One was either a communist or a democracy and no compromise government could be tolerated by either party. When the governments of the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. investigated people, they did not see individual traits and thoughts, they saw only hatred. Senator Joseph McCarthy and Premier Josef Stalin used emotionally charged references based on incontrovertible evidence to peg any individual who acted outside this dualistic perception of the world as being disloyal, unpatriotic and inherently evil. Hollywood and major media organizations were denounced as propagators of subversive propaganda, and thousands of individuals were blacklisted, often on the basis of religious beliefs which happened to be common to peoples of the enemy nations. It progressed to silly, tritely rewritten histories, so that now the Russians had invented baseball before the Americans and American choreographers had invented the basis of Russian ballet. The world was forced to believe that American Jews had invented the horrific Bomb and that Russian Jews had stolen the horrific Bomb. These latter statements played upon commonly held suspicions about a non-conformist social group which often was portrayed as holding key positions in society. As of last month, Polish politicians were explaining that the harsh economic measures were the result of the Jewish elite controlling the establishment, when in fact, those of Jewish affiliation represented less than three percent of controlling positions from top to bottom. Scapegoating is a common technique of the intellectual terrorist.

Draped in their Flag—For example, be it a Panamanian strongman in nationalist colors, or a Slavic president in nationalist colors, or a Middle Eastern terrorist in nationalist colors, the garb is used like a wand to wave away dissent. Intellectual terrorists corrupt legitimate ethnic or national pride by clouding their tremendous egos in traditional garb, so that by criticizing their convoluted logic, a challenger is portrayed as attacking an entire social group.

Divide and Conquer—For example, here is a hypothetical situation: an intellectual terrorist chooses to speak before an assembled crowd of people in the United States. The manipulator knows that the audience has more diverse backgrounds than would be the case in a crowd in most

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To the Bard Community

1. We, the undersigned, are strong supporters of the need to transform this country into a truly multicultural society—a world free from racism, anti-Semitism, sexism, homophobia, and other forms of discrimination, a world in which every minority can take pride in its heritage while fully participating in society at large. The recent talk at Bard by Leonard Jeffries has demonstrated the need for free and open discussion about multiculturalism in general and the relations between the various segments of the Bard community in particular.

2. While we support Prof. Jeffries’ avowed aim of promoting multiculturalism, and acknowledge the importance of his goal of promoting a greater awareness of African-American history and culture, we can support neither his manipulative use of historical half-truths nor the anti-Semitism which has been implicit in some of his public statements. Neither intellectual distortion nor bigotry has a place in true multiculturalism, which openly embraces all minorities in our society, whether religious, ethnic, national, sexual or other.

3. A just and pluralistic society must actively redress the wrongs done to oppressed minorities, and inasmuch as Prof. Jeffries has that as his goal, we support him. But redressing past injustices cannot be resolved by attempting to promote a previously oppressed group as superior to all others. Prof. Jeffries’ positioning of his own culture above all others is an understandable reaction to the long oppression of African-Americans, but is ultimately an approach that solves no problems.

4. At the present moment in history it is certainly people of color who are particularly oppressed in American society, and this oppression deserves special attention. But other minorities in our society have also been, and still are, the objects of discrimination. Ultimately the oppression of any one segment of American society will terminate only when the oppression of all minorities ends. Fitting one group against another, and denying the minority status or suffering of any group, will never help eliminate discrimination for anyone in the long run. In particular, just as expressions of racism should never be allowed to go unchallenged, neither should anti-Semitism, even if the latter is invoked in the name of a progressive cause.

5. Overcoming the painful oppression of minorities in this country will be a complex and difficult process, fraught with tensions between peoples of color and whites, between Jews and gentiles, between heterosexuals and homosexuals and lesbians and bisexuals. There are legitimate disagreements between various segments of our society that cannot be ignored or overlooked. To resolve these tensions we need meaningful rapprochement rather than mutual recrimination and divisiveness. Racism will only be overcome by building coalitions.

6. We appreciate the efforts of everyone on campus who has worked to combat every form of discrimination and to promote a truly multicultural society. Much remains to be done.

by Tracy Feldman

What are the goals of multiculturalism?

In light of the current visit by Leonard Jeffries to Bard, many questions were raised in my head in reference to the multicultural movement here at Bard and anywhere else, for that matter. There are many things I do not understand about multiculturalism and its goals, and I have tried to clarify my thoughts in the paragraphs below:

Feel as though despite the rich cultural diversity found within the human species, there are certain things that not all of us share. It is my assertion that we are all searching for purpose, for a place in this crazy world where we are needed; searching for other people to whom we are indispensable. Often our searches are fruitless, and feelings of inferiority, of insecurity breed and fester within us.

These feelings of insecurity can come from persecution, or they can lead to persecution. People who feel insecure, inferior, whether due to persecution or not—when given the chance to feel superior to another individual or group of people—often take that chance. Rather than acknowledge everyone’s important contributions to this world; everyone’s contributions to the lives of others, it frequently becomes more desirable to take the other route, and make ourselves seem inferior or feel inferior.

Jeffries is not racist

The purpose of this letter is to address the presentation made by Leonard Jeffries on November 10th. It is not being said that because he is a black man with a strong mind. The reason he feels he has to wear a bullet proof vest is because he has a voice and a purpose. He speaks only the truth. People have to learn to look deep inside themselves and find the racism hidden within. It may be as minute as an atom lodged in the corner of the subconscious, or it may be as large as a cancerous tumor running rampant throughout the body. People need to be aware of that. It’s time to open eyes wide and examine the truth about racism and white supremacy.

by Ethan Bloch, John Ferguson, Matthew Deady, Jonathan Kahn, Peter Delan, Nancy Leonard, Jonathan Kliger, Dan Freedman, and Mark Halsey

Thought-provoking

Professor Leonard Jeffries’ presentation on multiculturalism was presented as a way to bring about a better understanding of the world. His supposed anti-semitism and homophobia stirred up a number of Jewish and other students who felt he spewed rhetoric that centered on the superiority of African civilization and put down other groups. In his speech we found no great references to African contributions to society. He pointed out how the Eastern states initiated the ideas of various ancient African civilizations. He blamed the media for taking his ideas and comments out of context. He displayed articles and scholarly text that helped prove his point.

