# BUILEUID

[10.27.99: Issue 6]

Racial profiling

Registrar responds to Mita

Barnard needs a Math Department!

Multicultural Affairs, Admissions shuffle Deans



Yay, Halloween! Probably my most favorite holiday in the whole, whole world. Masquerade, dress-up, frivolity, reckless abandonment, and the Village. What more could a girl ask for? And how excellent to have it right after midterms! The gods must be smiling on us all.

Last Halloween we went to the parade (and arrived so fashionably late that we missed the whole thing), and then to some parties in Brooklyn. There were 4 of us (dressed as a prom queen, a Brit-pop star, and Dr. Death from Procter & Gamble with her chemically-tosted Hamster sidekick), and none of us knew Brooklyn well enough to find the party we were supposed to go to, so instead we just followed the crowd off the subway and let the night take us where it may.

The first place we went was a dud. There were a bunch of professional-looking twentysomethings with uninventive costumes (except for the couple in suits with 2 liter Cake bottles on top of their heads—"we're yuppie cokeheads"), and they were listening to bad music, so we left. Then we sturnbled upon this other place in an awesome apartment with a much more creatively costumed crowd, but the vibe just wasn't there. The prom queen, the Brit popper, the doctor, and the bloody hamster didn't know anyone there and you know how it is in the New York scene-so hard to make new friends. So we moved on.

We were out roaming the streets of Williamsburg, looking for the original party we were actually invited to, when this bunch of kids said "Oh we know the place you're talking about, follow us." So we did. We ended up in this freight elevator with about 20 other ghouls and monsters and knights and '80s punks, Robin Hood was operating the elevator, as I recall. He asked the crowd who knew Darren, and a voice asked who Darren was, and Robin Hood said that Darren was the guy having the party. Nobody in the elevator knew who Darren was. It was awesome

Anyway, Darren's party was definitely the best out of the three, with several live bands and lots of neat artwork in the different rooms, but again, it wasn't the best time I've ever had in my life. I haven't been to a party like that here yet, even on Halloween New York kids just don't know how to party. Besides, I was unhappy with my costume (I was the promiqueen) because it involved a brown wig, and I think people didn't think I dressed up all that much, Little did they know that underneath my little wiggy-wig my real hair was a stunning medley of fire-red and plum purple. I should have been a lightning. quick superheto instead of a sitly promqueen I wasn't even bloody or anything

Well, this year is going to be better ! don't have a costume yet (yikes!), but I'm going to be in Boston and hopefully the kids There aren't as pretentious as the ones here, and I

can snag a super-

hero of my own.



# CONTRI-BUTORS

Ana Liza Caballes is a first-year student from L.A. who is really excited about being here at Barnard. She credits ANA 177

Barnard for

with the color purple.

improving her relationship with her parents and her life in general, Ana Liza is very interested in and dedicated to volunteering and currently volunteers working with children in he America Reads program. Ana Liza is also obsessed

Sophomore Shannon Kearns is onginally from Maine but now lives in SHAMNON Rhode Island.

She is leaning [KEARNS .... towards a Sociology major and Psychology minor. In the future, she hopes to pursue social work in the area of women and/or children's advocacy Shannon enjoys sewing and SKA music and is also interested in punk culture.

from Colorado COURTNEY MARTIN and will most likely major in Sociology. Her interests include spoken word and photography. After Barnard, she hopes to save the world. This Halloween, Courtney will dress up as Wonder Woman.

Courtney Martin is a sophomore

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# A LIBERT OF THE PROPERTY OF TH

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cover photo by Lızz Torgovnick

is Barbard B. Beth Is published weekly by the Butlet's student staff of Barbard Obliege in New York City Printing is done by Expeditions substituted by Expeditions and State of Printing in State of the State of th

# arnard Events Calendar... Oct. 27-

Curriculum extendeds of 130-30m. Attachul fillers, **Secretarised by The** Office of the

L'Atalante 9pm, 202 Altsch Spaneored by Zasefox

### OCTOBER 28 TO 30

Fallest For information see event postings or confinct the College Activities Office x4-2096.

### NOVEMBER 1

Alumnae: Present Yourself Professionally, Learn techniques to add professional . polish to your presentation and speaking skills. Light refreshments will the served. óprn. For information about т Стания сикалесь, **сси <del>Сик</del>а** Contrat 501-6196 Sponsored by Barnard Business and Professional Women.

### NOVEMBER 9

Seriors: Alumnae Networking Event. Career Paths for Those NOT interested in Finance or Consulting 17pm, Place: JBA For Information, call the Office of Career Development of x4\*2067 ::-

### **NOVEMBER 10**

Rennert Women in Judaism Forum Jewish Women in Tradition and Crisis: The Missing Chapters 6:30-8pm, Sulzberger Parlor. For Information, call x4-2067.

### **NOVEMBER 11 TO 13**

Barnard Dance at Miller A Concert Featuring New Choreography, 8pm, Miller Theatre, Broadway at W. 116 St. \$10 (seniors and students w/CUID: \$5). Sponsored by the Department of Dance.

### **Dean of Admissions Doris Davis** to Leave Barnard next March

Dean of Admissions Doris Davis, who has provided extraordinary leadership for the Barnard College admissions office since 1989, will be leaving Barnard at the end of March 2000 to become Associate Provost for Admissions and Enrollment at Cornell University.

Dean Davis has been a major force behind the remarkable growth that Barnard has experienced for the past

decade. Since 1991, applications have risen 122 percent due to a combination new and creative outreach DIOgrams, improved publications, New York City's continuing economic boom, and Dean

Davis' ability to represent Barnard's unique strengths. This fall, Barnard enrolled its most selective class in history with an admit rate of 34 percent.

Judith Shapiro, President of Barnard College, said: "It is always difficult to lose a valued member of the administration. While we will miss her greatly. Dean Davis has at the same time helped position us for a continued upward trajectory in the strength of our applicant pool. Her successor will have the opportunity to build on Dean Davis' excellent work as we move further toward becoming one of the very first colleges bright, ambitious young women think of in planning their higher education."

Dean Davis said, "My years at Barnard have been an incredibly rewarding personal and professional experience. The tremendous support that I have received from Barnard administrators. faculty, students and staff liave contributed greatly to the success that the Admissions Office has achieved. My heart and soul have been into this job from the start and I will miss the people and relationships that I have formed with members of the Barnard Community. As a

> native New Yorker and avid sports lover, I will definitely be back in the city for Knicks and games, but I will also be back to my see friends

> > and

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Barnard. I love

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"As a native New Yorker and avid sports lover, I will definitely be back in the city for Knicks and Liberty will also nds at Barnard. I love will miss them deeply."

-Dean Doris Davis

them deeply "

Before joining Barnard, Davis was Associate Director of Admissions/Director of Multicultural Recruitment at Yale University. She received her bachelor of arts degree in American Studies from Wellesley College in 1977 and her master of arts degree in American history from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1979. Dean Davis has also conducted advanced doctoral work in American history at the University of California at Berkeley.

Barnard is beginning a national search for a new dean of admissions, and will work with one of the top search firm's specializing in this area.

Courtesy of the Office of Public Affairs.

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FIRST-YEAR PROGRAM PLANNING MEETINGS— REQUIRED: All first-year students must attend a Program Planning Meeting with Dean Kreger on Wednesday, October 27, from 4-5pm; Wednesday, November 3, from 5-6pm; or Friday, November 5, from 12-1pm in the James Room, fourth floor Barnard Hall.

SOPHOMORE PROGRAM PLANNING MEET-INGS—REQUIRED: If you did not attend the meeting with Dean Webster on October 26, you must attend the meeting tomorrow, Thursday, October 28, from 4-5pm in James Room, fourth floor Barnard Hall. Information about your major will be presented.

