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OBSERVER

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The BARD OBSERVER

VOLUME 101 ★ NUMBER 14 BARD COLLEGE ★ ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON ★ NY 12504 FEBRUARY 9 ★ 1994

"Satisfaction is doing what you want and not needing a reason."
--Jeana

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A broken water pipe outside the Alumni Dorms last semester

Broken pipes -- big headache

Intercession flooding of dormitories: how and according to whom

Jeana C. Breton
Editor-in-Chief

Had the heat been turned off? Or, had the winter cold been too much? One was forced to wonder when returning to Bard to hear tales of broken pipes and leaking dorms. The stories are true.

In South Hoffman, for instance, two students rooms were severely flooded. According to Kim Squillace, Director of Security, two pipes in that dorm had frozen andbroken open. Although she was unsure of the exact cause of the damage, she admitted that a problem with the main Stone Row boiler had been discovered. However, Chuck Simmons, the director of Buildings & Grounds, claimed that the water damage in at least one of these rooms was caused by the student having left their window open. Both the students denied that possibility, and Squillace could not recall whether or not those rooms corresponded to many in which security had to go in and shut windows seen left open.

Fortunately for both the college and the students, the overall damage was not severe. Both students were contacted by Gladys Watson, the Dean of Housing, soon after the shattered pipes were discovered, and given the option of returning to their rooms long enough to box up their belongings so that the rooms could be vacuumed out. In the case of the one student who was unable to return to campus, Service Master was responsible for packing up everything as well as doing the major cleanup necessary to undo the damage caused by the water, and returning the items to both students' rooms after repairs at been made. The repairs, according to Simmons, took approximately thirty-five man hours.

When asked how much damage had been done, no one could offer a substantial answer. Rugs had to be cleaned, then ultimately replaced. The mattresses also had to be replaced. Security, Service Master and Buildings & Grounds seemingly had to go above and beyond the call of duty to respond quickly, deal with the problem and to make attempts to prevent more flooding in other dorms.

Perhaps the greatest damage was done to the nerves of the students residing in those rooms who had to deal with problems of miscommunication, inadequate explanations, the temporary removal of all their belongings and then having to unpack and rearrange everything with only a few short days before the start of classes. When they arrived expecting to have everything waiting as they left it at the end of last semester, then discovered that not only was nothing left the way it had been, but that nothing was there at all , they both said that they had suffered much stress beause of the whole ordeal. Shelley Morgan, the Dean of Students and Watson were reportedly sympathetic and cooperative in attempts to alleviate ongoing discomfort caused by the situation as were Service Master employees.

continued on page 3

Lock out

Security kept busy over break

Michael Poirier
News Editor

On January 1st, after a full semester as acting director, Kim Squillace was officially appointed as Director of Safety and Security. In an interview last week, she discussed the difficulties and benefits of the entirely new lock system that was installed over intercession.

"Apparently, the decision made before I came here that they were going to change the locks," Squillace commented, affirming that her office did not instigate the conversion. In the 1992-93 year, a series of thefts and fears of students with "master keys" prompted the college to render the locks unable to be opened by such keys.

However, as a further precaution, the administration in conjunction with Buildings and Grounds chose to replace every lock in the dormitories. According to Squillace, these new locks are safer and more efficient. "It's a better locking system than in the past because it is easier for B+G to change the core of the lock," she stated. Since these locks are interchangeable, the College is be able to quickly rotate and replace the door locks so that lost or stolen keys will no longer open the same door.

A memo dated January 21 was sent out to students advising that, upon returning to campus, they would have to pick up new keys from the Building and Grounds office. Like many students, Squillace said that this change "caught us by surprise."

Squillace reported that, between January 26 and 31, Security had to give students access to their rooms four hundred and forty-six times (446). In addition, Security officers were also helping students who remained on campus to move back into their original rooms.

While the transitional period between key systems was difficult, Squillace stated that intercession theft dropped off considerably from previous years. What used to be "a flood of stolen items over the break," was reduced to only one incident where a wallet of credit cards was taken from an unlocked room.

Due to the tremendous cold and snow-fall over January, Squillace said that the Security officers went "beyond the call of duty" to identify the multiple maintenance problems that plagued the campus. "We put in thirty-seven work orders," she commented, as officers checked boilers and reported damages immediately.

Parking and Patrolling

In other Security news, Squillace reaffirmed the new parking regulations for the Olin/South Hall lot. That lot is now reserved entirely for off-campus students and visitors, with the inclusion of a handful of 15-minute post office spaces.

Squillace said that the reason for this restriction was that off-campus students were complaining that they were being ticketed when they had nowhere else to park. Because snow has further complicated the parking situation, she also requested that on-campus students refrain from driving to main campus, to instead walk and take advantage of the shuttles provided every morning and evening.

"When classes are in session, everyone wants to park on campus at the same time," she said. "It would cut down on a lot of the congestion if the people that do not need to drive to main campus refrain from doing so."

In a developing story, it appears that the long-awaited student foot patrol might actually become a reality. Late last semester, the project was nearly abandoned when a new state law was passed requiring extensive and expensive training of all security personnel. However, since the foot patrol is strictly volunteer, and since they will operate in an "eyes-and-ears" and escort capacity, they will not fall under the jurisdiction of the Security Guard Act. Further developments in the formation of the Foot Patrol will be reported as they occur.

LSAT
GMAT
GRE
MCAT

Preparation for upcoming exams:

MCAT begins 2/26
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LSAT begins 4/30

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Classifieds & personals

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Applications are now available in the Dean of Students Office for Peer Counselor positions for the 1994-95 academic year. If you think that you have the potential to be an effective leader and you like working with people, this might be the job for you. Applications are due on Monday, February 28 by 5:00pm. Why not talk to a Peer Counselor or Gladys Watson at extension 455 for more information.

ATTENTION STUDENTS INTERESTED IN STUDYING IN EASTERN EUROPE NEXT YEAR: An application information sheet from the Program in International Education is available in the Career Services Office.