The main goal of the presentation was to show how other cultures have been robbed of their history and places in history. In the long run, much of what was said sparked fear in many people’s minds. A curriculum of inclusion threatens the Eurocentric point of view and their dominance in the world. This may have angered many. Though white racism is going on every minute of every day in all that people do, the thought of giving up one’s dominant position to Black, Asian, Latino, and Native Americans makes many whites shudder. Whether you take a bit of this or that, the idea of giving up their dominance is a disturbing thought.

by Genevieve Kropp

A page of unedited observations from guest writers
International Relations News
by Joshua Ledwell

On November 8, a Japanese freighter left France with a cargo of 1.3 tons of radioactive plutonium for Japan. The Japanese government says that it plans to use the material in a prototype "breeder" nuclear reactor. The cargo, classified as "near weapons-grade," is the largest shipment of plutonium ever attempted. It is the first planned part of a original program to bring nearly 100 tons of the element to Japan over 20 years. However, on Nov. 13 Japanese officials, in response to international pressure, hinted that they might scale back their plans.

The move has drawn fire from environmental groups, who fear that an accident could scatter the virulently radioactive plutonium into the ocean. On Nov. 9, the freighter's armed escort ship reportedly collided with a vessel from the Greenpeace environmental group. Greenpeace has pledged to follow the freighter all the way to Japan.

Concern over a possible accident has also caused many foreign governments along the route to Japan to refuse the freighter passage through their territorial waters. Governments in Asia, wary of Japan's imperialist history, see the plutonium as a potential threat because it can be used to produce "weapons-grade" material. Nations have expressed further concern that the plutonium might be vulnerable to terrorism. If Japan does not reduce its goal for plutonium production, it is expected to eventually possess more radioactively pure material than that contained in the entire American military arsenal. Experts say that this much plutonium could never be used in nuclear power plants, essentially since the breeder reactors that use this plutonium are supposed to create more fuel for themselves even as they produce electricity.

The United States has supported the shipment of plutonium. It retained some say over what use the material would be put to, as the plutonium was originally American nuclear waste that was reprocessed in France. U.S. spies will keep the freighter under surveillance, and watch for accidents or hijacking.

The United States is balanced on the edge of a trade war with the European Community after a breakdown in negotiations with EC members France. The U.S. recently announced that EC white wines would be subject to a 200% tariff beginning on December 5. The import tax on wine from all European Community members, but France will be the hardest hit by the new tax since the vast majority of EC white wine is made in France. The tariff was levied specifically to affect France because the French government had resisted U.S. pressure to lower its subsidies for native farmers. The tariff would triple the cost of imported European white wine for buyers in the United States. However, the extra cost would not be felt by consumers until long after the new tax is imposed, because retailers have been stockpiling European wines in anticipation of the looming trade war.

Farmers are politically influential in France, and President Mitterand has been hesitant to lower the large government subsidies they garner. The United States argues that these subsidies give French products unfair advantages on world markets. Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany is probably the only European leader that could convince Mitterand on his farm policies, but he had refused to try, probably to avoid antagonizing the French public towards Germany as well as towards the United States. Each side's refusal to compromise on this issue has jeopardized the success of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in lowering tax barriers among the world's strongest economies. Both the EC and the United States agree that a trade war now will hurt their recovery of their economies from recession.

A demonstration in Germany last week to protest violence against immigrants was disrupted by radicals who threw eggs, tomatoes, and paint bombs at German President Richard von Weizsacker and Chancellor Helmut Kohl. More than 5,000 people turned out to protest neo-Nazi attacks on foreigners seeking political asylum in Germany. However, the meeting was broken up by leftist radicals from the opposite end of the political spectrum as the neo-Nazis.

The large crowd missed the first half of the keynote speech by President von Weizsacker because the public address system failed. While police held up large plastic riot shields to protect him from thrown objects, the president spoke into a dead microphone. After the last speakers came back on, the 300-400 radicals present did their best to drown the speaker out with whistles and shouting. Politicians later tried to express their disgust with neo-Nazis and their support for foreign refugees in television interviews. But they were muffled by leftists using high pitched whistles that caused feedback in pickup microphones.

What is SMOG, anyway?
by Naureen Khan (Shaila)

My mother's blood flows through my body as I live and till I die this woman's stamp on my body and soul will make me fight and fight against all forms of violence against women in this world.

I will give no explanation. I will write in my blood, because you with your infection of violence once shredded my soul and body and now you, no longer have control. I am not the tamed woman you have wanted me to be, instead I have empowered myself in shredded statements and you don't understand!

At the SP's party last weekend, in from of my eyes a woman was bullied across the floor, with tremendous violence, by a drunk man who was serving alcohol to the students. I speak out not for the particular woman, for I have no right to assume her voice, but I speak because till the woman's blood is drained out of my system I will fight women's exposure to physical violence.

This violent act that I witnessed, conjured up hardly any reaction from the people around the location. But till the woman's stamp on my forehead I will 'scream,' 'rant,' 'act hysterical' until we reach an end. Where the End is no one fucking knows. 'For each their own end' is what you'll preach in this society. An end usually determined by an individual's skin color, genitalia, gender, looks and countless categories of existence. So you feel a woman's end is legitimately the receiving end of violence; a woman's ending is her subjugation into roles defined by modern/traditional societies and cultures. But Till the woman's blood flows through my body I will fight the end you have in mind for me.