**DEPARTMENTAL MEETINGS:** Dates and locations of fall semester listed below. These meetings are very informative and we urge prospective majors, as well as majors to attend. Listings will be updated in future issues. American Studies: (with History) Thursday, November 4, 4:15pm, 202 Barnard Hall; Architecture: Monday, November 8, 12pm, Sulzberger Parlor (third floor, Barnard Hall); Art History: Monday, November 8, 10:30am, Sulzberger Parlor, Biological Sciences: Friday, November 5, 1-2pm, 903 Altschul; Chemistry: Friday, November 12, 12pm, Altschul Atrium; Computer Science: Monday, November 8, 5:30pm, 805 Altschul; Dance: Friday, November 12, 11am, Dance Gallery (second floor Barnard Hall Dance Annex); Education: Wednesday, November 10, 4pm, Ella Weed Room (second floor Milbank); English: Friday, October 29, 11am, Sulzberger Parlor; French: Wednesday, October 27, 4-5pm, Ella Weed Room; Medieval and Renaissance Studies: Tuesday, November 9, 4-5pm, 422-B Lehman; Pan African Studies: Thursday, November 11, 4:30pm, 306 Milbank; Political Science: Thursday, November 11, 12:30-1:30pm, Altschul Atrium; Religion: Wednesday, November 3, 2pm, 303 Altschul; Slavic: Wednesday, November 10, 12pm, 421 Lehman; Sociology: Tuesday, November 16, 4pm, 304 Barnard Hall; Spanish and Latin American Cultures: Monday, November 15, 4:30-5:30pm, 207 Milbank; Statistics: Tuesday, November 9, 12:30pm, 622 Mathematics (Columbia College campus); Urban Studies: Monday, November 8, 12-1pm, Sulzberger South (seventeenth floor Sulzberger Tower); Women's Studies: Wednesday, November 3, 6-7 pm, Ella Weed Room.

HISTORY MAJORS: Apply now for Spring 2000 History seminars. Applications and seminar lists are available on the bulletin board across from the History Office, 415 Lehman, and are due by this Monday, November 1. Preference is given to history majors and seniors.

SENIORS: Dean Schneider's series of workshops on proposal and personal statement writing resumed on Friday, October 22. They will be held for several consecutive Fridays, from 9:30-10:30am in 322 Milbank. Please call x4-2024 to reserve a space, Participants need not attend every workshop.

ELIE WEISEL PRIZE IN ETHICS: Juniors and seniors interested in submitting an essay for consideration should meet with Dean Schneider as soon as possible. Please call x4-2024 to check his hours.

ATTENTION PRE-LAW STUDENTS: There will be a panel presentation on The Law School Curriculum and Methods of Teaching on Thursday, October 28, from 1:30-3pm in the Altschul Atrium. Participating panelists are from Columbia, UCLA, Rutgers-Newark, and CUNY-Queens law schools. A reception with refreshments will follow the panel.

NEED TUTORING? Tutors will be less available toward the end of the semester because of their own coursework, and, thus, unable to accept new assignments, the last day to request a tutor is this Friday, October 29 in the Dean's Office, 105 Milbank.

SPELMAN COLLEGE EXCHANGE: Learn about this unique opportunity to study for a semester or a year at Spelman by attending an informational meeting on Friday, November 19, in Sulzberger Parlor, third floor Barnard Hall, at a time to be announced. For more information, contact Ms. Ross, Multicultural Affairs, x4-4913.



### **New Office of Multicultural Affairs Promotes Awareness of Diversity**

By Priscilla Caldwell

This year marks the inception of a welcomed addition to Barnard: the new Office of Multicultural Affairs. Created to address issues such as race, ethnicity, religion, and sexual orientation in the student body, the new office provides a place for students and faculty to share experiences of dealing with their own identities and the identities of other students. The department will deal with these issues and encourage discussion and dialogue through special programs, student-run groups, and faculty involvement

Dean Vivian Taylor is the head of the new office, housed in Upper Level McIntosh. For the past seven years, she has served as the Dean of the sophomore class and as Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, a position which first allowed her to examine the issue of multiculturalism at Barnard. She points out that the college has had a long-time interest in having an office like this. Her office's mission is "to promote an environment that is sensitive to the various ways that we bring difference to this community," Taylor says, "We also do some things to celebrate and affirm who we are." The office oversees programs such as Step, Liberty. and CORRIE, the Committee on Race, Religion, Identity, and Ethnicity. It is involved with students, faculty, and administration to ensure that academic and social aspects of life on the campus will exist in an environment open to diversity and difference.

The new department does not reach out just to minority groups and students on campus. All students will be affected by its presence on campus. Dean Taylor is quick to point out that, "we don't just serve one particular constituency." Though there is programming for specific groups of students, the office is not just a forum for all the special-interest groups on campus. It also serves to encourage diversity in all its forms, to find solutions to problems that arise from racial and religious differences, and to encourage personal responsibility and interest in multicultural issues.

Students have already had the opportunity to attend two events sponsored by the

Fliza Bang



Dean Vivian Tavlor

Office of Multicultural Affairs this semester. On September 30, it kicked off the year with an opening reception that included a panel of faculty members and students discussing multiculturalism at Barnard. The office, along with CORRIE, also sponsored a National Week of Dialogue from October 2-8 as part of President Clinton's Initiative on Race. Throughout the week, faculty members and students led workshops and small group discussions about topics ranging from "White Privilege" to "What Does It Mean to Be Latina?"

llana Garber '00 helped run one of the workshops entitled "Is There Religion at Barnard?" Through the Office of Multicultural Affairs, Garber has created a group committed to exploring this question. In the coming months, it hopes to sponsor events that encourage students to discuss and recognize the various religions on campus. "Dean Taylor has enabled us to do a lot of things we wouldn't have been able to do without the department," Garber says. "The office really gives power to the students."

Garber's group is only one of many groups that are now forming under the new office. Dean Taylor encourages students who are interested in becoming involved to sign up at the Office of Multicultural Affairs. They can meet personally with Dean Taylor, and also become members of the various groups. "If we are talking about fifteen students or 100 students, they are a part of this community," Taylor says. "Lets take a look at what we're doing for them."

The new department is planning a Unity Day, a series of discussions and films moderated by students and faculty. It is also preparing to work with other departments and groups on campus. Taylor says that in the future there will be collaborations with the Women's Center, the Pan-African Studies Department, and the Sociology Department.

There is much promise of exciting things to come with the new Office of Multicultural Affairs. In fact, it is probably one of the most accessible offices on campus. For students dedicated to honoring and increasing awareness of diversity on campus, the new office provides a supportive and inspirational starting place. "I do not want this to be a marginalized effort," says Dean Taylor. "I want the involvement of all students. This is a warm and welcoming place for students to discuss issues."

Priscilla Caldwell is a Barnard first-year and the Bulletin music assistant.

To the Editor:

This is in response to the previous Letter to the Editor written by Ashley Reiss '00. I just want to say that I was eating my lunch peacefully in the Quad, and when I read the last paragraph of her letter, I was incensed. I finished my lunch, and stomped into the Sulzberger computer lab to write this letter.

First of all, it is incredibly negativistic and ignorant to simply come out and say, "Cancer cannot be cured". One DNA mess up in one of trillions of cells, and she believes that cancer cannot be cured. Has she been following up on the news at all about cancer? Does she know what modern science can do and has been doing in the fight against cancer? That all of the marches and walks and runs to fight against cancer are to raise funding for these scientists to find the cure against cancer, or at least to find out just how cancer starts, spreads, and thus in better understanding it we can better fight it. Without the funding from these walks and runs, the scientists will not have the money to research for us.

So that makes me anory. But what makes me angrier is her using the fight against cancer to shamelessly plug her organic food tendencies It is true that cigarette smoke, pesticides, and other chemicals can cause cancer. But has she researched the genetic component of cancer? That there are families of women within whom breast cancer is a hereditary terror? If Ms Reiss says that cancer is caused by DNA, is she saying that cigarette smoke and deodorant cause changes in our DNA, mutating us as we innocently traverse Barnard's lovely campus? Does she really think that eating what is Advertised as "organic" and "healthy" is good for us when in all actuality it could have more chemicals than the "bad" ones? And finally, I think it is extremely simplistic and a complete fallacy in Ms Reiss's logic that deodorant is the cause of cancer.

My little sister died of cancer. She was barely over a year old. She never had a chance to use chemical shampoos, or cigarette smoke, or (heaven forbid), deodorants with Aluminum in them. She was a baby, and she died because of a blip in her genetic make up That is why I fund people in the breast cancer walks, and support any effort made by any scientist out there to find a cure for this awful disease, and the many subsequent, demonic heads it gives rise to.

