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Barnard Bulletin

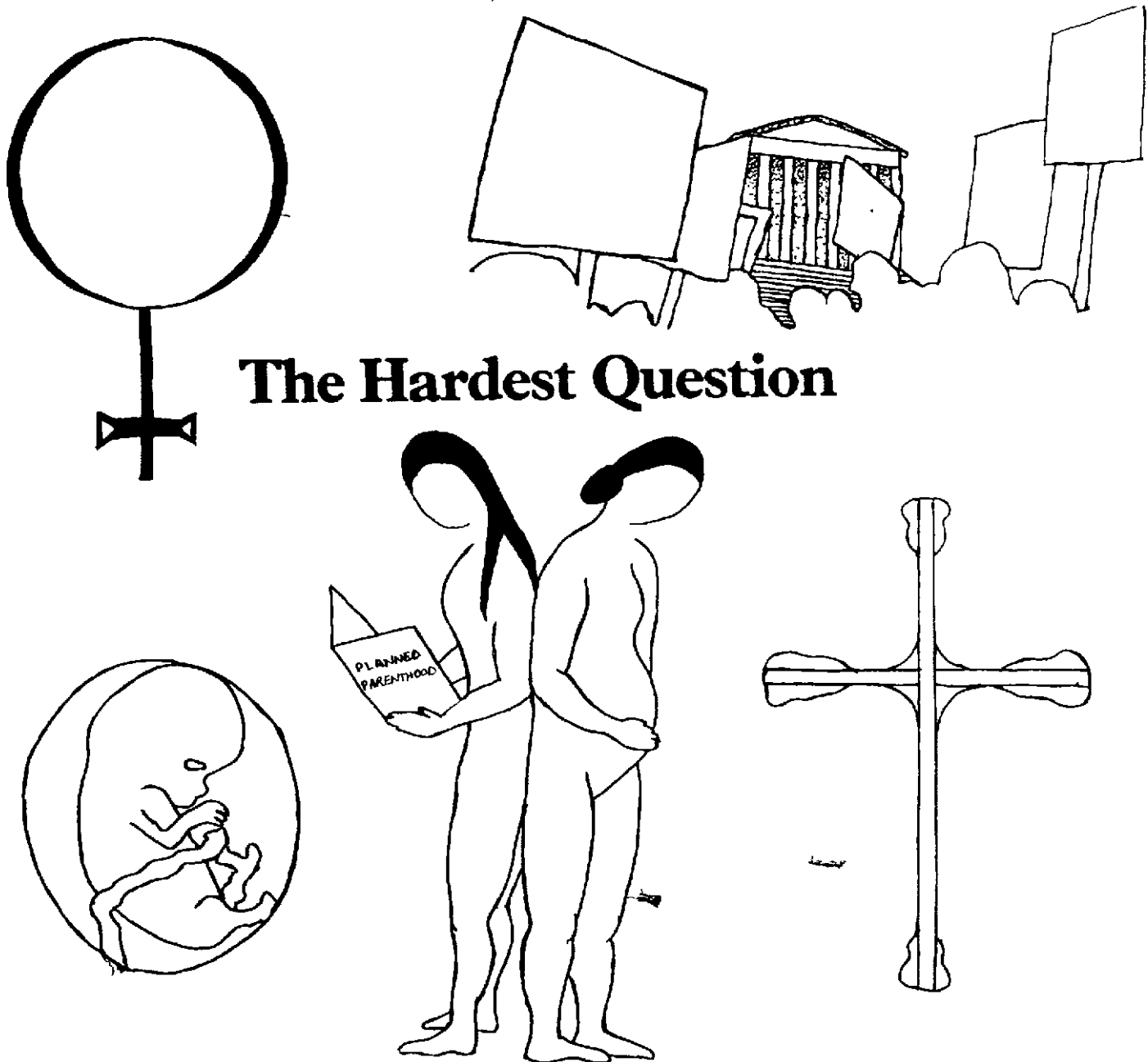


Vol. XCV No. 17

Fifty Cents

April 3, 1985

ABORTION



The Hardest Question

OP-ED

Editorial

The decision to have an abortion should be determined solely by the pregnant woman.

It is neither the right nor the responsibility of government to interfere in or impose its views on such a personal matter.

According to pro-lifers, the abortion controversy centers around the rights of the fetus, a human yet to enter the world. The rights of the embryo's bearer, however, are ignored.

Pro-lifers equate abortion with murder. Nevertheless, there are those opponents of abortion within the movement who differentiate between an unborn child conceived during rape and/or incest and one conceived during consensual intercourse. Furthermore, there is debate within the pro-life movement over whether a woman whose life is in danger should be allowed to have an abortion. Yet the more radical sects, the ones who oppose abortion under any circumstances, possess the bigger voices and pockets. Without any scientific evidence to determine when human life begins, the question remains how these pro-lifers can make moral and legal judgments against women in defense of the "rights" of the fetus.

If the Reagan Administration were to succeed in appointing two new Supreme Court justices on the basis of their "respect for the sanctity of human life," a woman's right to have an abortion would be declared invalid, the procedure illegal, and the consequences immense.

Must rape victims carry to term unwanted pregnancies conceived in unwanted circumstances?

Or, even more troubling, shall victims of rape and/or incest be allowed abortions while the naive adolescent with an unwanted pregnancy resulting from consensual intercourse be denied one?

Abortion is not a contraceptive, nor should it ever be considered as such. It is a solution for many women who find themselves with unwanted pregnancies. Women will continue to exercise their right to choose to have abortions whether they are declared illegal or not.

The Reagan Administration's lack of ideological and financial support for institutions and programs such as Planned Parenthood and sex education in the public school system is not going to make the abortion controversy disappear. In fact, it will do anything but ameliorate the situation. The Reagan Administration should realize abortions will continue to be sought, no matter the costs. Only by increasing the awareness of birth control options and counseling clinics can the American government expect to see a decrease in abortions, not by forcing unsubstantiated definitions of human life on American women.

Letters to the Editor welcome

Bear Essentials *

PROGRAM PLANNING MEETINGS FOR AUTUMN '84 have been scheduled for freshmen beginning THURS., APR. 11. Check your campus mailbox for the schedule of required meetings with your class adviser. SOPHOMORES and JUNIORS may check the Registrar's and departmental bulletin boards for meetings with major departments.

SOPHOMORES who have not met with their class advisers to prepare their degree progress audits are urged to see them without further delay. MAJOR CHOICES should be declared by APR. 12. Pick up the designated form at the Registrar's window, file one copy with the Registrar,

the other with your major department. HISTORY majors meeting: THURS., APR. 4, 4:30-6 PM, Brooks Living Room; BIOLOGY majors meeting: THURS., APR. 11, noon, Lehman Auditorium.

WRITE A LETTER TO YOUR SENATOR OR CONGRESSPERSON about the proposed budget cuts to student financial aid. A fact sheet may be obtained in the Financial Aid Office, 14 Milbank, with important information about the cuts, as well as guidelines for letter-writing.

FINANCIAL AID APPLICATIONS FOR 1985-86 due APR. 17.

PASS/D/FAIL OPTION must be filed by WED., APR. 24. No exceptions.

OFFICE HOURS

Lucy March

For many women, a missed period is a cause for anxiety rather than celebration. Panic in this situation can set in immediately, and women then often forget to take the important first step: determining if you are actually pregnant. This can be done by means of a simple pregnancy test. If your period is two or more weeks late, you can have a urine test done—available for free at many clinics in the city or through Barnard Health Services. Another test, the Bio-Cept G, is an early detection blood test accurate ten days after conception. The Bio-Cept G is also widely available at clinics and it usually costs between ten and twenty dollars. A "positive" result from either test means you are almost certainly pregnant—a fact which can be confirmed by a pelvic examination. False "negatives," however, are not uncommon. So it is a good idea to have another test done a week later, or a pelvic exam done if the other signs of pregnancy are present: nausea, vomiting, breast tenderness, or frequent urination.

If you are pregnant, you are then faced with what may be a very difficult choice. It is very common for women at this time to feel very scared and isolated, to want to deny that they are pregnant, to feel confused and even guilty. Women also frequently feel angry when faced with an unexpected pregnancy. There may be anger at ourselves or the partner if birth control was not used consistently or if, as is not uncommon, the birth control failed. There may be anger too at the fact that the consequences of sexual intercourse fall only on women, and a feeling that one is suddenly out of control of one's life.

Many feelings of conflict and ambivalence may come up that make it hard to make a decision. It may help at this time to talk out your feelings with a counselor. Free non-judgmental pregnancy counseling is available at the Women's Counseling Project and through other services in the city. Rather than letting time or the desires of others decide for you, it is best to make your own active and considered decision; one within the time constraints imposed by the nature of pregnancy.

Remember: the safest abortions are early abortions. While you can have an abortion up to 24 weeks (figured from the first day of your last period), the safest abortions are performed between the 6th and 14th week of pregnancy. The complication rate is very low for this procedure and it is very quick (a few minutes) and easy to perform. The cost usually varies from \$150 to \$250.

If you decide you want to have an abortion, the Women's Counseling Project can give you a free confidential referral to doctors and clinics in the city which we have personally checked out. We're also available for post-abortion counseling, since negative, ambivalent, as well as positive feelings are all natural, but they may be confusing and upsetting.

