

home and bulletin

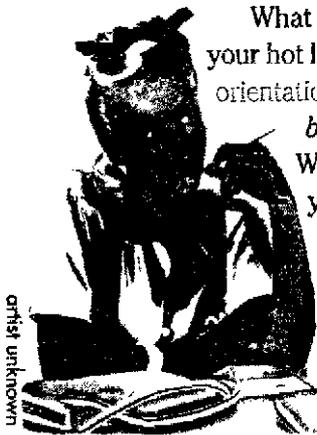


welcome
first-yearst
SOP course
for SC '04

SCHOOL...
you heard...
OUR...
...un begins...
...room...
...beyond...
OP

letter from the editor

just what
is this thing,
anyway?



What you hold in your hot little hand is the orientation issue of the *barnard bulletin*. Which, I assume, you gathered from the front cover. But maybe you didn't know what this little rag will do for you...inside these pages, you'll find your first real, candid welcome to Barnard and Barnard life—and the answers to a lot of questions that might get lost along the way. The orientation committee and the Office of Admissions have gotten you this far...now it's time to find out what this crazy little school is all about. The paper includes a warm welcome to Barnard...and an introduction to the not so warm-and-fuzzy world of the Columbia/Barnard rivalry. There's a section on where to find help when you need it, from emergencies to computer questions. Then there's the all important introduction to the start of classes...everything from registration to buying books. (Info I wish I had when I was a first-year, wandering around in a daze with no textbooks and no psych lab.) And once classes start and you get into a rhythm, there's a thousand things to do on campus that aren't academic. You'll find the short list of some great, engaging activities, and the lowdown on campus and off-campus jobs. But we don't expect you to spend all of your time on campus (this is New York, after all) so there's a quick run down of good eats and entertainment in the Heights, and then a couple of highlights of our fair city...neither of which pretends to be exhaustive, but hey—you gotta start somewhere, right?

This is a huge, crazy change for you. It's crazy to me that the class of 2004 is already here...that yet another group of women is

ready to take on the enormous challenge of such a rigorous challenge in such a fantastic (and distracting!) city. By the end of orientation, your parents will have left, you'll have met a zillion new people, have made a fool of yourself in front of everyone else doing the same at CUnity, gotten to know exactly how clean your cleaning standards (and those of your roommate!) are, found out what it means to go to the 'stend, gotten lost on the subway at least once, and started a whole new chapter in your life. When I look back at my introduction to Barnard, I realize that orientation week really shaped my life for the next whole year—and it was because of the people I met and the places I saw (to make a really, really long story short, don't get in a catfight for the last two tickets to Rikki Lake unless you know what you're getting into) Had I skipped the daytime talk show foolishness and stayed on campus, my life would be completely different right now. And I don't regret one minute of it—I reluctantly "Go Rikki"ed on camera and set in motion a whole new chapter of my life. It's been a long, crazy ride since coming to Barnard, and it's only half over for me. And just starting for you. You'll make mistakes over the next year...but that's what it's all about. You'll find your place here at Barnard...whether it's in the spotlight or behind the scenes. You'll make some noise, whether it's a shout or a whisper. And you'll learn a lot, from the chemical makeup of neurotransmitters to the anatomy of your personality. I wish you all the luck in the world, but know that the ride won't always be easy. Stick with it, though, and you'll find out things you never knew you'd want to know. And hey, when it's all over, let me know how it turns out.

So, if this is just the orientation issue of the *bulletin*, that means there's more to come, right? Exact-mundo, my first-year friend. The *bulletin* is Barnard's only weekly newsmagazine, and it's all student-run. These pages are the first of many to come off the presses for the Barnard/Columbia readership this semester. A completely separate entity from the *Columbia Daily Spectator*, the *bulletin* is the voice of Barnard—bringing issues that effect Barnard women to the entire university community. We're a features-oriented paper, but we bring the Barnard news to you every week, as well as arts, music, commentary and even a section on living in New York City. We cover campus events, as well as important things happening in the city, and we're always looking for writers. We meet Mondays at 7 pm (we even provide dinner!) in our office, 128 Lower Level Macintosh, around the corner from the bowling alley. Stop by, call x42119, or email bulletin@barnard.edu for more information!

barnardbulletin

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cover photo by xy thornton
Bullet Through the Apple copyright Harold & Esther Edgerton Foundation, 2000, courtesy of Palm Press, Inc.



Our cover model, NSOP Committee member Brooke Morton, BC '02, has her guard down for a minute. But really, she's been hitting the weight room all summer in preparation for the arrival of the first-years. No, really. She has.



xy thornton

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school pride without cheerleaders

*why I chose Barnard over
Columbia —and couldn't
have made a better
decision.*

by Christy Thornton

Let this be your official first warning. At Barnard, perhaps more than at any other school in the nation, you will be forced, at least once in your four years here, to defend your choice of college. While the world outside of the Columbia University community has better things to think about, there are those who continue to add fuel to the proverbial fire that burns between Barnard and Columbia: the fire that says that Barnard women are all Columbia rejects, that they only use Barnard as a backdoor to Columbia, and that they have no place in the University community. While the anatomy of this rivalry will be further explored in this issue (see "Barnard and Columbia: the truth about the affiliation," page 6), let this serve as a warning: you may, at some point, find yourself struck speechless as a classmate deadpans the opinion that Barnard women should not be allowed in his class due to their obvious intellectual inferiority—after all, *he* (or she, to be fair) attends an Ivy League University, and Barnard women are clearly not up to Ivy League standards. Obviously, there's only one reason a woman would choose to attend Barnard: she couldn't get in to Columbia.

In my two short years at Barnard, I have encountered this opinion countless times. I continue to be dumfounded that sane, rational people could possibly harbor the opinion that all Barnard women are intellectually inferior to them. But rather than simply standing there, mouth agape, as some dolt lets fall

his lips an inconceivably ignorant opinion, I have armed myself with an arsenal of reasons to be proud that I chose Barnard (over Columbia, I might add), reasons that I carry with me, ready to whip outta the holster when I'm attacked. You, having chosen Barnard over all of the other schools to which you applied, will find that you share many of my sources of pride—maybe you'll even use a few out there on the battlefield.

I came to Barnard to play basketball. For Columbia. After speaking to the coach repeatedly in high school, sending my tapes, going through the process that non-recruited athletes have to go through in order to win a spot on a Division I team, I thought long and hard: the Columbia opportunity was too great to pass up, but did I really want to go to Columbia? So big and anonymous. I found out that I could go to Barnard and still try out for the Columbia team, and looked closely at this small, women's college that has now become my home. And I decided it would be a far superior choice than would Columbia. How lucky I feel now that I had the foresight to make that decision when I was still a senior in high school. I had no idea that I would take so much flak from Columbia students—even my teammates on the basketball team—for being a Barnard student. I rejected Columbia—Columbia didn't reject me. Why was I being labeled otherwise?

Now having been at Barnard two years, I am perhaps one of the strongest pro-Barnard voices I know. I've since decided that basketball was not what I wanted to do with my life, and devoted myself to trying to get my Master's Degree early. And the fact that Barnard is my community has had a huge impact on that, and every other decision I've made in the past two years.

Had I made the decision to go Columbia, I would never have encountered my crazy-lovable first-year advisor. I wouldn't have had personal support from my class Dean when my grandfather died during finals last spring. I would never have been able to take two junior colloquia in my sophomore year in order to accelerate my degree. I wouldn't have met

my thesis advisor, a woman I respect and admire, who has time to personally help me write and revise research papers. I wouldn't have been appointed co-editor-in-chief of the school paper as a sophomore and had the opportunity for regular meetings with the President of the College. I wouldn't have the personal contacts I have with people from Residential Life, College Activities, The Dean of Studies Office, the Career Development Office, Public Affairs, or the Pre-College Program—I wouldn't be on a first name basis with so many people who have access to so many resources. At Barnard, I know that I am more than a number or a passing face. I am a first name and a smile for security guards, desk attendants and dining services personnel. At Barnard I could take all of the classes I wanted to, edit a fantastic, informative newspaper, have a weekly radio show, an intramural bowling team and participate in student-run theater, all in the same semester. Barnard has given me the confidence to know that I can reach people, and that I'm making an impact on my surroundings. Barnard has made me more articulate and more confident. It has taught me to recognize those things that need changing—in my personal life, here at Barnard, and in my surrounding environment in general—and has given me the opportunity to change them, though an endless series of resources available to me *because* I go to Barnard. I have never felt that I was anonymous, that I did not matter, that I was being swallowed by a huge University bureaucracy. I have never been lost in the system, have never been told that my one voice didn't matter, have never been refused help when I asked for it. Barnard is an amazing place: a college that promotes the independent education of women, located in the most exciting city in the world, with access to all of the resources available at a huge research university, while still retaining the community and attention of a small, liberal arts college. I can see no better choice for a college. Barnard really offers the best of all worlds. So when drooly-boy opens his mouth again to insult my intelligence and my academic integrity, I have only one retort: Why would you want to go to Columbia when you could go to Barnard?

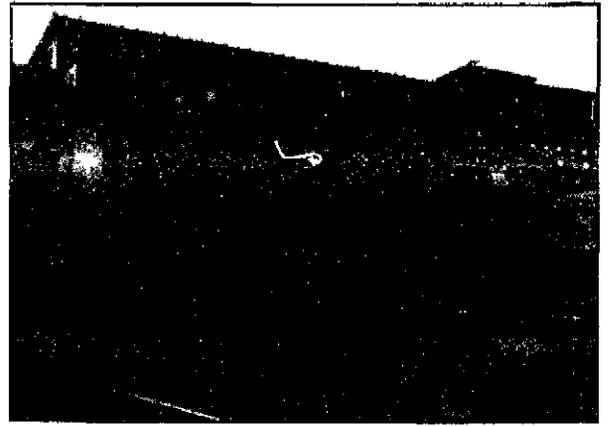
Christy Thornton is a Barnard junior and bulletin co-editor-in-chief.

Barnard and Columbia



Jamie Healy

the
truth
about
the



affiliation

By Chava Brandriss

"Barnard occupies a unique niche in American higher education. Added to its status as a highly selective liberal arts college for women, it is affiliated with Columbia, the Ivy League university known for its contributions in fields from journalism to medicine."

