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
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
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# CAMPUS

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*The Scholar and the Female Conference*

## Women Scholars Convene, Get Wet at Barnard

By Leah Munkittrick

PHOTO BY STEPHEN M. FINE

MITCHELL FINE

AS THE SCHOLAR AND THE FEMALE CONFERENCE convened at Barnard College in New York City, the women scholars gathered for their 2nd Annual Meeting. The conference was held at the college's historic building, the Scheraga Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality. The conference was organized by the college's faculty and staff, and was held in conjunction with the college's 100th anniversary.



MITCHELL FINE, a professor of Law at the University of California, Berkeley, was the keynote speaker at the conference. He discussed the challenges of achieving equality in the workplace and the importance of legal reform. He also discussed the challenges of achieving equality in the workplace and the importance of legal reform.

Other speakers included Professor Linda Dowling, who discussed the challenges of achieving equality in the workplace and the importance of legal reform. She also discussed the challenges of achieving equality in the workplace and the importance of legal reform.

The morning plenary session questioned the legal justifications for the institution of marriage. Professor Fine called for the abolition of legal categories that divide along race, class, and sex. She urged lawmakers to redefine the law.

The conference was held in conjunction with the college's 100th anniversary. It was a significant event for the college and the broader academic community. The conference was held in conjunction with the college's 100th anniversary.

The conference was held in conjunction with the college's 100th anniversary. It was a significant event for the college and the broader academic community. The conference was held in conjunction with the college's 100th anniversary.

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# University Handbook Helps Women Adjust to College

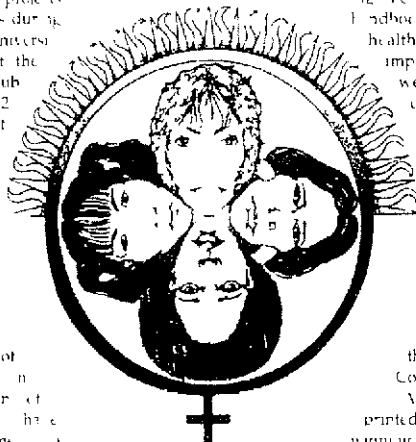
by Mita Mallick

For the last few years, the *Barnard Women's Handbook* was unknown by many students in the Barnard community. The handbook appeared to be lost among many of the other projects started by undergraduates during their years at Columbia University. The first edition of the women's handbook was published in the spring of 1992. Copies were handed out on college walk and the response was overwhelling: all 4,000 copies were gone within a span of four days. The handbook received a student government award and was one of the hottest topics of discussion on campus.

Today very few copies of the original book exist on campus—so the women of Barnard and Columbia have decided that this year, for the first time, a university that places a strong emphasis on women's issues to have a new edition of the handbook.

Jed DeBkin, Barnard's first male woman's center director, said the handbook was "distilled" from *Barnard Women's Handbook*, a new student-run journal over at Columbia University. After ten months of editing, a 110-page handbook was published in paperback as DeBkin's first

book. He assisted in being edited by the handbook's principal editor, a student who had signed up to edit the handbook eventually because of the handbook's popularity.



DeBkin's first book. He said he was "very excited" about the handbook's success. He said he was "very proud" of the handbook's success. He said he was "very proud" of the handbook's success.

When the book came out, DeBkin recalls, it "opened up the flood gates—it was a real conversation starter." He gave people confidence, first in realizing that others shared the same issues they did and second to have a way of helping themselves. The women's handbook focused primarily on health issues, which were important to women but were often not discussed openly. The handbook's stated goal was to provide options for Barnard/Columbia women of every race, ethnicity, class, and sexual orientation, and to hopefully spark a dialogue around many issues addressed here and encourage unity among the women of Barnard and Columbia.

