Page 1  Security for Security
        Bard Security guards await union contract negotiations
        Michael Poirier
Page 2  Classifieds and personals
Page 3  Balloons Over Bard
        “The Naturalist high I ever had”
        Josh Ledwell
        Fight For Your Right to Party
        Administration explains, and enforces, Bard’s regulations for social events
        Michael Poirier
Page 4  Eat Drink Man Woman
        Director Ang Lee’s latest film, more satisfying than The Wedding Banquet
        Pedro Rodriguez
        The Hudsucker Proxy
        The brothers who brought you Raising Arizona revel in their new comedy
        Chuck Beckius
Page 5  Proposed Budget for Fall 1994
        Advertisements
Page 6  Soccer Doubleheader
        Tremendous victory for women’s team inaugurates Bard’s new field
        Joshua Ledwell
        Off and Running
        Cross-country squads set the pace despite lack of uniforms and preparation
        Diane Lowry
Page 7  Letters
        Editorial Policy
Page 8  Calendar
"News is whatever sells newspapers. The Observer is free."

THE BARD OBSERVER

Volume 102 Number 2
Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504
September 14, 1994

"We live under a government of men & morning newspapers."
- Wendell Phillips

Contents

2
Security continued
Classifieds and Personals
3
Up, up and away!
Confiscated kegs
4
Eat Drink Man Woman and The Hudsucker Proxy at Upstate Films
5
Fall 1994 Proposed Budget
6
Soccer ups and downs
Cross Country feats
7
Letters

Will a union protect those who are paid to protect the students? (photo MP).

Security for Security

Bard Security guards await union contract negotiations.

After a summer of meetings and preliminary negotiations, the drive to unionize by the Security guards of Bard College is entering its final stages. Concerned about work schedules, payroll, job security and other issues, they have been seeking a union for the last four months, despite the occasional opposition of the administration. But now, the guards have joined a national union, and are currently waiting to negotiate their new contract with the College.

This union is going to level the playing field, said one officer in an interview earlier this week. A number of guards discussed their current situation under the promise of anonymity, worried about repercussions from the College when the contract has yet to be signed.

The road to the union

Last spring, the Security officers at Bard College began the process of joining a union. By May, their efforts had come under fire from the administration.

Bard College challenged the guards' endeavors by claiming that some of the officers were actually "shift supervisors" and therefore could not enter into a union. The case went to court, and a New York District Judge ruled in favor of the officers—agreeing that the individuals the College identified as "supervisors" did not have any of the authority or benefits such supervisors should have.

Once the case was settled, the guards took a vote to determine how many of them actually wanted the union. "That vote was 100%," said one officer, affirming that all ten of the guards who planned to stay at Bard were in favor of a union.

The College then had forty-five days in which to respond to the guards' vote. The officers said that since the vote was unanimous, there was now "no challenge" from the administration.

However, before the vote was taken, the guards were invited to a meeting with Dimitri Papadimitriou, the Executive Vice-President of the College who oversees the College's expenditures. The officers said that Papadimitriou did not try to discourage the guards from joining a union, but the Vice-President did warn that a union "would formalize the currently open relationship that already exists." The guards found this statement to be ridiculous.

One guard said, "We never had that kind of relationship, and we never will." The guards felt that it was already an extremely formal relationship between them and the administration. They argued that the union will prevent this relationship from remaining a "one-way street" where the voices of the officers are not heard.

The officers have joined the United Plant Guard Workers of America, a nationwide security guard union based in Detroit, Michi-
Security continued

continued from first page

gan. Once the guards put
their demands on paper, the union
drew up the contract. The UPGW
then approached the College with
the drafted contract, which the
College has the right to negotiate
before signing.

The guards' goals

The guards could not dis-
cuss the specifics of their contract
before negotiations begin, but
they did describe some of the
problem areas they are hoping to
remedy.

One of the primary
concerns of the guards is
the issue of personnel.
According to the guards,
the College does not have
eough guards to proper-
ly service the campus.

Another explained,
"You can't do building,
you can't meet students,
you can't do responsi-
bilities without hiring
more guards. You can't do
it.

