**Critique Too Subjective?**

**To the Editor:**

I read an article "Sartre, Euripides Don't Mix" and was disturbed by it. It was disturbed firstly because I found the play to be boring, though promising and well produced; and secondly because I felt the reviewer had failed to take his job as a critic seriously enough.

The author refers to the play as "an artistic failure..." again writes "The Trojan Women must be judged such a failure..." and later on writes "the audience was desperate for some fresh constructive or enlightening criticism in the play." I would like to quote from a W. H. Auden essay Reading 1939 which is included in the collection entitled The Dyer's Hand and other Essays - Random House.

What is the function of a critic? So far as I am concerned he can do me one of the following services:

1. Introduce me to authors or works of which I was hitherto unaware.
2. Convince me that I have misunderstood an author or work because I had not read them carefully enough.
3. Show me relations between works of different ages and cultures which I could never have seen for myself because I do not know enough and never thought about it. Give a reading of a work which increases my understanding of it.

Through your process of continued on p. 4

**APPRECIATION**

To the editor:

The Bates New World Coalition would like to thank the many students that participated in the field of the Bates Student. We would like to extend a special thanks to faculty member John Reed, and to Michael Cary and Priscilla Potter of the CSA office, all of whom gave exceptional help.

For the Better World, Paul Everett Coordinator New World Coalition
Quickies!!!

Writers, Beware!

By S. F. Williams

The news editor of The Bates Student announced this week that she will not longer accept articles, columns or letters to the editor that are not typed, double-spaced, and on one side only of the paper, they're typed on, unless there are special extenuating circumstances involved.

"I am sick of spending eight to ten hours a week doing nothing but typing when I could be writing creative features and news articles and dreaming up interesting new ideas for The Student," Karen Olsen explained.

She continued, "I love working for The Student and I will do anything that is asked of me, but I feel that people who really could type their own articles, and who did so well enough in the past, are now taking advantage of my willingness."

Mirrors View

By Donna James

Dave Fuller, newly-appointed editor of the 1975 Mirror, says his primary goal for this year's yearbook will be to give an accurate impression of the scholastic year. He says it will definitely be oriented towards the senior class.

The stuff is just beginning to snow. In addition to Dave, there are Betsy Murray, photo editor, and Wendy Korjeff, layout editor. Most staffers are sophomores and juniors, with a few freshman and four seniors.

The yearbook's most immediate problem is the need for a business manager. They are looking for someone interested in advertising, although any student is welcome to sell a few ads on his own for a 15 percent commission. (This year The Mirror is offering to compose the ads for any merchant who buys space, if the merchant so desires.)

The main problem the business manager would face is raising $500 to cover last year's deficit, and $2000 to cover this year's costs. Fortunately, says Dave, publishing costs only rose a little this year.

Senior pictures will be due around Feb. 1, 1975. Each senior will be allotted some space, which need not be filled with a photograph. They may submit poems, cartoons, or something else that has meaning for them. Photos and pictures should be in black and white, since color does not reproduce as well.

Overall, Dave concludes, the yearbook should be "a visual representation of the experience of being at this college and on the verge of graduation in the time that we are..."

The times change, but the issues don't.

Bicentennial Plans

Saturday is the 200th anniversary of the adjournment of the First Continental Congress, and to mark the occasion the Campus Association will sponsor a talk on "The People's Bicentennial and Maine."

Speaking will be Fred Grant, a Bates junior, who attended a national People's Bicentennial conference in Washington, D.C., this summer. He has been involved with the Massachusetts People's Bicentennial and is currently helping set up an unofficial Bicentennial program for the state of Maine.

The talk, at 6:30 p.m. in Skelton Lounge, will focus on the "programs" and record of America's official Bicentennial organization, the ARBA (American Revolution Bicentennial Administration), and that of its predecessor, the ARBC.

