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The latest speaker in the The Distinguished Scientist Lecture Series was the ecologist Gene E. Likens, who gave a lecture Saturday on human-accelerated environmental change. Likens holds faculty positions at Yale University, Cornell and Rutgers and is also the Director of the Institute of Ecosystem Studies. He is best known, however, for his discovery of acid rain in North America. He began his lecture by commenting that human-effects on our ecosystem “affect not only our welfare but our survival as well.” His lecture was structured so as to address individually the eight components which combine to create a change in our environment: rapid human population growth, global climate change, stratospheric ozone depletion, massive land-use change, toxification of biosphere, invasion of exotic species, widespread loss of biotic diversity.

Rapid Human Population Growth
Likens began by noting that “the human population has increased by about three billion people since [he] was born.” He went on to say that in another thirty-five to fifty years the population is expected to double or even triple. This continued on page 3.
Planned Parenthood President calls for action

Bard students asked to "Zap the gag rule"

by Michael Poirier

Monday evening, November 10, Alexander C. Sanger, president and chief executive officer of Planned Parenthood of New York City, spoke about "The Incredible Shrinking Woman's Right to Choose" upon invitation from the Bard Coalition for Choice. Having previously spoken at other colleges, including Smith and Vassar, as well as at regional Planned Parenthood groups, he urged his audience to contact politicians to prevent President Bush from vetoing federal legislation which would overturn the "gag rule."

The "gag rule" forces federally funded planning clinic counselors to ask about abortion, to say that "abortion is not an appropriate method of family planning." Clinics that do not comply with this law could lose federal support.

Sanger represented the Planned Parenthood position, stating that this "gag rule" denies freedom of speech. One of the goals of his lecture was to motivate Bard students to get in touch with politicians such as Bush, and Senators D'Amato and Moynihan. A bill has passed by both houses of Congress that would overturn the "gag rule." Bush has vetoed it but a margin of nine to fourteen senators is all that is needed to override the veto. As Sanger commented: "For all you political science majors, let me spare you the trouble, all politicians want to be re-elected; they are not qualified to do anything else...we have more supporters."

Sanger explained that most countries that have had legalized abortion for decades have lower pregnancy and abortion rates than we do in the United States. "We have been relying on the courts to protect our rights but now what do we do about David Souter and Clarence Thomas?"

--Alex Sanger, Pres. of NYC Planned Parenthood

Are there a gender imbalance at Bard?

by Greg Giacco

The college is currently being investigated by the EEOC (Equal Employment Opportunities Commission) for charges of gender discrimination regarding Professor Carol Nackenoff's tenure decision. Recent correspondence in the Observer concerning charges of sexual discrimination seems to indicate that Bard College might not be a comfortable place for women faculty. These charges compelled Dean Stuart Levine to compile a set of statistics to show just what the gender balance is at Bard. When Leon Botstein became president in 1974, there were 80 professors, not counting visiting or temporary faculty, 20 of whom were female. Currently, Bard has 135 professors, not counting temporary faculty, 48 of whom are female. That means that 36% of our faculty is female. According to a recent Carnegie Foundation report, women make up 51% of the college instructors nationwide.

When asked about this imbalance, Levine said, "It takes a while to do it [rectify the imbalance]. It is simply not easy to accomplish." The statistics seem to show that there has been an effort to correct the gender imbalance. In the last five years, 27 people have been hired to fill tenure-track positions (i.e., eventually eligible for tenure), and 19 of them were women. However, Bard has a better record of tenuring women than the national average. According to the Carnegie report, only 13% of the full professors nationwide are women, a 3% increase since 1974. At Bard, however, 19% of the tenured faculty are women, compared to 9% when Leon Botstein first arrived. "Statistics are only part of the story," said Professor Nackenoff. She said that the EEOC hearing will take into account personal testimony as well as statistical data.

Chaplain Bruce Chilton said that he has heard anecdotal evidence of a kind of unconscious sexism at Bard. As divisional chair, he encountered more complaints from women in regard to being taken seriously, getting along with other members of the faculty, and coordinating their careers with their families leading him to believe that "women at Bard experience a period of adjustment that men don't."

Professor Nackenoff said that she had heard a women faculty member use the term "boys' club" to describe Bard. However, most professors questioned did not seem to think that Bard is any worse than other institutions, it is only less apparent at larger universities. Chemistry professor Simeen Satar said that she had no personal experience feeling uncomfortable as a woman among the faculty here. She also said that she was happy with the number of female students in the science division, a field usually dominated by men in other institutions.