For example, only two
guards are on duty some
nights of the week. (If one has to
in sick, that officer might
not even be replaced.) Since Security is re-
ponsible for locking buildings,
opening doors, escorting students
and responding to emergencies,
coupled with the size and spread-
out nature of the campus, this
lack of personnel can create seri-
ous problems when a number
of calls come in to Security at
once.

The officers are pushing
for a minimum of three guards on
duty at all times: one for north
campus, one for main campus
and another for south campus. "That
way if a situation does arrive,
there will be people there to
handle it," said one officer.

The need for more guards
is also felt when it comes to
time.

The guards said that the
College is "unwilling to pay over-
time if an officer has to come in
day duty."

They said that
the workers will go around
time and cut time.

"Even though we're
given time off by the
company, we're not
allowed to use it," said one
officer.

"It's because of lack
of man-power, but they won't hire
any more guardians.

"It's a self-induced
problem called
"In the past, guards have been fired where someone com-
plained just because the guard did his job.

"What are we asking for is the
in the event of doing the job,
and we tick somebody off, that
we don't get terminated for that,
he continued. "We're not
asked for immunity, we just
want the protection of due
process.

The need for fixed, regular
working hours is another
issue the guards are raising.
Some officers are working the
evening shift one night, then
are scheduled for a shift the
very next morning. "Nobody
can operate on that kind of
schedule," said one guard.

"Security is supposed to be a
preventative thing," added another
officer. "We shouldn't have to wait
until there's a murder or something
we don't get terminated for that,
he continued. "We're not
asked for immunity, we just
want the protection of due
process.

When asked whether the
College cares more about
money than safety, a charge
many of the security guards
are making, Brudvig replied:
"I don't think that's true...As
a matter of fact, we have added
security guards. We now have
10 guards, a director of Secu-
ity and an assistant to the
director. We've never had such
a complement in the past."

"If you look at our hiring
practices, the College is actu-
ally spending more money on
Security than ever before," he
concluded.

Currently, the guards
and the administration are
preparing their arguments for
the upcoming negotiations.
The negotiations are scheduled
to take place next month
during Reading Week.

In the meantime, the
progress of campus safety for Bar.
College hang in the balance.
Features

Balloons over Bard

"The naturalist high I ever had"

Up, up and away: the three stages of hot-air balloon development. (photo/SL)

At the end of the soccer games on Saturday afternoon, about 80 spectators did not leave with the rest of the crowd. They were waiting for a hot-air balloon ride, the first event of the Natural High program at Bard.

Interested students soon lined up to place their names in a box, and 30 were chosen. Meanwhile, the "Balloon Chase Van" had driven onto the field, people from Hudson Valley Adventures were laying out the colorful balloon skin, and it appeared that we would soon be airborne.

In the witty words of one onlooker, however, "the Natural High program had trouble getting off the ground." A gusting wind delayed the launching of the balloon until almost 7:00 PM. Finally, though, the balloon was inflated and ready to go.

The balloon was tethered to two cars, and as a result was limited to an altitude of about 50 feet. This was just far enough to see over the trees around the soccer field, and several students expressed disappointment at the curtailed view and short duration of their trip. For everyone to have a chance, the limitations were unfortunately necessary.

The wind continued to make each trip unpredictable. It was cold, and occasionally, it caused the huge balloon to tip steeply in the direction of the line of students waiting to board. The looming light bulb shape blotted out the sun and made one person yelp "It's going to crush us! Death by balloon!"

Climbing into the balloon basket was a challenge when the wind dragged the gondola several feet, or tipped it at a sharp angle. One student remarked that "the exciting part was getting into the basket, not the ride!" Overall, it was a fun and unique experience.

Passengers threw a hackey-sack from the balloon at a target on the ground as part of an Athletic Department contest. Students who were able to hit the bull's-eye won Bard T-shirts. The winners were Ian Forbes, Joel Rush, and Adrian, who should visit the gym to claim their prize since his entry form was lost (along with his last name).

The Natural High Program will continue on Saturday, September 24, with an event to be announced. 

Fight for your right to party

Administration explains, and enforces, Bard’s regulations for social events

The confiscated kegs ( Trophy ) before the party began, the host of the event would be protected by claiming that the incoming money would be used for other charges such as the music or non-alcoholic refreshments.