"Right Guard" and "Secret" did not kill my sister. Cancer killed my sister. Bad genes and bad DNA killed my sister. Let's keep things in perspective here.

Taranee Wangsatorntanakhun '01

Dear Barnard Bulletin,

in her column in the October 13 issue of the Bulletin, Mita does not give the basis for her assertion that the number of English and Political Science majors has increased more than the number of Chemistry and Physics majors in recent years.

Here are some statistics:

Since 1992, the percentage of English majors in the graduating class has declined from 17 percent to 14 percent. The percentage of Political Science majors has declined from 15 percent to 11 percent Since 1992, the percentage of graduates majoring in the sciences (Biology, Biopsychology, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Environmental Science, Physics, and Astronomy) has increased from 9 percent to 13 percent

Mita's column links Psychology with Sociology. At Barnard, however, Psychology is very much a "real" science rather than a social science. Since 1992, the percentage of Psychology majors in the graduating class has increased from 12 percent to 15 percent

Constance A Brown Registrar, Barnard College 854-2011, fax 854-9470

### We All Make Mistakes. . .

In the October 20 issue of the Bulletin, writer Lauren Elkin was misidentified as a Barnard first-year. She is indeed a Barnard senior. As well, Columbia Professor Richard Brockman's name was misspelled. The Bulletin regrets the errors.

In the news section of the October 20 issue of the Bulletin, McIntosh Activities Council (McAC) was not mentioned as the sponsor of the Alumnae Speaker Series, of which Anna Quinland '74 was the first. The Bulletin regrets the error.

# Racial Profiling Becomes a "War

by Courtney E. Martin

U.S. Army Sergeant First Class Rossano V. Gerald, with the broad shoulders of a career soldier and the dark face of a man of Panamanian descent, stood at the side of the dusty Virginia road and watched, sadly, as his twelve year-old son began to weep uncontrollably. Just moments earlier, the pair had been pulled over for the second time in thirty minutes on their travel through the state, asked to get out of the vehicle, and were now being terrorized by Highway Patrol. For two and a half hours the father and son were questioned, first on the side of the road, then in a closed car with the air conditioning off and fans blowing hot air, as an attack dog foamed at the mouth inches away. SFC Gerald reported that he was not surprised when, halfway through, the troopers shut off the patrol car's video evidence camera. He was, however, very surprised that his twelve year-old son was enduring what he thought had been at least softened by the Civil Rights Movement: blatant and unjust racial profiling.

This scene, which took place in August of 1998 and is now being taken to court by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), is not an isolated incident. Racial profiling, described by most law enforcement circles as a technique to approach and pull over (in the case of highway patrol) people whose physical appearance resembles that of the persons most often arrested for crime, has become a volatile controversy across the country.

Racial profiling began to emerge as a prevalent concept with the birth of the early 1980s Republican campaign: "War on Drugs.' Starting in the mid to late '80s, major law enforcement programs sprung up locally with the national goal of cutting down on street-level drug dealing. The method was simple: become more efficient by pulling over those who look "suspect."

It sounded innocent enough, and at the time, jived nicely with the new enthusiasm for the "war on drugs." Americans, tired of watching tax dollars go to waste on ineffective programs, were eager to embrace what sounded like a tougher, more focused plan to end the use of illegal substances. President Reagan established the Task Force on Crime, whose primary mission was to intensify air and sea operations against drug smuggling in the South Florida area. Explicitly stated in the Task Force's methodology was targeting those from "ethnic groups associated with the drug trade." Racial profiling had officially become a recognizable and, according to the US government at the time, a justifiable method of law enforcement

The goal was to make as many arrests as possible, and in that respect, the Task Force succeeded. In fact, nationwide, arrests for drug possession reported by state and local police nearly doubled from 400,000 in 1981 to 762,718 in 1988. As racial profiling was put into practice though, some argue, it mutated into something far from efficiency: blatant racism. Those who see racial profiling as a viable solution to the illegal drug trade, such as Chief

Theodore Ambrosini of a Connecticut law force, often justify their point of view in terms of effectiveness. Chief Ambrosini explained, "One form of deterrence might be to develop a sense of proclivity toward the type of persons which are usually involved in these crimes. Not only is it our obligation to enforce the laws, but in doing so, we are provided with a profile of our community and those who travel within its boundaries."

The ACLU, and others dedicated to the eradication of what they consider to be racist police tactics, argue that this kind of racial profiling cre-

# **on People Without Social Privilege."**

ates a dangerous assumption that the individual police officers have an accurate idea about what "type of persons" are involved in the drug trade. The ACLU recently published a report which explains, "According to the government's own reports, 80 percent of the country's cocaine users are white, and the 'typical cocaine user is a middle-class, white suburbanite.' But law enforcement tactics that concentrated on the inner city drug trade were very visibly filling the jails and prisons with minority drug law offenders, feeding the misconception that most drug users and dealers were black and Latino. Thus a 'drug courier profile' with unmistakable racial overtones took hold in law enforcement."

Peter Holderness, a Columbia University atum and ACLU Public Education Department employee expanded the discussion. "Issues of race and drugs are completely relevant in the upcoming election. Someone like George W. Bush can run for presidency even though he has used drugs. For class concerns, he just didn't have to go out on the street to get them. So, now he's out giving campaign speeches and his African American counterpart is still serving an eight year minimum sentence in prison. It becomes not really a war on drugs, but a war on people without social privilege."

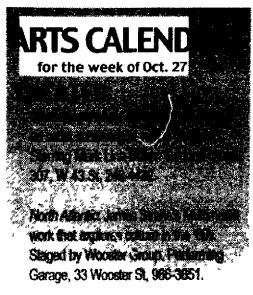
The drug profile is turther misconstrued, racial profiling protesters argue, by the formation of statistics involving race and drug violations. Upon examining sofely the figure representing minorities involved in drug arrests, it is logical to conclude that most drug use is rampant in minority races. However, it is essential to also examine the statistics linked to the number of minorities that are searched. For example, in Illinois, while Hispanics comprise less than eight percent of the state population and take fewer than three percent of personal vehicle trips, they comprise 27 percent of the drug searches conducted. These trends are mirrored in most places across the country. In District 11, the area surrounding East St. Louis, where Hispanics comprise less than one percent of the local driving population, they comprise 41 percent of the searches.

For years the concept of racial profiling didn't really have a name. It was an underlying theme in police training, an unspoken method which most officers subscribed to. Recently however, the method has become more established in popular culture and mass media. The American media has been looking closely at some of these statistics and publishing stories which explore the possibility of injustice within the complicated mesh of percentage points and standard curves. The phrase "racial profiling" can now be found in magazines and newspapers across the country, including Esquire, Newsweek, and TIME.

In a report issued in April 1999 by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights by The Sentencing Project, statistics revealed that blacks actually constitute 13 percent of the country's drug users. Astonishingly, they comprise 37 percent of those arrested on drug charges, 55 percent of those convicted, and 74 percent of all drug offenders sentenced to prison. The statistics speak directly to the cause for controversy which surround this police practice. The value of racial profiling still hangs in the balance. Groups like the ACLU are occupied with protecting the racial minority from unjust targeting. And of course, other groups maintain an interest in cutting down on crime in

ity from unjust targeting. And of course, other groups maintain an interest in cutting down on crime in what they view as an effective and intelligent manner. At the heart of the issue is SFC Gerald, whose obsession rests less in abstract questions of justice and more in protecting his twelve year-old son from a world he thought was eradicated at the conclusion of the Civil Rights Movement.

Courtney E. Martin is a Barnard sophomore. Graphic by Corinne Marshall.



Goner: "screwball comedy about a hospital, a wounded president, and a giant talking tumor." Written by Brian Parks of American Absurdum. Directed by John Clancy. The Present Company
Theatorium, 198 Stanton St at Ridge St, 420-8877, \$12 Thru 11/6.