What the numbers say:

- Women professors currently at Bard: 36% (48)
  - Nationwide: 31%
- Tenured female professors at Bard: 19% (10)
  - Nationwide 13%
- Tenured female professors at Bard in 1974: 9% (4)
  - Nationwide for 1974: 10%
- Professors granted tenure at Bard since 1974: 28
  - Denied: 14
- Women denied tenure at Bard by president: 3
- Men denied tenure at Bard by president: 9
- Women who resigned from Bard between 1974-88: 10
- Men who resigned from Bard between 1974-88: 7

Statistics courtesy of Stuart Levine and Carnegie Foundation

Coalition sponsors rally

The Bard College Coalition for Choice today announces a rally. The rally, in opposition to the nomination of Michael Kavanagh to district court, will be held at the Ulster County Courthouse Saturday, November 23 at 2:00 p.m. Kavanagh has been nominated by Senator Al D'Amato to serve as judge in the Northern District of New York State.

The Bard College Coalition for Choice strongly opposes this nomination. Kavanagh's prosecution record as Ulster County District Attorney demonstrated a disturbing tendency to ignore the claims of minorities, women, and homosexuals in cases of police brutality, rape, and other violence. Not only does he ignore these claims but by making statements like, "If rape is inevitable, relax and enjoy it," and referring to a victim as a "flag," he proves his incredible ignorance and intolerance.

Coalition member Renee Cramer, a sophomore political studies major from South Dakota says, "This nomination is just another example of the current administration's attempts to extend control of the federal judiciary.

Other groups against the

Kavanagh nomination are the Ulster County NAACP, Ulster County NOW, New Paltz Concerned Parents, Mid-Hudson Valley Parent Association, and the Ulster County Rainbow Coalition.

Another Coalition, Sally Mohrens, a freshman from Johnson, Vermont sees this nomination as, "a threat to women's reproductive freedom and to the basic civil right of equality before the law regardless of race, gender or sexual preference."

This rally will be co-sponsored by the New Yorkers for Judicial Integrity and Justice.
AIDS lecture

On Sunday, November 24 at 3:00pm in Olin 102, Elena Schelsky-Fitch will give a lecture entitled "When AIDS Comes Home." Schelsky-Fitch, who is a nurse case manager at the Children's Hospital AIDS Program in Newark, New Jersey, will speak about her experience with children and families affected by AIDS. She will also address psychological issues and social stigmas surrounding the epidemic.
A short lived, but loved, laugh with “Line”

by Jeana C. Breton

"Line"," a play written by Israel Horovitz and directed by Bard student Sarah L. Smith, was performed at the Bard Theatre on November 16-18th. It was a humorous play about competing for first place in a line. It also delved into the personalities of the characters who were waiting in line.

The play centered around five people, all of whom were waiting in line for different reasons. Fleming, played by Matthew ICHEW Gilman, was presumably there for a baseball game, as he had brought chips and beer, and was singing “Take me out to the ball game.” Stephen, played by Aaron English, was a Mozart lover who had been insulted by his family and was in line just to be first for one last time. Molly, played by Jamie Zoloty, was a slutishly married woman who wound up having sex with everyone in the line merely to distract the others and end up in first place. Erin Sheehy played Dolan, who spoke to whomever was behind him on the tactics of waiting in line and getting to be first. Finally, there was Anatta (played by Merry Grissom), Molly’s husband, who had come to watch a movie, and ended up contemplating his miserable marriage while watching his wife have sex with strangers.

All in all the play was funny because of the way the characters interacted. Early in the play, Stephen offers his wallet to Fleming, asking if he would like to read it. Stephen’s monologue about how nice it would be “if everyone would just pass their wallets around” so that everyone would be acquainted with each other and no one would be a stranger was amusing in itself. It progressed to him reading his wallet to Fleming and manufactured business cards, etc., which was even funnier, but soon escalated to hilarious status as Stephen, not having been introduced to Fleming, called him by his name. "How do you know my name?" Fleming cries out as each newcomer addresses him. Stephen claimed to have read his wallet, which Fleming had never given him. Fleming then whirled across the stage in frustration with his name printed clearly across the back of his T-shirt, causing the audience to break into whoops and howls of unrestrained hilarity.