Fred will examine the prevalence of Tory thought in these groups, along with notable actions of Buy-Centennial profiteers (red, white, and blue Chevrolets, the Bicentennial toilet seat, etc.). The talk will end with a brief consideration of Bicentennial possibilities in Maine, and there will be discussion over coffee.

The talk will be, once again, this Saturday — in Skelton Lounge at 6:30 p.m.

On Religion

Robert N. Bellah, Professor of Sociology and Comparative Studies at the University of California at Berkeley, will be this year's Rayborn L. Zerby Lecturer.

Bellah's lecture, to be given Monday at 8 p.m. in the Schaeffer Theatre, will concern "American Civil Religion in a Time of Trial."

A reception will follow in Chase Lounge. The public is invited to attend. There is no admission charge. The lectureship is sponsored by the Campus Association.

Profs. Bellah's distinguished teaching and research career has included the writing and publication of over 60 books and articles in several different fields. As a sociologist interested primarily in religion as an aspect of human action, he has written extensively on both Christianity and Eastern religions, and on their functions in both traditional and modern secular societies. Bellah has been especially interested in studying the relationships between modernization and traditional religious values.

In 1967 he wrote an article, "Civil Religion in America" which sparked considerable discussion within the American intellectual and religious community. His Zerby Lecture at Bates is a continuation of themes introduced in this Daedalus article.

A Look at Life.

The Celebration Mime Theater, under the artistic direction of Tony Montanaro, will present "An American Collage" next Wednesday at 8 p.m. in Schaeffer Theatre.

The event, sponsored by Robinson Players, is open to the public. Reservations may be made at the Schaeffer box office Monday and Tuesday between 7 and 8:30 p.m. Tickets will also be sold at the door.

"An American Collage" was developed in 1973 at the Mime Theater's production base and home theater, the Celebration Barn, in South Paris, Maine.

Hilarious, at times touching, the work is intended to offer sardonic recognitions as well as entertaining encounters with ourselves. As present day folk theater, the production provides a glimpse of today's rural and urban life.

The founder of the Celebration Mime Theater is Tony Montanaro, the noted and distinguished U.S. mime who has toured widely in many regions of the U.S. and Canada.

Casino Returns

Due to the success of last year's Casino and Nightclub, Chase Hall Committee will sponsor a rerun this year. It is currently scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 2, with the gambling tables to run from 8 p.m. to midnight and the floor show from 8 p.m. to approximately 1 a.m.

Volunteer helpers are needed. People wishing to act as croupiers for poker, blackjack, baccarat and other games are asked to contact Doug Sears through Box 705.

Maureen Goudreau, Parker 315, is coordinating the entertainment. Sarah Daniels, Parker 321, is in charge of bocceball girls, and Karen Stathopoulos, Parker 418, is in charge of waitresses.

String Sounds

Robert Lima, Brazilian artist-in-residence, and his wife do Socorro will appear in the Chapel for their canoe tour debut tonight at 8.

During the first part of the program, the couple's voices will blend with the tones of Roberto's guitar as, simultaneously, the swinging images of Brazilian dancers flash on a screen backdrop.

Following intermission, the second portion of the program will consist entirely of original compositions of Roberto Lima himself, a prize-winning lyricist-composer as well as a notable performer.
By Jim Beaux

Last week the New World Coalition sponsored a fast in order to "raise consciousness" and raise proceeds to alleviate the drought-induced crisis in the Sahel African nations. A total $91.70 was raised: 135 lunches skipped and 127 dinners skipped, at 35 cents a meal. Proceeds went to Oxfam-America to be channeled towards the African relief project.

Was the project a success or failure? Many more students participated in last year's fasts. And yet, to the degree that students came to some personal terms with the problem, and fasted or didn't fast for certain reasons, the issue was successfully brought into the open.

New World Coalition members discussed many angles of the issue in preparation for the fast.

On whether or not to fast: Some said it was futile. Others countered by asserting what field workers see as psychological benefits—people "out there" either sympathize or empathize with the problem. Then again, psychology does not feed people.

