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"Shoot Fuckin' Heroin"

"News is whatever sells newspapers. The Observer is free."

THE BARD

Observer

Volume 102 Number 10
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November 16, 1994

"There are victories of the soul and spirit. Sometimes, even if you lose, you win.
—Elie Wiesel

Apathy over agenda

Lack of students shuts down Student Forum after three discussions

According to the Student Constitution, there must always be a quorum of at least twenty students in attendance for the Student Forum to conduct any business. The November Forum, held last Wednesday evening, began with twenty-five students but, three discussions and ninety minutes later, only seventeen students remained and the Forum had to be closed. The only substantive issue on the agenda, a resolution concerning student representation on faculty search committees, had to be tabled until the next Forum.

The three discussions conducted by the Forum focused on possibilities for changing the class registration process, the results of a student survey conducted last spring, and a discussion of winter housing possibilities for students remaining on campus for Intercrossion.

Registration rumors

Professor Ethan Bloch, an Associate Dean of Academic Services, opened the discussion of registration procedures. Bloch said that one of his concerns was to "standardize the procedures of registration — to make the ever-changing policies for once official and regular.

Bloch was also concerned with the fairness of registration, particularly for first-year students going through the process for the first time in the Fall. He explained that the Tuesday before classes open in the Fall, the few returning students who need to register are given priority over the waiting first-year students.

Bloch specifically asked the Forum if it would approve of dropping the staggered system during the Fall registration. He said that this would be "much more convenient for everyone involved and would greatly reduce stress for first-year students."

Bloch also considered alternatives for the current staggered registrations held at the end of each semester. At the moment, seniors and juniors are allowed to register for classes ninety minutes before sophomores and first-year students. Upperclassmen students use different colored registration cards than the underclass students, which theoretically serves to remind professors not to sign cards until their proper times.

One alternative to the current model, which Bloch said was offered by the Dean of the College, Stuart Levine, is to alter the staggering: namely, allowing juniors and sophomores to register before first-year students and seniors. The rationale behind this is that sophomores and juniors will need certain classes to moderate and prepare for senior projects in their respective departments.

A final alternative offered by Bloch is to remove the staggered system entirely. According to Bloch, "[that] system does not work. All students line up in front of professors, even if they have the wrong colored cards. Then they give us dirty looks and we [the professors] are either considered nasty or we break the rules."

Bloch went on to say that the staggered continued on page 2
Forum continued

continued from first page system was "not something the administration wanted to do. It was initiated by students." Bloch commented that dropping the staggering will be "mechanically much easier" for the administration, and that "everyone would feel that registration was equal." Bloch then asked for the Forum to comment on these proposals.

Unfortunately, Bloch had to leave before he could hear students' responses. Each student who spoke after Bloch readily agreed to dropping the staggered system for first-year students' first registration. However, there was vehement opposition to changing the current staggered system for registrations.

Not one student spoke in favor of that proposal. As Andrew Fowler commented, "This would be a miscarriage of justice. If you let everyone in at the same time, no one will take the 100 level classes that are designed for freshmen. There's going to be madness. Everyone will run for the "cool" courses."

Joshua Ledwell added that "Just because some of the students and faculty won't follow the rules, it doesn't mean we should throw out the whole system."

Chair of the Educational Policies Committee Sean O'Neill was charged with relating the Forum's opposition to Bloch.

Student Life Survey

Last Spring, Associate Dean of First-Year Students Jeff Huang distributed a survey to every student on campus. Huang hoped that from the responses, the College could determine the major problems students perceive on campus.

Huang said that his office received about 180 completed surveys. At the Forum, Huang discussed what students pointed out as the areas of life on campus which needed the most attention.

In regards to the automated teller machine on campus, Huang joked that it "never seen the word 'lock'." Students complained about the machine's incessant break-downs and lack of funds.

