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“News is whatever sells newspapers; the Observer is free.”

The Bard Observer

Hospital Merger Opponents Speak To Community

Save Our Services representatives address impact on women’s healthcare

By MICHAEL HAGGERTY, Staff Writer

Gail Wolfe, Merttie Dempster, and Barbara Harrison, the founding members of Save Our Services, spoke to Bard students in Olin on Thursday evening, October 9. The purpose of their visit was to raise awareness at Bard of the hospital merger taking place between North Dutchess, Kingston, and Benedictine hospitals. The merger has recently caused controversy among the citizens of the mid-Hudson Valley because certain terms of the agreement threaten to impose serious setbacks in women’s healthcare. Because Benedictine is affiliated with the Catholic church, North Dutchess and Kingston, both community hospitals, would be subject to Benedictine’s regulations.

According to Wolfe, the merger has essentially become a female issue for three reasons: it is “another way we have to fight for control over our own bodies, the people making the decisions (about the merger) are men,” and “all women’s healthcare has been lumped into obstetrics.” Many students voiced their own concerns over the merger, especially in view of the Tivoli Bays rape this summer. Most concurred that the terms under the merger were unreasonable and that the hospitals should explore other options. Those students will be happy to know that Bard’s president also shares their concerns.

President Beinecke recently disclosed to the Observer a letter addressed to Michael Mazzarella, CEO of Northern Dutchess. Dated June 3, 1997, the letter states that the restrictions on reproductive health care, “if they are imposed, constitute a breach of the proper division in a secular democracy between church and state.” The letter proceeds to state that it is the responsibility of the college to assure that necessary medical services are available to students, and then appeals to Beinecke to find a way around imposing religious restrictions on medical care. Beinecke also informed Mazzarella in the letter that “if a satisfactory resolution of this matter is not provided, the college will have no recourse but to consider actions it can take to ensure the provision of the proper separation of church and state in the provision of medical care.” No response was ever received from Mazzarella.

Alan DeForest, president of CrossRiver Healthcare, which represents both North Dutchess and Kingston, said that he “absolutely believes in the separation of church and state” and that “the directive is not a good idea.” Yes, their situation is complicated because Cardinal O’Connor, who has ultimate jurisdiction over Catholic hospitals in New York State, is the most conservative archbishop in the country. “What is possible in the other places is just not possible here,” DeForest said.

As the discussion on Thursday, Wolfe commented, “Our hospitals are selling us as there are no other ways (around the religious issue).” However, DeForest said that the hospitals have explored alternatives. Six years ago, Kingston and Benedictine entered into a joint venture

Dario Fo, Political Satirist and “Jester,” Awarded Nobel Prize in Literature

by MEREDITH SCHAEF, Contributor

On October 9, 1997, Italian playwright and performer Dario Fo was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature for his comic and satirical body of works which have repeatedly fired upon religious, social and political institutions for over three decades. His selection has must have stirred up the world of the arts, especially in Italy and Europe, where he is a well known and controversial artist. Fo’s students and colleagues in the Italian Studies program here at Bard have also expressed surprise and satisfaction over Fo’s selection. Though it brings notice and attention to Italian culture and literature, for which they are pleased, Fo’s obscurity makes him a problematic choice for a figure who inevitably represents a country, its literature, and its sensibilities. There were many other conceivable candidates from Italy, yet it was Fo, whose works’ political content is often indefinable to audiences unfamiliar with Italian politics and culture, who has become internationally recognized.

His critical and subversive attitudes toward the Roman Catholic Church, prevalent in such plays as “The Pope and the Witch” (1980), in which the Pope, during a news conference, confuses a children’s gathering in Peter Square with an abortion rights rally, are no doubt what has brought about the guards’ amazement of Italy’s literary establishment and the overnight dismay of the Vatican” at Fo being the recipient of the distinguished prize. (New York Times, Oct. 9, 1997)

Fo’s plays and one-man performances involve such elements as Grammola, a double-talk language which Fo invented, and a humor and wit likened to that of the traveling players of the Middle ages. His best known play, “Accidental Death of an Anarchist” (1970), was very successful in Italy and England, though it failed on

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Hey Yoo Guys... In-Chief

By MEREDITH YVANOS, Co-Editor-In-Chief

Meredithe was writing for us during the fall semester. She was able to get some of her work published. Here's what she wrote.

Dear Reader,

I hope you have been enjoying the fall semester so far. As the leaves change color and the temperature drops, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the past few months and look ahead to what’s to come.

First, I want to express my gratitude to all of the dedicated contributors who have worked tirelessly to bring you high-quality content. Whether you’re a regular reader or just starting to explore our page, I hope you find something that resonates with you.

Second, I want to acknowledge the challenges we’ve faced this year. The pandemic has disrupted our lives in countless ways, and it’s been important for us to adapt and continue to produce engaging content. We’ve worked hard to maintain our standards of excellence, and I’m proud of the work we’ve accomplished so far.

Now, let’s talk about what’s coming up. We have some exciting new features and content in the works, including interviews with notable figures and in-depth analysis of current events. We’re also looking to expand our coverage of local and national politics, arts, and culture, and we’ll be introducing a new section on technology and innovation.

Lastly, I want to remind you to stay engaged and stay tuned. We value your feedback and encourage you to participate in the conversation. Whether you have a question, a comment, or an idea, please don’t hesitate to reach out to us.

Thank you for your support and for keeping us in your thoughts. We look forward to serving you in the future.

Sincerely,

Meredithe Yvanos
Co-Editor-In-Chief

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Italian Fo nabs Nobel Prize...

Continued from Page One

The Nobel Prize in Economics today was awarded to Professor Mario Blejer of the University of Bergen, Norway, for his work on microeconomics.

Professor Blejer has been a leading figure in the field of microeconomics, and his research has focused on the role of money in the economy. His work has been influential in shaping the understanding of monetary policy and its impact on economic growth.