To contact the Women's Counseling Project for information about birth control, pregnancy, abortion, or maternity service and for referrals in all these areas, please call us at 280-8303 or drop by our office in the basement of Reid Hall. Our services are free, confidential, and available to all.

Lucy March is coordinator of the Women's Counseling Project.

Barnard Bulletin

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280-2119

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Published weekly (Wednesdays) during the academic year
ISSN 0005-6014

ABORTION: A RIGHT OR WHAT?

by Ubax Hussein

Since 1977, there has been an organized and financially secure minority violently opposed and thoroughly committed to the defeat of the legally sanctioned right of a woman to a medically safe abortion. The operating budget of the Moral Majority, the umbrella-group encompassing most "Right to Life" groups, was \$11 million in 1984. Reacting to the progressive legal gains made by the freedom movements of the late '60's and early '70's, this band of conservative citizens has resorted to all the legal, political and social resources at their disposal to attempt to convince the nation that abortion is morally incorrect, politically impractical and socially insupportable. Yet, the "pro-life" advocates are working upon tenuous ground without any historical precedent.

The question of whether or not women should be allowed to have abortions had been declared moot by a decade of feminist historical research which has proven that women *have always* had abortions. The important issue is whether or not abortions should be safe and federally funded for poorer women. The "pro-lifers," indeed, are attacking the implicit assumption in the previous statement that a woman has sovereignty over her own body.

Historically speaking, the United States Constitution has never prohibited abortion. Yet, it became obvious in the 19th Century that the kind of abortions women were having at that time were medically unsafe and physically dangerous. In fact, the actual procedure, more often than not *without* anesthesia, antiseptic or antibiotics, was more of a danger to a woman's life than childbirth. Today, due to medical technology, statistics have shown that an abortion is safer than childbirth!

Due to the 19th century findings and public sentiment that found those findings intolerable, laws were introduced into the books, for the first time in U.S. history, that made abortion illegal, the only exception being when the pregnancy poses a threat to the woman's life. These laws stayed on the books until the political activism of the Sixties allowed for a climate that would tolerate a re-examination of the law vis-a-vis abortion.

One of the groups participating in this historical activity was a group known as the American Law Institute (ALI). The ALI, composed of prominent judges, lawyers and law professors, embarked on an exhausting analysis on the constitutional position on abortion. As a result of their findings, they proposed the ALI law on abortion: a woman had a right to an abortion in the instance when her life was in danger; in the instance when her physical and mental health needed to be preserved

as a result of rape and/or incest; and/or the danger of "defective" offspring.

In 1967, Colorado became the first state to adopt the ALI law, and by 1972, it was followed by 13 other states who also legalized abortion within their borders. Abortion did not become an issue of national attention until the Supreme Court was faced with two abortion cases from Texas and Georgia in 1973. On January 22, 1973, in *Roe v. Wade*, the United States Supreme Court ruled that abortion was constitutionally legal and that it was within the rights of women to seek abortions when they chose to, as indicated by the Right to Privacy Act. Specifically the Court ruled that:

"A woman had a right to abortion when her life was endangered if the pregnancy were carried to term; when her mental and physical health were in danger as a result of rape and/or incest; during the first and second trimester, no government, federal, state or local, had any power to impose values on woman's right to abortion except to insist that the procedure be performed by a licensed physician; only after viability could abortion laws take into account the alleged interests of the fetus, and those alleged interests could/should *not* supersede consideration of the woman's health." (Italics mine)

With the emergence of a neo-conservative elite within the society, the ruling has become subject to many dangerous interpretations having implications for the legal status of women in society. As result of this pressure, on June 20, 1977, the Supreme Court modified its '73 ruling. In a 6 to 3 vote, the Court ruled in '77, that "neither the Constitution nor current federal law requires States to spend Medicaid Funds for elective abortions." The '77 ruling continued to further contradict itself by allowing for the allocation of free medical services for women who "opted" not to have abortions. This was a direct violation of the Fourteenth Amendment's Equal Protection Act. In other words, the government will not pay a poor woman to have an abortion, yet the same government will pay for childbirth expenses of another poor woman. On June 6, 1977, the *New York Times* printed an article with the following statement:

"(states) may make value judgment favoring childbirth over abortion . . . and implement that judgment by the allocation of public funds. . . ."

This is to say that the government will decide for a pregnant woman, who is too poor to pay for an abortion, whether or not

she will carry that pregnancy to term. Of course there is no mention of an increase in other social programs so that these women can support the children that the government has decreed should be born. And these women whose Medicaid checks will not cover donations, are the poorest people in the nation, according to government statistics, receiving a variety of social programs funds. With the subsequent "trimmings" of budgeting for social programs in recent years, poor women are in a catch-22 position.

The "pro-life" campaigns, however, do not focus on this aspect of the abortion issue. Instead, the focus has been on the technologically ill-equipped medical issue of when a fetus becomes a person endowed with full constitutional rights. With the banner of "save the unborn and helpless human child in danger of murder," (*New York Times*, June 1978) the "pro-lifers" have done an excellent job at manipulating the emotions of the nation and clouding our eyes to the deeper implications this assertion has for the civil rights of women in this society; nor are the far reaching implications to all of our civil rights addressed. In this quest, an "unholy" alliance of the Catholic Church, the Ku Klux Klan, the Mormon Church, and John Birch Society have united.

Legally, the major thrust of the "pro-life" movement has been to focus on the following phrase from the *Roe v. Wade* ruling: ". . . viability of alleged interests of fetus. . ." The Supreme Court was fully aware that its language was subject to interpretation of all kinds. But, it was also very aware that medical technology, theological teachings did not have it within their capacity to *define* life, or at least its *moment* of creation. Opponents to abortion have made a conscious decision to ignore the constitutional rights of women and focus on an issue without any answers—in order to deny those rights. And the arguments have followed suit:

"Pro-life" advocates have stated that women have abortions indiscriminately, therefore, they stand in front of abortion clinics, harassing women patients; and when that does not work, they bomb those clinics, without the slightest regard for possible lives lost. They believe the "rights" of the fetus supersede the rights of the woman, without any medical or legal support; and with that, they have made the implication crystal clear that some of us have rights that supersede those of others. They have completely disregarded the rights of women to their privacy, supported by the Constitution, and what are the implications when constitutional rights are subject to a particular political climate??

It is obvious that this issue is more complex than "pro-life" advocates are willing to admit, and that is the reason that it is very important for the public to do intensive research into the implications of this campaign to make abortion illegal through a constitutional amendment. It has been proven that abortions will continue to be performed for those women who make the decision to have one. The Supreme Court, in 1973, basically said to poor women that they too were entitled to the same medically safe abortions that rich women have always had. The cuts in Medicaid funds and the proposed constitutional amendment, will affect the poorest of the poor in this country women heading single family homes. Women of colour. And young women. It is these groups, often intertwined, who have been the most to suffer from any and all of the cuts to social programs.

United States citizens must come to a very critical decision concerning this issue: Is this a society that is governed by law or is it one that is going to break those laws to accommodate whatever political minority decides to confront a new issue?? If the "moral majority" is allowed to erode the constitutional rights of women, then what is stopping the KKK from proposing an amendment saying that no one has rights who is not a WASP? In fact, what is going to stop any small group from trying to legislate its particular prejudices into the constitutional law??

In the Sixties, Civil Rights activities on the part of the Black community affected white America, and the assumptions of the latter about the life of the former. Many of the white people who were active in that struggle remember that their ideas about the dynamics of racism in this country were vastly affected by the fact that they went into the Black communities and talked with Black folks about the realities of their lives.

In the Eighties, the same thing needs to happen. There must be an effort on the part of this society to educate itself about the realities that would lead a woman to have an abortion, and the implications of that choice for the woman. This is something that none of us know about, unless of course we have had someone close to us undergo the medical procedure and emotional turmoil. And without that knowledge, there is no way that we can sit back and watch the opponents of abortion-re-write the Constitution to suit their politics.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Koch Addresses College Press

Dr. Erik Jay, March 29, New York City. Mayor David Koch spoke to the College Activities Office (CAO) members at the Barnard School of Leadership Studies in New York City. Koch addressed the press and the public about the City's financial situation and the impact of the budget deficit on the City's services. He also discussed the City's efforts to reduce the deficit and the impact of the budget deficit on the City's services.

Mr. Koch said he was in a "ruminant" city, the U.S. may is in respect to the proposed budget cuts. We believe they would be devastating to the country. He said adding that they are not fair. Suggesting a different approach to the federal deficit problem. Mr. Koch espoused freezes in domestic and military spending and increased corporate taxation. In the Sixties, he said, corporations paid 25% of the federal tax revenues; today they pay only 8%. Mr. Koch said the money from increased corporate taxation could be put into trust to go towards paying off the deficit.

On the Goetz case, Mr. Koch joked, "who's going to play Goetz when they make the movie?" He then added, "(District Attorney) Bob Morgenthau is an honest prosecutor, if not the leading prosecutor in the country. If he believes there's new evidence, then there is." Mr. Koch said he felt James Ramsey, a victim in the December subway car shooting, was trying to create (racial) tension in his recent false allegation that police officers had kidnapped him. It is a violation of the law to give false information, he noted. He added he hoped Ramsey would be prosecuted for his act.