"The policy is not only to protect the College, but the students as well," Squillace concluded.

The policies explained

"This isn’t intended to be some kind of mean and ambiguous policy," said Huang in an interview Tuesday. "Hu Huang explained that the purpose of the meetings were to educate campus members about the legal and practical responsibilities of hosting a social event on campus. He affirmed that except for his office distributing copies of completed party registration forms, none of these regulations were new. However, he also confirmed that if you were not one of the fifty-six people who attended the two meetings, you will not be able to register a party.

"The idea was not to be heavy-handed with these regulations, but to open up the lines of communication with these meetings," continued Huang. "Many new club heads might not know the basics of party planning at Bard."

In order to conduct a social event, it must first be registered through Huang’s office at least three days in advance. A packet distributed at the informational meeting clarified that Thursday and Friday registrations would not be permitted for week-end parties.

To reserve space for the event, the host must obtain permission from Huang for the Student Center, Dan Oandyba for Kline Commons, and Theresa Desmon of the Dean of Students Office for the Olin Auditorium.

To hold an event in a resident continued on page 7
Eat Drink Man Woman

Director Ang Lee's latest film, more satisfying than The Wedding Banquet

Pedro Rodriguez

Staff Writer

A n g Lee is the Far East's version of Robert Altman. I normally eschew such comparisons, but I can't help it here.

Both directors use what I call the 'splice concept.' Scenes are kept short and abruptly cut into one another—a photographic essay in moving pictures. The effect is often startling, creating connections which would be utterly impossible with a straightforward narrative.

Both have done wedding films. In the seventies, Robert Altman unleashed A Wedding, a plotless, bizarre, disturbing, yet piquant comedy. Ang Lee recently produced The Wedding Banquet, another comedy with a plot of culture shock.

Eat Drink Man Woman follows, steeped in culture and replete with splice concept. Numerous sub-plots embellish the main one, each unpredictably tossing a scene on the screen for a short while before diverting to another. The film revolves around food, and to a lesser and subtler extent, sex. Mr. Chu is the sun in this eddying system.

A master chef, he lives and cooks, though not necessarily in that order, in Taipei. Also residing in his house are his three daughters, the planets. The mother passed away some years ago; the quest to find Mr. Chu a new companion figures in too.

The eldest daughter is a repressed high school chemistry teacher who clings to the memory of an alleged lover she parted with nine years ago. She claims contentment in staying home and caring for her aging father (who rises before dawn and jogs for miles every morning). Suddenly, love letters appear on her desk, synchronous with the appearance of the muscular new gym teacher. The middle daughter fondly remembers the kitchen of a restaurant where she spent much of her childhood. Her father chased her out despite her love of cooking to steer her toward more practical ends. She currently works for an airline. Much of the plot hinges on a reconciliation between them. The youngest daughter misguided her best friends feelings for a high school boy as null and void, so she pursues him. Guess the rest.

Other characters fill out the myriad of sub-plots. The characters, however, do not pose any psychological conundrums. Their problems are common ones, and though I don't mean to be little, Freudians will find little to play with.

As Mr. Chu watches his girls leave, in unusual order, his fate becomes central. The planets catapult out of orbit to somewhere else. Should the sun merely burn out?

Old Wen, "uncle" and fellow chef, remarks in a semi-drunkened state that life boils (pun always intended) down to food and sex. As long as we're alive anything.

Eat Drink Man Woman is a more satisfying film than its predecessor, The Wedding Banquet. The characters are more commonplace, but the plots twist just enough to reapark interest and the direction is marvellous. One complaint: a bit too long.

Players: Shuhang Lang, Kuok-Mei Yang, Chen Li Hsu, Yu Wen Wang, Winston Chao

Director: Ang Lee
Producer: Li-Kang Hsu
Screenplay: Huo-Ling Yang & Ang Lee and James Schamus (sic)

Eat Drink Man Woman is playing at Upstate Films until Thursday, September 15.

