

Bard College  
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# OBSERVER

Vol. 102    No. 12    February 15, 1995

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# THE BARD OBSERVER

Volume 102 Number 12

Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504

February 15, 1995

*It's almost impossible to  
overestimate the  
unimportance of most  
things.*

—John Logue

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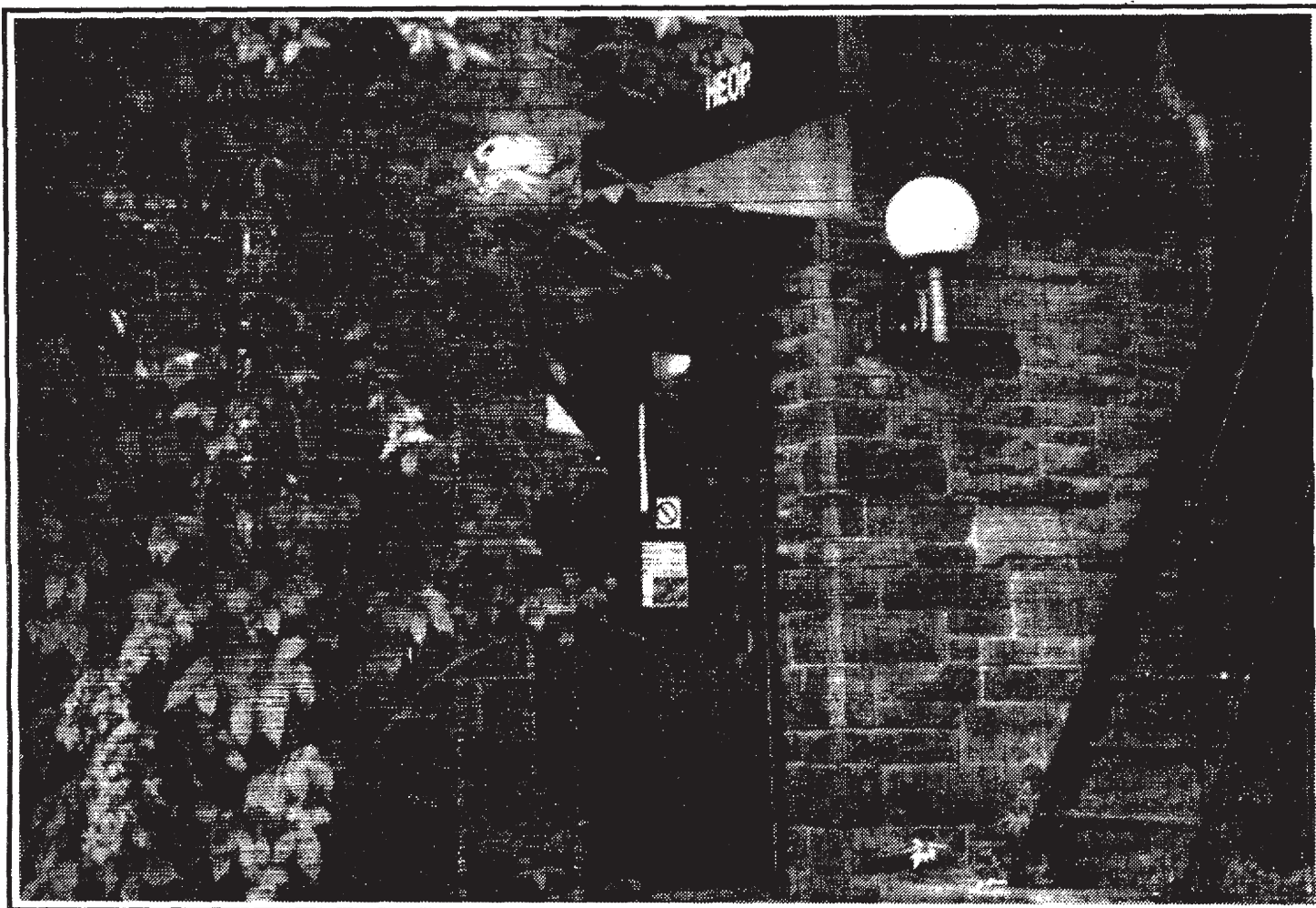
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## Lost opportunities

### Governor Pataki threatens elimination of HEOP

Michael  
Poirier  
News  
Editor

For nearly twenty-five years, New York state's Higher Education Opportunity Program has been providing economically disadvantaged students with the chance to attend and excel at private colleges. But now, as

Governor George Pataki prepares his first state budget, the future of HEOP at Bard and other colleges is in serious jeopardy.

As part of his \$3.5 billion cuts in spending, Pataki has announced his determination to eliminate state-funded opportunity programs like HEOP. For students and administrators involved in the program, this is a terrifying and unexpected development.

"It's very drastic," said Gabriel Mendes in an interview last Friday. Mendes, a financial aid counselor for Bard's HEOP program, went on to discuss his surprise at the Governor's decision. "This is not merely a phase-out, which is usually what you might see. This is a complete zeroing out as of the

1995-96 fiscal year.

"If this goes through, HEOP is non-existent as of July 1st."

#### Dilemmas for Bard HEOP

The effect of these cuts on the HEOP students at Bard could be devastating. According to Mendes, there are currently 51 students attending Bard through HEOP. Each of these students receives thousands of dollars through HEOP and other state and federal programs. The College itself also offers scholarships of around \$15,000 to each of these students.

However, HEOP provides more than simply scholarship money. Mendes explained that "HEOP also offers support services, in terms of personal counseling to academic counseling to career counseling for the future." If the state funding is taken away, there will no longer any money for either students or program counselors.

If HEOP is eliminated, the future of Bard's program and the students participating has yet to be determined. But al-

ready, the governor's looming threat has made planning for next year an arduous task. "Planning next year's class is difficult, because you want to offer admission but you don't know for sure if there's even going to be a program. At this point, we don't know exactly what the commitments are going to be made by the College—it might be a diminished amount, or it might just end. I don't know."

"At this point, we don't know exactly what is going to happen," continued Mendes. "We are fighting it all the way, and are not ready to capitulate the loss. It's all happened so fast all we're doing at this stage of the game is fighting."

#### Students, not numbers

The legislature must still approve the governor's budget before the cuts can go into effect. Mendes said that opportunity programs from around the state have already met in Albany to plan strategies for fighting the eliminations.

Mendes affirmed that there will be peti-

Continued on page 2

## Volunteer opportunities

by Rich Kelly

In order to provide an opportunity for students at Bard to involve themselves in social service programs, they must first be made aware of what is available. During the next few weeks, there will be articles highlighting several organizations that provide various services to the surrounding communities. If you would like additional information or to simply speak with someone about these opportunities, please contact Rich Kelly in the Dean of Students Office, ext 454.

### Mid-Hudson Legal Services, Inc.

Mid-Hudson Legal Services, Inc. is a private, not-for-profit corporation organized to provide legal assistance to poor people in Green, Columbia, Dutchess, Ulster, Orange and Sullivan counties. It is not a government agency, although it receives government funding to do its work. It employs lawyers, paralegals and support staff who regularly

travel throughout the service area to interview and represent clients at court or hearings, and to provide community education.

Mid-Hudson provides legal advice and representation only in civil cases. They do not handle criminal matters and they do not take cases considered fee-generating, such as personal injury action. They do accept cases in the following areas: **Public Benefits:** assist people having problems obtaining or maintaining cash public assistance, Medicaid, food stamps, unemployment insurance, social security and other public benefits; **Family Issues:** addressing the needs of women is essential. Assistance with problems affecting family life include parental rights and foster care, child support, guardianships and domestic violence cases. **Housing Matters:** housing problems exist in high numbers throughout this service area. Clients are assisted with summary eviction proceedings, health and safety issues, and public

housing matters. **Equal Protection Issues:** The purpose of representation in these cases is to insure that all individuals are receiving equal treatment under the law. Representation includes clients who have suffered unlawful discrimination in housing, public accommodations or employment because of age, race or sex; unlawful jail conditions and sometimes from official misconduct. **Aidslaw:** special funding is received from the New York State Department of Health to provide relevant legal assistance to persons with HIV infection.

**Volunteers are needed to help with research, support staff work, and videotaping the community education projects.** Likewise, as the staff becomes accustomed to your work habits and commitment, more responsibility will be handed to you. The days and times you are able to provide are up to you; however, more important than the number of hours you volunteer is your reliability and the length of time you are committed to helping.