Scholarships Available
The New York State Dietetic Association is offering scholarships in several categories. For information on applications, contact Eileen Fitzgerald at 229-7384.

Feeling out of shape after 6 weeks of sitting around at home and not exercising? Wed, Feb 9 at 7pm Kris Hall will give a tour of the gym and will help people design an exercise program appropriate, safe and healthy for them. Meet on the gym balcony.

The Passion, the fish -- Yes I have tongued a man's a--- I mean No! Never! I hardly ever see naked aroused men. Lunch boxes -- sneakers & snow shoes!

Bored? Homesick? Not quite getting into the semester swing? Lost momentum? Too much free time? What a pathetic whelp you are.

Dan -- I'm sorry. You know we love you. And I haven't seen enough of you lately. --K.

Oh, I'm so lonely, and looking for a traditional date. If you're a man who likes men, call x. 7325 soon!

Gretchen, What, a talking dog? Love, Gretchen.
P.S. Peace, Love & Wicker Baskets.

Recently freed female seeks many men to help her feel whole again. If you can keep her warm, treat her good and possess charm, she wants you! Interested parties should respond to LUSH via the personals.

Valentines' Day is coming up soon! This coming Monday in fact; don't forget your loved ones and `special' friends.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY yesterday to Lynda Fong and Andy Gordner! Hope you both had a great day!

The boogey man will get you if you don't stop playing that damn game!

Attention

On the afternoon of December 17, the final day of the Fall semester, a Bard student discovered that her car was the victim of vicious vandalism. The tires were slashed, evidence of sugar was found near the gas tank and the car was damaged by cruel and obscene graffiti. Anyone who has any information concerning this incident is urged to contact Safety and Security immediately.

Help Wanted

Long-standing newspaper on Bard campus is looking for a few good students. Entry level positions in writing, advertising, and lay-out. Management possibilities for a Sports editor and a staff photographer. On-the-job training cheerfully provided. Outrageous pay.

If interested, please come to the meeting next Monday at 7pm at the *Observer* office in the basement of Tewksbury.

Community Service

Forum commits to Hudson-Bard Summer program

Michael Poirier
News Editor

The final Student Forum of 1993 was a busy one, featuring elections, a school song, and three resolutions. One hotly debated resolution provides a $1500 scholarship for a Bard student to participate in a Hudson youth program.

Bard alumnus Lauren Reece, '91, presented his ideas for the Hudson-Bard Summer program at the start of the meeting. Reece has worked for many years with inner-city youths in Boston and New York City, and is now a coordinator for the Volunteer Corps in New York City. His vision for the Hudson-Bard Summer was for two Bard students to devote their time and energy to underprivileged youths in the city of Hudson. "This is a chance to really get involved with them and use your special talents to augment the program," he said.

The College administration has already promised to provide housing and transportation to the students, and will also offer the other $1500 scholarship. According to Dean of Students Shelley Morgan, the College "needed this program to be a joint effort," meaning that they wanted the students to be involved financially before committing to the program.

The $1500 will be coming from directly from this semester's Convocation Fund: the money from student activity fees which the Forum is responsible for distributing. Opposition to the resolution was not aimed at the program itself, but rather at the prospect of spending Convocation money.

Josh Ledwell, a member of the Planning Committee, argued, "We should find a more creative way to fund this. Student activity fees should go to all students, not necessarily to just one volunteer."

However, the majority of those in attendance felt the money would be well spent. They felt that the $1500 would not be missed from the $70,000 Fund, and that it would be going to a legitimate and positive outlet for Bard students. Student Life Committee member Goldie Gider stated, "This type of community service you just can't put a price on."

Laurie Curry, another member of the SLC, said, "This is really only a $1.50 from each of us. It's the best $1.50 you're ever going to spend because Hudson is a city in crisis."

The resolution passed with a clear majority. Reece promised that the program would be ready soon and anyone interested should contact the Dean of Students or SLC. "Bard is making an innovative step," commented Reece. "You're taking the initiative yourselves to bring services where they might not otherwise go."

Registration and Representation

A resolution sponsored by the Educational Policies Committee concerned the continually tardy arrival of the course list for class registration. The resolution stipulates that the College must make the list available to the students by the Monday of the week before Registration, "at the very latest."

Renee Cramer, Chair of the EPC, introduced the resolution to address student concerns about having adequate time to plan their schedules and meet with professors. Currently, there is no set policy dictating when the course list must be available. "This is a first step," Cramer said. "We think this will work because students can put pressure on the bureaucracy."

A friendly amendment was added requesting that professors also provide some sort of reading list to students when registering for their classes. The resolution passed unanimously.

An amendment to the student constitution was brought forward by the Planning Committee and accepted by the Forum. Student organizations are now required to submit the name and signatures of at least five members before they are eligible to receive funding. Furthermore, the Committee must also be told who are the "designated representatives" of the club that will be requesting the checks.

Four separate elections were slated on the Forum agenda, but only one vote was taken as members for the Learning Disabilities Committee, the Drug/alcohol counselor search committee and an EPC search committee were nominated without contest. The three open seats in the SLC were won by Gilbert Alfonso, Shelleen Green and Dareta Solomon.

Finally, Michael Sylvester presented a school song to the Forum to "help people survive their winter funk." Sung to the tune of "Memory" by the Beatles, the hilarious "Apathy" was accepted as the student anthem including the line: "like a life-long stint on work study."

Water problems continued

continued from front page

South Hoffman, however, was not the only place affected by water damage. In the basement of North Hoffman, the office of Alexander McKnight's (assistant Director to the H.E.O.P. program) office was hit badly when, around January 18th, a winter thaw caused severe water seepage through the wall. Earlier in the month, McKnight had been complaining to Buildings & Grounds that there was no heat in the dorm, that water had frozen and was hanging up in the ceiling by the pipes, and then that the melting snow had caused a bulge in the ceiling of his office; it was not until four days after the latter complaint had been made (when the water collecting in the ceiling finally broke through) that they came in. By then, according to McKnight, it was too late to do anything but put out buckets, try to dry up the soaked rug and relocate electric plugs. Although by now most of the water has dried up, the ceiling tiles have not been replaced, which McKnight says is "annoying because candidates for the program and their parents will come in and see the ugly hole in the ceiling," and there is no reassurance that the flooding will not recur during the spring.