Superis Musical by Vy Higginsen and Ken Wydro which traces the history of gospel. Williams Lafayette Theatre, 2225 Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Blvd at 131 St, 280-1045

### **ART**

Portraits by Ingres: Image of an Epoch. Survey of mythological, aristocratic, and colorful works. Metropolitan, 5 Av at 82 St, 879-5500

Beth B: Monuments: Study of the Female Form "Vorks that are seemingly innocent, but with a dark under-current" Visionaire Gallery, 11 Mercer St. Thru 11/13

Liz Deschenes: Below See Level: Large-Scale Photographs. "Brooding, meditative nature with a Rothko-like presence." Andrew Kreps, 529 W 20 St. Thru 11/13.

Marcel Duchemp: "The Art of Making Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction." Duchemp's Mona Lisa, works and ideas on copies; originals; and mass produc-

# **La Ciudad** Paints Bleak Portrait

by Charli Long

With the new film La Ciudad (The City), director David Riker provides a glimpse into the life of people rarely seen on the big screen— Latin American immigrants, living in New York City. Shot entirely in black and white and in Spanish with English subtitles, the film debuted at the San Sebastian Film Festival and has played at the Toronto, the Los Angeles Latino (400 people were turned away), and the Havana (where it won Best Film by a non-Latin American Director) Film Festivals all before hitting Sundance So far all of the screenings have been packed houses, with good reason

The film consists of four different vigneties—'Bricks" 'Home" 'The Puppeteer,' and 'Seamstress' all fied together and introduced via a neighborhood photo shop. One by one the audience sees people getting their pictures taken and then their story begins. While each episode deals with different characters from different parts of Latin Americal they are fied together by the

common struggle of building a life in a strange place

In "Bricks," a young man continually rereads a letter from his wife, who is still in Honduras, and dreams of the family he left behind Throngs of men hang around street corners, hoping a contractor will drive by and offer them work. We watch as one man pulls up and announces that he can take ten men and will pay them fifty dollars for a day's work. Without even questioning what type of work, a near riot breaks out as the men try to be the chosen ones. A few try to bargain for a higher wage, but it is futile After all, there are dozens of men for the contractor to choose from After making his selection, the workers are herded into the back of a truck and driven for hours. Finally they are let out in an abandoned lot where a building once stood and the boss announces that he will pay them fifteen cents per brick that they stack and clean Desperate for money, the men protest, get nowhere, and begin cleaning and stacking bricks in the hot sun. Then tragedy strikes



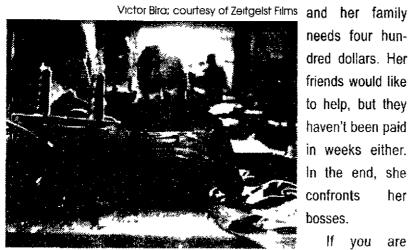
Luis (Jose Rabelo) and Duice (Stephanie Viruet) as the Puppeteer

# **of Immigrant Life in New York**

and they are unable to get help because the boss has taken off and left them without transportation, and they do not know where they are.

"Home" deals with the story of Francis-

co, newly arrived from Mexico and eager to find a job and build a good life. However, he gets lost on the way to his uncle's apartment. instead of trying to find it, he stumbles upon a party



where he meets Ana (Silvia Goiz) in the "Seamstress" episode

Maria, a somber but beautiful young woman. After talking for a bit, they discover they are from the same village. Francisco's fresh optimism is a stark contrast to Maria's resignation.

In "The Puppeteer," a man, Luis, and his daughter seek out a living by performing puppet shows in vacant lots. They live in a broken-down car by the river and as a result are constantly harassed by city workers. But living in the car, eating scraps of food, and suffering from what is probably tuberculosis does not phase Luis. What upsets him most is that his daughter, Dulce, cannot read. When a friend tells him that all children have the right to an education, he tries to enroll her, but is lurned away for lack of a rent receipt.

The "Seamstress" documents the life of women working in the garment industry. The scene of the dozens of women hunched over sewing machines while a tyrannical boss walks around screaming at them should be in some third world country somewhere; sadly it too is in New York City. The

seamstress (Silvia Goiz) and her co-workers have toiled for four weeks without pay, without complaint. Then one evening, a phone call from her mother changes all of that. Her six-year-old daughter is deathly ill

> needs four hundred dollars. Her friends would like to help, but they haven't been paid in weeks either. In the end, she confronts her bosses.

lf you are expecting a tale

of how America is the land of opportunity. then do not see this film. Not one of these stories has a happy ending (except for the "Seamstress," which is left open to interpretation) A review really cannot do it justice, seeing is truly believing. Riker deliberately chose non-actors for this film, adding more authenticity.

La Ciudad began as a fifteen minute short film while he was a student at NYU. and the final product consists of five years of labor. Riker did not speak Spanish when he began the project, but was drawn to the subject because he says he can relate (he was born in Boston, grew up in Belgium and England). "The whole story of my life has been about being an outsider and wanting to have a real understanding of what America is," he told USA Today. "To me, this film is not about Latinos. It's about Americans,"

Charli Long is a Barnard senior and the Bulletin arts editor.

### ARTS CALENI [cont'd]

lefici yreges, Jef Cristoleta (in Cristoleta)

### 

Bringing Out the Death Michi plays a paramedic over 6 45 it so the new Stomese Film, Watch Arquette, John Godernen, Virg Tom Sizemore, and Many Authors. Theaters Everywhere.

Show Me Love: drama about two dids growing up in Sweden. Directed by: Lukas Mocdysson, Quad Cinama, 15 at 6 Av. 255-8800.

The Straight Story, David Lynch's latest tells the story of Alvin Straight, who tree elled 260 miles on his John Deare trac-TUIL YYIEL DISSY OF CHAPT SHIP THEFTY WHICH Stanton Angelika, Houston at Mercer, 777-FILM # 531; Lincoin Sq. 68 Strand # B'way, 50L-OEWS #638.

Beefcake: Thom Frizgerald's dramatized documentary about the 1950s mater. physique magazine culture. Film Forum. 209 W Houston St, 727-8110.

### DANCE

Compagnie Montalvo-Hervieu. Parisbased choreographers bring him and break-dance riffs to the stage. Joyce Theater, 175 8 Av. 242-0800. Thru 10/31.

Improvisational Arts Ensagobia: Justia Blood and other works exclined petion. Middle Collegete Chards 2 and 7 St. 439-8185, Thru 17/12

Oli Flamenco. Features Sarta and Las Castaneros (gypsy family recently arrived from Spain). Call Forty-One. 41 Clark Brooklyn, (718) 222-4488.

### **MUSIC CALENDAR**

for the week of October 27

# POP/ROCK/PUNK

Natalle Merchant @ Town Hall Ben Folds Five @ Hammerstein Ballroom

Goo Goo Dolls + Tonic @ Yogl Вела Stadium

### Thurs&Fri 10/28-29

Ricky Mortin @ Madison Square Garden

### Thursday 10/28

Moby + Leftfield + Hardknox @ Roxy

### Thurs-Sun 10/28-31

Ann Magnusori @ Joe's Pub

Sunday 10/31.

Quasi + Mary Timony @ Maxwell's Cypréss Hill @ Roseland

### Sat&Sun 10/30-31

Galactic @ trying Plaza

### Monday 11/1

Robyn Hilchcock @ The Bowery Ballroom

### Tuesday 11/2

Matthew Sweet @ The Bottom Line

### Tues&Wed 11/2-3

Brendan Petry + Kristin Hersh @ Bowery Ballroom

### JAZZ

Wed 10/27-31

Billy Higgins / Harold Land Quintet @ The Jazz Standard

# Tori Amos Travels

By Ana Liza Caballes

I had not heard of Tori Amos until I met my roommate this year. A couple months later, here I am, setting my stereo's play mode to endless repeat on Tori's new double disc release, To Venus and Back. Although I knew virtually nothing about Amos's colored past, after listening to

celebrated hits 4 such as "Pretty Good Year," "Silent All These Years," "Cornflake Girl." "Talula," and "Jackie's Strength," 1 began to feel an emotional understanding of her realm. Researching the internet and talking to my residence floor neighbors, I've found



Tori Amos's new cyber look

that Tori fans are, to say the least, completely infatuated with the Raisin Girl. Sara Stemstein '03 comments, "She's not like the many contemporary stars who are overrated. Her music isn't like what you hear daily. Her songs speak to you and she's able to describe her hardship. That sense of intimacy allows you to connect with her. Besides, she's so talented and can play two pianos at once."

