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OBSERVER

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"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 gevernment of men & morning newspapers."
- Wendell Phillips

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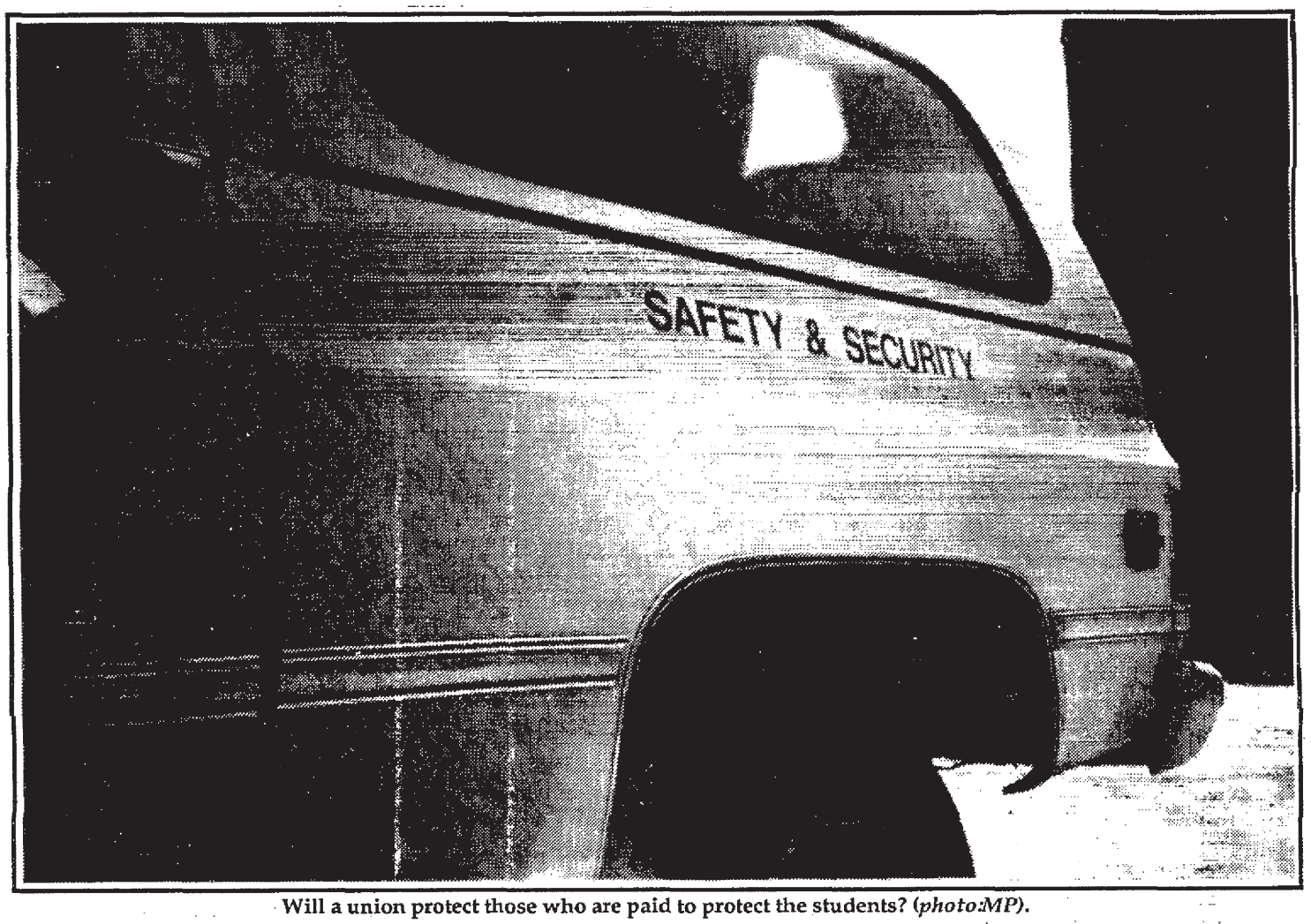

Will a union protect those who are paid to protect the students? (*photo:MP*).

Security for Security

Bard Security guards await union contract negotiations.