Huang said that he spoke to First Hudson Valley Bank representatives who showed him that the Bard machine breaks down more than any other machine in the region. The bank installed a new machine earlier in the semester, but software problems have made all their machines run slower than usual.

Prices at the Barnes & Noble bookstore were also an issue on the student surveys. Huang said that since Van Denbergh, manager of the store, is trying to stock up on more generic merchandise in an attempt to offer better prices.

Book buy-back was also a contentious issue. Huang was told that a number of conditions contribute to this problem, not the least of which is the tardiness of some professors giving the bookstore their book lists for next semester's classes. Huang urged the Forum to invite Van Denbergh to come and discuss Barnes & Noble policies.

Other issues brought out in the survey were the availability of career development personnel, parking spaces, dormitory heating (depending on where you live), and access to the post office.

Huang said that the College is responding to each of these issues. Resident Director Allen Jones has joined Maureen Forrestal in working part-time in the Career Development Office. Once the construction on the new Carlton is completed, another fifty parking spaces will be available in the South Hall lot. Frigid dorms like the Ravines are gradually being fitted with better heating. Finally, the new Student Center will offer 24-hour access to post office boxes with a more secure lay-out.

Huang said that positive feedback was given in regards to Safety and Security, housekeeping and substance-free events on campus. He also said that one of the best results of the survey was the dialogue it opened up between students and department heads.

Other Forum news

Dean of Students Shelley Morgan lead the discussion of winter housing before the Forum had to be adjourned because of lack of attendance. Morgan said that around eighty students remain on campus for the Intercession, and there are only a few options to where to house these students on campus.

Last year, students lived in Cruger Village. However, Morgan stated that Manor House and Manor Annex appear to be the most feasible options this year. Since most students want to live in singles, and the College cannot afford to heat empty rooms, she said that Manor would fill up while offering the most singles.

A handful of students at the Forum were planning on remaining for the Intercession. Student Life Chair Gil Aphonso offered that perhaps a shuttle should run from main campus to Manor, a proposal which Morgan readily agreed.

In other Forum news, Chair of the Student Judiciary Board Fowler reported that the SJB had decided on two cases. The perpetrator of a bank robbery was sent to social probation and community service. The theft of a scale from the Post Office was also placed on social probation. Fowler explained that social probation is not a prohibition, but an official notice that the student in question is "on thin ice."
Zhang Yimou and Gong Li

Husband and wife team explore the China of the 1920s and 30s in film

with a leprous, much older, but rich merchant. Having been promised to the merchant by her father in exchange for a mule, Nine bemoans the prospect of her impending marriage and when an opportunity presents itself, she dares to change her fate. As the wedding procession passes, a bandit suddenly emerges, demanding the sedan bearer’s money and Nine herself. Nine, in a moment which typifies her resolve to defy tradition, chooses to go with the bandit, preferring to go off with a strange man than become the slave-wife of an old leper. One of the sedan bearers does in fact save live from the bandit and the wedding procession continues, but for the rest of the film, Nine remains committed to shaping her own life as best she can.

Gong Li’s characters in her husband’s successive films have been of a similar type to that of Nine. In Ju Dou (1990), Li portrays Ju Dou, another young woman sold into an arranged marriage with an aged man. As in Red Sorghum, Li’s heroine rebels against her marriage by engaging in an adulterous affair with her master’s middle-aged, adopted son. In his third feature, Raise the Red Lantern (1991), Yimou casts Li as a college-educated woman in the 1920s, who against her will becomes the fourth concubine to a wealthy lord and must rely on her intelligence to survive the machinations of his other wives and maidservants for her own dignity.

Yimou’s The Story of Qiu Ju (1993) revisits recasting Li as the victim of an arranged marriage. But as Qiu Ju she once again is a defiant, independent individual, a woman who confronts many levels of government bureaucracy, demanding restitution for the insult done to her peasant husband by the village chief. Although Yimou’s predilection for typecasting Gong Li as a besotted young bride may seem repetitive, consistently Li shines in her roles and brings life to each of her characters. The paradigm of the strong, nonconformist young woman, in addition seems natural for Li. Even in Fireworks My Love (1998), which Yimou did not direct, Gong Li plays a headstrong, commanding, high-class prostitute.

