

# BARNARD BULLETIN

Vol. LXXXIII No. 8

April 10, 1978



*Spring  
Fever . . .*



**Hits Student Body**



**In Epidemic Proportions**

# Winners of 1978 Elections

**President of Undergrad**—Suzanne LoFrumento  
**Vice-President for Student Government**—Lois Moonitz  
**Vice-President for Student Activities**—Darleen Yee  
**Officer of the Board**—Margo Amgott  
**Treasurer**—Edna Pezone  
**Student Trustee**—Randy Gottlieb  
**Coordinating Council**—Evelyn Capassakis, Kathryn Hufnagel, Wendi Paster, Maria Savo  
**Student Senator**—Invalid (Needed 33 and one third percent turnout to win Senate seat)  
**Admissions and Recruitment**—'79—Deborah Levitt '80—Diana Wood '81—Ellen Brickman  
**Financial Aid—Commuter**—Beth Mann, Resident Not in BHR—Joanne DaSilva, Not on Financial Aid—Ellen Brickman  
**Women's Center**—Margo Berch, Marianne Goldstein, Nancy Herring  
**College Activities Polky**—Joanne DaSilva, Sasi Vartanesyan  
**Housing**—Janet Reiser, Karen Studensky  
**Committee On Instruction—Humanities**—Maxine Gyles, Social Sciences—Sue Libow, Physical Sciences—Karen Strgensky, Undeclared—Ann Ryan  
**Judicial Council**—Robin Verner, Abbi Cohen, Karen Piligran, Andrea Binder, Loreta Mester, Evelyn Capassakis, Linda S Plank  
**Honor Board**—'79—Joan Storey, Linda S Plank '80—Abbi Cohen, Sima Trahtman '81—Wendi Paster, Lynn Rambo  
**Budget Review**—Wendy Silverman  
**SENIOR CLASS**  
**President**—Margo Berch  
**Vice-President**—Joan Storey  
**Treasurer**—Jeannette Price  
**Secretary**—Nancy Yuan  
**Junior Class President**—Darleen Yee

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# LoFrumento, Berch Win; No Senator

The 1978 spring election held by Undergrad last week ended in a disappointing showing by the student body that resulted in the failure to mobilize at least one third of the student body to vote. Because less than the needed one third of the student body voted, Barnard will not be represented in the University Senate next year. Also certain procedures and incidents are being contested by four of the candidates.

The senior class election is being contested by Laurie Ruckel, Elizabeth Jensen and Nancy Yuan. They are accusing the election committee of violating rules specified in the election guidelines. According to the three candidates, an assembly in which students have an opportunity to question candidates was never held; posters and leaflets violated Section IV and were kept up directly behind the polls up to three hours after elections commenced. On at least two occasions there was only one poll watcher and at times the poll was left unattended. They also maintain that a sample of the ballot was not checked by a director of C.A.O. to assure its accuracy.

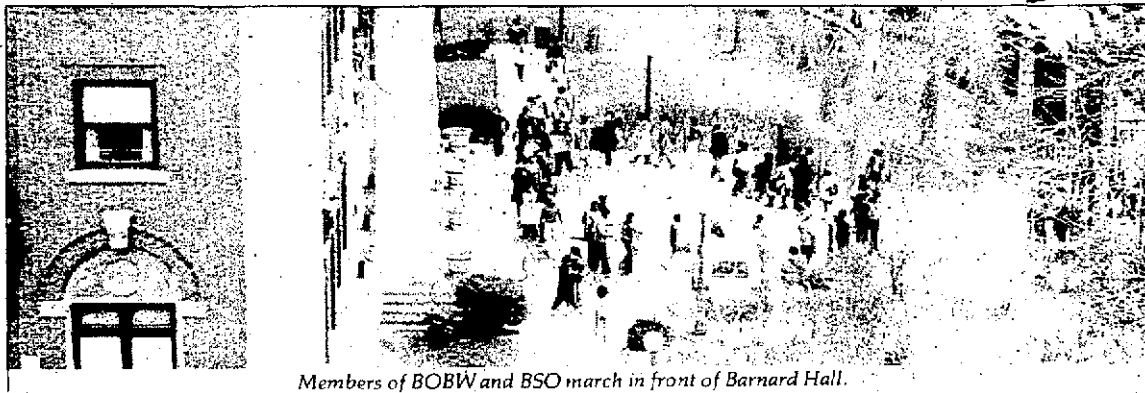
Deborah Newman, a candidate for the position of President of Undergrad, also presented a list of grievances to the election committee. She cited incidents whereby the polls and procedures were either in direct violation of the Election Guidelines or unfair.

Tickets on the ballot are not allowed, but Newman contends that tickets were listed everywhere else on the general ballot. Names were listed in alphabetical order except for the offices of the Officer of the Board and Treasurer. Either all names should be listed at random (i.e. picking names out of a hat to establish order) or all in alphabetical order.

Undergrad is undecided on what course of action to take. It may be necessary for the contestants to take the matter to a higher authority.

Gold said that the allegations were not valid enough to constitute a contestation and none of the allegations will affect the outcome of the election. According to Gold, the reasons were petty and untrue.

Gold added, "everybody can bitch, but nobody helps. It's hard to be a student work on Undergrad and run an election singlehandedly. I would have appreciated a little more help."



Members of BOBW and BSO march in front of Barnard Hall.

## BOBW—Dorm Council Fight Over Room

A demonstration termed "very effective, and very noisy" by one student was staged last week on several campus locations by the Barnard Organization of Black Women (B.O.B.W.).

The group alleged in an on-the-spot interview with *Bulletin* that the Barnard administration is insensitive to the needs of minority women on campus.