Michael Poirier
News Editor

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 Dmitri 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 nation-wide security guard union based in Detroit, Michi-

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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 discuss 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 enough guards to properly service the campus.

"They're trying to fit ten pounds of shit in a five pound sack," was how one guard described the situation.

Another explained, "You can't add buildings, you can't add students, you can't add responsibilities 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 call in sick, that officer might not even be replaced.) Since Security is responsible 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 serious 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-off. The guards said that the College is "unwilling to pay overtime if an officer has to come in and cover a shift." They said that the same economic attitude is also directed towards personal time and sick-time.

"Even though we're given time off by the College, we're not allowed to use it," said one officer. "They say it's because of lack of man-power, but they won't hire any more guards."

"It's a self-induced problem called cheapness," added another guard. "They come up with all these great ideas for increasing safety, but you can't do it with the same amount of people."

During the Woodstock Festival this past summer, the College actually hired temporary guards to prevent people from entering campus and camping out. The guards took this as an indication that, "The administration knows that when they really want to keep this place safe, they need more people guarding it."

Another goal of the guards is job security. "We're in a position where doing our job might piss people off," explained one officer. "In the past, guards have been fired when someone complained just because the guard did his job."

"What we're asking for is 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 asking for immunity, we just want the protection of due process."

The need for fixed, regular working hours is another issue the guards are pursuing. 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 to get more guards. It's crisis management in this department. They will not hire unless they're up against the wall."

"We're the only game in town," concluded one guard. "Buildings and Grounds and Servicemaster are both union. The administration can't mess with them. When they want to cut, they've been taking it from us."

"It all comes down to money. It seems like they're only willing to pay for a false sense of security."

"It all comes down to money. The administration seems only willing to pay for a false sense of security."

Responses from administrators

Since contract negotiations are still four weeks away, members of the Bard College administration found it difficult to comment for this article. Like the guards, they could not discuss their specific goals for the negotiations.

Director of Safety and Security Kim Squillace said that she could only make one comment concerning the upcoming negotiations. She said, "The negotiations are only supposed to be between the union, the College and the officers. It should not involve me, or anyone else. That's the way it works."

"Our position before the vote was that [the guards] didn't need a union," said Jim Brudvig, Assistant to the Executive Vice President. Since former Director of Human Resources Seth Goldberg is now working at the Bard Center in New York City, Brudvig has served as one of the representatives of the College when dealing with the security guards.

"A union cannot promise certain benefits, and neither can a college," he warned.

"If we are entering into a contract, all things become negotiable," Brudvig continued. "We're going in willing to talk about all the issues."

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 ten guards, a director of Security 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 actually spending more money on Security than ever before," he concluded.

Currently, the guards and the administration are preparing their arguments for the upcoming contract negotiations. The negotiations are scheduled to take place next month during Reading Week. In the meantime, the prospects of campus safety for Bard College hang in the balance.

Classifieds and personals

Local Entertainment Company **NOW HIRING** Talented Male Performers to do costume characters at parties. Will train. Must have car and, be reliable and responsible. *Excellent Pay.* Most work on weekends. (914) 758-6084.

$12,000 in prizes to be awarded by The National Library of Poetry this year. To enter contest send ONE original poem (20 lines or less) to the National Library of Poetry 11419 Cronridge Dr. P.O. Box 704-1971 Owing Mills, MD 21117. Deadline: September 30th. Entries must include author's name and address at top of page.

Annual Fall **RUMMAGE SALE.** Thurs. Sept. 15 (6-8pm), Fri. Sept. 16 (10am-2pm), and Sat. Sept. 17 (9am-12noon). *Saturday is clothing $1/bag day. Something for everyone at St. John's Reformed Church on Old Post Rd. in Upper Red Hook!

Open House at Linden Tree Healing Center. Sun. Sept. 25 (11am-5pm). Live music, food, demonstrations, prizes and more! The Linden Tree is a wholistic center with a variety of classes, services and training programs. Location: 30 Manchester Road, Poughkeepsie. For information, call (914) 471-8000.

Amber, What do you mean you don't read the personals?! Don't you know that the most precious of secret messages are sent through the personals? Just kidding, sort of. Anyway, hope all is well. And, thank-you again for your unconditional friendship. Love Always, Jeana Christine.