## HEOP continued

*Continued from page 1*  
tions and protests in the upcoming months. He also urges "concerned people to write, and if they can, visit their local assemblyman or senator in support of full restoration of higher education opportunity programs."

Mendes explained that even Pataki supporters were not expecting their governor's ~~move~~ assault on the opportunity programs. Apparently, the governor's transition team endorsed the state's opportunity programs as "good programs" that should not be eliminated. Nevertheless, Pataki has urged the state legislature to support his enormous spending cuts in

order to pay for tax breaks. (Calls to the governor's office were not returned by press-time.)

"What I find personally alarming is the sort of faulty logic behind cutting these programs," said Mendes. "It seems as though [Pataki] sees higher education as something limited to those who have been able to afford it and who will always be able to afford it."

"I think the way they always speak about getting tough on crime is flawed," he continued. "The way to get tough on crime is to get tough on education. It's sort of a pay now or pay later: if you pay now in terms of education, you won't be paying later in terms of prisons."

Senior and HEOP student Jeff Rhyne had this comment on Pataki's proposed cuts, "It eliminates opportunities. How can people get a decent job if they can't have access to decent education."

"I see this as a personal thing that really affects people," Mendes concluded. "It's not just numbers when they cut, it's going to affect people who might not have any other options."

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## Classifieds and personals

**FOR SALE, OPERA:** 4 tickets Metropolitan Opera, Performance *Turandot*, Puccini with Stratas, Plishka, on Saturday February 18, 8pm. Tickets \$24 each, may be sold in pairs. Call 758-8497 evenings, or write to box 187, campus mail.

**Wanted!!!** Individuals and Student Organizers to Promote **SPRING BREAK '95**. Earn substantial **MONEY** and **FREE TRIPS**. CALL **INTER-CAMPUS PROGRAMS** 1-800-327-6013.

**SUMMER SUBLETS** The Graduate School of Environmental Studies is looking for student housing for this summer, mid June through mid August. If you wish to sublet or rent, please call 758-7483 or, see Molly or Liz in Sottery 101.

**THE DIME STORE** is looking for volunteers to help run the store. If interested, fill out an application at the store (located in the Old Gym), or contact Melanie Shaw through campus mail.

**FEMALE COLLEGE STUDENTS SOUGHT FOR PHOTO MODEL CONTEST.** For application and info send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Susan Peterson, National College Director 5400 W. Cheyenne #1098 Las Vegas, NV 89108.

Do you want to meet a boy? I want to meet a girl. Write to me, box 1164.

Happy Birthday Milord!

Happy twentieth birthday to Diane Lowy! Meow!

**Seeking Journalists!** The Observer needs writers, cartoonists, etc. If you are interested in contributing, please contact us at 758-0772, or drop us a note via campus mail. Ideas for articles also encouraged!

The Forums for this semester will be: Wed. Feb. 15 **BUDGET**  
Tue. Mar. 14  
Tue. Apr. 11  
Tue. May 16

All at 7pm in Kline

## Baccalaureate Service

The Baccalaureate Service will be held this year on Sunday, May 21, 1995. The service is an interfaith gathering, attended by the senior class and the faculty, which marks and celebrates the upcoming graduation of the senior class. We are looking for creative contributions to our program. This would be a marvelous setting for the presentation of some of your work. If you have composed a piece of music, written a poem, or created a dance which you

feel could be incorporated into the service, we are eager to include you. Your piece need not be of a "religious" nature.

Also, we would like to include in this service prayers, blessings and readings from all religious backgrounds represented on campus. If you would like to present anything from your religious tradition, we are also eager to include you.

Please contact Rabbi Jonathan Kligler through the campus mail or at his office in Hopson 203, if you are interested.



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# SMACES Excommunicated

*Club will be denied access to Student Convocation Fund*

Josh  
Ledwell  
Editor

One of Bard's most unique campus clubs may have its access to student organization funds permanently cut off after the administration decided that their activities could be defined as violent and inherently dangerous. In a letter delivered on January 31 to Liam Tumulty and Joan Reilly, the co-heads of the SMACES club (Sexual Minorities Aligned for Community Education and Support), Dean of Students Shelley Morgan said that the "organization will... be disqualified from receiving convocation funds and will no longer have routine access to College spaces. Its name will be removed from the Student Handbook."

In an interview, Dean Morgan said that two specific events took place last semester which suggested to the college that continuing to fund SMACES might be a legal risk to Bard. One was an SMACES sponsored talk during which, she said, the speaker claimed electric shocks could be applied safely "if used above the belt." The second was a letter written by SMACES club co-head Liam Tumulty to the BRAVE organization (Bard Response to Rape & Associated Violence Education). Tumulty allegedly characterized SMACES activities as "emotionally and physically dangerous."

Tumulty and Reilly, in response, called the administration's objections to SMACES "nit-picky" and "not the real issue." Tumulty said that his letter, to BRAVE director Joan Unger, came in response to Unger's objection to a SMACES pamphlet, and that Dean Morgan had taken his remarks out of context.

As for the electricity issue, Reilly noted that the SMACES sponsored speaker had made the statement singled out by Dean Morgan in response to a direct question from the audience. She said that Dave Watson, the lecturer at a November event, "stressed what was safe and what wasn't" about the use of electricity, and that objections to his statements showed "no understanding" of what the speaker said.

Reilly thought that SMACES' situation arose out of a "general problem within the faculty" and their tendency to "talk about students without including them."

## Planning Committee Reactions

With the backdrop of the SMACES controversy, the student government's Planning Committee spent the past weekend debating allocations to the various campus clubs from the Convocation fund. The committee decided to budget for the club like any other student organization, though it expects the administration will not co-sign checks for SMACES.

Planning Committee Chair Jeff Rhyne generally spoke for the committee in saying, "Personally, it's not an issue for me. SMACES is still a legit club." Committee member Tofique Khan concurred, saying that cutting off SMACES was "wrong" and that "it should be possible to find a way to fund them. We're adults."

Another committee member, Cree Nevins, said that he doubted the college's legal worries were the true reasons behind its decision not to fund SMACES. He felt administration objections to the club had "a moralist undertone" and were "mostly political."

Student Treasurer Gabor Bogner said that if SMACES was to request money from the Convocation fund, he would "handle [it] as any other request." He thought that it was advisable that SMACES receive a budget, so that money could be "freed up" if the club and the administration were to reach an acceptable compromise.

When asked if it might be possible for SMACES to obtain student funds in some indirect way, Bogner said that "systems are abuseable" and that any club could probably find a way to receive funding. He cautioned, though, that it was "not in anybody's interest" to be confrontational or to flaunt the administration in this manner.

Tumulty said that he was considering returning the SMACES budget to the Emergency Fund and then having another club draw on the funds. He did emphasize, however, that the club planned no "crazy little sneaky things" to acquire money.

The SMACES club re-

quested \$1500 from the Student Convocation fund, and will be allocated \$1350, pending approval of the overall budget by the Student Forum tonight.

## Legal Issues

Dean Morgan explained that SMACES was being cut off from the Convocation fund because Bard could be found liable for damages that result from the activities of a club it funds. Anyone could sue Bard, the Dean said, but "it makes the college more vulnerable," to a successful lawsuit if it continued to fund SMACES. "The college is protected if we take steps to" disassociate student convocation funds from a club that promotes dangerous events. "It does function in a bigger realm," she said.

According to Dean Morgan, students have compared SMACES's situation to that of the Outing Club, noting that the latter group's trips could also be dangerous. "But the Outing Club falls within an acceptable risk," she said, while SMACES does not.

Dean Morgan gave another example of a club that conducted activities deemed unacceptably risky in her letter to Reilly and Tumulty. She wrote, "In my view, clubs do not warrant formal recognition when their activities are inherently dangerous or involve the potential for serious risk of personal harm. For this same reason, the College made a decision years ago to deny official recognition and funding to a skydiving club."

For his part, Tumulty confirmed that SMACES has also sought legal advice. He said that he has approached the American Civil Liberties Union, but that the ACLU told

him students at a private college have no legal recourse in this situation. "The only rights we have are those the administration gives us," he said.

However, Tumulty said he is still talking to a lawyer, in part to confirm that the college is justified in asserting that the funding of SMACES constitutes a legal risk to Bard.

## Towards A Compromise

Dean Morgan emphasized that she and the members of SMACES are discussing ways that the club could continue to function in some role at Bard. The club will not be barred from fund-raising, for example, and may continue to co-sponsor events with other clubs. "This isn't a matter of keeping it out of [college] publications," she said.