Mr. Koch said that while some members of the City's police force are corrupt and incompetent, he stated the vast majority are first rate and have a higher sense of responsibility than most civilians.

Concerning overcrowding in schools, Mr. Koch said, "We will build

whatever needed to provide adequate space." He said there should be no limit on the number of City jails. Jails are intended to punish to deter others from crime. Noting that New York is the fourth ranked city in national crime rate, he said, "What would ideally be the solution if all criminals could be incarcerated to respect the hard earned rights of the law-abiding citizen with some justice which the State City insures a right to trial."

I don't believe there will be a general strike, Mr. Koch said, adding that those who participated in the 1980 illegal strike are still paying the penalties financially.

Rape is, according to Mr. Koch, tantamount to murder, and the sentencing of convicted rapists should be stricter.

When asked about Carol Bellamy, an opponent in the upcoming mayoral election, Mr. Koch said he had declared a moratorium of one hundred days, and refused to comment about her, save that people would "get bored" if they were to continue "debating" and that with "such a long summer ahead," he'd like to see a five week campaign.

Mr. Koch said statistics in a January *New York Times* poll of the three major ethnic components of the city's population showed that 75% of the White population felt he was doing a good job as Mayor, followed by 66% of the Hispanic population and 46% of the Blacks.

Mr. Koch, who has a mezuzah over the front door of Gracie Mansion, said he is "not threatened" if there are religious symbols preserved by the Supreme Court, related to government, such as the Nativity scene proposed for the White House lawn. Mr. Koch is "not opposed to an amendment to the constitution to allow (organized) school prayer as long as it is non-demonimational" or entails there being a moment of silence. "If there were (organized school prayer)," he stated, "I don't think it would harm the schools or the country," Mr. Koch noted, however that he is "afraid of" public uproar and opposition to such an amendment.

Notes From Student Government Association

Ramona Romero President	Virginia Perez Vice President for Student Activities	Eileen Casey Vice President of Student Government	Dunwreath Rooney Treasurer	Allison Breidbart Officer of the Board
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The Friday to VOTE in the elections TODAY. But make this election every Friday to VOTE in the elections. Forms for all of the candidates will be available for consideration at the polls VOTE VOTE VOTE!

There is more fun in the office. Spring fest will be in April 27th. We need you to make this event a success so please join in the festivities. SGA sponsors this every year as a one day carnival. The coordinator of this event will be announced next week.

SGA would like to reiterate the fact that all student groups even when funded by SGA exercise their own decisions and we hold no censorship rights over any publication regardless of their affiliation to SGA.

Final preparations for the SGA sponsored raffle lottery to benefit the project will be complete by mid April. Keep your eye open for more news and info on the project.

Every year at the Student Leader Dinner, the Student Government Association awards Bear Pins to seniors, Junior Certificates to juniors, and certificates of Distinction to CC and SEAS seniors who have been consistently and actively involved in student activities. Recipients were selected Tuesday, April 2nd by a committee composed of the SGA Executive Board, the editor in chief of *Bulletin*, the President of MCAC, a representative from the College Activities Office, Dean King and Dean Schmitter. SGA would like to congratulate the dedicated recipients of these honors.

Final preparations for the SGA sponsored raffle lottery to benefit the project will be complete by mid April. Keep your eye open for more news and info on the project.

Hendrix Honored Sophomore Week

Professor Holland Hendrix has been named the winner of the 1985 Emily Gregory Award. Upon receiving notification, Hendrix said he was "absolutely stunned."

A professor of religion, Hendrix joined the Barnard faculty in 1982. He considers his most noteworthy contribution to Barnard his work in developing the seminar "Pagans, Christians and Jews in Greece: The Maternal Evidence" for which he won a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for development of an Exemplary Project in Undergraduate Education in 1984. This summer seminar was designed to provide advanced study of the history of religion based on four sites in Greece and included field study at these sites.

The Award will be given to Professor Hendrix at the Emily Gregory Award dinner on April 23.

Columbia University's Sophomore Week, which included all three undergraduate schools, was held from Wednesday, March 27, to Sunday, March 31. According to the sophomore class president, Marian Rothman, BC '87, Adam Navab, CC '87, and Steven Savas, SEAS '87, who were the coordinators of the events, the main purpose was to promote class unity and spirit, address the special needs of sophomores, and encourage communication among the three schools.

A Majors Night was the first event of Sophomore Week, and it was held separately by each school. Deans, department heads, and members of the faculty were invited to discuss their particular fields with sophomore students. Because only 150 Barnard students had not yet declared their majors, Rothman felt Sophomore Week should have been held a little earlier.

On the following night, Thursday, March 28, a dinner for the sophomore classes was held at a popular restaurant, Beefsteak Charlie's. According to Navab, about 100 people attended. It was a lot of fun. I think the people who went enjoyed it.

Although the Beach Party with the Duffers, event held on Friday, March 29, was well attended, the most successful was the Comedy Cabaret. According to Navab, tickets were sold out. We

Life Savers Announce Blood Drive Week at CU

From April 8 through 11, for the first time in the history of Columbia University, the entire university community will be joining together for Blood Drive Week rather than the semester long drives of the past. Students, faculty, staff, and administrators from twelve University divisions will be participating.

LifeSavers, a new CVSC group, has taken the responsibility of conducting the

University's blood drives in conjunction with the Greater New York Blood Program, an affiliate of the American Red Cross and the major supplier of blood and blood products to New York City area hospitals. The group plans to conduct a minimum of two campus-wide drives each academic year, as well as educate the Columbia community about the needs for blood and for sharing responsibility for

meeting those needs. Student chairman Allison Breidbart and vice chairman Marc Minasi are leading LifeSavers in their effort to ease the crisis facing the community due to life-threatening shortages in the supply of blood. In addition to these two posts, the group consists of scheduling, publicity, and donor day chairmen, plus core leaders.

continued on page 13

BC Leases Lucerne Spaces



The Hotel Lucerne - Barnard's new dormitory

by Anne Metcalf

On the afternoon of March 29th Barnard administrators announced that the College has acquired additional housing spaces for the 1985-86 academic year.

A joint decision to lease over 150 spaces at the Hotel Lucerne, a single room occupancy hotel on West 79th Street between Broadway and Amsterdam was made by Dean of Student Life George Gatch, College Counsel Kathy Rogers, and Vice President for Finance and Administration Sigmund Ginsberg.

The College had been considering leasing spaces in the Lucerne since January, Gatch said. With the addition of these spaces to Room Selection the College will be able to offer housing to those students with commuter status currently residing in Barnard dormitories.

The College will continue its policy of offering rooms to all freshmen, whether in commuting distance or not, Gatch said.

There will be 15 to 20 Barnard spaces on each of the 12 floors of the Lucerne, a designated landmark. The ratio of Barnard

students to the other residents will be approximately fifty-fifty, according to Gatch. Gatch said the other non-Barnard residents are young men and women who have moved to the city and are working here and elderly residents.

Only light cooking facilities will be available. Gatch said she didn't feel the lack of stoves would stop students from selecting into the Lucerne. Eating arrangements will depend on the student, she said. I think there are lots of options. She said if she were a resident of the Lucerne, she would use the meal plan while on campus and use the facilities at the Lucerne while there.

Gatch said that although the cost of living in the Lucerne's central area near Zabar's and the Museum of Natural History is higher than that of Manhattan Heights, the cost of bus fare to Zabar's is not expensive compared to the little place up here, the University Food Market. She added she did not think the prices of convenience in Lucerne were there are any worse than here.

There will be a Resident Director, three Resident Assistants, and a night watchman at the Lucerne. According to the letter sent to all Barnard students from Gatch, Two lounges which will have televisions will be made available to students, and will be used for Residence Hall activities and meetings. The furniture will be provided both by the hotel and the College.

Gatch said she and Ginsberg are looking into extending the escort service down to the Lucerne and providing a shuttle bus. If we do decide (to have a shuttle bus) its times will be regulated to the students' needs.

As of the morning of April 1st, Gatch

said her office had not directly received any student reaction to the Lucerne. She did, however, say that some of the Resident Directors have shown positive interest tinged with curiosity.

I'm very pleased about it (the Lucerne). It's a good building in a good location, she said. She added it might prove to be a convenient location for students who have commitments downtown. Students should look at it with an open mind and as a benefit since it provides a solution to the housing problem, Gatch concluded.

Saba Zaid, BC '87 and a commuter currently residing in 616, said she's really happy that they got the building. Now I have an option as to where to live. A lot of my choices aren't closed to me. Otherwise I might have to live in a room.

The rooming situation in the Lucerne will be very different from the current situation.