"Professor Blejer has made significant contributions to the understanding of monetary policy and its impact on economic growth," said the Nobel Committee. "His work has been influential in shaping the thinking of policymakers around the world."
Just Desserts
At Rhinebeck's Quaint Calico

By STEPHANIE SCHNEIDER, Arts & Entertainment Editor

I must admit, in writing this review, I cheated. Walking outside for a table, I read a review of Calico Restaurant and Patisserie in The Poughkeepsie Journal.

I was excited; the review seemed to be nothing but praise. "I must have picked a winner," I thought. But then I came across the faceless words...

"The owners tried to model Calico after a European café." Eek! I've heard those words before. I thought back to a restaurant in my past that tried to follow the same premise. Of this particular restaurant in my hometown, I remember that there were lights turned off and not even a hundred candles could be sufficient. That place was scary; the bread they served wasn't baked all the way and I practically choked to death trying to swallow whole pieces of dough. I ordered a cappuccino that seemed like nothing more than an over-priced beverage.

It is clear that my associations with a pseudo-European cafe aren't all that promising as I stood outside Calico, praying that this would be different. I was hoping my prejudices would be proven wrong.

The fine sign of relief was the fact that at least Calico was well lit. The place had a bright and cheery atmosphere with its black and white checkered floor and blue and white interior. It appeared a bit retro and was slightly exclusive because the place was pretty darn small. I believe there were only four or five tables in the dining room. It was crowded as well, with a waiting line extending outside the door.

I sat at my table, still a bit nervous about what was to come and repeated to myself, "Calico will be better. Calico will be better..."

The waiters came to our table and helped ease my troubles. Service was efficient and the waitstaff friendly, although seemingly a bit frazzled (understandable, given the restaurant's busiest time of day).

They didn't have a regular menu, only a tiny chalkboard that the waiters brought around to each table. I chose the angel hair with shrimp and scallops served over an herbed garlic broth. The dish was obviously made with prime ingredients but lacked a little in flavor. I tried the quiche and smoked salmon served on toast with asparagus. Both were definitely more flavorful but nothing really to write home about.

It was good, but for the price I wondered whether it was worth it.

What I recommend is to perhaps skip the meal at Calico and go straight for desserts. In the back of the restaurant is a display case filled with fruit-topped tarts, awe-inspiring cakes, pies and many others. I chose the chocolate mousse that comes close to being dream food. This is the dessert you've thought about having, but no one ever made. The chocolate mousse, a creamy custard with a caramelized sugar layer on top, was served warm. The juxtaposition of the crisp outer layer and velvet insides seemed like culinary genius to me. If you would like, any of these desserts can be boxed to go or I recommend staying to have a cup of coffee and enjoying the restaurant’s ambiance. Personal review in Europe or somewhere.

Calico is located in Rhinebeck on Route 9, next to the Wine and Liquor store. Prepare to spend between nine and twelve dollars for a meal. The recommendations on desserts run in the range of three to five dollars. Calico is open everyday except Monday and Tuesday.

You Go Grirl: Zine Library Runs Riot in Root Cellar

BY ELISSA NELSON & LAUREN MARTIN, Contributors

Many of you are aware that there is a subversive zine library right here on Bard campus. Secretly underground - in the Root Cellar (aka, the Bard Community Co-op) located in the basement of the Old Gym. Anyone who wants to can go there and he be as punk rock - or vegan chocolate and read mires while listening to those crazy skaters crashing around over your head. Depending on what working maybe they'll let you put in a tape from the Root Cellar's vast collection of cutting-edge music - just jet, baby 'Led Zeppelin'. Or you could bring your own music.

We are here, in our official capacity as co-founders and (mainly) overworked censors of the zine library, to tell you about some of the zines that make our library worthwhile. In our experience, zines come in a sort of the most fantastic, thoughtful, politically aware writing you might, on sub- jects that are not discussed enough in the mainstream press or in academia, partly because the people writing for zines do not play to mainstream or academic culture. Also, zines can be really funny and strange and entertaining. We're going to use this space to review some of the zines we like the best, and the idea is that you will read our reviews and then you'll go to the zine library and read them!

If all goes according to plan, this will be a regular column, and you all are welcome to help out - write something about a zine you really like, or about a specific piece you read that made an impression on you. Top ten lists are good, too. On top five lists, or top three. Just give us a hand. Here's your library too, you can leave comments or suggestions in the comment book in the zine library, or you can campus mail us or e-mail Illinois above it (fort97). Also, if there are some zines you want to see in the zine library, let us know, and we will buy them - we have a budget, and that's what it is for.

Okay, enough. Here are some stairs we like.

Spotlight on KRISTY CHAN:

There are many people out there who are total zine stars, and the Clan is one of them. Kristy started doing a zine called Wild Honey Pie when she was 12 or 13 and you can find this issue, No. 10, has some great things in it, including a well-researched article on alternative abortion methods, no less. My favorite piece about having half Chinese and half white ("Check one only") is called Red Peking Duck. This is a humorous and satirical piece about the dichotomy she feels as an American race, aliens has had on her, and a rad, brilly, brilli- liant interview with Mark Robinson, who runs TeenTeen Records, was in the band Uzette and now is in Old Art Miami and Grenadine. Kristy's, "The Lady's new time, which is a story of kids in NYC where Wild Honey Pie, the all girl, is called Teen and Venus, and is bitter and queen, focusing on personal identity - race, gender, sexuality and all that stuff. My favorite piece is about bipedalism and lack of tolerance in the gay community, especially the lack of support for kids exploiting their sexuality, or who are just not able to fit in. Kristy's work is a unifying and lack of support of expecting people to "prove" how queer they are. Yes, read it yourself. Kristy also has a couple of short poems, "Red Peck Duck", which is a bunch of girl-made and girl-powered zines and projects, and Alien Dinosaur, which is still in the works. She also has own tart, I proudly carry my membership card in my wallet. Laureen is a member too.