After the *New York Times* printed an article on the award-winning *Barnard/Columbia Women's Handbook*, publishers began calling for the publication of a national college women's handbook. Even Judy DeBkin and fellow Barnard graduate Shari Sippy signed on to the project, embarking on an unforgettable two-year journey of writing and researching, during which they spoke to approximately 7,000 to 7,000 college women and visited dozens of colleges and the country. They were in the handbook, expanding the





ELECTION

# You're Voting For WHO?

by *Marta Brahms*

When most Americans hear the term "third party candidate," they are inclined to shake their heads in scorn. He/she won't win; they are likely to say, or perhaps a vote for her/his is a wasted

vote. A main party candidate will take the voting booth expressing disgust with the entire process. Third parties, which tend to address more specific issues, provide people with a greater sense of entitlement. They feel as if they have not dealt with their needs.

Third parties are soon portending that they will produce a more people to voters. Many voters, voting

never would have been a future option were it not for a second or third party candidate. There is also the question of whether or not a third party candidate could actually serve everyone well. Often third party candidates lose their primary on a core issue. The Right to Life Party's candidate, for instance, if he were the nominee, his party would

dictate what would all the pro-life people do? Detractors argue that the Republican and Democratic parties, despite their perceived shortcomings, are large enough to encompass a variety of different views.

These criticisms certainly warrant further analysis. Few people would advocate the dissolution of the Republican and Democratic parties in the emergence of hundreds of third parties. However, third parties do deserve more respect than they have been receiving. Main party candidates often adopt the policies of third parties. Third party candidates often go on to win the important national offices, such as the new judges, or these reasons, all of us deserve to hear. As you vote into the next century, this is a vote that likely

will be a vote for a new type of American.

*Marta Brahms is a Barnard first year*

'96

vote. Ironically, these Americans are the ones most likely to complain about the Democrats and Republicans they are the ones most annoyed by the entire system of politics as usual. Well, what

could be more unusual than the introduction of a third party, one that speaks to the millions of Americans who feel disenchanting with the entire political process?

Third party candidates should not be scoffed at. In 1992 Ross Perot received a substantial number of votes. He also sought to address issues that neither the Republicans nor Democrats showed much interest in.

Many people will vote for one of

GENERAL ELECTION  
Tuesday November 5, 1996

PARTISAN OFFICES

PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT		Vote for One Party
BILL CLINTON AL GORE	Democratic	3
ROCKY PEROT JAMES CAMPBELL	Reform	4
HOWARD PHILLIPS HERBERT W. TITUS	American Independent	5
HARRY BROWNE JOE BORGESSE	Libertarian	6
JOHN HAGELIN MIKE TOMPKINS	Natural Law	7
RAT PHIL NADER WYNONA ADAMS	Green	8
SUSHILAVATI AND KATE MCCLELLAND	Trade & Environment	9
BOB DOLT JACK KEMP	Republican	10

ones or perhaps all three, neither of the two major parties address their needs. When a third party appears, it evokes optimism in voters, even if that optimism short-lived. What this country needs, voter enthusiasm. Every year, fewer and fewer people vote. If third parties can serve as a means of bringing out more voters, then we've need be.

In recent years, criticism of third party candidates and some of these criticisms are valid. Detractors claim that the coun-

# Out Rage '69 Promotes Gay Rights

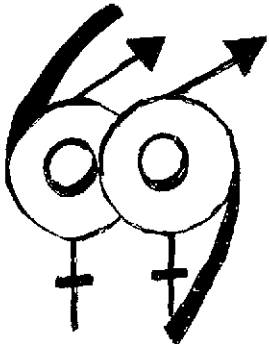
by Meghan Hadlock

Friday, October 12 marked the celebration of National Coming Out Day, a day geared toward encouraging those afraid of making their sexual preferences public to do just that. Columbia University's Queer Studies Group publicized the event in many ways on campus: flying the rainbow coalition flag, handing out gay pride buttons, and sponsoring a showing of the documentary film *Out Rage '69*. *Out Rage '69* was the first in a series of several documentary films broadcast by PBS entitled *Questions of Equality*. *Out Rage '69* covers the Stonewall Riots and the evolution of the militant gay and lesbian rights movement in the late 1960s. Interviews with modern gay rights activists coupled with stock footage of marches, speeches, and other events along with a general narrative dialogue make up the bulk of the film.