At the "break-fast" which was held, John Reed, a sociology professor here, outlined the food problem as one of existing social structures. This involves food production and distribution, both fundamental to the problem at hand.

The ideas prompt an important question: How and to what extent will Americans and other "have nations" accept a decline in living standards? Someone put the question another way: "Are we prepared to pay the price of success?"

ANSWERMAN ENTERPRISES PRESENTS:

**Ask Answerman**

(editor's note: Answerman got only one letter this week, and he didn't like it one bit. He insisted he needed inspiration, and charged three running days of heavy drinking to The Student's special account. He wrote: "I'm not planning to withhold his paycheck to make up for that boozing, there would be no A-man in this week's paper."

**Dear Answerman:**

You are slime. I mean it. You're slime now, and you'll be evading url if you go to your grave. You have no courage; you cheapshot decent ballclubs just to satisfy your own (deflected) urges. You are out of contact with the school, and this rankly bit about the "race" committee proves it. Who cares? Let's get back to discussing boozing Batesians, where we'll feel more at home! And speaking of that, why in hell did you waste an entire column on Scott Green? Haven't you got better things to do? Can't you go home, won't you leave us alone? Some of us

someone replied that empathy or sympathy also involve a "paying-out" of troubled conscience and to single out money in this respect is ridiculous. Some rebutted in slightly different terms, saying that a cash donation is the conspicuously American thing to do—i.e., it involves no change in attitude. Then again, so-called "conscience money does feed people.

Continued on p. 8

**Photo by Nick Helides**

**BATESIANS HELP BY STARVING**

**By Charles Schafer**

For more than three thousand years now, moral philosophers have called on humanity to embrace virtue. The fact that they can still find employment suggests there is something in the human makeup which resists the call. The task of isolating and describing that something is far from a number of directions; as a traditionalist, the Sophist will consider it in the light of Aristotle's comment that man is *zoon politikon* the political animal.

Most moral philosophy sets out to provide people with absolute standards of right and wrong, either in regard to particular actions (thou shalt not kill) or to particular goals (the greatest happiness for the greatest number). The groups men form interface with their obeying such commandments by providing a moral imperative which prevents them from the one hand from regarding acts without concern for the welfare of our group, and, on the other, from forming groups which include all humanity. What is there in the nature of groups which would create such a situation?

From the standpoint of function, groups appear to fulfill one great need: they provide protection. Theoretically, society as a whole should be capable of extending full security to the individual; in practice, this is the case only as far as the vulnerability of particular individuals is comprehensible to their fellowman. So small a society as Bates College, the degree to which a chemist can understand and empathize with an English major suffering from "writer's block" is limited.

The diversity of needs results in the formation of many small groups, each oriented towards the limited needs of its own members. English majors back up English majors; chemistry majors cry on the shoulders of their fellows. The problem goes farther, however. As Karl Marx has pointed out, human society makes up the bulk of our environment; this being so, society is also the source of most of the things the individual is threatened with.

What do you carry about most while at Bates College? Being eaten by wolves? Society can protect particular members from itself only insofar as it can understand them and (b) it is willing to take their particular vulnerability into account. The system is geared to the ordinary.

ANSWERMAN NO. P534775c

**Ask Answerman**

**Dear Answerman:** You, and your kind, we can do without. If it's taken me this long to smoke a snake you like out of your hole (earthen hole, I'm sure), then I haven't used it well enough. First, will try harder in the future. First off, you write like a fifth grader, honcho. Not in block letters art to life, to science, economics, ethics, philosophy. The very existence of groups men form interfere with their interests do coincide entirely with those of humanity at large, or that (b) people reject once and for all any attempt to escape their special vulnerabilities. The first course involves a denial of human diversity; the second requires a fundamental change in human nature. Mankind came into existence through making unorthodox attempts to escape his weaknesses.

