

Bard College
Student Newspaper Archive
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OBSERVER

Vol. 100 No. 14 December 9, 1992

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This is our last issue of the semester. Anything sent to the Observer after this week will be printed in the February 10, 1992. You must be bored if you're reading this. Get a life!

News is whatever sells newspapers. The Observer is free.

The
BARD

OBSERVER

VOLUME 100 ★ NUMBER 14

BARD COLLEGE ★ ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON ★ NY 12504

DECEMBER 9 ★ 1992

"Ah, yes! I wrote thee
'Purple Cow' —
I'm sorry, now, I wrote it.
But I can tell you anyhow,
I'll kill you if you quote it!"

—Gelett Burgess

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government
meeting of 1992

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Getting There

The new wing of
the library is
nearing completion



Clive Crook (left) duked it out with Robert Kuttner (right) over Michael Kingsley (center).

Passing the buck

"Firing Line" debates the federal deficit at Bard

A banner reading "National Debt 4,000,000,000,000+" dominated the stage as "Firing Line," the political debate program on PBS, was taped live before a standing-room-only audience at Olin Auditorium yesterday afternoon. Featuring prestigious professors, economists, commentators and politicians from around the nation, the debate was hosted by

the Jerome Levy Economics Institute and dealt with one of the most hotly contested issues in contemporary politics: whether or not reducing the federal deficit should be a top priority of the incoming administration.

William F. Buckley Jr., the reactionary regular host of "Firing Line," captained the team of four panelists supporting the resolution that lowering the national debt should be of major importance over the next four years. In his opening address, Buckley stated

that for every one dollar raised in tax revenue, \$1.59 is spent by the government, and that something must be done to "contain the beast of government spending." His team predicts a complete collapse of the economy when the burden of the deficit becomes too much as the result of "spend-thrift" government. A staunch foe of tax increases, Buckley insisted that raising taxes would not solve the problem of the deficit and promised that his team would prove (in the course of the debate) how necessary it is to reduce the debt.

Dean of M.I.T.'s Sloan School of Management, Lester Thurow, captained the opposition team which argued that there are many pressing issues to take precedence over reducing the deficit in our current political and economic situation. "People care more about healthy economy than the invisible and irrelevant budget," commented Thurow. He and his fellow panelists believe that developing the infrastructure of our economy must be the government's top priority before

any sensible reduction of the deficit can occur. Drastic measures, such as cuts in social programs or tax reductions, would only weaken the already weak economy, while careful investment could lead the country out of its recession and thereby reduce the deficit.

Clive Crook, chief economics editor for *The Economist*, spoke on behalf of Buckley with a British perspective that warned, "Eventually the burden of debt catches up with you and results in a total break-down." In 1976, the United Kingdom suffered an economic collapse beneath a tremendous deficit, and Crook foresees a similar tragedy in the U.S.'s future. His opponent, Robert Kuttner, a co-editor of *The American Prospect*, countered that Margaret Thatcher's response "of tightening everyone's belt ultimately accomplished nothing" given that the British economy has not improved to any great degree.

"There is no correlation between growth rate and the deficit," continued Kuttner, who

continued on page 2

Firing Line fires on

continued from front page
insisted that simply trying to cut the budget is not a viable solution to our economic slump. "We have to get the economy back on track, even if we must borrow more, and invest that money wisely."

Senator Warren Rudman (R-New Hampshire), a staunch political foe of the federal deficit, co-authored the Gramm-Rudman deficit reduction law. Rudman pointed out that the \$200 billion paid on merely the interest to the national debt is half of the entire revenue collected from federal income tax. "A responsible government does not spend half of its revenue on interest," he insisted while stating that the "American people would be more willing to pay taxes if they knew the money was going towards investment and not more consumption."

A professor of economics at Northwestern University and former president of the American Economic Association, Robert Eisner, opposed Rudman's philosophy of "no gain without pain" by stating that there should be no "pain without purpose." Eisner claimed that the deficit allows the economy to survive and hopefully prosper as he urged his opponents to "look at both sides of the balance

sheet...we need the assets (raised from borrowing money) to foster the growth that will someday alleviate the deficit."

The fourth panelist siding with Buckley stated from the start that "no country ever became great or remained great because of the money it owes." Predicting dire consequences for America's economic future, he stated that "you can't spend money out of an empty pocket, and this country is being run into the ground." His opponent was David Levy, vice-chairman of the Levy Institute, who explained that "America is in a controlled depression." His forecast is that the country's economy will take on upward swing, but reducing the deficit will be "an impossible venture until at least the late '90s." Therefore, deficit reduction, while critical for the future, should not be a priority at this time.

Rudman in turn accused Levy of practicing "the check is in the mail economics" because "you can't be sure that a surge will come later to save the economy." He also defended Gramm-Rudman by claiming that it managed to curtail "discretionary spending," but he was unable to hold Congress's "entitlement spending" in check. The issue

of entitlements was bandied between the debaters with the Buckley contingent arguing that social spending must be totally redrawn, if not completely eradicated.

At one point, Thurow defended President-Elect Clinton's proposed policy of raising the taxes of Americans who earn more than \$200,000; a plan which Buckley dismissed as "a pure exhibition of praying upon the rich." Thurow proclaimed, "Bill, you and I don't pay our fair share of America's bills!" When Buckley spoke of how he hoped to get government out of the way, Eisner went on to confront Buckley with the statement: "You don't care about the deficit—you just want to get spending down."

As Levy summarized his colleagues' arguments: "With the potential for rebuilding the infrastructure a few years down the road, reducing the deficit is an inappropriate measure at this time." The other side questioned the belief that the solution to "a problem of too much debt is to add more debt." Through lowering the wasteful spending of bureaucracy and social entitlements immediately, the imminent collapse can be averted. "We're not creating a growth," said one panelist. "We're merely pushing towards falling without a cushion."

In his closing remarks, Thurow commented that "a good deficit brings a return to investment," whereas the "bad deficit" of the Reagan and Bush years centered upon consumption. "We need to twist the economy back towards investment," he continued as he asserting that the priorities of the current administration must focus on growth as opposed to deficit reduction.

Buckley in his final speech joked to his opponents that "if you rejoice in paying taxes, then practice your masochism in private." He concluded that the country's inability to "control its own overhead" is stifling future growth and leading the nation into greater economic troubles. While deficit reduction need not be the sole priority of the Clinton administration, it must be of major importance over the next four years or the problem may ultimately prove insurmountable for future generations.

The moderator of the debate was Michael Kingsley, editor of *The New Republic* and co-host of CNN's "Crossfire." He remarked upon how liberals and conservatives have reversed their opinions of the deficit over the last twelve years, alternately reluctantly in favor and vehemently opposed. "The deficit debate is back to where it was in 1980," Kingsley concluded. "The only problem is that now the numbers are incredibly larger."



Cable and committees

Student Forum holds elections and one resolution

Last Wednesday evening, the final Student Forum of 1992 was conducted, producing a resolution concerning cable on campus in addition to committee elections. The first agenda item, a resolution that would encourage affirmative action considerations in student elections and appointments, was tabled because the motion had not been completely drafted or prepared.

The cable resolution was sponsored by Treasurer Matt J. Lee who had contacted the president of TCI Cable to determine what measures had to be taken to restore cable on campus. TCI had placed Bard on the "undesirable list" because of rampant piracy and wire splicing. Since no form of prosecution existed to reprimand cable thieves, TCI pulled out until some kind of deterrents were established.

The resolution, which easily passed, stipulated that all cases involving cable vandalism etc. would be referred to the Student Judiciary Board to mete out verdicts and punishments. Lee commented that TCI is planning to arrange meetings with the administration to restore cable "hopefully" by next semester.

Roy Isefuku was nominated for the one seat on the Student Life Committee and received the position by default. Closer elections were held concerning two Planning Committee seats and the alternate position on the SJB. Three of the five nominees for the Planning Committee spoke of paying more attention to smaller clubs and bringing "equality" to the budget allocation process. After a tight vote, Monirul Hoque and incumbent Jeff Rhyne were elected. As Rhyne said in his speech, "You have to be level-headed, fair and pragmatic...I want to continue the job I have been doing."

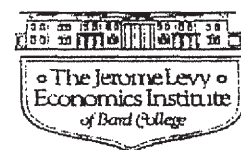
Four people ran for the alternate

SJB seat and senior Gabe Wardell was elected in another close election because of his "fascination with the training process...I wish I could have been more involved from the start." The Educational Policies Committee finally filled its semester-long vacancy for the Arts Division seat when Chair Renee Cramer asked if there were "any moderated art students in the room" and Kate McCumber—Goldring accepted the nomination.

Elections for the Entertainment Committee were originally planned for last Wednesday's Forum; but since it was neglected to be added as an agenda item at least 24 hours in advance as per the Constitution, the Entertainment Committee election shall be part of the campus-wide elections held on Thursday and Friday. The election for Secretary shall also be conducted at that time. The offices of Treasurer and Student Life Chair were won by default by Lee and former Secretary Sally Mehrtens respectively.



Michael Porter
News Editor



The Jerome Levy Economics Institute of Bard College

FALL 1992

LEVY INSTITUTE LECTURE SERIES

Thursday, December 10, 1992
4:00 p.m. Lecture

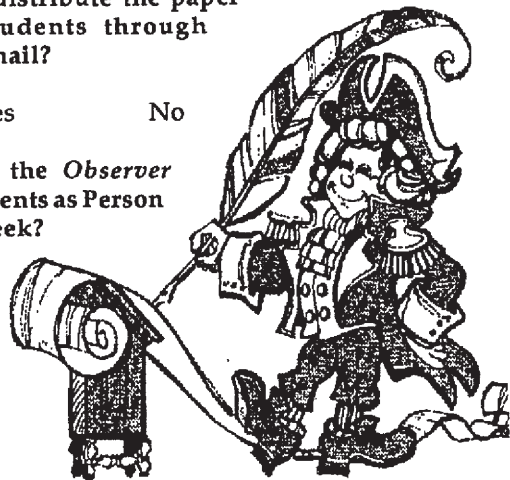
Alan J. Auerbach, Professor of Economics and Law, University of Pennsylvania, currently on leave as Deputy Chief of Staff, U.S. Joint Committee on Taxation, will be giving a lecture on "Fiscal Policy after the Election."