The demonstration, from which both male and female voices thundered in rally rhetoric across campus, protested, among other issues, the limiting of group housing to "616" and Plimpton, and the attempts by BHR Dorm Council to remove them from their club room within the dormitory building.

Other issues, which were outlined in a petition being passed around during the demonstration, included the creation of a Black Studies major; the paucity of Black professors at Barnard; and the small number of Black students attending the College.

Dean Barbara Schmitter, in responding to B.O.B.W.'s allegation that "the present housing laws restrict group housing" from the only buildings which perpetuate the least unbiased at-

mosphere for Black women" noted that the housing request isn't legal," and that all students had to make the choice as to whether they would participate in the regular lottery and have a greater choice of rooms, or to enter the group lottery where housing is guaranteed.

Later in the week, approximately 45 B.O.B.W. members attended a meeting of the BHR Dorm Council to discuss the situation concerning the present and possible future use of the office space. "You have caught us in a bind," said former Dorm Council President Liz Jensen, noting that while Dorm Council had not prepared their "official stand" on the issue, "we are very eager to hear what you have to say." The matter of the room will not be officially discussed until the Tri-partite Housing Committee meeting on April 17.

Larry Lubitz, Acting President of Dorm Council, said that "our position right now is that we plan to assess the situation, and see if the room is being put to the best possible use. The room is in our building; it can and should be used by the residents." He added that he felt "they should have an office—I think they need a place where they can have a sense of identity; I just don't think it should be at the expense of BHR residents." If the space is regained, it would be turned into "recreational space."

According to Debbie Johnson, B.O.B.W.'s president, the office space "is of historical significance" to the group. "In the late 60's Black women fought and died for that room. We are not going to let them take it away."

A poll, to be drawn up by Dorm Council and B.O.B.W., will be taken in BHR to determine how the dormitory's residents feel on the matter. Nancy

Yuan, a member of Dorm Council, asserted that her group can only make a recommendation on the use of the room. "It's not our decision to make. The final decision will come from the 'Housing meeting.'" Yuan is also the chairperson of the Housing Committee, but she will step down from that position for the duration of discussion to prevent a conflict of interests.

The status of the B.O.B.W. office in BHR "hinges" on a policy statement drawn up by former Dean of Students Doris Coster in February 1977. According to Johnson, the statement serves as a "lifelong contract" between her group and the University guaranteeing them use of the room.

According to Acting Dean of Students Michele Mattia the statement "is not a contract, it's just an agreement; it has no date limit on it."

The statement notes that "(the) space seems to be serving the needs of a part of our community in a way that cannot be met by any other know available space" and sets guidelines for the continued use of the room. It says, in part, that "B.O.B.W.'s occupancy of its present space in BHR shall continue so long as the following conditions are met"; the conditions include the leaving of a list of officers and active members at the Reid desk; cooperation in observance of all residence hall procedures; and the submission of a one page report each term reporting on the activities and program taking place in the room. According to Kathy Houser, BHR residence director, there are not at this time any lists at the Reid desk. She noted that to her knowledge all BHR residential procedure were being met. Monica Smith, Dean Mat-

(continued on page 12)

### BULLETIN

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# Burglars Strike Again

by *Jolene Curuso*  
and *Kitty Koutsouris*

On Friday March 31 a suite in "620" was burglarized. The value of the stolen merchandise which included cash, jewelry and a typewriter is estimated to be between four and five thousand dollars.

Ray Boylan, director of security, said that there have been a few noon-time burglaries recently in the Morningside Heights area. This case and the others in the chain of robberies are being handled by a detective from the 26th precinct. There is no suspect at this time, and no further information was available from the police because the case is under active investigation.

The robbery probably occurred between 11:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m., according to Lynn Woods, a member of the suite. She said she left her room at about 11:30 a.m. and by the time one of her suitemates returned 45 minutes later, three rooms had been broken into

and two of them had been ransacked.

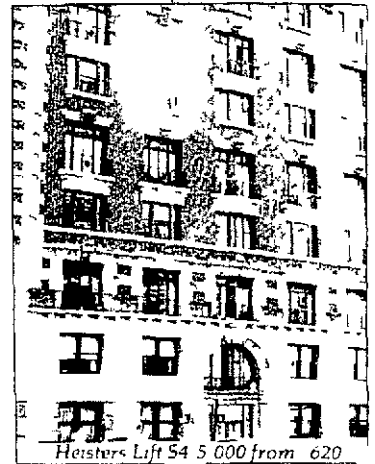
The burglars apparently were choosy about what they took. According to Woods, only the most valuable jewelry and the most expensive typewriter in the suite was taken.

Woods speculated that the burglars entered the building and then rang bells until they came upon one that didn't answer. Once they found an empty suite she said they could have easily picked the lock. "There are two locks on the suite door," she continued, "but they're not good locks."

In addition to the poor locks, residents of "620" say that the intercom system doesn't work, thereby making it impossible to identify persons entering the building.

Boylan stated that he was not aware of any complaints concerning the intercom, but that it would be checked in to immediately.

Dean Schmitter, when told about the robbery, promised to send someone



down to look at the locks and discussed possible alternatives to the malfunctioning intercom system with the residents of the burglarized suite.

But is this all? After the fact, Woods remarked, noting that you're not really careful until something happens.

# Room Drawing Postponed For Two Weeks

By *Maria Rudinski*

Barnard College Room Drawing has been postponed until April 17. All numbers will remain the same as the original Lottery numbers drawn by the Tri Partite Housing Committee. The decision came due to threats of a Transit strike that would have made it very difficult for commuters to pick rooms and initial student misinformation about doubling up measure.