The woman whose blood boils inside of me taught me of [about?] goodness in this world, yet when I went out to the world I was raped, beaten, harassed and mocked. Yet the woman still made me aware of the good: she passed on a woman's strength which no one can break. She kept reminding me of her dormant letters, 'don't hurt anyone'; she could say this even though she knew. From this woman whose blood runs through my body and soul, I draw impregnable strength and till I die I will speak out against violence directed against other women.

I feign no sisterhood with 'whiteness' and 'blackness'; I feign no common cause against a specific group of people but I scream out for justice. I scream out against the injustice that pervades in this community because too many people are too self-centered to take on some personal responsibility to confront the injustice.
Another View

Classifieds & personals

**NOTICE** All classifieds and personals submitted to the Observer must be signed legibly. We will withhold your name if you request us to, but it will not be printed if we don't have this signature.

#1 Fundraiser Nationwide
Your fraternity, sorority, or other campus group can earn $100 or more in less than one week. It is easy, and you pay absolutely nothing. CALL 1-800-735-2077 EXT. 215

Guitarist and cellist looking for guitarist/singer who is sick of bad folks and overdeveloped consciences cluttering the scene. Must want to make beautiful and melodicious pop songs with two guitars and a cello. Should be able to harmonize like the dickens. Respond Box 100.

Lost: Large umbrella, cream shade with cat and dog on it, wooden handle. If found, please contact Box 65. Reward.

Do you find going to UPSTATE FILMS a different and special experience than going to the Lynx? If so, I want to talk to you. It's for my Project. Contact Chris at Box 1117.

I need a SLUBLET for Dee-Jay Male Senior is looking for decent accommodations to spend Christmas Break and intersections. Easy person to live with. Contact Chris at Box 1117.

Housemate Wanted to share a beautiful apartment in Red Hook. Bard student/ staff, female, non-smoker. Large living room and kitchen. Please call 738-6525 for more info.

TV: Cartoon Trivia contest: Can you tell us all or most of the words to the old Scooby Doo theme song? If you can, please respond to Box 899 via campus mail. The person who has the most complete lyrics will be awarded a Star Trek episode on video tape.

Let someone know you care, wish a friend a happy birthday via the personals!

Hoy Rabbit, "I've come to wish you an un
happy birthday, because you're evil and you lie
and if you should die, I may feel slightly sad but
I won't cry..." just kidding! you're wicked nice
(and wicked older than me), love, Tigger.

HONEYKID, you're everything. Hope it 
will be this way for many years to come. Love,
SWEETYPE. p.s. St. George will rise again.

Even on the range he had 2 sets of dishes. We
Come In Peace—Shoot to Kill—The 142 fastest
gun in the west fighting Super Melt in Your
Mouth over one female zombie who wouldn't
behave, what a strong boy, what pretty girl,
boys eat girls cook! And nails comes to those
who wait...

John—I have a crush on you. You’d like my
strings and speed up my pulse but be easy and
free—k

For Melt in Your Mouth
On the first day of X-mas my true love gave me
a voucher with a battery.
On the second day of X-mas my true love
gave me...
2 rubber rings — a voucher w/ a battery

Greg: RE: your Halloween column
That’s just silly! I preferred Nick-E. It made
my eyes bleed. PFTHTHHTHTHTT!! Kise Kiss

Despite the recent shifting of the political
winds, Terry Downing remains the Rapmeister.

Art—My present to you for today is a nice
saying: "Women with big breasts have back
problems..." Love, Your Secret Friend.

Hey M.—sexy, brunette, opens in dresses sounds
like me, too. Tell me more. Tell me more—
Mint

Avoid the winter chill/SWM seeks a special,sexy
female who is, like me, a slender non-
smoker with a gooy sense of humor. Quiet
times with soothing jazz await. Let’s melt into
each other by candlelight. MYSTERIOUS.

Sean O'Neill's guide cont.

other nations of the world, even if not truly
diverse according to some utopian
standard. In credit to impose a view on this
throng of listeners, the speaker will have to
fracture their unity, their cohesiveness as
a people. First, the speaker will single out
each group in the audience, Roman Catho-
lics, perhaps, and laud them for their sup-
poused acceptance of the proposed view by
their spiritual leader. Then the speaker will
denigrate those groups in the audience
who are not Catholics for not having like-
-minded leaders. Thus, a wedge has been
thrust in the social fabric. Next, the speaker
will reverse the position and mock the

Bard Amnesty International

sent former South African
prisoner-of-conscience
Nomgcobo Sangweni

speaking on Amnesty and her experiences in South Africa

Thursday, November 19th at 7pm in Olin Art History Room
The Bard Jazz Ensemble

An evening of jazz at Olin with Leo Smith and friends

The Olin Auditorium was once again filled with the sounds of jazz this past Wednesday, November 11th, as Professor Leo Smith’s Jazz Ensemble class performed. Three full-fledged ensembles performed, including two which have played elsewhere at Bard, as well as a duet and a solo performance.

The opening number was played by the newer students in Leo Smith’s ensembles class. Standing in a semi-circle so no one musician had priority over another, a group of eleven—sometimes thirteen—students followed the lead of the trumpeting Smith. With two trumpets, an alto sax, drums, conga drums, tom-toms, piano and four electric guitars, this group had almost too much sound. At times during Matt Lee’s sax solo in a later song, the guitars overlapped the powe of the other numbers, but overall the ensemble sounded fantastic. The percussion section was especially impressive, carrying the melody at one point and adding a flavor of rhythm sometimes missing in large ensembles.