Part of a free lecture series - everyone is welcome.

Opinion Survey

Let us know what you'd like to see next semester

Should the <i>Observer</i> have a poetry corner?	Yes	No	Should the <i>Observer</i> keep printing "Bard Statistics"?	Yes	No	Should the <i>Observer</i> print more comic strips?	Yes	No
Should the <i>Observer</i> keep printing "Dead Goat Notes"?	Yes	No	Should editors be able to respond to letters submitted to the <i>Observer</i> ?	Yes	No	Should the <i>Observer</i> continue to print movie reviews?	Yes	No
Should the <i>Observer</i> feature more columns written by campus clubs?	Yes	No	Should more attention be given to sports events?	Yes	No	Should the <i>Observer</i> continue to print "Classifieds and Personals"?	Yes	No
Should the <i>Observer</i> print a weekly horoscope?	Yes	No	Should the <i>Observer</i> cover Distinguished Scientists Lectures and Levy Economics Lectures?	Yes	No	Should clubs be able to advertise events (such as parties) in the <i>Observer</i> ?	Yes	No
Should the <i>Observer</i> keep printing "Highlights of Local and National News"?	Yes	No	Should the <i>Observer</i> cover events that do not take place on campus?	Yes	No	Should the <i>Observer</i> contain more photos?	Yes	No
Should the <i>Observer</i> continue to distribute the paper to all students through campus mail?	Yes	No	Should the <i>Observer</i> change its motto? ("News is whatever sells newspapers. The <i>Observer</i> is Free.")	Yes	No	Should the <i>Observer</i> continue to print "The Beer Column"?	Yes	No
Should the <i>Observer</i> have students as Person of the Week?	Yes	No						



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Dead Goat Notes



The opinions in this column do not represent the *Observer* staff. If you don't like it then kick Greg upstairs by voting for him as Student Association Secretary. After all, he does make a mean cup of coffee.

I get a lot of mail from my readers. Most of it is unprintable or contains threats on my life. However, every now and then, my adoring fans ask me for advice on their lives. I could really care less about their piddling existence, but this week, since I'm short of material, I figured I'd answer some reader mail. Of course, this infringes on the creative rights of *National Lampoon*, *Dear Abby* and *David Letterman*, but my lawyers can beat up their lawyers.

Dear Greg: There's a girl in my philosophy class who I really like. However, I'm too afraid to talk to her because I have a Platonic view of the universe and she has a more Aristotelian one. What should I do? Sincerely, Lost In Platonic Love.

Dear Lost: Whenever I like a girl, I just follow her around a lot. I'll park my car outside her home and just sit there for hours. Sometimes I'll call her up and listen to her talk while I don't say anything until she hangs up in disgust. I'll cut out lots of pictures of her and paste them up in part of my room like a shrine with candles burning next to it. Maybe that will work for you.

Dear Greg: I live in Tewksbury, where the residents have to pay for damage done to soda machines, fire extinguishers, etc. I'm sick of having to clean up after and pay for these vandals. What should I do? Cordially, A Guy With No Coke Or Means Of Extinguishing Fires.

Dear Vendorless and Fire-prone: your problem is analogous to that of the Kenyan rhinoceros several years ago. Not only did they have no vending machines or fire extinguishers, but they also had a poaching problem. Luckily, the government of Kenya was sensitive to their plight and passed a shoot-on-sight law which allowed Kenyan equivalent of the Fish and Wildlife Commission to kill poachers on sight. The Student Association has likewise passed a similar policy on vandals, Visigoths or any other Germanic barbarian horde. Happy hunting!

Dear Greg: I run a small, flaky, liberal college in upstate New York. I also have to live up here while my wife works and my kids go to school in New York City. I miss them terribly. If that weren't bad enough the students at my college make fun of the way I dress and run things around here. What should I do? Sincerely, Feelin' Crappy at College.

Dear Crappy: Our college president was in a similar situation so he took the wife and kids and joined a biker gang over the summer. When he came back, he was a new man.

Dear Greg: I'm an idealistic first-year student who wants to make a difference in the world. I care about war, peace, the environment and injustice unlike everyone else. I've done everything from holding meetings to putting up signs to writing letters denouncing my country, my college, my religion and my parents. Still the world hasn't changed at all. Do you think that maybe the rest of the world doesn't care what a few of my friends and I think about them? In solidarity with oppressed peoples everywhere, Kimmy.

Dear Kimmy: Of course the world is paying rapt attention to what you and your friends think. Have you tried putting a bedsheet sign outside of Olin with a couple of effigies next to it? That's sure to stop global injustice.

Persons of the Week



Picture courtesy of The New Yorker

Gregory & David Chudnovsky

The Chudnovsky brothers recently built a supercomputer in their New York City apartment from mail order parts. It occupies all of what used to be their living room and cost them almost \$70,000 of their wives' money. It is as fast and powerful as a somewhat older

Cray Y-MP which costs about thirty million dollars and is cooled by liquid Freon. The Chudnovsky brothers' version is cooled by twenty-five fans that blow air through the computer, but the computer requires almost enough power to blow out the apartment's wiring (2,000 watts to be exact). Thus far, their superintendent does not know about the project, but the brothers keep the wiring under check with a thermometer marked "Beef Rare — Ham — Beef Med, etc."

According to *The New Yorker*, the brothers say "You want to keep the machine below 'Pork.'"

Beyond their computer, the brothers have also authored over 150 papers and 12 books on number theory and mathematical physics. They built their supercomputer out of renewed curiosity for Pi. Pi is about 3.14 — the number of times that a circle's diameter will fit around a circle. Everyone thinks that Pi never repeats; everyone except the Chudnovsky brothers. They have used their computer to endlessly divide and redivide Pi to an almost infinite number of digits — two billion digits thus far (double the world record) and no other machine in the world has beaten it, yet.

Why should Bard students care? Because Pi is part of their lives. The double helix of DNA revolves around Pi; the waves of music from a concert in Bard Hall reverberate in Pi; the colors of artwork in the Procter Art Center strike the eye in spectra rippling at Pi intervals; Pi occurs naturally in the tables of death, in the mechanics of a car engine and in a rainbow.

The first eight million digits in Pi, mapped as a fractal landscape in a Chudnovsky program, lay out the Himalayas. If these two gentlemen can find a pattern in Pi, they will be opening up a new field of science which may find the hidden God in nature.

When Gregory (one of the brothers) went to the hospital for a CAT scan of his kidneys, they took the data and processed it in their own supercomputer. Gregory then wrote some imagery software, and after only a few weeks, their machine produced one of the most spectacular color simulations of the human torso ever seen.

The Chudnovskys have received a Doctor of Science *honoris causa* from Bard College, among numerous other prestigious awards, but they are currently unemployed. Gregory is incapable of getting a

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Highlights of local and national news

In Dutchess County a group of teachers, parents, students, and other community members have begun efforts to get more state funding for education. The group is calling itself the Dutchess County Education Coalition

Jeanne C. Breton
Features Editor

and its members have already had two meetings to organize their efforts. Their efforts are aimed at getting the state to fund more of local districts' school budgets. The efforts of those involved in this project will include lobbying, letter writing, and petitioning.

In Albany, Thomas Hagan was denied parole for the seventh time. Thomas Hagan was one of the three men who was convicted of assassinating Malcolm X on February 21, 1965. All three were sentenced to a minimum of twenty years in prison and the other two, Muhammed Abdul Aziz and Kalil Islam, were granted parole after the twenty years were up. Hagan, however, will not be up for parole again until December of the year 1994.

Baltimore public schools, which had previously allowed the handing out of condoms to reduce unwanted pregnancies and A.I.D.S. cases, are planning to offer students Norplant. Norplant is a recently developed contraception device that is sur-

gically inserted into the arm. It is reportedly 99% effective and lasts almost five years. This device, along with birth control pills and condoms, can be given to students in health clinics without parental permission.

In Springfield, Illinois three state supreme court justices were sworn in on Monday. These included the first woman — Mary Ann McMorrow, also the first African-American — Moses Harrison II, and John Nichols.

Nationwide, the nation's second largest retailer will soon also be the nation's second largest supplier of office supplies. K-Mart is planning to purchase a one-hundred-store retail chain of office supplies and personal computers called Bizmart. Last year K-Mart bought a quarter of the shares for another office supplies and computers company called Office Max. The combination of these two endeavors is predicted to increase business and raise stocks.

Nationwide, for years doctors have known that women smoking during pregnancy increased the chances of their babies dying from Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, and have advised women to quit smoking while carrying their child(ren). Recent studies, however, show that smoking after the child's birth can also endanger him or her. Sudden Infant Death Syndrome kills many children each year, and statistics show that more and more of these deaths occurred in households where the mother smoked again after the

pregnancy. Although smoking is not considered a direct cause of S.I.D.S., mothers and expectant mothers are now advised to quit smoking now until the child is beyond infancy.

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS:

Auction Tour. A private tour of Pleasant Valley Auction Hall's American Auction to benefit the Dutchess County Historical Society. Thursday, December 10th. 6-8pm. \$20 donation requested.