There were many funny segments in the play, like when Stephen decides the line is facing the wrong way and steps back to first on the other side after everyone falls for his trick. All in all, it was most enjoyable. The play was fresh and interesting, being made up entirely of undergraduate students. The set consisted of nothing but a piece of tape placed on the floor to represent the line’s start; thus there was nothing to distract the audience from the characters and the action of the play.

There were angry tones and occasional disappointment. There was even some play on emotion as characters spoke of their lives outside the line. And, no one was left a loser in last, even in second place, because in the end, each character has a piece of the line with which he or she may have or her own line and be first. The audience gets to laugh all through the play from beginning to end. It was a short lived play as it was only performed for 3 days, but an amusing one that brought comedy briefly into the lives of whomsoever had chance to see it, before thrust back into the cold darkening reality, where all that awaits us is gloom, torture, and anguish.

Passions run low in slyly funny "Playing with Fire"

by Matthew Gilman

"Playing With Fire", the first of the two plays performed this past weekend at the Bard Theatre, is a gentle satire of polite society and a strong comedy of manners. Written by August Strindberg, the play takes place during a short span of time before breakfast in the home of a somewhat well-to-do man, who shares living space with his son and son’s wife.

The main focus of the play is the conflict caused when a young man, a friend of the couple, becomes enamored of the wife.

That is the main focus of the play, but it is not what the play is about. The play itself is actually a deceptively wise comedy which examines the polite games that well-off members of society were forced into near the turn of the century. The young couple are exceedingly charming and careful about what they say to and about their young friend. The husband, Newt, played extremely well by Eric Sheehy, is an artist who can’t seem to sell any of his paintings. His father has agreed to let him and his wife, Kersten, live with him in his grand house and gardens. Kersten is exquisitely polite and proper, and Newt enjoys being slightly improper merely to fit him. The young man, Axel, is also most polite and friendly, but seems to have some passion in him. Whatever passions the men in the play seem to have, the "outlet" for their passions is the cousin who stays in the house with them, Adelle. Adelle is very sure of herself and of everyone else in the house, and sees no reason to try to change anything. On the contrary, she carries on private and not-so-private affairs with Newt, Newt’s father, and, even it seems, with Axel.

When it is revealed that Axel and Kersten have "feelings" for each other, neither of them seem quite sure how to respond. The emotions the characters feel are quite beyond them. Kersten reacts neutrally, quelling her pain in civility, and without anger: without emotion. He has nothing to fear and he knows it. When he offers to "withdraw" provided that Axel marries Kersten, Axel visibly hesitates, and later literally runs from the house in terror. Newt is satisfied with himself for understanding the empty passion of the young man, but all the while he ignores Kersten’s sobbing and pain. It is beyond him. When it comes to Axel, the man who claims to love Kersten simply don’t care.

The piece itself was visually pleasing and extremely well directed. Karen Fernandez, directing in partial fulfillment of her Senior Project, did wonders with the limited space provided and made use of the stage spacing extremely well. Nancy Jones played Kersten with just the right balance of politeness and need for emotion. Jason McKay did exceptionally well in a double role, both as Axel and as Newt’s father. Meridith Cline played Adelle skilfully with strong avy and sharpness of wit, and there was a very strong debut performance by Robin Jacob as Newt’s nasty, suspicious mother. Although not overpowering, “Playing With Fire” was well done all around, and made for a most enjoyable performance.
**Another View**

The future of custodial services at Bard College

By Olivier te Boekhorst, Chairperson of the Student Life Committee

In the week of November 4, the Student Life Committee met with representatives of the two companies Bard is considering, hiring to take over the custodial services at Bard. After meeting with representatives of both Internal Service Systems (ISS) and ServiceMaster, the committee recommended strongly urging Bard to consider ServiceMaster to take over the management of our housekeeping services, while allowing the current Bard College employees to remain part of the College staff.

The Student Life Committee considered five areas of concern in making this decision: quality of cleaning, employee rights and benefits, student access to custodians and equipment, security, and savings for the College.

Obviously quality of cleaning was our foremost concern. An informal poll of the Peer Counselors showed that 10 residence halls are perceived to be in need of improvement where cleaning is concerned. We realize that it is impossible for us to tell which company would clean better once at Bard, although we are confident either company would improve the cleanliness at Bard but from our conversations with their representatives, and with Chuck Crimmons, who has visited several other campuses serviced by both companies, we reached the following observations: 1) ServiceMaster seemed to provide better training and other support systems for its employees than ISS, 2) ServiceMaster is clearly more experienced in cleaning college campuses, and 3) other college ServiceMaster seemed to do a better job than ISS.