CAUGHT IN FLEX PLOX

If you rock in your teens, CLI is your bible (hah). Mike Applegate has got read me connection - 1000 bassoon lots of interviews, including ones with such star as Biz, Lauren MacFarlane, and the I-Me-Live (aka, Lemonie's Music Star Secret Intimate). There are also lots of music and dance reviews, as well as television and ad pen pal letters. Mike released after posing an old "in the bedroom magazine. "D.Weird" Michael: How are you doing? I am just panic. I am so excited. Tomorrow is the day of my big..." LM.

PEARL-TONGUE 6

Beautiful, intelligent writing from a girl who knows what she's talking about. One of my favorite things - a zine about the environment, "where the hell are we?" This old magazine is a mish-mash of comics, small and simple joy, love for Elliott Smith, mixtape, zine reviews and fic - tion. Lovely.

KIR-BLOOM 4

This is a small zine, created by a person of unspecified age and gender, that is hand-printed and printed using a letterpress. Very old-school. Right now the zine library has three times, which care consists of an essay on one specific topic. For the first issue I saw, which is still my favorite, is 44, in which the author explains why she desires to produce this zine using such archaic technology. The ar- tist, very well articulated and backed up by the beauty of the final product, addresses the total irrelevance of form and function in zines as a medium and relates times historically to other forms of political propaganda. I think this is an essential point for zine editors and readers to think about. The other two maps are very thoughtful and well-written, and they focus on the author's experience as a reading and title show about a book written about graffiti in an "art form and socio- political phenomena," which turned into a debate about art, the establishment, and the virtuosity and drawkinds of a self-referential scene. As the author puts it, it is "a socio-political critique of my house, making it into a metaphor so I can gravitate generally in its applications to the Symon-ar- Large." I think this is one of the most thoughtful zines around, and even more the issue is a visual, textual and pleasurable. It's funny to see how, towards the end, the author's word choice is affected by his/her dwindling number of letters to choose from.

E.N.

That's it for zine reviews this week! Please come by and check out the zine library for yourself.

Join the Break Beat Dancers

WITH RAY BOOGIE PERFORMING HITS

Live DJ • Salute •ache • hora • Rapper • I Spy-I Spy • Techno - Dance

Old Gym, November 1, 9 p.m. — 2 a.m.

$3 with Bard ID. $4 w/o. Sponsored by LASO
Post-Post Björk Album Release is “Oh So Quiet”

By MEREDITH YANANOS, Editor-in-chief

Björk, that oldfashioned Icelandic enigma, has done it again, and it is wonderful and good! Too bad we can never be too sure of what exactly “it” is. Her 31-year-old has never stayed in one place for very long, requiring inscrutability under the generalizations employed by critics who would attempt to keep her busy, or worse yet, her personality, in check.

It should surprise no one that Björk has latest offering, Homogenic, is just as daring a transgression from pop-chart normality as her two previous albums and almost as splendiferous. But the songs sometimes get too ineffable for their own good: where the quietly horn

Listeners expecting more of the over-the-top, in-your-face fulminations found on her ’95 powerhouse album, Post, may have trouble getting comfortable with this quieter, though by no means gentler, Björk.

section, the straightforward come-up-squealing, those whispered conspiratorial aided which the musician has used in the past to grab her audience by the ear! Listeners expecting more of the over-the-top, in-your-face fulminations found on her ’95 powerhouse album, Post, may have trouble getting comfortable with this quieter, though by no means gentler, Björk.

For less collaborative in scope than Post and her ’93 LP, Debut, most of the tracks on Homogenic seem to have been written in a warm, mistyworld world inhabited solely by her. Coy minimalist lyrics invite the world-wary to join her: “Ask Call,” she says, “the love room you give me, the more space I see go!” and on “All Noon Like,” she sings with Sugarcube sweetness, “the cutes around you’re embracing all you can.burst-focus style.” Drum and keyboard pro-

gramming remains quiet and lias. Excluding the song “Bucharest,” with its swelling orchestral arrangement, and the blueay “Plate”, which booms howling vocals and crumby techno beats, Björk has mellowed out considerably since recording “Hyperballad” and “I’m Oh So Quiet.”

Her vocal chords are still versatile; the album is peppered with trademark pulsats and grooves, and nothing seems tired or boring about her lyrics, but there’s no doubt that Homogenic is a small and improved sibling of Debut and Post. It reflects the inclinations of an artist who, having already blown everybody else’s minds, now seems satisfied recreating herself in every

L.A. Confidential Entertains But is the Cost too Great?

By NATE SCHWARTZ, Design Editor

Robert orange trees, blood-splattered corpses, an angular whore and a gargoyle of ironfound megal— which are the ingredients Curtis Hanson molts into a crucible of anachronism in his recently released film L.A. Confidential, a detective story set in closed rows, 1953. A distillation of a James Ellroy novel, the film plants a sapphire in as narrative bulb which sprout a greedily ripe of theory tendrils which mimetic three of the best copper the fast has in offer. Ed Exley (Guy Pearce), Bud White (Russell Crowe) and Jack Vincennes (Kevin Spacey). Kim Bashier joins the foldage as Arizonian Bette Lynn Brackett, a cherity woman of the night; Danny DeVito muddles his way into the illicit as tabloid emirlicing Sid Hudgens.

The centerpiece killing is pinned on three “col-
ored boys” with criminal records who escape incarcer-

ation only to be grasped by Exley in a furiously dispensation of backhander. White Exley needs singly in his seeming success, White goes cannun-

kerously shifting around the periphery. Extracting information by drudging an informant’s veniles, and smashing the faces of hooded and respected politicians alike, White mates out contemplates duplicitous like a high-speed auto collisionist (Exley, Brackett and Hudgens all take a beating). Meanwhile Vincennes, consultant to a Hollywood copshow and regular servant of kick-backs, has an epithet only to be gotten down. Ultimately, Exley and White uncover a corruptive malignancy goons deep in the core of the department. They vow to cut it out, that inspiring a cop-war. The two mustards are lured to an abandoned motel where, attacked from all sides, they are a part of the Twister of a Medi-Dark-like carnival of carnage replace with plasma-baths and celular death-grunts.