Obreshkove, although only the victim of a minor leak in the hall (apparently caused by snow leaking through the roof), is currently suspected by the residents to have been totally devoid of heat during intercession. One student, for example, reportedly returned to discover their lava lamp ruined. The Peer Counselor of that dorm, Stephanie Chasteen, remarked that "even if thermostats had been turned off, it shouldn't have gotten that cold."

Thermostats being turned off by individual students, and windows left open, are what Buildings & Grounds is insisting was ultimately responsible for over a half a dozen broken pipes in various locations across campus. McVickor, Albee, North and South Hoffman, Sands and the Ravines as well as some art studios in Procter all had leaks of one sort of another.

It was Security who discovered all or most of the instances of flooding. They then promptly contacted Buildings & Grounds with work orders. In the case of Albee, Squillace suspected that most of the leaks came from radiators that had been turned off. Some students' things did end up getting wet, but there were no reports of major flood damage.

The bookstore, however, was also flooded and this did cause substantial damage in both physical and time consuming terms. Steve Van Denburgh, manager of Barnes and Noble at Bard, was contacted by security at approximately 7:30 P.M. on January 1st and told that water was discovered coming through the ceiling near where the literature books are usually shelved. Van Denburgh and his wife had to come to Bard that night and spent three hours dealing with the mess as Service Master also came with a wet vac to take care of the carpeting. He was not even given an explanation of how the flood occurred.

Luckily, all the books from last semester had already been boxed and removed from that area, but books for Professor Grab's and Professor Callanan's winter intercession courses, sitting on the counter in that corner, were completely ruined. These books instantly became $1,000 in lost merchandise and had to be reordered, setting the classes back, miraculously, only two days. Some books, for classes currently going on, are still missing because, a book order was lost when the computer equipment in the bookstore was damaged by the water. They have already replaced one keyboard, their modem and are deciding whether or not to replace the fax machine -- adding up to another couple of hundred dollars in physical damage.

The biggest problem has been the inconvenience because of the time lost in having to deal with cleanup, replacing items, and getting in orders a little later than had been originally intended. There have not been any major set-backs, said Van Denburgh, but everything planned for Monday had to be put off until Thursday. He is confident, however, that the delays are only temporary and everything should be running smoothly again soon. The tiles in the bookstore also still have not been replaced, but he says that this "is merely cosmetic" and should be easy enough to deal with when new ones come in.

The concern right now seems to be oriented toward preventing any further damage this winter or in future ones. Simmons, in a phone interview earlier this week, said that there were still some problems with the Stone Row boiler, but that workers had worked well into the morning to restore it to its full potential. He also said that in most cases of recent calls complaining about lack of heat in rooms, the problem has mostly been open windows or students' thermostats turned off.

As far as making roof repairs to stop current leaks, nothing is expected to be done until spring because working on the slate roofs right now would do more damage than good. Simmons, however, does not expect any more major complaints or frozen pipes this semester. In the future, he insisted, a routine check will be made of every student's room to make sure windows are not open and that thermostats are not off. Morgan also plans to speak with peer counselors about helping dorm residents to take future precautions.

❤ Foreplay anyone? ❤

So, right off the bat, let's get this (for lack of a more original word) straight: YES, THERE WILL BE A MENAGE THIS SEMESTER! Want proof?

Introducing "CRUSH"...a little Valentine's Day affair, compliments of the Menage. Quite simple, CRUSH is a valentine from all of you to all of them. It's a nice little way of saying "Too bad you're straight", "Too bad you're gay", "Too bad you're attached", or "Too bad nothing, you're single, I'm single and now we have something to talk about."

It's a compliment, not necessarily a come-on...but it could be.

But let's face it, if things were as honest and direct as they were in the prepubescent days of Elementary School Valentines, the world would be a much simpler place. CRUSH notes are conveniently designed so that on the inside the CRUSHee signs his or her name, then fold the paper over (staple if you want the added security), and write the name of the CRUSH on the front flap and throw it in campus mail. Now we know that a lot of people may be tempted to forego the signing of the "From" line and send it anyway, and that's okay, but the Menage is about communication, so go for the gusto and remember Elementary School: Suzie Brenner didn't flip out when someone was nice enough to send her a little *billet doux* , or her brother for that matter. Hell, now that we've all (I assume) gotten over our fear of "cooties" it should be even easier now.

The CRUSH committee will be tabling in front of Kline on Thursday and Friday so that you can grab all the forms you need and get them in campus mail by Saturday so you can surprise *your* crush on Valentine's Day.

❤ ❤ ❤ ❤ ❤ ❤ ❤ ❤

BAGLE's Back

To the Bard Community:

Yo, listen up.

It's another exciting semester at the homeland, and BAGLE is up and running once again. We'd like to try to clear the air on some issues and let you know what our purposes/thoughts/plans are for the semester. Judging from certain bathroom graffiti, there are still some very mixed feelings about BAGLE as a group: Are we scary? Are we hostile and heterophobic? Are we too fashion-conscious? Are we losers? Do we talk big and get nothing done? What is our function on this campus?

As with any other campus organization, BAGLE is what you make of it. We are political, we are social. We are event-oriented, we are people-oriented. We accomplish much, we accomplish little. It all depends on you point of view, your individual interests, whatever soap-box you stand on or stand near. If there's something that you'd like to see BAGLE doing, or if you'd like to participate in what's already going on, please come to our meetings! Whether you're gay/lesbian/bisexual (GLB), a GLB activist, child of a GLB, friend of a GLB, niece/nephew/aunt/uncle/cousin/lover/grandchild/ you-name-it of a GLB, or just interested in what we might be doing, meetings are every Thursday in Albee Social at 6:30. In addition, once a month, the business meeting will be replaced by an informal wine and cheese social. These socials are open to everyone involved in/ interested in BAGLE, and the first one is this Thursday, Feb 10, at 7:00pm in Albee Social. Please come if you are interested at all.