FINANCIAL AID FOLLOW-UP

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

The following are addresses of Congressmen and Senators to whom students send letters concerning President Reagan's proposed cuts in financial aid Columbia Area Representatives

Congressman Charles B. Rangel
2330 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Congressman Ted Weiss
2442 Rayburn House Office Building

Senator Daniel P. Moynihan
464 Senate Russell Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Alfonse D'Amato
520 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Chairmen of the Appropriations and Authorizing Subcommittees that deal with higher education

Senator Lowell P. Weicker
303 Senate Hart Building

U.S. Political



Education Secretary
WILLIAM J. BENNETT
Waghorn

Senator Robert T. Stafford
133 Senate Hart Office Building
Congressman William H. Natcher
2333 Rayburn House Office Building

Congressman William H. Ford
239 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

House and Senate Leadership
Congressman Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.
Speaker of the House of Representatives
2331 Rayburn House Office Building

Congressman Robert H. Michel
Minority Leader of the House
2112 Rayburn House Office Building

Senator Robert J. Dole
Majority Leader of the Senate
141 Senate Hart Office Building

Senator Robert C. Byrd
Minority Leader of the Senate
311 Senate Hart Office Building

APRIL 4th in the McIntosh Center

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+ P.J.

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REVIEWS

DESPERATELY SEEKING SUSAN:

The Un-Madonna Movie

by D. Durango Jones

The joy of being an iconoclast is that you're prepared to hate someone, but the pleasure is all the sweeter when I'm wrong. Well, Susan, in *Desperately Seeking Susan*, is the new Madonna movie (which it absolutely is not) served a little better than the rest of it. What a shock! A good movie.

Every time I mention this film I'm asked "what's it about."

It is not, first of all, about Madonna. Shot before her gondola glide into mainstream stardom, this is not a product endorsement or a glorified M-TV video. She plays the key role—as the title suggests—but it is exactly this idol-hype mentality that the movie tries to dispell.

It is about a glittering image most C.U. students have tucked away some where in mind: Manhattan, the mirage. It is seen at night, across the water, played by protagonist Rosanna Arquette as Roberta Glass from Fort Lee, New Jersey. Director Susan Seidelman makes crossing the bridge analogous to Alice's entrance into Wonderland, and the movie plays on many. Through the Looking Glass metaphors. It is in the *Mirror* Personals that

ingenious Roberta watches the wide-ranging affair between Jim (Robert Joy) and the Susan (Madonna); he is constantly desperately seeking. One day Roberta dives into Never-Never Land, out of her plasticized, sanitized and brilliantly parodied suburban life, in order to witness their rendezvous in Battery Park. From the first sighting, Susan's and her paths not only cross but mesh into a plot that is hopelessly unmappable, insidiously absorbing and comically delightful. The viewer is never even conscious of having gone down the rabbit hole—at least not until re-emerging from the theater.

Second, the film is not a schematic series of images, like a coffee-table book to be flipped through; it is infused with the possibilities inherent in the film medium. It's a thick movie, multi-dimensional, yet its greatest merit lies in its lightness. It is possible to interact with it; it's fast moving but not of the Steven Spielberg vibrating motel-bed-school-it-is-satirical-without-being-vicious-and-thought-provoking-without-wielding-the-bludgeon-of-self-righteousness. For all that can be said about it, pointed out and picked apart, its raison d'être is clearly stated by Susan and



Rosanna Arquette and Madonna

faithfully confirming throughout. Hey, we're both free, so let's just go to the movies.

Like many recent films, *Desperately Seeking Susan* refers to other films; there is a lot of playing with grade B and mystery/suspense movie conventions and imagery. Unlike many of these, though, it never becomes a tedious remake or abstruse homage. Several minor characters were cameos by such New York scene celebs as Anne Carlsle (Liquid Sky), Richard Edson (Stranger Than Paradise), John Lurie, Richard Hell, and so on, providing the texture that is New York. In the same way, the soundtrack is varied yet seamless, never obtrusive but always contributing. Carly Simon's "You Belong to Me" both accurately evokes and comments on the suburban cocktail party hosted by wifely Roberta (smothered under her special, prematurely middle-aged do), Iggy Pop's "Lust for Life" accompanies Jim and Susan—and Roberta's first encounter. By the way, a song by Madonna inconspicuously contributes to the soundtrack, and though not yet released sounds better than any on her latest album.

Finally, if the film is about anything at all, it is about roles, identity, and image, and the games played thereof. Roberta wants desperately to be some

thing. Through the course of the movie she realizes that it is not Susan (although she really wants to be) but herself that she contrasted with others in various stages of the same struggle. Madonna is Hedonism personified, a hustler who vainly photographs herself and an icon of cool following her chin and chewing gum wherever they may lead.

Laure Metcalf gives a wonderful performance as Robert's sister-in-law Leslie, a New Jersey bachelorette, a hustler of sorts too, who can conjure up any sensational explanation out of her own banality and boredom. If tabloids could talk aloud, they'd sound like this woman. Aidan Quinn as Dez provides a love interest that is for once interesting. I never figured out whether it was he or she that groans so well whenever they begin to kiss. Gary Glass, Roberta's transparent husband, is played by Mark Blum. As the Spa King of New Jersey, Glass is the quintessential middle-class man, a convoluted hypocrite, right down to his musing on whether or not it's all worthwhile after having smoked a joint. It says something that he is absent from the end of the film, no need to wrap up a loose end if it's part of a pom-pom.

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SLOW DANCING: Careers, Lovers, and Friends

by Lisa Simmons

Slow Dancing, Elizabeth Benedict's slightly too slick novel, is about young professionals trying to find definitions for their work and love lives. Lexi Steiner, a lawyer for Mexicans sneaking across the border, likes to sleep around with other high-powered lawyers. For Lexi, at least in the beginning, it's all for the sex, the adventure, thrill of trespassing. A joy ride. A phony passport. (She's a woman who's learned to play at the game of seduction without being seduced.) These men are off the record. Then Lexi decides she wants more—to have someone around someone who would take note, have expectations, think she was complicated. Not contrived, but rich.

Conveniently, Lexi meets David Wiley, a reporter whose work broke up his marriage and prevents him from seeing his adolescent daughter. He's beginning to question his role as father, to wonder if he should be more present—even if he should share custody with his ex-wife, Louise, his daughter is a slightly precocious but inno-

cent girl who likes to act and predict people's fortunes with tarot cards. Later, she replaces the tarot cards with a punk rocker boyfriend with whom she's considering losing her virginity. Louise is also trying to figure out the meaning of relationships.

On Lexi and David's first date—which is really a business dinner—they drink too many margaritas at a fancy but non-'fake fancy' L.A. restaurant and end the evening in David's bed at a L.A. hotel with glass elevators and a color-coded system of finding your room. The sex is that great but the romance has been a David finally finds a permanent place in Marina Del Rey—he's been living in friends' apartments and hotel rooms across the country—Lexi practically moves in.

Lexi has a best friend, Nell. They run high phone bills with long distance calls to discuss their sex lives—leaving little or nothing to the other's imagination until Lexi meets David, who starts to replace Nell. Nell is writing a book about single women who are happy and maybe feels

just a little jealous for Lexi has always been in love with Nell and has even considered sleeping with her. They never do. Lexi's worried they'd start to laugh and anyway, Nell finds her own man with whom she can lie in bed for days, ordering in Chinese food. Nell is under contract to write about happy single women only she isn't so sure she's happy being single. Also, while Lexi seems to have her whole career planned out, briefcase and suits for the courtroom ready to go, Nell thinks she

might escape to Nepal because there really isn't any other place for her to go. She has done the west coast, is doing the east coast, and believes Nepal's the only place left. Feeling so depressed she buys three pastries at a Soho patisserie and gobbling them "to make her (self) reel."

The novel ends predictably with Lexi deciding to marry David Wiley and to have a baby. With Reagan's election, Lexi lost her job at the Legal Services but has

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RODEO: Joffrey on the High Horse

by Hibi Pandleton

Few ballets could rival Agnes de Mille's "Rodeo" in enthusiasm for the early Western way of life and few ballet companies could rival the Joffrey's vivacious production of this now classic piece of American choreography. When it was first performed in 1942, "Rodeo" was a twenty-two curtain call hit, and its popularity seems not to have diminished since—not only because of the tribute it pays to America's heritage but also because it stays close to basic human concerns, like finding love, enjoying a good laugh, and weathering inevitable hardships.

"Rodeo" takes place on a ranch in a small southwestern community. The piece opens with a traditional Saturday afternoon rodeo—which gives the cowhands a chance to show off their riding and roping skills—and concludes with an evening of square dancing. Throughout the course of the day, we witness the story of an adolescent cowgirl who is too rambunctious to be accepted by the other, more delicate girls, too tomboyish to win affection from the cowboys, and not tomboyish enough to participate successfully in their rodeo antics. For the sake of love the cowgirl fights to tame her spirit and manages to curb her wild streak a bit. But in the end her attempts prove unnecessary for she wins the heart of a sturdy, tap-dancing cowboy who loves her because of her compunction, not despite it.

In the face of all this cuteness and cajolery we might thank Aaron Copeland for a score that's lively enough to support the rodeo festivities, but serious enough to keep the whole scene from becoming unbelievably cheery. The trumpets and horns are subdued by violins that never allow for too exuberant a tone and keep the piece somewhat melancholy.

Carole Valleskey, who plays the cowgirl role, epitomizes all the spunky cuteness one might expect in a tomboy looking for love during the post-rodeo festivities. In the beginning she wears dungarees and a plaid shirt and an almost endless braid that swings merrily behind her whether she's wrangling with the boys or despairing over unrequited love. She is at her most adorable when pretending to gallop with the boys. With her fanny sticking up in the air and wiggling madly from side to side, she struggles to gain control of her not-so-tame filly. During her wild horse ride her face wears a silly expression of exasperation that looked more amused than upset.