The Hudsucker Proxy

The brothers who brought You Raise Arizona revel in their new comedy

Chuck Beckius

Staff Writer

The story of Norville Barnes—his rise to the forty-fourth floor of the Hudsucker building and his rapid fall 'without quite speaking' fills the plot of the Coen's Raising Arizona. Their new movie, The Hudsucker Proxy. Norville Barnes (Tim Robbins) becomes the figurehead proxy of the board after the head, W. Hudsucker himself dives out of the top story window and the second in command, Sydney J. Munsburger (Paul Newman), points him president. Without an heir or a will, the controlling 80% stock he holds would go on the market in four weeks. The board decides to place a bid in the position to make stock prices plummet to the point that they can buy the majority they need to maintain control. Norville plays the part of the fool remarkably well. Early on we are introduced to the inventive idea he wants to put on the market. The circle. "You know, for kids..."

The stock really falls to the perfect point and until we realize that this charming fool really had something. The hula hoop. The company flourishes and the top brass has to convince to remove him from power through exploiting his secretary who is really a plant from the local scandal rag. The reporter secretary Amy Archer (Jennifer Jason Leigh) has a complex about her femininity in a male dominated office, falls for the hero, and speaks close to the speed of sound. She manages to keep a coherent conversation on the phone, pontificate to a colleague, type her news story, and give answers to various crossword puzzle questions all at the same time.

The simple plot aside, the movie is refreshingly comedic and bizarre. Sometimes between the first fifteen minutes of The Meaning of Life and the wonderful color portion of Kafka lies the business of Hudsucker. The tiny ant-like people scurry from power and communicate from above while there are secret passages and giant cogs in the background around which the whole world turns. Meanwhile ridiculous conversations occur at cocktail parties and other massively depressed board members dive into newly installed plexiglass. The whole movie exists in its own world divorced from this reality in its own silly, sappy Dick Tracy sort of way without being cardboard. Later the movie unfortunately spirals into some sequels that were so damn obvious that they added nothing to the movie except crystallize the battle between Good and Evil for the idiot. The floating heads that talk to you as you pass by always scream of someone beating the point to death.

My attitude companion noticed a curious piece of fashion within the movie. The 1958 world through a quite accurately except that the main characters pointedly wear costumes from the 1940's. I'm not quite sure where to go with this except to admit that Amy Archer looks better in the 40's than she ever would in the late 50's and that our bumbling hero needs to be out of step with his world in all regards. The invention of the hula hoop came out of nowhere, there was no demand in the market for it and children nowhere were screaming for circles. Norville made it though. He also, at the end of the movie, repeats his spurt of creative genius and creates the second draft of the hula hoop. Smaller, faster, lighter. The Frisbee. Intriguing in its presentations and articulate in execution, The Hudsucker Proxy maintains a lighthearted atmosphere that at times becomes polluted by hazy allusions. The parts never really seem to come together neatly but remain logical enough that we as the audience can just get up and move on. One scene in the last third of the movie appears spontaneously. A random sexy dancer dances around the blank white screen in crispy garments held aloft by an updraft wind. Norville tries to dance with her and, apparently, won her. All the while, opera plays in the backdrop. The dance finishes and we return to our regularly scheduled movie. All in all, you do lose the theater with a few good laughs and a feeling of completion, but in no way does this movie equal, as the advertisements claim, the comic level of Raising Arizona.

Players: Tim Robbins, Paul Newman, Jennifer Jason Leigh

Director Joel Coen

The Hudsucker Proxy is playing at Upstate Films until Thursday, September 15.
### Proposed Budget for Fall 1994