In addition, we are planning on hosting a series of discussion nights on GLB issues. The first one will probably be this Sunday, February 13 at 6:30, somewhere in Olin, and will probably address the topic of Bisexuality.

On Friday, Feb 18, at 10:00 pm we are co-sponsoring (with the Film Committee and several other clubs) a showing of The Rocky Horror Picture Show in the Student Center. A party will follow.

On Friday, March 11, at 8:00 pm in Olin Auditorium, author Sarah Schulman will read from new and unpublished work. Sarah is the author of After Delores, People in Trouble, and Empathy.

Please look for further announcements on all of these events. Also on our agenda is: cleaning up the club room, working on a GLB Alumni Association, and weekly women's and men's informal discussion groups. We are always open to suggestions (preferably before the buget forum).

So, once again, please don't be shy. You don't hae to be GLB to be a part of BAGLE, and if you are a GLB, you don't have to be out. All you need is an interest in the issues encompassed by BAGLE.

See you at the meetings!

Love,
Stephanie Chasteen and
Cree Nevins
Co-heads of BAGLE

The Native American Experience Tutorial

by Leslie Kuhn

My name is Leslie Kuhn and I am a first-year, second semester student at Bard College. I am writing to inform the Bard Community of the effort that I and several other students have made to establish a tutorial entitled "The Native American Experience" for this semester. On Wednesday, February 8th the tutorial will be presented by Dean Levine to the Executive Committee for final approval. Since this is an issue that effects the academic life at Bard College, we feel it is important to inform the entire student body about the tutorial and the woman we hope will teach it.

The purpose of this tutorial is to increase the understanding of the past and present through the experience of the American Indian people of the Hudson Valley region extending from Maryland to Canada. Encompassed in this history will be oral traditions, plants and medicines, philosophies of the Earth and cosmos through legends, arts and dances, music and languages, hunting and fishing rights.

The two confederacies included will be the Iroquois and Wabankis. The Iroquois are comprised from the Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cauyugus and Seneca peoples of the Long House. The Wabankis are comprised from Abenaki, Mahicans, Pennacooks, Nipmoks and the Wappingers men of the East.

Included in this tutorial will be lectures and demonstrations from chiefs and spiritual elders from the Indian Nations. Exhibited will be traditional works from the surrounding Nations including arts, dance and music to educate students about contemporary Indian life as experienced today. How the traditions maintain the link to the past will also be addressed.

Nancy Red Star is a member of the Abenaki Nation, Republic of Missisquoi, headquartered in Swanton, Vermont. The Abenaki are an Algonquin linguistic nation of the Wabanaki confederacies. Nancy Red Star is through her matriarchal lineage a descendent of the indigenous aboriginal title to the lands of the Hudson Valley region. She is a member of the inner circle, and will be a delegate to the United Nations conference in Switzerland in February 1994. She will be offering wampum from her nation sponsored by the U.N.

Her works continue the traditions of her heritage, and have been viewed in museums and prestigious galleries. She has also received international press fro her Algonquin style blanket weavings, in addition to her recognition from her co-work with traditional elders of many nations.

Presently, Mrs. Nancy Red Star is a consultant for the counseling services at Bard College. She also facilitates discussion groups for women and students of color on campus. Given that Mrs. Red Star is already an active member within the Bard Community, it is our hope to extend her presence into our academic education.

If you are interested in either taking the tutorial, or bringing additional Native American courses to Bard, please contact me or Eric Landaverdes by phone or campus mail.

Congratulations to all the newly trained B.R.A.V.E. counselors!

Ben Schwabe
Rachel Reid
Erika McEntarfer
Teresa Casey
Julianne Voss
Sarah Gallagher
Hoa Tu
Carey Griffin
Anna Lacina
Priya George
Yael Goldman
Mary Ellen Cousins
Stacy Schwartz
Amanda Harris
Alejandra Silberman

Great job! Love,
Cara, Granna, Angie, Shawn, Zack, Phoebe, Anna and Dara

To contact B.R.A.V.E.: call ext. 553
(new office hours: Sun. and Mon. 8-10 pm)

Rate the Deans

***In each of the empty squares please put a SA (strongly agree), A (agree), NO (no opinion), D (disagree) or SD (strongly disagree). Please cut out survey and return to the *Bard Observer* via campus mail.**
Results will be printed in next week's issue.

	Dean of Students, Shelley Norgan	Dean of Housing, Gaidys Watson	Dean of College, Stuart Levine	Dean of Studies, Ethan Bloch
Is friendly				
Is responsive to students' needs				
Makes him/herself readily available				
Is polite				
Is helpful				
Is understanding				
Is easy to get in touch with				
Gets things done quickly				
Is cooperative				
Does a good job				
Runs worthwhile programs				

Next Week's Survey: Dreams for a new Student Center

Straight From the Stars

Aries (March 21- April 19): You may hear many foolish remarks this week; heed only the ones that seem most interesting.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20): Many will seek your wisdom in the days to come; give it cautiously.

Gemini (May 21- June 20): Much of your time will be devoted to games; beware the ace of spades.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22): You will be too busy or too sleepy to get much accomplished this week, but things will pick up by the weekend.

Leo (July 23 - August 22): Skepticism will consume you. Beware of forgeries or else you may overlook the real thing.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22): You will take something precious and be rewarded only by your own liberty.

Libra (September 23 - October 22): Good news finds its way to you. You may take, however, some time to feel good about it.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21): This week you will need patience more than anything else. Take time to pamper yourself.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21): A few minutes of your time devoted to someone special will harvest a good reward.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19): You may find yourself a little bit late, but when it comes to thinking, you'll be way ahead of everyone else.

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18): You'll find yourself with plenty of time to do things you never thought you would have the chance to do.

Pisces (February 19 - March 20): If you hear someone use your middle name this week, you'll know that you're in trouble.