The movie lasts approximately one hour and is a carefully thought out thorough tribute to the militant lesbian and gay rights movement. A useful tool in encouraging discussion about lesbian and gay rights issues, *Out Rage '69* has been used by many different groups to encourage discussion. Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) has been known to use this film in their discussion groups.

I would have liked there to have been a discussion after the

movie, but in some ways I was glad to be left alone with my own thoughts and views without feeling as if I was obligated to share them with the group. Many of the speakers in the movie discussed their feelings and thoughts concerning the different forms of prejudice they were subjected to as openly gay and lesbian individuals. I personally could not relate to any of this, but was apprecia-



tive of the opportunity to hear the thoughts and feelings of these individuals who were fighting for a cause not believed in wholeheartedly by the dominant society. I especially enjoyed the papers, essays, and the like I was reading and wondering how important it is to someone like me to truly believe in the right to fight for. Although the movie is not exactly what I needed, it did try to cover a wide range of ways and this is a great key to

less of your sexual preference or orientation. I highly recommend watching this film. It is an essential part of gay and lesbian history and a tribute to our social history as a nation. The Queer Studies Group sponsors events approximately every other Friday afternoon. Check out their web site at <http://www.columbia.edu/lps/~index.html>.

**Upcoming events:** All events are held in Schermerhorn Extension at approximately 4pm.

October 25 Graduate student works in progress.

November 1 *Sam S. J. Dynamics Among 19th Century Americans: A Mormon Example*—a discussion of the book the Mormon Church doesn't want you to read.

November 22 Methodologies for Queer Studies.

December 6 Greg Pfugfelder speaks on the construction of masculinity in modern law.

*Meghan Hadlock is a Barnard junior and a Bulletin Staff Writer.*

The Bulletin's Features Editor is looking for a liaison to the Lesbian and Gay community on campus who would be willing to submit articles to the Bulletin on a monthly basis. Please leave all written inquiries in the mailbox on the office door of the Barnard Bulletin at 128 Lower Level Macintosh. Attention: Aimee Sims, Features Editor. Please leave your name and extension.



In my [the minimum wage] one essence which Moorehead hopes will toughen the struggle for socialism. Moorehead argues that the working class has been transformed into a class of poverty because of the disappearance of low skill factory jobs and their overwhelming replacement with high skill corporate jobs. Massive layoffs have been the result. According to one article published by the WWP tripling the minimum wage is necessary because only such a significant increase will bring all wage earners above the poverty level and thus help all wage earners.

All bosses care about is making profits and they want to make profits with fewer and fewer workers now. Monica Moorehead stated: When asked where the money will come from to fund the wage increase, Moorehead immediately attacks the excessive Pentagon budget and the exorbitant interest payments made to banks. She also attacks the close to half a trillion dollars in profits that corporations receive and the many tax breaks they are privy to at taxpayers' expense.

Monica Moorehead and the WWP have come to the conclusion we need a new system. Capitalism cannot solve the social contradictions in society it did spur the economy along [during the industrial revolution] because it created the working class in this country. But now, of course, capitalism has lost its main course, it can only expand so much throughout the world. Now it is impacting on privileged workers, its contract is breaking, it is losing men and women to exploitation in this country. It is not just the underde-

veloped countries [where [corporations] are making all the profits—they are seeking to make more and more profits at the expense of the backs [and wages] of those laid off workers. So now all these privileged workers in the US who thought they had it so good and so much better than the workers in India or Indonesia or Mexico are feeling some of the same effects that those workers felt.

Moorehead represents the women's struggle, the struggle against racism and the struggle of workers. The main thing we want to do, she says, is just get out the message. We don't expect to win. We're not running thinking we have a chance of winning because we don't put any faith in the elections in the first place. We're running a protest campaign. I think that's important for people to know. One of the other things Moorehead wants her campaign to do is expose the fact that whether you are a Democrat or a Republican, you are still a supporter of big business, therefore capitalism and therefore the exploitation of workers.