Tumulty said that he is also interested in further dialogue, saying that he thought the administration has "already somewhat compromised."

Tumulty also expressed confidence that the club would be active this semester even without student funds. SMACES, he said, "is well-known in the S & M community," and has attracted pledges from several speakers to come to Bard for free. The club plans to fund-raise at these events, and Tumulty said he expects to raise as much money as the club originally requested from student funds.

Members of SMACES and administration representatives were scheduled to meet on Monday, February 13, to continue discussing the fate of the club. They were also to have set a date for a larger "town meeting" for all students and staff to make themselves heard on SMACES' future. ♣

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# A season of adversity

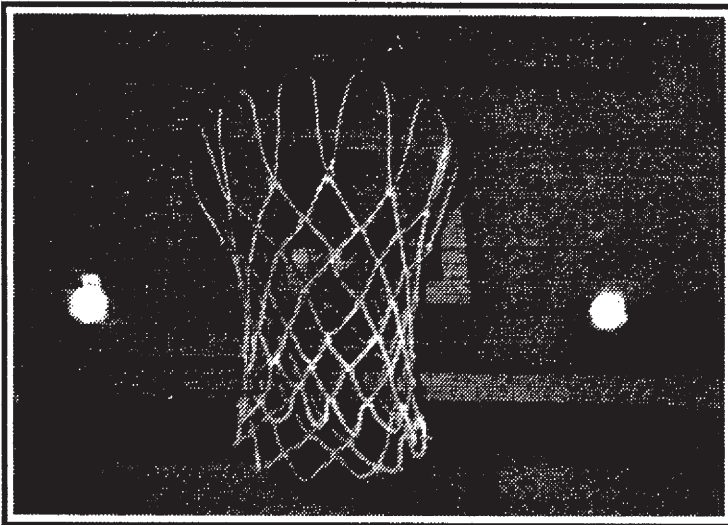
*Winter varsity sports weather a series of tough losses*

Josh  
Ledwell  
Editor

While much of Bard used the winter intersession to relax and regroup, the athletic department used the break to hire new talent. Kathleen Davis is currently getting her feet wet as the pool director, and Gina Delmont will become the college's fitness director and athletic trainer starting Monday.

Davis' new director of aquatics position will fill a definite need at the gym. Last fall, athletic director Joel Tomson expressed dismay at the small number of students using the pool, prompting student letters and comments suggesting improvement. Already, change is underway: there are plans for a new swim team, and during Thursday Night Madness students were able to use the diving board.

Once upon a time, the nearest trainer for injured varsity sports athletes was at Vassar. No longer! Bard's new trainer Delmont will also be in charge of



the gym's many fitness programs.

Look for interviews with both of these new staffers in upcoming articles.

## Varsity Sports

So far this semester, victories for Bard varsity sports teams have been painfully few. The men's varsity basketball team has a 3-17 overall record after a tough intersession of winless play.

The team has had to adjust to the loss of two key players. Sean Alford has played his last eligible semester at Bard, while Gandalf Riecks' injured knee has forced him off the team as well. Both men were starters and valuable contributors, and will be missed.

Over the snowy weekend of February 4-5, Bard hosted its Invitational basketball tournament. The Blazers beat visiting Warren Wilson 48-36, before losing to Polytechnic 67-60. SUNY Purchase could not attend the

tournament because of the weather, and as a result no awards were given to the participating schools. Hope they still come back next year!

Bard next played on Wednesday, February 8, losing an ugly contest 103-47 against Stevens Tech. The Blazers bounced back last Saturday, however, beating St. Joseph's/Patchogue 71-61. They will play tonight at home against Vassar—come and cheer!

As of February 11, Kyle Wheeler leads Bard in scoring with 14.3 points/game. Over the intersession, Wheeler's outstanding play earned him a place on the Hudson Valley All-Tournament Team. Ron Reese is second in scoring at 12.9 points/game, while Bucky Purdom averages 9.6 points/game. Purdom also has 5.3 rebounds/game, second only to Kambui Womble's 6.9.

The men's fencing team currently stands at 1-6. On Saturday, February 11, they fell to

Cornell, 17-10, and Army, 22-5. The women's team did better, going 1-1 on the day with a loss to Vassar, 8-8 (61-56), and a victory over Army, 9-7. Since the match with Vassar was tied in games, the contest had to be resolved with indicators or touches—the points within each fencing bout. Tonight, the men's team travels to Baruch College, while the women meet Baruch in the Stevenson Gym.

The big new women's squash team has played two matches as of February 11. They bageled against Hamilton, 9-0, but improved slightly against Haverford, losing only 7-2. In muted contrast, the men's team has a 2-7 record after matches over the weekend. They were whipped by Tufts, 9-0, and Army, 8-1 on Saturday. The Blazers beat Stevens Tech 5-4 the next day, but lost to Haverford 7-2.

The women's team is next scheduled to play February 17-19, at the Yale National Women's Intercollegiate Squash Championships. The men will help host the New York State Championships at Bard and Vassar, also starting on February 17. Get psyched for the big time!

The men's volleyball team has started off slowly this semester with a 0-3 record. On February 9, they lost to Ramapo 15-2, 15-8, 15-11. Then, at the IAC tournament on February 12, New Jersey Tech spiked Bard 15-10, 15-4, 15-4, as did Mt. St. Vincent 15-7, 15-8, 15-4.

Sebastian Salazar has been a rock for the team, averaging .444 aces/game and 3.55 digs/game. Joel Rush and Raman Frey both have 2.67 digs/game for the volleyball Blazers, who next play Sacred Heart

and Mt. St. Vincent here on Friday.

Come on, varsity teams! Give me some wins to write about!

## Intramurals

The "weekend athlete" scene is a little slim at present, with only two intramural sports on the agenda. Co-recreational indoor soccer is about to get underway, with seven teams signed up and ready to play. "Record breaking! Historic!" said assistant athletic director Kris Hall about the amazing interest in indoor soccer, which is played with an oversized tennis ball in the gym.

There will also be open badminton play beginning tomorrow, during Thursday Night Madness.

## Sports Notes

Last Thursday night saw many enthusiastic Bard students flocking to the gym to take advantage of the facilities, the activities, and the free pizza offered during this semester's first Thursday Night Madness. The food is not likely to become a permanent feature, unfortunately.

However, there are still more interesting events planned for future Thursdays. This week the featured activity will be "snow softball." No pre-registration is necessary to participate, and following the game official Thursday Night Madman Paxson Winters will serve hot chocolate and lead forays into the sauna.

No date has been set, but the athletic department is planning to sponsor a lifesaving and water safety class. Interested people should call the gym for more information.

Think about it: wouldn't you love to cover the upcoming softball season? Seriously, the sports section needs new writers. If you are interested in working Bard's ever-changing sports beat, please contact me through campus mail. ☛

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## Black History Month

In honor of Black History Month B.R.A.V.E. wishes to acknowledge our thanks to those Black women and men whose courage in the struggle for human rights and dignity has inspired us.

We recognize that oppression exists in many forms and that it must be opposed in all of its manifestations. If we are to achieve the goal of ending sexual violence we know that we must also add our collective voice to the struggle to end other forms of oppression, including racism.

We recognize that the achievements of Black activists help to sustain our own commitment towards the creation of a more just society.

B.R.A.V.E.

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## THE BARD OBSERVER

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Pedro Rodriguez

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Calendar Editor

Diego Socolinsky

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## \*Cooking Column\*

**Jeana C. Breton**  
*Featured Columnist*

An important element of cooking is being able to properly interpret a cookbook. Most cookbooks are the same; they offer a list of ingredients and specific instructions on what to do with these ingredients. The writers of these books, however, also assume you are going to know what they are talking about. This can be a little bit difficult if you are not up to speed with the wide world of cooking abbreviations and chefs' codes. This week's column will give you a few insights and make your cooking experiences quicker, more efficient, and more enjoyable. These insights should also help make each cooking attempt a complete success.