Later when she has mellowed somewhat and decides to enter the social scene, she dresses up in a yellow frock impoverished of the pretty ruffles and lace worn by all the other party-going coquettes. When she recognizes her plainness, she smiles apologetically, tugs at her dress in a meager attempt to improve its appearance, and then, with a shrug, accepts the futility of her attempts. The setback is forgotten, and she bursts into a wild and happy dance so inspiring that she wins herself the tap-dancing cowboy's love. Everyone square dances. The patterns are intricate and fast-paced, the mood is high, and the effect is that of real folks enjoying a good time.

* * * * *

Last Sunday the Joffrey successfully finished its first season at the New York State Theater in Lincoln Center. The repertoire contained such varying works as "Trinity"—one of the few decent rock

ballets around, several works by Sir Frederick Ashton, England's longtime choreographic genius, and the premiere of John Cranko's "Romeo and Juliet." Helping to round out the roster was, of course, "Rodeo," a work that captures the essence of American spirit, instills a sense of pride for our heritage, and yet, in the face of all this patriotism, remains light-hearted, funny, and human.

The cowhands, though, do not have so much trouble. As Agnes de Mille explained to her dancers in the first rehearsals of "Rodeo," these are "thick-muscled" men with enough strength to fight the "brute furies of an eight-hundred-pound animal." The men squat in deep *plies* with widespread legs that keep their imaginary horses steady. They leap into the air like bucking horses. Their bottom halves look convincingly like snowy horse flanks, while their top halves are those of happy cowboys, sitting imperiously atop their



Cowgirl Carole Valleskey

wild horses. They canter wildly about the stage and wind up in a tidy diagonal. Pulling their imaginary reins tightly, each awaits his turn to perform a macho trick—some swing lassos and rope steer, others jump one leg straight the other bent and never seem to come down. From there they ride in a circle. The cowgirl tries to join in, but succeeds only in losing control of her horse, interfering with the men, and finishing late.

Her failures to keep up frustrate her and the ensuing temper tantrums are executed without any reserve—more than once she slings her body to the ground where she thrashes about, banging her fists and head anywhere and everywhere. Somehow she is irresistible when she does this—she's so cute when she's angry.

Books: Insight into Abortion

by Elizabeth Larsen

Abortion is at once the simplest and most complex surgical procedure commonly performed today. Though less painful than a tooth extraction and safer than a tonsillectomy, the procedure has been debated and studied like no other. And still it lies at the center of both a profound national debate about the social order and end of many women's deepest considerations about their own nature.

In her book *THINKING ABOUT ABORTION* Beryl Lief Benderly addresses this controversial subject in a very informative, non-judgemental manner. Extensively researched, this book is an excellent guide for anyone either directly or indirectly involved in the decision of having an abortion. Benderly discusses attitudes towards and techniques of abortion as well as providing criteria for choosing a competent abortion clinic. By far the strongest section of the book is a section which explores the moral aspect of abortion. By using specific examples Benderly provides information that is both comforting as well as insightful. In addition *THINKING ABOUT ABORTION* explores the alternatives to abortion along with men's feelings on the subject.

Beryl Lief Benderly is the author of *DANCING WITHOUT MUSIC*, *DEAFNESS IN AMERICA* and co-author of *DISCOVERING CULTURE: AN INTRODUCTION TO ANTHROPOLOGY*. She has also written for *PSYCHOLOGY TODAY*, *MS*, *REDBOOK*, *SCIENCE*, *WOMEN'S DAY*, *SMITHSONIAN* and *Washington POST*. Her awards include the National Media Award from the American Psychological Federation and a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship.

ABORTION

CHURCH

STATE

"Human Life Is Sacred"

by Roxana Fernandez

A Gallup Poll taken in the summer of 1982 on abortion showed that 64% of U.S. Catholics oppose a ban on all abortion. A *New York Times* poll in November of 1983 of 1,309 adults showed that 62% of the Catholic respondents agreed that abortion is the same thing as murdering a child while 66% agreed that abortion sometimes is the best course in a bad situation. (*New York Times Magazine*, Oct. 14, 1984.) Yet opposition to abortion in the Catholic Church dates back to the 1st century with the conviction that abortion is a grave evil which shows disrespect for human life. The Church adheres to this view probably even more strongly today with a rising surge of dissenters from their belief. The moral and political ramifications surrounding this controversy and the questions raised by the pro-life and pro-choice movements have been examined on the one side by Catholics such as New York's Archbishop John J. O'Connor and on the other side by politicians such as Geraldine Ferraro and Mario Cuomo. The question has raised doubts among many Catholics as to which side to identify with. The vacillation evident throughout the country can also be seen by some Catholic students on campus.

The Church's teaching on abortion is based on its conviction that human life is sacred and that each is called into existence by God to live out a destiny culminating in eternal union with him. This statement from the "Respect Life" manual published each year by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington culminates the Church's view on the respect for human life. The Church furthermore believes that abortion is not a private matter between a woman and her doctor but also involves the mother's unborn child. The fetus, they feel, should not be aborted and should be given the benefit of the doubt since no one knows when the soul actually enters the body. According to the Declaration on Procured Abortion by the Sacred Congregation of the Doctrine of

the Faith, "it is not up to biological sciences to make a definitive judgment on questions which are properly philosophical and moral such as the moment when a human person is constituted or the legitimacy of abortion. Abortion the Church also believes, is sought many times as a solution to personal and social problems and serves as an obstruction in the search for solutions that more deeply analyze the problem."

From these issues rises the controversy. Catholic politicians such as Ferraro and Cuomo and many pro-choicers, although privately in moral agreement with the Church, feel that their personal beliefs should not be politically imposed on others. At a reception in Pennsylvania last September Ferraro said she would serve "all the people of every faith not just some people of my own faith. I cannot and will not seek to impose my own religious views on others" (*Time*, Sept. 1984). Cuomo held a similar stand in his speech of September 13, 1984 to the Theology Department at Notre Dame when he said, "I protect my right to be a Catholic by preserving your right to believe as a Jew, a Protestant, or nonbeliever, or as anything else you choose." He further stated that "our public morality depends on a consensus view of right and wrong. The values derived from religious belief will not—and should not—be accepted as part of the public morality unless they are shared by the pluralistic community at large, by consensus."

To counteract his argument, an article published in *America* by David R. Colm Jr., said Cuomo's argument against imposing Catholic views on others is valid but "beside the point when the real question is whether or not we ought to impose on others what we believe to be our rationally founded moral convictions." Cuomo, however, feels that he and other Catholics in public office must "help create conditions under which all can live with a maximum of dignity and with a reasonable degree of freedom where everyone who chooses may hold beliefs different from

specifically Catholic ones." In opposition, Archbishop O'Connor however, has adamantly stated, "I don't see how a Catholic in good conscience can vote for a candidate who explicitly supports abortion" (*New York Times Magazine*, Oct. 14, 1984).

There appear to be vacillating opinions among some Catholic students. The majority of the Catholic students interviewed tend to identify themselves with the pro-choice movement while others identify more with pro-lifers. "If I were to become pregnant now," said a Barnard sophomore, "I'm not in a position to raise a child but I'm against abortion as a form of contraception." As far as the Church is concerned, she does not "like the fact that the Church itself puts rules upon us. It's merging Church and state. Furthermore, I don't think the Church should tell us what to do with our bodies."

A freshman, Micaela Tavasani, also said abortion should not be used as a method of contraception but depending on the circumstances, I would have an abortion. For example, if I knew my child would have birth defects or if I were raped and became pregnant, I want a career and I don't want a child to interfere with it right now." Tavasani feels, however, that the decision should be made early on, "in the later months, I would consider it a crime and agreed with the Church." How do these views affect her as a Catholic? "It affects me as a Catholic because it makes me think about a lot of the things the Church stands for and if I should support the Church even if it goes against some of my personal convictions." Tavasani said she doesn't feel like a hypocrite going to Church because "I still believe strongly in God. She also said she understands the Church's view and thinks their argument is "impeccable," but doesn't hold in today's society. "It never really has. People who have wanted to have an abortion always have and I think it should be legalized to make it less dangerous."

A junior view was given by Barnard Diener Rosemarie Burn, whose

"sympathies are more pro-life" although she has not classified herself. She believes that Catholic women because of Church teachings on abortion, struggle with the issue and can "understand that the Catholic Church has a long way to come with women." Burn said, however, that the issue is a "human issue, not a political or Church issue that shouldn't be regarded as a 'question of religious imperialism.' Burn believes the issues is "not a religious question or an imposition of morals on other people but a community issue that has to be dealt with by society."

The pro-life movement, Burn feels has been stereotyped. "You presume that people who are pro-life are not attuned to social justice. Some see pro-life not as an evolution of human life, but as a return to

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And the University

by J.B. Sample

What are the reactions of Columbia University students to the topic of abortion? An attitude poll for a Social Psychology lab at Barnard was conducted by Hillary Sobel, Bobby Tierney, and myself. The survey revealed a diversity of opinions. For example, one subject stated that he would not want his girlfriend to have an abortion. "There is no question in my mind. But if there was a question in her mind, then I would file an injunction in court to prevent the abortion. If I knew someone who had an abortion, I would feel sad because someone had been misguided, and I hope she could repent." Another interviewee, Anna Goldstein Barnard '87, expressed, "I would feel sympathetic towards a person who had an abortion and believed that there are other options you don't have to drop out of school, hate your baby, or become a welfare mother."