Commissions of Raymond Chandler and the mutter shimmer and cumbersome pulse of film noir will likely experience resolution at Hanson’s handling of the material. After years of experience in commercial filmmaking (he directed Red Termas, The Hand That Rocks the Cradle, and The River Wild) his sense of cinematography is commercially sophisticated, his artistic integrity long compromised. Nonetheless, he and his writing partner labored through seven drafts of the script over a year’s course to create a consist-

ent, compressed axion.

All this may recall Lee Tamahori’s recent The Island (a similar low-budget cop.kick-up thriller) which tried in dazardous to aspirate scene gold from the polluted soil of the Angels and failed for the same reasons that Hanson’s film succeeds; it lacked consistency, the performances were not of uniform quality, the editing was vacillating.

Yet why will The Big Sleep and Chinatown continue to remain at the scence of the genre while Hanson and Tamahori’s work will likely shelf into the realm of the commercial forgettable?

One reason is that, in the case of Hanson’s film, the filmmaker apparently doesn’t have enough confidence in the quality of the writing, acting and cinematography to dispense with the fashion-

able. For instance, one is surprised by the kick-

box-out sound effects which accompany the various brawls—Sly Stallone and Arnold need these power-fantasy exaggerations, but a authentic, original film that believes in itself does not. The same is the case with gratuitous violence which serves no narrative purpose, but is mainly utilized as criminole spectaculars.

Another reason there is a disparity in quality of commitment to thoughtfulness in questions of accuracy. Hanson is comfortable omitting from the film the standard fictions which might, as he puts it in a recent Menlovia interview, prompt the audi-

ence to interpret the film as actually taking place in 1955: “Detective, a lot of them did wear hats in 1953. I have them now wearing hats because it would remind you.” If such a historical fact can be selectively deleted, how can one respond to the treatment of women in the film who are portrayed as either prostitutes, cave victims or scorpions.

The film might sacrifice contemptuously if it were to revise its treatment of “dames” as drastically as it revised its approach to heroism; it might also have been more than an entertainment.

The film never claims rights as a historically accurate period film; nevertheless, the consider-

ations refer to commerce are highly relevant in ana-

lyzing the work.

Period film, much like the historical novel, challenges filmmakers to painstakingly uncover an extinct cultural moment: a dense locus of infor-

mation which, beginning as multiple and diffuse, has largely condoned and discredite. What remains is often misleading and requires intense investiga-

tion if one is to side-step gross anachronisms and distortions.

Unfortunately, the interests of commercial film are in many cases such that study is minimal (enough to plaster up a few holes and maintain the shine of verisimilitude) and in the most insidi-

ous instance, history is used as a sort of appearance of images whose context is discarded to produce something vendible. The end is not educa-

tion or revealing something of cultural history; it is the assembly of the super-real pallidum, a jumble of biography, a temporary forgetting, a cheap seduction.

L.A. Confidential is a sort of framehouse mirror, at film entertaining and then disturbing, which reveals a great deal more about what ells in 1997 than what once was in 1953 Hollywood.

How’s the cheese, Herbert?

I came home and one of my laups was broken. Herbert says it was the cat’s dead.

Written by Diane Oboler. Drawn by Soja Wilson. Decontextualized by Herbert.
Upcoming Events

Oct. 25, Monday
Model UN Meeting
Elaine Conference Room, 5:30 p.m.

Oct. 27, Tuesday
Exhibition Service. With the Reverend Fr.
Magdalen. Bard Chapel. 12-12:30 p.m.
LASSO Meeting
Elaine Conference Room, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Oct. 30, Thursday
Art Opening: "Eating the Tiger: The Middle Kingdom on the Eve of the Chine-Jung Summit," by
Dr. John Chao, on his discussions
with Chinese political/business leaders in
Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Macau and
Taiwan. Old 102, 7 p.m.
R.B.S.O. Meeting
Old Music Room, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Oct. 31, Friday
Oct. 31st Dance
Dene Levine, 10:00 p.m.

11th Annual Arts & Entertainment Hormone Wardrobe... Students packed to maximum capacity to fill up the room.

The Legendary
Band Max Dube
Crosses the Street

By JEREMY DILLAHUNT, Sports Editor

A new chapter has begun in the ever-present conflict between towns-

ning and college kids. Frank Guido, owner of the popular-but-unfre-
quented-by-Bard-students Martin's Harbor Inn Restaurant, opened
the doors last week and gave Bard students another option in their
search for entertainment. The Bar band Max Dube signed a multi-

plicity deal reportedly worth an estimated $300 and a limited num-

ber of discounted beverages.

Approximately two-hundred students packed the largest dining
room of the restaurant in their show of support for the local boys
and girls doing good. They grooved down and ran the standard to standards
like the Jackson Five's "ABC" as well as other original material. At
the first separation of locals and Bardians could be discerned by sim-
ply walking from the bar to the room where the band was playing.
The two groups were slightly wary of each other until everyone got
drunk. Then, after the appropriate amount of social lubrication, it be
came more difficult to distinguish the geographic boundaries
between locals and students. On the dance floor isolated pockets of
hipsters decimated into a thriving homogenized mass shuffling its
foot and pursing the original goal of the evening: having fun.

When the Dube, first bandleader some of the band got together
with Mr. Guido to secure the gig deal. Max Dube will reportedly play
every other Thursday in October and then start a weekly Thursday gig in November. Mr. Guido was all smiles and
handy band-pumping as he congratulated the band on the tour-out.
"I didn't put up any signs or anything, I was expecting Blu fifty peo-
ple. But this, it is great." Mr. Guido said during the band's break.

When the Dube, named after Bard security guard Max Dube,
removed from their break it was no boos, hollers, and shows from a
completely integrated audience. For the next hour and a half the
division separating townie from student and student from townie was
erased as both groups figuratively answered Rodney King's immortal
appeal: "Can't we all just get along?"