What does all this leave us? Very little, for the whole problem involves practical morality. When, for example, does a person's actions are not in accord with a universal system of morality need not mean that he is void of moral sensibility; do not therefore impugn the efficacy of moral arguments. Finally, a certain critical standard concerning the fundamental grounds of one's own moral judgments is in order.

To what degree does the demand for a pass-fail system reflect a pure dedication to liberal education, and to dedication to liberal education, and to fundamental freedom of one's will? Does this demand suggest that there is something in the nature of groups which would create such a situation? The selfless defense of universal morality and the selfless defense of special interests are not always easy to distinguish.

**CRITIQUE**

**From p. 2**

Artistic "Making".

6. Throw light upon the relation of art to life, to science, economics, ethics, philosophy.

The first three of these services demand scholarship, the last three services demand, not superior knowledge, but superior insight.

Finally, would like to add that I thought the horse was a good backdrop; I did not find the light horse special. The play gave me much food for thought.

Chip Beckwith

**Travel Agency**

For your CARE-FREE travel arrangements—home or vacation—set the people who've been there.
By Darrell Waters

Listen up, Batesies. Once more, I'm back on my stump, conducting a one-man protest to wipe out apathy, especially on the Bates College campus. Even though I know it is to no avail, I have to try anyway. You see, I have this thing about self respect, and if I didn't unburden my troubled soul to you about what happened last Thursday night, I really don't know how I'd be able to get to sleep tonight.

What I want to know, Batesies, is: "Where the hell were you all last Thursday night?" Were you at a keg party, or maybe sitting around your room, reading Glamour, doing your nails, or even planted in front of the nearest TV, regging away? Where was I? I was in Chase Hall, listening, rather, experiencing Etheridge Knight. No excuse! I thought not.

To write at all, a person has to have a certain amount of arrogance, meanness, has to be larger than life; he has something worth saying Tennyson, Browning, etc., to not exclude Mr. Knight. In the writer's case, he has a poetic vision. They all feel they have something they want you to hear, something they have to say, even if it has been hammered down your throat, strictly for your own good, of course. So do I. What I'm putting my two cents in for, this time, is genuine intellectual interest.

By "intellectual," I don't mean sitting around and reading Nietzsche, only to put him down when the bell rings, to trot off to din-din. This is all well and good, but I think the writer's case have, a poetic vision. They all feel they have something they want you to hear, something they have to say, even if it has been hammered down your throat, strictly for your own good, of course. So do I. What I'm putting my two cents in for, this time, is genuine intellectual interest.

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Venture Into Real World

By John Howe

"There comes a time when Bates students have to face the 'real world,'" says Dean James Carignan.

One way to prepare for this confrontation is through the recently-formed College Venture Program. This program, started at Bates last year, gives students "the opportunity to 'drop in' and try out a career. Careers are very much a hunch, try out a career. The joy is in the trying them out while you're still a student," Dean Carignan told some 30 Bates students last week.

Bates is one of 12 New England colleges associated with the College Venture Program of The Institute for Off-Campus Experience at Northeastern University. Venture offers jobs, both in and outside of the U.S., that allow a student to explore a field of interest while obtaining "practical, experience beyond the classroom."

The positions offered are numerous. A few samples are: interpreter in a museum, lab technician in a medical research center, assistant in a law firm, English teacher in a foreign country, work in a restaurant in Germany.

Washington Ventures is a program under C.V.P. which offers positions in the Capitol with regulatory agencies, with non-profit organizations like Environmental Action and Common Cause, and in the offices of Senators and Representatives.

The pay scale for Venture jobs ranges from no pay to last year's high of $190 a week. Most jobs require no specific qualifications; however, when prospective employees are interviewed by an employer, they are asked to describe those talents and skills which might make them right for the job. These jobs may last from six weeks to a full year; the periods begin in January, April, and September.