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club</th>
<th>Allotment</th>
<th>Request</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AASO</td>
<td>$1700</td>
<td>$2981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACSO</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$2325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alkiido</td>
<td>$550</td>
<td>$647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amnesty International</td>
<td>$450</td>
<td>$900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthropology Club</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Club</td>
<td>$350</td>
<td>$750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audio Co-op</td>
<td>$0*</td>
<td>$1239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bard BBS</td>
<td>$1450</td>
<td>$1704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Fellowship</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bard Debating Society</td>
<td>$750</td>
<td>$2798</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BBSO</td>
<td>$1400</td>
<td>$10,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEMS</td>
<td>$1200</td>
<td>$1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BISAC</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BJSS</td>
<td>$1500</td>
<td>$4612.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BPB</td>
<td>$250*</td>
<td>$1350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Skills</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$952.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Committee</td>
<td>$1930</td>
<td>$1930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CESO</td>
<td>$750</td>
<td>$1558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chess Club</td>
<td>$275</td>
<td>$1427.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coalition for Choice</td>
<td>$900</td>
<td>$1850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conexión Sudamericana</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$1800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance Club</td>
<td>$650</td>
<td>$3850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKline</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$1720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainment Comm.</td>
<td>$9500*</td>
<td>$13,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FACT</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film Comm.</td>
<td>$10,500</td>
<td>$14,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folk Society</td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>$2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek Republic</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imaginary Alphabets</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous Wench</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Relations</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Socialists</td>
<td>$850</td>
<td>$2161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISO</td>
<td>$1000*</td>
<td>$2985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JSO</td>
<td>$900</td>
<td>$2250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LASO</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td>$4200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPSG</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$1655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menage</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUNC</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$2830.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Food Store</td>
<td>$275</td>
<td>$675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observer</td>
<td>$1500</td>
<td>$1942.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outing</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$1490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persian Poetry Club</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology Club</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian/Eurasian Studies</td>
<td>$700</td>
<td>$1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish Country Dancing</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shake Boutique</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sister Cities</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/M ACES</td>
<td>$1300</td>
<td>$1713.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNOG</td>
<td>$705</td>
<td>$705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPAZ</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$404.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPS</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total:
- **$59,685**
- **$66,000**
- **$6315**

* - Club's request not considered or reduced by agreement, due to the creation of Student Center Sound System.
** - Entire requested amount granted in two installments, with $5000 remaining for Spring 1995.

### BUDGET FORUM

Don't let someone else decide how to spend your student activities fees.

**VOTE TONIGHT!**

**KLINE COMMONS, 8PM**

---

### Peace Corps On Campus

**Info Session:** Wed, Sept 21, 2-3 PM, Committee Rm
**Info Table:** Wed, Sept 21, 11-2, Dining Hall

*We need someone to join 6,500 people already working in over 90 developing countries around the world. To help people help themselves.*

*The work isn't easy. And it takes more than just concern. It takes motivation. Commitment. But it's a chance to stop dreaming about a better world and start doing something about it.*

For more info, call (800) 424-8580
Soccer doubleheader

Tremendous victory for women's team inaugurates Bard's new field

Joshua Ledwell
Sports Editor

The Bard sports scene is hopping, as the varsity teams have all played their first matches. Intramurals will start soon, and many activities have also begun.

I have received gentle complaints from several people on the apparent slant of my coverage in the last issue. Yes, I wrote a lot about the men's soccer team, a little about women's soccer, and nothing about the other sports. As one person trying to cover the entire Bard athletics scene, however, I can't give everything the attention I would like. I hope to run separate articles about every varsity sport—eventually. In the meantime, I will run all the scores that I can find and cover intramurals when they start.

The best way to ensure that your sport gets written about is to do it yourself! I have one article about cross-country in this issue, written by a member of the team. I would love more, about every team and intramurals as well.

It doesn't have to be great prose—that's what I'm for, as sports editor.

In my opinion, most Bard students don't realize the sacrifices made and dedication required to be a varsity sports athlete. There's no better way to inform your peers than to write for the Observer. And now, on with the news!

Varsity Sports

On Saturday, Bard students were treated to something new—a soccer doubleheader right on campus. About one hundred people attended, enthusiastically rooting for the home team and generally making life miserable for the visitors.

The women's team gave them plenty to cheer for, routing Stevens Tech 5-0. Left wing Juliana Voss scored a tremendous four goals for the Blazers, including a perfectly aimed penalty shot. Ald Crossan added another goal. The team racked up an amazing 56 shots on goal. Goalie Tanya Caninella had no saves for Bard, since Stevens managed no shots.

Coach Joel Tomson said that Stevens is "the weakest team we'll play, but that won't take away from the way the team played." Along with Voss and Crossan, he cited Millie Maran and Katrina Hjajos for stand-out play.

The men were not as successful, losing to Vassar 0-2. Bard goalies Joel Rush and David Klee had nine and five saves respectively, and Bard managed four shots on goal.