The Tori Epidemic is spreading. Yes, epidemic is the exact word to describe the increasing number of fans finding solace in her music. One extremist tattooed his body from head to toe, declaring his devotion. Recently, Amos could be seen gracing the cover of *Spin* magazine and will be featured in November's issue of *Cosmopolitan*. She also appeared on Late Night with Conan O'Brien on Thursday, October 14

and on the Rosie O'Donnell show on Wednesday, October 20.

As with most success stories, hers was a path of struggles. Born Mary Ellen Amos on August 22, 1963 in Newton, North Carolina, she began playing the piano at the ripe age of two. She was granted a musical scholarship at the Peabody Conservatory, part of John Hopkins

University in Baltimore, and was kicked out and labeled a heretic at 11 years old for not conforming to the Conservatory policy; she played by ear and was improvising her musical pieces. At 13, in the company of her Methodist minister father, Amos played her originally written

songs in gay bars and hotel lounges near the Washington, D.C. area. Voted homecoming queen, she enjoyed social stardom in high school as she played in nightclubs and went to school during the day.

With the intent of becoming a rock star. Amos moved to Los Angeles when she was 21 and changed her name. Though there are many speculations about why she changed her name, she fails to make one definite. She has claimed the change is because of her sister's boyfriend who thought she looked more like a Tori than an Ellen. She has also said she named herself after a tree. Along with a change of home and name came a change in life, her whole life took a complete 180-degree turn.

Her story wasn't always colored pink. Under the Atlantic label in 1988, Arnos recorded a

# To Venus and Back

commercial disaster, Y Tori Kan't Read. It was during this tumultuous time when she was kidnapped and sexually assaulted. She started to spiral downward and suffered a nervous breakdown that caused her to stop playing the piano completely. Amos allowed herself to sink into the depths of depression and remained stagnant for six months.

When Amos found herself again, with the help of a friend who helped her to see that music was a passion she had to pursue, she began finding inspiration in expressing her anger through music. She conveyed her repressed emotions and compiled an album, which would later be released as Little Earthquakes.

Amos made her debut in England in 1991 and has since been floating on the clouds of conquest. Though she has never had a song that was a top of the Billboard hit list, all of her albums-Little Earthquakes, Under the Pink, You Sleigh Me. Boys for Pele, and From the Choir Girl Hotel-have gone platinum. Her extensive resume includes working with REM, Trent Reznor of Nine Inch Nails, her childhood idol Robert Plant, and Tom Jones. She has also recorded singles featured in movie soundtracks such as Toys and the summer movie hit Twister. Perhaps one of her most prided accomplishments is helping to found R.A.I.N.N., an organization helping those who have experienced rape, abuse, and incest. Despite suffering a miscarriage in 1997, her career and her personal life seem to be on an upward slope. Amos married a sound engineer, Mark Hawley, in 1998.

Her newest release, *To Venus and Back* is a great part of that upward slope. This box set includes her first live concert recording of 13 songs from her 1998 "Plugged" Tour. The diverse collection includes fan favorites such as

"Cornflake Girl," "Cooling," "Cloud on my Tongue," "Mr. Zebra," and of course, "Little Earthquakes." Just as addictive as her popular hits, there are no words sufficient enough to describe the power in her eleven new songs. Her lyrics are just as riveting as ever. Known for confronting issues about masturbation, rebellion, and protesting the institutional church and the Bible, Amos continues to demonstrate her outspoken and eccentric nature with a variety of themes in "Venus Orbiting." While her perplexing lyrics are not always blatantly understood—the first lines of the album, "Father, I killed my monkey/ I let it out to/ taste the sweet of spring"—the passion is positively irrefutable.

The most drastic change in the presentation of Tori's music is the addition of heart thumping, technologically charged instruments that makes up the collage of music as heard in the track "Bliss." Though electronic effects have slightly made her foreign from her trademark simplistic combination of voice and piano, she sneaks in a reminder of the starkness fans fell in love with in the short piece, "Josephine."

The theme of Venus is, to say the least, varied and complicated. "Concertina" deals with the conflict between love and lust while "Durata" is a list of herbs in a garden that are potentially lethal hallucinogens. With a more serious and sentimental theme, "Juarez" is written in the perspective of a desert town near the border of Mexico where 100 working women were murdered. The most heart-wrenching and hypnotizing song, the song I've played over and over, is "1000 Oceans." With the same atmospheric sense of her previously recorded hits, "Winter" and "Silent All These Years," "1000 Oceans" is sure to put a lump in your heart.

Ana Liza Caballes is a Barnard first-year.

### **MUSIC CALENDAR**

[cont'd]

### COMING UP

11/4-5 lggy Pop @ Irving Plaza

11/6 Flux Feely @ Acme Underground

17/8 Save Ferris @ Bowery Ballroom

11/9 Eurythrnics @ Madison Square Garden

11/9 Wilco @ Beacon Theatre

11/9&10 Counting Crows @. — Hammerstein Ballroom

11/11 Primus @ Roseland

11/15 311 @ Irving Plaza

11/16 Limp Bizkit @ Continental Airlines Arena

11/16 Allson Krauss and Unland Station @ The Town Hall

11/16-18 Meshell Ndegeocella @ Bowery Ballroom

11/19 Lucinda Willams @ Roseland

11/19 Live @ Hammerstein ... Ballroom

11/24 Everything But The Girl @ Hammerstein Ballroom

11/26&27 Natalie Cole @ Avery Fisher Hall

# first-year discovers wa

by Akiko Kurematsu

"Indie rock?" As visions of Indian teenagers bopping to Indian rock bands waft through my mind, I continue to interview Barnard first-year Courtney Szper, listening to her rattle on band names such as Discount, The Promise Ring, and Ida. My confusion deepens as I wander why these Indian bands have such Americanized names. At the risk of sounding completely ignorant, I throw away my pride and blurt out, "what is Indie Rock??"

Many people may have the same wrinkles on their foreheads when they first hear the term "indie rock." Short for rock performed by bands on independent record labels, their music has already caught the attention of many. "Indie Rockers Can't Dance" is a new WBAR New York radio show hosted by two Barnard first-year DJs, Courtney Szper, and Golnar Nikpor. The title of their show was meant as an humorous attack on

before an energetic performance, maybe nodding their heads to the beat on rare occasions. "It's a blast,' Courtney says with enthusiasm as she talks about WBAR and her new show. She says her partner "is an indie rocker," and that their different tastes in music brought out the curiosity in her to learn more about the minor bands.

Courtney also speaks of the how easy and fun it is to host "your own radio show"

at WBAR. She likes the total freedom DJs have, and the great sense of humor everyone has. She went in with just the interest, no experience, and now she talks freely of "the board" and "fading out the sounds."

I also spoke with Karla Repple '01, who is a veteran DJ and the general manager of

Karla welcomes anyone interested to apply the beginning of next semester. WBAR is looking for "EVERYTHING," she says with a smile, from ska, punk, industrial, rock, heavy-metal, techno, hip-hop, to any new genres of music—all are equally desirable. No experience necessar, as training will be provided by the WBAR staff. It has been seven years since WBAR

gral part of the music scene that they rep-

resent," and that WBAR gives them "a

voice to express themselves through their

music and talk."

/cu/wbar) on the internet and anyone in the world can listen to them RealAudio As technology advances

and entertainment climbs to new levels, it is rare to see organizations focus on the minor genres of music rather than 'NSync and Britney Spears The new generation of WBAR recognizes the importance of staying faithful

> to this trait that makes WBAR unique and different from most mainstream radio stations, and even Columbia University's radio sta-

tion, WKCR-FM

New York.