The application procedure for the program involves: 1) a talk with Dean Carignan about motives and needs; 2) an interview with either Thomas Dingman (jobs in the U.S.) or Don Allen (jobs abroad) of the Institute for Off-Campus Experience; 3) filling out a two-page application; 4) writing a resume.

Once Venture gets the applicant's file, they start looking for positions in the student's area of interest. The student is then matched with a job, and the file is given to the prospective employer. The employer then calls the applicant for an interview. A placement fee of $150 is charged if the student and employer reach an agreement. This money is used by C.V.P. to pay the cost of finding the job.

Further information is available from Dean Carignan, or from Tom Dingman and Don Allen, who will return to Bates in two or three weeks. Students are asked to apply as soon as possible if interested.

Dimensions In Clay

By Barbara Branan

The exhibit in the Treat Gallery was not what I had expected. The pottery, if it can still be called such, is not pottery in the traditional, craft-oriented sense; rather it is a new dimension, one that breaks away almost entirely from the ancient idea of using clay as something useful.

The usual way is to make it beautiful, give it unique shapes, but make it useful. Clay in this form, no matter how superbly fashioned, is still often considered craft.

However, these pieces are not, by any stretch of the imagination, useful, so they are probably not craft. It is obviously the intention of the artist that they not be considered craft; but are they art?

I think they are. The main thrust of most of the pieces is repetition and variation. There is one wall hanging of round discs with strips of rawhide coiling in the middle. It begins with one disc, one string, and builds up pyramid fashion to five discs, five strings.

There is a rectangular slab with a coiled rope tail, and the rope itself breaking forth from the slab. Again repetition. Again variation. These two ideas are seen throughout the entire exhibit.

The artist says that the same ideas could be interpreted art in other media, but that as a potter clay was his medium, and he wanted to carry the whole concern of pottery one step further, add another dimension to it, bringing it out of the world of craft and into the realms of fine arts. He was not unsuccessful in this endeavor.
Harriers Cop State Title

By Jim Anderson

This past Saturday the Bates Cross Country team traveled north to Orono for its last regular season meet of the year. The Bates squad entered the meet as defending state champs, a title it has taken five out of the previous six years, and no matter how you look at it, it was the decisive favorite to win again. Bates answered that prediction with just that, a decisive win. The scoring went Bates 24, U. Maine 42, Bowdoin 69, and Colby 117.

The final result of the meet was a massive show of power as Bates swept six of the first eight places. Maine's Gerry LaFlamme was the overall winner, but was pushed so much that he set the Maine "Championship course" record. As in the past, however, he had little support behind him. His time of 23:59.5 was only 2.4 seconds faster than Bates freshman Tom Leonard, who cruised to second place over the 4.62 mile course. In third was Maine's Colin Campbell, but after that it was once again all red shirts. Bob Chasen (running as if there were 500 Chasens watching) ran a superb race, finishing 4th. Paul Opaworski was 5th, Bruce Merril 6th, Rich DeBruin 7th, and Russ Keenun 8th.

The meet would have been even more one sided, had not Norm Graf and Ed McPartland been pulled out of the race because of injuries. None the less the remainder of the squad added excellent support, with Jim Anderson 14th, Chris Callahan 23rd, Jon Harris 25th, Paul Grabbe 28th, Jim DeMartinis 29th, and Andy Lovley 37th. It was overall an excellent team effort, one unparalleled-in Maine for quite some time.

On the trip home, as if for an encore, Coach Walt (Mr. Track of Northern New England) Slovenski's van had the nerve to run out of gas in Augusta. As the van rolled to a standstill, McPartland got out to push, Bob Cedrone, Mike Bolden and Chuck James had been sitting on the right hand side, it just might have gone over.) One of the casualties of the quick stop, as became immediately evident as soon as things settled back down to the floor, was the State Invitational trophy. Even that, however, could not mar the day the harriers had.

The most important part of the victory, perhaps, was the fact that the three wins brought the teams final record to 16-0. An undefeated and truly outstanding season.