Despite a wide range of opinions, the study revealed some interesting attitude trends. Of those surveyed, 86.7% (n=26) were pro-choice, 13% (n=4) were pro-life. The four subjects that were pro-life tended to be more religious and, interestingly, they were all men. When asked what factors influenced and shaped their

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by Judith L. Radler

Legal abortion is a fact in the United States and has been since the 1973 Supreme Court decision of *Roe vs. Wade*.

The National Organization for Women (NOW), a non-profit, volunteer group, works for women's civil rights in all arenas and actively supports the fight to maintain freedom of choice on the issue of reproductive rights and abortion. Virginia Kallianes, a former coordinator of the reproductive rights committee of NOW, says that the "right to choose abortion should be left to women not government."

Politicians who want to outlaw abortion are visible, and they are pushing toward their goal. Two legislative proposals exist as threats to the right to have an abortion. They are the Human Life Amendment, a proposed amendment to

the Constitution, and the more immediately dangerous Human Life Statute (HLS). The HLS is a bill, and it required only the president's signature and a Congressional majority to become a law. The HLS states that a human fertilized egg is a person who has full protections and rights under the Constitution.

The HLS is sponsored by Jesse Helms and co-sponsored by Senator Alfonse D'Amato of New York. Access to safe legal abortions should not be questioned—it is a right of human freedom. The moral questions should be asked and answered only by the individual.

Kallianes warns that it's dangerous to think (abortion is) not a priority. The danger is being complacent. Women who've lived with legal abortion take it for granted—they haven't lived with illegal abortion. Banned abortions would be regression of the worst kind, abortions would not cease, they would retreat once again to the back alley.

Barbara Winslow, a Women's Studies professor at Barnard, is a Reproductive Rights Advocate in Brooklyn. She belongs to a grassroots organization that meets in homes and is committed to maintaining the right to legal abortion. The group is affiliated, as is NOW, with CARASA ("Committee for Abortion Rights and Against Sterilization Abuses").

Winslow believes that "we have to educate the public—take this on our selves," and she feels that abortion should be available to every woman regardless of the person's age, financial status or position. She says, "I had an illegal abortion. It is something I would never want to wish on anyone."

The issue of abortion cannot be relegated to only legal and illegal. Concurrently, there are questions of funding and providing equal opportunity for all women. There are only eleven states which voluntarily provide Medicaid funding for medically necessary abortions for indigent women. New York is one of them. Five other states are under court order to fund Medicaid abortions.

Freedom of Choice

Abortion rights have been chipped away in other areas too. Insurance for federal employees does not cover abortion costs, and peace corps workers no longer receive financial assistance.

Kallianes of NOW feels it is vital to recognize the larger picture of women's rights. She states that "yes we've made progress but it's not that widespread it's not filtering down. Women still earn only 61% of what men earn. She finds that there are women who don't want to say that they are feminists that a negative connotation has been put over by anti-women forces."

I find working here (N.Y.C. chapter of NOW) says Kallianes, that women will call and say this happened at work, and I'll say it's discrimination and sexual harassment and they'll say it can't happen in 1985. The fight to change attitudes concerning women's rights and human rights is one that must be ongoing.

Choices Women's Medical Center Inc. is a clinic which operates in the New York City area. Its founder and director Merle Hoffman, formulated a concept called Patient Power. It teaches people how to question and make decisions for themselves when dealing with the medical community. Donna Ruscavage, a counselor at the center, says that the hope is that women will feel they are in control of their lives. In the case of teenagers, she says the counselling helps them realize that "they do have control—it's O.K. for them to say no and to use birth control."

The clinic provides many services for both men and women and it is involved in a community outreach program. Workers there go to neighborhood schools and talk to young people about topics such as birth control. They also go to Riker's Island and speak to female inmates.

The center has received harassment from anti-choice forces such as a violent threat last October and occasional picketing. Ruscavage says that "once in a while patients are approached—not that often and not in large numbers. How do women react when besieged by people

who harass them regarding personal decisions? Most patients, she says, get angry."

Women who support individual freedom should also be angered by the media's treatment of the abortion issue. Kallianes offers an example of the bias that is projected. Jennifer Brown, President of the N.Y.C. chapter of NOW, debated PIVUS Schaffly, a leader in the anti-abortion movement or ABC's Momin, Show. The latter showed a clip from the film

The Silent Scream which depicts the abortion of a 12-week-old fetus. The film needs a narration by a doctor to tell the audience that what they are seeing is a supposed scream by the fetus. Brown had brought along her own visual aid to the program—a photo of a woman who died of an illegal abortion. The producers would not allow her to show it however, as it was too horrible. Kallianes asserts that it's totally unfair for the media to be that kind of judge.

It is unjust for anyone to judge a woman who chooses to have an abortion. People who support the right to choose do not suggest that abortion is the only answer. It is one answer and must be provided in a safe medical environment free from enforced social guilt.

In the realm of reproductive rights the government can regulate only when it affects the health of the pregnant woman. It cannot inhibit her from deciding on her own course of morality, and it should not base a woman's freedom on her ability to pay. As a democracy the United States has the obligation to uphold the rights of all its citizens to control their lives and bodies.

IMPRESSIONS OF ABORTION

I had an abortion. I, who always lectured others to be careful. Yes, I am familiar with birth control, and yes, so was my boyfriend. I also know that all it takes is one careless time and the damage is done. Well, it was that one careless time that left me pregnant.

I also love children very much, but at nineteen years old, I am not yet ready to have any. I was never against abortion, but I never thought I would have one. But when I thought about my child's shady future, I immediately turned in this question. My boyfriend didn't know about this until after I aborted the child. By then I had already broken up with him for other reasons.

By the time I decided to go to my doctor, I was eleven weeks pregnant. I waited so long hoping there would be another choice. But he didn't lecture me. All he told me was how lucky I was to have gone that day. Had I waited even a week, I would probably have been too late. The next morning, Monday, I was in the waiting room at the clinic. My doctor was in the room, and he was talking to another doctor. I was in there for the night before.

The last thing I remember before going under the anesthesia was that it was 9:45. I was lying on the table and my doctor was holding my hand. He was assuring me that everything would be fine. He was also reminding me how lucky I was to have such a good friend like Cleo (not her real name). She was waiting for me in the waiting room. By then the anaestheologist had come and his last words were "You won't feel a thing." When I came out, it was 10:30. I was crying. I remember calling out Cleo's name and realizing what I had done.

At 11:00 I was out of the clinic with Cleo at my side. It was all over, and I made me feel pretty. I had a very good psychiatrist, and I cannot say enough about her. She did it for me. She was understanding and understanding. I also realized I am very lucky to have my friend. She was understanding and she stayed by me and supported me when I needed her.

I am not proud of what I did, but I am crying so much, and I don't know why. I had a very good psychiatrist, and I cannot say enough about her. She did it for me. She was understanding and understanding. I also realized I am very lucky to have my friend. She was understanding and she stayed by me and supported me when I needed her.

I finished with the procedure and I was my boyfriend in the waiting room.

I was all right, and I felt better. I had a very good psychiatrist, and I cannot say enough about her. She did it for me. She was understanding and understanding. I also realized I am very lucky to have my friend. She was understanding and she stayed by me and supported me when I needed her.

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At the abortion clinic, my boyfriend and I stood on the table, and gave the efficient nurse a check. As I was being escorted to the dressing room, I turned back to him and we looked at one another regretfully.

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A nurse approached me with a selection of cookies, chocolate, clay, Laura Dore, Nilla Wafers, Oreo, and ginger snaps. And I looked at them with a smile.

THOUGHTS OF OUR OWN

CLINIC VIOLENCE

SUMMARY OF CLINIC VIOLENCE
AS REPORTED TO THE FBI
AT USAI ABOPTION CLINICS

TYPE OF VIOLENCE	1977 1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
Picketing & Harassment (no. of clinics affected)		1	1	1	1	1
Hate Mail/Harassment Phone Calls (no. of clinics affected)	0	1	1	1	1	1
<hr/>						
SPECIFIC ACTS OF VIOLENCE						
Invasions	1	3	1	1	1	1
Vandalism	1	2	1	1	1	1
Death Threats	1	1	1	1	1	1
Bomb Threats	0	0	1	1	1	1
Assaults/Batteries	1	0	1	1	1	1
Burglaries	1	0	1	1	1	1
Kidnapping/Hostage-Taking	0	0	1	1	1	1
Attempted Arson/Bombing	2	1	1	1	1	1
Arsons	8	1	4	1	1	1
Bombings	4	0	4	1	1	1
TOTAL	61	9	45	11	11	11

REPORTED INCIDENTS OF ARSON AND BOMBING, 1985

<u>Facility</u>	<u>City/State</u>	<u>Date of Incident</u>	<u>Type of Incident</u>
Hillcrest Women's Surgi-Center	Washington, DC	1/1/85	Bomb
Women's Clinic of Mesquite	Mesquite, TX	2/22/85	Arson
Founder's Clinic	Columbus, OH	2/23/85	Attempted Bombing
Planned Parenthood of Los Angeles, Pomona Chapter	Pomona, CA	2/26/85	Attempted Arson
Birth Control Institute	San Diego, CA	3/16/85	Bomb

HEALTH SERVICES

Abortion at Barnard

by Vivian Ladd

Partial abortion insurance coverage is part of the mandatory Barnard Health plan. Up to \$125, or nearly half the current cost of an abortion, will be reimbursed for all expenses resulting from an elective abortion with the doctor and hospital of the student's choice.