The Student Life Committee considered each company's attitude toward their employees because we feel that this attitude will be reflected in the cleanliness of our environment. We found that ServiceMaster was clearly more employee-oriented than ISS. Although both companies recognize the local union and have had extensive dealings with unions throughout the United States, we felt that our custodians are merely conforming to the letter of the law, while ServiceMaster was more genuinely concerned with its employees. Another very important factor in our decision was the methods in which both companies were to provide savings in labor costs for the college. Both companies indicated that they felt Bard was overstaffed, but ServiceMaster planned to cut labor costs through attrition, while ISS intended to lay off workers after an initial trial period, in addition to attrition. ISS was not to promise us that quality workers would not be laid off for financial reasons, while ServiceMaster indicated no one would be laid off at all.

The Student Life Committee was relieved to hear that neither ISS nor ServiceMaster were planning to employ 'gang' or 'team' cleaning techniques at Bard. We felt that this would have greatly harmed the 'family atmosphere' in the residence halls. However, it was sensitive to this problem than ISS, and stressed that it tried to create a 'feeling of ownership and loyalty' in its workers for the buildings they clean and that it would assign workers to specific buildings, like Bard does now. Although ISS stated this as well, it did not seem to make as much sense to combining 2-3 workers to work on a building, or buildings, together. We were also pleased to hear that both companies planned to maintain all present services to students (use of equipment, access to custodial closets, etc.) and that security policies (locking of rooms) of the college would also remain in place.

In view of this potential labor unrest, we strongly recommend that Bard College keeps the current workers on its payroll and opt for co-employment of the housekeeping staff. This would mean that all the current benefits of the custodians would stay the same, that the local union (UOD) would not be split into B&G workers vs. ServiceMaster employees, and that Bard College would control hiring and firing of workers. ServiceMaster would only provide a manager. (OB)

ServiceMaster has extensive experience in this field, and offers purely management services as a regular part of their program. Of course, and it has urged the college to allow ServiceMaster to do what it does best, which is managing custodial services, rather than employing custodial workers.

Should anybody have any further questions on this issue, please do not hesitate to contact the Student Life Committee Chair, Olivier te Boekhorst, at 788-1463 or Box 6.

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**The beer column**

Well, Phantom left Vienna early as expected. I think that he went to Amsterdam. My mind is kind of in a haze—same place it’s been for years. Right now, I’m wrapping up my side trip to Poland. A pal of mine lives here now (Why? I can’t imagine), so I came to visit for a few days.

In between vodka bouts, something that they do very well in Poland, comes the beer, which is something that they don’t do very well. It is used as a kind of cushion for the vodka. I find it kind of humorous that the big beer in Krakow is Kruks, which probably means beer of place near Krakow (it’s made in Lwów or something). Those wacky Poles. They even have, among the other 250+ political parties, a Polish Beer Lover’s Party.

Anyway, Kruks is a strong beer, with a very strange taste. The color is a little dark, really a gold-amber, and there is no smell. (or maybe my senses are dead ‘cause of the vodka) But the taste is really different. Kinda like a wheat beer, kinda like a summer beer, kinda like when they weren’t making this beer they were refining gasoline. It makes for an OK taste, but not great. It is a lot better with Polish food than it is alone. Another major contributor to the strangeness is the very bitter aftertaste. It hangs around for a long, long, time. Unless you are eating Polish food, something else that I did far too much of. Which brings me to my next point—when do I leave? Phantom?

The phone rang at 11:30 AM. I answered. It was Faneoghan—who else would it be? Doesn’t he realize by now that I sleep ‘til one? Maybe he just has no concept of time zoning. What was he saying? Something about some crack-pot beer? How does he expect me to comprehend him at this hour.

He knew that I was out (anyone?) drinking last night—what else would I be doing? They do have this great beer here, Royal Brand. It’s a light colored beer with a flavor that’s not particularly strong, but very distinctive and pleasant. The aftertaste is also quite mild. Overall, it’s a really easy beer to drink, which is probably why my head hurts so much right now. What’s he saying... he’s out of change and he has to go—what a pity! Yeah... good-bye Fin, thanks for calling, see you in London.” I need some more sleep.