In response to allegations of rigging of the Lottery, Acting Dean of Students Michele Mattia told Bulletin that "no

student got any more consideration than any other student on this campus and that accusation makes me so mad!" The Lottery was minded by Estrella Patell, Administrative Assistant and Kay Stewart and Nancy Yuan, two members of the Tri Partite Housing Committee pulled the numbers. Mattia came in for five minutes to "spot check on the progress."

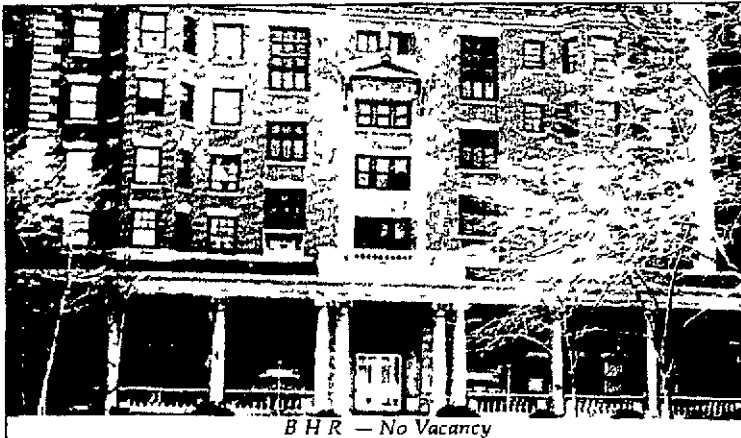
Concerning other housing matters, Mattia confirmed the fact that a one year experiment to remodel five Plimpton suites to accommodate six students

is going to go through and has been approved by the Student Life Committee of the Board of Trustees. A few students have spoken with me to oppose the move, said Mattia, but she sees them as a minority of Plimpton Residents. An Ad Hoc Committee will choose which suites in 600 and 620 will be doubled up. The decision to create 26 more spaces in those two residences has already been reached by the Student Life Committee of the Board but the choice of which rooms to double up has been left to the Ad Hoc Tri Partite Committee.

I have made a concession in that originally I intended to make the 600 and 620 suites into 7 person apartments but they will now hold six, explained Mattia.

There has been some grumbling from students regarding doubling up but no grass roots movement according to Mattia. Everyone knows about the changes, news spreads like wildfire on this campus but they have chosen not to act, she stated.

Mattia told Bulletin that Barnard is still involved in trying to purchase dorm space with Marymount Manhattan College and Fordham University. The College is also continuing its search for dorm space in apartment buildings in the neighborhood to alleviate the housing crunch expected next year.



# Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

We would like to call to your attention the difficulties encountered by Barnard students in using the Columbia University Center for Computing Activity.

Barnard College does not contribute financially to the CUCCA and because of this Barnard students are unable to obtain individual accounts for use of the computer. This allows them to run programs under only one system at the Computer Center—the Open Batch system. This system is the most difficult to use and the most time-consuming of all the systems available to most of the Columbia community at the Center. Students running under Open Batch spend most of their time at the Computer Center not writing programs, but waiting for them to come out of the computer. Experimentation is out of the question because of this time problem.

In addition, programs running under Open Batch are limited to 8 seconds of execution time. This effectively excludes any significant program.

Only students enrolled in Computer Science courses at Columbia may obtain accounts on some of the other systems available. Such accounts, however, may not be renewed and their contents are deleted at the end of every semester. This makes writing complicated and useful programs hardly worthwhile.

The opportunity to write and run nontrivial programs and to experiment with the computer is what makes for top-notch programmers. Barnard students are denied this opportunity under the present conditions.

Computers are becoming ever more important in our society and everyone should be given the opportunity to learn to use them. The policy of Barnard College in this area is outdated and in direct conflict with the College's professed goal of preparing women for today's world.

Sincerely yours,  
Magdalena Pleiniithi  
Abby Bernheim  
Madlyn Granien

Countersigned: Joan Birma, Chairman,  
Math Dept.

Counter countersigned: Patrick  
Gallagher, Dep. Rep. Math Dept.,  
former chairman Barnard Math Dept.  
(1965-72)

# Friedan at Seven Sisters Conference

by Drusilla Clough

This weekend Barnard hosted the Seven Sisters Conference, a biannual meeting of five student delegates from each of the Seven Sister Colleges. The conference is funded by student organizations, and is held each term at a different Seven Sister school. This weekend's was organized and planned by members of Undergrad, who also provided housing for the delegates during their visit.

The purposes of the Conference are to provide a forum for discussion among students of the Seven Sister schools, and to keep alive the traditional tie between the institutions. Margo Berch, a member of Undergrad who participated in the planning of the Conference, cited the exploration of common goals, the dissemination of information between schools, and comparisons of student life on the different campuses as goals of the Conference.

Topics discussed at the Conference included many aspects of student life. Campus security, politics, and new academic programs have been discussed at past meetings. The Barnard Conference focused on political issues affecting women, such as abortion and the ERA, which was the subject of a talk given by Betty Friedan.

Although the importance of the Conference is undeniable, student interest and participation has declined in recent years. According to Emily Gaylord, another member of Undergrad who worked on the Conference, the meetings were once taken much more seriously by students as a vehicle for coordinating decisions among the Seven Sister schools. Ms. Gaylord is enthusiastic about the possibilities of the Conference, however, citing its "terrific potential for political influence."

## Newsbriefs

### Women's Center

There are still places in a few of the workshops of The Scholar and the Feminist V: Creating Feminist Works on April 15. Please register at the Women's Center, 100 Barnard Hall, by Wednesday.

### Mac Contest

Mac is drab, you say? The decor is conducive to nothing but sleep, making it one big Commuter Rest Stop? Well, here's the opportunity to transform McIntosh into an excitingly colorful recreation area!