A former cameraman, Zhang Yimou possesses a distinct visual style, which has made him the best known of the young Chinese directors. His films are carefully choreographed to a formal, lush beauty—a beauty much like that of his star Gong Li. With his deep interest in women’s issues, Yimou displays his membership in Chinese film’s so-called “Fifth Generation,” those filmmakers who graduated from Beijing’s Film Academy since 1982, the first class to graduate after the Cultural Revolution. Although Yimou’s choice of time frame for his work (usually the 1920s and 1930s) limits his opportunity to directly comment on modern-day Chinese politics and society, his focus on a defiant female character and the plight of poor women marks a turning point in Chinese cinema.

Ju Dou, set in the 1920s, was banned from the People’s Republic of China for its portrayal of female passion challenging patriarchal tradition. Yimou, moreover, did set The Story of Qiu Ju in modern times, and his latest work, To Live (1995), takes place before the Cultural Revolution. As always, the exquisite Gong Li stars in To Live, which is currently being shown this week as part of the New York Film Festival before its official U.S. release.

Meet the Clubs!
This Sat. at the gym.
6:30-8:30pm

LSAT GRE GMAT MCAT

THE PRINCETON REVIEW
800/2 REVIEW

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Features

Faces at Bard

Jeana C. Breton
Editor-in-Chief

Jamie Blackman. Jamie is a junior Art History major who also describes himself as a "lesbian trapped in a man's body." He came to Bard because "out of all the places I got into, it was the prettiest." According to Jamie, the best part of being at Bard is the "intramural rollerderby team." "That, and small classes in which it is possible to get "individual attention." The things he likes least about Bard are parking tickets and Kline food. Outside academics, Jamie participates in St. Mac's, technical theater and "playing with my psychological counselor to allay my neurotic friends."

His friends claim that he is "funny, really sweet, and completely and totally nutty." Jamie admits that he has "a tendency towards being extremely sarcastic, and an overly developed sick sense of humor, but underneath all that, I'm a very sweet person in general." He expects his friends to see him as "moody, hyper, mildly drugged, and extremely silly."

Jamie can be silly, but he can also be serious. When asked what his philosophy on life was, he had two answers. The first was, "Would you rather be right, or would you rather be happy? I'd rather be happy." The second one was, "There's a fine line between fishing and just standing on the shore looking stupid," implying that he was indeed a "dork."

After Bard, Jamie plans to go to graduate school to learn more about Art History. His interests in the field currently center around ancient and modern art. His favorite artists are Bosch, Da Vinci, Botticelli and Burne-Jones. He likes Bosch because of his "incredible debauchery...and the flowers in strange places"; Da Vinci because of his "realistic portrayals of things that could never be"; Bacon because of his "confident brushwork"; Botticelli because his work is "plain beautiful," and Burne-Jones because "I like the subject matter [of his work] and his style is among the most beautiful paintings in the world in my opinion."

Jamie's life goals include getting tenure at a small liberal arts college, marrying ("once"), and becoming a published novelist. Writing is currently one of his hobbies. He likes to write humor and fantasy fiction. His other hobbies are collecting Sci-Fi fantasy first editions and CD's, and doing other things which "are not significantly wholesome for family consumption."

Jamie's favorite Sci-Fi writer is William Gibson. His favorite fantasy writer is Charles De Lint, and his favorite horror writer is Clive Barker. Besides Sci-Fi, fantasy and horror, Jamie's other likes include night time, Ben & Jerry's "Wavy Gravy," stimulating conversation, the X-Files, Thai-food and sex. His dislikeship for hip, unkind people, people with no sense of humor and "my ex-fiancé." The engagement he explains, "wasn't my idea; I just went along with it during a momentary lapse of reason."