Actual Auction. At the Pleasant Valley Auction Hall. Saturday, December 12th. Call 471-1630 for information and reservations.

Food Drive. The Union Vale Fire Department will be collecting donations for needy families. Saturday, December 12th and Sunday, December 13th 8am - 4pm. Union Vale Recycling Center, Route 55. LaGrangeville, New York.

Time For Giving. While warming up for the holidays please do not forget those less fortunate than yourselves. Donate to the various food and clothing drives taking place. They benefit a great deal of needy men, women, and children each year and make the holiday season happier for all!

Suggested Locations For Lending Your Support:

- Food donation boxes at the Grand Union on Route 9 in Rhinebeck
- Clothing drive boxes on campus
- Food drive boxes at local supermarkets, store, and churches

BARD STATISTICS

1- Since 1981 Movie Attendance has decreased 7.4% while prices have increased 76%(according to US News&World Report 11/23/92)

2- Only 35% of Bard Students are attending college to get a better job (according to the American Freshman Survey 1991)

3- An estimated 38 million Americans have no sexual desires (according to US News&World Report 11/23/92)

4- According to the same report, almost 9 million are nymphomaniacs

5- 79.6% of Bard Students say they are attending college to develop a philosophy of life (according to the American Freshman Survey 1991)

Features

5

Almost Ready

New Wing of Library Will Open Next Semester

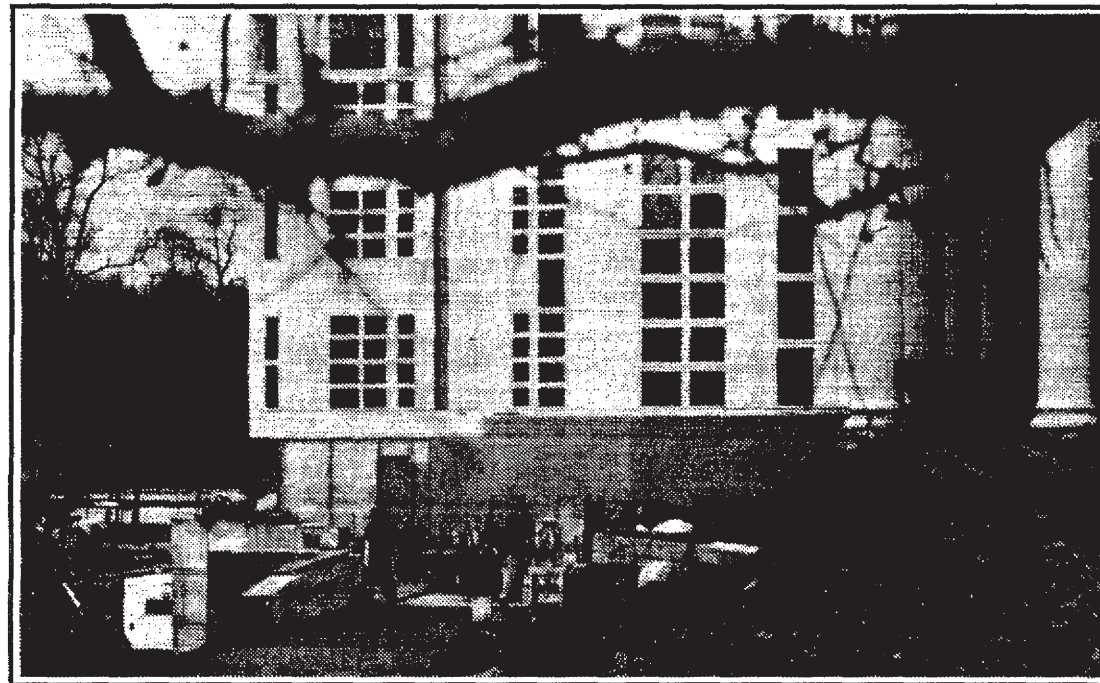
You have all heard it before. Many of you have even been the ones to complain about it—the current Bard



Library is inefficient! There is not enough room for all of the books, the equipment is out of date, the photo copiers are either being used or are broken and until this semester's addition of a computer terminal, there was no way of locating books except by flipping your way through the old-fashioned card catalog. This is one time, however, where the complaints were heard, and with the help of the almost miraculous fund raising of college President Botstein, the construction for an addition to the current library began.

The construction site may have been foreboding to some, but when finally completed, it will mean a bigger library, more apt to provide an efficient and studious atmosphere which everyone has been awaiting for so long. The new wing means not only a new look for the library and the college as a whole, but more importantly, it also means new equipment, new furniture, new books and new jobs. And, it's all going to happen this coming February!

Yes, it is true! All renovations will not yet be complete when the spring semester begins, but the new wing will be open and students will finally be able to enjoy some of these conveniences. There will be multiple computer terminals, new photo copiers, new microfilm machines (complete with copying devices), two campus phones, a new pay phone and several very large bulletin boards. This is not



to mention neater study areas, lights that do not buzz, a functioning clock on every floor and a great view at every window!

With conveniences, however, always seem to come a few sacrifices, and this opening day is no exception. Approximately sixty thousand of the library's current volumes are to be moved into the new wing immediately after this semester ends on December 18th, but the rest of the collection (nearly two-thirds of it, including the bound periodicals) will remain in Kellogg and Hoffman which will not be open due to renovations. Students themselves will not have direct access to these resources, but they will still be available. Students will simply have to put in a search request (like they do now for missing books or a periodical that has not yet been bound) and then wait until a student worker or librarian

has gone to fetch the book(s) for them. It will be rough at first, but not impossible, and things should fall into an efficient routine after a few weeks.

Another change that will take place for students in February is that they will no longer go to the circulation desk to take out reserves. All reserves will be on the second floor of the new wing. Open reserves will be shelved on the floor as they are in Kellogg, now, and all others will be in a separate room where they can be checked out, but must still remain in the library. This system is predicted to make work easier for the work-study students at the circulation desk who currently have to deal with signing out reserves as well as answering the phone and checking books in and out. The system will also offer students extra work-study opportunities as the library will now need students to work at the circulation desk and in the reserve room until the library closes at 2 a.m. (10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays). Another benefit is that Special Collection books kept in the Reader Services office and rarely seen will be available in the reserves room in the new library.

In case anyone is worried, reference materials will still be readily available on the ground floor of the new wing next semester. There will also

be an official reference desk, more pleasing to the eye and the librarians, where students can get help during regular hours.

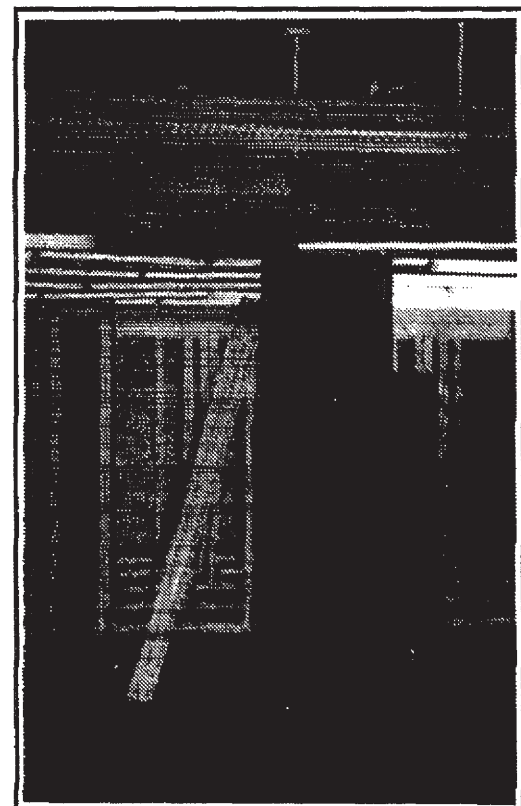
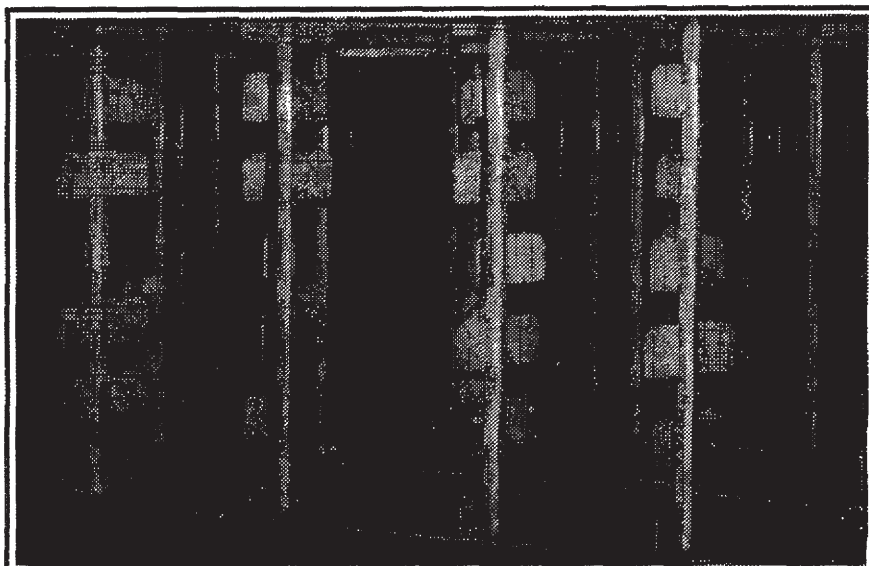
The circulation desk workers will still be in charge of signing out copier keys and vendecards (copier accesses that will allow students to make a set number of copies without having to carry a handful of dimes). They will also be able to tell you more quickly whether or not a book has been checked out and when it is due back with the computer cataloging system that will be installed over January.