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**Beverage way**

supermarket of beer and soda

**R. 9 MILES NORTH OF RED HOOK TRAFFIC LIGHT**

- **Beck’s**
  - 12 pack
  - $9.99

- **British America**
  - 6 pack
  - $7.99 case

- **Kronenbourg**
  - 6 pack
  - $12.99

- **Utica Club**
  - 6 pack
  - $7.99 case

- **Budweiser**
  - 12 pack
  - $9.99 case

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**Royal Brand**

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**Phinnegan**

- **Royal Brand**
- **Krakus**

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A page of unedited observations from guest writers
Lithuania overpowers U.S. in basketball

by Matt Apple

An unusually large crowd turned out last Wednesday at the Stevenson Gymnasium to see if the prediction was true: would the Lithuanian Nationals "...wipe the floor..." with the NAIA All-Stars? The fans quickly found out that would not be the case, as the All-Stars jumped ahead quickly, the only Band player on the team, Sean Alford, scoring the first basket of the game. The All-Stars retained a slim margin of 1-point for the majority of the game, but early in the game both teams were plagued by ball handling problems and were extremely disorganized. Even a tremendous slam by Valdas Jurgulis, bringing a loud shout from the Lithuanian fans and a flag-waving, standing cheer from one Adolphas Mechas, failed to boost the Nationals, whose travelling penalties and missed field goals left them behind 23 to 16. With five minutes left, the All-Stars missed a chance with five minutes left to increase their lead on a technical foul, making only one out of four shots, and the Nationals seized the opportunity. Taking the lead 31 to 30 with a three-point shot, the Nationals ended the half with a tenacious lead of 40 to 37.

The All-Stars started the second half like they began the game, taking back the lead with a fantastic play. On a fast break, Rason Jacobs attempted to make a layup and was pushed to the floor by one of the Nationals as he shot the ball. Ryan Oliver, running right behind Jacobs, grabbed the ball on the way to the basket and jammed it home, bringing the home crowd to its feet. With the addition of a foul shot, the three-point play gave the All-Stars their last lead of the game, 43-41. The Nationals finally got into action and showed the crowd why three of their members deserved to be on the 1988 Olympic Gold Medal basketball team. Within a minute after the All-Stars recaptured the lead, the Nationals took the lead 48-46 on two foul shots, courtesy of a flying tackle by Oliver, and then tackled on the three-pointer. With their proud fans waving little yellow, green and red flags at every point, the Lithuanian Nationals took the steam out of the All-Stars, utilizing 8-point and 5-point runs to increase their lead to 83-65 with five minutes left in the game. The All-Stars tried to make a late comeback with under two minutes in the game, gaining momentum from a plethora of National fouls, which forced four of the Nationals' five starting players to leave the game. Despite the auspices of the strong, intermittent chant "We want Sean..." from typically irreverent Bard students, the All-Stars comeback was too little, too late, as they could get no closer than 87-84 and lost by a closer-than-expected final score of 90 to 84. High scorers for the game, with 19 points each, were Valdas Jurgulis and Awtimas Palkys of the Nationals, 15 of Palkys' points coming on three-pointers. Top scorers for the All-Stars were Mark Benson and Ryan Oliver with 14 points each.

Fencers not foiling around

by Matt Apple

The women's varsity fencing team began their second year as a varsity sport in their matches against Vassar, CCNY and Haverford last Saturday. Vassar and CCNY proved too much for the Blazers, as they defeated Bard 12-4 and 11-4 respectively. Angela Jancio and Jen Shirk combined for five wins out of their team's eight in the two matches. Haverford barely managed to turn away the Blazers, 10-6, despite playing with only three out of the four minimum players. For Bard, Angela captured three more bouts, including one forfeit, to account for half her team's victories. The women's fencing team won't play their next matches until February 8th, when they travel to Vassar again.

The men's fencing team starts their first season as a varsity team next Friday, Dec. 6th, as a member of the Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (IAC) in the NCAA. Unlike the women's team, which only fences with the foil, men's team is to have players who specialize in the foil, the saber, or the epee in order for the team to be in the IAC.

Pontiac Phoenix for sale. $300 or best offer. Contact box 101.

Trip to NYC and back leaving Friday, November 22 at 8am returns at 6pm. Call Prof. Young at ext. 236. $8 fee.