Although the abortion coverage is listed in the health insurance pamphlet in every student's registration packet, only three out of 15 students interviewed were aware that the service was offered.

Abortion insurance coverage was instituted in 1979, said Dr. Haricla Mogul, Director of the Barnard Health Service. Students found it difficult to live with the expense. The last Medical Center election, half the participants voted for pro-life, and so were left in financial limbo. In an attempt to help, the Health Service Committee comprised of students and faculty, therefore, met to provide funds for student abortions.

The coverage began at \$100 toward all expenses pertaining to an abortion, more than half of the usual fee. A notice was included in each student's registration packet providing a clause whereby students with moral or ethical reservations could be refunded the \$50 which then contributed to the abortion coverage.

Health Services stopped sending these notices because they received no student requests for reimbursement. However, Dr. Mogul stressed that any student with moral reservations about contributing to the coverage would without question be reimbursed at any time.

The students on the committee decided the level of coverage provided. They did not want to provide full coverage because they were afraid that at some subconscious level, students might begin to use abortion as a form of contraception, said Mogul.

The service is actively used. Most students are not aware of the coverage according to Mogul, until they come in for a pregnancy test. If the test is positive, they are then informed about the service and are given the names of a few doctors and hospitals which the Health Service has found to be supportive and reliable in the past. The Health Service monitors their recommendations closely. If a student reports any complaints about her experience, the name of the doctor is dropped from the list, Mogul said.

Another 20-year old was ambivalently pro-choice. "I'm pro-choice but not in a rah' rah'! It's my body kind-of way," she said. "She believes that a fetus is alive and is a developing human being and therefore has rights, but making abortion

illegal would not serve any purpose other than promoting unsanitary abortions that could risk the mother's life," she said.

She had not heard of the program but said it was "O.K." Most Barnard women seeking an abortion would give their decision a lot of thought and therefore abortion services should be available, she said, adding that the original exemption clause should be retained.

Student members of the Health Committee are currently redesigning the health insurance pamphlet and will enlarge the section describing abortion coverage next year, Dr. Mogul said. For further information, contact Health Services at x2091.

All students who come in for a pregnancy test are given contraceptive counseling to prevent unwanted pregnancies. The ideology of the Health Service is that "not everyone should have an abortion but everyone should be able to have safe, legal abortions," Dr. Mogul said. They encourage students to share their decision about having an abortion with their parents. They also discourage multiple abortions, she said, "since more than three abortions seriously reduces the fertility potential for a large number of women."

Although all 15 of the Barnard students interviewed said they were pro-choice, their attitudes were wide ranging about the coverage. Seven were highly enthusiastic, four felt it was "O.K.," two felt it was not necessary, and two were opposed. Nine of the students felt the coverage should be optional for students who did not wish to contribute for moral or personal reasons. The remaining six either believed that exempting students from one aspect of the health plan would "open the floodgates" and students would begin to ask to be exempted from other parts of the coverage, or that retaining the option was not necessary.

One 20-year old junior who declared herself to be "strongly" pro-choice and had heard of the program said it was "very good and very important." She did not believe an exemption clause should exist.

"It is simply one type of health care. It shouldn't be treated as a moral issue," she said.

Another sophomore, also 20, had very different views. She declared herself to be pro-choice also, but only because she felt "government has no responsibility in choosing for another person." However, she believed abortions should only occur when a woman cannot afford to bring up the child, when a mother's life is in danger, when the child is deformed, or in the case of rape.

She was particularly upset that abor-

tion coverage was part of the mandatory health plan. "There shouldn't be a law saying you can't have an abortion but there certainly shouldn't be a law saying you have to contribute to them," she said.

Read this page like your life depends on it

Learning how to examine your breasts properly can help save your life. Breast cancer found early and treated promptly has an excellent chance to cure. Once a month, about a week after your period, when your breasts are not tender or swollen, use this simple 3-step self-examination procedure. Regular inspection shows what is normal for you and will give you confidence in your examination. Most lumps are not cancer, but only a doctor can make a diagnosis. Ask your doctor to teach you this method.



1. In bath or shower.

Fingers flat, move gently over each breast with the opposite hand. Check for any lumps, hard knots or thickening.



2. In front of a mirror.

Inspect your breasts with arms at your sides. Next, raise your arms high overhead. Look for any changes in contour, a swelling, dimpling of skin or changes in nipple. Rest palms on hips, press down firmly to flex chest muscles. Left and right breast will not exactly match.

3. Lying down.

To examine right breast, put pillow or folded towel under right shoulder. Place right hand behind head to distribute breast tissue more evenly on chest. With left hand fingers flat, press gently in small circular motions around an imaginary clock face. Begin at the outer most top of right breast (12:00), move on to 1:00 and so on, around and back to 12:00. A ridge of firm tissue in the lower curve of each breast is normal. Make about three circles moving closer and including nipple. Slowly repeat procedure on left breast. Notice how breast structure feels. Finally squeeze nipple gently between thumb and index finger. Any discharge, clear or bloody, should be reported to your doctor immediately. The American Cancer Society wants you to know.



Blood

continued from page 4

from twelve schools within the university.

According to Breidbart, Columbia University is a major source of blood for New York City hospitals having collected 2,152 pints of blood in the 1983-84 academic year and 684 pints in the 1984 fall semester.

Columbia has the opportunity to greatly improve its record of blood donations, said Breidbart. "With a campus population of more than 18,000 including students, faculty, staff and administrators, we have just cause to expect that we will increase our donations to New York City's patients who need our blood."

The theme for the April drive is "Don't be a chicken! Be a blood donor!" Lifesavers as planned an intensive drive campaign that includes "chicken buster" T-shirts to each donor and a human sized chicken on campus to encourage people to make their blood donation pledge. The weeks prior to the drive will be Donor Pledge Week with sign-up tables located at various campus sites. A schedule of donation sites will be published so individuals may select the most convenient time and location.

Although the drives will be student run, a staff advisor and an administrative campaign chairman will assist. Currently serving as staff advisor and administrative campaign chairman are Robert Early, vice president for personnel management, and Robert Pollack, dean of Columbia College.

Sophomore

continued from page 4

opened that to other students and not just the sophomores.

The last event of Sophomore Week consisted of three movies shown at McIntosh Center. Few attended. Rothman said, "The turnout could have been better, but considering that this was the first time it had been done, it was a success. I encourage the freshmen to try it."

Dancing

continued from page 6

found another job teaching at the UCLA Law School. Nell still hasn't found her ambition and of course there's still a tension between Nell and Lexi's lover David. But all this seems to resolve itself as Nell leaves L.A. after a visit with Lexi's present of a broken diaphragm, (implicit advice to have her own baby).

It's nice that Benedict made such a happy ending for these characters. But I felt somewhat unsatisfied by this novel—as if though it never quite took off. No serious conflicts arose—no uncomfortable tensions fully developed. Lexi has her job

at Legal Services, and Lexi loses her job at Legal Services. Nowhere is there the anxiety of those about to be unemployed. Lexi might have to make a choice in the course of her career, she may have to join the high powered corporate lawyers in Washington after having avoided that track all along. However, Benedict never shows her character going through the angst of decision. It's all so smooth, so slick that by the end it's as if nothing happened.

The same is true for her relationship with David. Lexi has avoided the expected and comfortable relationship all along. Yet when she finds herself increasingly committed to this man, she shows little reluctance, for the most part she just glides into the relationship. The most tension we see is Lexi's jealousy at a past fling of Wiley's. Melissa, a black girl with great legs and a great ass. Again no tension, no conflict.

Wiley's life also runs a little too smoothly for the purpose of fiction. He is a reporter who lives in hotels and friends' apartments, who "cancels weekends" with his daughter to cover stories on earthquakes and who hasn't been seriously involved with a woman since his wife. Later in the novel, David Wiley eases into his apartment in Marina-del-Ray, adjusts to his role as father when his very adolescent daughter moves in for a year, shows little frustration in his change of careers as he changes from being a reporter to being a desk editorial writer. He never views Lexi as an intrusion; she floats softly into his life and there is no problem for him finding her a space. Benedict has glossed over the lives of her characters so that they become surfaces, thin veneers.

Benedict does not fail her reader entirely—there is still Nell, Nell, who gorges on French pastries, who has fantasies of ruining a pretentious party tape with obscene punk rock music, who isn't too sure of what she wants—a lover, work, neither or both, sticks out as the most believable. Her constant deliberation, the anxiety of her decisions, the not-too-smooth texture of her personality, gives her the quality of a person worth examining. I wanted to know more about Nell, about her relationship and if and how she decides to work. Will she always want something different? The imperfection of her life is what interests me. Unfortunately, Benedict seemed more concerned with maintaining the stasis of Lexi and Wiley's lives—a sterility of life that the L.A. colour coded hotel emblemizes.