"Barnard is one of three traditional undergraduate colleges of Columbia University—the others are Columbia College and the School of Engineering and Applied Science."

Both of the above quotations are from literature that Barnard makes available to prospective students and parents, and both say something entirely different about Barnard's connection to Columbia University. The first describes Barnard as "affiliated with Columbia" the second describes Barnard as an "undergraduate college of Columbia University." If the College's own literature is contradictory in its descriptions of its connection with Columbia University, it is no wonder that so much confusion exists among Barnard students as to their school's actual relationship with the University across the street.

Barnard is completely unique in its situation as an independent women's college connected to a large research University. To quote Barnard's on-line literature again, "Barnard students reap all the benefits of a small, independent liberal arts college, and they are also in the curricular and extracurricular mainstream of Columbia University." As students, we enjoy all the benefits of Columbia University, its extensive course offerings in which we can cross-register; its libraries; its computing facilities; its research facilities; the greater University community; its athletic facilities, anything that comes with a major research University, while still enjoying all the benefits of the small liberal arts women's college which we chose to attend. We have a supportive advising system, attentive, approachable faculty, a small, close-knit community, strong female role models, and a tradition of excellence in women's education that is unparalleled among women's colleges

When questioned, the majority of Barnard students are unani-

mous in their agreement that the benefits of being affiliated with Columbia as described above are indeed a part of what makes a Barnard student's college experience unique and wonderful; however, it has also been the experience of many students that this affiliation can lead to confusion, and in many cases, wounded feelings and misunderstandings between themselves and the students of Columbia College and the School of Engineering. Many Barnard students, when first arriving at the Col-

It is important for Barnard students to understand exactly what the connection with the University across the street is . . . because as President Shapiro points out, "in absence of facts, what you get is stereotypes."

lege, find that they are sometimes made to feel like they are "second class," as first-year Alice Wang puts it, when compared with Columbia students. The Colleges are closely connected socially, and while this connection should foster a sense of camaraderie and community between the undergrads, it often results with Barnard students feeling "looked down upon." Columbia senior Anne Kopley, who transferred to Columbia from Barnard after her first year felt a tremendous amount of hostility from Columbia students when she first arrived on campus.

She resented degrading comments directed toward Barnard students, like "typical dumb Barnyard girl," and felt that many Columbia students, particularly males, saw Barnard women as "lesser girls to be dated." This is an unfortunate problem that has existed for many years, since even before Columbia went co-ed in 1983, comments Provost Elizabeth Boylan. President Judith Shapiro points out, "Whenever you have a situation where places are linked but separate, there will always be ritual rivalry."

Many of these feelings that arise between students of both Colleges can be said to be attributed to the fact that students just don't know enough about the other College and what it stands for, what the actual connection between the two Colleges is, and often, what their own College represents socially and academically. A student's comment at the "Barnard, What's It to Ya?" event points out an important truth, or rather, statistical fact that is at the heart of this misunderstanding; in answer to the question, "What would you want to see changed (or the same) by the time your daughter attends Barnard?" a student replied, "I'd like to hear someone say

I'm going to Columbia because I didn't get into Barnard." It is true that, by the admissions standards, it is "harder" to get into Columbia than it is to get into Barnard. It is also true that because of the fundamental difference between the schools, Columbia College is the undergraduate college of a larger, Ivy League, research University, and Barnard is a small, independent, liberal arts women's college, Columbia naturally has a larger applicant pool, and so Barnard cannot have as high an acceptance rate. It is a statistical fact that more men and women apply to large research universities than do women to small women's liberal arts colleges. One of the unique qualities about Barnard is that it does represent a certain self-selected group of women who choose to be in this environment because they want exactly what Barnard can offer them. Although it is true that the "putting down" of Barnard women by Columbia students is something that has been felt by many Barnard students, it is also true that those who usually take the most offense are those who fulfill the Barnard stereotype and may not have selected Barnard for what Barnard stands for, but because they didn't get into Columbia. "The ideal thing," says President Shapiro, "is for the students from both schools to be proud of their own College, but also be glad to be partners in a greater University."

It is important for Barnard students to understand exactly what the connection with the University across the street is, theoretically and practically, because, as President Shapiro points out, "in absence of facts, what you get is stereotypes." President Shapiro shared that the Barnard Public Relations Department is currently working on putting out a brochure describing the connection between Barnard and Columbia which can be shown to prospective students, and perhaps given out at Orientation as well. The administration does indeed recognize that students are unclear about the affiliation—with good reason, of course—and are working on solutions that will seek to demystify.

The "intercorporate agreement" between the two institutions has recently been re-signed for another fifteen years. This affiliation agreement covers the many basic things. There is full cross-registration between the Colleges at the undergraduate level (although Barnard reserves the right to restrict registration for first-year and

senior seminars, and Columbia can restrict the core, with some exceptions). Barnard faculty will teach about 30-40 graduate classes at Columbia each year. Because Columbia students can take Barnard classes and Barnard professors teach Columbia courses, Columbia makes the final decision in offering tenure to Barnard faculty. Barnard pays Columbia a lump sum each year in order to cover cross-registration costs, and in return for Barnard students having full access to Columbia's libraries, athletic facilities and computer facilities. Barnard faculty may live in Columbia housing. Barnard and Columbia women compete together in Division I sports and in the Ivy League through the athletic consortium, and the Colleges split the costs evenly. The costs for intramural sports and shared clubs are split. Barnard students have the same access to the Lerner Student Activities Center as Columbia students do, and are required to pay the same Lerner fee. Barnard students may live in some Columbia housing, and vice versa, through the Barnard-Columbia exchange program. Barnard buys certain services from Columbia, such as telephone service.

Barnard is, however, an independent institution with its own president, board of trustees, land, government, endowment, fundraising, and budget. Barnard is not a College of the University like Columbia College or the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences. The closest comparison in terms of legal affiliation to Columbia University would be Teacher's College, which also has its own president, board of trustees, etc. Barnard is, however, really unique in its affiliation in that because it is an undergraduate institution, there is a connection between the students of the two Colleges that is not found between graduate students at Teacher's College and the students at Columbia College.

Barnard and Columbia also share certain departments, such as drama, theater, dance, architecture and urban studies, which are based at Barnard; studio art, instrumental music, math and computer science, which are based at Columbia;

comments like 'typical dumb barnyard girl,' 'lesser girls to be dated' and 'second-class' have been used to describe Barnard students in the past...but is this just a collective inferiority complex? or more?

and the art history and religion departments, which share space across campuses. This sharing of departments allows both Colleges to offer more in each of these areas, such as stronger faculty and better and more advanced facilities, as well as providing for the practical issue of space-saving.

The fact that Barnard students have access to Columbia's facilities in the math and computer science departments, however, has caused there to be a lack of a strong presence in these fields—fields in which women have traditionally been academically suppressed—on the Barnard side of the street. To quote Barnard's on-line literature once again, "Perhaps more subtle—but inestimably important to women's success in the long run—is the

photos by Lara Crook: collage by K8 Torgovnick



way Barnard strengthens students' abilities in the sciences and mathematics." Both President Shapiro and Provost Boylan emphasize the efforts that Barnard has been making toward strengthening Barnard's support of women's development in math and the sciences since both of their arrivals at Barnard. Barnard has hired four math faculty members quite recently, and although due to space restrictions their offices are still across the street, the problem is being addressed. Barnard is also working on a course, scheduled to be offered in Fall 2000, geared toward preparing Barnard students for getting ahead as women in the computer science field.

A difference that many students and faculty talk about was the perception of what a "Barnard professor" is, and what a "Columbia professor" is. In the general spirit of Barnard's unique support system of advising and close student-faculty relationships, the "Barnard professor" is generally perceived to be more available to the students, more approachable, more of a "complete mentor to the student," says Dr. Anne Shinnar, Barnard Professor of Chemistry, "from the smallest details up to the biggest concepts." The "Columbia professor" is often painted as not as concerned with teaching, because he or she is wrapped up in his or her own research. These, however, are gross generalizations, because there are certainly many Columbia professors who are completely accessible to their students, and are excellent teachers and mentors, as well as brilliant researchers. To the extent that the stereotypes do prove true, the hiring process of Barnard faculty is one that many students and alumna will say is unique to small, independent, liberal arts colleges such as Barnard. When hiring faculty, Barnard looks for quality in research as opposed to quantity, because at Barnard, while professors are expected to do research and publish, a teacher is first and foremost a teacher, and the Columbia approval

committee is expected to be aware of this when a Barnard faculty member comes up for tenure review.

will there always be this Barnard *versus* Columbia hostility?

Another issue that came up when talking to students and faculty was the question of whether students or faculty saw a difference between the actual students who make up both Colleges. Professors emphasize that within a college classroom, students are students, and the college a student comes from is neither relevant nor evident. Many professors see no difference between a Columbia student and a Barnard student, although as Barnard first-year Flo Low comments, "I see Barnard students as always being more optimistic than Columbia students. When there is a problem, Barnard students take things into their own hands and solve whatever needs to be solved. It's refreshing and inspiring to see this feeling of empowerment really evident among Barnard women. It's like there's an energy here, and people feed off of each other's energy."

Barnard's affiliation with Columbia University is truly unique among colleges and universities in that it maintains its independence while being able to fully benefit from the resources of the major research university with which it is connected. "It is an exciting time to be at Barnard when the strength of the College and of Columbia University is really gaining," says Provost Boylan. As Barnard women, President Shapiro urges us to see that "the very complexity of the University and Barnard's place in it is interesting and exciting," and that "rather than trying to simplify the situation too much, we should embrace it."

Chava Brandriss is a Barnard sophomore and a bulletin staff writer. This article was originally published in the March 8, 2000 issue of the bulletin.

The 558 or so incoming first-year students who make up Barnard's class of 2004 will be the first in the college's history to participate in Barnard's new Community Service Project, an initiative of the New Student Orientation Program aimed at encouraging volunteerism in New York City.