All in all, using the library next semester seems like a promising endeavor even with the inconveniences. The most difficult transition period will be over intercession, so students and faculty who will be around should be aware of the changes. Between December 19th and the end of January, books will be relocated, currently checked-out books will be checked back in, books used this semester will be reshelfed, and clearance work will have to be done. There's bound to be a little difficulty ob-

taining materials, and Interlibrary Loan Requests may take a little longer to be processed. There's also bound to be limited access to the library. Patrons and users of the library are asked to be patient. The library workers, both the librarians and the students, have vowed to work their hardest to make the transition period as smooth as possible.

When the whole ordeal is over and next semester begins, the library will without a doubt be a better place for all. In addition to the conveniences already mentioned, the new library will also have more than one work room for professors to use, seating arrangements for just one or more, complete handicapped access, new water fountains on every floor, a seminar room and a music listening room where headphones will not be required. The latter two may be used at first for book storage, but will eventually become available to the members of the Bard Community on a reserve basis.

Construction in the new wing is complete as far as the workers are concerned. All that remains is the installation of furniture, equipment and books. The students, faculty and library workers alike look forward to the opening day of the new wing and the completion of renovations in the near future. If anyone has further questions about the transition period or the new library, contact Jeff Katz (ext.501) or Jane Hyrshko (ext.502).



Proposals for the Entertainment Committee

As members of the Entertainment Committee we would be dedicated to bringing the greatest number and greatest variety of bands to Bard as possible. We all have extensive experience in music, both in theory and practice. Albert and Miguel have played in bands both at Bard and elsewhere. Ned has done a considerable amount of work in college radio both here and at home in Boston. Ned and Miguel are familiar with the local scenes in Boston and D.C. We feel that this experience is valuable to the work that the E. C. does. We also believe, however, that the autonomy of the E. C. is one of its biggest drawbacks. We plan to introduce a suggestion box, or some similar measure, to ensure that student input is involved in the choice of bands.

Albert and Miguel have been trained as interns in the E. C. for the past few months. They are familiar with the responsibilities entailed in dealing with managers, contracting bands, contracting sound equipment, as well as the set up and clean up of shows.

We intend to contract bands including, but not exclusive, to rock, funk and jazz. We are committed to seeing a variety of musical styles represented on Bard campus. Our interests include rap, ska, indus-

continued on page 7

We, Jason Peck and Anne Miller, are interested in running for the head of the Entertainment Committee. We believe that Bard Students listen to all types of music, and the Entertainment Committee's goal is to reflect this diversity. We want to get bands that everyone can enjoy, and more bands that people can dance to. We want to vary the music style including such genres as: ska, jazz and international music styles. We are always open to ideas and suggestions and we want to keep a close dialogue with the students of Bard.

There are some bands we are considering bringing to Bard such as the New York Citizens (a ska group) and Sweet Honey and the Rock (a vocal ensemble women's group). We are also considering the possibility of having Henry Rollins speak at Bard.

We are willing to work hard, because we want to try to contribute something to the Bard community; we are willing to work with people.

Jason Peck
Anne Miller

Proposals for Mr. Secretary

Greg Giaccio's proposal for Secretary of the Student Association My Fellow Students:

When I heard that there was a thankless job that required lots of arduous work open to any student this semester I said, "Sign me up!" I would like to be your Secretary.

Are You Qualified? You bet. I am the only student this semester to propose and pass any legislation through the student government who was not a member of the Central Committee. I actually do have working knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order and our Student Constitution. In fact, I am a member of a committee to add an amendment to our Student Constitution.

What other experience do you have? Well, most people know me from my work at the *Bard Observer*, of which I was Editor-in-Chief last year. I still write for them and handle circulation. However, if I am elected, I will cease any and all work for the *Observer*. Unlike most politicians (and most journalists) I really will keep this campaign promise. I could say that it was a result of some political philosophy, but really, it's just plain-old-vanilla-Bard-student-type-laziness. Other than my work on the *Observer* I am a member of the Library Committee and Trek, a club that has been described as Bard College's Skull and Bones Society.

continued on page 7

I am interrupting your previously scheduled programming in order to beseech you to cast for votes for me, Jeff Rhyne, for Secretary of the Student Association. You may be asking yourself why should I vote for you? I will answer this question clearly and succinctly in as few sentences as possible.

Reasons to Vote for Jeff Rhyne

1) He has shown an active interest and involvement in student government by being a participating member of the planning committee for the past two semesters.

2) He is readily accessible to any student who cares to speak to him about issues concerning student government as evidenced by several occasions where he has been asked about club budget issues, emergency fund applications, etc....

3) He really has a genuine interest to improve student life in any way shape and form. This is evident to anyone who cares to inquire how the Treasurer, Matt Lee, and Jeff have fought valiantly throughout this semester to have cable reinstalled all over campus.

In Short, Cast a Most Useful Vote for Jeff Rhyne!

The Beer Column

A strange thing happened to us while we were in Germany for the Oktoberfest. We wandered into a bar, and, out of great respect for the German tradition, immediately set about honoring the spirit of Oktoberfest. Eight days later, we wandered out and couldn't remember what city we were in. We stood looking around blearily, noting the remarkable similarity between Germany's landscape and the Hudson Valley, and wondered if all this was merely a beer-induced hallucination. Were we dreaming we were Germans going to a small Eastern U.S. college, or were we pathetic North Americans desperately wishing we were of Northern European stock? Were we really at the Oktoberfest, having the times of our lives, or were we really hung up in a loft on the lower east side, getting really drunk on German beer and pretending we were in Germany? Were we butterflies dreaming we were people or were we people dreaming we were butterflies?

As we pondered these existentialisms, out of the corner of our eyes we spotted a rather large, stein-waving Bavarian bearing down upon us. He gesticulated wildly, spewing beer foam everywhere, as he said in a slurred guttural voice, "SCHH chhzzzargghhchhh Bier CHHH achhhh schhh Bier." After a few minutes, we convinced him that we understood only the barest necessities of German: wurst, bier and Frauen. Apparently our friend felt language should be no barrier to drinking, as he carted us off to the nearest party

central and said repeatedly, "Trink! Trink!" Needless to say, we do not have happy memories of the occasion. We did get to try several German beers, and although it is (sadly) no longer Oktoberfest, and since this is the last beer column the two of us may be writing, we wanted to share our opinions on some fine German beers. We should make a note here of the important difference between beer, lager and ale, and as soon as we look them up, we'll tell you (HINT: we suspect it has something to do with the amount of hops versus barley, the more grains producing a fuller-bodied ale or lager. But don't take our word for it.)

In the meantime: Beck's Dark is the German equivalent of Budweiser, except it's actually drinkable. While not the best of brews, even the most mediocre German beer beats the pants off of the name brand American beers. The problem with Beck's Dark is that it's exactly like the Beck's Pils, only the color of Coca-cola, which may not be a coincidence. In Germany, beer costs less than Coke in order to encourage Germans to buy the home product. Maybe Beck's Dark looks like Coke to trick the natives into thinking they're getting (exotic) American beverages. Just a thought.

In the North, Dortmund under Actien-Brauerei produces a beer unimaginatively called DAB. DAB has a nice malty smell, and although it's a bit bitter, it has a pleasant aftertaste. This is definitely a dark beer; darkness having little to do with actual color. DAB is a fine, full-

bodied beer, which we heartily recommend if you like these qualities in a beer.

Wurzbürger Hofbrau is similar to the DAB, except it has less aftertaste and less body. However, Wurzbürger is a Bavarian beer, and, while still quite good, we have no desire to drink it again for a long time. After the tenth or eleventh litre, you get kind of sick of it (guess which beer our German buddy was most enthusiastically guzzling.)

Before we depart for the Christmas and

New Year's festivities (yea!), we should mention that chanced upon a copy of Budds Cors' last will and testament, in which he stated that he had primed a mysterious entity known only as "Chris" to take over the Beer Column. Since Chris is such a rare name at Bard, we should have no problem finding him (or her). Who knows? Women are drinkers, too!

Welp, that's it from me and Ed, and we thank you for your support.

Beck's	DAB	Wurzbürger
Dark	Traditional dark	Bavarian dark
☆☆☆	☆☆☆	☆☆☆

Beverage way

SUPERMARKET of BEER and soda

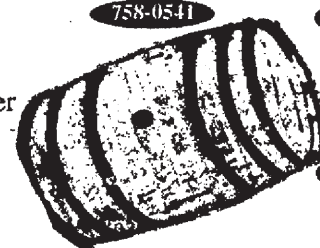
Rt. 9 2 miles North of Red Hook Traffic Light

758-0541

● Miller (cans)
\$10.98/case

● American Beer
\$8.99/case

● Elephant malt
liquor
\$4.49/6pk



● Coke (classic and diet) \$1.99/6pk

● Kropff's
\$3.99/6pk

● Busch Natural
Light
\$3.99/12 case

A page of unedited observations from guest writers

Europa, Europa, again

by Zoltan Bruckner

After the long peace of our childhood, when crises were interpreted according to definitions in the 'Cold War Dictionary', history seems to be back to 'business as usual'. And this means trouble, grand scale. This is especially true to the 'New Europe, East, West and Central.

Despite all our enthusiasm about a better future of that long-divided continent, outlooks are mixed (at the best). The 'elite' countries of Western Europe are struggling to endorse a closer monetary and political union, and the East is about to sink into a political and military quagmire unprecedented since the end of World War II.