Moorehead believes that socialism can and will come to America. Moorehead and running mate La Riva's recent crashing of the third party debates (which they had not been invited to) and political protests have led to media coverage on CNN and in the *New York Times*. The photos at the WWP headquarters have been ringing off the hook as people across the nation become aware that there is a candidate running with a progressive, revolutionary platform.

We are to write Moorehead for receiving the whole community struggle for socialism, not just the community. Moorehead's struggle is a known, look in her eyes because it's something happening there—something percolating from below.

If you would like more information about Moorehead's campaign or other upcoming events, please feel free to contact the national headquarters of the Workers World Party at: 212-627-2994.

#### Upcoming Events

October 30: Round table discussion with workers and trade unionists at the Musicians Union Hall, 377 West 46th St.

November 1: 6pm Rally for Jobs and Schools, Not Lais (at the Newspaper Guild, 133 West 44th St. between Broadway and Sixth Ave.)

November 23-November 24: Workers World Party National Conference including panels and workshops on topics such as racism and police brutality, organizing youth and students, imperialism and the Pentagon, women in the struggle of the 90s, the labor movement, defending immigrant rights, lesbian, gay, bi and transgendered issues, workfare and welfare, deluding socialist Cuba, Africa's road to liberation, and Karl Marx and the Communist Manifesto.

All events will be funded by both Gloria La Riva and Monica Moorehead.

*Monica Moorehead is a Barnard lecturer and the Features Editor of the Barnard Bulletin.*

# Gumbo

by Susan Clark

'Praise Him, Wilhemina!' Sister Jamerson bel-  
lowed, approaching Mother Hicklers from behind.  
Sister Jamerson rocked up beside her. Not only  
was it hard for her to walk because she was bow-  
legged, but also because her feet were small, thick  
and packed tightly into her shoes like meat in a  
club sandwich. She had a bothersome triad of  
moles that sat near the crease of her right

eye and got bigger with the pass-  
ing days. She was wearing  
spring yellow and  
white. She had on  
yellow shoes with  
a white clip-on  
bow, black  
opaque tights,  
a white dress  
with a Victori-  
an ruffled col-  
lar, and a  
white felt hat  
bordered with  
plastic dande-  
lions that Mother  
Hicklers knew she  
had hand sewn on the  
hat—she always made good  
floral arrangements. "Lordy to  
have mercy! Bertha, you trivin' to scare me  
outta a blessin'?" Mother Hicklers replied and then  
kissed her on the cheek.

"You just got here?" Sister Jamerson asked. She  
peered through the glass door of the church.

"Yeah, not too long ago. I was just trivin' to go in  
to service. Where's that Deacon husband of  
yours?"

"Oh, he's downstairs settin' up chairs for the  
brotherhood meeting after service. But knowing  
him, he down there and done got to some a that  
there grits and cinnamon apples. Sister Rachel's  
servin' in the kitchen. I done told him he got an  
eviln' demon and he need to go up to Pastor for

some prayer 'n' the devil under suspection.

Lord, Bertha, you need to leave that man be.  
Mother Hicklers clutched her wrist with her hand  
and nodded from the base of her grille support-  
ed belly.

Full you.

Sister Jamerson and Mother Hicklers entered the  
church together and parted toward the middle  
aisle. Sister Jamerson liked to sit in the middle of  
the church in a aisle seat. Mother Hicklers, on the  
other hand, sat towards the front in the seats that  
were reserved for the mothers of the church.

Sister Davis and Deacon Wells were the leading  
the devotional service.