Says director of College Activities, Cherie Sheridan, "This year, we wanted to provide students with a community service building exercise during orientation, giving them an opportunity to bond with their classmates in service to the greater New York community." Scheduled for September 3rd, the event will bring those returning students already on campus together

with the class of 2004 to attend a number of community service programs set up with local health organizations, soup kitchens, schools, and New York City parks and playgrounds. Students will volunteer on projects ranging from feeding the homeless to cleaning parks and playgrounds and teaching urban youth safer sex awareness. Organizations and sites include Riverside Park, the West Harlem Art Fund, the Leukemia Lymphoma Society, Callen-Lorde community Health Center, Wigstock and the Gay Men's Health Crisis, NARAL NY, God's Love We Deliver,

**class of 2004 will
be the first to participate
in Barnard's new
Community Service
Project**

Project Return, and the Jewish Home and Hospital.

For more information about this or any other orientation activity, you can visit NSOP's website at <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/orientation/>.



artist unknown

use me, please!

one smarty-pants First-Year Focus RA talks

by Shannon M Kearns

I can't even tell you how I nervous I was coming to Barnard on move-in day. Even though I was more than prepared the leave high school, I had no idea what to expect when I walked through the gates at 117th and Broadway early Tuesday morning. I did not expect the chaos of chalk-marked sidewalks and long waits for the far too few "move-in" carts. I remember trying to assure my parents that I was all right with the cramped living quarters of my 8th floor Sulzberger triple and trying to figure out where I was going to put all of my stuff. As I arranged and rearranged the furniture in my head, my Resident Assistant came to my room and introduced herself. A sudden calm came over the room. The anxiety of move-in (for both me and my parents) ceased to be a concern—all due to the friendly hello from the RA living down the hall. That first day, once my parents were gone and I had finally arranged everything in my room, I had a lot of questions. Some were as simple as, "Can I put posters up on the walls with nails?" and other would effect my class schedule for the rest of the semester. Was there anyone who could answer all these questions and give me advice? Who was I to turn to? I soon discovered, that my RA was an invaluable resource, and not only that, but a friend. Soon after moving into 803 Sulzberger, I began struggling with issues I had had in high school. With no close friends yet to confide in, I turned to that friendly hello and asked

my RA if I could talk. This would be the first of many talks I had with her about everything from my love-life to my classes to what we both did on the weekend. Pretty soon, she knew my friends from other floors in the Quad by name and face, and I knew that I had a great shoulder to lean on. I even started to give her fashion advice and soon we lent each other shoes, clothes, and make-up tips. She supported me when I needed her but she also allowed me to solve problems on my own, with just a hint if advice here or there. That relationship I formed was invaluable to me my first year and was so inspiring that now, I'm an RA and I'm here to tell you what I wish I knew on that move-in day. Your RA is here to help—and if she doesn't know the answer or can't give the right advice, she can tell you where to go to get it.

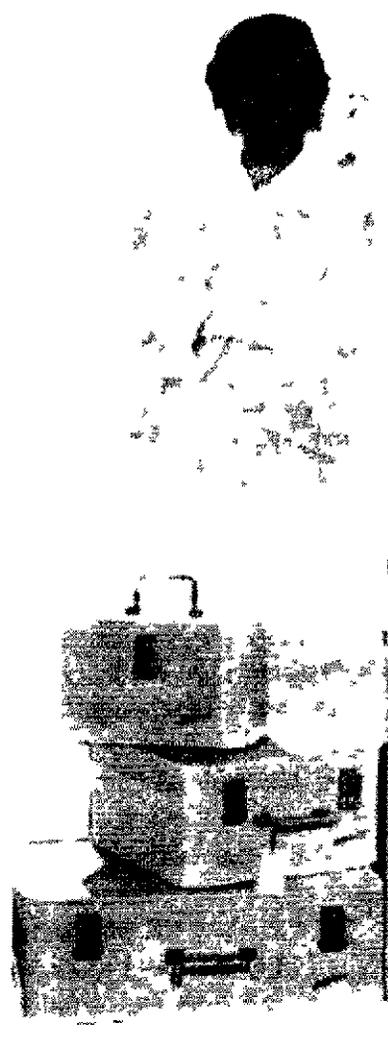
College is learning experience in all aspects of your life. You will expand your mind intellectually and you will be challenged socially as well. This process of growth can bring along with it many fears, hopes, joys, stresses and aggravations. Sometimes you may not know all the answers or how to cope. You should never feel alone, or as if there is no one to ask, "Hey, where is the registrars office?" or "How can I live with my roommate and not fight all the time?" RAs have been through it and they have been trained to deal with almost anything that can happen in a residence hall. They are someone to vent to after a bad test, and they are someone to celebrate with after a fabulous night out on the town. They are an invaluable source of answers—whether they provide them themselves or tell you where to look for them. So, PLEASE, know that your RA wants to help. She wants to talk to you and get

to know what makes you tick. And besides that, she can be an amazing source of amusement—RAs are college students, too, after all.

Resident Assistants have the difficult job of taking anywhere from 21 to 48 strangers that all have to live in a close proximity and encouraging them to create a community where the goal is more than to just co-exist. There are many differences among each member of the first-year class but those differences can be used to create a commonality. One of the ways that she will do this to have programs on your floor—throughout the year, RAs will schedule fun and informative events that promote community as well as exposing you to other cultures, other resources on campus, and the excitement of living in NYC. These programs can be anything thing from a "paint your nails" stress-buster to an ASAP (Alcohol and Substance Awareness Program) presentation to a trip to Flushing, Queens for winter holiday shopping. RAs care about making life at Barnard fun for you. So show your support for your new and changing community—participate in the programs that sound fun. Your RA does not hold a program for herself, she does it for you! If you have suggestions that you feel will add to the development of you residence hall community, let her know. That input is so important to her—being an RA is a two-way relationship!

I know that you still my have questions as to exactly what an RA does, so I say to you: go ask her. I can assure you, she looks forward to seeing you. You might even make her day.

Shannon M Kearns is a Barnard junior and a First-Year Focus RA.



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ohmigod! what do I do?

when you feel like you're lost, don't panic...there are people here to help

by christy thornnton



artist unknown

So, it's your first week on campus, you've moved 18 years of your life into a not-yet-so-charming room and you're starting to settle in and feel like maybe this could be home. Your roommate is in your First-Year Seminar, and the girl down the hall was blaring that DMX album that you love so much. *This might not be so bad*, you're thinking. You followed those signs to the dining hall for lunch, the girls in the blue t-shirts smiled politely when you asked where Barnard Hall was, and your parents seem to be calming down about leaving you behind and heading home. The little red orientation book has a schedule all layed out for you, and you can follow or not follow it as you please. You're going to meetings, running between buildings, picking up papers. This whole college thing seems easy enough, so you kiss the folks goodbye, watch as they drive away, and you head to the lawn with some girls from your floor for a barbeque. Everything seems to be going great. Maybe you're even beginning to feel a rhythm. *No problem*, you think. *I can handle this. Who said entering collge was tough?*

You're feeling confident, making some friends, you've got some plans for the night. You head back to your room to do some unpacking. Your roommate is in the room, her favorite Dwight Yokam album turned way up, singing at the top of her lungs. You sit down at your desk, annoyed, and try to turn on your computer, but it seems to be stuck somehow. The phone rings, and an unfamiliar voice on the other end of the line says something barely audible and clearly sketchy, so you hang up the phone, really grossed out 'cause you think you just got a prank call, and a cockroach scurries across the floor. You jump up with a scream, scaring your roommate. She falls off of the chair she's standing on to hang a life-size Alan Jackson poster and hits her knee on the hard, linoleum floor. She starts to cry and you run downstairs to see if that girl to talked to in the blue t-shirt a little while ago is still there, but she's gone. You try to go back up to your room, but you can't find your ID and the desk attendant can't let you in without it. Frustrated, feeling alone and confused, you sink down on a couch and start to cry, wishing you never came here. *What am I gonna do?* you think. *Why am I alone in this? Is there no one here to help me?* But don't panic, my first-year friend. You are far from alone here at Barnard. You have a

ton of resources here at your disposal - you just have to know where to look. What follows is a brief rundown of all of the people here on campus that want to help—heck, some of them even get paid for it.

your RA

So, you brought your Bustah albums to keep you company while you study, but your roommate seems to be addicted to new country, and has had that Dixie Chicks album on repeat for four hours. You think if you hear "Goodbye Earl" one more time, you're gonna go insane, and you just don't think you can make it another day without completely losing it. Enter your Resident Assistant. It's your RA's job to help you in all aspects of your residential life here at Barnard. She can arrange a meeting between you and your roommate where you can express your feelings openly, and help you work out your problems so you can peacefully co-exist. She's there whenever you need her—if your roommate's knee is bleeding and you don't have a band-aid or if you can't decide if you'd rather go into sociology or psychology, your RA is there to help. If you just want to chat or you need some quick advice, drop in an seeher. She'll be more than happy to help—chances are, she's faced a lot of the same problems you're facing. Take advantage of her—she's one of your most candid resources on campus.