Adding to Europe's troubles, the new American president-elect is about to become another self-proclaimed 'domestic president'. Here is one reason to worry for Americans who say that "we should mind our own business": most great American Presidents of the 20th century with a strong domestic agenda ended up as shapers of the world at large (think of FDR, Truman or LBJ). This also comes to some relief for anxious Central and Eastern Europeans (including Germany), who feel that in the ideological void of the post-Bolshevik era their democratically elected leaders are re-inventing nationalism in order to say in power.

This brings us to the point that is permanently abused by the American media: the "outburst of nationalism in East-Central Europe". Nationalism in Czechoslovakia (especially Slovakia), Hungary, Rumania, not to mention Serbia and Croatia, has not been a time-bomb ticking silently under the blanket of "Communist internationalism". It has been consciously re-invented by the new democratically elected governments. Why is this distinction important? Because the need to introduce the neo-nationalist ideology that invents new foes along the borders was prompted by the lack of tangible progress for the average person within those borders.

The reappearance of Neo-Nazi vandalism in and around Germany is just another 'grass-roots' version of what democratically elected Serbian and Croatian governments are doing with real weapons. In this context there is absolutely no guarantee that the war in the Balkans will be an isolated 'incident'. Since there are no clearcut ethnic boundaries at state borders, minor clashes along the borders of Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania or the Ukraine can easily turn into a real war.

Austria, a neutral country, must sense some of this when asking for membership in the Western European Union, the military alliance of the EC. Germany is being forced to introduce some more restrictive anti-refugee legislation in order to chill down right-wing pressure at home. Since there is no direct military threat to France or Britain, these countries leave the pains of finding a solution to Germany, which it hardly needs.

But linking up the tanks on the EC's borders is no solution. Neither should the United States wait until half of Europe turns into another 'Somalia'. The resurgence of nationalism can be halted by a more generous credit-policy combined with rigorous conditions set by the IMF, careful monitoring of the economies of these countries, preventive diplomacy and further encouragement for investment, investment, investment.

At present, the region seems to defy the rule that "democracies don't go to war with each other". It is prosperity, not only for an elite, but for the masses, that shields people from the arrows of nazi-ism or nationalism. Without that, another "iron curtain" will "descend across the continent". And weren't we all happy when the Berlin Wall came down?! What were we happy about?

Love dem potholes

I just thought I would write a little note expressing something that has been bothering me lately, POTHOLES! Am I the only person whose car is being ruined by these nonstrous holes in the parking lots? Last week I brought my car in to a garage for a leak in the gas tank. It turned out this was an ordinary leak. I had a leak inside my gas tank in a part known as the "sending unit". The mechanic was baffled as to how this could have occurred. He told me this was rare. He said I had to have been repeatedly driven over "rough terrain" for this to happen. I told him he should drive around carefully. Its better than 4-wheeling! So now I am car-less and will owe the mechanic over \$200 to get this sending unit replaced.

Bard is costing my family enough money, I think I should be allowed to live here without potholes in the parking lots. But then again I should consider myself lucky just to have a room, right?

While I'm here I might as well complain about Annandale Road (now that I'm a walker). Why are there no sidewalks on such a dangerous road? Am I the only one who fears being seriously maimed by an oncoming vehicle as I walk to class? I always thought our safety should be a priority. I've notice there is not even any "slow down" or "people crossing" signs. It is a state road so Bard wouldn't even have to pay for them!

Ainslie Butler

Can computers find cash?

In general, Bard students are a highly unique, individualized lot. If there is one thing which manages to unite the majority of us, however, it is our insatiable thirst for financial aid. The Bard Financial Aid Office should be commended in their efforts to satisfy this desire/necessity, but it often-times happens that even their contributions fall short of the proverbial mark and Bard students are left to acquire additional aid through their own ingenuity.

Many of you, in employing that self-same ingenuity, have probably experimented with scholarship search companies. You know the ones: you send them a check or money order for \$45, \$50, or \$100, and they promise to send you a personalized list of all the unclaimed scholarship funds you qualify for. (If you are unfamiliar with this concept, check out the information boards in Kline.) It sounds like the perfect solution but reality proves otherwise. For the most part, these services take your already exhaustible funds (and it has been noted of late that these services tend to concentrate on poor families, recognizing in them an increased desire for aid) and send you an obvious list of loans and scholarships, aid you were already aware of or could very easily have discovered in the proper offices on campus. In addition, despite their guarantee of a list tailored to fit, the majority of aid you were presented with probably didn't fit at all.

My point is this: don't waste your time. If you are desperately seeking aid and have considered such services as a possible solution, don't bother, they are a waste of your already limited monetary funds. More

importantly, the Bard Financial Aid Office is now offering an alternative - and a more effective alternative - to such services. And the clincher is this: the search is free!

If you can drag yourself over to B&C, the Financial Aid Office will introduce you to their recently acquired College Aid Sources for Higher Education, or CASHE, system. By supplying their computer with personalized information - your major, job experience, parents' job experience, etc. - you will receive a list of available aid which you do - yes, you really do - qualify for. From this list, you can determine which sources you would like to pursue and send these a letter (and self-addressed, stamped envelope) requesting additional information. The whole process costs you the price of the postage and the system is far more effective than scholarship services you pander to through the mail. You have nothing to lose and financial security to gain, so why don't you give it a chance?

Amber R. Boehm

Entertainment proposal cont.

continued from page 6

trial, celtic rock, folk, reggae, and hard core. Our plans also include organizing a large Spring Fling with a number of bands playing and other activities occurring on the same day. We also would like to organize events with other clubs and organizations. Some of the bands we are considering include Pavement, Bim Skala Bim, Tsunami, Velocity Girl, The Mighty Mighty Bosstones, 7 League Boots, and Tar. We realize that this list is heavy on the "indie rock" but we hope that, with your input, we can turn it into a wider spectrum of musical styles.

We hope to count on your support in the elections and we hope that, if elected, we will be able to provide the best entertainment that Bard can get.

Sincerely,
Ned Hinkle (junior)
Albert Height (junior)
Miguel Mateus (sophomore)

"For those times when you just don't get it"

Joke Analysis

Dr. M. I. C. E. W. Gilman, PhD
Dr. S. G. J. A. Giaccio, DDS

--Speedy, confidential service
--Years of experience
--We're not imposters

Campus Mail, Box 809
Frivolous-minded inquiries only.

Giaccio's proposal cont.

continued from page 6

What do you consider your duties as Secretary? I consider any government official, from our student government to our federal government, to be a servant of the people. As secretary, it will be my job to let you know about when meetings will take place and what will happen there. It is also my job to keep track of all legislation and make that wealth of knowledge available to you. With me as Secretary nothing will stand in the way of your participation in our student government, except maybe a really bad tornado.

Technicolor bliss

Walt Disney's Alladin

Wake the Kids and Call the Neighbors — it's a Disney Cartoon! That's right folks, Disney's



back, turning yet another time—worn fairy tale into technicolor cartoon bliss. The target this time is the story of Alladin, poor street urchin, whose discovery of a magic lamp changes his life. Robin Williams provides the voice (and mostly the character) of the Genie, whose constant tirade reminds one happily of Williams' frantic stage routines. Alladin, our hero is drawn as a 90210 New Kid, dark browed, a little dumb, but street smart and a heart of gold (and isn't that what really matters here in the Disneyverse?). The heroine, a beautiful princess, does little to help with our country's body image problems (she's shaped about like a Barbie Doll) but hey, she's fighting back against her father who wants to marry her off to whichever prince wanders along, and that's got to be worth something on the Women's Liberation Front, right? Right?

The animation in this film is

great, and Robin Williams hasn't done anything this blatantly funny in quite a while. There are about a million in-jokes about things most kids will never pick up on, things from way before their time included presumably for the benefit of parents, things that only late night TV and rerun afficionados will pick up on. But for the most part it's slapstick, fat little men bouncing off walls and so forth. Of course the outcome is predictable, of course good triumphs over evil, of course the boy gets the girl, vanquishes the villain, and they live happily ever after.

Like I said, it's Disney. If you want your conscience raised, look elsewhere. Issues confronted? search on. Meaningful Drama? try Malcolm X. But if you want to be reminded of the advances made in computer animation over the last few years, and forget for a couple of hours that there are any more complex or pressing problems in the world than, "gee, how are the good guys gonna beat the bad guys now?" then I recommend grabbing a couple of little kids and a Coke, buying a box of Junior Mints, and snagging a few tickets to Alladin—escapism at its least cerebral.

Electronic evening in Bard Hall

On Thursday, December 10th at 7:30 p.m., the Bard Electronic Music Studio will present an evening of new and recent works from the Bard EMS. Those participating will include drummer Bernard Devlin, who will perform his short but powerful tape and percussion piece "NumB Nub," recently premiered at U Mass and Bennington College on the Music Department Tour. Other performers include electric bassist Paul Samiljian; saxophonist Jonah Kraus and Bassist/electric violinist Obadiah Eaves. Music and instruments ranging from a live performance by composer Emily Glick on the rarely seen "antique," analog Serge Synthesizer, to intelligent, interactive MIDI-based software on the Macintosh computer will be presented. In addition, new tape pieces by Steven Kury, Tim Shaw, Nathan Abbott, Lena Lewellyn, Miguel Mateus, Damnath de Tissera, Chric Chinnock, Rob Brunner, Jason Foulkes, Michael McDonough and many others, ranging in style from John Cage to New Age will be interspersed with live performances. Don't miss this rare opportunity to preview the unknown, never-before-heard sounds of the 21st century and beyond!

Now showing at the Bard Theatre:

"A View from the Watergate"

7:00-10:00 at 7pm 12pm matinee on the 13th)
Seating is limited. Please call 758-8622 or (758-8622 ext. 245 for reservations.



Classifieds & personals



HOUSEMATE WANTED to share 2 bedroom apartment in Red Hook. Central location. Reasonable rent. Sublet for Dec/Jan or permanently. Please call 758-6325.