3 twin beds: $35 for 1, $30 for more than one. Call (518) 828-9849.

Letter Quality Printer: Diablo 630 ECS, plus many printwheels. IBM compatible and a workhorse. $250 OBO. Call x.411 or (evenings and weekends) 246-1476.

Need holiday gifts? Handcrafted Native-American inspired silver jewelry for sale at substantial discount below retail. Call x.411 or (evenings and weekends) 246-1476.

For Sale: 1982 Toyota Corolla Tercel 4 door sedan. 5 new All- season radial tires. Asking $600 (negotiable). For more information call 758-1750 after 5:00pm or x.455 between 9am-5pm.

Two quiet, pet-free, non-smoking females seeking house sitting positions between Dec 20 and Jan. 26. References and pay negotiable. References available upon request. Please call 758-2016 after 5pm weekdays, or anytime during weekends or drop a note to Stacey Threw.

Leaving Next Semester? If you have a postcard single on campus please contact box 423 to arrange a swap of some sort.

Hey F.D.P. of P. Shore: Now, now, don't get testy. Right now you are nowhere near achieving the level of inner peace that allows one to become...THREE TIMES DOPES THE ERADICATOR. P.S. Loganberry beverage is the drink of evil. Onl cola beverages show the true way. That and/or Yoo-Hoo.

Puck the dumb shit. Prof. Carol Nackenoff for President. - A member of the powerless majority, Robert P. Sharkey

Up Kerry!
Inferences are important

Dear Editor,

One day during 1983, my wife and I were sitting at a lunch counter in Richmond, Virginia. While we were there, several customers came, ordered, ate, and went. But a black woman who sat a few stools away from us was not served, despite her efforts to get the attention of the waiters. Eventually, the woman left the drugstore, and we saw her waiting outside for a bus.

My wife and I drew the inference that racism was at work in the scene that we witnessed. We could not demonstrate that the racism we witnessed was a "fact," because we were in no position to judge the precise motives of the waiters. But the conclusion we came to was more than an opinion, because it constituted a shared, comprehensive, and compelling explanation of what we saw, not just a possible way of looking at things.

Professor John Fout in his article two weeks ago carefully explained how judgments concerning social matters are matters of inference. Unless such inferences are given their due recognition in public discourse, our society will continuously find victims of its delusions of superiority, black, female, poor, or whatever. Some of your correspondents do not appear to appreciate the power and the responsibilities inherent in the inferences we draw.

Yours sincerely,
Bruce Chilton

Play critic criticized

Dear Editor,

It was with great disappointment that I read Ms. Breton's review of "Aunt Dan and Lemon" in your newspaper dated November 15, 1991. The Bard Theatre certainly had no reason to expect such a distasteful review from the same person who showed her skill in reviewing "Sights and Sounds of the Mute, Dead and Invisible" (Oct. 30, 1991). While certainly Ms. Breton has the right to any and all opinions she may have, I would just like to clarify some of the information and refute some of the points she brought up in her article.

From the beginning of her article, those of us who saw the play realized that Ms. Breton missed the point. The play was NOT about misconceptions and the play was most certainly NOT about the Nazis. Yes, the play did contain references to the Nazis, and the Nazis were used as a simple example, but to say that the play was about the Nazis was extremely misleading, leading to those who had not attended any of the performances.

Had Ms. Breton realized that the play was not supposed to be about Lemon, she would have realized the Nazis were the views of the Nazis, perhaps her conceptual image of the production would have been different. There is simply no "Nazi theme" to the play, as Mr. Breton might lead one to believe.

There also appears to be some confusion over the "friends" whom Dan introduces to Lemon in her nightly talks. These people only exist in Lemon's memory; whether they exist in reality is unknown. The play is only hard to understand if one is unable to capture the essence of mentalities of both Dan and Lemon. It is unfortunate that Ms. Renner received poor marks for her role as Dan. Her continually changing role (as friend, lover, relative, confidante, etc.) had Ms. Renner run the gamut of emotions; her ability to act is certainly beyond a doubt. It is also unfortunate that Ms. DiNatale received high praises for "always raising her voice at the significant part of the script." I am unaware as to Ms. Breton's theatrical background, but her logic seems to be that if you talk loud when something important happens, you're a good actor. This line of reasoning is an insult to both Ms. DiNatale and theatre in general.