NSOP staff

You see them everywhere. They helped you put your stuff in a big, ugly laundry cart and helped you wheel your whole life up into your new room. They wear these little ringer t-shirts that are just cute-o-rama. There's even one of them on our cover. You'll see them sing, and dance, and make fools of themselves just for you. They're the New Student Orientation Program staff, and it's their mission in life to make you more comfortable with your transition to college. If you can't find your way to the registrar or you need to know the name of a restaurant in the neighborhood where the twenty members of your family who came to see you off can all eat

together, an NSOP'er will know. They we all once among your ranks, confused and overwhelmed, standing on the sidewalk wishing they knew where the hell the dining hall was. They know. They understand. They're easy targets, 'cause they're all wearing the same damn outfit. Got a question to which you can't find the answer? Find an NSOP'er.

campus security

You're dozing peacefully in your bed, exhausted from the pace of orientation week. It's three a.m., and the phone rings. You pick it up, and a breathy and sketchy voice on the other end asks you a question you're pretty sure you don't want to answer. Or one of the women in your class invites the group to a study session in Plimpton. You don't really know where Plimpton is, and maybe it's a little too late to wander around by yourself in an unfamiliar area. Or you just don't know which building is Milbank, and you have a class in exactly 45 seconds. Don't be afraid to pipe up and ask a security guard. Or call security for a ride to Plimpton after dark. Or call them to report a prank call. It's the charge of the campus security team to make sure that you feel safe in your new home. If, for any reason, you are ever made to feel uncomfortable by someone or some situation, call Barnard security. They want you to be comfortable, and they are always around to help.

desk attendants

The desk attendants are, for the most part, some of the most observant people on campus. They know who's going in and out of the residence halls, and they play a huge part in your security on campus. When you feel inconvenienced by having to show your ID everytime you enter the building, think of it as creating trust between yourself and the desk attendant. It's a desk attendant's natural reaction to be cautious of anyone who tries to enter the building. You may feel that because you *clearly* look like a college student, the person behind the desk should let you in. But they wield a huge amount of power with the little button that opens the door, and they can keep out all of the people you

wouldn't want just marching around in your home. In addition to taking a fierce pride in protecting your well being, the desk attendants are great people to have as friends, as they are wealths of information. Everyone talks to the desk attendant—they have to get by to go anyway in any residence hall. Desk attendants know what's going on in their buildings...if you have questions, they're great people to ask.

residential computing

You have a paper due tomorrow, and you can't for the life of you get your disk drive to work. Or your ibook keeps crashing and giving you the little bomb signal on the screen. Or your mom sent photos of your dog to your Barnard email and you don't know how to be able to see them in PINE. Rather than simply chucking the whole thing out the window when your computer won't cooperate, (which could prove lethal for those walking below and is *not* recommended) call the Barnard Computer Help Desk at x47172. They have a staff of Residential Computing Assistants whose job it is to help you with your computing problems. Call them to arrange an appointment, or just to ask a technical question. They're also the ones who give you the stuff to be able to put your computer on the ethernet, and help in the computer labs around campus. If you have a computer question, they have the answer. Again, like RAs and security guards, they're paid for what they do best. So use 'em.

anyone who looks friendly

All of those Barnard students walking around, they were all first-years at some point in their lives. And the people that work here spend their days dealing with their little niche of Barnard culture. So if you have a question about anything at all, don't hesitate to ask the person next to you in class. Or the guy behind the counter in MacIntosh. Or the library attendant in Lehman. Or the facilities guy in the tunnel. Barnard is one of the warmest, most welcoming communities you'll experience. So just ask!
Christy Thornton is a Barnard junior and bulletin co-editor-in-chief.

it's a sad reality. but it's time to get

I'm sorry to be the one to burst the bubble ladies. But someone had to do it. The sad truth of college is that you're here to take classes. To *learn*, even. I know, I know, you thought it was all just volleyball on the lawn and special ceremonies in LeFrak Gym, but, well...There is more to this whole *Barnard* thing than this "orientation."

The trouble is, getting down to the nitty gritty can be downright confusing. You're not even sure what you want to major in, and the only concrete thing on your schedule is your First-Year Seminar or First-Year English. What else should you take? What's with all of these requirements? Polish or Chinese? Psychology or biology? Theater or East Asian studies? Political science or sociology? How do I even begin to decide what classes I want to take? Where do I find them? Then, once I know what I want to take, how do I get those classes? What's this on-line registration all about? What's "shopping around"? What's the difference between a lecture, a seminar, a colloquium and a lab? What if I go to a class, and I hate it?

There are thousands of questions to be asked about the registration/program filing process. It's still confusing to me, even after having done it for two years. With a little help, however, you can find classes that you'll enjoy and that you can look back and be satisfied with later in your college career.

registration

Registration can seem like one of the most confusing things to do hear at Barnard. The multiple steps in the process can seem a bit overwhelming, but stay relaxed and be prepared to wait in line. You'll fill out some forms (easy stuff, your name and social security number, etc) and be validated by the bursar. The bursar ensures that your bill has been or will be paid in full. In the event that there is a hold on your registration from the bursar, don't panic. They'll send you to financial aid, and financial aid will tell you what you have

to do to clear your holds. Generally, it's something like a signature missing on a form, or a loan that hasn't come through yet—this is the small stuff. I've stressed myself out every semester with bursar holds on my registration. While it's frustrating, know that it'll all work out...you're never left without options.

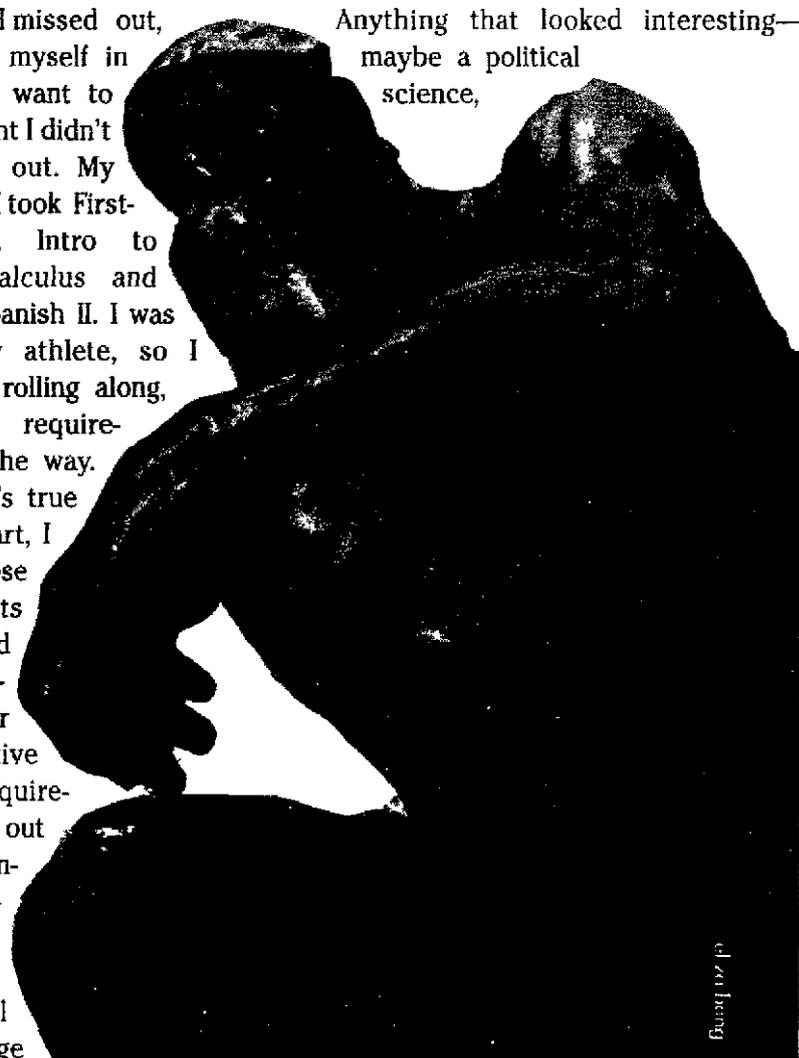
After you ensure that you have no holds, you turn in your forms and get your ID validated—a process in which you bring a little card to security and they put a sticker on it, saying that you're taking classes this semester. Really, the process is easier than it seems, but make sure you don't miss the deadlines. They're listed on page 15, in case you forgot.

shopping around

When I look back at my first semester at Barnard, I wish I had known all of the classes that were available to me. I feel now like I missed out, 'cause I stuck myself in classes I didn't want to take, and thought I didn't have any way out. My first semester, I took First-Year seminar, Intro to Psychology, Calculus and Intermediate Spanish II. I was also a varsity athlete, so I thought I was rolling along, getting some requirements out of the way. And while that's true for the most part, I look back at those twelve credits and wish I had done more. Calculus I took for my quantitative reasoning requirement, and got it out of the way. Spanish was of interest to me, and I needed Intermediate II to fulfill my language

requirement. Still going strong. First-Year Seminar was a given. I had to take that one. (Incidentally, my First-Year Seminar was so great, it made me change my major aspirations, and put my on the path to political science that I'm on today!) But intro to psych? I had picked this out of the packet sent to me by the registrar at home, thinking I was cruising on my science requirement. Little did I know, in my first-year naivete, that I wasn't getting lab science credit for this—it wasn't a lab! The next semester, when I tried to get into a psych lab as a first-year with no intention of majoring in psychology, I had no luck. My name didn't come up, and I didn't get into the lab. The same thing happened the next semester. Now, looking back, had I known, I would have taken Biology 1001—or any lab science that didn't have a prerequisite.

I also would have added a fifth class. Anything that looked interesting—maybe a political science,



Barnard 12/12

down to it. this is what we here for.

maybe a Spanish conversation class. But I wasn't really aware of all of my options, and so I stuck with what I had, even though I was unhappy. My advice to you? Take advantage of those two weeks between the start of class and the program filing deadline—upperclassmen do this like it's their job. It's called shopping around, and it's when you can sit in any class you want and find out if it's right for you. There are limits, of course, and some courses require special approvals, but this process is invaluable to finding the right classes for you.

program filing

This process has changed a lot in the past few years, and you're coming to Barnard right in the middle of a huge transition. The old-fashioned "pencil-book," the newsprint rag that lists every course at the University, is on the verge of being obsolete. There was a rumor last year that they weren't even going to print them this semester.

While they remain, the old-fashioned bubble-sheet does not. At Columbia, they file their programs over the phone—here at Barnard, we do it on the web. The registrar's webpage has a link to student services on-line, which is where you can find on-line program filing. You enter the call number for your course (it's a unique, five-digit number assigned to each section and each course) and it pops up on the screen. The computer will tell you if there's a time conflict or if you have too many credits. It's almost like playing a video game—the Columbia Directory of Classes (what some call the on-line pencil book) open in one browser window, and your on-line program filing open in the other. Your advisor must log in and approve your program by the deadline (see page 15), so it's best to meet with her, tell her your intentions, and then call or email her when your program is ready for her approval. If you're ready before the deadline, let her know early—it saves her having to do 30 programs all at the same time.