The most animated ensemble was the Honey Stung Sextet, one of the more experienced groups, and, according to lead guitarist Parker Ramsey, the name derives from the fact that “we have six members...ah, hence the name Sextet.” Though bassist Alan Brandt completely lost drummer Tony Pigoli during a solo, much to the amusement of the audience, the band picked up the tempo immediately, never losing sync with each other. The Honey Stungers also played a song by jazz great Miles Davis, called “All Blues.” “It’s a blues,” Ramsey helpfully added. The wailing soprano sax, the wildly erratic trumpet, the singing strings of the fire-breathing dragon-covered violin, the sweet picking of the guitar—all in perfect time to the rhythm of the ever-present

Tony Pigoli. “At the beginning, it was just six guys playing,” Ramsey said afterward. “Everyone wanted ten minutes of solo and no one wanted to listen to anyone else. But now, we’re starting to groove.”

The mysterious group once known as Zeitgeist, Loco Boom and a host of other names, took center stage for two songs near the end of the concert. There was a brief moment of levity as the saxophonist wrestled with his sweatpants pocket and finally yanked out an enormous pair of sunglasses, assuming the proper jazz pose on stage. The five member band quickly enthralled the audience with their driving rhythms, active drums and tightly-knit melodies, producing what could only be called a mature sound. Obviously the crowd’s choice, the group soared through two songs before giving way once again to the Leo Smith’s original group for a final number.

Overall, Smith was impressed with his students’ performance. As part of his class, Smith’s students must perform once a semester in an ensembles concert, and, unusual, the group provided an evening of great music and entertainment.

Self defense workshop for women*

Saturday, Nov. 21st, 10am-noon
Stevenson Gymnasium

Please pre-register. To sign up call ext. 454 (before 11/20/92). Participants should wear comfortable clothing (pants suggested) and sneakers.

Sponsored by BRAVE and the Bard Women’s Center.

*A workshop for both men and women will be held in the spring.

Dance Concert IV

Fri., Sat., Mon., and Tues. Nov. 20th & 21st and Nov. 23rd & 24th

at 8pm in the Dance Theatre

November 18, 1992
Dracula

Finally, something to sink our teeth into...

Yes, it's finally out, the much-publicized and long-awaited Francis Ford Coppola version of Bram Stoker's Dracula. With special effects techniques that range from campy to spectacular and a list of stars as long as your arm, this one will probably stick around for a while. If you plan on seeing it in the Bard area, a word of warning to enhance your viewing pleasure—I saw this film at the Red Hook Lyceum, and I felt like I was watching a television; I don't know what kind of sound system the Lyceum has, but the sound of the film didn't have the depth and quality which enhances the mood of any movie and is almost necessary for appreciating such an assault on sensory perception as this particular film. Dracula is playing in Kingston and Poughkeepsie, and I think the journey would be worthwhile if you were able to find a place with either Dolby or Surround sound. Go for the biggest screen and the loudest, most comprehensive volume available.

This is a wood engraving of the real Dracula, Vlad the Impaler, who inspired amputees.

The Prince's Bride, Richard E. Grant (Withnail & I, How to Get Ahead in Advertising), and a big Texan whose name escapes me. Tom Waits has an excellent bit-part as Dracula's insane, insect-eating devotee. Mira Sorvino plays a fantastic job of drawing the characters together, comparing the taboos of that period and our own with hints of homosexuality, promiscuity, and drug abuse as we see each of the characters highlighted in turn, and then watch them interact. There's even potential AIDS relevance, as Copolla seems to want to imply that vampires are partlysexual in nature. If you've ever read Bram Stoker's novel, the plot will hold few surprises. Coppola does a good job of highlighting some of the more interesting aspects of the character, and the recurrence of the standard vampire-symbols is used well—sometimes to innovate, other times to call mind the rubber-suit ephemera of '50s horror movie camp. At times Coppola does too heavily on the gothic romance/melodrama themes, but don't get the wrong idea—if you go to this film expecting a celebration of all that is dark, gloomy and gothic, you will be disappointed; the film just isn't serious enough to be taken as an anthem for Anne Rice fans. Coppola instead celebrates the marvels of cinema, showcasing what can be done on the big screen.

This film is, above all, a giant toy store of cinematography and effects, scenery, and mood. Because of this, Coppola's Dracula is in many ways a strange experience, encapsulating such a great variety of elements that you may not know quite what to think of it at first. The tone is at times campy, humorous, erotic and melodramatic; the special effects are at times fantastic and at times reminiscent of grade B creature movies. All of this is worked into an increasingly intricate and overwhelming rollercoaster ride through every cinematic technique or category ever invented, and a sensory experience which, at its best, can leave one feeling joyously overloaded. At worst, you might leave the theatre unsure of exactly what it was you were supposed to be going through. The answer for Coppola would seem to offer is, Everything, as rapidly as possible. My advice, if you have the time and cash, is to go see it twice. The first time just absorb what you can of the effects, the sets, the costumes and the humor. The second time, once the novelty wears off a bit, you will see what you think of it as a movie.

Electric art at Bard

An evening of experimental electronic art comes to Bard on Thursday, November 19th at the Blum Gallery. The performance begins at 8:00 pm and features works by students in the Master of Fine Arts Program in Electronic Art at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. This program is one of the few in the world that teaches students how to work with new electronic tools in order to create new modes of expression and new modes of presentation. Pieces in the performance include two new animation by Troy artist and poet Joe Giroux, a new collaborative video piece John a J Jannone and local artist Michael Oatman; an improvisatory performance using interactive computer music and graphics systems by Jonathan Kozzi, an homage to composer John Cage by Eric Zittel, and new pieces by Jennifer Bezek (USA), Mark Schlenk (USA), Svetlana Bukvic (Bosnia), Roberto Boci (Italy), Joanna Whitley (USA). The evening also includes a video tape by Arlen Speights whose current installation in downtown Troy dealing with Native American issues is attracting considerable attention.

The work shown at this event represents some of the newest and freshest talent in the world of the electronic arts, and showcases some of the emerging directions this work is taking for the twenty-first century. New technologies are demanding the arts, and computer image processing, computer music, and computerized video editing play a significant role in all the work shown here. Experiments in virtual stage realities take on the more familiar "game boy" personal virtual worlds into new areas of experimentation.