Morgane! Wishing you the HAPPIEST of BIRTHDAYS. MAY YOU HAVE ALL the COWBOYS, G&T's and TWO STEPS YOU CAN HANDLE in the COMING YEAR. LOVE, LEOF.

GRETCHEN— It's BEEN a LONG SUMMER. LONGER for you than for ME. GOOD LUCK WITH the YOUTH. — GRETCHEN.

OFFBLUE: CURIOUS AND CAPABLE. BLUE (Box 451)

Poetry Slam/Coffee House! Tuesday, September 20, 7pm at the Rhinecliff Hotel. Come share your politically progressive ideas. To follow poetry reading, at 8pm, listen to the soothing sounds of flute/guitar duo Double Entendre. All poets, musicians, and pipe-dream comedians are welcome!

What's the frequency, Mr. P? It must be the benzedrine...

Rabbit, you'll be a woman soon. The tigger's no good...

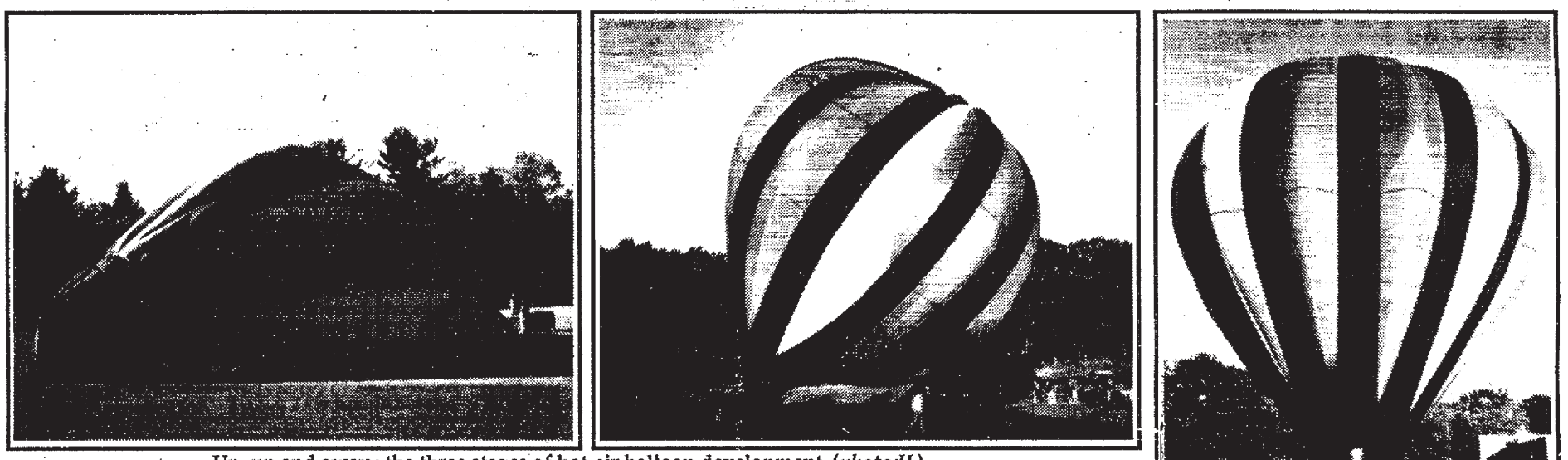
In between stages of life? Nowhere else to turn? Want to waste a week? Try the Annandale Transient Occupation Program. Toilerable lodging and "food" brovided begrudgingly by those who claim to love you. Contact your nearest and dearest. Remember our motto: We'll leave the light on for ya, until we can no longer tolerate ya.

In all seriousness, thanks for making a body welcome and happy, Ms. Chasteen, Mr. Costell, Gang at Obie and Observer Flunkies.

Classified? Send to *Observer* in Campus Mail.