It's crucial that you meet with your advisor, and not just call to let her know you need her on-line signature. Having advisors is part of what makes Barnard so great—they can answer your questions, lead you in the right path, and tell you which professors will be a good match for you. My first-year advisor assured me I'd love my First-Year seminar professor, and I ended up changing my life

aspirations, because of that initial introduction to political science. If she hadn't been there for me, I might have walked into the classroom with a completely different view, and never have become as interested in the subject as I did. So, while it is technically possible nowadays to live without ever leaving your room thanks to the internet, don't let your relationship with your advisor become a casualty of technology.

buying books

There's no way around it. Buying books is stressful and expensive. There can be long lines. Your books can be out of stock. You can find yourself paying \$120 for a book for a class you really don't want to take all that much. But it's part of the process, and it has to be done. For the most part. Very few professors will admit it, but they don't all require you to buy every book. You can find lots of material at the library. Some professors put the material on reserve, which means you hardly even have to look for it. You type the professor's name into the database, and the call number for the book comes right up. Sometimes, photocopying the material you need to read can prove more advantageous than buying the whole book.

If you do decide to buy them, though, you have options. Many students who have books that they don't want to keep will advertise them around campus, and they're always a lot cheaper than they are new. Keep your eyes peeled...there are always books for most of the intro level classes, and usually some for higher level as well. Check with your professor about the edition of the book you need. Sometimes you can get by with an older addition of the same book. If you're going to buy your books new, the Columbia Bookstore, Labyrinth Books and Papyrus Books are the usual places professors order from. Your professor or your syllabus should tell you which from store your books were ordered, and when they'll be available. If you go, and they're << page 16 >>



got a full plate?

throw some extra-currics on there and get some non-academic nourishment

by christy thornon

I know, I know. You're looking at your schedule, which is already ridiculously crowded, and thinking, "am I gonna have time to sleep?" If you're the stereotypical Barnard student, you're planning on taking way too many classes and you forgot to schedule time to breathe into your daily routine. But it's not just all academics. As if New York City weren't distracting enough, Barnard and Columbia offer an amazing amount of extracurricular activities, from clubs to sports to activist groups. There are a thousand things to do on campus—you just have to know where to look. Do you have an idea for a group on campus? Don't know if anyone's doing it yet? Well, here's a brief rundown of some of the groups here on Barnard's Campus, as well as come across the street. I think you'll find something to fit almost every palate. Bon appetite!

Barnard SGA recognized groups:

13th Article Literary Magazine * **Anthropology Club** * Architecture Society * **Armenian Club** * Art History Collective * **Asian American Alliance** * Asian Journal * **Athena: the Pre-Law Society** * Bacchante (a cappella) * **Ballroom Dance Society** * Barnard *bulletin* * **Bcereus: The Microbiology Club** * Barnard Eating Disorder Awareness Society (BEDA) * **Barnard Literary Society** * Barnard Musical Theater * **Barnard/Columbia Policy Debate Team** * Barnard Spanish Club * **Biology Club** * BIONIC * **Black Sisters of Barnard and Columbia** * Care For Kids * **Chinese Students Club** * Columbia Campus Credit Union * **CU Opera Ensemble** * Columbia Parliamentary Debate Team * **Columbia Student Solidarity Network (CSSN)** * Columbia Television (CTV) * **Community Impact** * Filmmakers Club * **Inner Child On-Line Literary Zine** * Jewish Theater Ensemble * **Korean Students Association** * LateNite Theater * **Lesbians and Bisexuals in Action (LABIA)** * Liga Filipina * **MacIntosh Activities Council (McAC)** * Mortarboard (Yearbook) * **Mujeres** * Native American Council * **Network of Pre-Medical Students of Color** * Nightline * **Ohana Club** * Orchesis Dance Group * **Organization of Pakistani Students** * Policy Debate Union * **Pre-Health Professions Society** * Psychology Club * **Russian Students Association** * Students Active for Ending Rape (SAFER) * **SHARE** * Skip Stop Commuter Organization * **Student Government Association (SGA)** * Student Governing Board of Earl Hall (SGB) * **Pre-Veterinary Society** * Take

Back the Night - Transfers Become Allies * Turkish Students Association * **WBAR Barnard College Radio** * Women's Collective * **Women Helping Women** * Women in Politics * **Zooprax Film Society** *

some Columbia groups:

Amateur Radio Club * **Anglers and Flyfishers** * Anime Club * **Chess Club** * Cigar Club * **Clefangers (a capella)** * College Bowl * **Columbia Alliance for Smoke Free Housing** * Columbia Barnard Economics Society * **Columbia Buddhist Media-tion Group** * Columbia College Democrats * **Columbia College Republicans** * **Coversio Virium** * **Elementary** * **Federalist Newspaper** * **Figure Skating** * International Socialist Organization * **InterGreek Council** * Japan Club * **King's Crown Shakespeare Troupe** * Marching Band * **Model United Nations** * Political Science Students Association * **Postcrypt Coffee House** * Science Fiction Society * **Societa Italiana** * Sounds of China * **Turath** * Varsity Show * **WKCR-FM** *

More information on these groups can be found at
www.barnard.edu/sga/clubs.html and
www.columbia.edu/cu/goups.html



Barnard 2004 academic calendar

important dates to remember

august 30 and 31

registration for first-years

and transfers

James room, 4th floor

Barnard hall

8/30 1-4 pm

8/31 10am-4pm

**september 1, 5-8,
and 11-15**

sign up for limited enroll-

ment Columbia ("L")

courses at registrar's

office starting at 10 am. if

you do not sign up with

the registrar, you are not

in the class!

september 11

Barnard physical
education classes begin.

look for postings about

phys. ed. sign up

procedure.

september 1

language placement

exams

French, German, Spanish

10 am, Milbank Hall

others, consult registrar's

website

www.barnard.edu/registrar/langpla.htm

september 5

classes begin

september 15

program filing deadline

your advisor must

approve your program

online by this date. plan

to meet with he/she prior

to this date to

discuss your schedule.

*are you a playwright?
ya wanna be?*

latenite theater call for
submissions.

any length. any style. to be
produced, directed, acted by
students. works in progress welcome.

due september 15 in box 25, upper level mac.

please attach submission form, also available in box 25

email sm555@columbia.edu or

call x31654 with questions.

campus theater

...we do live on broadway, after all.

by Stacey McMath

Your first year at Barnard is a great time to get involved in Campus theatre-especially now; campus theatre organizations have blossomed in the past few years and are now among the most prolific and successful groups on campus. People generally get involved by auditioning for shows or being on the tech crew; if you find a group that you really enjoy working with, in the future you can direct, produce, or pursue a position on the executive board. If you were not a "theatre person" prior to coming to Barnard, this is a great opportunity to explore the dramatic side of your personality. If you are a stage veteran, you will find that campus groups will welcome your enthusiasm and expertise with open arms. Working on a production is one of the best ways to meet people; you spend a lot of time with people other than those in your dorm, and you forge lasting friendships through the bond of having created a piece of theatre together. Productions on campus bring together students from all three colleges and all classes; going to rehearsal can be a welcome break from life in the Quad. More than that, however, campus theatre groups provide an opportunity to get involved in a vital extra-curricular scene that can be one of the most rewarding aspects of your experience at Barnard and at Columbia University.

LateNite Theatre, a Barnard-based organization, is committed exclusively to producing the works of student playwrights. They advertise for submissions at the beginning of each semester, looking for everything from short monologues to full-length plays and musicals. Their selection board, made up of LateNite veterans, compiles short pieces into groups that receive either a staged reading or a full performance. A staged reading is a more informal production, requiring only a few rehearsals. Staged readings are designed to give the playwright an opportunity to see her work on stage, and to revise with the idea that the next time a

piece is submitted it has improved and might receive a full production. The collections of shorter works that are produced each semester are treated as one large show, with actors, directors and designers working together throughout the rehearsal process to achieve a cohesive production.

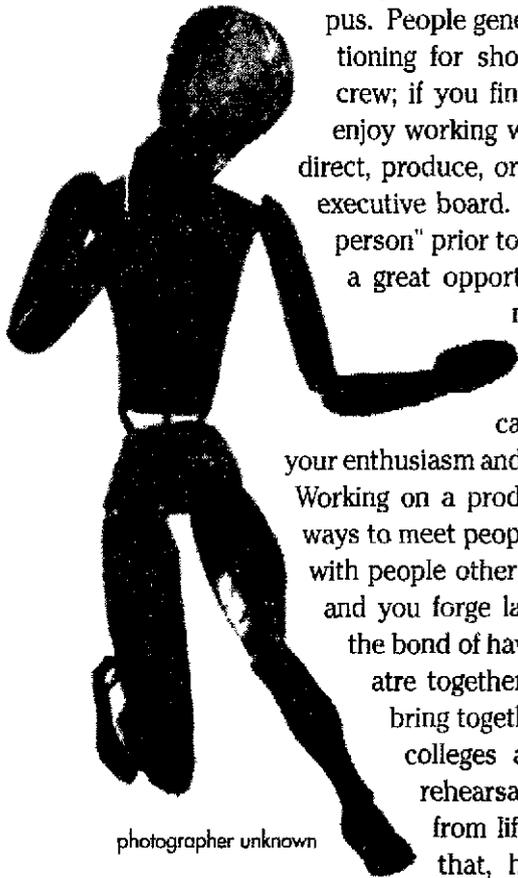
LateNite is a great group to get involved in if you are new to the theatre; they provide the opportunity for those just getting started to write, direct, act and design with the support of upper-classmen mentors who work with them throughout the production process. You can contact the co-presidents, Stacey McMath (that's me!) and Anne Levy, at 3-1654 for more information.

Barnard College Musical Theatre (BCMT) usually produces a show each semester. This semester they will be producing *Once On This Island*, and there is talk of producing *Kiss of the Spider Woman* in the spring. They usually select directors, designers and producers during the semester prior to the show, but have auditions each semester for actors, and are always on the lookout for technicians and assistants to the producer and director. BCMT is a lot of fun because they do full-scale productions and there are lots of people (translation: lots of new friends) involved. Jonathan Ferrantelli is the president and can be reached at jmf74@columbia.edu.

Columbia Musical/Theatre Society (CMTS) does large-scale productions (they are doing *A Chorus Line* this semester) as well as well-known plays with smaller casts; last semester they produced *The Glass Menagerie*. They too have large auditions in the beginning of the semester. Keep your eyes peeled for flyers about these auditions; most of them do not require that you have a monologue prepared and have a friendly, laid-back atmosphere. For more information, email Ilene Weintraub at ijw2@columbia.edu.