To get a taste of a 'different' kind of music, dial into 1680am or 87.9fm. It may not be your typical chain of songs played repeatedly-instead it may prove a tasty blend of new sounds that may have you humming on your way to class.

went on air. Now, they even have their own website (http://www.columbia.edu Vanessa Garcia

WBAR. For the new year, she

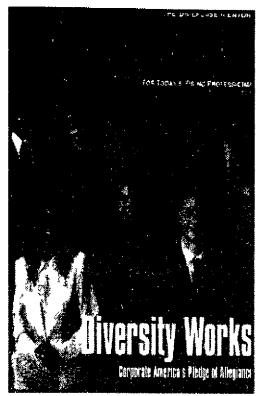
expressed an emphasis on playing "new, cutting edge music," and incorporating that with the originality, diversity, and independence WBAR is known for. At their first meeting, Courtney says that "Ithe executive staff| made it clear to us that they want to be cutting edge. . . not the Backstreet Boys, not '60s and '70s, and definitely not something you can find on the radio." Karla also explains that "a lot of the DJs are an inte-

Akiko Kurematsu is a Barnard first-year.

indie rockers who

stand motionless

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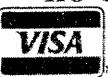
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# **Junior Scopes Out Alternative Places**

by Celia Washington

One of the most important things that I've found to be detrimental to my study habits is not only the time I spend studying, but also the place I do it. Ever since my first year, I have come to the Barnard library hoping that the

more time I spent there the more I would get used to it Yeah, right I became accustomed to allotting 20-30 minutes for napping, which would happen like clockwork every



time. I told myself that it was just my way of get ting used to the deathly quiet space (except for the occasional paper crumpling or the sound of chairs sliding into the desk). I tried going across to Butler but that wasn't working for me on a regular basis because until midlerms or finals roll around, Butler is the social spot on campus at night. The School of Social Work library is a nice place to go occasionally, but I felt weird because everyone there is a graduate student (and then of course, I would fall asleep) Now that I am a junior aspiring to be a good student, it dawned on me that my study spots were not working for me. I felt that there had to be some place where I could get my study going without falling asleep or socializing the whole time

My search began by asking friends who were pretty much on top of their reading but whom I never saw in the library. They all pointed out that they didn't go to the library often because it was too quiet and the study room on the first floor was reminiscent of a dungeon. Okay, so where were they getting their work done so painlessly? I got two recommendations of spots in the neighborhood that were

study friendly The Hungarian Pastry Shop and Underground

I figured that I would try each on a different night and see what the deal was The Hungarian Pastry Shop was first Located between 111 and 110 Sts on the Amsterdam side of things, this pastry shop serves the usual pastry shop

> pastries as well as an assortment of coffees and teas When I walked in it seemed like just the right atmosphere, not too loud but not quiet I ordered my tea, gave my name and turned to look

for a seat. There came my first difemma—the place looked a little crowded. I luckily found someone sitting alone and sat at that table. The lighting is darker in some places, but definitely adequate for reading. I got about four pages into my reading when I was suddenly startled twice. Once by my name being called out, and I realized it was the waitress looking for me to bring me the tea! had ordered and the second surprise came when a beautiful black and white

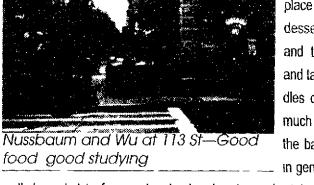
cat jumped up in the chair across from me and locked at me I think that maybe it thought I had ordered coffee and that would mean milk to this cafe cat I started to pet her but the waitress picked up the cat and put it

on the floor—just as well, I needed to forge ahead and study About twenty minutes later, and still at a relatively steady pace, I began to get irritated with a group of students in the cor-

ner who were making noise. Not the random conversation in between studying noise, but the we-aren't-going-to-do-anymore-work-tonight noise. I am conditioned by library etiquette to give people the evil eye when they engage in conversation oblivious of the studious people around them. There were students of all ages around me, so maybe they were used to fluctuating noise levels. I, however, was not. I stayed maybe thirty minutes more and then left.

So my first outing was semi-successful, save for the loud ones. I had gotten the minimum reading done and I did not have to engage in my ntualistic coma. Now I had to try ground A little further down and over, this spot is located on 107 St and West End and it's literally underground (meaning you have to walk down stairs to the entrance) I had been warned that it wasn't as good as it used to be because a bar had been put in and it became a little noisy with the drinkers and the music Still curious, I went in The bar was the first thing that I saw and the place looked a little small until I noticed that there was another section added on that must be the lounge spot 1 eliza bang

walked through to a significantly larger space that had a place to order your desserts, coffees, and teas, a couch and tables with candles on top it was much quieter than the bar section and in general very mel-



low I ordered my tea and sat down at an empty table near a light. The lighting is dimmer than the pastry shop, but I did have my own table. I remembered that people had their laptops at

# to Study in the City

the pastry shop and I wished that I had brought mine so that I could do some work. This time I remembered but unfortunately I forgot to charge the batteries and there was nowhere to plug in so I was lugging extra pounds in an already heavy case for nothing. I pulled out my reading and decided to try this instead. I am pleased to say that I got all of my reading done, but I just might have stunted my already bad vision with the dim lighting. The bar didn't bother me because they have a doorway between the two spots which helped tremendously.

Most of the study-friendly places are usually coffee/tea dessert places and there are some others that are worth mentioning. New World Coffee in the 115 St & Broadway block is a good spot. They serve great food and the tables are big. The only downside is that they close around 10pm, which doesn't work for those of us who work late. A little further down in the 113 St block is Nussbaum and Wu which closes around midnight and also serves delicious food. However, every time I pass by, it is always crowded, if you prefer that. One of the Starbucks coffee chains found its way into our neighborhood on 111 St and this may be a favorite to those who relied on Starbucks back home. Starbucks closes around midnight and there's a prefty consistent study vibe going on Sunday through Thursday, meaning the noise level is friendly to those who can't concentrate with loud noise. Anybody interested in travelling to 84 St and Broadway? Barnes and Nobles has a location there that is smaller than the megastore on 66 St and Broadway, but still a cozy place to go on the afternoons or evenings if you need to get away from campus every once in a while. I am surprised that there aren't more lounge areas around the campus, but Columbia is a large campus with libraries that I haven't even been into yet and may never get to during my undergraduate career.

I am now lounged enough to say that I recommend going off campus to study, or at least trying another study area, for those who have that sleeping-in-the-library-every-time problem like myself. It may become a little costly because you have to buy something every time, but just hold off on that over-expensive soda in McIntosh if you know you want to go off campus to study. Also, you may want to try and get there around 8pm or so if you don't want to risk having to sit with people you don't know—these places get crowded sometimes. If you have never been down to a study lounge, this is the perfect time to try a few out and see if you can dig it. Being a student means that sometimes you have to change your routine and try new things. Getting away from here once a day to read in a relaxed environment with a sweet treat and a cup of coffee, even if it's only down the street, may be just what you need to get through midterms, finals, life.

Celia Washington is a Barnard junior and Bulletin nycl editor.

# The crisis of the easily enticed

By Diana Paquin

As I am doing my senior thesis on Seventeen Magazine in the 1950s, I have become well aquainted with the Donnell branch of the the New York Public Library (affectionately called the Nipple by those who know and love it). Located directly across from the MoMA, my many hours spent there have helped me to appreciate the mayhem of Midtown. Though on a recent Saturday my senses were dulled from blearly searching through crumbling fashion spreads, the sunlight that greeted me as I emerged onto 53 St made me realize that it was a beautiful day. Accompanied by my ex-not-boyfriend, we wandered about the area and ended up at that mecca for the Vitamin-D deprived: the Central Park Sheep Meadow.

Alas, if you do not want to be surrounded by reminders of your own loneliness, or be tempted to make out with whoever your companion may be, my advice is not to frequent the Sheep Meadow on a sunny day. Although on such a day you're likely to encounter some smooching in any grassy space (Lehman Lawn included), the Sheep Meadow is a celebration of urban love. Like an episode of the Wonder Years, the eyes pan from one frolicking couple to the next, taking in all ages, races, and sexual orientations. As my friend put it, the sun was "hallucinogenically bright" in contrast to our generally flourescently tit lives.