Shameless Filler

In which we make no excuses for our excentricities

The word *cosmopolitan* (neither the descriptive word, nor the magazine) wouldn't necessarily occur to anyone if they took a look at the student population of this school. However, we gots foax from all over this misshapen planet, from places I can't even spell, much less point out in an atlas. That includes some cities in northern New Jersey (beginning with either an "S", a "T" or a "P", I can't remember), and that should give you some indication of why I steered clear of the political science discipline. My point is simply this: lots of students were far, far away this January, while I was (once again, by choice) stuck here at Bard, a mere smear on the map of western New York State.

So, it must have been a surprise to many to come back from their happy hidey-holes and see the cruel joke nature has played on us here in the Hudson Valley. Maybe the powers that be are sick of us underhandedly referring to them as "Ol' Man Winter" or something, because we had a doozy of a January. Witness the four-foot high snowdrifts. The extensive patches of ice on the various trails and paths. The ground rock salt on the asphalt. The collection of abandoned, rusing bicylces chained to fences and bike racks that might or might not survive till spring thaw. I tell you, man, Chronos Quartet had it right: Winter was hard. And it isn't barely half done.

Considering that by the time we all left (well, *you* all left, I was still here, remember? *By choice*, by choice) there hadn't been much more than a pert overnight dusting and a few sub-freezing days. Perhaps you were brave enough (or late enough with papers) to stick around until Saturday, when winter finally remembered its job. We got a healthy four inches or so that night, and it was a pleasant pre-holiday snowfall, very healthy and positive. So, that was how things seemed as the campus settled down for a long winter's crash.

Well, it didn't stay placid. It started with a quick one-two-three combination of three all-day snowstorms in a span of six days. The snow piled up, got plowed and sanded, then piled up again. The lovely rolling fields became a multi-tiered slate of white, pardon my pastoral prose. And then we got what's known as an arctic blast: a weather system directed by the Yukon headed by yet more snow and followed by an eight-day string of temperatures hovering just around zero. That was during the *day*, with the sun out and all. At night, with the wind and everything...well, I couldn't read the thermometer since my eyelids glazed over, but I'm telling you it was colder than the nipple of a witch's tit! I mean, my scarf became solid due to droplets of water vapor from my breath freezing in the midday air.

So, you'll understand how strange and surreal it must have seemed when folks around here saw me smiling, even after my face had thawed out. Why? Look, I've noticed that there are some things that are integral to my nature that cause other people to look on me with a mix of skepticism, disdain and pity (not to get too maudlin about it). I like sports. I like anchovies on pizza. I like snow, goddamit, no matter what the situation or it as it falls. I like romping through it at night. It's a joyful experience for me.

Now, once people discover this aspect, they try to meddle with it until they're comfortable with it. They suggest I would feel differently if I had to drive in it. Well, for three years I had a car, drove in snow, skidded and slid with the rest of them, and loved every snowflake that fell on the steamed-up windshield. If anything, it's more fun to drive as snow falls. Especially at night, when the oncoming snow hits your headlights and makes it seem like you're on board the *Enterprise*, about to engage warp drive.

When that plan fails, they use the old "Snowy enough for ya?" tactic. Well, no frankly, it isn't snowy enough. In fact, I would be happier if the seasons ran this way: winter, spring, autumn circumventing summer and then winter again. I'm currently seeking to start up a lobby for this cause, and if anyone knows of someone I could contact that might aid my cause, send me an address.

Don't get me wrong, there's nothing fun about slipping on a patch of black ice and landing on your tailbone. There's very little enjoyable about getting pelted by a snowball covered with gravel and sludge. And after a while, the exposed, salted and trampled snow at the roadside begins to grow dun and unattractive. But I will not bend on this snow affection, so you can all stop looking at me like I swallowed your house pet when I mention how happy I am that it's snowing again. Just ignore me, and eventually I'll move to Maine or Wisconsin.

By Matthew Gilman

Student Life Committee reports

by Laurie Curry, Student Life Committee Chair

The Committee has three new members; Dareeta Soloman, Gilbert Alfonso and Shelleen Greene. Goldie Gider and Banu Patil are returning members. Laurie Curry obtained the position of chair without election since she was the only person to turn in a statement of purpose at the end of the fall semester. The stated objectives of the new members include; working on issues of security and lighting, dorm conditions and greater Student Life Committee involvement in MES related activities.

One immediate change in the role of the Committee is the Committee's bulletin board, located in the pool room before the post office. Laurie Curry stated that, "I was told repeatedly last semester that many people do not understand the role of the Committee, do not know what we are doing, or how to reach us. From now on, every meeting we attend, every memorandum we send and every one we receive will be posted all students to see. The bulletin board should also function as a suggestion board, like the Grapevine in Kline. We want to hear your complaints and ideas."

The newly elected Student Life Committee met earlier this week for the first meeting of the semester. Among the goals for the semester are:

—continued support of student initiatives for alternative methods to purchasing school supplies

—further promotion of the recycling program

—inspection of campus grounds for sufficient lighting

—expanding the availability of rides within the area

—maintaining correspondence with the Computer Center regarding E-mail

—working with other clubheads to continue diversification of academic resources (MES in particular)

Also, the Student Life Committee has put together a "grievance board" (although complements are just as acceptable) in the basement of the student center, just outside the post office. Please feel free to write ideas about what you think of your representatives work on OR bring to our attention any other areas of interest. THIS IS YOUR BOARD, so its effectiveness is largely dependent on your usage.