For more information please contact Richard Teitelbaum in the Music Department.
Gone but not forgotten

In memory of David Crocker

Last week the Bard community lost a talented artist and friend, David Crocker. Crocker, who has been the lighting designer for the Bard Theatre since the fall of 1990, was found dead at the age of 32 from a heart attack in his home on Friday.

Crocker received a degree from Carnegie-Mellon in lighting design and toured with rock groups including The Throwing Muses and The Psychedelic Furs. He also did professional lighting design in The Pyramid Club in New York City, as well as in other theatres. He was invited to Bard in 1990 as a visiting artist to coordinate lighting for drama/dance department productions. Since 1990, he worked on numerous dance-theatre concerts and many successful Bard shows, including Eugene O’Neill’s The Iceman Cometh and Manti Saki.

“He was a specialist brought in for his own art...he didn’t expect to teach when he came,” said Joan Churchill. But students who knew Crocker had nothing but praise to offer for his work at the theatre. “He became a great teacher in the time he was here,” explained the most complex things in simplest terms, and suddenly, you would understand completely. It was like magic,” remembered Sara Smith, director of Stage Managers and a close friend to Crocker. Elisa Kammer, a student involved in production tech, added, “He always took the time to make you feel confident—to make you feel what you were doing was worthwhile and good.”

Crocker, who came to Bard from a purely professional background, had some serious adjustments to make when he arrived. Although Smith commented that he “knew basically everything about the production end of theatre, which was wonderful for the students here,” the relative informality of the Bard theatre environment was quite a change for him. As any talented artist, he learned to create from what was available: “We’re students, which means we sometimes work with spit and twine and chewing gum. David (made himself) completely comfortable with that. He could work with anything,” explained Zafra Whitcomb.

More than anything, Crocker was intensely involved with everything he encountered. According to Smith, “David believed that the theatre should be like a tremendous family where we all sort of hate each other, but also love each other and get along. If his analogy holds, he was like the favorite uncle from out of town.”

Although those who knew him were shocked by the tragedy of his death, many students are beginning to concentrate again on his life. As Smith explained, “Now that our grief is no longer so raw, we’re realizing how lucky we were to have had him here. He was like a shooting star that appears suddenly, is very intense, and then disappears to somewhere else.” Members of the drama/dance department feel his absence particularly right now, as Dance Theatre IV receives its final touches. Crocker had intended to be here on the 15th in order to prepare lighting for the show. In his honor, the performers have decided to dedicate the concert to his memory, and they are busy choreographing a final dance piece, which will be uniquely for him. As Kammer said with certainty, “He’ll be around here for a long time.”

Crocker’s funeral took place on Wednesday, November 15th, in Binghamton, N.Y. The drama/dance department intends to hold a memorial service, the date of which has not yet been determined. Individuals interested in planning or attending the service should contact Sara Smith at the theatre extension or box 1165.

Bite it—This is it!

I loved telling my friends which band I was going to see at the Rhinecliff Hotel.

There's a spotless 65 Mustang somewhere out there with your name on it

“Who are you going to see?”

“Rhinecliff.”

“What is it?”

“It’s sort of ran like an Abbot and Costello routine. This is it: a band from New York City who are presently making the rounds of regional clubs, including the local attraction of Rhinecliff. Although their promotional information describes the band’s style as ‘alternative funk,’ a term which at first turned me off, this is it in more than just a typical funk band.

I suppose you could call this is a ‘funk’ band, but only for lack of a better term. Elements of funk prevail in the band’s music—several of their songs feature lyrics which are rapped by the lead vocalist—but the band’s range extends further than modern rock. There is a definite rhythm and blues influence, as well as jazz and motown, in This is it’s self-released CD, Bite it, which has already received ample airtime on college radio stations in the Northeast, including WSMZ, Skidmore and West Point. The CD contains six songs, the longest, and best, of which is not listed on the CD cover (a “bonus track,” I guess), and has the first CD case I have ever seen that is fabric ated with recycled paper, soy ink and no plastic parts.

“Money Thing” and “Truth of the Matter” have the most R&B as well as rap and the chorus is sung in harmony—something you rarely see with new groups due to the fact that there’s usually only one vocalist. Everyone in this band is it sings, and although the tone is rough at several points, the raspy quality of the voices gives energy and power to the lyrics. “I Got It Good,” which is probably intended to be the group’s big hit, has clear, crisp guitar solos at just the right volume—many times, the leads overwhelm the rhythm section, but guitarist Sean Boyd and bassist GeoF Greene blend with the rest of the group. The lyrics themselves are a bit overdone at parts, and sometimes hard to understand, but they fit in well with the music to create raw and powerful driving melodies. Although the band did have the chutzpah to print a photo of Rhinecliff Hotel on their CD cover and no photos of any other “club”), this is it’s definitely a band worth listening to. Whatever you choose to call their style of music—alternative funk, psychedelic, one reviewer called it “Tribal Beach music”—it’s it has it.
Opinion/Editorial

We don't need hate
by Matthew Apple

"I have a dream that one day on the hills of Georgia the sons of former plantation slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood."

These are the words of a man who was killed because he believed all people should love one another as if they were brothers and sisters. In his recent lecture at Bard, Dr. Leonard Jeffries invoked the name of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as he compared himself to the martyr: "The tradition in America is to assimilate those who stand up and speak out," Jeffries said, saying that he was wearing a bullet-proof vest to protect himself from King's fate. However, Jeffries is nothing like the man to whom he compares himself; White. While Dr. King sought to unite Americans through the bonds of brotherhood and love, Jeffries seeks to divide us with fear and hate. He is a hate monger.