An art contest to redecorate McIntosh is now under way. Any student is eligible to compete for the \$100 prize. The rules are as follows:

- 1--The proposed design must be limited to the lower level (including the staircase);
- 2--Only graphics or other wall designs will be considered;
- 3--A detailed rendering plus estimates of cost must be submitted;
- 4--The deadline is April 21.

On May 1, all entries will be judged by the McIntosh Activities Council, the acting Dean of Student

ts, and members of Undergrad. The winner will be announced on May 2, and will execute her design in July.

—Celeste La Tassa

### MacDermott

Instead of renewing the food service contract, Barnard is taking the option of putting it up for bids when T.J. MacDermott's five-month contract expires.

Jo Lotrecchianno, spokesperson for the T.J. MacDermott Corporation felt "hurt" when she heard the news because "we thought we were doing a good job." Lotrecchianno also stated that MacDermott intends to rebid for the contract and that the new bid will be "fair" taking into account the "cost of living increase" which includes a raise in salaries to the employees.

### Registrar

Vilma Bornemann, Registrar, announced that program planning with advisors is scheduled for Tuesday, April 11th. She said to check the Registrar's and Departmental Bulletin Boards for details.

## Dalton Gets Emily Gregory

On Thursday, March 30, the fourth annual Emily Gregory Award was presented to Professor Dennis Dalton of the Political Science Department. The award ceremony, which was organized by Jennifer Grey, opened with Mirra Komarovsky, a previous Emily Gregory winner, extending her congratulations to Professor Dalton, noting that "the appreciation of the students is one of the greatest gifts a teacher can receive."

Also speaking was Joan Kingsley, the student who nominated Professor Dalton for the award. "Professor Dalton never turns students away," said Kingsley. "He is the most humble and gentle person I've met."

Helen Ponds McIntyre, president of the Alumnae Association and co-sponsor of the dinner ceremony, extended further congratulations to Professor Dalton. McIntyre described the Emily Gregory awards as one of the happiest occasions of the year. Proposing a toast, Professor Peter Juviler, a close colleague and friend of Professor Dalton, characterized him as a rigorous scholar of the first rank. Reading from the Course Guide Juviler cited student impressions of Dalton,



"Emily" winner, Dennis Dalton.

"He thinks he's Ghandi." The Course Guide showed Professor Dalton as having a solid impact on students, with a band of disciples. "Dennis fires students with enthusiasm," continued Juviler.

Reluctant at first to speak, Professor Dalton humbly expressed his gratitude. "This award means a lot to me. Because it comes from the students, I will always be indebted to."

The last speaker on the program, one of Professor's undergraduate teachers, Professor Euston Peterson, gave a concluding salute. "Dennis is the most giving person I've known."

Sharon Dalton, Professor Dalton's wife, bid everyone farewell by commenting. "Imagine, for 16 years I've been living with Ghandi."

## Alum \$ Up

This year's Annual Alumnae Telethon has ended with an increase over last year in the funds pledged. Marcia Friedman, Director of the Barnard Development Fund, said the telethon is partly solicited from the Alumnae and parents. This year's telethon raised an estimated \$51,000 but the exact amount of money is uncertain. Friedman stated that there will inevitably be people who default on the amount they pledged. Fortunately, this will be balanced out by a number who give more than they pledged. There are 900 pledges for unspecified amounts. The fund raising drive extends from October to June 30th. Other activities included a benefit given by sculptor Louise Nevelson, which raised \$22,000, meetings for alumnae, and efforts by class officers to raise money among their various class gifts. Friedman stated donations are up by \$30,000 over last year, but in comparison to similar colleges, the rate of donation is low.

The bulk of donations are given by alumnae who graduated during the 40's, 50's, and the early 60's. More recent classes have not yet reached the level of economic success which facilitates large gifts. "People become more philanthropic when they have a surplus of money to spend," said Friedman.

—Nancy Tappan

## Dorms and Money

(continued from page 9)

unified direction." Devine also cited the need for an additional supervisor to take care of detail work in Buildings and Grounds, currently handled by one supervisor. Such a change is part of a proposed modification of the housing structure at Buildings and Grounds.

Conditions are better than three years ago," Devine said, but "accumulated maintenance difficulties" and "the sorely limited amount of supervision we can supply" have hampered efforts to alleviate maintenance problems in the dorms. Devine said he has submitted larger budget requests for next year and hopes increased allocations will make some progress possible.

Despite optimism by Mattia and Devine about future maintenance efforts and dorm upkeep and repair, serious problems continue to plague students living in the dorms.

J.C. Alvarez, Residence Director of Plimpton, said, "I'm not too happy about maintenance." She cited several

problems in Plimpton this year, including burst pipes, walls needing plastering and painting since September, broken tiles and furniture in need of repair.

Alvarez asserted that some kitchen vents were operating for the first time this year only last week, after complaints by students had been ignored by Buildings and Grounds until the Board of Trustees responded and called Buildings and Grounds themselves.

Alvarez said she gets an annual budget for Plimpton with allocations for repairs and upkeep, but "it confuses me that they (Buildings and Grounds) seem to spend it all and nothing gets done."

Sally Moore, Residence Director of "616," refused to state what maintenance problems the building faces. "We've been fixing up all year, and we're compiling a list for Buildings and Grounds for summer repair," she said. One "616" resident said there were a few problems with radiators and ovens in the building, and that the dorm's television set has not been working sin-

ce the beginning of the semester.

Students who were hoping, however, that the extra residence fees they'll be paying next year would provide relief from some of the problems in their dorms will apparently be disappointed.