WANTED TO BUY: Star Wars Stuff—for the next generation. On wish list of 7 year old. Please call Letitia at Ext. 448.

Free Tarot readings (I need the practice) to schedule, respond via Observer to Tarot Reading.

Guitarist and cellist looking for guitarist/singer who is sick of bad folkies and over-developed consciences cluttering the scene. Must want to make beautiful and melifluous pop songs with two guitars and a cello. Should be able to harmonize like the dickens. Respond box 1208.

THE BARD PAPERS: A journal of poetry, fiction, painting, sculpture, photographs, film, academic papers, music scores, dance, and theatre. Accepting submissions until 18 December 1992. Send submission via campus mail to Robert Reynolds or Christiane Andrews.

Bard students and faculty, are you interested in contributing to the next issue of:

PAPIER MACHE the French literary magazine? Send your submissions—poems, short stories or essays—to profs. Campagne or O. Chilton by February 28th. The writer's name should not appear on the text; instead, an index card with the author's name, phone number and title of the work should be attached. A VOS PLUMES!

The French are fine people. Huppy is a jerk. Phil.

Thank you for returning the purple scarf!

For Melt in Your Mouth:
On the twelfth day of X-mas my true love gave to me:
Twelve cups of cum!!!
Eleven bags of Rings
Ten dirt Burgers
Nine maids a'wanking
Eight boys in Teddies
Seven strap-on dildos
Six silky gusses
Five fucking whores (gasp)
Four used rubbers
Three rubber to's
Two large dolls
And a vibrator with a battery

Would you like—to fuck? a drink?—it's between one and one thirty in the morning—I'd love a fucking drink—give the poor

woman a break—an injured borg (wiggie yeah!) I always end up fucking stupid people cause they have accents—(massage your ear lobes) Ikitama—with her head tucked underneath her arms—

To whomever actually tore pages out of a reserve book—that is truly disgusting! I guess you know that.

Mint and M...Get on with it, already! - SCRATCHMO

HEY!!! Are you and your roommate interested in a double in MANOR? In return for peace and quiet, we have huge windows, a half-bath, high ceilings and daily access to the most beautiful sunset on campus. The dorm is essentially quiet during days and week-nights but we like to study during weekend-nights. Ravines, Robbins, South Hall and Tewks residents need not apply. Potential for a great cozy love nest so ask your sweetie—have singles, will travel. Open to suggestions. Contact box 1084.

Hey silly Rabbit, trix are for kids but I've always been sort of partial to Lucky Charns (especially with chocolate milk.) If only the moon, wasn't so high in the sky, the little Newt with lizard eyes...

Pushing the limits of art

The Amazing Hubie performs at deKline

Last wednesday night at 11:30 pm in deKline Cafe, performance artist The Amazing



Hubie made his Bard debut. A freshman theatre major, Hubie has spent several years perfecting his art, and until recently only performed for small groups of friends, or friends of friends, but mostly never strangers. Hubie saw his deKline performance as a convenient way to segue into public performances, open to everyone but without the direct confrontation of a large venue, as the deKline audience is "still mostly people I know."

When asked to talk about the nature of his art, Hubie grew

pensive, thoughtful. "A lot of people use the term 'performance art' as a joke, to mean that what they're talking about is actually something pretentious or just stupid. But that shows they really don't know anything about it." While Hubie admits that some so-called performance art can be "a load of crap," he would like the general public to see this artform for what it really is.

"The performance artist is in a position to absorb his audience, their pleasures, their ups and downs, to take it all in." Then, having absorbed all that, the artist finds a way to give it all back in a new form, allowing viewers to see things about themselves and the world from a perspective they might never have found otherwise. That, above all, is the stated nature of Hubie's craft. "At the same

time I concentrate on the beauty of humanity as well as its smallness, its insignificance."

When asked about his influences, Hubie said that life—long idols have included Eugene Ionesco and Steve Martin, and in his performances he draws on the works of Kafka, Lloyd, and Danza. When asked about future performances, Hubie was optimistic but noncommittal, saying, "The public performance took a lot out of me, but it was also fulfilling." He claimed to have no definite plans for future public appearances, but is considering a repeat of his deKline performance sometime late next semester, combining some of the same material with some of his new work which is now in progress.

Outshined

Blazers are under-sized and under-staffed

Once again, the week in Bard sports is highlighted by the less than stellar performance of the Bard Blazer basketball team. The Blazers' season record fell to 0-5 this week as the Blazer lost each of their three games.

The first was at home against Yeshiva University. It wasn't pretty, with the final score Yeshiva 66, Bard 33. That's right, 33 points in 40 minutes of play. Bard really did not play that poorly; frankly they were out-sized and out-gunned. The Yeshiva bench boasted 8 players in addition to their starting five, allowing for mass substitutions which kept fresh players on the court at all times. Bard, in contrast, has only three subs and the starting five are forced to spend an inordinate amount of minutes on the floor. This always leads to Blazer players getting very tired and, as they get tired, both offense and defense suffer. Another problem was guarding the three point shot. Whoever that number 24 was drained three after three, as he was left open on the perimeter.

Later in the week, the Blazers hosted Rivier College at Stevenson Gymnasium. Once again, Bard was under-sized and suffered from a lack of a bench. The play-

ers grew tired as the game wore on, and as a result they fell further and further behind, eventually losing 83-55.

On December 5th, Bard played New York Polytechnic at the Meadowlands. It was a very close game with Bard only losing by four points. This must have seemed quite a surprise to the Blazers, as they believed that they had had a great chance to win. Manager Brad Richman commented, "It was more a matter of who wanted to lose, than who wanted to win." (I wish I had something more to say about this game, but frankly I was working on a paper Saturday night and was not able to attend the game.) After the first game, Bard students who attended were treated to an overtime battle between the Nets and the Spurs. The hometown Nets, who are on a six game winning streak, emerged victorious.

The two home games this week

seem to be characteristic of the problems which Bard basketball must overcome to become competitive. Although these problems are not easily rectified, they must be dealt with or an already long season will seem that much longer. To be a better team, something must be done in an effort to have fresher players on the floor at all times. This task is next to impossible, as Bard just doesn't have the number of people on its team that the colleges we are facing do. It is unrealistic to expect any on the Bard team to be able to give 40 quality minutes. This is especially true in light of the fact that Bard players are being asked to guard players that are often much bigger than themselves. There is only one solution: find more quality players in the ranks of the Bard student body. They are there, often times watching the game, so why aren't they playing?

SPORTS SCHEDULE

Varsity Basketball

Friday, December 11th
at NY Maritime

Men's Fencing

Saturday, December 12th
vs. Hunter College & Boston College

Women's Fencing

Saturday, December 12th
vs. Hunter College & Boston College

We're looking for one good man (or woman)

who wants to be the *Observer's* next Photo Editor. No photo major required, just a willingness to take lots of photos with a really funky camera. And, hey! You even get an office key of your very own!

Simply drop a note in campus mail to the *Observer* or call 758-0772.

Shameless Filler!

Self-knowledge is a painful thing, at first. Until recently, there were things which I would have never thought myself capable of. And then, I realized that it is an indivisible part of me. Something which tears down every assumption I made about my character in one sweeping motion. Scary, and sad. But within a few weeks, I had accepted this new facet of myself, thanks to the help and understanding of my friends. But I needed to tell my family as well. So, this Thanksgiving, after the turkey was eaten and the desserts were being served, I revealed my new self to my loving family.

I asked for, and consumed, a cup of coffee.

It's been a long time in coming, but I am now a confirmed java joe. I can't help it, I enjoy the stuff now. Why this is so earth shattering is due to my behavior in the past. Whenever my friends would order beanjuice, I would become insufferable. I'd wrinkle my nose, curl my lip, roll my eyes and lose my lunch. ESPECIALLY if someone drank the dark brown stuff without the aid of milk or sugar. The idea of coffee as a drink to enjoy was beyond me, as beyond me as enjoying cigarettes. How could anyone savor that bitter, scalding liquid? Ah, me, and now I take a cupper most mornings along with my eggs and gruel. I'll give you a minute to savor the irony, folks.

It started just a month or so ago, when I decided to put in an all-nighter for a midterm project. I slumped into DeKline that early a.m., seeking refreshment and revival. Everybody's pal Shawn Taylor was manning the counter, so I told him of my plan to stay up all night. He gave me his sympathy, and offered me a special deluxe extra-strong cup of coffee. I agreed only after I found that they were out of most sodas. I decided I'd choke it down in the name of wakefulness. The flavor of the night was Irish Cream, and I dumped enough milk and sugar in it to assure its smooth passage down my gullet. I couldn't believe it...I enjoyed the smooth sweetness and delicate creaminess. It might have been the early hour, the daunt of work ahead, or the loud music, but I forgot myself and actually enjoyed the stuff. The night passed quickly enough, the caffeine kicking in just at the right time, and much work was accomplished.

I suppose I should have seen it coming. I did, and still do, enjoy coffee flavored candies and ice cream. Hot drinks are most pleasurable, and nothing can compare to that all-natural caffeine buzz while writing a twelve-pager at three in the morning. In the past, I'd rely on soda for my blink-preventative. I liked to call it "Doin' a paper, and doin' it country cool." So, I suppose the shift towards the wares of Juan Valdez was inevitable. But that doesn't mean I can't stoop to a little finger-pointing. Like my old scrawny chum Ean Sheehy, who developed his love for coffee because he knew he'd have to drink coffee at college if he wanted to fit in better. Those late-night trips to Michael's diner always made me aware of how much of an outsider I was. He'd always get a cup or two, I'd settle for a milkshake or some fries. It's hard to be the outsider. Never underestimate the effect of peer pressure on first-time users, folks. And then there were the folks I lived with this past summer. Two of them were vegetarians, so, okay, I swore off meat. Trouble is, I began to like the food. Especially Ed Slocumb's red bean, no-holds-barred Chili. The stuff made my eyes water and my nose bleed. Damn good stuff. Once I had embraced Ed's chili, Gantt's black bean soup, and Josie's leftovers, I got caught in a cycle. It came to the point where there was no way I could say "No" to any bean. I mean, I even read *Tales of the Beanworld* on a daily basis!