FORUMS

The Student Forums for this semester will take place on:

Tuesday Feb. 15 (Budget Forum)
Wednesday March 9
Tuesday April 12
Wednesday May 11(Election Forum)

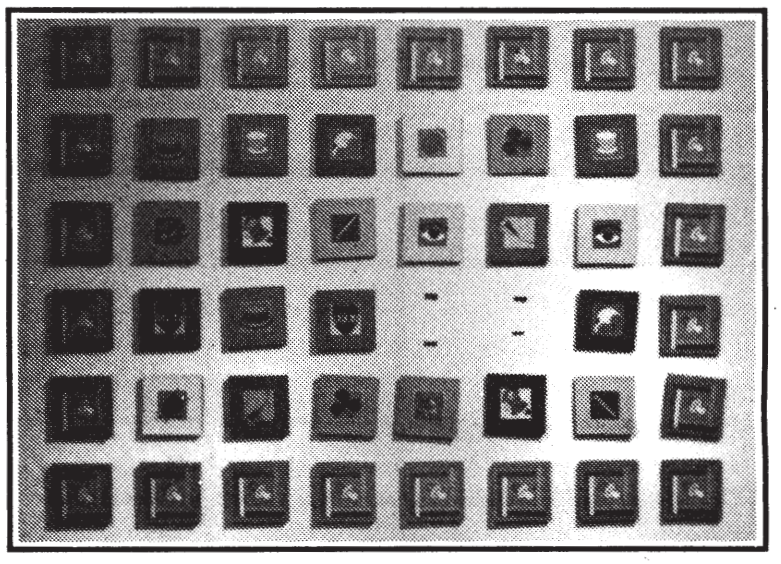
at 7 pm.

The Budget Forum will be in the big room in Kline. All others will be inthe Committee Rooms.

Scratch and steal

Procter plagued by theives and vandals

by Professor Tom Wolf



Between mid October and mid November 1993 several works of art were damaged or stolen from the "Tele-Aesthetics" exhibition that was shown in Bard's Procter Art Center. These destructive acts are both costly and demoralizing, and they put future exhibitions in Procter in jeopardy.

For over ten years the exhibitions in Procter have offered a constantly shifting cross-section of the contemporary art scene to the Bard community. These shows are usually curated by volunteers: artists, critics, dealers or curators who enjoy the opportunity to organize the exhibition of their dreams, their ideal grouping of works by artists of their choice. Like many of these shows, "Tele-aesthetics" was organized by a Bard alumnus, in this case Sandra Suarez Antelo, who is just now an up-and-coming young curator in New York City, having just curated a very original exhibtion of contemporary artists with Latin American roots for The Americas Society on Park Avenue at 68th Street. Sandra and the artists in "Tele-Aesthetics" donated a tremendous amount of their time to make it a special and a significant show, and consequently it is all the more disheartening that members of the Bard community showed so little respect for the works exhibited.

One of the most memorable pieces in the show was the virtually life-sized fiberglass cow, absurdly kept at a constant temperature by the electrically powered thermal suit it wore. This piece was too compelling for its own good; it was touched and handled until it was scratched and discolored. It will have to be entirely repainted in a spray booth to restore its even coat, a costly process for which the gallery has no funds.

Artist Paul Ramirez-Jonas loaned an ambitious and complex piece to the show. He studied Thomas Edison's original process for recording sound and reproduced it. To do this he made a mold and cast cylinders of a special kind of wax. He then built a contraption like a saw horse, with an arm and a primitively sound-sensitive needle, and actually recorded a message with a series of grooves inscribed in the wax. The completed cylinders plus the recording apparatus and an explanatory book comprised his piece. Some spectators of the show took several of the cylinders, put them on the recording machine, and scratched grooves into them. They broke the wax pieces in the process, thus ruining the entire piece. In addition one of the cylinders is inexplicably missing.

"Tele-Aesthetics" was an international show, with artists from Canada, the United States and South America represented. Rosana Fuertes sent works from Buenos Aires. These are small panels, about 4" square, on which she paints images of everyday or symbolic objects like dolls or eyes. Groups of these mini-paintings are then hung on the wall in a large grid. Two of these are missing—both bright, tightly painted images of skulls set against flat borders.

It would be helpful to know the circumstances of the damage to the Laurel Katz and Paul Ramirez-Jonas works—helpful in explaining the situation to the artists while negotiating with them. But the case of Rosina Fuertes seems to be one of pure theft, the stealing of pieces an artist generously loaned to our space. It is important to recover these works and to return them to the artist.

Following the "Tele-Aesthetics" exhibition, Procter hosted the student show that is held there near the end of every semester. After a raucous opening party, a photograph of a man's back by Trevor Messersmith is missing. The shows in Procter are organized by members of the community for the pleasure and edification of that community. A lot of volunteered time and a lot of good faith goes into these shows, and if this good faith is continually abused, it will be a great loss to the many specatators who enjoy and profit from the exhibitions in the Procter Art Center.

(Prof. Wolf is an Associate Professor of Art History and the Director of the Procter Art Center.)

Introductory Yoga

A course in Yoga will take place on Thursday nights, 6 to 7:30 pm in Olin, room 204, starting February 17. The course is open to students, faculty, staff and their families.
There will be eight sessions, and the fee is $20.
Instruction will be by Prof. Ben Vromen who received teacher training at the Kripalu Yoga Center in Stockbridge, MA. He has been teaching Yoga at Bard since 1985.
Meet Ben on Thursday, February 10, 6pm in Olin 204 for a brief informal talk and Q&A, followed by registration until 7pm, or contact him through campus mail.