This experience, however, is not listed under the most memorable experiences of his life. For Jamie, there was meeting Jim Henson when he was eleven and spending the weekend playing with Muppets, having sex for the first time ("which was soon a long memory."), and spending a twelve day retreat at a Buddhist monastery during which he wasn't allowed to talk or make eye contact with anyone.

The only role models Jamie can remember having were his mom and his sister. He explains, "Some men are raised by wolves; I was raised by women. They were, however, a positive influence because they made it possible for him to be "much more comfortable with the feminine parts of my being."

The things most important in Jamie's life now are "food, clothing and shelter," he half jokes, then adds, "having positive, loving relationships with the people I'm close to, and doing well in classes." So far he has been keeping up to these personal expectations fairly well, and hopes to continue doing so for the rest of his life.

Jeana C. Breton
Editor-in-Chief

Lyra McMullen

Twenty-year-old Lyra McMullen is from Jericho, Vermont. For the many who have probably never heard of Jericho, "it's near Burlington." Lyra came to Bard because she was "kind of flattered" that they gave her a scholarship. She is currently a junior and an Art History major.

Her academic interests include Medieval Art, Decorative Arts, Irish Mythology and Celtic Art. She has not yet determined what the focus of her senior project will be, but she expects it will involve an exploration of the symbolism found in Celtic Art. Lyra claims "most of the stuff I study is Anonymous," but her favorite artist is Robert Gould. She admires him because "I am an illustrator and I like his illustrations."

Art to Lyra, however, is more than an academic pursuit; it is also one of her hobbies. Her other hobbies are sewing and playing the electric bass. Besides these activities, the other things that Lyra likes are "people who make me laugh and people who take me by surprise once in awhile." The things she likes least about Bard are the "faculty members [Joan French and Alice Stroop in particular]" and her job at the costume shop.

The one thing she dislikes the most about Bard is the isolation. Her biggest pet peeve, not necessarily related to Bard, is "people who make assumptions."

Assumptions upset her because "I am very honest and open about who and how I am, but people tend to take that and assume A, B, and C based on that when A, B, and C don't necessarily follow." Love sucks and the state of my universe right now is about medium rare," says Lyra when asked about her thoughts concerning life in general. Without explanation, she also says, "the meaning of life is forty-two."

Thus lies her philosophy on life. If, however, she were able to get all people to always remember one thing, all the time, it would be that "appearances are deceiving."

Lyra likes to be described as "strikingly beautiful, extraordinarily talented, and arrogantly funny."

She figures her friends probably perceive her as, "inimitating (it's actually true), and totally and completely nuts."

They say, "She does act crazy sometimes, but is generally down-to-earth and nice to be around."

The only positive role model Lyra can say that she has had is her mother. Her mother fits the category because, "I've always looked up to her and she has a lot of integrity." She claims to have had many negative role models, however, composed mostly of "people I see around Bard."

Despite the possibility of them corrupting her, Lyra's friends are one of the most important things in her life. The two most important things are "my art---wrapped up in my ego," and "my sanity."

Lyra describes herself as "a fantasy illustrator" and a costume artist (who makes quilts and theater costumes).

After Bard, Lyra would like to continue her Art History education with graduate school, "if I can find enough money." Beyond this, she hopes to learn the Irish Gaelic language and travel. The places she would like to visit include the British Isles, England and Ireland.

In the meantime, she keeps herself occupied with a variety of extra-curricular activities. These include volunteering every summer at the Melbourne Museum in Melbourne, Vermont.