Isn't it nice to be with Jesus,  
Isn't it nice, Isn't it nice to  
be with Jesus, isn't it  
nice. Oh Monday,

Tuesday, Wednes-  
day, Thursday,

Friday, Satur-  
day, all day

Sunday. Isn't  
it nice to be

with Jesus,  
Isn't Sister

Davis  
switched keys

every time she  
sang a note. Dea-

con Wells's necktie  
must have been too

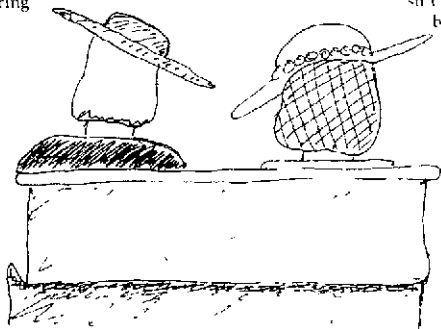
tight because sweat  
washed his face. He held the

microphone in the opening of his mouth  
so that every word he sang sounded like he was  
being choked.

"Come on saints and give God a praise. Come  
on saints, give God a praise." Sister Davis injected.  
Mother Hicklers sat in the third row and greeted  
Mother Gardner, the same woman she'd sat next to  
the Sunday before.

Saints give God a praise as the choir enters  
and stand to receive as the pastor of this church,  
Pastor Ted Jamerson comes to the pulpit. Amen.  
Deacon Wells is dead.

Praise God. Thank you Jesus. Glory be to  
God. Shine out from every corner of the church.



Oh come on saints stand to your feet and give God a praise! And He been good to you! And God been good! Pastor Hanson blared his voice fiery and commanding. The On Fire For God Choir lined themselves up on the choir stand. Sopranos, altos and tenors surrounded the three micro-

phones. Blessed be the name of the Lord. He is worthy to be praised and adored. So let's lift up our hands in one accord. Singing blessed be the name of the Lord. The choir chanted with uplifted hands. Mother Vander got quickened by the Holy Spirit. She quivered and rocked from side to side. Mother Hickers adjusted her shawl and unconsciously joined in the whaling with Mother Vander.

Amen and glory be to God. Pastor Hanson shouted after one of the elders read the church announcements. Mother Hickers had to attend a meeting for the Mothers of Zion on the following Sunday. They were going to start a hospital ministry.

Glory be to God saints. I just feel good about the Lord. Can I get an Amen in here? Pastor Hanson testified as he flipped through the pages of his four concordance Bible. That was the indication for the rest of the church to prepare for the sermon.

Amen amen the congregation eagerly responded.

Saints in your Bibles turn to the book of Psalms the 30th chapter and begin on at the 5th verse. When you've found it say Amen. Pastor announced before reading the text.

Amen!

Pastor Hanson read the text.

Saints I want you to come to the next neighbor-

hood and say Ooo child.

Ooo child the congregation echoed in pairs.

Things are gonna get easier. Pastor Hanson continued.

Things are gonna get easier the congregation responded.



Saints turn to your next neighbor and say Ooo child. Things are gonna get brighter. Pastor Hanson belled and was proceeded by the congregation. By now the young people in the choir were laughing.

Lord Jesus all this young folk music done got to the pastor. Mother Hickers thought Bless Him Jesus. Use the man or God. Mother Hickers yelled fanning her hand towards the preacher.

Pastor Hanson removed his glasses and placed them on the podium. Now

young folks he continued turning around to face the choir stand. I know you all done thought that the Delphonics made that song.

Alright preacher preach came vibrant voices from the choir.

But I done come by here to tell you all that I know a man that done told me that things were gonna get easier before the Delphonics was a group My God my God. Pastor Hanson continued.

Lord Jesus Believers led the choir in a the crowd.

Susan Clark is a Barnard Senior and a Bulletin Staff writer.

Address all inquiries and/or comments to sdc@columbia.edu or Susan Clark, box #5928.









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Miriam Ullrich



# Well-Woman

Dear Well Woman

I was thinking of having a gynecological exam just to make sure I'm completely healthy but it's very important to me that my hymen is not broken before marriage. Can I get a GYN exam and still keep my hymen intact?