"There is not a direct relationship between room and board fees and maintenance and repair expenditures," Mattia said. She said increased residence fees to students would go only a small way toward covering the increased costs of operating the dorms, inflated further by heavy maintenance expenditures due to inadequate past upkeep.

"The increased fees are not out of line and will help us maintain a standard of living which we deem proper," Mattia said. That standard might be considered questionable, however, in view of the number of complaints and criticisms by residents of Barnard dorms.

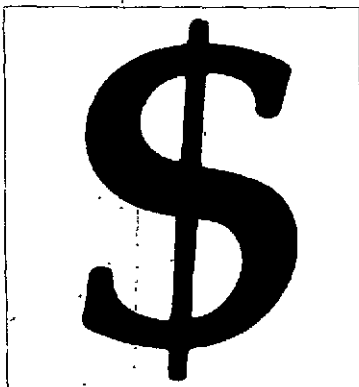
"Most dorms don't break even," Mattia said. "Anybody who gets into the residence game is just asking for trouble."

# Defaults on Loans Hits Critical Point

The names of Barnard graduates who are delinquent in the payment of National Direct Student Loans (NDSL) will probably be turned over to a collection agency within the next few weeks, said Ted Stock, Director of Financial Aid. This action reflects the implementation of Barnard's new aggressive strategy in collecting delinquent loans.

Barnard's NDSL delinquency rate is 19.9 percent. The government considers a 20 percent delinquency rate critical, said Stock. Money for NDSL's come partly from Barnard and partly from the federal government; when loans are paid back the money goes back into the Barnard's NDSL fund to be reloaned. "Up until a few years ago most of the money was new money from the federal government, now most of the money is from repayed loans," explained Stock, "so Barnard is more and more dependent on good repayment from loans." If Barnard loses money from this fund, the government does not replace it, and Barnard is not able to out as much financial aid.

Part of the problem, said Stock, is that many loans are showing up delinquent, when they really could be deferrals. A large number of Barnard grads are in graduate schools, technically are permitted to defer the payment of their loans, but they never



the money immediately, it does not appear on the sheets as being delinquent.

If a student does not answer Barnard's inquiries, Barnard can only "assume that one, these people can pay, and that two, they are choosing not to pay," said Stock. The only recourse then is to send the names to a collection agency, or to send the loans back to the federal government to collect.

Both of these options are not in Barnard's financial interest. If the loan goes back to the federal government, "the money goes out of Barnard's coffers," said Stock. In addition, if the collection agency collects the money they take 33 percent of the total collected.

*... In the early 70's the typical default pattern was that students would declare bankruptcy a few months after when they often were still unemployed and had relatively few assets ...*

fill out the proper forms. The problem is aggravated by the fact that students are quite mobile, and as a result, Barnard has lost track of many of them. Stock pointed out that it is the student's responsibility to get in touch with the school.

Barnard has been trying to reestablish contact with all students who have not repaid their loans. Skip traces will be done on those who cannot be contacted. Once contact is made, and the student is unable to pay, Barnard will offer to refinance the loans, or if necessary make sure the proper deferral forms are filled out. This way, even if Barnard doesn't receive

In the past Barnard has not adopted such an aggressive policy because they were afraid of hurting alumnae relations, said Stock, but it has been shown at other schools that those who do not pay their loans are not the good alumnae anyway.

Assistant Controller and Bursar Brett Combs, who is in charge of collecting loans, refused to make himself available for comment.

\*\*\*\*\*

Students defaulting on federal or state guaranteed student loans reached near epidemic proportions in the early 70's. Loan defaults are still a problem, but the situation has improved.

In the early 70's the typical default pattern was that students would declare bankruptcy a few months after graduation, when they often were still unemployed and had relatively few assets. A bankruptcy record only affects a person's credit rating for seven years, so most students did not see the resulting bad credit rating as being too risky.

New legislation which makes it impossible to discharge debt on student bank loans within five years of the time one leaves school has changed this situation.

Another reason for the decrease in default rate is that in recent years New York State "set up an excellent program for collecting loans," said Ted Stock, director of Barnard's financial aid. In the past, banks were negligent in trying to collect the funds. The state found that they could often get the loans repaid with just one phone call to the borrower. Banks are now required to show that they followed a course of due diligence before turning back the loans to the State.

A spokesperson for Chemical Bank said the rate on student's defaulting "on loans is not low, but it does not bother the bank because we get the money anyway from the state. And the state will eventually get the money from the people."

"A person with any professional ambitions is foolish not to pay the loans back," said Nancy Herring B'79, a holder of student bank loans who intends to pay them back. "A pre-professional who declares bankruptcy is in big trouble," she noted. In addition it is bad to default if you plan to continue with your education because you will not be allowed to take out government loans ever again.

Studies show that there is a greater default rate among students who don't complete their education programs. Stock attributed this to the fact that "these students don't feel as though they got their money's worth," and then they are less qualified to get a job which would enable them to repay the loan.

Barnard had a 7.1 percent default rate in 1977 on loans to their students under the state guaranteed loan's program. This compares favorably with the 33.8 percent default rate found among CUNY Community college students.

## "616" and the Bunk-Bed Experiment



Cramped corner in "616"

By Kyri Koutsouris

It is no secret that housing is one of the biggest problems at Barnard and Columbia. Quantity rather than quality has become the big issue as the size of the classes has recently increased. In order to house more students, Barnard, like our counterparts across the street, made a controversial decision—to convert certain singles in "600," "620," and "Plimpton" into doubles. Although most people are aware that this plan will go into effect next year, it is relatively unknown that three single rooms in 616 have been doubles this past year, on "an experimental basis."