Her favorite colors are black and hunter green. Her most memorable life time experiences, she says, "You couldn't write, or I wouldn't want you to print," so if anyone wants to know more about Lyra McMullen, they just have to take the time to find out for themselves.
**Sketchbook**

Submit, but don’t call it a yearbook

A s n o t h i n g reviewable is happening this week, we thought we would critique ourselves. Well, not really, but the least we can do is give the good ol’ Sketchbook a plug, since we are the editors. For those of you unfamiliar with our work, the Sketchbook is a combination yearbook/last day’s newspaper/academic journal. After a forty-two-year hiatus, the Sketchbook was revived three years ago by Ms. Michelle Dunn. (For those of you who remember her, she’s doing very well in grad school.) Last year’s book featured everything from a plot for a play to an article on the decay of the Phoenix Post to the history of the world. In addition, we printed the missing pages taken of the students who went through our line at registration. And yes, that’s a separate photo from your ID card. (This December 2, which is a Friday, the mug shot man will be back for an entire day.)

Kelly Jo and Stacie Beth Staff Writers

of picture taking in Kline. Tony Mairo is an experience not to be missed - and it’s a great excuse to put off writing that paper for a short while. Of course, we also published lots of articles and include candid shots of life at Bard taken by brilliant student photographers.

So, we are on the proving ground for social studies, and our students are open to the 1995 Sketchbook. Let us stress the fact that we will consider anything academic we can come up with. Our goal is to be as eclectic as possible! We want to reflect every aspect of intellectual life at Bard. (Yes, there is too much intellectual life at Bard.) Or even the not-so-intellectual but still impressive work. The Sketchbook is an entirely student-produced publication. It is also the only student publication which accepts submissions of any kind. Send us your musical scores! Fax us an excerpt of your project! Mail us your lighting plot! (We are very serious, Andy.)

Also to those brilliant photographers mentioned above, let us be the first to tell you that everyone who picks up the book from the publishing industry, just does not come over your work! They can’t believe that students—and not professionals—did this! So, we would love to impress them even more by publishing a lot of even better shots this year! If you are interested in submitting work, be it an academic or political or photographic or academic photography, send it to box 1295. If you have questions, call Stacie Beth at ext. 7339 or Kelly Jo at ext. 7116.

One word further. A few days back we sent your parents a letter. Yes, yours. We asked them to buy a book or donate money in exchange for having their name printed in the book. We know, it’s corny and cheesy and we’re slightly high schoolish. But it might pay the bills, which is important. We pay the publisher $17 for each book. We charge students $10. $17 for staff, faculty and parents! So, there is this huge gap which we have to make up for. Our solution was some advertising and begging your guardians for cash. So, please, call the folks and tell them to support us, ‘cuz otherwise we’ll have to charge you more! Thanks a ton, we knew we could count on you. Some the way, as far as the review goes, last year’s book was superbantabulous and this year’s will be even better if you submit.

Mamie the Gypsy Queen Returns

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.21): If you don’t hang on to your drawstrings, you’ll regret it.

Sagittarius (Nov.22-Dec.21): News awaits you at an unusual source.

Capricorn (Dec.22-Jan.21): Romance is in the air, or is it?

Aquarius (Jan.22-Feb.18): Watch out for the distinctor; they might eat you in your sleep!

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20): Stay away from fortune telling weight machines!

Aries (Mar.21-Apr.19): Early morning mowers will become an integral part of your waking.

Taurus (Apr.20-May 20): Happy hungry people make lousy dinner partners.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Stay away from gossip; slime can be gross.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Help is on the way! Help is on the way!

Leo (July 23-Aug.22): Afternoon classes possess secrets it may take you awhile to get.


Libra (Sept.23-Oct.22): Foggy days are ahead, but “every cloud has a silver lining.”

*Cooking Column*

Jeeva C. Breton
Editor-in-Chief

Tired of cooking the same old stuff at Kline, that will never meet your expectations or your appetite’s needs? Then, it is probably well past time that you started cooking some of your meals yourself at home (or in the dorm). What is the quickest, most filling take-out food you can think of? No, not pizza, you silly people! We’re trying to expand our horizons little here. The correct answer is Chinese food. Around here, however, this can cost more than a single party butty. To get around this I have provided, below, a few simple recipes for you to try yourself. You can get better quality and a fuller stomach with just a little work. Trust me, try it, and see for yourself!