Finally, on some technical notes, I regret that Ms. Breton was annoyed by the length of the play without an intermission. Has our MTV society become so attention-span deprived that we cannot sit more than 12 and a half minutes without becoming bored? The play was written that way by Wallace Shawn and was performed as it was written. The piano was a significant prop as it was used continuously in a variety of active sequences. By disregarding it, an injustice is done to the play itself.

I look forward to Ms. Breton's next review and hope that it is more on par with her "Man" review than her current one. I believe that sometimes a reviewer will need to look at what is on the surface, and base a critique on what is seen or heard. It is often necessary for a reviewer to put aside accepted values and watch. By delving a little deeper and doing a little extra work, reviewers do all of their readers a service. Certainly, "Aunt Dan and Lemon" was a bizarre, non-conformist, and relatively intense play. This should not, however, mean that the review should follow suit. As she suggests the play does, Ms. Breton's review leaves her readers heads still spinning.

Sincerely,
Matt J. Lee

Book Reviewer reviewed

Dear Editor,

I was disturbed by several aspects of Jonathan Miller's latest book review on The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love. The opening line: "...lastly white people haven't been able to write for shit" would be offensive if it were not so ignorant. Miller goes on to reduce modern literature to three white authors versus three non-white authors. Still more cavalierly, he says that Caucasian writers "churn out...plotless, malignantly (fly) work while the rest of the world is busy producing masterpiece fiction.

Oh, and his conclusion: "...it is because of these Miller proven trends, any respect one might have had for Mr. Breton's theatrical background, but her logic seems to be..."

There is more! Miller also confides to us that "every writer secretly envies John Dos Passos for writing a trilogy called U.S.A.", a fact which is likely to infuriate millions of ashamed individuals worldwide.

To claim that race determines quality of writing is as ignorant and racist as the ludicrous psychological studies from a few decades ago which 'proved' intelligence a function of race. Prejudice is prejudice, regardless of which group is targeted.

The problems, given these absurd claims and the statements about Chaucer, Shakespeare, Joyce, and Dos Passos, seem to be more exaggeration and overgeneralization than anything else. I haven't lost any pride for the former three because of the work of Wole Soyinka, Fuentes, and Amiri Baraka. I can't understand why reading any good modern fiction would diminish my respect for such literary geniuses.

Unconscious denial aside, I also can say with certainty that I don't envy Dos Passos, secretly writing a trilogy entitled U.S.A.

It is easy to get carried away with an indiscriminate key-

Open letter lettered

Dear Editor,

After extracting last week's The Bard Observer from my box, and reading (with great interest) President Bernstein's aphoristic article, I stumbled upon a contribution significantly titled, "Another open letter to the Bard community.

Since the metaphor piece adapted to its purpose was originally penned by myself, I thought I'd take the opportunity to comment on its topic, gossip, as well as on "KL" and her rather eager use of generalizations. Here (with apologies to Rousseau) is what I have to say.

The first person who invented a label to apply to other people, and found someone stupid enough to believe the label and pass careless judgments by it, created gossip. And also racists, sexists, lawyers, and a T.V. show called "Studs."

Tom Regner

I'll Give You What For!

Queen:
Ephraim Glenn Collier

I'm on my way out of Klone, past Arrive, a friend reaches out to me, takes my hand, I say What? she says she has no one to talk to, I say What? she says two of her friends talked to her last week and said they had it bad that she should get checked for it--so she got checked and she had it (I'm thinking What the flip?) and then she says she's telling everyone she's been intimate with to get checked (too). It comes out an unrevealing What? she says, Headline.

Headline at Bart? You bet your sweet noevvit!

Thanks to all those die-hards who demanded and let it take out till the wee hour for such a worthy cause Saturday night. Albert, Ian, AN103 LASO, Jen, Sherri, everyone who donated--especially everyone who donated more than a dollar--every organization who is still gathering ten dollar donations AND TO Pam who stayed all night and treated me to breakfast at the 99c diner.
BARD COLLEGE: NOV. 21-NOV. 27, 1991

WEEKLY COMMUNITY INFORMATION

French Film:
Francis Truffaut's *The Soft Skin* (1964) will be shown on video in Olin 301 on Thursday, November 21 at 6:00 PM.

MAC Fair/IBM Funday:
Apple Corp. and Businessland, Inc. will hold a Mac Fair in the College and Committee Rooms of Kline Commons on Tuesday, November 19th between 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM. IBM will hold an IBM Funday in the College and Committee Rooms between the same hours in the same place on Thursday, November 21.