All of these rooms in 616 involve freshmen. None of them were aware of the situation until the first day of orientation when they discovered that two people would be forced to share a room which was normally a single, but was now crammed with furniture, and which, in spite of the crunch, still lacked all of the essentials. For example, two people were required to share a single wooden wardrobe and bookcase. There was no ladder for the bunkbeds; or a "lounge chair" as in the other rooms. Although the previously single rooms were almost one-half the size of regular doubles and students were asked to share some of the things provided in the rooms, they were still being charged the same price as for a

full double.

As one of the students initially placed in one of these rooms, I feel that although doubling in itself may not be a bad idea, the situation can very easily become unbearable when the doubled rooms are too small.

The initial reaction of my roommate and I to the room was disbelief. The two of us and our parents—a total of six people—were unable to stand in the room at the same time! We didn't even have a place to put our luggage as we were unpacking, because it, too, couldn't fit in the room at once. Rania Leon, another student who occupied a doubled room, describing her former place of residence, said, "There was just enough room to walk from the door to the window, through the small aisle between the furniture. We couldn't even use both of the desks, because we were forced to place the bookcase on top of it—there was no other place to put it."

Studying is nearly impossible in these rooms. When June, my old roommate, and I were both seated at our desks, our position was back-to-back with about

six inches between us. Neither of us could handle this for any great length of time and as alternatives I would use the library, various study rooms, or the kitchen table. In another suite, continued use of the kitchen table, according to a suitemate who asked to remain anonymous, caused the other girls in the suite to feel crowded. "Living in such confined quarters adds to the natural tension that exists when living with other people."

Tension is an accurate one-word description of my experience in the room last semester. In addition to being crowded all the time, June and I simply did not get along, and believe me, we tried. An accurate comparison of our relationship was to "Oscar and Felix of The Odd Couple. She honked all night and was immaculately neat. I was a carefree slob. We drove each other crazy.

The cause of all the tension to begin with, according to June, "Is a matter of privacy." She remarked, "Sometimes you like to be alone. In a normal sized double, you can escape to your own side of the room, you can have space to call your own. But here—everything's so

(continued on page 14)

## Is B.H.R. Flammable?

By Nancy Tappan

Have you ever thought about the possibility of losing your life or your possessions in a building or dormitory fire? Would you like to be trapped in a burning building because you didn't know how to get out or your escape route was cut off? How would you feel if you were responsible for someone's death because you had decided to use the fire extinguisher to have a water-fight? All of these grisly possibilities exist on the Barnard campus and the dangers involved were driven home by last year's fire in Livingston and the fatal blaze that killed seven Providence College students last fall.

Barnard administrators, concerned with fire safety, are seeking more efficient technical measures, and greater personal cooperation to prevent and combat fires in the dorms and academic buildings. Michelle Mattia, acting dean of students, is personally committed to these efforts. Her own personal experience with a fire in her apartment has made her deeply aware of the horror felt by fire victims.

"It was my first experience with genuine panic," she said. "A young man in the next apartment fell asleep while smoking in bed, and the entire room went up. When I smelled and then saw clouds of billowing smoke in the hall, I panicked. I honestly did not know what to do—or how to get out." Mattia also stated that a personal friend of hers, who had lost three small nieces in an apartment fire, could not see a burning building without reliving the horror of the experience. "I hope that I never, never have to call someone's parents to tell them how sorry we are that their daughter died in a dorm fire," she said.

Barnard does try to comply with New York City Health and Safety ordinances, by placing fire extinguishers at 100 foot intervals inside buildings, having extensive alarm systems, and posting and familiarizing residents of fire escape routes. Hazardous areas, such the Hewitt and McIntosh kitchens and the laundry and storage areas in BHR, have automatic sprinkler systems, with heat sensors to activate "steam smothering" devices and to shut



# Dorms: A Losing Proposition

by Robin Micheli

Despite large increases in room and board fees for the '78-'79 year and doubling-up of many rooms to house additional students, Barnard dorms will still be running at more than half a million dollar deficit next year, according to Acting Dean of Students Michele Mattia.

Though "President Mattfeld is attempting to close the gap" between housing revenues and expenditures, said Mattia last week, increasing costs and maintenance problems will prevent that from happening.

Fuel and labor expenditures account for much of the inflated costs of operating the dorms in recent years, Mattia said.

Fuel and electricity expenditures for Barnard's three dorms this year were estimated by Mattia at \$49,000 at "616," \$72,000 at Plimpton, and \$161,000 at BHR. "In the last three years, costs of heat, electricity, and gas have jumped five to ten percent," she said. "and a safe and sane projected increase for next year is twelve percent."

off ventilation to the involved areas. There are automatic fire doors throughout campus, which isolate fires and prevent ventilation. The heating systems do not constitute a fire hazard, because they utilize hot water and steam transported from Columbia's central heating plant.

In theory, these measure should be adequate. However, difficulties in maintaining the systems could effectively nullify their usefulness. An informal inspection of the fire extinguishers and hoses in BHR found 16 out of 45 extinguishers to have less than the recommended air pressure needed to work properly. Several fire hoses were found to be without nozzles, which direct and concentrate the water stream. This reporter spot-checked the valves on the hoses to see if they could be turned easily. Most were so tightly closed that even using full strength and weight would not turn the valves. Oddly, the problems seem to concentrate in certain areas so that two adjoining floors might have only one out of five extinguishers in working order.

Buildings and Grounds Director Robert Devine admitted that at any time a number of extinguishers and



hoses could be out of service. He stressed, however, that this could not be blamed on poor maintenance or neglect, but more on students who willfully discharge the extinguishers during a water fight, or who might steal the hose nozzles for some reason. When told of the problems uncovered by this research, he directed William Petersen, the Manager of the Maintenance Plant, to send staff personnel over to check on the problems within hours. Devine said that the law requires them to check and service extinguishers only on a yearly basis, but because of abuse of the equipment, B & G checks the dorm systems weekly on a floor-by-floor rotation.