The gift and the curse of New York City is abundantly clear at such moments—here, no one cares what you do. This is a blessing for the paranoid, and a curse to those seeking the sobering effects of the Public Eye. Attempting to be platonic in such a locale was nearly impossible, so we retired to the refreshing chaos of Central Park South. And believe you me, after consuming several Snapples in the sunshine, we welcomed the pomp of the Park Plaza's restrooms. No hanky panky possible there, thank you very much. In another moment of temptation, I nearly spent \$40 on Eloise merchandise. Well, what do you expect in a city where even inanimate objects are out to seduce you, where you can get anything at any time without any forethought? Just keep in mind that you may regret it in the morning...

Diana Paguin is a Barnard senior and Bulletin columnist.

# May the Floss Be With

By Veronica Liu

It's 4am, and it's time for bed. A night of studying for midterms, drinking, or procrastinating has just passed. The alarm is set for 9am. I tear off my coat, kick off my share and flop onto my covers. Brushing my teeth is the last thing on my mind.

And why should I care?

"Hoorayl" the tood particles in between my teeth shout. During my minimal hours of slumber, the particles scramble to hook up with the naturally-occurring bacteria in my mouth Their evil offspring are released: PLAQUE. My teeth are devastated.

It is because of this unleashing that I should care marque is the cumulination of bacteria and food particles that build up when teeth are not brushed and flossed properly. Destructive to the gums and the tooth structure, plaque causes the calcium in tooth enamel to break down, a process also known as decalcification. When enamel breakdown occurs, cavities are formed. If a cavity is filled properly by a dentist, the tooth is good for life. If it is not, the tooth becomes loose in its socket and it must either be extracted and replaced by a false tooth, or the bone must be reconstructed, costing thousands of dullars.

The best way to avoid plaque is by following what the dentist recites, have a dental check-up every six months, brush and floss regularly, and avoid sugar. This can be difficult, especially for college students who may go to a school away from home, who are used to academic and social schedules that do not necessarily adhere to "normal" hours, and who may thrive on sweet things (with caffeine or without) for sustenance during all-nighters Foods and drinks with sugar, however, allow plaque to build up more easily. Taking med-

ications can also be an indirect source of more plaque, since while one is on the cation, the salivary flow is decreased, and plaque takes over. Because increased salivary too is a prime way to reduce the incidence of plaque, drink at least eight glasses of water a day; if dryness persists, there are products such as Moistic (produces moisture in the mouth) currently on the market

Of course, no products can truly replace the best and simplest methods of plaque prevention: brushing and flossing.

No-holds-barred brushing should ideally be done after every meal, or at least twice a day. If it is absolutely not possible to brush after a meal, rinsing the mouth can be substiitueui, as the action loosens plague if a brashing time is missed, more vigorous brushing is required the next time, since double the plaque will have built up. The kind of toothbrush does not matter, as long as all areas of the teeth are covered and, contrary to many people's preferences, the brisiles of the brush should be dry. The brush should also be replaced once a month, or once every couple of months, as the bristles bend and become less effective. Studies have snown that it is actually the mechanical motion of brushing that really cleans the teeth, with or without toothpaste, so the more agorous the brushing the better It is best to brush your teeth for about one minute, and another nice thing you can do while brushing is turn off the faucet in order to save water. Make sure not to go overboard and bruise the gums

Even though teeth can receive a quite worthy cleaning without it, toothpaste can have additional ingredients that make it a bonus to brush with, not just a more pleasurable taste experience. Some toothpastes, such as Arm & Hammer, have sodium bicar-

bonate (also known as balling soda) which releases oxygen and is good for the gums. Alone all toothpastes have fluoride (also known as the goobery paste that the dentist puts into a patient's mouth at the end of a check-up) which makes the tooth structure harder in order to resist decay. Colgate Total, and its Crest equivalent, have both baking soda and fluoride, as well as whitening agents. Whitening does not actually do anything healthy (or unhealthy) for teeth-it is purely aesthetic. Other kinds of toothpastes cater to less general needs. Sensodyne for sensitive teeth. Aquatresh for those crazy colors-but it must be remembered that what matters most is how the brushing is done, not what loompaste one มีเนอกอย มานี้, Flossing is equally important.

The exhilarating activity of flossing is often overlooked by many dental patients, though it should ideally be done as often as brushing. Some parts of the teeth cannot be reached by brushing alone. Flossing actually takes on more importance as one ages because, for people past the age of twenty, gingivitis and gum disease becomes more of a threat than cavities. Wy own dentist has actually told me that she can identify when the devout flossers she treats have reached college age, because rushing from class to class (or from party to party) causes them to slack in their flossing duties.

As in every other area of life, slacking off dental hygiene has its consequences! Not flossing leads to gingivitis, an early form of gum disease that is indicated by bleeding between the teeth. The bleeding is especially noticeable when one finally decides to pick up the floss months later. During that time dirt builds up, gums bleed, gum disease takes hold and decay can begin. To avoid the possi-

# Pou...

bility of extractions and false teeth, one should consult a dentist when bleeding of the gums occurs, so that a periodontist (guaranteelist) can be employed if necessary.

Considering all that, why would one not floss? Toothpicks actually destroy the attachment of teeth to the gums, injuring them. And Listerine is a good plaque-preventor, but cannot replace the value of flossing. On the same note, why would one not brush? The possibilities of cavities, extraction, false teeth bone reconstruction. and financial hardship loom overhead with every meal that is consumed. Why would one simply not adhere to what the dentist says and battle the plaque on a regular basis? Laziness seems like a valid excuse to me, but my dentist would have a conniption fit; and so would all others And depending on the state of my teeth in a few years, I may, too. So I floss. And I brush. And I rinse And I smile.

Veronica Liu is a Barnard junior. Photos by Eliza Bang

### Health Hints: Five Ways to Stay Active This Winter

If we were bears, gray skies and chilly wind would mean that we could go into our caves for the winter and sleep until spring. Despite our affection towards our beds in the wintertime, we are not bears. Still, we seem to get as lazy as the most slothful grizzly. Before you sink into your covers for the winter, think about this: don't you want to be able to chase the butterflles across college walk in the spring? Here are some ways to stay active this winter without getting too cold or subjecting yourself to the gym:

Hire yourself out as a dog-walker. Not only will you make a canine friend, but you will make some money as well. If you have a daily date with a doggie, you will be more likely to get out and about a bit. Going for your walk will get you out of the house and into the fresh air, which is important in the winter. Once you become lethargic, it is much more difficult to motivate and get out there.

Take a yoga class. This is a stress-buster, too. The stretching and breathing will wake up your muscles, and the calm quiet of the class will help you to relax when things get nutty. Local studios allow you to buy a "class card," which will let you take the classes when you have time instead of sticking to a schedule Dance classes, for those who are inclined, are exercise without seeming like it.

Invest in an exercise video. As someone who feets a little dorky in exercise classes, I infinitely piefer Richard Simmons to a class. Richard loves me no matter how many times I get on the wrong foot, and I actually have a good time sweatin' to the oldies. These videos, many of which can be found for less than ten bucks, provide the one of the best workouts around.

Bundle up and forgo the subway If you are dressed appropriately, there is no reason you can't walk down to Zabar's the next time you need to escape campus. Getting out in the air for a change will do you good. Staying underground for the whole winter may make you begin to feel like a mole after a while.

Join a ctub. There is a ctub sport for almost anything you might be inclined to do: archery, badminton, dance team, floor hockey and volleyball are only a few of the teams you can join. Contact the PE department to learn more.

—Stacey McMath

### Well Woman: Using the Moon as a Gauge for Ol' Aunt Flo

Woman.On future W-W Calendars, you might want to put the stages of the moon. It's a great way to keep track of menstruation, it's easier than counting days. For example, when the moon is new, I know I'm ovulating and get my period when it is full. It's great! If the sky is cloudy, I can't see the moon, but it's nice to see it on paper. Thanks!

tion. We'll definitely keep your suggestion in mind when creating next year's calendar. However, while your period may follow the phases of the moon, many women don't follow that same schedule, especially since there is so much artificial light around. The moon's phases are a great way to get a rough estimate of your cycle,

but don't count on the fact that you're ovulating at exactly the same time as the new moon. Stress (which we all have a lot of here at Barnard) and other factors can influence the time that you ovulate. DON'T count on the moon to determine when contraception is necessary. Definitely use contraceptive protection at all times, whether you know you're ovulating or not.