Admission to the Dube spectacular was three dollars (which
included a complimentary beverage); this fee is subject to change at
a later date. At the upcoming shows the doors will open at 6 p.m. for
your hardcores; the Dube lights it up at 10:30 p.m.

Earn Extra Income for '97
Earn $500-$1000 weekly stuffing envelopes
details RUSH $1.00 with SASE to:
GROUP FIVE
6547 N. Academy Blvd. Dept. H
Colorado Springs, Co. 80918
The tradition continues...

D.R.

A Short Guide to cheap make-up, tasteless fashion, and fake eyelashes

Preparations

Recova Pharmacy, Red Hook.
Cheap make-up including a large selection of Wet n Wild. Fine selection of fake nails, hair gel and spray.

Super K Mart, Kingston.
All of the above including a lingerie and boohoy department.

Walgreens, Kingston.
One of the only stores currently selling fake eyelashes. Located in Kingston Plaza, near Amtrak.

The Hudson Valley Mall, Kingston.
For cheap, trendy dresses and accessories, "Deb" and "Rave" have cornered the market.

Visit the bazaar areas for colored fake eyelashes and pancake makeup.

By ABIGAIL ROSENBERG, Opinion Editor

Get out your mom's old high heels, the 15th annual Drag Race is happening this Saturday night, October 25. In keeping with tradition, the event is happening at Pennant Park.

The Drag Race, known this year as "D.R.5," is the most well-known party of the fall semester and students as well as other people from the area converge on the Old Gym for all-day partying, live DJs, and larger-than-life drag.

Initially founded by the now-defunct V/MACES,

The Drag Race has traditionally been a coming-out party of sorts, a debauchery ball for the fabulous. Consume ranges from the average cross-dressed to celebrity impersonations, to the electrically wired, tailored ensemble. Last year's celebration, "The Drag Race In Spite," featured hundreds of Bard students, tons of Wet n Wild makeup, a shuffling dj, a catwalk, two mens, and the M.C.'s parents. Plans for this year are being kept relatively low-key, but traditions such as catwalk auctions for the queen, king, prince, and princess have been staples of the previous parties. For all of you unfamiliar with the Drag Race, nothing is over-the-top when it comes to dressing for the party. Large wigs, four-inch platform shoes, daisy dukes, and bare boots have been the uniform in the past, except at "The Drag Race in Spite," which turned out to be "more sophisticated, more character-oriented," according to one participant. There were incarcerations of both Por Wic Herman and the Brady Bunch.

Who knows what's in store for "D.R.5?" Will this year's party population be able to top the fashions of last year's queens and kings? Only time and a whole lot of makeup will tell.

Reggae Legend

Cliff Still Smokes in The Harder They Come

By BASIL BOURIS, News Editor

Think ideals of marijuana smoke and the popularisation of native Jamaican culture have made The Harder They Come a cult favorite in the 25 years since the movie's original release. This feature-length story is captivating, so mesmerising that any young reggae writer does not, booties, owe its popularity to any sort of musical precision behind the scenes or anything that even vaguely resembles acting. This is not an attempt to downplay Perry Henzell's directing or reggae legend Jimmy Cliff's acting, for the film's low-budget realisations of Hollywood action and dramatic movie-making techniques ironically allow for a kind of naked ruthlessness on screen.

Although far from a documentary, The Harder They Come does examine some very real cultural issues, which were, and in many ways are, relevant in both Jamaican and American culture. The movie is partly concerned with the Jamaican music industry, whose success depended largely on the acceptance of reggae in the United States and overseas. The industry presents a familiar yet unique place, filled with categorisation and competition, a place where business, religion, and politics converge. The Harder They Come should excite much credit for capturing the most intrinsic side of a movement that is now mainstream.

In some sound difficulties in the original feature, difficulties for which it would appear no modern technology can compensate, the soundtrack is, hands down, the movie's greatest asset. Jimmy Cliff's 1972, "The Harder They Come" is heard at least eight times during the film, and the drift and the Mayals lend their support to the cause and the great Damal, Deh, among others, stashed his way onto the soundtrack as well. The music was the driving force behind the movie 25 years ago, and it is still the music. People sitting in the audience waiting to see the movie today. The Harder They Come is playing this week at Upstate Films, the only place in the movie country currently showing it on the big screen.
The Community is Cordially Invited to The Bertelsmann Campus Center

Ground Breaking
Saturday, October 25, 1997, 11:15 a.m.

Sealing the Campus Center Time Capsule, to be buried beneath the building and reopened on Patents’ Day, 2097.

Capsule Contents:
A list of all donors. (Give a dollar get you immortalized forever!)
A copy of Era of the Brotherhood by Helen and Herbert Bertelsmann
The Senior Project Guidelines
and... other items representative of Bard life.

If you have an idea for an item to be included, or want to get your name on the list of donors to be read in 2097, please contact the Alumni/ae Office via Campus Mail.

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Located in a colorful 19th-century building in Tivoli, this inviting, comfortable bookstore is home to over 25,000 well-priced new, used and out-of-print books. Also, the local spot for weekly chess games. Holdings include Hudson Valley materials, fiction, biography, mystery, poetry, the arts, social and political history, and more.

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Letters to the Editors

Dear Editors,

Congratulations on your obvious success in publishing "The Bard Observer" on a more regular basis. Issue 1, Volume 8, made for much enjoyable and worthwhile reading. This even holds true for Benville's article entitled "Security's Greatest Challenge: The Boot." The boot is a wheeled vehicle immobilizer designed to be affixed to a motor vehicle. The equipment was acquired by Security and so vehicle operators might be held responsible for excessive numbers of outstanding parking tickets.

Bivalent Parish, parking officer, who is seeking re-election in an upcoming city council race, has been appointed to a new position. He says he is "very excited" to begin his new role, which includes managing the parking system and ensuring that parking violations are enforced.