Modonna

continued from page 6

And on and on: the familiar scenery of the East village, the New York/borough jokes, the costuming—it sounds as if I'm raving and I hate to be obvious. Suffice it to say that I consider Susan Seidelman and

her involved team to have created a film both critical and entertaining, provocative and very funny. It is gratifying to be able to respond to "How was it?" with "Good" instead of "Well, like it but..." or worse.

Church

continued from page 7

traditional roles." The movement, she said, is not trying to abolish equal rights for women. "You'll find women in the pro-life movement who are feminists and have compassion for other people." Burn believes, however, that there are circumstances under which a woman would be justified in having an abortion. "If you can say there's a just war, you can say there's a just abortion." However, Burn said she felt "abortion is a frightening prospect of the way society deals with life." She feels the indecision among Catholics "doesn't prove the Church is wrong, but that Catholics as a whole are free-thinking and free acting."

Wanda Strukus, a Barnard freshman, feels that being a Catholic would not "affect my decision (of abortion) because other elements of the situation would be more pressing." Strukus believes that the right to a legal abortion is "a choice that shouldn't be limited." The Church, she believes, is "a very old system and changes really slowly. People are growing faster than the Church."

Rene Kay, Director of Barnard's Catholic Women's Center, feels that Catholics have to make "compromises about the structure" of the Church. "I'm not going to leave the Church because I don't agree with some things." Kay believes the Hierarchy is scared "because the time has come for the structure to change." Kay said there has been a lot of antagonism with feminist Catholics because they support abortion. She said due to her experience with women, she is "on dialogue with both sides of the issue, and the Center supports women in the dialogue of these issues. It's a very emotional issue for women, and we should allow room for those expressions." Kay added, "most Catholic women who had abortions would probably live in fear. We hope that the Center can take that fear away and seek truth."

Father Dinter of the Catholic Campus Ministry said that abortion "is not just one issue; it's many issues." He accepts the Church's teaching that abortion is a "moral evil," but feels that "most people who have abortions don't have them because they want them," although the multiple abortion rate is increasing. He believes, however, that "the Church would do much better in making a distinction with birth control... because more people are having premature and unprotected sexual rela-

tions." Father Dinter strongly believes there exists "a need for the Church to make a more realistic pastoral application of our moral teachings. If the Church is going to forbid abortion, we have to get more strict in forbidding all forms of vice... if we're going to be strict, we should also said that although he is morally against abortion, in some cases he can understand it. The moral guilt of a woman of an abortion who is relatively

Students

President Robert Keiser stressed the importance of the Catholic Women's Center in its work with women's privacy issues.

President Lutter stressed the importance of the responsibility women must take to avoid the abortion dilemma. "We are not children, we're women." She said the counseling and gynecological facilities at Health Services should be used if contraceptive difficulties or the possibility of pregnancy is encountered. Lutter said also that with access to appropriate protection it is a tragedy if these resources are not utilized.

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CU Students Up in the Air

by Darryl Nitke

The dream of flying has been with man for centuries, and has been the subject of intense research, skilled development. During a 60 year span man progressed from the Wright brothers' first flight to landing Neil Armstrong on the moon. The last 15 years have seen technological marvels such as The Space Shuttle, the first reusable spacecraft, Skylab, the first manned space station, Concorde, the air transport capable of the NY Paris run in under 3 hrs. These accomplishments have been inspired by man's desire to conquer the sky. And this desire has resulted in a total in excess of a trillion dollars

ever I have two arguments to convince you it isn't. Firstly, with each CU credit-hour at around \$300, your license will "cost" you around 6 points (the same as 2 normal courses). Two simple courses and you're a pilot. Not as bad as you thought. Remember that CC or Lit Hum is 8 points for the year and costs over \$2400, and you will not be able to fly afterwards! The second point is that you will learn both a money saving and enjoyable skill. I have a list of examples



Barnard's Joanne Mariner in flight.

For slightly less than a trillion dollars you too can join in the fun and excitement; take flying lessons, get the right stuff, earn a pilot license and blast off into the wide blue yonder. It's very easy and more worthwhile than you may think, so please read on.

Last September you may have seen flyers (no pun intended) around campus and in your mailbox, an effort by the C U Flying Club's ad campaign to inform the student body of its existence. "Big deal," you say, "flying is way too expensive" or "much too difficult" or maybe "I just don't have the time."

You are wrong on three counts. The total cost of earning your license is around \$1700. Wait, don't balk yet, let me explain. It may seem expensive at first, how-



A unique view of the Manhattan skyline.

Over spring break I flew to the Bahamas via Ft Lauderdale and Miami. I saw friends in Palm Beach, spent a night at Hilton Head, South Carolina, took a 2 hr sightseeing tour of the Bahama Islands (landed on some, photographed the rest), all for around \$200 round trip. It worked out like that because I flew down with 3 friends, back with 3 others and shared expenses with all. The trip to Miami is about 8 flight hours, Nassau is another 1½. Going in a private plane is usually 2-4 times faster than driving or 2-4 times slower than a commercial jet, depending on what type of plane you rent.

Over Christmas break I flew to Danbury CT, picked up some friends and flew to Nantucket for the day. The cost was \$22

each round trip. Skiing in Vermont was under \$35, Boston was under \$30. Being your own pilot allows a great flexibility, leave when you want, see what you want, land where you want at speeds far greater than by car. There is another consolation: speeding tickets, traffic jams or bad roads. As you may now see, the \$1700 pays for itself in the savings you receive each time you fly. The license is forever; it never expires. In the long term it's a great advantage.

Getting a license is neither difficult nor time consuming. You need 40 hours of flight experience (which is considerably less time than CC or Lit Hum and certainly more enjoyable). If you are dedicated, the 40 hours can be completed comfortably in two semesters or with more work, in one. I did all the training over a summer break, and earned my license the following September. It isn't difficult either. The best example is Steve Stuart (College '85) who received his license on his 16th birthday. Joanne Mariner (Barnard Frosh, pictured above) has been a pilot for 3 years. Jonathan Raskas (College Junior) is the club's ground school instructor and holds a Certified Flight Instructor rating. The University has about 15 students who hold various licenses and about 35 student pilots who will all tell you how easy it is to fly.

The Club operates all year and encourages anyone interested in flying to ask us questions and get involved. Try it just once if you want.

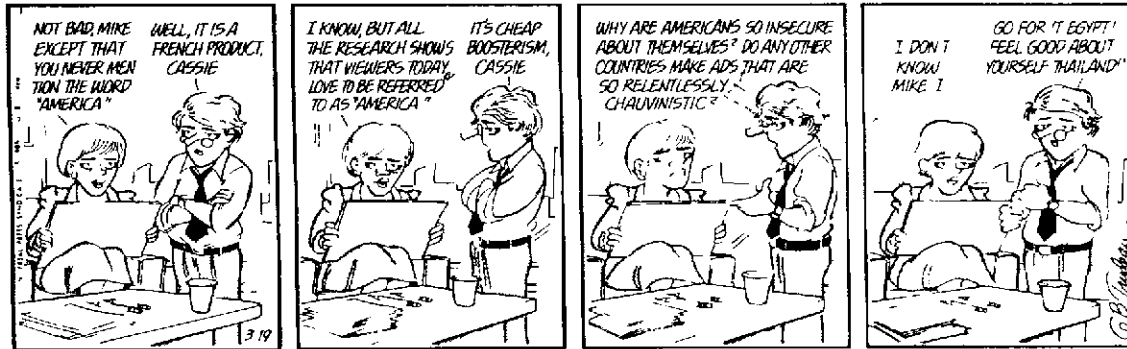
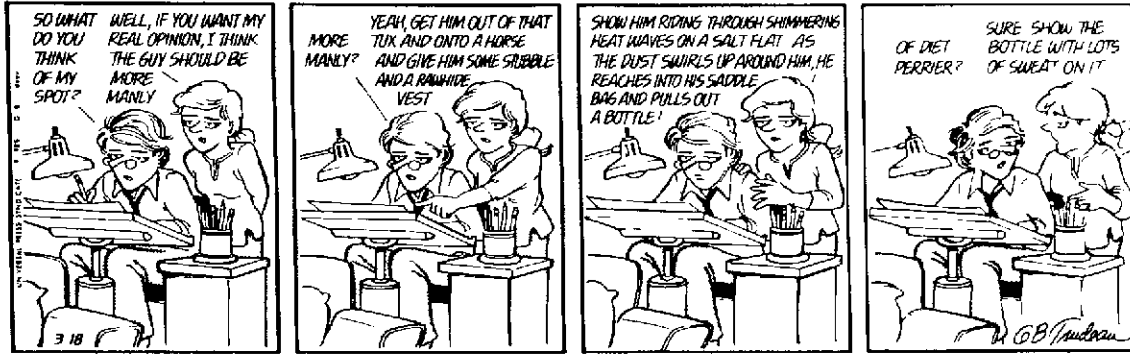
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View at Riverside at 700 ft.

Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU



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