The game was far closer than a shutout score might indicate, but the Blazers had trouble executing on offense, especially in the first half. The keepers did well to keep the score low. David Klee in particular had some acrobatic saves, including a hard shot that he missed, but then rebounded from the goal post and into his hands.

On Wednesday, September 7, the men fell to SUNY New Paltz, 1-3.

Rachael Israel fights for the ball against Stevens Tech (photo/JL)

Tori Loney scored for Bard. The women's team lost to New Paltz 6-4 on Thursday.

The women's tennis team has had a rough time so far this year. They lost to Vassar and SUNY Albany on Saturday, both 0-9. Bard did a bit better on Sunday, winning two matches in a 2-7 loss to conference rival New Jersey Institute of Technology. Individual scores were not available at press time.

The women's volleyball played its first match last night. Coach Kris Hall believes that the team is as strong this year as last, so great things are expected from it once again.

Off and running

Cross-Country squads set the pace despite lack of uniforms and preparations

Diane Lowry
Guest Writer

Cross-country looks like a simple sport. Team members practice over the summer. At school, they practice as a member of a team with the aid of the coach. They all get matching uniforms. At races, the men run five miles; the women run five kilometers. The top five runners place, and the team with the lowest score wins. You have fun.

However, cross-country is not as simple as it looks. Wednesday, August 31, was Coach Robert Godsworthy's first day, because last year's coach quit less than a week earlier without notice. The freshmen had no training during the Language and Thinking Program. There are not enough uniforms for both teams, and the ones they have don't even have "Bard" printed on them. The team waited for an hour for a van last Saturday morning, because the van was "misplaced."

Despite all of this, Bard cross-country is looking forward to a strong season under Rob's guidance. Rob is an experienced runner, and participates in all of the workouts with the team. He has studied sports injury medicine, and knows scenic courses throughout the region.

This year, the men's team is full, and for only the third time in nine years there is also a full women's team. Eight of the ten runners are first year students or sophomores, suggesting that future squads will be extremely competitive.

More promising for the team than its numbers or youth is commitment. The Bard cross-country teams run when they can. Whether practice is at 4:30pm, 7:00am, or a 40 minute drive away on a Saturday morning, they run about 30 miles a week.

After leaving Bard an hour later than planned, the women's team ran their first race with less than 10 minutes of warm-up after the two hour drive to Quinipiack College in Connecticut. Having time for a walk-through of the course and a good warm-up is critical for having a good race. If the runners don't know where the hills are, or where the women as opposed to the men race, a promising inaugural race is challenging. Not warming up properly before a race means the runners need to set a more conservative pace in order to avoid injury.

After losing Jennifer Matthews (the only returning member of the women's squad) to a hip injury and Debra Hevenstone to prior commitments, only three of the women ran Saturday's race. First-year student Mira Kelsoy turned in a time of 24:55, sophomore Diane Lowry crossed the finish line at 25:38, and first-year student Tara Murray ran 25:57.

The men opened a promising season with some strong performances. First-year student Zack Watkins ran 32 minutes even, senior John Hann finished just behind at 32:20, first-year Matthew "Don't forget to write about me" Myers ran 33:07, and sophomore Seth Train ran 37:30.

When asked for his thoughts on the race, Coach Rob remarked, "Everyone ran a controlled race. You need to respect the sport by listening to your body's limits. The team is young and there is enormous potential, as long as people don't hurt themselves. It promises to be a very good season."

Zack Watkins responded a bit differently. "I am a freshman," he said. "(Cross-country means I can't go out on Friday, I get up on Saturday morning, ride four hours in a van with sweaty people and poor ventilation, run five miles as fast as I can, feel sore the next day. But, if I escape from Kline for one meal I am happy.)"

Mira Kelsoy agreed, "I am so happy that the coach provided us with good bagels. They tasted so good after the race."

"We have a lot of potential. It will be interesting to see how we develop as a team."


Letters

Let's be civil

The annual agony of the Budget Forum is lurking on the horizon, and that same question haunts me. Will Bard students reveal their worst sides because of sixty-six thousand dollars of other people's money?