Balloons over Bard

"The naturalist high I ever had"



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

Josh Ledwell *Sports Editor*

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 50 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 lightbulb 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 his 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

Michael Poirier *News Editor*

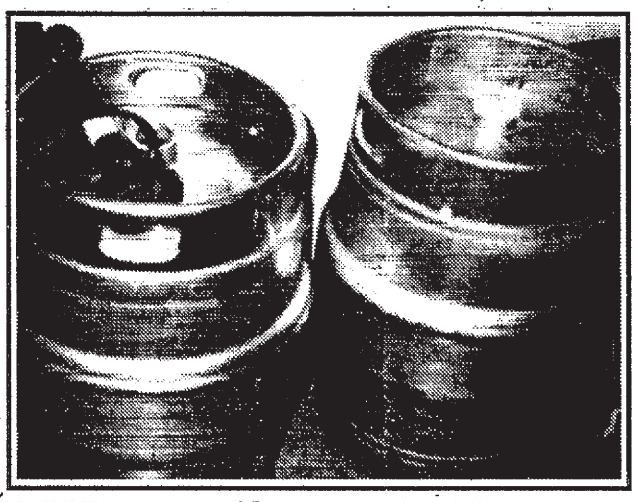
Last Thursday evening, Dean of First-Year Students Jefferson Huang conducted one of two meetings informing the campus of Bard College's policies concerning student parties.

Just over 48 hours later, Security officers had already enforced one of the policies, confiscating the two kegs from a party on Saturday night.

Director of Safety and Security Kim Squillace said that the kegs were confiscated because the party organizers could not provide the receipts from the purchase of the beer.

New York state law prohibits the sale of alcohol without a liquor license, and it is illegal to sell alcohol those under the age of 21. Without a liquour license, it is illegal to charge for alcohol as part of the admission price of an event.

Squillace explained that the failure to produce receipts implied that the money students spent on admission to the party would be used to pay for the beer. Therefore, if someone became intoxicated at the party and something happened to him or her, legal responsibility could fall on the hosts of the party, and on the College.



The confiscated kegs.(*p:MP*)

"Bard College is not in the practice of selling beer," affirmed Squillace. She went on to explain that if the receipts were available 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.

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 Szandyba for Kline Commons, and Theresa Desmond of the Dean of Students Office for the Olin Auditorium. To hold an event in a resident

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Eat Drink Man Woman

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

Pedro Rodriguez
Staff Wrtier

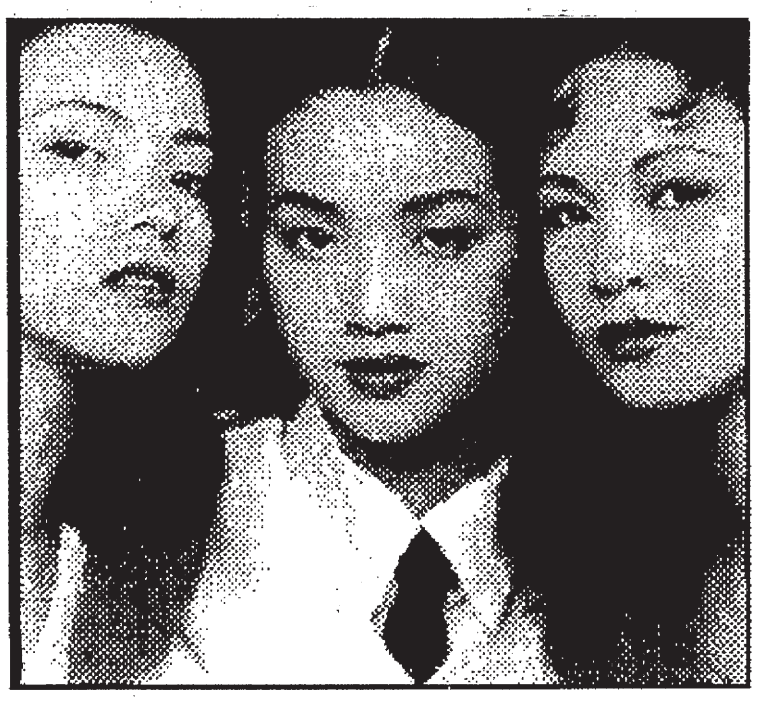
Ang Lee is the Far East's version of Robert Altman. I normally eschew such comparisons, but I can't help it here.