Yours Curious

Dear Curious

You're right—it is important to visit a health care practitioner regularly just to make sure every part of your body is functioning the way it should. These visits should include an annual gynecological exam for every woman over 18 even if she is not sexually active as well as all sexually active women. One of the most important aspects of this exam is your communication with your practitioner. For the exam to be effective, you must be able to discuss your concerns openly with her. Your practitioner will be com-

pletely non-judgmental and will be sensitive to your needs. You should go ahead and schedule a gynecological exam just to make sure you feel comfortable discussing your concerns with your practitioner.

It will help to know a little more about hymens. A hymen is the thin sheet of skin which covers the entrance to a woman's vaginal canal and it is located directly above the vaginal opening. Traditionally many cultures believe that a woman should be a virgin on her wedding night. Often she must prove her virginity by bleeding onto her bed sheets once her hymen is broken through her first sexual intercourse.

However, not all women are born with a hymen and many hymens tear before a woman has penile vaginal sexual intercourse. A hymen can tear when a girl engages in any type of strenuous physical activity (like horseback riding, or gymnastics) even at a very young age.

If a woman inserts a tampon, finger or any other thing into her vagina, this could be cause her hymen to break. Hymens can be

# INTRAMURAL HIGHLIGHTS

by Pete Marchitello

## BOWLING

Within the Co-Rec B division JSL 3 continues to shine. Last week they rolled over the PSYCHO PITCHFORK PLUGS enabling them to complete their second straight win. As a team they seem to improve each week. High scores were recorded by JOSEPH BARTLE (169) and BRIAN DA BAER (165).

DEATH (Co-Rec B) owes their latest victory to teammate MITCHELL SERVVA who really came through for them in the clutch. Servva finished strong, with a spare in his ninth frame followed by a turkey (three strikes in a row) in his final turn. His final play proved to make the difference because the final score was Death 474 and TEAM WEGLEIN 464.

In the only Women's match of the week, The Clash of the Stones it was the BOWLING STONES who defeated the ROLLING STONES despite a handicap of 44 pins. A great game was played by ADRIANNE LAVITDOR BERMAN (121) of the Bowling Stones, who is now averaging 197.

Other great games were also bowled by KIN TOKO of the PIN HITADS (Co-Rec A) and BARAK ZAHAVY of JSL 1 (Co-Rec B) who scored 197 and 190 respectively.

Next week be sure to check out who will be our 1996 Volleyball Champions.



# WE TRY IT

One of our moms said the other day, "Dear, I'm so glad you live in the Quad. It just makes me feel safer, more secure." Mother, mother, can you hear us? It's not quite as safe as you think. This week, We Try It went undercover to see just how safe Barnard residence halls are. Humming the "Mission Impossible" theme, our group split up with mischievous smiles and took Barnard Security by storm. Start locking your doors at night, kids.

## THE QUAD

The centerpiece of Barnard's residence hall system, the quad is supposed to be the epitome of safety. But in *contraire*. Minus our IDs (two of us snuck in easily through Barnard Hall's entrance into the tunnels. Once you're into Sulzberger, you're either *open free to go as you please*. How hard can it be to fiddle out in the Quad 'til nightfall? We also fiddled with the doorknobs on several dorm room doors which were open. Be more careful next time.

**GRADE:** A big ol' fat F. Especially because this place houses such a large number of people and gives the impression of security.

## PLIMPTON

Surprisingly Plimpton was somewhat dirt cut. With the reputation the dorm has, we figured it'd be a breeze. We came equipped with a Kinko's copycard and a fake ID that wasn't ours as well as real driver's licenses for each of us. One of us, a female, fished the backside of her Kinko's card so they could see the magnetic strip (pretty sneaky, eh?) and headed to the elevator. Our boy had no such problem. He fished his fake ID (incidental visit to Kinko's ID for one of our female friends) and was nabbed. But we're pretty quick to adapt. Our girl came back to the desk to explain that the boy was her friend from out of town as the boyfriend shipped the Colgate toothbrush to his back pocket and handed over his driver's license with

cut) and guard (taken by the wife. Girlfriend then pretended to sign a name in scrawling illegible gibberish. He didn't show her ID. Without looking at the sign, he said the guard waved us in. We came and left without any more questions.