BHR Residence Director Kathy Houser also stressed the importance of student cooperation during fire drills. BHR has had four fire drills this year, with an average time of 5-10 minutes needed to empty the building. Speed is of the utmost importance because, due to the age of the building, substantial areas of the building would become fully involved by fire within 10 minutes. Houser was pleased by the time turned in at the drill on Wednesday, April 5, during which the building was virtually cleared within five minutes.

Increased labor costs in recent years have added significantly to the dorm's annual operating budget. Barnard negotiates contracts each year, with its unions, which include housekeeping, food service, maintenance and security personnel, that almost always include substantial salary increases. "In New York City, there is no flexibility, or very little, with labor expenditures," Mattia said.

Though rising fuel and labor costs have kept the dorm's operating expenditures running higher, inadequate maintenance and repair of the dorms in the last decade have added extra burdens to the housing budget.

"Maintenance and repair that should have been kept up for the last ten years went by the boards," Mattia said. "so it had gotten out of hand and we had to catch up." She said mammoth repair projects in addition to yearly upkeep expenditures are now necessary, and the additional costs of such projects are major.

Robert Devine, head of Buildings and Grounds, agreed that the dorms have major problems. "They need work in a lot of areas—not just repair, but upgrading as well."

Among those areas needing work are plumbing systems, especially in BHR, where broken pipe back-ups, flooding, leaking and a host of other problems have been the subject of student complaints all year. Devine said this year, Buildings and Grounds added one more plumber to its staff, so that two plumbers were able to devote their attention to such problems. Nevertheless, student complaints have continued and plumbing remains a major problem as well as a major foreseeable area of expenditure next year.

Devine said electrical system rewiring and replacing also demand attention, as do some heating problems. He said roofing on the dorms was satisfactory, though Mattia cited major roofing work and painting as important projected repair projects.

Mattia said an administrative problem has affected the upkeep of the dorms in the last year. Since the departure of Vice-President of Administration and Finance Harry Albers last October, Buildings and Grounds and Security have had no one to report to. "I expect the plumbing to be fixed when there's some accountability," Mattia said.

Devine agreed his department needs "higher level guidance." Without such guidance, he said, there is a "lack of

(continued on page 6)

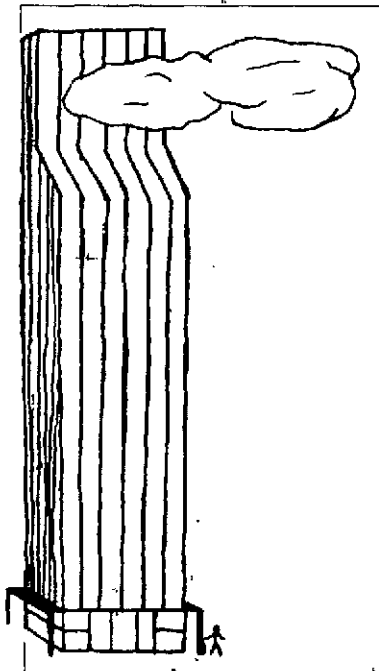
# Alternatives to the Liberal Arts Degree

## Architecture

by Jolyne Caruso

Each day at Barnard, students are seen running and pushing to get to their classes. During registration, they fight for a place in each class in order to fulfill some requirements whether general or major. Their strict regime has taken place for years and years. Affected by the change in women's roles which resulted in a change in career goals, a group of brave women became enmeshed in a power struggle against the Higher Forces in order to build a more perfect curriculum for themselves. These women are the architecture majors.

At the present time, there are four seniors who will graduate with majors in architecture. In sophomore year, a group of interested students decided they wanted studios in drafting to gain pre-professional training. At the time Barnard administrators did not believe this was essential and concentrated on history-type courses to prepare the students for graduate schools. A few students registered for a studio course at Columbia. However, Columbia professors would not allow women to participate unless Barnard paid



Henry C. Jones

for an assistant to aid the women. Val Woods, who works at the architecture school and is a member of the administration, decided to work with the women and guide them with their courses. The women then entered the Senior studio for two semesters until graduation.

According to Ana Steinschreiber, a senior architecture major, she is uncertain about the future of architecture at Barnard. The program is not advertised and is not placed in the catalogue. Therefore many students are unaware that such a program exists. The problem stems from the lack of professionals hired to instruct the students. As Ana explained, "You don't need a doctor to teach biology but you must have a professional architect to instruct the students." The studios consist of drafting and designing buildings which are presented for analysis by architects.

Ana responded optimistically on the subject of graduate schools. She explained that students have planned their own programs including the necessary requirements for graduate schools. When asked if Barnard has prepared her for her future career, she laughed and replied, "We have prepared ourselves."

## Nursing

by Elizabeth A. Clark

Often snubbed by Barnard and College pre-meds, and frequently ignored by other students in general, the life of a four year B.S. candidate in the School of Nursing is not an easy one—academically or socially. In a recent discussion, five first and second



Ilse's Illustration

year nursing students spoke of their feelings for the program and of their place in the University community.

The chief drawback of the nursing program seems to lie in its relative isolation. "It's like we are floating in space," commented one freshman from New Jersey. Students and even faculty are often oblivious to the school's existence, in spite of its national reputation in medical circles. One student told of her organic chemistry professor who "couldn't understand why I wasn't on either the Columbia or Barnard registration sheets."