King's Crown Shakespeare Troupe produces a series of one-act plays in the fall—they hold director's auditions in the first week of school if you are interested in proposing a piece for production—and a full production of a Shakespearean play in the spring. The spring productions are neat because they cast everyone who auditions. They perform outside, taking advantage of the area by setting each scene somewhere on the landscape of the campus. For more information, email Natalie Robin at nrr7@columbia.edu. And break a leg!

Stacey McMath is a Barnard senior and co-president of LateNite Theater.



photographer unknown

looking for a federal work study job?
are ya a tough gal who wants to make a lot of money
in not a lot of time? then we want you!
the *bulletin* seeks delivery and mailroom people.
from \$15-\$30 a day. call us at x42119.

closet jocks, have no fear

Columbia club sports are here to satisfy your athletic itch

By Tiffany Bennett

Not everyone has the time it takes to be a varsity athlete. But some want a bit more competition than what's offered by intramurals. Somewhere between intramural and varsity athletics, are club sports. Club sports are formed by people who share a common athletic interest, and are open to all university students, faculty, staff and alumni. Competition ranges from pure recreation to intercollegiate tournaments and competitions.

Club sports are an important part of many Barnard and Columbia students' lives. They provide athletic competition in more relaxed and less competitive sphere than varsity sports. Offering a level of competition which is less intense than that of intramurals, with the excitement of competing against other colleges and teams outside the Barnard-Columbia community. Said Club Sport President Ian Fornof, "Club Sports provide a wide range of commitment allowing students to pursue at their own pace the sport that has captured their heart."

Clubs range from nationally competitive teams to teams who meet simply for

exercise, skill improvement and fun. Some teams are Division I level teams but because of time constraints, cannot become varsity. Many of the teams are recognized for their skills. Women's Rugby, ranked eighth in the Northeast in the Fall '99 season and finished with a record of 4-1, and Women's Ultimate Frisbee has made it to the national collegiate competition five out of its ten years of existence. In 1999, the Sailing Team received honorable mention in NCAA Division I in Sailing World.

Although many club teams compete at these high levels, some exist which do not compete and were simply created for the benefit of the undergraduate community. Many others perform demonstrations and practice their skills for others and the Columbia-Barnard community. There are several martial arts clubs ranging from Aikido to Wing Chun Kung Fu as well as a Ballroom Dance club.

Sports which have not yet found their niche in the United States, such as Rugby and Cricket, are often found among club sports. In addition, several more traditionally American sports, such as Volleyball, Swimming, Roadrunners, Lacrosse, and Ice Hockey, are represented. These are just a few, but there are many more options for students who have played before or would like to learn something new. Nearly all the clubs boldly advertise

exercise, skill improvement and fun. Despite new recruits, Women's Rugby has felt like a part of the team since they were first starting on the same level as those who have been playing. They are willing to teach new players themselves."

Club sports have seen a great amount of expansion in the last few years. Five new clubs were added to the previous 34 in just the last year and the number keeps growing. Each year new students are discovered and encouraged to be involved in this fun activity. Fornof emphasizes that the main aspect of participation is the fun and happiness of our students. "Our main concern," she says.

Club sport participants seem to play truly "for the love of the game." Athletics provide a great outlet for stress, and the commitment level of most club sports won't create more stress. More information about club sports at Columbia can be found by visiting the webpage, http://www.columbia.edu/cu/athletics/db/db_teams.html, or by watching for signs around campus and at Dodge fitness center.

Tiffany Bennett is a Barnard sophomore and bulletin staff writer. Reprinted from March 29, 2000 issue. Graphics courtesy of www.columbia.edu/cu/athletics/db/db_teams.html. Left: women's rugby. Background: figure skating club.

ahhhh! classes already? your guide to academia here at BC continued...

<< page 13 >> not there, you have options again. You can try one of the other stores (Labyrinth is one of the best scholarly bookstores I've ever been in—chances are, they can get you what they don't have in stock, so if you can't find something at the CU bookstore or Papyrus, ask them.) There are also a zillion places to order your books online, like www.bigwords.com to www.varsitybooks.com. Bigwords is my personal favorite—if you order more than \$35 worth of books, there's no shipping charges. Other places have deals like this, too.

Just like with classes, shop around to find the best deal on your books. There's no reason to be spending more money than you have to. And when you're done with your books, and you don't want to keep them, you can sell them—either online or by putting up those ever-valuable posters around campus. It's a great way to make some of your book money back!

Christy Thornton is a Barnard Junior and the bulletin co-editor-in-chief.



By Christy Thornton

Morningside Heights is a neighborhood that has always thought of itself as gentrified that is slowly, actually gentrifying. Sidewalk cafes now line Broadway, with new restaurants opening their doors and luring critics uptown daily.

Perhaps the sign of passing for what could be called the "old neighborhood" was the recent renovation of Tom's Restaurant on 112th Street. In a move that has some locals boycotting all ready, Tom's scaled up their typical greasy-diner atmosphere to compete with the surrounding restaurants. Deluxe, a ritzy "diner" with a full bar, opened it's doors last year to a mixed reception. Down the block, Cafe Pertutti serves up middle-to-high-end Italian fare for those who can spring for it on a student's budget. Across the street, Le Monde, a french restaurant a little more than a year old, coaxes those whose purse-strings aren't too tight out for a little Upper West Side atmosphere, and Nacho Mama's, right next door, plays the part of the Upper West Side bar nicely. Just down the block, the Heights, which boasts rooftop dining and enormous margaritas, has been a staple eatery for quite some time now.. The sidewalk cafe is becoming quite a trend here in the heights, and it looks like it's here to stay, from Henri's to Nussbaum and Wu to the West End.

Morningside has never been known for it's shopping, but it's not to be overlooked, if not simply for the proximity. Liberty House, on the corner of 112th and Broadway, stocks an eclectic mix of cloth-

ing and trinkets. For anyone who has any hippie in their blood, Liberty House will appeal to you. Bookstores abound in the heights, and Papyrus and Labyrinth are not to be missed. Rumor has it that a new Lord of the Fleas will be opening this fall on 116th street, and there are a few art supply stores in the neighborhood which can prevent an emergency trip to Pearl.

Grocery Stores in the heights are plentiful, from Sloan's, D'Agostino, University Food Market to West Side Market. And if you care to tiptoe up out of the heights, you can head to the Fairway on 132nd and Riverside for wholesale prices and gourmet selection.

Morningside Heights is full of parks: it's one of the greenest neighborhoods in

the City. Morningside Park boasts playing fields and a running track, and was the site of the riots of '68—infamous in Columbia history. Riverside Park extends from 145th down to 72nd, and you can go all the way down to the water's edge and sit in the breeze of the Hudson, gazing at scenic, well, New Jersey. Strauss park fills the triangle created by the split of Broadway and West End Avenue, and is a lovely, shady place to rest on a hot day. Sakura Park is the site of historic Grant's Tomb. the but of

many a joke and an undiscovered treasure to even many a heights resident. Located at 122nd and Claremont, Sakura

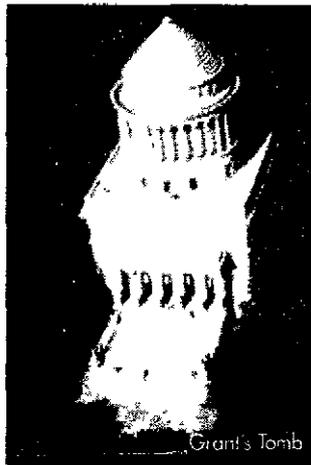
park offers quiet respite from the hustle and bustle of Riverside. Also too often overlooked is the north end of Central Park, which runs along 110th street into East Harlem. This corner of the park hides wooded trails and quiet ponds that are never crowded, as well as a huge picnic area and the Harlem Meer—both the site of a party or a barbecue on any given day in good weather.

Culturally, Morningside Heights offers numerous attractions. Grant's Tomb, mentioned above, is an awe-inspiring sentinel at the top of the neighborhood. The Cathedral of St. John the Divine plays host to a number of art exhibits, (as well as a few peacocks), and is also the site of the Feast of St. Francis, during which animal lovers from all over the city converge on the Cathedral to watch the blessing of everything from a goldfish to an elephant.

Morningside Heights is often much maligned by Columbia and Barnard students—possibly a result of the grass is always greener syndrome. There's a lot to be appreciated in this little neighborhood. Make sure to take some of it in when you're out and about.

Christy Thornton is a Barnard Junior and bulletin co-editor-in-chief. Graphics courtesy of www.morningsideheights.com.

The Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine



Grant's Tomb



a St. John the Divine peacock

where to get a cuppa joe here in the heights

By Stacey McMath and Catherine Wallach

School is approaching. The cash is running low. You can't afford drink, much less a meal out—so what are you to do? There's always coffee. A cup of coffee can be so many things: a date, a business meeting, a study break, even a night out on the town. But how do the purveyors of neighborhood restaurants react when your bill comes to a grand total of two bucks? Two Barnard seniors in need of caffeine stimulation and good cheap time went in search of a cup of coffee in Morningside Heights, and this is what they found.

Tom's: Tom's is a great place for some java if and only if you want to sit at the counter. We attempted to sit in a booth, and upon ordering, were indignantly told that we must remove ourselves to the counter immediately. We complied, and found 60 cents worth of pure joy. Sure, the seats are not too comfy, and the coffee is really not that great, but Pete and his pals behind the counter were happy to chat while giving us refill upon refill of warmish and slightly acidic coffee. Never a place for the snooty, despite recent renovations, Tom's gives a good performance for a couple of quarters and a dime.

Cafe Pertutti: During the dinner rush, don't even try. The best time to get your cuppa joe is after 11, when the cafe tables outside open up. Pertutti is a great place to enjoy a late cup of coffee (and, if you are feeling extravagant, a piece of excellent cheesecake) because they serve until 2 am. The guilt factor figures in when you leave, though, and we ended up leaving our attentive waiter a 75% tip on our three-dollar tab. If what you are looking for is ambience (and occasionally music on the weekends) Pertutti is the place for you.