### Abbreviations

tb.	= tablespoon(s)
ts.	= teaspoon(s)
c.	= cup(s)
lb.	= pound(s)
on.	= ounce(s)
S&P	= salt and pepper (to taste)
min	= minute(s)
sec.	= second(s)
"	= inch(es)
temp	= temperature
sm.	= small
med.	= medium
lg.	= large
qt.	= quart(s)

### Codes

dice	= chop into very little pieces
knead	= roll and press (with hands)
mix	= stir
combine	= stir (ingredients) together
chop	= cut (with knife)
peel	= remove skin from something
drain	= remove liquid from something
pre-cook	= have something already cooked
blend	= mix well (usually involves a blender)
fold in	= alternately place other ingredients over the new ingredient until the new ingredient is incorporated into the already existing ingredients
to taste	= add as much as you prefer
optional	= not a necessary ingredient, but you can add it if you want to
chill	= put in refrigerator until cooled
cool	= set aside until cooled to room temp.

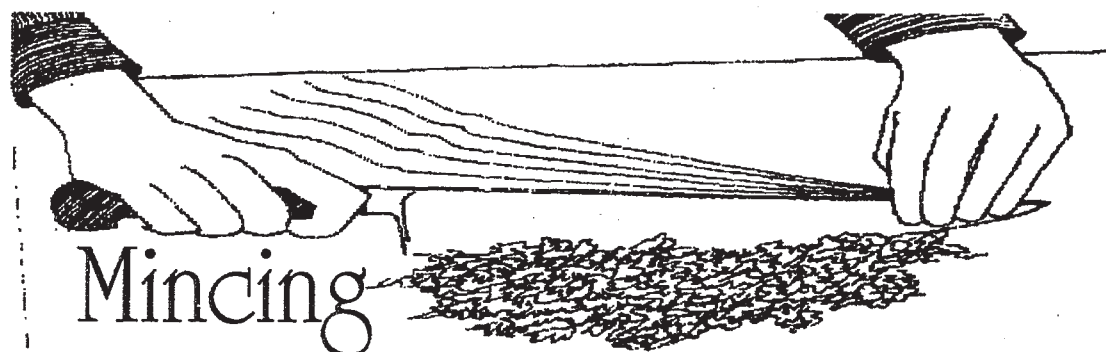
\*All the above will be used in future cooking columns.\*



### Vegetarian Stuffed Green Peppers

- 3 lg. green peppers (halved and seeded)
- 3 tb. olive oil
- 1 onion (diced)
- 2 c. cooked corn kernels
- 2 tomatoes (peeled and coarsely chopped)
- 2 tb. parsley
- 2 tb. fresh basil (or, 1 1/2 ts. dried basil)
- 1/2 ts. salt
- 1/4 ts. pepper
- 1 c. bread crumbs

\*Preheat oven to 350. Oil shallow baking dish. Cook peppers in boiling water for 2min. Drain & set aside. Heat oil in lg. skillet & add onion, cook, stirring, until soft. Put the onion in a bowl, add corn, tomatoes, parsley, basil, salt & pepper, & mix very well. Lightly fill each pepper half with some of the mixture. Sprinkle the tops with bread crumbs. Bake for 30-40min, or until crumbs are lightly browned. Serves 6.



### Spanish Rice

- 4 tb. olive oil
- 1 onion (chopped)
- 1 sm. green pepper (chopped)
- 2 cloves garlic (minced)
- 1 stalk of celery (diced)
- 1 c. mushrooms (chopped)
- 2 lg. tomatoes (peeled & chopped)
- 1 c. long-grain rice
- 2 c. chicken broth
- S&P

\*Preheat oven to 375. Oil a 2qt. casserole. Heat the olive oil in a skillet & add onion, green pepper, garlic, celery & mushrooms. Cook over med.-low heat, stirring often, for 5min. Transfer to casserole & add tomatoes, rice, S&P. Pour in broth, stir, cover & bake 30min. Stir again & bake another 30min. Serves 4.

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# Student Association Budget, Spring 1995

Club	Allocated Fall	Allocated Spring	Requested Spring	Club	Allocated Fall	Allocated Spring	Requested Spring
AASO	\$1700	\$2651	\$1800	Observer	\$1500	\$1500*	\$2276.16
Aikido	\$0	\$566	\$566	Outing Club	\$500	\$400	\$750
Alianza cultural Ibero-americana	\$600	\$1920		Photography Club	n/a	\$550	\$1100
Art Club	\$350	\$150	\$850	Psychology Club	\$100	\$100	\$195.25
Bard BBS	\$1450	\$934	\$1134	Russian/Eurasian Stud	\$700	\$450	\$875
Christian Fellowship	\$150	\$130	\$130	Scottish Country Dance	\$150	\$175	\$209.50
Bard Debating Society	\$750	\$1500	\$2798	Senior Class Club	n/a	\$0	\$740
BBSO	\$1400	\$2000	\$3585	Shakespeare Club	n/a	\$0	\$60
BEMS	\$1200	\$1000	\$1000	Sister Cities	\$200	\$200	\$490
BIGALA	n/a	\$600	\$972	S/M ACES	\$1300	\$1350	\$1500
BJSS	\$1500	\$1900	\$4652	SMOG	\$705	\$732	\$732
Bard Party Brigade	\$0	\$0	\$600	Society of Physics Stud.	\$150	\$75	\$500
Bard Society of Folklore	n/a	\$450	\$1650	SPAZ	\$100	\$150	\$450
CAN/NORML	n/a	\$0	\$800	Student Center Sound System			
Central Committee	\$1930	\$1925	\$1925		\$4634	\$5366**	\$5366
Central European SO	\$750	\$1000	\$1883	That Spring Fling Thing	n/a	\$0	\$5000
Coalition for Choice	\$900	\$1200	\$2000	Victorian Studies	n/a	\$150	\$345
Cross-Cultural Com.	n/a	\$150	\$150	Wedding Club	\$150	\$150	\$2780
Dance Club	\$650	\$750	\$4270	WiSeCRak	n/a	\$400	\$1700
deKline	\$500	\$165	\$415	Woman Cartoonists	n/a	\$50	\$250
The Dime Store	n/a	\$600	\$1280	Women's Center	\$850	\$1150	\$2482
Entertainment Comm.	\$9500	\$9800	\$11,300	WXBC	\$1600	\$600	\$1070
Film Committee	\$10,500	\$10,600	\$10,600	Total:	\$59,685	\$59,337	
Folk Society	\$400	\$550	\$1055	Convocation Fund:	\$66,000	\$68,000	
Free East Timor	n/a	\$320	\$1451	Emergency Fund:	6,315	\$8,663	
Greek Club	n/a	\$0	\$1195				
The Hegeman Society	n/a	\$0	\$200				
INFRASTRUCTURE	n/a	\$350	\$350				
International Socialists	\$850	\$750	\$2876				
ISO	\$1000	\$1600	\$2985				
JSO	\$900	\$850	\$2145				
LASO	\$1000	\$0	\$3100				
Lentil Soup Arts Co-op	n/a	\$150	\$207				
Ménage	\$300	\$1000	\$2329.50				
Model United Nations	\$500	\$900	\$1345				
Muslim Students Org.	n/a	\$650	\$1042				
Native Voices	n/a	\$1000	\$3220				

\*-\$1200 firm, \$300 loan to be repaid upon receipt of DOSO's debt

\*\*-\$1279 for this semester, \$4987 approved Fall 1994

## \$ 68,000.00 \$

### Yours to spend tonight!

### Budget Forum

### Kline Commons, 7 pm

### Madame the Gypsy Queen's Forecast

Madame the G-Q gets hit  
by Cupid, bigtime

-or-

Who put the XTC in her  
English Breakfast?

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.21): I  
love you. Please take care of  
your liver.

Sagittarius (Nov.22-  
Dec.21): I love you. Even  
though I don't know you.

Capricorn (Dec.22-Jan.21):  
I love you. So quit bitching  
about your sex life.

Aquarius (Jan.22-Feb.18):  
I love you. Please do not  
freak out because of  
Phantoms wherever they may  
be.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20): I  
love you. Hope your thesis  
goes well.

Aries (Mar.21-Apr.19): I  
love you. Good luck this  
semester.

Taurus (Apr.20-May20): I  
love you. Please do not freak  
out over your silly little life!  
Gemini (May 21-June20): I  
love you. Just be glad we  
never had sex.

Cancer (June21-July22): I  
love you. Even though you  
dicked me over.

Leo (July 23-Aug.22): I  
love you. I just wish you'd  
stop trying to get me to lose  
weight.

Virgo (Aug.23-Sept.22): I  
love you. I really do.

Libra (Sept.23-Oct.22): I  
love you. You are one of my  
best friends! Stay holy.



YOU TOOK NOTES,  
STUDIED HARD,  
APPLIED YOURSELF.  
BLAH, BLAH, BLAH...