The final regular season meet also brought a little individual honor to some of the runners, as Leonard, Chasen, Opaworski, Merrill and DeBruin were named to the All-Maine team.

I have saved for last the most impressive accomplishment of the team so far this year. As mentioned in past articles, Bates has only 650 men, academic requirements and no sports scholarships, yet it competes against schools that are richer, less academically inclined and up to more than ten times its size. Yet last week a poll of Cross Country coaches was taken to determine the top ten of all the teams through out New England. The results are below and need no explanation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Votes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Providence</td>
<td>210</td>
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<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>168</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northeastern</td>
<td>119</td>
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<td>Holy Cross</td>
<td>68</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harvard</td>
<td>64</td>
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<td>BATES</td>
<td>52</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dartmouth</td>
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<td>Springfield</td>
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<td>Brandeis</td>
<td>22</td>
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<td>Keene St.</td>
<td>17</td>
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</tbody>
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Others receiving votes - Connecticut, Boston State, Brown, Williams.

Soccer Looking Up

By Steve McCormick

Despite the fact Bates had lost to the University of Maine at Orono early in the season in one of the worst examples of collegiate soccer anyone would like to witness, last Wednesday's game was a bit different, both in quality and outcome.

It was a defensive game until mid-way through the first half when Jim Tonrey rifled the first goal for Bates on a pass from Stan Peltti through the cluttered Maine defense in front of the goal. U. Maine quickly answered with a score on a direct kick (punishing a Bates foul) from outside the penalty area. Two more goals were tallied by Maine before the half ended, leaving Bates behind 3-1.

Bates came out "fired" the second half and quickly scored when Claudia Ida took a still air-bound cross from Glenn Lamarr and booted into the Maine goal. 15 minutes later the Bobcat's conf lagrant attitude was again rewarded when Ida beat his defenseman at the base line and passed to Toney casual rippled the Maine nets. Dave Leland (subbing for injured goalie Bill Smith) and the Bates defense kept the Mainer's scoreless the second half, but time ran out before Bates could score again. Although the game ended in a tie, Bates not only scored its greatest number of goals in a single contest, but for the first time exhibited a comeback drive after being behind at the half.

Last Saturday was a clear crisp Autumn day — a good soccer day which bore a good soccer game against St. Anselm's.

The first goal was a near-classic breakaway. Bobcat Toney took a pass at midfield from halfback Dave Quinn and raced with it downfield; the opposition goalie was caught in the goalmouth, unaided by his fullbacks, and Toney smingly put the ball past him.

Later in the period Captain Pat McNerney directed in a penalty kick called on St. Anselm handball. The fullback line in the meantime, lead by Mark Diter and John Willhoite, played small ball and only permitted rare shots from outside the 18 yard line.

Bates opened the scoring quickly in the second half on a header pass from Lamarr to Toney, which the "Stoneman" headed for Bates's third goal. Though the remainder of the game went scoreless, Bates essentially dominated and breezed to their first win of the year.

Now with their record at 1-5-2 and four games remaining, the Bobcat kickers are out this week to make possible a 500 season. After playing at Bowdoin on Wednesday they will go to Worcester to seek a victory against Clark University.
Tom Wells (above) deflects a punt in the Bates 13-9 loss to Bridgewater State. Sparky Godkisson's field goal and Kelly Trimmer's 39 yard touchdown run after intercepting a pass (below), accounted for the Bates' points.

**ANSWERMAN**

sometime and speak to the people they put there. And if that's not enough, manage to watch a Brave game sometime. That'll speak for itself, unless you're already one. Would believe that. No matter - bigger and better things to deal with.

Glad you were able to spell, but calling the idea of a "race relations" committee insane deserves some sympathy. It's happened. You're an average subterranean Batsie, though not a bad one. Didn't bother to read last week's damn good editorial, and now you've gotta go pursuing your ignorance through my column. If you really want to hear about that, be in front of Old Coram at 8 p.m. tonight. No one loves you any more.