Nussbaum and Wir: Nussbaum (the Wu element seems to have disappeared with the last unpopular bean bun) is a great place to study, to chat, and to have a really good cup of coffee. The iced coffee is our drink of choice at Nussbaum, and the four full beverage coolers in the back are a testament to its popularity. The great thing about the scene here is that there is no tip involved (yay counter service) and nobody cares if you sit for three hours. We have a friend who comes every night to study, spends a dollar on coffee, and leaves when the place closes down at midnight. If

you want to stretch your dollar, come late in the evening—they are usually willing to give free refills before they clean up the machines.

Le Monde: It was a mistake from the beginning to come into Le Monde expecting to spend a minimal amount of money. We sat down

(the atmosphere was nice, albeit a bit loud) and ordered. The waiter acted like he had

never heard of American coffee and tried desperately to convince us that the options were cappuccino, latte, hot chocolate and Irish coffee. After we convinced him that we just wanted regular brewed coffee, he informed us that we had to order something else if we wanted to stay. I have to admit, we succumbed and had a napoleon. Which was quite good. And then we left.

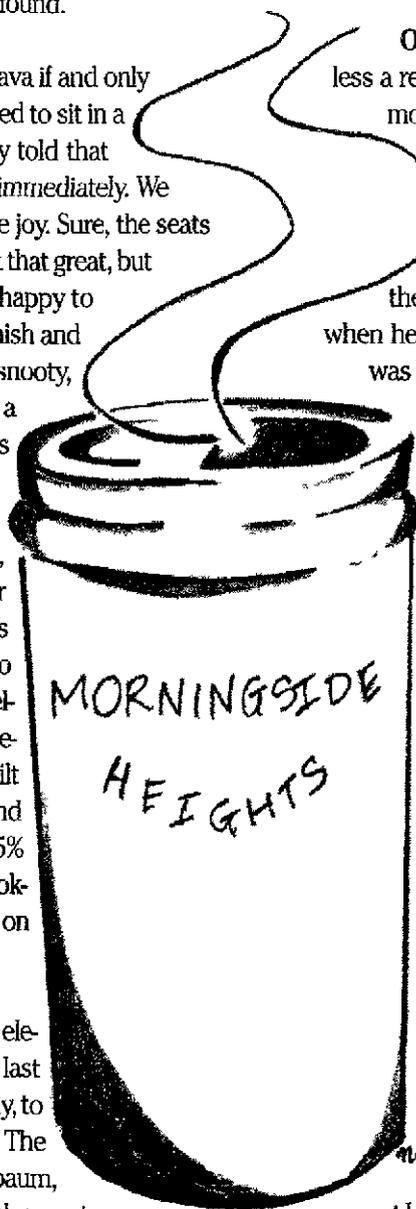
Ollie's: Ollie's isn't the place to go for a relaxed meal, much less a relaxed cup of coffee. The pot of tea on the table is nothing more than a distraction and our waiter seemed confused by our request. After he brought the coffee (which was not as terrible as it could have been) he kept coming by and asking us if we wanted something else, if we were going to order dinner, if he could get us something else, even if there was anything wrong. The poor chap was bewildered when he brought us our check, and it seemed that the entire staff was confused by our refusal to eat.

The Hungarian Pastry Shop: The Hungarian wins the coffee contest, hands down. The coffee is good, it is cheap, and you can refill your own cup as many times as you want to. The long tables encourage you to chat with strangers, the atmosphere is conducive to just about anything (we thought it was a little dark for reading, but people seemed to be doing it) and the graffiti in the bathroom—quotes attributed to everyone from Freud to Freddie Mercury—grows more pretentious every day. The pastries are pricey but delicious, and tipping is optional.

Tealuxe: Yeah, Yeah, I know what the sign says. But Tealuxe, a new addition to the 'hood, serves one single coffee drink: a plain old mug o' joe. And it's not too shabby, for a tea place. It's a bit pricier than, say, UFM, but the music is usually nice and it's not too noisy (most of the time). I dunno, though, something always makes me feel guilty when I order coffee there, so I usually break down and get some really caffeinated tea, instead.

University Food Market: There are two things that put UFM in the running, and one of them is the coffee itself. Plain and simple, it is very good coffee. The other thing is Tony, who is there most weeknights until the store closes, and sometimes on the weekend. As the sign above the coffee maker behind the counter proclaims, "Tony makes the best coffee in the world." It's true. We left UFM having paid 92 cents each for our large coffees, and sat on the benches of the Law School Plaza above Amsterdam Avenue. Now that's ambience.

Stacey McMath and Catherine Wallach are Barnard Seniors. Reprinted from April 26, 2000 issue



herstory archives redefine and re-examine history

Shannon M Kearns

There is another side to every story—but sometimes there is no access to that seed of knowledge. The goal of the Lesbian Herstory Archives, located at 484 14 Street in Park Slope, Brooklyn, is to provide an opening to the other side and to shed some light on those who have been in the dark closet for too long. I first heard about the Archives from Barnard professor Liz Weisen in her Litany for Survival: Lesbian Texts class. Weisen put a trip to the Archives on the syllabus and it was a highly anticipated event for class. When we walked into the beautiful brownstone that now houses the collection, I was overwhelmed with the energy that radiated from its contents. Never before had inanimate objects been able to move me like the artifacts that lined those walls.

The Lesbian Herstory Archives were opened in 1973 when Joan Nestle and Deborah Edal, two Upper West Side lesbians, collected their personal papers and books in the pantry of their apartment and made them available to all lesbians in the community. It did not take long for the word of mouth advertising to ignite an influx of others' papers, books, photos, and artifacts to join the rapidly growing collection. It didn't take long for the word-of-mouth advertising to ignite the enthusiasm that resulted in a massive influx of papers, books, photos and artifacts. As the collection grew, Nestle and Edal had to make a lot of changes, both in structure and location. They moved to the brownstone in Park Slope, became The Lesbian Herstory Education Fund, Inc. in 1980, and recently internally restructured to have 25 volunteers join the three coordinators to form a committee charged with the maintenance of the dynamic archives. The organization is still 100 percent volunteer-run. This creates a very caring environment because everyone who works there wants to be there—and they cared about each and every item that comprises the Lesbian Herstory.

I didn't know what "herstory" meant before our class trip. After our excursion, I created a meaning for myself. I use the word "herstory" to signify an experience, an experi-

ence that cannot be categorized by the traditional patriarchal telling of the past. The life history on display at the Herstory Archives—one of countless lesbian women—does not depend on men to write it because it excludes men in the most intimate terms. Yes, lesbians rely on men biologically—to father them—and men are not excluded from the existence of the lesbian, but men are not included in one of the most passionate elements of their lives. The walls of these archives demonstrate that in the lesbian world, love and eroticism is for women and women only, as is birth, life, and death. This the definition at which I arrived after I visited the Archives and breathed in the life of so many women who fought and struggled to create a life for themselves outside the traditional sphere. I think one of the most powerful and important thing

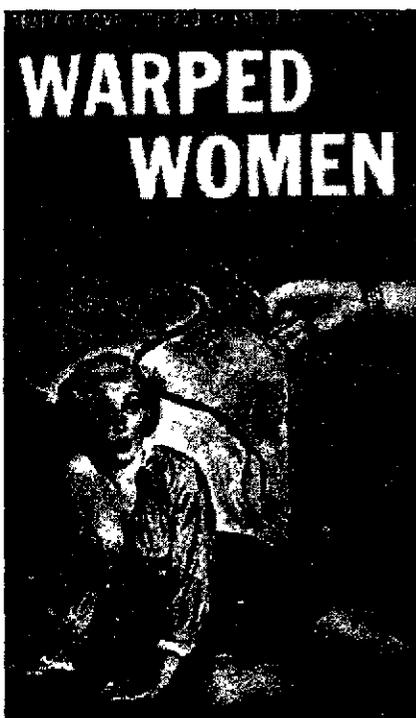
about the Archives it that it allows you to reflect upon your own life and create a herstory for yourself.

Unlike any other library, archive or record room I have visited, the life of women, specifically the experiences of lesbians, is what is important to these archives. The items that the Archives house right now include published and unpublished works by and about lesbians (including Lesbian pulp fiction novels—which are my personal favorite), personal correspondence, photographs,

videos, music, posters, lesbian and gay activism paraphernalia, and even a pair of tassel pasties, owned by a Las Vegas lesbian stripper.

The Lesbian Herstory Archives is open to all women who are interested in preserving, creating and supporting the herstory of the lesbian community. Most of the collections are available for use while at the archives, however, they are not a lending archive so it is not possible to take items out. If you are interested in getting involved with the archives, there are internships available through out the year. There are no regular hours because of the volunteer nature of the staff, so please make sure you call ahead before you head out on the F train to see this amazingly redefining place. To contact the Lesbian Herstory Archives, please call 718-768-DYKE or write to LHEF, Inc. PO Box 1258 New York, NY, 10116.

Shannon M. Kearns is a Barnard sophomore.



Pulp novels from the Lesbian Herstory Archives

beats, rhymes and competition at the nuyorican

By Stacey McMath

If you're wandering down Third Street on a rainy night, you might just walk right by the Nuyorican Poets' Cafe. ("Nuyorican" is a slang term for Puerto Ricans who have settled in New York City.) If it happens to be a Friday night, or any other night they host an event, the chances that you will walk by unawares are significantly less—these poets are loud. Located on a dark stretch of 3 St. between Avenues B and C, the Nuyorican Poets' Cafe may be a bit out of the way for most Upper West Side residents, but the trip on the train (the N/R to eighth street and a hike across St. Mark's Place is generally a good route if you don't want to change trains three times) is worth it.

On Friday nights, they host a poetry slam that rivals any cultural event in the city. Poets of every age, ethnicity and experience level ascend the stage to compete with the others who are brave enough to join them. The evening usually opens with a featured poet (occasionally these are writers on book tours who are hoping to drum up support for their work) and is hosted by the Nuyorican's slam master, Keith Roach. He selects three or four groups of audience members at random and gives them markers and flash cards with which to rate the poets. When the slam begins, each poet performs a poem, and is rated by the audience.

After a few rounds of this sort of thing, the ratings are tallied up and a winner is announced. The lucky poet receives five dollars and an invitation to come back to perform in the semi-finals. If you go, just don't let Keith recruit you to tally up the score—there is nothing worse than having to do math in the middle of a high-tension moment. The admission is five dollars at the door, and there is a full bar.