Fried Wontons

1/4 pound fresh shrimp
5 whole water chestnuts minc
1/2 teaspoon rice wine or dry sherry
1 egg white
1/8 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon pepper
20 wonton skins
1 egg yolk (slightly beaten)
6 cups oil (for deep frying)

Heat 6 cups oil in a wok over high heat to 350 degrees.
Farenheit; reduce heat to medium, shell shrimp and cut out black vein from each one (throw veins out), rinse shrimp and pat dry with a paper towel, chop shrimp into a fine paste.
Place shrimp in a small bowl with water chestnuts, wine, a fourth of the egg white, salt and pepper, place 1 wonton skin on a flat surface (with corners at top, bottom, left and right), place 1/2 teaspoon shrimp mixture near bottom corner, fold the corner over filling and press sides to seal, dash egg yolk on one side of filling, fold left and right sides under filling (leaving corners free), press to seal, repeat with remaining wonton skins and filling, carefully lower wontons into hot oil (with a metal slotted spoon), deep fry several at a time for 1 minute, turn each over and deep fry 1 more minute, remove from oil, drain on paper towels, serve hot.

Spinach Bean Curd Soup

1/2 pound fresh spinach (rinsed)
3 (3") squares Bean Curd
1 ounce pork fat
4 cups water
1 cup chicken broth
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon sesame oil

Cut spinach into 2" pieces, cut bean curd into 1" squares; chop pork fat into small pieces, place in a medium saucepan over medium heat and stir fry until browned, remove;
rendered fat, add 4 cups water, chicken broth and salt to browned pork, bring to a boil and add bean curd, boil 1 minute, add spinach, boil 10 seconds and remove from heat, stir in sesame oil, serve hot. Makes 4 servings.

Feature photo: Judy Beca-Chung/Campus Life
Bard clubs reach a Natural High

Experience "Clubs in the Community" this Saturday evening

Joshua Ledwell
Sports Editor

The next Natural High event will be "Clubs in the Community," on Saturday, November 19, from 6:30-8:00 PM in the Stevenson Gym. Bard students can find out about all the interesting events going on around them, while campus clubs will have an opportunity to recruit new members. Don't miss this—it may be the most interesting club meeting you'll ever attend!

Varsity Sports

Ha! There are no varsity sports activities this week. I have nothing to declare!

Actually, though the winter athletic teams are still training and have not had any games yet, there is still news left over from the fall sports, and I have tantalizing stories of sports to come.

Final records for some fall teams are now available. Men's soccer was 4-10-1, 1-4 in the Independent Athletic Conference. Bard's stellar women's volleyball team stands at 26-7, and 4-0 in the IAC. And women's tennis ended their season at 5-5, and 2-1 IAC.

The men's volleyball team will hold a preliminary meeting tonight at 6:30 pm, on the balcony of the Stevenson Gym. The team will start training soon, although it will not begin competition until next semester.

The men's volleyball team will have a new coach this season! Glenn Warnock, replacing previous coach Carla Davis, comes to Bard with an impressive resume. He has been assistant volleyball coach at SUNY New Paltz for the past two years, and is also a New Paltz alumnus and varsity volleyball veteran. Assistant athletic director Kris Hall, who is also the women's volleyball coach, is excited for the coming season. "Warnock is a terrific addition to the program," she said.

Another new face at Bard this winter is assistant men's basketball coach Corey A. Robinson. Replacing Thomas Wolff, Robinson has extensive experience in college basketball. He also works at the Harlem Valley Juvenile Detention Center in Poughkeepsie, so he probably will have no problem disciplining the Blazer basketball team.

Intramurals

On Friday, November 11, six intramural floor hockey teams played three grueling games. After the flying broken sticks and howling crowd noise subsided, Babushka II had beaten Maria Born 1-0. Next, defending champions Mother Puckers annihilated Hidden Valley Bravlers, 7-1, and finally, Pusaka triumphed over OUDU Sliders, 3-1, in overtime.