"I am excited about the opportunity to work with the community to make parking in our city more efficient and fair," Parish said. "I believe we can do this by implementing a new parking system that is easy to use and understand." Parish also promises to work with local businesses and residents to ensure that the new system meets their needs.

Parish's appointment comes after a series of parking disputes and violations in the city. Many residents have complained about the number of tickets being issued and the difficulty of finding a legal parking spot.

"We have received numerous complaints from residents about parking issues," Parish said. "I am committed to addressing these concerns and ensuring that our parking system works for everyone in the city." Parish has promised to work with the city council to review the parking code and make changes as needed.

Parish will begin his new role immediately and will work closely with the city's Transportation Department to implement the new parking system.

Seth Gillin

The Nothing at Bard, Witness a New Lifestyle: Simplified, Easy, Boring

STEWART GILLIN and JEN COLASUNZI, Columnists

Life is dead. How many times have you walked across main campus on a Saturday night and seen nobody? How many times have you sat in the dining hall for an hour and not spoken a word? How many times have you gone for a walk and not noticed anything around you?

All of these things are symptoms of a larger problem: the lack of motivation to do anything. The campus is quiet, the students are bored, and the faculty is complacent. It seems like everyone is just going through the motions of college life without really thinking about what they are doing.

The administration has ignoring the problem and does not feel the need to make any changes. They believe that the students are content and that the college is doing just fine. However, this is not the case.

The problem is not just with the students, but also with the faculty. The professors are not engaged and do not care about the students. They are just there to teach and do not really care about the success of their students.

The administration needs to take responsibility for this problem and make changes. They need to create a more engaged and motivated campus community. This will require effort on their part, but it is necessary for the success of the college.

STEWART GILLIN and JEN COLASUNZI, Columnists
prohibits the hospital's R.N.s to provide contraceptives and safer sex counseling to members of the commu-
nity. There are many diseases that are sexually trans-
mittable that can have long lasting and even tragic con-
sequences. AIDS and hepatitis B are examples of two 
sexually transmitted diseases which can be pre-
vented and treated with precautions such as the use of a con-
dom. Hospital R.N.s are professional health edu-
cators; this directive is in conflict with their role as health educators. They should not be allowed to counsel from counseling their patients about the prevention of 
serious diseases.

I am greatly concerned about the future avail-
ability of emergency contraception, also known as the morning after pill. Emergency contraception is a crit-
ical component of the medical treatment of a female rape-victim. I am not at all reassured by the fact that 
Benedictine's rape crisis unit currently dispenses emer-
gency contraception. They circumvent their directives by calling emergency contraception an "abortion inhibition.
"Any knowledgeable healthcare clinician knows that emergency contraception is a short term, high dose prescription of oral contraceptive. The fact that Benedictine Hospital currently chooses to ignore this is no assurance that, in the future, the Catholic bishops could not force them and all of our local 
community hospitals, to adhere to the directive which clearly bans the "promotion of contraceptive practices."

Many women in the mid-Hudson Valley should not be limited by the guidelines of any religious doc-
trine. The choice should not be between for-profit hospitals and the services they provide are protected, while at the same time, allowing the Catholic entities to remain true to their beliefs. I urge the hospital boards to find another solution.

Sincerely,

Mansha Rial Davis, R.N., F.N.P.
Director, Bard College Student Health Service

Dear Editors,

As stated in the guidelines for the SJF in the Student Handbook, The purpose of the SJF is to enforce, protect, and preserve, within the limits if its jurisdiction, the rights of all Bard Students. The SJF has cases involving alleged violations of college social and residential rules, including, but not limited to, violence, theft, property damage, public disturbance, alcohol related offenses, sexual misconduct, harassment, and assault (including sexual harassment and sexual assault).

Many members of the community are unaware of the existence of the Student Judiciary Board, whereas many of those who have heard of it, are unaware of its purpose. These two unfortunate facts make the SJF virtually useless, as its reason for existing is inapparently bound to its protection of community members' rights. It is in canons guarded by the rights of those who know neither of its existence nor purpose. You see, the SJF does not come to you, you come to them.

The Board is made up of representatives of the community, and exists to hear both complaints made by community members (students, faculty, etc.) against students and to hear any cases that fall under its suspiciously wide jurisdiction. In the latter, the board is responsible for discovering whether a student violated any community guidelines, and depending on the decision, assign appropriate sanctions.

If the SJF did not exist, there would be limited (official) recourse for students against students, and even less of a chance for students to receive a fair hearing. The SJF is in a position to protect them by providing a judicially representative of that community (including students, faculty, and administration), and its purpose is not served when its existence, function, and jurisdiction

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The Case File

Reduce, Abuse, Recycle

by David Caten, Columnist

Youth falling fellow intellectuals

The kind of making excuses for not asking your WC what they have done about the rise of peer violence on campus.

We believe that it is important to educate us as you have gone to that Big University you also got in, it has been a busy Reading Week. Now it's back up to the grindstone of play "buzzword bingo" with DSOO and contemplating whether its "sard" notion to work hard full lock. Until the next two months of the Common Application form in the teacher's offices.

One of the most common complaints heard from students is that the Bard is not like the other schools they got into. Unfortunately, although no one can deny that the Bard is the "big" school, many of the things that I say looking for at those "other" colleges can be found in our quiet world. I say "any", this way, one can come, and get the same education that one would have gotten at the other schools while not being harassed by bars, rowdy dorms, and a crowded campus.

I was grateful to learn how many professors will gladly give you those from their "Silicon Valley" peddled to help me take advantage of opportunities that I lost when I started "Degree" on my first acceptance letters from those "other" schools. After the good people at Publications took the time off from partying, snoring webinars, and spoiling with the computer center to move the page which announced that "Choice, Flexibility, and slate are the hallmarks of the Bard education," I was gratified to learn that Bard would give me the opportunity to experience things that I should have done or the other schools.

Indeed, there are "crucibles" present at Bard - thankfully not in the way that the academic "student" intends.