To: The Kid! Shtcm. From: Micki.
To all reporters, columnists, and letter-to-the-editor writers wishing to submit material to The Bates Student:

1. LAST MINUTE. Period.
2. To: The Kid: Shtcm. From! Micki.
3. Get your HOT LICKS in 301.
4. Wear a political button, any political button. III arrange to get you laid.
5. Period.

**ATHLETE OF THE WEEK**

This week's "Athlete of the Week" Award goes to soccer's Jim Tonet. Jim, a sophomore from Duxbury, Mass., scored two goals in each of the teams last two games. This brings his season totals to five goals and one assist for a team-leading six points. His pair of goals in the Maine game allowed Bates to come from behind and salvage a tie, while scoring three against Wesleyan. The Bates Field Hockey team traveled last Friday to New Hampshire to play Plymouth State. It was a bad day for the Bobcats as they lost only their second game of the season, 3-0. Plymouth State picked up two goals from Debbie Bickford and a goal from Jill Woodward as they sent the Bates varsity record to 6-2.

The J.V.'s also went down to defeat as Kim Simas and Sally Evans each scored a goal pacing Plymouth to a 2-1 win. Becky Hilfrank got the goal for the Bobcats, the only Bates score of the day. The J.V. record falls to 1-3-2.

The next game for both the Varsity and J.V.'s is Tuesday at Brown.

**STICKERS BOW**

With Swen Unerub

Mr. Burke: I love you!!!
NO, Herb Canaway, I will not tell the world that you are the new manager of the Cage (a local tap room) and that you will singlehandedly bring the place into a bright new day, albeit hungover. And furthermore, I will not tell the world to come on Friday night, nor will I publicly wish you the best of luck. Isn't it rather unethical even to consider the possible press as a source of free promotions.

**CHEAP THRILLS...**

...PERSONALS...

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**M&B Quick Lunch**

For a Late Snack...at 345 Main St., the lot at Getty Gas, open 7 nights a week 8 p.m. - 2 a.m. Fri & Sat till 3 a.m. Hamburgs...FF...Steamer Dogs...
By Val Smith

The last two issues of The Student have referred to the formation of a student-faculty committee on race relations. However, it was not until last week that the steering committee for the group, composed of a dozen professors and about 20 students, formally met for the first time. They met to ascertain the actual need for such a committee on campus, delineate the role and powers of the committee, if formed, and discuss the politics of its establishment.

Perhaps the nature of all the existing problems elucidated at the meeting was best described by one professor who remarked, "As a liberal arts institution, Bates is failing in its responsibility to non-white students; the present machinery is entirely inadequate.

Specifically, the inability of Bates to recruit and promote professors from minority groups, the low percentage of non-white students at Bates, the inadequate representation of curricular material dealing with the cultures of different minorities, and the almost total absence of non-white elements in campus extracurricular affairs (excluding those co-sponsored by Afro-Am), are all cited as reasons why the formation of a special committee is desirable.

The committee would function like a research group. Its aim would be to find out what is being done at other colleges and universities and then mold its ideas to fit within the existing circumstances and structure here at Bates.

Ideally, the committee would be able to issue its reports to anyone interested, but it would primarily make its findings available to the appropriate existing faculty-student committees (probably primarily Admissions, Extra-curricular Activities, Concert-Lecture, or Educational Policy Committees). These committees could subsequently consider any changes they deem necessary, endorse these proposals, and submit them to the faculty for a vote. If, however, there is no committee within whose designated area such a suggestion falls, the proposed new avenues the new committee, if formed, could explore:

1) a faculty exchange program with other institutions;
2) an alumni endowment of at least one chair for a professor in minority studies;
3) more visiting lecturers of minority groups.

The committee could, in addition, make recommendations to both academic departments and campus organizations concerning ways in which they could acknowledge and incorporate the contributions of non-white people in their activities.

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