The organization which supported Jeffries' visit, Students Educating Against Racism (SEAR), might want to consider changing its name to Students Educating Against Hate. Jeffries' infamous "Albany speech," parts of which were covered in the Sept. 12, issue of New York Magazine, was bluntly anti-white, anti-Semitic and anti-homosexual. He proposed wild theories to prove the superiority of blacks based on purported social and cultural evidence, interpreting history to fit his needs. He believes that the AIDS was manufactured in Germany as part of a "white conspiracy" to kill all Africans—"This is not my analysis—this is scientific medical reports..." He believes that whites are not human because they have less melanin in their skin—"Melanin is possibly responsible for brain development...you have to have melanin to be human. While there are defects of it because of the circumstances of the..." 

Jeffries' belief that Europeans are all warlike and greedy while Africans are humanist, communal and gentle because of their warmer environment. He believes that homosexuality is wrong because it comes from "the value system of the caves that came from Europe", based on the male principle, men loving men as fighting men. That's the Valhalla. That's the Nazi. That's the Greek. That's the Catholic church. According to one of his former students, Jeffries once told a class, "I'd had my way, I'd wipe [whites] off the face of the earth." And a colleague said that by Jeffries' standards, [the Albany speech] was pretty tame stuff.

Jeffries does rate good points: "while" civilization has copied older civilizations. Every civilization since the beginning of recorded history has adopted the practices of conquered societies. The Greeks copied the Egyptians, the Romans copied the Greeks, most of Western society copied the Romans. While he is correct in saying that the Egyptian civilization came before the Greek, he completely ignores the existence of Sumeria in what is now Iraq, the ancient Egyptian civilization along the Indus River, and the ancient Chinese civilization along the Yangtze and Yellow Rivers. He is also correct in saying that American society needs to be more aware of multicultural education is important, that society should teach children to understand and respect cultures other than their own. Jeffries has a worthy goal, but his methods seek to enable awareness of society's problems is hostile, hateful and destructive.

Perhaps the only reason SEAR invited Jeffries to lecture was that he is a controversial figure, knowing full well that controversy always stimulates discussion. Jeffries' views remain important and worth considering. However, they are divisive and will not promote racial equality and harmony. Jeffries distorts reality and reenactment side-arguments as the truth. He is full of enmity and malice for those who do not blindly fall in line with his twisted logic. He is not the answer to society's polarity; hate drives people apart, instills fear and distrust, and incites violence. After the Rodney King verdict last year, racial riots throughout the United States caused nothing but death and destruction. They didn't solve any problems, and neither will Jeffries. Hate is the problem, not the solution.

If SEAR honestly wishes to promote its agenda of multicultural awareness, its leaders should consider asking Myra Armstead to speak. Bard's resident poet would likely change SEAR much less to speak and would be more informative, more encouraging and more truthful than Dr. Jeffries. Multiculturalism is a worthy goal that can only be reached through understanding of every ethnic group to ensure the community functions as a whole. True multicultural awareness will come from understanding and respect, not hatred.

Multiculture at Bard

Dear Editor,

Now that Dr. Leonard Jeffries has come and gone, how do we at Bard proceed regarding the establishment of a more explicitly multicultural curriculum?

First and foremost, one must separate multiculturalism and Afrocentrism as two distinct, indeed opposing concepts. It is a shame and an irony that Dr. Jeffries equates multiculturalism with a skewed, piece-meal, ethnographic version of history drawing on the very techniques of "scientifically"—supported romantic racism developed by nineteenth century European thinkers, mainly German, to justify and oversimplify their apparently growing domination of the world. One of his trusted sources, Martin Bernal's Black Athena, points this out clearly, but Dr. Jeffries, in typical fashion, neglected to accept this work in its own terms. Reacting to his presentation last week, I wanted to ask—but was prevented by the shortened discussion period—how he would and we should respond if a discovery of human fossils pre-dating those in East Africa were located in the Amazon or perhaps the Inuit in the Arctic, some future point? Should we then develop a new Amazon-centric Afrocentric historical synthesis? Clearly, we need not and ought not be "contradictory"—oriented with regard to human experience in order to be considered advocates of curricular multiculturalism.

The discussion of multicultural education at Bard should not, however, focus on Leonard Jeffries. The concerns of the Students Educating Against Racism (SEAR) are real regarding the omissions in the Bard curriculum. What SEAR and its supporters legitimately highlight is the presuppositional inherent in the liberal arts project, however laudable the ideals of this project. Before SEAR participates, a great majority of them American minority, desire is the curricular space in which to consider their own racial/ethnic experiences in a formal, serious manner before or simultaneously with a consideration of the large, universal issues dealt with in the established configurations of instruction and scholarship at Bard. Put another way, they question the extent to which much of what passes for human experience is really "majority" experience. However this question may be answered, the point is that the question is a legitimate one deserving of more profound, empirical consideration than it has received.

Within this context, I call upon the Bard community of students and faculty to reconsider the positive and significant possibilities of the Multicultural and Ethnic Studies concentration, languishing since its approval some two years ago. This program, with its focus on oppressed racial and ethnic groups in a broad and international context, is precipitously the arena in which to undertake the type of study SEAR desires. It would not require any faculty member to teach material that is unattractive or uninteresting to her/him, but would rather outline a coherent path of study from courses already offered or to be developed by the present and future Bard faculty.

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Thoughts cont.

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face value. He demands each person think critically and make a point to go outside of the realm of Eurocentrism. This is particularly for minority students was "to master what Bard gives you and you go beyond it."

Nathalie Bouillon
As the director of the former Minority Studies Seminar and developer of the Multicultural and Ethnic Studies concentration, I welcome any constructive input towards the implementation of the program from my colleagues. Let us work together to fill this real curricular need.

Sincerely,
Myra E. Young, Associate Professor, History

Quote, unquote

Dear Editor,

I am writing to protest the misrepresentation existing in your paper. Specifically I am writing about the article dealing with theft at Bard which appears on page two of the Observer on November 11, 1992. To the part of the article I take offense to is the portion dealing with the theft of a pair of glasses and the student who returned them. I am the student who you say found them on the ground. I was not, as your paper seems to infer, reading the “signs in the Tealbourn” asking for the return of his glasses” and decided to return them.