The only required erupt at Bard is the use of "eroding" of "eroding itself," and, unless you read this column, the only constant requirement at Bard is the ability to write. And, as we know, the only constant requirement at Bard is the ability to write. But, for those who have not yet mastered the art of writing, it is imperative that they learn how to express their ideas clearly and effectively.

One of the most important things to write is to learn the "big" word and the "big" idea. And, as we know, the only constant requirement at Bard is the ability to write. But, for those who have not yet mastered the art of writing, it is imperative that they learn how to express their ideas clearly and effectively.

The biggest difference between Bard and other schools whose athletic capabilities make Bard a front-runner, is that at Bard, some of the terminology is different, and the norms of behavior are somewhat different. Indeed, the alleged "universities" of the students to the faculty, the public relations aspect on added value - these are tactics of Bard students who, by virtue of their Public Relations savvy, are driven to intellectual snobbery, despite a lack of resources.

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When writing a research paper, most professors do not appreciate it if you delve into theory that was not supposed to class. Rather than appreciate your hard work, this often makes them nervous, and makes them halluci-

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nlarly, the student who has a good idea to set up a website is going to make you have a website.

Occasionally, you have to differentiate yourself from the gal who the same problems like illnesses or hard

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Work if you really need to actually hard something in especially if you are on financial aid, go ahead and download a paper from http://www.grabpapers.com/. Alternatively, if your career would be complete withoutsubsum ing the same paper at least five or four times. Although not usually buy to be buyers of professors, it does not necessarily have to be written by you. Remember: only write papers written by this author. This paper is essentially about the idea that the rules, the advice given to the students is to be considered great. Even if you are not on student government, it is still pos-

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able to earn valuable brownie points or credits in some of the more common ways such as talk or move more or play on certain teams. If you are a team player in your senior year you must remember the three keys to success at Bard: 1) Boost with students 2) Lose all your work 3) Schmooze with faculty.

Bard suns time, some annoying professors, who is supposed that students were left undisturbed. Till the professors that they were being insensitive to your ethnic group, your sex, your sexuality, and that you are very busy with some-

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thing involving the "Buddhism" of the opium war.

How if you really need to actually hard something in especially if you are on financial aid, go ahead and download a paper from http://www.grabpapers.com/. Alternatively, if your career would be complete withoutsubsum ing the same paper at least five or four times. Although not usually buy to be buyers of professors, it does not necessarily have to be written by you. Remember: only write papers written by this author. This paper is essentially about the idea that the rules, the advice given to the students is to be considered great. Even if you are not on student government, it is still pos-

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Classifieds

Advertisements

The Woodstock Guild is expanding its exhibition schedule and is accepting individual and group proposals from local and regional artists, artisans, craft persons, curators, historians, etc. for the 1997 season at the Kleinert/James Arts Gallery. Deadline for submission is October 30, 1997. Application forms are available by mail. Send a SASE to: The Woodstock Guild, P.O. 922, Woodstock, NY 12498.


Academic-based group having leaving for the rainforests of Kalimantan (Borneo) on December 27 and January 15 to study orangutans. Space is limited. If interested, call 1-800-510-4578 or e-mail AllApes@aol.com

Internships & Job Opportunities

Pasting Earth Day to Work: Earth Day comes and goes, but the Environmental Careers Organization focuses on making the spirit of Earth Day last not only all year long — but all career long. The Environmental Careers Organization (ECO) is a national nonprofit organization based in Boston that has spent the last twenty-five years developing environmental professionals and promoting environmental careers. Working with the organization's regional offices in located in Boston, Cleveland, Seattle, and San Francisco, ECO places over 600 new environmental professionals directly each year into the workplace with short-term, paid internships in corporations, government agencies, and non-profit organizations. The organization is host to the nation's premier environmental career conference each year, and will draw more than 1,500 students. In its thirtieth year, the National Environmental Career Conference (NECC) promises sessions that address all levels of environmental careers including a networking event for those ready to enter the workforce. The 1997 conference will be in Boston, MA on October 24-25. For more information on ECO, NECC, in Boston, or how to start a career in the environment [sic], visit the organization's web site at http://www.eco.org or call 617/426-4375.

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U. S. and European chess magazines 1996-1997. Also looking for chess videos, for free if possible. Send any or all to Miss Margarita Brytovyn, 715 East Rand Rd, Aparment 2A, Palatine, IL 60074.

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Cheap Rubbers

The Observer would like to welcome you all back! For those of you who are unfamiliar with us, The Dime Store is the place place around to get cheap rubbers. For just playing high prices at the Bookstore or X-tra Mart, we'll send them to you at cost, 10 cents each! Here's the drill: put an order envelope at the post office, mail to the campus mail drop off, or make up one of your own. Write down what you want, how much money you're sending, and your box number. Send it through campus mail to The Dime Store, box 774.

It's never too late to share your thoughts and concerns with us. The Observer is Bard College's only student-run newspaper and is published every Thursday. Send submissions via campus mail to the corresponding section editor. All letters go to either Lindsay Robinson or Meredith Yevasezian. Submit developed photographs if possible, preferably in the commercial 4x6 print size. We strongly discourage anonymous submissions. If anonymity is absolutely necessary, you must reveal your identity to the editors. The Observer reserves the right to edit for spelling, grammar, length and cohesiveness.

Observer Editorial Policy

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By the Skin of the Scrum
Ruggers’ chance to put one on board slips through fingers

By JEREMY DILLAHUNT, Sports Editor

On Sunday, Oct. 19, the Bard College Rugby team lost a squeaker to the lucky Cobras from Columbia University. Emotions and testosterones ran high throughout the game, which resulted in a 1-0 win for the Cobras, and a loss for the Ruggers.

Kiiman “Kim” Davis played an excellent game against the Cobras; he had one try (touchdown) and a second-half penalty goal. The Cobras were leading 13-0 at the half, but the Ruggers put in a strong second half and fought back to make the final score 14-10.

The second half is what we should be looking at, because that’s when the Ruggers really showed their mettle. Even though they were down 13-0 at the half, they refused to give up. They played with heart and determination, and the result was a win for the Ruggers.