**SO PUT DOWN THE BOOKS  
AND GET INTO THE GAME!**

**1995  
SPRING BREAK  
PEEL & WIN GAME**

AT A  
CAMPUS  
VENDING  
MACHINE.



What you need now is a break -Spring  
Break. So enjoy a Coca-Cola product  
and let the games begin! Play the 1995  
Spring Break Peel & Win Game and win  
"500 Bucks for Spring Break  
from the Coca-Cola Company."  
You could also win a cool T-Shirt or

coupons for Coca-Cola products.  
So check out the 1995 Spring Break peel  
and win game pieces. They're on Coca-  
Cola products found in the specially  
marked vending machines on campus.  
So lose the books and take a break with  
your favorite Coca-Cola product!



Look for winning stickers on cans  
of Coca-Cola products.

No purchase necessary. See Official Rules on display for details. © 1995 The Coca-Cola Company. "Coca-Cola,"

# What's what

## Our columnist reports on how professors rule Bard

by Sean O'Neill

Some of our professors doodled. Others daydreamed. A few read fiction.

The occasion was a full-faculty meeting.

Bard's professors are humble folks, generally. They quietly munch on cookies and sip tea whenever they sit in the pre-eminent deliberative body on campus each month in the Levy Center mansion.

Most of our instructors voice opinions only on those issues that affect the essential well-being of the College, and of their positions.

Most prefer not to exaggerate the importance of miscellaneous concerns.

Notwithstanding, a petulant few are exceptions to the group's general character. These are the deluded men (last fall it was always men) for whom lifetimes of lecturing students made them mistakenly think that they inspire equal awe in their peers when lecturing them.

Close to forty minutes of meeting time last autumn was consumed by the resistance of a few people to the closing of the post office underneath the old gym and the opening of a new one in a planned campus center between the Proctor Arts

Studio and the Ravine houses.

Although the matter did not fall under the purview of the faculty, since the Board of Trustees makes decisions about new buildings, our professorship argued the question anyway.

### House of Snail Mail

Those dismayed over the prospect of additional outdoor exercise in their schedules had three central complaints.

One was that the plan to relocate the post office had been presented *fait accompli* without their active involvement. Another, that the location was inconvenient. The most heatedly argued point, however, was that the "unstructured talks" that planners anticipated in an attractive, smoke-free, indoor space defied common sense.

In response, administrators noted that a committee of faculty representatives had been involved in the planning of a campus center with a post office over the span of eight years. They said that the new site would add only a few minutes to the walk of someone "with a slight limp" from the main campus offices. And they insisted that the primary benefit of a campus center with a post office would be that "students could talk informally and spon-

aneously with professors."

One man challenged anyone to prove by a careful study that a high rate of professor-student chit-chat occurs in the existing post office. Why? If it could be shown that instructors and pupils are not seeking each other out, then a new place for mailboxes would not change that fact.

Several professors shared that sentiment, finding it silly that they should travel farther for the primary side benefit of meeting students they meet all the time as things are.

The intention of the planners was that a new campus center with couches and food would invite a lingering professor to relax in the company of students. Apparently, this is an unlikely idea for a few uptight professors.

### Happy Ending

In the end, the felicity of the college was assured. A majority of professors consented to an initiative that has received unanimous votes of student support repeatedly over several years. Once someone, perhaps Ms. Patricia Weiss, donates the requisite cash, we will have a place to get our

mail until Midnight each weekday.

Petty arguments are not all that happens at faculty meetings, though.

Professors also listen to their boss read news bulletins.

Some noteworthy items: 945 students are currently at Bard, with an increased percentage remaining to collect 124 credits. There has been an increase by half in applications for next year.

The annex to the Olin building will open in September. By that time, students and professors should have access to computer terminals linked to the Internet by "bard.edu."

The first-year seminar is to be remodeled so that the second semester involves a close reading of a single "imaginative text." Divisional requirements for new students will be changed, too.

Quentin Tarantino, the film director, will *not* be awarded an honorary film degree this May, contrary to rumor.

And, yes, Virginia, there is recycling at Bard.

After politely smiling, the professors leave, pleased to perform their duties in our democratic regime. The student representative, chairperson of the Educational Policies Committee, assures all other excluded students that they are not missing out on much.

# Bard Spring

## A weekly fiction series that satirizes Bard's future

by Sean O'Neill

Say, did you know that our mutual friend, Sandeep, was a campus radical — once?

Impossible. Mr. Stoical Conservative? You're teasing.

No, it's true. Way back in 1997.

How did this happen?

He ran a massage parlor in his dorm room.

How did this happen?

The college president retired.

Sandeep and I were still at Bard College, when its president, Leon Botstein, full of thoughts, full of poses, had decided to become a stay-at-home dad.

Dr. Botstein wanted to take his son Max to the Bronx Zoo so they could blow bubbles at the orangutans more often. He also wished to write the definitive history of Austria's influence on concert music.

The previous year his oldest daughter accepted a marriage proposal, and his wife became principal curator of the Metropolitan. Botstein himself received accolades aplenty for his symphony conducting, and was listed by *New York* magazine as one of the 100 most intelligent New Yorkers.

Just before January 1, 1997, then, with a single tear and an insouciant smile, Botstein waved good-bye to Annandale be-

fore a crowd of fifteen-hundred bow-tie-wearing Bardians, old and new.

A farewell fanfare was held in his honor — long and slightly disorganized, like everything well-intentioned at that place. Inside the newly-built campus center, professors and students were seen wreathed in smiles and engaged in spontaneous conversations.

Speeches were made, and Botstein's, appropriately enough, was the most evocative. He spoke of the Academy being a world apart, preserving traditions against trends, dodging the intractable, attaining the elusive, so that we can both know our limitations and be envious of ourselves, *etcetera*.

The crowd gazed up at the fireworks shot over the Hudson River.

Everyone drank and ate, danced and sang, laughed and cried, late into the frosty night. We all wondered the same thing. What was to happen to us now?

The college hired a consulting firm, Academic Search Consultation Service, to help choose a new leader. John Hernandez was selected because of his high profile as a public school superintendent in a nearby city.

Although Hernandez had no experience as a professor in higher education, or at Bard, or at private schools anywhere, he had proven himself a tough administrator and had earned

the nickname Mr. Condom for his school reforms.

He did not foresee the impending calamity.

Yes, back in 1997, the place became Chaos-on-Hudson. First, with the vice-president's decision to deny funding to a club "promoting awareness about sexual minorities", and then with the president's decision to squelch the *menage-a-tois* campus party.

Distributing contraceptives was one thing for Hernandez. Orgies were quite another. The Board of Trustees said the menage was to close to the latter for good public relations.

"If I wanted sex parties, I would have stayed in Manhattan," said Hernandez.

The president arranged for his daughter to transfer into Bard that spring, but under a different last name to avoid undue attention from others. Irina was as baffled as her father about campus agitation over his first major decision. So what if Hernandez wanted to prevent this menage-a-tois from taking place?

Irina shared her questions with the modestly attractive Willow, a sophomore. Willow gave Irina the same condescending look she would receive whenever she doubted the behavior and instincts of other Bard students.

"It's because you're new to An-

nandale," Willow told her. "The Menage is more than a party. It's a statement about identity and safe sex. And it's, like, unacceptable for Hernandez to just march in here and order us around. He's so ignorant. You know why he's doing this, don't you? It's because of *Newsweek*. Yeah, he's afraid we might embarrass him when *Newsweek* arrives to write a story on him and his new job."

Irina had learned that Willow was one of those proud twenty-year olds who could put the words "empowerment" and "disenfranchised" in the same sentence.

"What's Hernandez going to do?" asked Irina.

"I dunno. Maybe send notes home to our parents that there's this Big, Evil Party on campus involving a Dance of Sin and that they should warn their children not to attend."

"Couldn't Prez Hernandez expel anyone from the school found in attendance?"

"Bard has never expelled anyone. We just request people to leave. Besides, it would look ridiculous! Imagine the *Newsweek* headline, 'COLLEGE PREZ VERSUS TECHNO PARTY.' I mean, really, what can this guy do to effectively prevent the menage?"