The intramural season has also begun for volleyball. Last week, Queens of the Court beat Agouti, 15-11, 7-15, 13-9, and Milagro defeated the Hybrids, 15-2, 15-3, 15-13.

Three-on-three basketball, anyone? The teams failed to show up for their championship game last week. The league title may simply be decided on the basis of best season record, in the case

A vigorous fencing warm up that no one wants to play anymore. Should this come to pass, the final standings become even more important: FLOW, 5-1, Old School (formerly Work), 3-3, BBR, 3-4, We Won Last Year, 3-4, and Babushka, 2-6.

Sports Notes

The athletic department is sponsoring more yoga classes to fill the demands of the great number of yoga enthusiasts. Classes are being held Monday through Friday, at 12:30 pm, in the gym.

THE BARD OBSERVER

Towson Basement Room 84, (314) 758-0772

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Sports Editor
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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 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.

This week's Wellness Quote:
Research suggests that, all other factors being equal, every hour you exercise extends your life by approximately two hours.

More Vampire

continued from page 3

them.

The notable event which I mentioned that they cut from the novel is LeFa's appearance at the Theatre de Vampire. As the movie stood, it was a fairly uncomplicated one without any plot complications. LeFa's appearance at the Theatre de Vampire would have changed that.

Now, there is an amazing about all of this who wrote the screen play. It was Anne Rice herself! I got the feeling, however, that she did it from memory. I do not believe that she wrote it back and looked to see what she had actually written in the novel. It is like whenever Kant tries to recap in his later works what he did in his first critique, and ends up miles from the truth. It's as though all of the memorable events were included, and not the events which made them matter. The movie did not make us care even slightly about the characters.

Nonetheless, I look forward to the sequel.
Educating vandals

To the Bard community,

It has come to my attention that over the last several weeks there have been incidents in which posters have been either defaced or torn down. These posters were placed in the appropriate locations and were put by the Gay and Lesbian Student’s Organization and by the Jewish Students’ Organization. There have been occasions when posters have been taken down because they were put up in places that, for reasons of safety and maintenance, require surfaces to remain unobstructed. In order to avoid any misunderstanding, I am asking Shelby Morgan, the Dean of Students, to circulate once more the practical restrictions with respect to where one may put posters.

Despite some ambiguity, it is proper to consider the possibility that the incidents to which I am referring were intentional acts by individuals seeking to make some sort of statement. I think the attitude of the College must be made unequivocally clear. The College’s principal and primary commitment is to free expression and the absence of an atmosphere of violence and fear. The defacing and tearing down posters are acts of violence and censorship. They cannot be tolerated. There are appropriate judicial mechanisms in the College to deal with the matter of punishment, should the individuals responsible for this behavior be found and held accountable to the administrative proceedings of the College.

But the real issue is neither punishment nor the necessity to declare the College’s unambiguous opposition to such behavior. As this year’s election campaign has made eminently clear, we live in a political culture marked by hate, ignorance, intolerance, and ugliness. Radio and television talk show hosts are only the most visible symptom of a habit of political discourse that sheds little light on the issues. People seem impatient. They do not listen to other points of view. Despite the traditional rhetoric we employ, we are not really comfortable with dissent. We seem satisfied with our own prejudices and content to label individuals or offend and intimidate those who disagree. It should come as no surprise that Bard College in 1994 is not entirely immune from these currents that surround it.

I have little doubt that the incidents that took place were the work of, at best, very few individuals. However, this does not absolve any of us from the responsibility to confront the challenge of how we might make Bard a better place for all members of the Bard community, regardless of race, religion, national origin, gender, or sexual preference.