"Well-Woman" is a weekly feature in the Bulletin. The responses, written by the Well-Women Peer Educators, answer questions from members of the Barnard community. Questions may be submitted to the Well-Woman Office, 135 Hewitt.

### THE YEAR OF THE MITA

by Mita Mallick

My mother awoke one morning this past summer rather upset.
She proceeded to tell me about a dream she had. "It was your wedding," she said, describing it in detail. Apparently all my

family and friends were there rejoicing in the fact that I was actually getting married. "But for some reason, I didn't see the groom," she continued. It was one of those dreams where she knew she was about to wake up any moment. "I frantically looked for him, thinking I could see him and have an idea of what you might like..." Her voice trailed off. The alarm clock rang and she had found herself in bed. The buzzer had decided: I was destined to a life of spinsterhood.

As I slowly approach graduation, my mother is convinced of one of two things:

- A) I have a boyfriend who I am hiding from my family, probably because he is two inches shorter than I, and is half my size, and I am embarrassed to admit that I am with him. She used to say, "It doesn't matter what color or religion he is. As long as he is educated and comes from a good family." Now she'll accept anything I bring home with pants on. The excitement might actually be too much for her.
- B) I am a lesbian and I am scared to come out of the closet. My mother and I have a great relationship. She and my brother have told me on several occasions that if I were gay, they would accept me with open arms. My first year at college she talked a lot about how everyone thought Rosie O'Donnell was gay, and if so, "she" should just "come-out" because we would all still love "her." She called me and asked me if I had seen Ellen's coming-out episode. Bottom line: I shouldn't be scared to tell them.

So in response:

- A) My standards have lowered considerably, yet they haven't plunged into the pit of darkness. If I did have a boyfriend, I would parade him around at every opportunity. If I were remotely interested in anyone, I would tell my mother just to put her at ease. Let the pain and suffering end.
- B) I wish I were a lesbian. My social life for the last four years probably would have been booming. I am lucky to have a family who would accept me as a homosexual. My mother needs affirmation that I am either a heterosexual or a homosexual. Commenting on how hot Ricky

14.7.5.40 2.74.14.5.5 is just doesn't work anymore. She needs to know that I am not the asexual hydra which I have become.

Before I came back for my senior year, one of my best friends who recently graduated from college sat me down. "Mita, this is it. Your senior year, the Year of the Mita."

She implored me not to join her in "the single world." It was my last chance to snag one of those wonderful bachelor men in college. And I was in New York City, so how could this be so difficult? She just did not understand, she just couldn't understand.

My other best friend is married. Married. Six years of being inseparable and then things suddenly start to shift between us. I start having to rigorously compete with this boy—actually, no a man, and then it's simply that I am not even competition anymore. It is her and him, and then there's me over there somewhere. They go clubbing together with other couples to posh places. I did not know that married people went clubbing. I guess an invite will be extended my way once I enter "the world of the coupie."

After all of this, I cannot say that I do not feel pressure. My eyes seem to always catch that infamous stone twinkling, smiling, dancing in the rays of sunlight on the left hand of so many of my senior classmates. All I can ask myself is how on earth did I get to be 21 years old?

Four years at Barnard and I just can't figure it out. My chances of encountering Prince Charming this last year are pretty slim to none. I think he lost his way on route to find me. Is he in disguise as the waiter at Ollie's? Is he the guy on the subway across from me? Or is he the 27 year-old computer engineer that my aunt cannot wait for me to meet?

I am caving into the pressure, being convinced by others that I have missed a big part of "the college experience." Simply it boils down to one thing: boys. Boys, guys, men and more boys. That one boy. The boy of all boys.

It is so crazy that it's hysterical. I bet I'm the only one who thinks so. Joke's on me? Anyone else know what I am even talking about? Things were so much simpler when I was younger. It was me and Rainbow Brite.

While others have diamonds on their left hands, I sport my Barnard class ring. They say it's bad luck for a single woman to wear other rings on "that finger." But I shall speak the truth. For the last three years I've been married to Barnard. Do I have any regrets? I'm still trying to decide. If so, I better speak up soon. It's the Year of the Mita.

Mita Mallick is a Barnard senior and Bulletin columnist.

# BARNARD NEEDS MATH DEPARTMENT OF ITS OWN

By Shannon Keams

On my first day of classes at Barnard, I was more than a little surprised to learn that I would be heading across the street to take my Calculus IIA class. I had placed out of the quantitative reasoning requirement and was taking this class because I truly enjoy learning about math. Integrals and equations do it for me, don't ask me why. I was surprised to learn that I was taking my class at Columbia because I was unaware of the math department situation at Barnard. Mistakenly, I assumed that because I was attending college for women, I would have the opportunity to participate in math classes in a single sex environment. Or if not single sex, have the classes dominated by women, which is usually not the case in a mathematics classroom. So the first day of class, when the frat boys in the back

were yelling disrespectful comments to my female teacher at the front of the room, you could say I was a bit put off.

Ever since my first day of Calculus, Barnard's math department has both interested and infuriated me. I don't understand why a women's college, especially one of Barnard's caliber and reputation would not have its own math department. In trying to find out more

about this situation, I went to the course catalogue to look up the department. I found the mathematics section, complete with a listing of professor, department head, and a variety of courses offered. Upon further examination, I discovered that none of the classes were explicitly Barnard classes. Every single course number started with a V or a W not a BC like other Barnard classes. In case anyone needs a refresher in the code business, the V stands for "Joint undergraduate course (Barnard with Columbia College and/or the School of General Studies)" and W stands for "Other inter-faculty course" (taken from Barnard 1999-2000 Catalogue). So Barnard doesn't offer its own math classes; that point is obvious. But, since we have mathematics faculty on staff, I wanted to make sure that I was right about the lack the department. So, I e-mailed the head of the Barnard math department, David Bayer, to ask him the question.

He responded to the e-mail with some information about the department. As suspected, Barnard does not have its own mathematics department; Professor Bayer informed me that, "Columbia and Barnard have a collaborative math department. Neither Barnard nor Columbia has a separate math department." He then posed the question to me, "Why have I never heard about 'the lack of a math department at Columbia?" Although

I never got a chance to answer him directly, I would like to elaborate on this point. Columbia is a coed university; the women who go to that institution cannot expect to have the opportunity for single sex education in the realm of math and science. By choosing to attend Columbia, they accept the fact that their math education will follow the traditional model of the disciplines of math and science. Therefore, the math department isn't lacking at Columbia because the needs and expectations of its students are being

Traditionally, math is a subject that has dominated by men. The oppression of women, and the discrimination against them in the math classroom, has been an area of concern for sometime. It is generally accepted that women do not do as well in math and science because they are ushered away from these subjects, to the humanities, while males are

> encouraged to pursue these avenues. women's answer and suggestions. even if they were correct and beneficial.

For those women who wish to go into these fields, the dominance of males in the classroom is inhibitory of the women's learning. In my own experience, males tended to interrupt other female students, the teacher, and myself; they tended to disregard the

As a woman, at a college for women, I feel that I should be able to study this subject without being afraid of oppression, bullying, and discrimination.

The Barnard 1999-2000 catalogue states, "The Barnard curriculum enables students to develop strength. . . in mathematics and the natural sciences. . . ways of knowing that incorporate but also transcend traditional academic disciplines. . . As a college for women, Barnard embraces its responsibly to address issues of gender in all their complexity and urgency, and is committed to an integrated curriculum that recognizes the importance of gender in all forms of human endeavor." I think the statement Barnard is making here explicitly demonstrates why we should have our own math classes. By not providing the opportunity of single sex math education I think our school is reinforcing, not transcending, traditional academic disciplines and ignoring the importance of gender in the study of mathematics. I don't know if there is any other solution to the problem but to provide Barnard women a "room of one's own" to feel comfortable with the traditionally masculine discipline of mathematics.

Shannon Kearns is a Barnard sophomore.

commentary [21]

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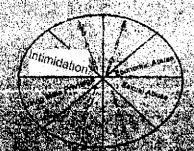
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