I don’t know if the glasses were stolen or not. All I know was that I found a pair on the ground, put up a sign reporting that I had found them and where they could be picked up. Since when has it become a crime to pick up lost items and try to return them to their rightful owner? I do not know [sic].

Host my wallet to a couple of weeks ago and somebody turned it in, and I am thankful. I do not recall reading anything inferring that he/she had committed any criminal act.

As for the article, the B&C worker found them on the ground and picked them up and thanked me. He told me, “You made my day, thanks.”

I find it disturbing that a good deed can be represented as a crime. I find it even more disturbing that you can twist facts without contacting me to find out what happened. My name is not secret. The B&C worker picked them up at my room, I did not drop them off anonymously somewhere without leaving a trace of who I was.

The next time a similar article will still pick it up and attempt to find who owns it. The next time I don’t want to be implicated in criminal behavior. I realize that you are trying to raise awareness of theft on campus, but I don’t see anyone people trying to prosecute them with threats of “pressuring” them. If the police find out about the deflection of sexual harassment, you will be out in the open and your facts are the complete opposite. You are the one who has sexual harassment.

Second, you make the objection that there is nothing to be gained in obtaining the power to label anything and everything one wants as sexual harassment. I believe you are simply blaming yourself here. Indeed, what can be gained by control over the definition of criminal behavior. If I had the power to decide that not wearing a women’s coat is not a disturbing the peace, I believe it is also a crime to be taking a piece of paper and add a “free” on the end of it.

Defining definitions

To Miss Herzog,

Bravo! Congratulations to you on your insight in the final lines of your letter. You are correct. I do have my own agenda in writing these letters—just as everyone does. Now all you need to do is figure out what that agenda is. Hint: Ask yourself carefully, more carefully than you did, where I am coming out from.

But enough of this praising for an insight which was already obvious. You brought up a few points which deserve to be addressed and clarified.

First, you point out that no one is going to admit that sexual harassment is acceptable. Even people who engage in sexual harassment will not. These people do not realize that their behavior is unacceptable or that they try to redefine sexual harassment to make it acceptable. How? You haven’t forgotten something. How did you make that determination that they are in fact engaging in sexual harassment?

No one is talking about excusing people who say one thing and act hypocritically. My point is that this determination of sexual harassment is subjective. We get to make this determination and decide upon the criterion to be used needs to be carefully worded. As you say, a person may try to redefine a behavior to turn blame and guilt to the victim, but a person could also redefine harassment to create blame and guilt and a harasser, “Redefining” can come from both sides. My point is that there has been an agenda in which the power of condemnation has been usurped by certain interests in a most unfair and unreasonable manner. To be blunt, there are feminists who are working to define sexual harassment, imposing their own and delusions are considered over fair and reasonable conditions.

Second, you make the objection that there is nothing to be gained in obtaining the power to label anything and everything one wants as sexual harassment. I believe you are simply blaming yourself here. Indeed, what can be gained by control over the definition of criminal behavior. If I had the power to decide that not wearing a women’s coat is not a disturbing the peace, I believe it is also a crime to be taking a piece of paper and add a “free” on the end of it.

But this is something that only applies to the more radical elements. I mean something else when I speak of the general tendency of the move to be free with the label of sexual harassment, not specifically of the sign. There is a fine line between psychological unconstitutional harassment that is involved in which hurts paper past the boundaries of unequal treatment.

In conclusion, sexual harassment. That is true and groups rise to combat it. But now groups have transformed. Now their number is less than the previous norm. There is a fine line between psychological unconstitutional harassment. That is true and groups rise to combat it. But now groups have transformed. Now their number is less than the previous norm. There is a fine line between psychological unconstitutional harassment that is involved in which hurts paper past the boundaries of unequal treatment.

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**WEDNESDAY. NOVEMBER 18**

- **Smoke Signals.** Tomorrow is the Great American Smokey—so get ready for 24 smokeless hours. The American Cancer Society & Bard College offers educational info, survival kits, & a Quitter's raffle: smokers turn in a pack of cigarettes for a chance to win a dinner for two. Also, find a friend to "Adopt a Smoker"—support staying off cigarettes. Get your info & kits today at the tables in Kline, or contact Kris Hall, x350.

- **Bringing the Revolution Home.** Go to the organizational meeting of Bard Revolutionaries Against Capitalist Exploitation—B.R.A.C.E. Be there at the President's Room in Kline, Noon-1:30p.

- **Hey, wait a minute...** Get your work over to the Student Art Show. Anyone/anything can go up at the Proctor Art Studio, today & tomorrow.

- **Russian Studies Open House.** The Faculty of the Russian Studies Program will discuss details of: Jan-May Russian Intensive; Summer & Fall semester programs of study in St. Petersburg; Russian Studies Curriculum at Bard; The Russian Club. Also, formal registration for the January intensive program will take place. Be there in the Committee Room in Kline, 4-5:30p. For more info, call Prof. Lindsay Watson, x391.

- **Man spricht Deutsch.** Come & speak German at the well-what-else... German Table in the President's Room in Kline, 5:30p. Bring food/trays.

- **Tadeusz Kowalski.** The Bard Russian Studies Club & Departments of History & Economics brings us Prof. Tadeusz Kowalski, a member of the Polish Academy of Sciences. Prof. Kowalski will speak on Pains and Strains of the Transition from Planned Economy to Free Market in East Europe. Be there in Olin 203, 7p.

- **It's everybody's right.** Talk about the appearance tomorrow of Nomgcobo Sangweni—a former South African prisoner of conscience—with Bard's Amnesty International. You can also write letters with them in the Committee Room in Kline, 6p. Be informed.