I have reported on five Budget Forums here at Bard College. Each one has been marked by its own share of grandstanding, conspicuous martyrdom and rampant greed. I've watched students try to gouge, deface and essentially devour their peers in a perverse popularity contest where the spoils seem to be promised to the most aggressive cannibal who can best barrack through the flapping hooves of parliamentary procedure.

This practice of plundering other clubs for the money they were allocated is, quite simply, barbaric.

The Planning Committee is a body elected by the students. Sure, at most thirty students attend the Forums where the Committee is elected, but what good is a republic where the fickle mob can arrive in a roar, consume thousands of dollars, then lumber away until next spring?

All students are created equal, but are all student clubs equal? Obviously not. Some have been consistent players in the games of Bard politics. Others are rogues, young rookies that might not have yet earned any respect.

These are slippery issues. One single person and all of his or her friends do not have the right to decide for others the future of his or her club in the space of a fifteen minute amendment. The Planning Committee is a crew of individuals with different interests and backgrounds. If any means of judgement is to be impartial, they are the best choice.

Let's be civil tonight. Let's not crush other efforts to fashion our own pockets. Let's give our chance to prove ourselves with the funding they were allocated. Let's not play our own version of a divine being to our peers. We're just not qualified.

No home blues

To the Editor:

This year I return to Bard as a first semester sophomore. I left Bard last spring without a room and I have returned, still, without a room. On an individual basis, not having a room comes across as being very minor and unimportant. However, when the administration has to start converting class rooms and study lounges into doubles, triples, and quadruples ("Annandale House"), I think it should check itself before this problem gets anymore out of hand.

As I understand the situation, this year has seen the largest freshman class ever. It is nice to see that more people are realizing the unique qualities of Bard, and the value of its diversity. But when will Bard stop gambling every spring when it accepts an inordinate amount of transfer and freshman students? These freshmen are living in the Alumni dorms, Manor, and Robbins thus creating a housing problem for rematriculating students, who are not guaranteed housing on campus.

The point of this letter is not to point fingers at anyone. I love Bard and everything about it. I write this in hopes that the Administration will try to accommodate more students in the years to come so that they do not have to experience the frustration of not having a home.

Sincerely,

Neil Westman

Party regulations continued

continued from page 3 hall, the host is required to obtain signatures from residents of the dormitory who have the right to veto the event.

Furthermore, the host must also meet with Huang and Squillace to discuss the event. Advertising for the event is prohibited by state law from making any mention of alcohol. The host must be over age 21 if the event is to include alcohol or is BYO.

At the actual party, Bard's regulations stipulate that "adequate supplies" of food and non-alcoholic beverages must be available. The packet reads: "Two bottles of soda is not adequate."

In addition, regulations state that the event may not continue beyond 2am. The host of the party is also required to remain sober for the event. Finally, the host will be held accountable if the event is not cleaned up afterwards, or if any damages are incurred.

As for the party where the beer was confiscated, Huang reinforced the need for students to understand the law. "The party was properly registered, and the hosts knew the policy," he said. "Without the receipts, in the eyes of the law it looks like they were charging for the alcohol."

Huang went on to say that if clubs need to raise money, they may ask for donations at the door or use the cover charge to pay for food, the music or any other expenses besides the alcohol. "They can't charge for the cup either," he continued.

"We only want to educate people about responsibility," concluded Huang. "We need to make the law clear to students." He said that there would be no further meetings required for those interested in registering a party, at least until next semester.

Looking for travel, romance and adventure???

Well, keep looking.

But in the meantime, you can come work for the Bard Observer! We need reporters, photographers, columnists, cartoonists, advertising representatives, post office box stuffers...

No experience necessary. No job too small. No more blank resumes.

Come to our weekly meetings Mondays at 7pm in Room 84 in the Tewksbury Basement. Get involved and see your name in print.

A letter from President Clinton

One September 21, 1993, I signed into law a new national service program with the same pen that John F. Kennedy used to create the Peace Corps. When President Kennedy challenged my generation to ask what we could do for our country over thirty years ago, thousands took up the call as Peace Corps volunteers.

Today a new generation of young Americans is eager for the same opportunity to make a difference. So we created AmeriCorps, a bold initiative designed to help restore our American community — neighborhood by neighborhood, block by block.