**GRADE:** D— We tried it was a sneaky plan. And they'd let one of our driver's licenses with a real name slip by. But we cut up and worked to view "what he's got" and we could have gotten the ID and slipped out never to be traced.

## WEST 103 STREET

In the name of the undercover method, it was pretty tight. We didn't have had to send to back up a letter or *trust* our's play table. The "Drive" notebook can't just run upstairs and leave it in front of her door? Trick didn't fly with this wonderfully hard used man. We even met hers. Our second crew could've come over to approach. Our girl flashed pink (seriously, did the ID card from another state which recycles school Barnard ID) and saleswoman in the store her partner came in and peeked at the card's side. Hey, I'm here. Yeah, I'm in and had a hard "spidee" me. She charged from the ceiling but pretended to be a key box, making a continuous loop of signs in her right coat.

# Choosing the Lesser of Two Evils

ELECTION '96

by *Muris Brahms*

Election Day is approaching, and many Bernard students it marks the first presidential election in which they'll be able to vote. Since the ability to vote is an integral part of both adulthood and American life, this ought to mean big excitement. But for my class, Election Day is a dread toward November 5, 1996, in the past. We've accompanied my parents to the polls, wishing, but unable, to give our opinion as well. Unfortunately, in this Election Day approach I am filled with more disgust than enthusiasm. I have no idea for whom I will vote, but I do know that I will have to choose between the lesser of two evils. I said that in a world of constant compromise, we cannot find a candidate worth our support. The result is severe disillusionment with the entire political process.

We've heard stories from our parents that a time when voting meant something, when people supported their candidate because they believed in what he or she stood for. Less than three decades ago voters formed a coalition that broke the block to elect a vote for Kennedy. The enthusiasm those days is long gone. Instead we are a nation proscribed by the likes of Watergate and the Iran Contrals and suspicion of all forms of government. Politicians exacerbate the problem with negative commercials and public attack on their opponents. A political malaise has taken over the country and we no longer take an active interest in government.

Not all of the blame for this situation can be placed on the shoulders of elected officials. Although there are never any guarantees about the future, in the past I'm more uncertainly about the upcoming election than I am in our age. The media constantly remind us that we will be unable to find jobs after college, that our standard of living is declining, and that our contemporary epidemic of AIDS. This horrible news all contribute to the feeling that there is no political future for the likes of young voters.

So how does any of this relate to the election question? As politicians of both parties have made it difficult for candidates to evoke some support from young voters. Neither Clinton nor Bush has the task I am a registered Democrat, but I do not have a political affiliation as the sole means of identifying myself. I have been repeatedly asked by my

father why, for a particular election, he has become this or that way of thinking. After the Republican Convention when it became clear that Dole would be Clinton's principal opponent I decided to vote for the incumbent. While I won't talk about Clinton's record, it is present in a good way, but not the most interesting issue.

However, when I was forced to vote for Clinton's presidency, I began to reconsider whether he deserved my vote. Look at what can be associated with Clinton's four years in office: free trade policy on gays in the military, continued conflicts in Bosnia and Iraq, can't say including Filagato, Whitewater and a sexual harassment suit, and constant lying on nearly every issue. It is one thing to make mistakes, but Clinton has made an ever out of saying one thing and doing another. In addition, how many presidents in American history have been forced to deal with a charge of sexual abuse in their business deals, and been forced to participate in one term?

Dole is served by fewer scandals than Clinton, but he is nonetheless an unworkable alternative. When we know that we would elect his adversary, I think we must look at the question as truly mature. What if we elect Dole, then turn over the matter of the election to be possibly retracted, the issues from the next election. Will you ever find the country's fifteen party systems. All of these unanswered questions make me doubt if Dole has really got what it takes to be president.

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*Muris Brahms is a senior in journalism.*

# America's Diamond Shines On

by Sara A. Stover

There are two kinds of people in the world amused the star of *What About Bob*, one of my favorite films. Those who like Neil Diamond and those who don't. I am one who pledges my allegiance to Neil Diamond. I like him. No. I love him.