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 edible 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 hangs on a reconciliation between them.

The youngest daughter misunderstands 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 belittle, 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-drunken state that life boils (pun always intended) down to food and sex. As long as we're alive and cooking....

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 respark interest and the direction is marvelous. One complaint: a bit too long.

Players: Sihung Lung, Kuei-Mei Yang, Chien Lien Wu, Yu Wen Wang, Winston Chao

Director: Ang Lee

Producer: Li-Kong Hsu

Screenplay: Hui-Ling Wang & 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 Raising 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 going squishy" fills the plot of the Coen's (*Raising Arizona*) newest 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. Mussburger (Paul Newman), appoints 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 idiot 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 nearly falls to the perfect point until we realize that this charming goofball actually did invent something. The hulahoop. The company flourishes and the top brass has to connive 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. Somewhere 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 non sequitur dream sequences 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 astute companion noticed a curious piece of fashion within the movie. The 1958 world remains the 1958 world throughout quite accurately except that all 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 hulahoop 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 hulahoop. Smaller, faster, lighter. The Frisbee.

Innocuous in its presentation and articulate in execution, *The Hudsucker Proxy* maintains a lighthearted atmosphere that at times becomes polluted by hazy direction. The many parts never 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 wispy garments held aloft by an updraft wind. Norville tries to dance with her and, apparently, woo 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 leave 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

Club	*Allotment*	*Request*
AASO	$1700	$2981
ACSO	$0	$2325
Aikido	$550	$647
Amnesty International	$450	$900
Anthropolgy Club	$300	$520
Art Club	$350	$750
Audio Co-op	$0*	$1239
Bard BBS	$1450	$1704
Christian Fellowship	$150	$200
Bard Debating Society	$750	$2798
BBSO	$1400	$10,400
BEMS	$1200	$1200
BISAC	$0	$550
BJSS	$1500	$4612.55
BPB	$250*	$1350
Business Skills	$0	$952.15
Central Committee	$1930	$1930
CESO	$750	$1558
Chess Club	$275	$1422.55
Coalition for Choice	$900	$1850
Conexion Sudamericana	$200	$1800
Dance Club	$650	$3850
deKline	$500	$1720
Entertainment Comm.	$9500*	$13,150
FACT	$0	$235
Film Comm.	$10,500	$14,650
Folk Society	$400	$2000
Freek Republic	$150	$648
Imaginary Alphabets	$0	$3000
Indigenous Wench	$0	$200
International Relations	$600	$700
International Socialists	$850	$2161
ISO	$1000*	$2985
JSO	$900	$2250
LASO	$1000	$4200
LPSG	$500	$1655
Ménage	$300	$525
MUNC	$500	$2830.40
Natural Food Store	$275	$675
Observer	$1500	$1942.95
Outing	$500	$1490
Persian Poetry Club	$0	$460
Psychology Club	$100	$751
Russian/Eurasian Studies	$700	$1500
Scottish Country Dancing	$150	$289
Shake Boutique	$300	$535
Sister Cities	$200	$500
S/M ACES	$1300	$1713.50
SMOG	$705	$705
SPAZ	$100	$404.41
SPS	$150	$600

Club	*Allotment*	*Request*
Student Center Sound System	$9000**	$14,000
Recording Studio	$600	$1000
Wedding Club	$150	$730
Women's Center	$850	$1800
WXBC	$1600	$2000
Zenjugglers	$50	$399.95
Zymergy	$0	$30,415
Total:	$59,685	
Convocation Fund:	$66,000	
Emergency Fund:	$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 almost 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 insure 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 teams 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 Julianne Voss scored a tremendous four goals for the Blazers, including a perfectly aimed penalty shot. Alel Crossan added another goal. The team racked up an amazing 56 shots on goal. Goalie Tanya Giarnella 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 Miran and Katrina Hajagos for stand-out play.

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

The men were not so 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, Sept. 7, the men fell to SUNY New Paltz, 1-3. Tor Loney scored for Bard. The women's team lost to New Paltz 0-4 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.

Intramurals

Co-recreational intramural tennis starts Sunday. If you haven't signed up yet, call the gym to register, or just show up ready to play at 1:00 PM.