(to be continued)

# Welcome back to the ranch

The lengthy holiday Bonanza is seemingly a million light years away as our New 1995 beckons to the Cautious and rush forward with Cavalier. I'm not the type to sit about waiting for the future and so I imagine my style would be to hasten forward with new projects and flame balls of energy. As Bard students, I don't foresee any moss growing on you either. Nonetheless, let us postpone the sprint toward accomplishment and "beautiful adventures" so that we may all reflect for some time from whence we came. Plainly stated, "What happened during Intercession?"

If history is going to repeat itself, shouldn't we make educated decisions to determine if this is worth our while? Ah, let us turn back time as in the old holiday movies that begin with the end. (Not to worry. I promise I will forgo an analysis of how Jimmy Stewart ended up broken, drunk, and in the company of a flighty angel.) Is it coming in clearly now? Crowded malls, anxious parents, school grades hanging in limbo, post finals. Being an "old timer" myself, many of my college memories have passed expiration and translate to something unusually euphoric. The truth is that the holidays are a paradox and reminder of secret thoughts we will nostalgically polish forever, or perhaps choose to forget.

Do you remember your first Hot Wheels race track? Or perhaps there is a clear memory of the first child scaled tea

set with all the ware for a right proper party?! The list would go on endlessly if we chose to meditate on those days. And how about those grand family dinners complete with "wozzleberry jelly" and your Aunt Jackie, who always smelled like patchouli and baked the pumpkin pie. Oh, and the anticipation of snow and the wearing of the skis and skates. Remember...the carols, eggnog, pine scent in the parlour, lighting candles, laughter, bustling through Macy's on the 24th, bows and mistletoe, staying up late to watch Dickens' Classic. All the whos in who-ville when the Grinch's hear grew three sizes too big. What times we live in my friends!

My pal Mark sits quiet and sad when such holiday pleasantries breach conversation. He also has a vivid recollection that puts a little dark spin on an otherwise blithe time. In his house, it smelled of booze and raging parent alcoholics who



smashed the few remaining ornaments, chipped his tooth with a backhand, and then passed out with a lit cigarette on the couch. Mark recalls that he counted a season lucky if he hid undiscovered in his room. Escaping to a friend's house after the hoopla was a real bonus because he could then vicariously play with his buddy's toys. No, he never got a bicycle either. And so it goes that the holidays are held carefully in the

eye of the beholder.

As students returning home, this journey means a time to take a breather, do laundry, watch the playoffs, call old friends, sleep till noon, and deal with your family in a way that is entirely unique. It is a different because Bard, your latest home, afforded your newly discovered values and interests. Whoa-a-a! What is the big deal if I make a ham sandwich at 2am while watching Mary Tyler Moore reruns? Why can't I have a smoke in my room when it is, after all, my room? Do they need to keep reminding me of how much they hate my nose ring? There is a resistance to this totalitarian

community which espouses the creed that "when you live under my roof you will follow my rules." As Wayne Campbell declares, "It will be stressful. OH YES, it will be stressful."

Last but not least, there are those who stay on board at Bard and the local scene. They enjoy all the benefits a cold gray and lonely northeast winter can offer. My first Christmas away from home was perfectly fine until I nearly gagged on my own tears while Johnny Mathis crooned "I'll be home for Christmas."

Time warp is officially over for now. I hope I did not scare anyone with ghosts of Christmas passed. 1995 does have a nice ring to it, and I suspect that in lieu of your brave return, you have survived against great odds. This is a testimony to your ability to quickly acclimate! Remember, don't forget old acquaintances and take time to make time! WELCOME BACK!

Respectfully,  
Eric P. Keller  
Bard Counseling Ctr.

p.s. This article focuses primarily on my personal holiday perspective. My wish is that those of you who celebrate differently (or not at all) will regard the theme and not the details. That is, going home is a difficult adaptation given hectic circumstances.

## Bard Model United Nations Club

by Abigail Roberts

For those Bard students whose chief excitement of the week is watching "The Simpsons" on T.V., Model United Nations is not the club to join. Adrenaline, Power, Aggressiveness, Problem-Solving, and the excitement of being somewhere else besides Bard all combine to make MUN conferences one of the most exciting activities that a Bard student can be a part of.

The Model United Nations club takes students to MUN conferences across the country. Conferences are hosted by various colleges, consisting of committees made up of countries that are part of the UN. Each college, prior to the conference, is assigned to a country and to committees. A committee consists of anywhere from ten to a hundred countries represented by a single delegate each. These committees are given specific issues to discuss ranging from hate crimes and population control to the deactivation of nuclear weapons and disposal of biological warfare. International problems and crises are discussed and possible solutions proposed.

When I first got to Yale I had no idea what I was doing. I was sent into a committee made up of the Arab states (I was Jordan), where I quietly sat down at a long table. Soon the committee was in process and we began to discuss the various issues brought to the table. The first issue was

women's rights and, as we were all Arab states, there was invigorating discussion on all sides. We did not reach a consensus, however. The next issue discussed was the Palestinian-Jordan problem, which, as the name suggests, involved me to a great extent. The problem we were debating was whether or not to give Palestine half of Jordan; my opinion was that the Palestinians should find somewhere else to park. Unfortunately, I was in the minority. Sudan tried to rally support for a nuclear war against Israel (with Jordan as the scapegoat.) This was a problem. So the few countries who wished to survive to next year filibustered (in other words, we refused to let anyone else talk). Then, since we were in a crisis committee (that is, a committee in which the host college makes up international conflicts for the committee to solve on the spot), my king was first abducted by the Palestinians and later assassinated. The high point of my committee came when I got to stand up and publicly announce that "my soul wept tears of blood" over the death of my beloved King Hussein.

The other conference I attended was held in a hotel near Philadelphia and was hosted by U.Penn. This time, I, and the other members, were Canada. I was in the human rights committee where we discussed drug trafficking and hate crimes.

The most memorable part of the committee was gathering support for a bill that made a distinction between hate crimes like what happened in Crown Heights and the kind of hate crimes that are going on in Bosnia. The majority of the committee members were about to issue one resolution which covered both types, and, all things considered, that would not have been a good idea. Diplomatic brilliance was displayed by all members (especially those who had slept through the first half of the conference.)

I have been to conferences where diplomacy was not the order of the day. Mexico declared war on Cuba, the prime minister of England was assassinated by English rebels demanding that the wool trade to South Africa be reopened, and Italy sponsored a bill which began: "Noting that Italians are among the best lov-

ers..." Nonetheless, I have learned a great deal about international relations, diplomacy and the difference that one vote can make between lunacy and statesmanship. Every committee member brings their views and experience to the debate, and I have learned something in every session. Some of the knowledge I would be better without (such as one of the ways Japanese scientists have developed to deal with the solid waste problem) but most of the information has been useful.

Next semester, the club will be attending more conferences and will be holding a mini-MUN here at Bard. If anyone is interested in joining, or wants more information, contact Elizabeth Hamilton through campus mail.

Editor's note: This submission arrived last semester after dead-line for the December 7, 1994 issue.

### Spring Semester heralds the arrival of the annual ISO CULTURAL SHOW

during April. If anyone is interested in participating in the show—you can do anything that you want, for example a dance, recital, singing, etc. Please contact either Sebastian Salazar-Chavez or Mahajabeen Padamsee at PO box #1087. The deadline for signing up for the show is **March 12, 1995.**



## My Two Cents



by Michael Poirier, Agitated Young Man

Last fall, I wrote an editorial that urged the campus community to be civilized. I tried to show how the political practice of plundering other clubs for their allocation was "barbaric," and ultimately destructive to the community at large. Whether it was due to universal apathy, surprised contentment or a lucky editorial, the Budget as proposed by the Planning Committee was effortlessly approved by the Student Forum with only the tiniest squeak of protest.

With a force that makes my neck sore, I am completely reversing my plea to the Bard community. I want to see the blood flow at tonight's Forum; I want to see milk spilled and words thrown. Forget about civility or courtesy. Make our \$70 "student activities fee" the admission price to a side-show of draconian amendments, stirring speeches and devil-may-care pillaging of the Emergency Fund. Bare your teeth and bite into somebody else's piece of the pie!

Why such virulence? Because this year's budget as ordained by the Planning Committee is just a few greased palms away from absolute travesty. I want to do more than question some of the Committee's decisions, I want to show how they are blatantly preposterous. I want to point out a couple of fat, juicy targets for you struggling smaller clubs that need just a little more bucks for your bang.

Let's look at some of the big money winners in this year's proposed budget. Near the top are the largest and most active student organizations on campus: the Bard Black Student Organization (\$2000), the Asian American Student Organization (\$1800), the International Student's Organization (\$1600), and the Bard Journal of Social Sciences (\$1900).