The game was a tough test for the Ruggers, but they managed to pull off a victory in the end. This is a great accomplishment for the team and a testament to their hard work and dedication.

Women’s Soccer

The Bard Women’s Soccer team’s winning streak has reached four games, and they are playing with a temporary standard after their last four games.

In a home game against Vassar (one of the top-ranked Division III teams), Bard played one of its best defenses ever and its best game ever against Vassar. Still, the match ended in a 1-0 loss. Maybe next year.

The game against Sewanee Institute of Technology is the exception of Bard’s last four games. The Women’s Soccer team executed much of what it has learned from two-year Bard coach Jeff Drazo. The players were solid defensively, made one-and-two-touch passes and set up for shots throughout most of the game. Bard won 3-0. With so many shots taken on goal the score could easily have been a 10-0 shutout. Nevertheless, a 3-0 victory makes the Women’s Soccer team happy anytime.

Last Wednesday, October 15, Bard went on a Saint Mary College road game for a night game under lights. Ms. St. Mary’s is a fast-paced team with quick transitions that Bard had a tough time keeping off. Leftback Beren Brown and others continuously defended our goal with enduring spirit and fierce aggression, which makes a 0-3 loss even harder to bear.

The game against Southern Vermont College this past Saturday was the most exciting game of the last four. SVC scored early with a penalty kick. In the second half Bard came back with aheader by Paige Taylor, assisted by a cross from Bridget McCarty. And so Bard entered its third sudden-death overtime of the season. The fight goes on even in overtime until a flick deflection off of a Bard defender slashed into the back of the net.

The Women’s Soccer team has four games left in the season and is hoping to turn their 7-6 record into a 10-7 record and to set a record for the first winning season for Women’s Soccer.

Come watch the next home game against NYack College on Tuesday, October 21.

Scores & Schedules

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Women’s Soccer

Oct. 21 vs. NYack (Home, 4:00), Oct. 23 vs. Manhasset-Harriman (4:00), Oct. 28 vs. Bridgport (Home, 3-30), Nov. 1 vs. Jersey City (Away)

Men’s Soccer

Oct. 28 vs. Webb Institute (Home, 3:00), Oct. 27 vs. Vassar (Home, 3:30), Oct. 30 vs. Southern Vermont (Away), Nov. 2 vs. Hartwick JV (Home, 1:00)

Women’s Tennis

Oct. 22 vs. Mount Saint Mary (Away), Oct. 25 Hudson Valley Conference Tournament (Home)

Cross Country

Oct. 25 Hudson Valley Athletic Conference (Away), Nov. 1 Halloween Classic (Away), Nov. 8 vs. Westfield State (Away)

Rugby

Oct. 25 vs. Drew (Home: Pig Roast on the field), Oct. 3 vs. 2 (Home)

Women’s Volleyball

Oct. 23 vs. New Paltz (Home, 7:00), Oct. 25 Hudson Valley Athletic Conference (Home, 9:30am), Oct. 28 vs. Thomas Aquinas (Home, 7:00), Nov. 1 vs King’s Point (Away)

Hockey Schedules...

Tuesdays, Oct. 21: 8 pm Backeric Brown vs. St. John’s
Tuesdays, Oct. 28: 8 pm Poplar Beach vs. Poplar Beach
Tuesdays, Nov. 4: 8 pm Backeric Brown vs. Prince Albert All Stars
Tuesdays, Nov. 11: 8 pm Poplar Beach vs. Poplar Beach

ESPIRIT DE CORPS: Captain Hazel Garland with Debbie Whitaker.
TALES FROM
the Bot-Cave!

Volume 2, Issue 3

DISCLAIMER:
The following events are completely fictional delusions dreamt up by the authors. Any resemblance to any people, living or dead, is purely coincidence.

PLEASE DON'T SUE US.

WE LOST A LOT OF SUBSCRIBERS AFTER THIS YEAR'S FIRST ISSUE. LOSING THE DICASIA AD BOTTLED GRAPEFRUIT.

GUYS, THIS IS TERRIBLE! WHAT CAN I DO?

LET'S, HEH... (YOU TELL HIM) WELL, UM... Maneke.

WE LOST A LOT OF SUBSCRIBERS AFTER THIS YEAR'S FIRST ISSUE. LOSING THE DICASIA AD BOTTLED GRAPEFRUIT.

IT'S NOT THAT I MIND GAYS, OR CLOSETS EVEN. BUT I'M NOT CAYT.

THAT'S NOT THE POINT. THINK OF THE RATINGS. ELLIOT DID IT AND NOW SHE'S THE BIGGEST THING SINCE BOB SAGET.

COME ON BOY! THINK OF THE COMICS!

SOMETHING ACTUALLY WORK.

GUYS, I'D DO ANYTHING TO SAVE THE COMIC. EVEN IF I CAN'T BE SOMETHING. I'M NOT.

THIS IS TAKING TOO LONG! FINISH THE COMIC! FINISH IT!

ELEN... BEFORE ELEN CAME OUT. AFTER

AM I... DOING IT? IT DON'T HURT! DON'T WORRY! YOU'RE DOING QUICK.

IT'S NOT THE POINT. THINK OF THE RATINGS. ELLIOT DID IT AND NOW SHE'S THE BIGGEST THING SINCE BOB SAGET.

LOOK AT LUCILLE BALL, OR TEDDY ROOSEVELT, OR WHATEVER OR SOMETHING HAPPEN, AND NOW THEY'RE DEAD. COINCIDENCE? I THINK NOT.

ELEN...

TUNE IN NEXT TIME: SAME BOT-MAN, SAME BOT-CHANNEL!

Created by Chris VanDyke, John Holowach; Written by Chris and John
Drawn by Chris; copyright Chris VanDyke, John Holowach
Special thanks to Ellen, I Love Lucy, The Bull Moose Party, America's Funniest Home Videos and Scott Batio