Levy Lecture:
*Restructuring the Financial Structure for Economic Growth*  A conference of The Jerome Levy Economics Institute of Bard College will take place November 21-23 at Birihedwood. Faculty, Students & Staff are invited free of charge. Pre-registration is necessary. For more information and registration, call ext. 448.

Dance Theatre IV:
Dance Theatre IV will be held on November 22, 23, 24 and 25 at 8:00 PM in the dance studio, Avery Arts Center on Birihedwood. Senior and faculty work will be shown. No reservations necessary.

Piano Concert:
Pianist Svetlana Gorokhovich will perform a 65th birthday tribute to composer Meyer Kupferman. Three works by Kupferman, including two world premieres, and works by Mozart, Beethoven and Rachmaninoff.

New Germany Lecture:
Frank Mangelsdorf, journalist and political correspondent from the former GDR. He will lecture on *The Wall of the Mind: The Situation in the Five New States*. The German Democratic Republic before the "Turning Point" and in the fall of 1989. Wednesday, December 4, 7:30 PM, Olin 205.

Towbin Poetry Room:
Olin Room 101 will be open on Mondays from 3 to 5 p.m. and on Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m. Anyone who would like to listen to recordings of poetry/readings is welcome.

French Table:
Anyone interested in speaking French is invited to a French table in the President's Room of Kline Commons on Monday from 5:00 to 6:00 PM.

New Blur Show:
"THE ODYSSEY and Ancient Art: An Epic in Word and Image," which opened at Blum on October 6 will be running until March 1, 1992.

Services for Christian Students:
Sundays:
8:30 am: Ecumenical Service, Bard Chapel
9:30 am: Van to St. John's Episcopal Church and St. Christopher's Catholic Church (most in Kline parking lot)
6:00 pm: Chapel Service

Tuesdays:
7:00 pm: Singing and Worship
7:30 pm: Bible Study/Prayer Group (both in Bard Chapel Basement)

Thursday:
9:30 pm: Women's Bible Study/Prayer Group (Cruuger Village, Stephens 101)

Transportation Schedule:
Friday: Rhinecliff:
meet at Kline at 8:00 pm for the 9:11 pm train
Poughkeepsie:
meet at Kline at 6:00 pm for the 7:13 pm train
Saturday: Hudson Valley Mall:
meet at Kline at 5:45 pm, returns at 10:00 pm
Sunday: Rhinecliff:
meet the 5:52, 7:17 and 10:01 pm trains
Poughkeepsie:
meet the 7:45 pm train
Church: 9:45 am to 12 noon (St. John's)
Train Schedule will change soon, please confirm the times you wish to leave with the Dean of Students office or B & G.

The WEekly Community Information newsletter is brought to you by the Dean of Students.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: Nov. 21 to Nov. 27, 1991

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<td>11:00-2:00 pm IBM Funday Committee Room Kline Commons</td>
<td>12:00 NOON Calendar Deadline Dean of Students Office</td>
<td>8:00 pm Dance Theatre IV Avery Arts Center</td>
<td>8:30 am Worship Service Chapel (See Above For More Information and other services)</td>
<td>5:00 pm French Table College Room Kline Commons</td>
<td>6:30pm Coalition for Choice meeting President's Room Kline Commons</td>
<td>5:06 pm LASO meeting Committee Room Kline Commons</td>
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<td>6:00 pm French Film Olin 301</td>
<td>5:00 pm Observer deadline for outside submission</td>
<td>6:30 pm Jewish Students Organization, Shabbat Services Bard Hall</td>
<td>6:30 pm Dance Theatre IV Avery Arts Center</td>
<td>3:00-5:00 pm Poetry Room Open Olin 101</td>
<td>7:30 pm AA Meeting Aspinwall 302</td>
<td>5:06 pm LASO meeting Committee Room Kline Commons</td>
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<td>7:00 pm BBLAGA meeting Olin 203</td>
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<td>8:00 pm Observer writers' meeting Third floor Aspinwall</td>
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<td>5:45 pm BLSO meeting Committee Room Kline Commons</td>
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<td>7:00 pm International Relations Club Kline Commons</td>
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<td>8:00 pm Piano Concert Olin Auditorium</td>
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The Odyssey and Ancient Art: An Epic in Word and Image. At BLUM through March 1, 1992.