- **Film-A-Go-Go.** The Film Committee brings to us Otto Preminger's Anatomy of a Murder. Jimmy Stewart stars as the defense attorney hired to defend an army officer accused of killing his wife's rapist. This 1959 film’s one time only at 8p, in the Old Gym. Also, watch the short: Betty Boop’s Trial. No smoking at this one, folks!

- **A Support Group for Women Survivors of...** date/incest & stranger rape and incest will have its first meeting this Thursday at 8p, in the Barr Chapel. Sponsored by the Music Dept.—It's free, folks!

- **Unmastro and his Five Women.** The Japanese Director presentations presents this film by the great Japanese director Mizoguchi. Check out this 1946 film at 7p, in the Preston Film Center.

**THURSDAY. NOVEMBER 19**

- **Made in Americas.** Co/see the Guatemalan video When the Mountains Tremble: Rigoberta Menchu—Hear Nobel Peace Prize winner Rigoberta Menchu's experience as a Quiche Indian woman. You must see this at 7p, in the Preston Film Center. Stay for more Latin America...

- **House-O-Film.** The Film Committee brings to us The Battle of Chile, Part III—Patricio Guzman's documentary chronicling the tumultuous last year of the democratic government in Chile before the military coup of 1973. Hear him at 4p, in the Jerome Levy Economics Institute.

- **La Tavola Italiana.** Anybody with one word/many words of Italian can drop by the Italian Table. Bring your food/trays to the Committee Room in Kline, 5:30p.

- **Nomgcobo Sangweni.** Hear this former South African prisoner of conscience speak about South Africa, Amnesty International, and her experience as a prisoner of conscience. Definitely go to the Olin Art History Room, 7p. Sponsored by Bard’s Amnesty International & the International Relations Club.

- **I don't have a thing to wear...** Just go to the B.R.A.C.E. Open House in the basement of Twombly, 7p. Everyone is welcome.

- **Life Drawing Sessions.** Paint, draw, or sculpt every Thursday & Tuesday in Proctor Studio, 7-9p. Everyone is welcome.

- **Visage Collage.** See the new-fresh faces/pieces from the Electronic Arts Performance Series brought to you by Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Go tonight, experience multimedia installations combining computer image processing & music, video, & "virtual" stage realities. The evening includes: animation by Trudy artist & poet Lee Gerson; collaborative video piece by John J. Janzen & Michael Catman; improvisatory performance w/ Interactive computer music & graphics by Jonathan Kozintz; an homage to John Cage by Eric Zitel; video tape by Arlen Spiegals; and, new pieces by John J. Janzen, Mark Schlechtem, Svetlana Bulovic, Roberto Iucci, Joana Whitney. See you at the Blum Art Gallery, 8p.

**FRIDAY. NOVEMBER 20**

- **COG.** Community service is our responsibility: Columbia County Youth Project, Literacy, Tutoring, Books on Tape. The Campus Outreach Group will hold a meeting in the College Room in Kline, 4p. The community is bigger than Bard.

- **S.E.A.R.** Meet with the Students Educating Against Racism—formerly, Students for Multi-Cultural Education and Awareness. They are looking forward to an expansive membership—for ideas & needs of the Bard Community be addressed & represented within the context of educating against racism. Join them in the Committee Room in Kline, 6:30p. Got involved.

- **Sins of the Eyes.** It's opening night of our Student Art Show—See the works of your fellow colleagues. Be there for the opening reception tonight at Proctor Art Studio, 8p. It's BYOB, folks!

- **Daddality of Dance.** Boasting standing/sitting room crowds only at Bard, Dance Theatre 4 once again bursts through Bard—see Senior Project dance work by our own David Costello, Rosie Gekas, Megan Khoury, & Melissa Mackall. Definitely go to this performance at 8p. Friday, Saturday, Monday, & Tuesday, at the Dance Studio. No reservations necessary, folks!

- **World-o-Film.** The Film Committee brings to us this 1970’s British movie: The Magic Christian. This madcap comedy stars Peter Sellers as the world’s wealthiest man testing the depths of degradation to which people will plunge themselves for money. Don’t miss Ringo Starr’s stellar acting performance. Short: He Was Once... a parody of the TV program Davey & Goliath. See them both at the Old Gym, 7 & 9p.

- **Sonic Groove-Ulations.** Bold, bright, funk/hip-hop with Stye. Our Entertainment Committee brings us this no sleepier night in the Old Gym, right after the movie.

**SATURDAY. NOVEMBER 21**

- **Get ready.** B.R.A.C.E. & the Women’s Center are sponsoring a Self-Defense Workshop for Women. Learn skills, strategies, & knowledge to empower yourself—be at the Stevenson Gym, 10am-Noon. Remember, pre-register by Friday, Nov. 20th: call x450.

- **Krash Groove.** Bust out tonight with another Dancing Delirious Saturday brought to us by our SM Aces & BAGLE. Explore the physical possibilities of dance/equipment in the Old Gym, 10p. There’s a $2 donation—don’t forget your money folks.

**SUNDAY. NOVEMBER 22**

- **Film-A-Go-Go.** The Film Committee brings us the debut work of the great Indian director Satyajit Ray—Pather Panchali (Song of the Little Road). This first part of the Apu Trilogy is a story of a poor family’s struggle to survive. See this 1955 movie in the Old Gym, 7:30p.

**TUESDAY. NOVEMBER 24**

- **Be Bush’s Campaign Manager.** Baker keeps them from International politics, foreign policy, & diplomacy. Maybe you can too, if you check out the International Relations Club meeting in the President’s Room in Kline at 6:30p.

- **Vertigo.** You know this is a great movie—so don’t miss it. See Kim Novak, James Stewart & Barbara Bel Geddes in this 1958 Alfred Hitchcock movie. Don’t waste this movie of macabre suspense & spectacle on TV—see it today at 7p, in the Preston Film Center.