So, now I'm a coffee drinker. Not a problem one, mind you. I still require lots of cream and sugar. But I down it. You bet your grounds. I'm a part of the coffee generation. A mover and a shaker. Well, since I don't drink decaf, I'm mostly a shaker.

Shameless Filler!

by Matt Gilman

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GMAT
GRE
MCAT**

**Small
Classes.
Big Scores.
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GRE begins 12/28
LSAT begins 1/8
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THE
PRINCETON
REVIEW
We Score More!

Being heard at Bard

by Matt Gilman

Recently, a guy stood in front of a microphone for almost an hour without saying anything. An attentive audience was gathered before him, prepared to listen to whatever it was he had in mind. He said nothing. Wow. Now that's a stunt to admire: actually expressing nothing by saying nothing. Why, then, did so many people remain glued to their seats in anticipation? Because they thought that something will be said. This says a lot about the gullibility about the students at Bard, but it says more about the receptivity of Bard students. We are an audience waiting to happen.

I, personally, was not at the experimental art piece I described above, but it was told to me by a friend who was there. Even in the retelling I was rapt and engaged. I wanted to hear about something I didn't attend, because someone I knew thought it was interesting enough to tell me. That was enough for me. See, our college environment has enough interesting and diverse minds to fill a small-sized sanitarium, and they're all bursting at the seams with things to say. And, if you look around long enough, you'll find someone to tell it to. It could be academic, club-oriented, dramatic, poetic, historic, philosophic, (perish the thought) non-PC, boring or simply weird. But trust me, someone else will want to hear what you've got in mind. Classes help take care of a lot of these ideas. After all, that's what college is for; if you haven't been inventive and original in a class yet, I suppose you're having a bad experience at Bard. Friends and dormfolk are usually willing to hear your idle chit-chat and silly ideas. Campus clubs foster the ideas of similarly-minded people to try and benefit from them. This is great stuff, but ideas don't always fit into neat little categories like this.

For a long time, the *Bard Observer* was the haven for ideas and commentary from any student willing to put pen to paper to the campus at large. For better or for worse, that role has changed. The *Another View* page is sadly less packed than it once was, and high weirdness has lost a foothold. I'm one of the lucky ones; I happen to have a weekly outlet for whatever residual thoughts I feel I need to share with you. My *Filler* has been getting good and bad responses all semester long, both solicited and unsolicited. That's the way (uh-huh, uh-huh) I like it (uh-huh, uh-huh), because the things I write are supposed to be read, not liked. I just wanna be heard. And I reckon there are plenty of you out there who want to be heard as well. An unfortunate dearth of campus publications has made it even more difficult to write for the sake of writing. But we are inventive folk, are we not? There are other ways to be heard. And I know you have something to say, so why not be the one to find a way to say it as well? I recall a mini-zine, produced by Jason Patch, which was placed on all the tables in Kline last year: it wasn't pretty, but it was effective. You read it, didn't you?

So, in the interest of being heard, why not try these ways of getting through. deKline is still looking for weekly entertainment of any kind (see above), why not arrange something there? You could start your own anarcho-post-mod-magazine. You could read original thoughts at one of the several coffeehouses which appear throughout the semester. Hey, why not just reserve a room in Olin one night and ask people to show up? You could just photocopy your babblings and distribute them at lunch. You could play with your magic nose goblins—oops, sorry about that. And, hey, soapboxes are cheap at Grand Union.

Person of the week cont.

continued from page 4

permanent job at any American institution of higher learning because he is crippled by an auto-immune disorder of the muscles. His brother David refuses to leave his brother alone; Gregory's muscular weakness and difficulty in breathing make him very dependent.

The brothers search to find if

the universe is chaotic or ordered, but no students of science are benefitting from their research because no college has yet hired the men. This is probably because they are generalists and not specialists, and their interest in subjects such as Pi is not commercially sellable. Their work, however, should not go unpraised and that is why the *Observer*

chooses Gregory and David Chudnovsky as our persons of the week. We challenge this college and others to prove they are as innovative in education as the brothers are as mathematicians, by perhaps inviting these gentlemen to speak at a Distinguished Scientist Lecture, for without encouraging the young there is no hope to promote genius.

Spelling problems

Dear Editor,

What have I done to deserve this? Within the past 12 months my name appeared in your paper 6 times, and each time it was misspelled. Have your ever spelled Leon's name Leo, or Stuart's as Stew, or Shkashvishivelsky's as Shkasheshivelsky? So, why me? Where are the editors, the copy readers, the typists, the computer wizards, the proof readers, the energizers? Sleeping? Give me a break!

Adolfas Mekas

*) See Pedro Almodovar's movie of that title. It's good.

On the original copy of this letter was written "leave it as is" in red ink around the word "break" —ed.

Come together

In response to Mr. "White Stag":

I think I understand the thesis of your article, that men (and women) should get in touch with their inner selves, and learn how to use the energies and potentials with which each sex is supposedly naturally endowed. What I disagree with is the manner in which you propose that this be done.

I do not believe that we can all learn to live together in harmony if we separate ourselves from each other in order to learn what it means to be a man/woman. I think that by encouraging us to identify ourselves based on our sex, you are exacerbating the problems that men and women have in understanding each other. You do not seem to realize that we as individuals are not defined solely by

our gender. Your emphasis on the differences between men and women will cause members of both sexes to grow farther apart, not closer together.

I think that your method of finding the inner self is an interesting idea, and it might work if it were applied to *all* (not just male) people; we all need to learn how to excel to the best of our abilities and to use our potentials. But, we should all learn to live together as a group of human beings, not just as members of opposing sexes.

Malia Du Mont

Follow-up to the New Warriors

Dear Editor,

I want to extend my thanks and appreciation to all the men and women who came out to hear us speak about the New Warrior community. I want to honor all those who came out in the spirit of community; both nights had great energy. I want to especially honor the people who challenged us and made us accountable for carrying the message I wrote about in the *Observer*. By sharing your anger and your disagreements you helped to make the event happen, and I value your truth with all of my dignity and power.

I want to give special thanks to Bob Walsh, a man with wonderful creativity, who made the posters that were hung about the campus. He and Andy Costell also supported the process of making the weekend happen, and they

A Dog's life.

By David Draper.



continued from page 10
theless, accountability matters—for when it doesn't, no one can grow. Acknowledging and healing wounds is one thing—becoming a professional victim is another. No human being, no matter what he or she has suffered, has the right to make their own shadow the problem of another person.

As a man, my mission is to create community by healing shame. I have done enough work in healing my own shame and assisting that process in others to know that a wound can't be healed until it is named. When it stays in the dark; unnamed, unacknowledged, it controls one's life. Wounds aren't named by ripping down posters.

My gut tells me that the people who did this felt that their anger (and therefore their wounds, and therefore they themselves) would not have been honored by us. Though we may not have agreed with judgements about our organization, your feelings would have been and still are entirely valid. I wanted to hear about them last weekend, and I still want to hear about them now. One of the most important lessons that I have learned from my own training and participation in the movement is that I can express my anger to a person, and they can express their own to me, and we both can still love each other. Not only that, but we become closer each time we risk in that way.

I give you my anger now BECAUSE I love you. I want the same gift from you, but I want it as you look in my eyes, and not as you go behind my back and destroy the labor of others.

I was told by many people that I trust that there were a lot of negative opinions about us on campus. Surprisingly, the only people that came to me after my article was published were people in support of it. Not only that, but Bard was the first in about twenty colleges P.T. has lectured at in which he was not challenged by the feminist organizations.

In the future I hope that people who have negative opinions about us will share them. You serve yourself by doing so. We may do this here again in the future, but even if we do not, the men's movement is here to stay. Some men in the movement have hedged their opinions when they write about us by saying things like, "Maybe in twenty years we'll look back at the movement and believe that it was all a big joke." I, on the other hand, feel less timid, and I will say without apology that this IS the way of the future for men. We have trained over

2,000 men in ten American cities in just five short years— and no man that learns what it feels like to be held in the arms of his brothers will ever go back to the cutthroat world of competition that wounds us all. I am one man who will give his life to any movement that helps heal the shame in the lives of human beings and works towards creating a safer world for children. We were all sad over the weekend to see such fear and anger in the eyes of Bard students, yet to have such a small number of you come out to tell us the truth as you were feeling it, as though you believed that what you feel doesn't matter. That may be a lesson you learned along the way— but it dies the moment you choose to kill it.

I encourage people who have feelings about us— whatever they are, to come to myself or to us in the future and get them heard— because even if no one else gives a shit, we do.

Again, I honor and thank all the wonderful men and women who came to our meetings. Yours were wonderful gifts, and I look forward to getting to know you in the future.