Majority does not rule

To the editor,

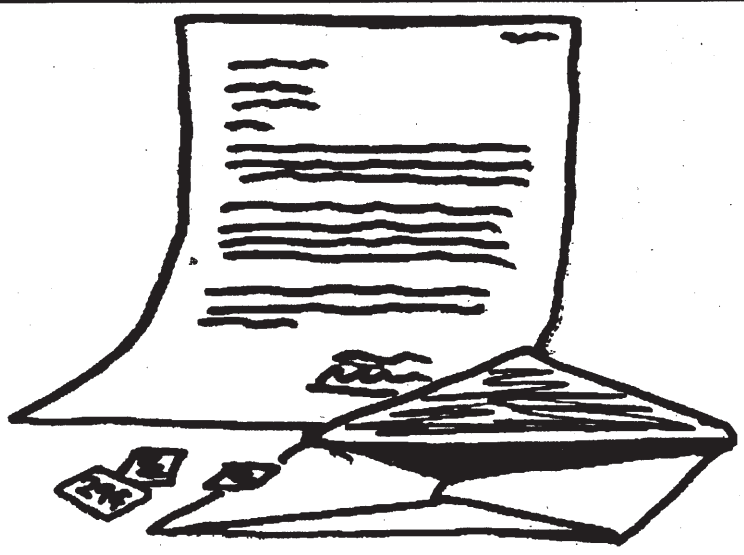
I am writing this editorial partly out of my frustration stemming from a specific series of events that occured on this campus concerning administrative residential policies, and partly out of a growing awareness of a national socio-cultural movement which, if not controlled, threatens to undermine our personal freedom and dissolve the very forces which bond our nation together. While seemingly unrelated topics, my personal experience is an undeniable manifestation of the latter, in large part due to this college's continued devotion to embrace any liberal (but certainly not innovative) policy that happens to appear in the forefront of our media-dominated society. To elaborate, I am talking about political correctness and its effects; in this case a nauseating hypersensitivity to any perceived infringement of emotional security, and especially the willingness of individuals in administrative capacities to recognize and create policy to appease such "hypers", as I will refer to them.

Obviously, the danger to such personal liberties as freedom of speech (which I would like to believe result in the spread of critical and rational thought as well) is easily seen, but what about the long term effects? As in any casual relationship, one set of factors will create the conditions necessary for any given change. In this case, we are talking about a fundamental shift of attitude; that is, the unwillingness of the majority to exert its proper power over the minority. Granted, this sounds a bit heartless, but keep in mind that the fundamental rule of democracy is majority rule. By consequence, if policies favoring the minorities are enacted, the majority will be unhappy, and conflicts will appear on a national scale. As for the question of national self-confidence, let me simply say this. If you perceive a vital national consciousness brimming over with homogenity and inter-racial cooperation, then you have my earnest permission to discount everything I am saying here.

In regards to the residential policies I mentioned earlier, let me state as before that this college has shown an unusual capacity to polymorphy itself to the cries of every (don't hurt amoebas, they have feelings too!) radical that ever walked this earth. Basically the situation is as follows. Out of a burglary that could only be attributed to the college itself (the doors and windows were secure, but the windows were plexiglass, allowing the burglars to pry one of them open) my roomate and I were moved to the only double available, which happened to be a quiet dorm. We were made aware of the regulations, both formally and informally by the residents themselves about the amounts of noise allowed. Noting that these residents played music at reasonable levels, we adopted the apparently absurd notion that we could as well. However, as you may have guessed, we were immediately beseiged by a hyper as soon as the first note of Morrissey played forth. Not wanting to cause trouble, we agreed to turn it down, even though we could barely hear it ourselves. The assaults on "that infernal racket" continued however, much to the chagrin of Steven Patrick, who was vainly trying to tell us that that joke isn't funny anymore. Eventually the hyper (who admitted that even conversational talking from our sector was a maddening proposition) went to the administration, in order to voice complaints about the sound level which the rest of the wing never complained about. Am I saying that we did not produce sound? Of course not; after all, even the sound of our walking created "noise" (as did the hyper's; a fact not admitted by the hyper in order to create a double standard). However the fact that no one else complained clearly shows that the sound level was indeed acceptable to 35 out of the 36 residents. Yet as you also may have guessed, the administration sided with the one, in an embarassing assault on due process, which resulted in the further displacement of my roomate and myself. When I say sided with the one, I do not mean that the administration protected contractual housing rights, but rather changed its policy (the polymorphy effect) to appease the unjustified moanings of the politically correct chain.

Do I believe that this small editorial on the decline of rational thought will have any effect whatsoever on he actions of the administration? I don't believe so, and it would be presumptuous on my part to predict that it will. However conditions can change when my attitude changes, as any historian will verify. Thus the future will depend upon whether we as a people, as a majority, and as patrons of fair and just reason can apply our resources and enact policies by and for the majority, be it a nation or a college campus.

-Bradley Cline



Fight the postal power

To the editor,

This postcard is an example of how I have decided to express my disapproval of the increased postal rates whihc will eventually occur, it was announced in December.

By sending postcards instead of letters, a 33% savings can be made. If enough people do the same for their mail communications, the loss of revenue could be noticeable. I think that the Postal Department should think twice about increasing their rates. Also the savings will be multiplied if people no longer purchase higher rate stamps and by cutting down on Christmas and other cards to 4x6". Size is a fun way of recylcing and can lead too creative expression and save money too.

In any case, the rate raise is a hardship on many including businesses and myself. However, the challenge of, at least, impeding an exploitive system which may be inflecting a tax "without representation" has a certain satisfaction.

Andy Wing

Locking shenanigans

Dear Editor,

I am one of the few people who stayed at Bard over January Intercession. Those of us who stayed were grateful to the Student Life Committee for enabling us to live in Oberholzer, where we could control our own heat. We were not grateful, however, for the locks on our doors being changed with little prior notification.

All the locks were changed on campus on the last Friday of January, two days after we were officially allowed to move back to our permanent rooms. We were urged to "begin moving as quickly as possible" so that ServiceMaster could clean the rooms. I didn't find out until late Friday that the locks on all the doors had been changed. I couldn't get into my new room without Security's help, I couldn't lock the room I was staying in, yet I was urged to lock both rooms at all times. What was I supposed to do, move my stuff into the hallway and sleep in a lounge chair? or be necessarily trapped in a given room like an infant under the watchful eye of a babysitter. Not to mention that we had an ice storm during those two days. Not exactly optimum moving conditions. Oh, and didn't Bard know that residents of Stone Row had no way to cook their food during that weekend, since it was a bit too damn icy and windy to carry pots and pans over two-foot drifts of snow?

What I'd like to know is, why did Bard choose the end of January to change the locks? Did someone think this would immediately prevent all theft ever after? If anything, it forced students to leave rooms unlocked and encourage theft. Why weren't the keys left at Security for us? Whose brainchild was this?