Three-on-three basketball rosters were due yesterday. If you're desperate to play, call the gym by tonight and you can probably squeeze your team in.

Other Activities

I know those sports clubs are out there—I've seen at least one sign announcing a meeting of the Aikido Club. Club heads can send me a description of their club through Campus Mail to have it included in a list for next week.

The athletics department is running a CPR class, starting tomorrow and running Thursdays from 7-9 PM. There is a registration fee of $15.00. Again, call the gym to reserve a place.

That's it for this week. Remember, write about your sport and see yourself in print! Only you can prevent apathy.

Off and running

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

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 so simple at Bard. Wednesday, August 31, was Coach Robert Goldsworthy'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 tutelage. 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 sophmores, 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 Quinnipiac College in Conneticut.

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 run as opposed to the men's route, setting an optimal pace 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 Kelsey turned in a time of 24:55, sophomore Diane Lowy 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 Watkinson ran 32 minutes even, senior John Hannon finished just behind at 32:20, first-year Matthew "Don't forget to write about me" Myers ran 33:47, and sophomore Seth Trains 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 Watkinson 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 Kelsey 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."

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 grand-standing, 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 barrel through the flaming hoops of parliamentary procedure.

This practice of plundering other clubs for the money they were alloted 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? Decidedly 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 does not have the right to decide for others the future of his her club in the space of a fifteen minute amendment. The Planning Committee is a crowd of individuals with different interests and backgrounds. If any means of judgement is to be impartial, they are the best chance we've got.

Let's be civil tonight. Let's not crush other's efforts to fatten our own pockets. Let's give clubs a chance to prove themselves with the funding they were alloted. 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 least 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 freshman 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 hope 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.

Huang explained that the meetings with his office and Security were necessary safety issues. He said that fire hazards and access for emergency vehicles were topics that have to be discussed before a party can be registered.

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, the 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.

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 most important they will witness firsthand 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 Texas helped to immunize over 10,000 children. Fifty participants in New York City operated summer day school programs at the Harlem Freedom Schools for 643 at-risk youth. And seventy-four participants through Boston's City Year program provided educational, health, and environmental services that reached more than 14,200 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.

Bill Clinton

THE BARD OBSERVER
Tewksbury Basement Room 84, (914) 758-0772

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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 pages 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.

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.

BARD CALENDAR

Brought to you by the Dean of Student's Office **September 14 to 21, 1994**

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!

TRANSPORTATION

Jitney Schedule: the Jitney runs Monday through Friday at the following times: 8:30a - 10:30a, 12p - 2p, 4p - 6p. The vans run continuously between Kline, Manor and Feitler during each of these periods.

Monday: van to OA Barrytown (7:30-9:30p), leaves at 6:45p.

Tuesday: van to AA Red Hook (8p-9p), leaves at 7:45p.

Wednesday: van to AA Barrytown (8p-9p), leaves at 7:45p.

Friday: van to OA Kingston (5:30-7p), leaves at 5:15p. Van to AA Red Hook (8:30-9:30p), leaves at 8p.

Saturday: van to NA Woodstock (3-4:30p), leaves at 2:15p.

Meet all vans behind Kline

Wednesday Sept.14	Thursday Sept.15	Friday Sept.16	Saturday Sept.17	Sunday Sept.18	Monday Sept.19	Tuesday Sept.20
Do you want to participate in the **Sketchbook '95.** 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.	**Bard Christian Felowship** Meeting. Bard Chapel, 9:30p. All are Welcome. **Continuing Yoga.** Taught by professor Ben Vromen. Olin 204 6p - 7:30p. Register through Campus Mail. **International Relations Club Meeting.** For all students interested in Model UN. Kline Committee Room, 7p.	**Jewish Students' Organization** meeting. Kabbalat Shabat: wind down after your hectic week. **Olin Moon Room,** 7:30p.			**Beyond Bard: Works on Paper.** Benefit exhibition by Bard Alumi/ae. The exhibit 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.**	**Introductory Yoga.** Eight session course which started Sept. 13. This eight session course is taught by Prof. Ben Vromen and the fee for the entire class is $20. Olin 204, 6p - 7:30p.