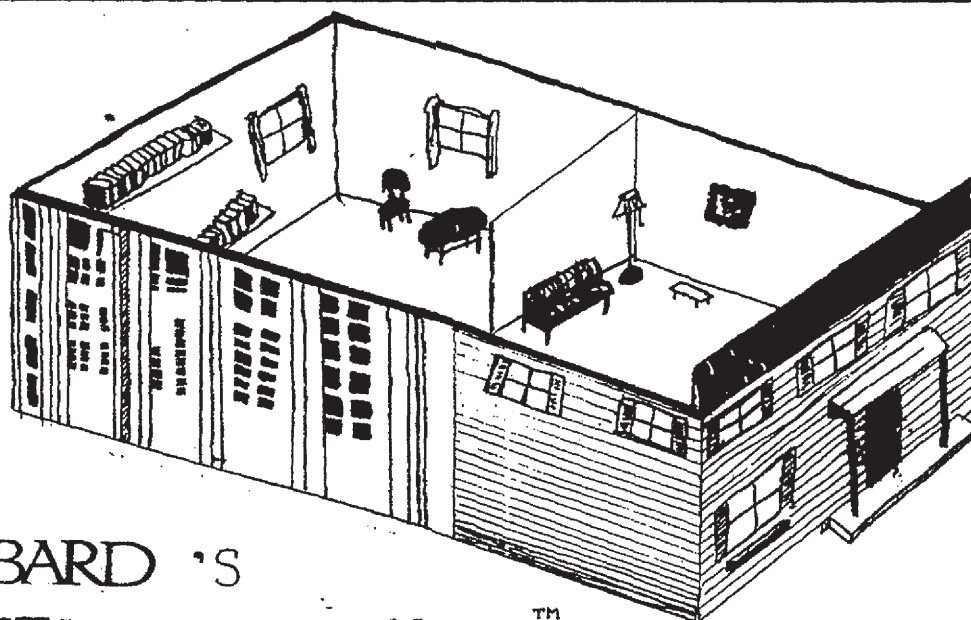
With love and service,
Bruce "White Stag" Kuznicki

Men only?

To the Editor:

It is quite rare that I would engage in any form of social or political activism, but the circumstances of the New Warriors' meeting this past Friday prompt me to appeal to the Bard community.

I find it disturbing that the New Warriors could hold a "Men Only" meeting at Bard not only because it seems to be in violation of Bard's nondiscrimination policies, and possibly of US Federal and New York State civil rights legislation, but because it is morally reprehensible. To make sure that I understood the intent of the New Warriors, I talked to Bruce Kuznicki, the campus coordinator of the organization about my concerns. While I noticed the disclaimer in the New Warriors' article, "Neither sex is better or more valuable than the other..." (*Observer*, December 2), and Bruce reassured me that no harm was meant and that the group does not advocate animosity toward women, he also said that the New Warriors' Training Weekends are always exclusively for men. It is my understanding that such a policy amounts to systematic sexual discrimination. I think the New



BARD'S NEW DOLL HOUSE™ (JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS).

Warriors' policy is not only unacceptable in itself, but it is dangerous as a precedent. What will Bard do when the "New Northerners", the "New Christians" or the "New Heterosexuals" start to organize on campus and do not allow people of other races, religions or sexual orientations to attend their meetings?

To avoid misunderstandings I must say that I recognize and fully support the New Warriors' (or any other person's or group's) constitutional right to free speech and public assembly. Given their discriminatory practices however, I am opposed to any explicit or implicit financial support that Bard might give to the New Warriors, including the use of facilities the maintenance of which Bard pays for, such as classrooms or lecture halls.

As far as I know all other campus organizations are open for anyone to join, and I believe that this should also be the case with the New Warriors.

I am looking forward to further discussion of the issue.

Sincerely,
Gabor Bognar

Sign effacements

Dear Editor,

This letter is simply to inform Bard students about a few unfortunate occurrences over the past few weeks. There have been several episodes of vandalism surrounding the recent SM ACES/BAGLE party. The rancor and disregard for the feelings and property of others cannot be ignored. We believe that the community should be aware of

these strange attempts at making a point.

To begin with, SM ACES had a great deal of difficulty advertising the party. Posters went down within minutes of being hung. We understand that B&G has changed their policies regarding flyers on campus; however, we doubt that B&G has the time to follow us around removing posters. Especially those hung in the middle of the night. Some of the flyers were not removed but effaced. It is our feeling that those responsible for the damage to the posters also defaced the multicultural studies bulletin board in the student center.

After the party, members of SM ACES arriving to clean up the student center discovered that some of the posters in the club space had been stolen and those remaining had been destroyed. It is this incident that affected us the most. The posters were donated by one student whose generosity has been repaid with the malicious destruction of his property.

We know that there is no way to find the culprit, however, we felt it necessary to inform the community that this kind of thing does happen.

SM ACES

The Bard Observer

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Letters to the Editor and Personals or Classifieds must not exceed 500 words and must be signed legibly. All articles, cartoons, and photographs that are submitted by deadline will be considered for publication. Turn all material in at the Observer office in the basement of Tewksbury or through Campus Mail by 5 p.m. Friday one week before the publication date. The Editor reserves the right to edit all articles (except those intended for the *Another View* page) for style and length.

Classifieds: Free for Bardians, \$5 for all others. Personals are free.
Display classifieds: \$5.00 for local, \$10.00 for national.
Display ads: contact the Ad Manager.

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CALENDAR

PRESENTED BY THE DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE

DECEMBER 9 TO 16 ★ 1992

What to See, Buy, & Do at Bard

★ WEDNESDAY. DECEMBER 9 ★

★ **Hardline or Reform.** Go see the video **The Final Step**, about the U.S. death penalty & its racial implications. Afterwards, join **Bard's Amnesty International** to talk about their new campaign against the death penalty, & plans for the next semester. Be there **at Olin 305, 7p.**

★ **Just when you thought it was safe.** The Department of Languages & Literature brings to us **Nora Sayre**—author of Sixties going Seventies—delivering us **Flashback to the 1960's.** Live the lives of your parents **at Olin 102, 7p.**

★ **Made in Americas.** The Edith Blum Center for the Arts & the Latin American Students Organization brings us this lecture: **The Hispanic Experience in the United States.** Professor **Hilda Muno-Lopez** of NYU will detail the history, demography, & literature of Hispanic Americans. Listen to her speak **in Olin 204, 7p.** Be there!

★ **Planet Pop.** It's a **full moon drum circle** sponsored by our Drum Club. Lug your drums and other percussion instruments—pots, pans, noise stuff—to **the Barlett Field behind the Gym, 5:30p.**

★ **Go with the flow.** Take a study break to see/hear pianist **William Black**—listen to pieces from Bach/Suconi, Poulenc, Griffes, & Schumann tonight **in the Olin Auditorium, 8p.** It's free folks! Sponsored by the Bard Center.

★ **High and Low.** Here's another study break opportunity—See Akira Kurosawa's **High and Low.** See the ethical dilemma of a wealthy industrialist when the kidnappers ask for a ransom: but, they took the wrong boy. More films in the Three Japanese Directors Screenings **at the Preston Film Center, 7p.**

★ THURSDAY. DECEMBER 10 ★

★ **Get Ready, here it comes.** Join your friends, listen to their work at the **Electronic Music Workshop's Open Concert.** Don't miss the experience their final projects **at Bard Hall, 7:30p.**

★ **Krash Groove.** Go to the 2nd annual **Women's Party** tonight **in our tasty Kline Commons, 9p.** Experience the dadality of dance at this **Women's Center** event.

★ FRIDAY. DECEMBER 11 ★

★ **World-o-Film.** Our Film Committee brings us this tres-60's flick—**Barbarella.** See the 41st century wonder-woman **Jane Fonda** meet up with various drooling male creatures in this sci-fi fantasy. Don't miss Jane outwit the orgasmatronic-killer-machine: jealous brother Peter wishes he could make a film this Italian-trippy. Have tons-o-fun **at the Old Gym, 7 & 9p.**

★ SATURDAY. DECEMBER 12 ★

★ **A View from the Watergate.** It's the student repertory one acts from our friends—don't miss the last act of the semester. You can go **today through Tuesday, in the Bard Theatre, 7:30p.** Remember there's the Sunday matinee at 2p. Don't forget to call 758-8622, or ext. 245 for your seating reservations.

★ **Films-Galore.** Go/See seven short films by a diverse group of contemporary film-makers—join your friends for a **Night of Women's Films.** Be there **at the Old Gym, 8p.** Sponsored by the Women's Center, AASO, BBSO, & B.A.G.L.E.

★ SUNDAY. DECEMBER 13 ★

★ **Film-O-Rama.** Our Film Committee wraps up this semester with the ultimate wish to go home—Reach back into the comfort of childhood with **The Wizard of Oz.** Click your heels three times tonight **at the Old Gym, 7 & 9p.**

★ MONDAY. DECEMBER 14 ★

★ **Can Xue.** The Division of Languages and Literature present Chinese fiction writer **Can Xue** reading from her work. Can Xue has only written fiction seriously since 1983, but is widely regarded as one of the finest literary talents of her generation. Her short story collection, *Dialogues in Paradise*, was published in this country in 1989. A more recent collection of novellas, *Old Floating Cloud* (1991) has attracted critical attention & praise in the *Times Literary Supplement* & *The New York Review of Books*. Listen to her speak **in Olin 104, 2:30-4p.** All invited to attend.

★ TUESDAY. DECEMBER 15 ★

★ **Cultural Meltdown.** You can't miss **Rory Makem's** Senior Project Concert—**The Minstrel Boy.** And you can't miss the special appearances of the **Makem Brothers & Brian Sullivan.** See/Hear them **in Olin Auditorium, 8p.** Take that final break.

★ WEDNESDAY. DECEMBER 16 ★

★ **Film-a-Go-Go.** The final film in the popular Three Japanese Directors Screenings: you asked for more Mizoguchi—**Sisters of the Gion.** You know that this 1936 film is great, so see it **in the Preston Film Center, 7p.**

Happy Holidays, folks!