Whoa. Wait a minute. Did I actually just call the BJSS a student organization? I'm sorry, the BJSS is actually just a selective publication which is lucky to come out with two issues a semester. A handful of students edit the thing, and it is surprising when more than half of the articles included are actually written by Bard students.

So why did they get so much money? Does the BJSS attract the amount of students as the ISO Cultural show? Do as many people read the specialized journal as attend a distinguished lecture sponsored by the BBSO? Quite simply, is that \$1900 really coming back to the community with the same popularity and universal appeal as our most successful student organizations? Why has their budget tripled over the last three semesters?

And how about that Bard Debating Society? For a club that's barely a year old to receive at first \$750 and then a whopping \$1500 in its second semester! Where is all that money going? New team uniforms? Why isn't a lot of that cash remaining here on campus for a larger number of other students, instead of the itinerant small society of the debate team?

Why does a club that has been so active in the community with presentations and discussions as the International Socialists Organization continually receive less than a third of its budget request? Why have the allocations of the large student organizations been slowly dropping just as they become more active and involved? Why is every attempt at a student-run literary magazine squashed by the Planning Committee when the BJSS receives enough money to put out half a dozen 'zines? Why does a brand new, untried club as esoteric as "Free East Timor" get allocated six times as much money as the equally new, but much more interesting, Woman Cartoonist Guild?

The opinion of the Planning Committee in regards to a club's relevance and service to the community is reflected in the dollars signs they write next to each club's name. So I must ask, what is the criteria of the Planning Committee? I really don't know. I just wish that consistency and community involvement were treated with a little bit more respect by those elected officials. I truly wish that a club's campus-wide service and appeal was more important than favoritism, that notions of academic prestige were not valued as higher than campus enrichment.

If you are unhappy with your club's budget, if you want to see a little more parity in the way the money is divided out, than make your voice heard at tonight's Forum. This campus must no longer pretend its a democracy, it's got to start acting like one.

Remember that this proposed budget is written in pencil. Any student has the right to propose a change in this budget, and the majority rules. Don't let your club be ignored by the favored few. For the first time in my three and a half years at Bard, I think that the Planning Committee could have done a much better job—and it is our responsibility as the provider of these funds to call the Committee on its failure.

One more thing, why haven't the budgets of each club been made public? Perhaps it is not directly stipulated in the Student Constitution, but doesn't it make good democratic sense that the community be enabled to read the same proposals upon which the Planning Committee based their decisions? We can't even know what a club denied funding like CAN/NORML is all about if we are not permitted to read their budget. How can we, as a voting community, make proper decisions about budgeting if we are kept in the dark? Expecting a club to suddenly be able to explain itself in three minutes to a restless Forum is hardly fair. Let's make an amendment to our fine Constitution, demanding that a copy of each budget be made available in the Library for concerned students to peruse. Would you intentionally spend your money without knowing what you're buying?

I didn't think so.

## Fighting harm

We are writing in response to the expulsion of SMACES from campus by the administration. As BRAVE counselors and educators, sexual violence has always been an issue of great importance to us. Although we are coming forward on this issue, we do not claim to speak for all of BRAVE.

The administration decision to withdraw funding from SMACES because they allegedly condone violence obviously shocked us. This is an embarrassing oversimplification of the issue, especially considering the abundance of educational programs and materials provided by both SMACES and BRAVE on this topic.

Sexual violence and SM are fundamentally different. The fundamental difference is *consent*. It is also understanding and intent. Sexual assault takes place when one person takes power from another by acting out violence sexually. In marked contrast, an SM scenario involves people coming together to create an experience in which issues of power and control are consciously manipulated in a safe, consensual environment. The administration, in its letter to Joan and Liam, refers to the activities "promoted" by SMACES as "inherently dangerous" and uses the argument that because they denied funding to the skydiving club, they should likewise revoke SMACES' club status. Yet Bard sports have not been criticized for the "potential for serious risk of personal harm" which they pose.

Regarding issues of consent, we believe that SMACES have made themselves invaluable to

the Bard community by providing a forum in which to discuss issues of communication and negotiation in sexual relationships. They have brought in speakers, they have chaired panels, they have published educational brochures. Specifically, last semester BRAVE and SMACES presented a panel discussion about SM, consent, negotiation and communication. Having read all of SMACES' published material and having attended many of their educational programs, we have always found their advice to be responsible, sensitive and health-oriented. We have never found any act described or advised that is "inherently dangerous."

If the Bard administration is truly motivated to create a violence-free campus, we believe there are a number of alternative and effective options to expelling SMACES from campus and revoking their funding. Possibilities include expanding educational programs, expanding counselling services (particularly for perpetrators of violence), hiring a full-time program director for BRAVE, and increasing funding for BRAVE. Generally speaking, proactive education is the most effective tool.

Respectfully,  
Anna Boroughs  
Shawn Milburn  
Angela M. Snyder  
Benjamin James Schwabe  
Arianne Jimeney  
Tess Mayer  
Phoebe McDowell  
Stacey Meadow  
Carey A. Griffin

## Private party

Dear Editor:

Last Friday visitors to the basement of the Old Gym were greeted with signs announcing that a "PRIVATE PARTY" was in progress in the pool room. Perhaps there is a valid reason that a formerly common area was rented out (presumably for money) with the consent of the powers, but I cannot help thinking how such actions sound remarkably similar to something that is known in other schools as a "fraternity."

If this trend keeps up, it is likely that there would soon be "open" and "closed" parties (com-

plete with validated invitations; as is common at many schools) so as to be discriminatory and exclusive to all but a chosen few.

Without placing blame on an individual or a group, I ask if this is really the "diverse" and accepting Bard that I read about in the literature (and presumably attracted many of us to Bard?) Or is diversity now found in exclusivity?

Sincerely,  
David Case

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

## Two dollars...

*This letter was addressed to Associate Dean of Students Jefferson Huang on December 11, 1994, and is being published at the request of the author.*

Dear Jeff,

This semester I was fortunate enough to find off-campus housing, but on those occasions that I find myself in Kline, I always make a point to see what alternative activities you have planned for the weekend. Although I don't attend, I enjoy reading about your "Velcro Olympics" and your "Non-Violent Boxing." I was, however, displeased and offended by your last card which I found to be mean spirited in content and a petty way of promoting your own weekend activities.

I agree with you when you say two dollars is not much money, but I don't see how it is your place to tell me how I should spend my money.

I rely heavily on financial aid to stay at Bard and I work quite a few hours a week at my work-study job to help offset the still exorbitant price of being here. When I receive my paycheck it is mine to spend as I see fit. If I choose to spend two dollars to get into a party to dance and listen to music, then that is my decision to make, not yours. And though my financial aid package was generous, I was still forced to move off campus. I like living off campus and I would not want to move back on for anything. It is with these feelings that I take offense to your question, "Why put your half-hour into the pocket of someone who doesn't even live on campus?!"

Besides offending me personally, I find the whole paragraph to be malicious, mainly for two reasons. One, I feel you are personally attacking certain individuals who have thrown parties in the past and live off campus. Two, by saying "someone who doesn't even live on campus?!" Make them earn it another way!" is a devious attempt to somehow divide the campus (I don't know for what purposes) using off campus residence as a wedge to do so.

I don't see how throwing a party is an invalid way to earn money (and apparently you don't either since you insist they "earn it another way!".)

Keep in mind that your weekend alternatives are just that,

alternatives. And in order for them to remain so other events must exist.

As Liam Tumulty pointed out in his letter to the editor, appearing in the December 7th issue of the *Observer*, throwing a party is hard work and involves risks. To order that students do not charge admission is to effectively deny them the opportunity to host these parties. And by saying that Dean of Students Office will reimburse party throwers is not an acceptable alternative. Selectivity, I'm sure will become a factor in their reimbursement policy. Since Wood Dining Service has a monopoly on our food service and Barnes and Noble has a monopoly on the bookstore, I do not want to see the administration have a monopoly on our weekend entertainment.

I must also point out that though your activities are varied, they only interest a small minority of student body. You yourself seem to recognize this since your activity cards are noticeably absent from the Paranoids.

If your Natural High events are truly that engaging and entertaining then there will be no need to sabotage other weekend activities.

Although I'd like to address more issues pertaining to recent and unilateral changes in policy, end of the semester pressures prevent me from doing so in this letter. However, I would not pass up the opportunity to discuss this matter in person.