Last April I was flipping through the Arts and Leisure section of *The New York Times* when the opportunity of a lifetime leapt into my lap. Neil Diamond in flowing black trousers and a sparkling chemise lunged across the page. The ad announced that he would be performing at the Meadowlands in October.

At 9:15 the next morning I hung up the phone and breathed a sigh of relief. My conversation with Ticketmaster had awakened my roommate. From across the room she moaned. I can't believe you just did that. I can't believe you got tickets to see that man perform. I had no idea that people actually liked him.

A few weeks ago I proved just how much I liked him. Sacrificing study time for an exam that I had the next day and braving monsoon winds and steel pellets of rain, I trudged to the Continental Arena. My feet slid and squished in my drenched boots; my hands clumsily combed through my spiked disheveled hair. I looked around—old people in trench coats and concession stands with winding lines surrounded me.

The hungry mob invaded the arena. They filled their hands and mouths with relished hotdogs and golden-battered popcorn in checkered containers. They chewed and laughed simultaneously while soggy clumps of food sprayed passers by. Suddenly disgusted with my surroundings and a d discomfort, I decided that perhaps I didn't like Neil Diamond so much after all.

What's this ceremony about? I turned to my friend as we stared at the crowd. "This is America, then. I've got to take the first of one at five dollar Cokes and stages shaped like spaceships—this is what we've resorted to."

At eight thirty the lights dimmed and the cheering ceased. Neil surfaced from the stage from an opaque haze. His oily, slicked-back stone splattered shirt glittered under the spotlights. Then he began to sing.

His hoarse chords reminded me of car rides with high school friends. Lip-synching in the shower and happy songs. I screamed. I clapped. I swung my hips to the amular beat. Then I looked around me to the next, sobbing along in the darkness. Cray hairs and hotdog breath fizzled in my memory. Every one of Neil's. Thank you, Neil. I was all into a sea of my mazy.

With our feet our feet still stomped to the music. Neil's finale streaked through us like the thrust of his push-pull-hiss-ly slacks. This was the song we had all been waiting to hear—this was America. Break it along. I realized that I never wanted to leave the side of the space-ship stage. I didn't want to study for my exam. I didn't want to go back out into the rain. Every one here clapped and clapped. Neil's song reminded us of an America with energy and nostalgia, not of an America with fast food and people who curse the weather.

At that moment I decided that maybe I had been too quick to declare that Neil Diamond is country. I'd enjoyed a soft, warm, sexy Neil Diamond.

Now to my friend. "This is America, then. I've got to take the first of one at five dollar Cokes and stages shaped like spaceships—this is what we've resorted to."

Sara Stover is a *Barnard* sophomore and a *Bulletin* columnist.

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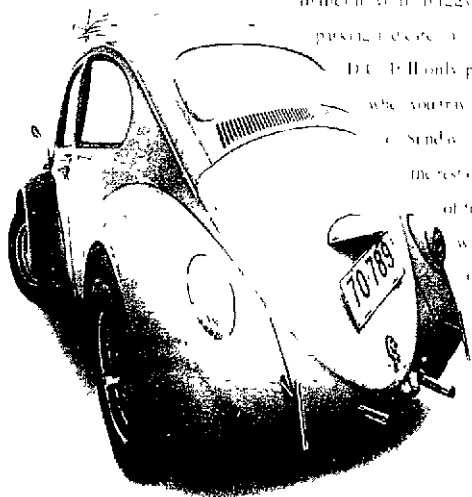
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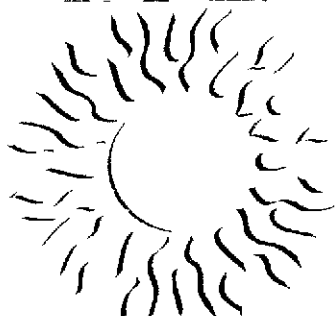
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