And by the way, the outside door of Oberholzer was left unlocked all January. Some dorm locking policy.

Sincerely,
Matthew Apple

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Bard Observer Editorial Policy

All submissions must be turned in to either campus mail or our Tewksbury office no later than noon the Saturday before the issue for which they are intended. Space on the Another View and Letters pages works on a first come basis; if we cannot fit your submission in one week, it will be guaranteed space the next week. We do not exclude any material unless it is slanderous, or does not include the name of the author. Classifieds are free to Bardians and cost $0.10/word per issue for all those in our local region. For more information on our policies or advertising rates please call (914) 758-0772 or write:

***Bard Observer* Bard College Box 185 Annandale, N.Y. 12504**

BARD CALENDAR

PRESENTED BY THE DEAN OF STUDENTS' OFFICE — FEBRUARY 9 TO FEBRUARY 16 + 1994

★ WEDNESDAY. FEBRUARY 9 ★

★ **Mesa de Espanol.** ¡No te la pierdas! **Kline Commitee Room 6-7p.**

★ **Grand Union Run**. Leaves at 6p and returns at 7p. **Meet the van behind Kline.**

★ THURSDAY. FEBRUARY 10 ★

★ **Tavola Italiana, Kline President's Room.** All Welcome! Join us for conversation at **6-7p**. Benvenuti!

★ **Introductory Yoga. Prof. Ben Vromen will be holding a brief informational talk followed by registration for the course starting February 17. Olin 204 at 6p.**

★ **Living in Infamy.** A performance by the Asian American Theater Project. **In Olin 102 at 8p.**

★ **BAGLE** (Bisexuals, Activists, Gay Lesbians Et al.) meeting. Come one, come all! **Albee Social 6:30p.**

★ **Informal BAGLE wine and cheese social.** Open to all interested in BAGLE and BAGLEe issues. **Albee Social, 7p.**

★ FRIDAY. FEBRUARY 11 ★

★ **Defensive Driving Course.** The first half of a two day course continued on Monday , February 14 is offered today from 9a to 12p. A $13 deposit and a copy of your current driver's license is required. **For more information see Audrey at B&G.**

★ **Bard's Immediate Decision Plan Session. All day long, in Olin.**

★ **Beginning squash lessons.** For further information contact Kris Hall at 758-7530. **At the Stevenson Gym, 3-4p.**

★ **Trip to the Poughkeepsie Galleria.** Van leaves at 5p and picks you up at the Mall at 9p. **Meet behind Kline.**

★ SATURDAY. FEBRUARY 12 ★

★ **Bard's Immediate Decision Plan Session. All day long, in Olin.**

Happy Valentine's Day

★ SUNDAY. FEBRUARY 13 ★

★ **Sidney Cash,** sculptor and **Mark Solomon,** poet, will be presenting their work in the opening event of the Jewish Arts Festival. **Olin Auditorium, 3p.**

★ **BAGLE discussion group** on bisexuality. Somewhere in Olin. **Please watch for confirmation announcements.**

★ **Cara de Luna** performing a Ladino repertoire spiced with Turkish and Greek themes, Hebrew phrases and Arabic passages. **DeKline, 9p.**

★ MONDAY. FEBRUARY 14 ★

★ **Second half of the Defensive Driving Course** is happening today from 9a to 12p. **Go see Audrey at B&G before Friday, February 11 to sign up.**

★ TUESDAY. FEBRUARY 15 ★

★ **BUDGET FORUM, KLINE COMMONS AT 7P.**

★ WEDNESDAY. FEBRUARY 16 ★

★ **Mesa de Espanol.** ¡No te la pierdas! **Kline Commitee Room 6-7p.**

★ **Grand Union Run**. Leaves at 6p and returns at 7p. **Meet the van behind Kline.**

★ **Bard College Folk Society Concert Series** presents **Susan Werner.** This folk songwriter and interpreter will be performing in the **Olin Auditorium at 8p.**

★ **Maureen Forrestal,** Career Development Counselor will discuss summer internships and jobs. **Obreshkove lounge, 9p.**

HOW TO PUBLICIZE IN *THE BARD OBSERVER*

If you have an event to publicize in the *Bard Observer* Calendar:

1. **Drop off the announcement at the Dean of Students Office in Ludlow 204 and it will be forwarded to the Observer office. Please put your name on the announcement and how you can be reached if there are any questions.**

2. **Call the Calendar or the *Observer* at 758-0772.**

3. **Call Ext. 454 to make a reservation for your event in a committee room at Kline Commons. The *Observer* will then publicize the event in the next issue of the Calendar.**

★ TRANSPORTATION SCHEDULE ★

WEDNESDAY: Grand Union Runs: Leave at 6p, return at 7p.
FRIDAY: Poughkeepsie Galleria Mall Runs: Leave every other Friday at 5p. Pick up at the Mall at 9p. Trips are scheduled for February 11, 25; March 11,25 ; April 15,29 and May 13.
Rhinecliff Train Station Run: 4:20p for the 4:53p, 5:50 for the 6:21p, 7:00p for the 7:41p.
Poughkeepsie Runs: 5:30p for the 6:19p, 7:45p for the 8:35p, 10:00p for the 10:45p.
SATURDAY: The 10a-2p shuttle from Bard to Tivoli, Red Hook, Rhinecliff and Rhinebeck.
SUNDAY: Van meets the 7:15p and 9:30p trains at the Rhinecliff Station.
Van meets the 7:43p and 10:43p trains at the Poughkeepsie Station.
Church Runs: at 9:15 to go to Red Hook for St. Chris Church and Tivoli for St. Paul's Church.

Other Transportation: Jitney Service : To South Campus, leaves Manor Gatehouse at 8:30 am and 9:30 pm. Return to North Campus , leaves behind Kline at 3:30 pm and 5:00 pm.
Van trips to New York City: every three weeks: March 5, 26, April 16, May 7. Sign up in the Dean of Students Office - $5.00.

Meet all vans or buses in the parking lot behind Kline Commons.