Sincerely,  
Wendy Grunseich  
Member of Coalition for Choice

*Editor's note: The following is the relevant text of the card cited by Wendy Grunseich.*

### TWO BUCKS? NEVER!

All the Friday and Saturday night events advertised on these cards are free. Totally free. Many even give away free food and soda.

While two bucks isn't a lot of money, it takes a half-hour of a campus job to earn it. Why put your half-hour (and hundreds of others students' half-hours) into the pocket of someone who doesn't even live on campus?!

Make them earn it another way!  
*Associate Dean Huang declined to have his response to the above letter printed, urging readers to look at Dean Morgan and Gilbert Afonso's letter above.*

## Party politics

Dear Editors:

We want to clarify the College's and the Student Life Committee's position regarding admission charges to campus parties. To review, in respect to the actual law in the state of New York, it is illegal to charge for alcohol without purchasing an alcohol permit. Thus the College has in the past asked the hosts to show alcohol receipts prior to registering a party in order to insure that charging directly for alcohol will not happen. The alcohol policy at such events was not in question. With this in mind we come to the problem which was addressed at a meeting last semester of the Student Life Committee with the Dean of Students Shelley Morgan and Associate Dean of Students Jeff Huang. Members informed the deans that some party hosts are charging not only to recoup the cash laid out for alcohol but also as a method of pocketing the profits. Again it was not the issue of alcohol at an event that bothered the Student Life Committee or the Deans but the issue of money for

entry to an event and profits, specifically who had to pay and why. This issue was of concern not only for the simple fact of fairness but also of justification. In other words, why did hosts, specifically club hosts that have already received funding, require payment to attend a function already supported by the very same students who wished to attend.

This issue was brought to the Student Life Committee initially because students were frustrated by the current practices. Once the Student Life Committee informed the Deans and asked for assistance the response was, we believe, one that supports the student concerns. The Student Life Committee worked with the Deans in establishing the new guidelines regarding this issue. Liam Tumulty's letter in the last issue of the *Bard Observer* left little chance to respond. Liam had in fact discussed with each of us and it was made clear to him that the Student Life Committee and the Forum would look closely at this issue in the Spring and make alternative reso-

lutions that would take into account the whole student body. Perhaps his well timed letter was a noble response for his concern for the welfare of the student body, or perhaps it was an outcome of fear of lost profits.

In summary, the only criteria for social events is that hosts cannot charge explicitly for alcohol. With this in mind, the issue of how to handle the alcohol policy in reference to social events is an issue not in the hands exclusively of the Student Life Committee, the Central Committee, or the Administration but is in fact an issue that will be discussed among the whole student body. As such, a forum will be held where everyone has a chance to voice their opinions. The Student Life Committee and the Dean of Students office encourages all of you to take part both in the discussion and the resolution.

Shelley Morgan  
Dean of Students  
Gilbert Afonso  
Chair, Student Life Committee

## Save the SMACES

To the editor:

I have recently been informed that SMACES has been prohibited by the administration from meeting on campus, acquiring funding, or sponsoring campus events. The rationale that I have heard for this action is that the club "encourages violence" and "promotes activities that are inherently dangerous."

Have any of the deans ever been to an SMACES meeting? Have they ever attended any of the discussion or guest speakers that SMACES has sponsored? Not that I know of. This explains the obvious ignorance, uninformed prejudice, and lack of understanding that has led to the administration's decision.

SMACES has been one of the most active, community-oriented clubs on campus, and its influence upon this campus has been very positive. The administration claims that the club encourages violence, but nothing could be further from the truth. From what I have seen of the club's activities (which is surely more than any administrator has observed) the primary focus of SMACES is communication, consent and safety—in situations that involve S/M and those that do not. SMACES actively discourages any act that is not consensual, in which

this consent is not clearly communicated and which is in any way unsafe or dangerous to anyone involved. SMACES has done an excellent job of addressing these issues on campus, more so than almost any other club.

SMACES has been a primary source of valuable education to the community, providing information and addressing concerns that are extremely important to the student body. They are a very unique group, as we all know, and we are lucky to have them on this campus. We have clubs here at Bard whose sole purpose for existence is to throw keg parties, and

the administration has chosen to expel one of the most significant student organizations that we have. It is clear that the administration's reasoning behind the action is, at best, flimsy and misinformed. Perhaps if those who are most disturbed by SMACES and the sado-masochistic activities that they bring into view for education and communication actually took notice of the club's purposes—instead of looking the other way—they would have a better understanding of the value of this group to the Bard Community.

Amanda Katherine Gott

## 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 be evaluated on a case-by-case basis for publication—but we prefer them to be signed.

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.

# BARD CALENDAR

Brought to you by the Dean of Student's Office

February 15 to February 22, 1995

## TRANSPORTATION

**Jitney Schedule:** the Jitney runs Monday through Friday and makes stops at the following places and times:

Robins: 8:30a, 8:50a, 9:10a, 9:30a, 9:50a, 10:10a, 12:00p, 12:20p, 12:40p, 1:00p, 1:20p, 1:40p, 4:00p, 4:20p, 4:40p, 5:00p, 5:20p, 5:40p.

Tewksbury: 8:42a, 9:02a, 9:22a, 9:42a, 10:02a, 10:22a, 12:12p, 12:32p, 12:52p, 1:12p, 1:32p, 1:52p, 4:12p, 4:32p, 4:52p, 5:12p, 5:32p, 5:52p.

**Tuesday:** Van to the Lyceum in Red Hook, 6:30p - 10p.

**Wednesday:** Shop 'n Save Run, 6p - 9p.

**Friday:** Vans to Rhinecliff Station at 4:20p (4:53 train), 6:00p (6:31 train) and 7:20p (7:51 train). Vans to Poughkeepsie Station at 5:30p (6:19 train), 7:45p (8:35 train) and 10p (10:45 train).

**Saturday:** van to AA Red Hook, van leaves at 6:15p from Security. Shuttle to Tivoli, Red Hook, Rhinecliff and Rhinebeck, 10a - 2p. Hudson Valley Mall Trip at 5:30p

**Sunday:** meet at 9:15a to go to various churches in Red Hook, Rhinecliff and Rhinebeck (St Johns, St. Chris and St. Paul). Pick ups at Rhinecliff Station for trains arriving at 6:15p and 8:02p and 10:12p. Pick ups at Poughkeepsie Station for trains at 6:45p, 8:45p and 10:45p.

Meet all vans behind Kline

Wednesday Feb. 15	Thursday Feb. 16	Friday Feb. 17	Saturday Feb. 18	Sunday Feb. 19	Monday Feb. 20	Tuesday Feb. 21
<p><b>German Table.</b> Join us for some conversation. All are welcome to attend! Kline Commons Committee Rooms, 6p - 7p.</p>	<p><b>Russian Discussion</b> or <i>Rysski Stol</i>. All are welcome to come from 5p 'till ???, Kline Commons Committee Rooms.</p> <p><b>Reality Bites.</b> Film and discussion about contemporary relationships. Olin 202, 7p - 9p.</p> <p><b>Benvenuti alla Tavola Italiana.</b> Kline President's Room, 5-6p. Join us for Italian conversation from 6-7p. All welcome! Olin 202, 7p - 9p.</p> <p><b>Tea &amp; Taxes '95.</b> Need help with your taxes? Questions about filling out the right forms? Confused in general? Come meet with Gerald Kelly, Director of Financial Aid, and ask all your questions. Olin 102, 7p.</p> <p><b>Continuing Yoga.</b> Eight session course for students with prior experience. The course fee is \$25. Olin 204, 6p - 7:30p.</p>	<p><b>Bard Opinion Table.</b> Allen Josey and Rich Keley, Resident Directors will be available, along with a member of the Student Life Committee. Kline Commons, 12p.</p> <p><b>Jewish Students' Organization</b> meeting. Kabbalat Shabat: wind down after your hectic week. <b>Olin Moon Room</b>, 7:30p.</p>	<p><b>Psychoanalysts discuss "Lacan and Desire".</b> Author and psychoanalyst Stuart Schneiderman, of SUNY Buffalo will give a lecture today at 2p in Olin 102.</p>			<p><b>Introductory Yoga.</b> Second session of an eight week course taught by Ben Vromen. Olin 204, 6p to 7:30p.</p>

### ATTENTION CLUB HEADS, FACULTY MEMBERS, 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.

IT'S SIMPLE, AND IT'S FREE!

### 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.