A college community as small as Bard should be an oasis in which curiosity, empathy and tolerance reign over mistrust, malice, fear and prejudice. Administrators, faculty, and students need to work together to generate a climate in which those individuals who, in ignorance and thoughtlessness, harbor hostility and prejudice can change their views. Our objective at Bard is to educate, not to punish. Our task is simply to seize the high moral ground when a flare-up of prejudice and intolerance occurs in a predictable and ritualized manner—

Leon Botstein
President of the College

Unsound loans?

An open letter to Dimitri Papadimitriou, Executive Vice-President:

Recently there has been a great deal of excitement about the purchase of a new sound system, which was to have ended the waste of Student Convocation funds on rented sound equipment. $3000 dollars has already been paid out of this semester’s Convocation Fund, while the rest ($4400) was to be provided by a loan from the administration. In the past, the student body has always repaid any loans it has taken from the administration, and, in fact, this semester’s budget included the provision of setting aside $4000 out of next semester’s Convocation Fund in order to pay back this loan.

However, it seems that there are some issues of contention that are holding up this loan. Although at this semester’s Budget Forum the student body overwhelmingly approved the setting aside of funds for the purchase of this equipment, questions have been raised by the administration regarding the students’ commitment to this purchase.

Reconfirming this commitment is redundant and unnecessary. Other concerns voiced by the administration include the security of the new sound system; it has been suggested that the student body will have to cover the cost of adequately securing the new equipment, and the cost of insuring it. The administration has also indicated that the student body may be expected to guarantee the integrity of this equipment in perpetuity.

These stipulations are unrealistic and unduly burdensome. The student body’s ratification of this semester’s budget constitutes a mandate that the administration should recognize. We do not feel that any additional actions should be required on the part of the student body in order to receive this loan.

The equipment in question has already been ordered and is on its way; these matters need to be resolved as quickly as possible if the student body is not to suffer major financial difficulties. We respectfully request a public explanation of the administration’s stance on this issue.

Malia DuMont
Andrew Fowler

SHOOT FUCKIN’ HEROIN (OR, KORENSKY AND GOLDENSTERN ARE DEAD) BY KORENSKY AND GOLDENSTERN... (REQUESTED)
**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 Pellere 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. Van to the Lyceum in Red Hook, 6:30p.
- **Wednesday:** Grand Union Run, 6p. 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. Vans to Rhinecliff Station at 4:30p (4:50 train), 5:30p (6:51 train) and 7:00p (7:21 train). Vans to Poughkeepsie Station at 5:30p (6:12 train), 7:45p (8:55 train) and 10p (10:45 train). Synagogue: Kingdom Hall Trip, leaves at 7:15p and returns at 9:45p. Poughkeepsie Galleria Mall Trip, leaves at 5p and returns at 9p.
- **Saturday:** van to AA Red Hook, van leaves at 6:15p from Security. Shuttle to Tivoli, Red Hook, Rhinecliff and Rhinebeck, 10a.
- **Sunday:** meet at 9:15a to go to various churches in Red Hook, Rhinecliff and Rhinebeck. Pick ups at Rhinecliff Station for trains arriving at 8:15p and 8:30p and 10:12p. Pick up at Poughkeepsie Station for trains arriving at 6:47p, 8:23p and 10:43p.

**Meet all vans behind Kline**

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**ATTENTION STUDENTS NEEDING A RIDE FROM THE POUGHKEEPSIE TRAIN STATION ON FRIDAY NIGHTS**

If you are planning to come into Poughkeepsie train station on Friday night and wish a ride back to campus, you must call Physical Plant before 4:30pm and give your name and train you are arriving on. We will then notify the driver that you will be arriving and he will meet you at that train. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU NOTIFY PHYSICAL PLANT THAT YOU WILL NEED TO BE PICKED UP. The driver will check in with Security before his runs to see if anyone has called for a pick up. ONLY IN EXTREME EMERGEN- CIES SHOULD YOU CONTACT SECURITY AFTER 4:30pm.

Attention: The next issue of the Observer will appear on Wednesday, November 30. Happy Thanksgiving!