The real work of rebuilding America has begun.

This year, 20,000 young AmeriCorps members will provide hands-on, community-based service to meet our nation's urgent education, public safety, human and environmental needs. In exchange for a commitment to serve, AmeriCorps members will receive benefits that can last a lifetime. They'll get education awards to help them pay off student loans and finance further education. They'll gain practical knowledge that will aid them in many of their endeavors. But the most important thing they will witness firsthand is the positive changes participants will help to foster in their communities.

With young people leading the way, AmeriCorps will help to bring the American dream within reach of all of our people.

Last summer, we launched a pilot service program to test whether AmeriCorps could truly fulfill its important goals. As a result of our Summer of Service program, eighty-seven participants in Tennessee serve children and youth who live in poverty.

Fifty participants in New York City operated summer day school programs and the Harlem Freedom Schools for 453 at-risk youth. And seventy-four participants through Boston's City-Year program provided educational, health, and environmental services that reached more than 14,000 people. If these young and dedicated people can have that kind of impact in eight weeks, just imagine what they could do in a year or two — of service to their communities.

I hope that you, too, will consider becoming an AmeriCorps member and taking part in this historic effort. Working together, we can give tomorrow's young people a future of bright hope and infinite promise.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

THE BARD OBSERVER

Tewksbury Basement Room 84, 914 758-0772

Editor-in-Chief
Jeana Breton

Calendar Editor
Diego Soccolinsky

Managing News Editor
Michael Poitier

Cup Editor
Mark Minervini

Sports Editor
Joshua Latchwill

Credit where credit is due
Sevil Mihyendar

Editorial Policy

The Bard Observer is an entirely student-run publication. Submissions from the community are always welcome.

Letters to the editor should be under 500 words, and may be edited for spelling or grammar. Pieces for the Another View page will not be edited without the consent of the author. Only that which is slanderous or libelous will be denied publication. Anonymous submissions will not be printed unless at least one editor knows the identity of the author.

Campus organizations are also invited to publicize their events free of charge in the Observer. Space on the Calendar Page is provided through the Dean of Students' Office.

The Observer is published every Wednesday while classes are in session. Only those items which arrive in campus mail, or to our office, the Friday prior to the next issue will be guaranteed immediate publication.
## How to Publicize Events in the Bard Observer Calendar

1. Drop off the announcement at the Dean of Students Office in Ludlow 204. Please include your name and how you can be reached.
2. Call the Calendar at the Observer Office at 758-0772.
3. Call ext. 454 to make reservations for your event in a committee room at Kline Commons.

The Calendar will then publicize your event.

## Attention Club Heads, Party Organizers, et al.

The Bard Observer Calendar wants to publicize your events and everyone on campus wants to know about them! If you want your parties, films, dances and other extravagant soul gatherings to be a complete success, send the Calendar notice and we will put your event in the weekly schedule. See box above for more details.

**It's Simple, and It's Free!**

## Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday Sept. 14</td>
<td>Do you want to participate in the Sketchbook '98. We are looking for a few good beings to hunt, gather and edit. First meeting. Olin 305 8p, or call 7358 or 7116. Budget Forum, Kline Commons, 8p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday Sept. 15</td>
<td>Bard Christian Fellowship Meeting, Bard Chapel, 9:30p. All are Welcome. Continuing Yoga, Taught by professor Ben Vromen. Olin 204 6p - 7:30p. Register through Campus Mall. International Relations Club Meeting. For all students interested in Model UN. Kline Committee Room, 7p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday Sept. 17</td>
<td>Beyond Bard: Works on Paper. Benefit exhibition by Bard Alumiae. The exhibition will open today at 5p at the National Arts Club's Marquis and Gregg Galleries, located at 15 Gramercy Park South, NYC. Observer Staff meeting. All writers and photographers welcome. Tewks. Rm84, 7pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Sept. 18</td>
<td>Introductory Yoga. Eight session course which started Sept. 15. This eight session course is taught by Prof. Ben Vromen and the fee for the entire class is $20. Olin 204, 6p - 7:30p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday Sept. 19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday Sept. 20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>