Not that you really need a drink to enjoy yourself. The poetry is riveting, and it is remarkable to see these poets—some still in high school, others seasoned in the slam scene, some freestyling, some speaking from memory—all with passion and the desire to communicate the issues that they transform into art.

The diverse artists and audiences provide the fresh, ever-changing flavor that characterizes the Nuyorican, and this is exactly what this feisty little cafe is all about. They are com-

mitted to empowering the underclasses, and to providing a voice to the community of the Lower East Side, which comprises Puerto Ricans, Dominicans, African-Americans, Polish, Irish and Ukrainians. The cafe is a space for poets, writers, performance artists, thespians, musicians and visual artists. Since the organization was founded in 1974 by Miguel Alagrin, it has spawned numerous other projects, including the Nuyorican Poets' Cafe Theatre Festival (parts of this festival have traveled to The Black Arts Festival in Atlanta) and publications like *Aloud: Voices from the Nuyorican Poets' Cafe*. They have received numerous awards and, in 1993, were named by the Municipal Society of New York City as a "living treasure."

So not only does this space provide a damn good time, but it also serves a purpose in the community as a cultural resource.

Their investment in the artistic community that they strive to serve is immense, and we are lucky enough to be able to witness the performances and exhibitions of artists who might not find support elsewhere.

The first Wednesday of every month, Bobbito the Barber, of Hot97 and WKCR fame, hosts a hiphop, jazz and poetry open mic. The event was designed to allow up-and-coming musicians and poets to hear each other (as well as acclaimed musicians, such as Erica Badou) and to jam in an open-mic format. This is one of the most popular events at the Nuyorican, and is often standing room only; the admission is \$10.

The Nuyorican's commitment to the artist shows through in everything that they do. They also sponsor a series called The Fifth Night, which presents readings of original, feature-length screenplays, in addition to screening independent short films. The Fifth Night season runs Tuesday nights, from January to May and September to December. These performances start at 8pm, and tickets are \$8. Be sure to call ahead, as reservations are required.

Nuyorican also hosts various musical performances—everything from Big Band to Hip Hop—and the best way to keep up on these events is to visit their website at www.nuyorican.com

Stacey McMath is a Barnard senior. Reprinted from February 23, 2000 issue. Graphic courtesy www.nuyorican.com



filling a void in NYC—the bluestockings community finding a bookstore of one's own on the l.e.s.

by Stacey McMath

When Kathryn Walsh graduated from Tulane University in New Orleans in 1997, she moved to New York City. As an activist for women's as well as gay and lesbian rights, she took stock of the resources in the area and was shocked to learn that there was not a single women's bookstore. She decided, although she had no previous experience in business, to open one.

"I got tired of demonstrating in the street," says Walsh. "I wanted to build something that would serve as an activist center and a community center."

And that is exactly what she did.

With money originally earmarked for graduate school in addition to a hefty donation, she set about looking for a space in which to open Bluestockings, the only women's bookstore in New York City. She e-mailed everyone she knew and asked them to get involved in the project, from the start envisioning it as more of a community center and less of a business. Walsh and her friends and supporters spent two months renovating the space before it opened in June 1999. It has fulfilled Walsh's vision of being more than a bookstore. Walsh describes it as a place that sells books, a hangout for women in the community, a space for artists (Bluestockings holds month-long exhibits of the work of local women painters) and a performance space for writers, poets and musicians.

That is not to say that the bookstore is not impressive in and of itself. The writing available for purchase is, for the most part, by women and for women. The subjects listed on the shelves are varied, and include everything from menstruation to travel to feminist theory. There is a wall where books about women in Latina, Chicana, Asian, South Asian and Latin American cultures can be found, and, of course, a large section labeled "gender [whatever]." Bluestockings

is a place that supports women writers, especially those marginalized and long-oppressed who have important things to say about gender, sexuality, and women's rights.

Bluestockings also carries zines, comics, ceramics, t-shirts, silk-screened undies and even reusable fabric sanitary pads made of red terry cloth and leopard print fabric. They also have an entire section of "free stuff" for those who just want to sit at a table in the Bluestockings Café, read, and have a cup of chai. The environment is friendly, even intimate, and it is not uncommon to see artists and writers stopping by to check on the status of their wares or simply to have a cup of coffee.

But the plight of an independent bookstore is a tough one, and Bluestockings has to do its share of fighting the proverbial Man. Walsh obviously resents Barnes and Noble, and she feels that they elbow smaller bookstores out of business by putting specialty books on their shelves and then removing them once the competition has been eliminated—leaving "only the New York Times bestsellers."

"The main thing that we do is put books on the shelves that you would never find at Barnes and Noble," says Walsh. "We are very specialized in that sense. It is not just a business, it is a community center. If you open something up as a community project, the people in the community will come in and support you."

And they do. Most of the women behind the counter are volunteers who come in to help Walsh with everything from leading informational sessions to building shelves. Many of them come in to help during special events such as readings and poetry open mics, when the store is packed and the counters are busy. Some of the volunteers are long-time friends of Walsh's, and others are new to the area and simply looking to get involved. In the future, Walsh hopes to gain not-for-profit status for the store, and to

apply for grants to support the frequent events that Bluestockings hosts.

Alice, a volunteer who has been helping Walsh for the past nine months, came to New York to work in the corporate world, and wanted to get involved in the women's community and to make some friends. Now she works in the café because "it feels good to support the bookstore and not get paid money for it." People donate used books, which are sold right alongside the new ones, as well as furniture, office supplies, and of course, their time.

"This is not something one or two people could do," says Walsh. "People have donated time and books to the space, and their help has been tremendous." The volunteers work on projects that they are interested in, and there is freedom to do just about anything that fits into the Bluestockings philosophy. One volunteer is the curator of all of their art shows, and another is trying to get a printing press so that Bluestockings can publish works by women who might not otherwise be published. There is an entire committee devoted to outreach and activism, working for change within the community. There are two volunteer training sessions every month, and monthly meetings to plan events as well as to talk about projects and creative ways to keep the store going strong.

Bluestockings hosts a multitude of events which have included open mic poetry nights, readings by acclaimed poets and novelists, musical performances and yoga classes. Recently, a volunteer who is an accountant came in for an evening to help women learn to prepare their own tax returns.

Walsh says, "This is a space for women from all walks of life to come together to talk about their common and different issues, to see each other and hear each other. Not just lesbians, but all different types of women." The events are as varied as the literature, and the calendar speaks volumes about the extent to which Bluestockings functions to serve the women's community of New York City.

*Stacey McMath is a Barnard senior.
Reprinted from February 9, 2000 issue.*



Just say no to Tower and the Virgin Megastore small music stores provide diversity and soul

It's easy to walk into a megastore and find the CD you're looking for in two seconds. It's even easier to find it all in one, click, find the same CD. The trouble is, it's not fun. But shopping for music can be a fun hobby, and there are many enjoyable hobbyists who prefer to shop at small music stores in New York City.

Flipping through the shelves of a small store is fun in many ways. You can browse through and wait for the clerk to bring you the CD you want. It can sometimes be fun to wait for the clerk to bring you the CD you want. It can sometimes be fun to wait for the clerk to bring you the CD you want. It can sometimes be fun to wait for the clerk to bring you the CD you want.

recommend things based on each customer's taste.

Some stores that have been included on the chart below have in-store performances from time to time, by artists who have new releases or are preparing an upcoming gig. These performances are available to hear new music for free, but there is a charge for people-watch admission. Some stores also have events available at their location or online.

Many of the small music stores are related closely together and some have a regular run afternoons. Shopping for music at small music stores can have elements of exploration and discovery. The experience is definitely worth the effort.

Rockbeat Records

225 E. 10th St. (b/w 1st and 2nd St.)
774-2102
they carry jungle, drum 'n bass and stock cds and vinyl

Rock On Records

225 E. 10th St. (b/w 1st and 2nd St.)
774-2102
they carry rock, pop, techno, drum 'n bass, new and used cds and vinyl. they also stock zines and magazines. again, this is a tiny one, but the staff is friendly.

Rock On Records

225 E. 10th St. (b/w 1st and 2nd St.)
774-2102
New York City
Readers: [unclear]

Generation Records

715 Broadway St. (b/w Bleecker and W. 4th St.)
774-2102
they carry rock, pop, techno, drum 'n bass, new and used cds and vinyl. they also stock zines and magazines. again, this is a tiny one, but the staff is friendly.

Sound and Fury

225 E. 10th St. (b/w 1st and 2nd St.)
774-2102
they carry rock, pop, techno and drum 'n bass, new and used cds and vinyl. they also stock zines and magazines. again, this is a tiny one, but the staff is friendly.

Rock On Records

43 Carmine (b/w 1st and 2nd St.)
Carmine)
242-0066
they carry prog-rock, jazz, surf and Latin on new and used cds and vinyl.

Disc

186 W 4th St. (b/w 1st and 2nd St.)
206-8417
they carry rock, pop, techno, drum 'n bass, new and used cds and vinyl.

Rocks in the City

157 Prince St. (b/w 1st and 2nd St.)
Thompson)
475-6729
they carry most genres of rock, pop, techno, drum 'n bass, new and used. they stock vinyl, cds, videos, zines, and some tchotchke. it's a small store, but the salespeople are friendly.

Other Music

14 E. 4th (b/w Broadway and Lafayette)
477-8150
they stock most genres, in new and used cds and vinyl. they frequently have in-store performances
www.othermusic.com

426 Amsterdam (b/w 60th and 81st St.)
724-4466
they carry jazz, blues, pop and soundtracks on new and used cds (some as

347 9th St. (b/w 1st and 2nd St.)
769-2102
they carry rock, pop, techno, drum 'n bass, new and used cds and vinyl.

84 E. 10th St. (b/w 1st and 2nd St.)
673-2102
they carry rock, pop, techno, drum 'n bass, new and used cds and vinyl. they also stock zines and magazines. again, this is a tiny one, but the staff is friendly. They stock new and used cds and vinyl. They are adjacent to 99x, which also stocks clothing and shoes www.moonska.com