Misperceptions of what the nursing program and the nursing profession itself entail add to the cloistered atmosphere surrounding the school. Half of the 120 credits necessary for the B.S. degree must be taken at the Nursing School uptown. Of the remaining 60 credits, 30 are comprised of such required courses as Biology, Sociology, Organic Chemistry and freshman English. The other 30 are electives from the University's general curriculum. In addition academic schedules must be adjusted to include clinical work which begins freshman year at community centers in the neighborhood (Seniors

spend three days a week on full hospital shifts).

The liberal arts half of the nursing degree plays an important role in determining the type of nursing careers students will pursue. Several of the women spoken to discussed the possibility of going on for masters and doctoral degrees within more specialized fields like geriatrics and midwifery. They pointed out that the nursing profession has undergone numerous changes in recent years. Nurses with B.S. degrees are increasingly more commonplace than they once were and with greater specialization, it is now possible for a nurse to establish her own practice. All five women were vehement in their dislike of the stereotypical assumption that nurses "wear white and carry bedpans."

Another issue angering these students is the question, from Barnard and College students, "Why aren't you pre-med?" They point out that doctors and nurses operate out of entirely different concepts. Nurses, while they cannot diagnose or prescribe, are responsible for the day to day aspects of the

(continued on page 161)

## Engineering

by Antia Bernstein

The women who attend Columbia's School of Engineering and Applied Science, face unique difficulties and challenges. "When I first came here," one woman student said, "I told my little cousin I was studying engineering and he asked me why I wanted to be an engineeress. I didn't know whether to laugh or beat him up." The woman (who preferred to remain anonymous) was speaking of a problem common to many female engineering students: non-acceptance.



Male students frequently can't understand why a woman would choose this field.

Marjorie Inden, corresponding secretary of the Society of Women Engineers at Columbia, observed that some College men "can't see that we have just as much of a share in Ferris Booth, just as much of a share in Carman Hall (female first year Engineering students are housed in Carman), just as much of a share in Livingston UDC as they do." She added, however, that, for the most part others are very understanding.

The consensus of the women seems to be that non-acceptance generally comes from other students, not from teachers or administrators. But Engineering women face problems in the classroom anyway. Many of them are intimidated by the all-male at

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## Protest

*(continued from page 3)*

ina's administrative aide stated that, to her knowledge, there were no B.O.B.W. reports on file.

Student reaction to the Dorm Council's action is varied. Lynn Rambo, a member of Dorm Council said that she is "really upset that some of my fellow members would pursue this matter even

though it continues to create such hostility and resentment." Anita Harris, a B.O.B.W. member, said that the actions of Dorm Council "signify a lack of respect" and she was distressed that "they would even pursue the issue." One BHR resident, who wished to remain anonymous, stated that "they are asking for special treatment, which translates itself into a subtle form of segregation. Every other Barnard club has an office in McIntosh; theirs should be there, too."

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## Boat Rags

Though their faces were stubbled, the Mozart on Fifth Trio pushed on towards their goal Saturday, April 1, marked the anniversary of the death of ragtime's Scott Joplin. Although Joplin died some sixty years ago, this is the first musical program of its type. The Trio decided to celebrate his tunes by organizing a "Memorial Marathon Jubilee" on the Staten Island Ferry Beginning Wednesday the 30th, the group set out for one hundred consecutive trips from Manhattan to Staten Island. Their music was, of course, in the "Joplin-esque" style, with bits of Mozart added (in order to live up to their title). The melodies included the well known, feet tappin' "Maple Leaf Rag" and "The Entertainer," theme song from "The Sting." The three performers, playing bassoon and clarinets, appeared in costume until Saturday's 80 degree heatwave forced them to change into cooler clothing.

The members, Richard Goldfarb, Daniel Kelley and Tom Sefcovic, first performed together under their present title in June of 1976. Since then they have entertained audiences with their own arrangements in the Lincoln Center Library Brooklyn Museum, and Studio 58. They were invited by WQXR to perform as "Artists in Concert" and even celebrated Mayor Koch's victory by playing at his campaign parties. The Trio found themselves at the Mardi Gras and were asked to attend the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival. The response to their lively rag tunes was tremendous and the group made plans to join "Ozark Attractions" and perform cross-country.

Mozart on Fifth gave ferryyriders a pleasant alternative to the windy deck outside. They set up their music stands, adorned with roses, and collection box (alias instrument case) inside and were soon surrounded by curious passengers. The tunes were accompanied by the background hum of the boat, and accentuated by the clink of the coins thrown into the box. One sympathetic passenger wondered how much sleep the musicians had squeezed out of the grueling four days. "Not much," answered one member wearily. At least the group didn't have to depend on the ferry's snackbar knishes and hotdogs. Wholesome nourishment was provided by friends.

What will be next? A tribute to "The Duke" on Circle Line?

—Andrea Schneider

# Straight Time: Fear of Freedom

by Julia Barry

"A lot of guys are scared to death of the outside... because in there it's who you are. Out here it's what you got."

And Max Dumbo hasn't got much. He's a fresh out of prison loser, with no skills, a family in absentia, and only "inside" friends. Dembo tries to play it straight, but frustrated by a strict parole officer who won't let him breathe, he breaks parole and begins a spree of robberies. Reincarceration is a certainty. In fact, it seems as if each ex-con in the movie is desirous of that end.

Dembo's friend Willie (Gary Busey) has a habit and is drawn back into the world of crime with a nudge. More curious is Jerry (Harry Dean Stanton) who while relaxing outside his comfortable home complete with built-in swimming pool, begs Max to "get me outta here." Max's contacts, all ex-cons, are playing with guns, setting up shady deals, toying with their tenuous positions. And Max plays it so close he may as well turn himself in. He doesn't just break parole, he beats up his parole officer in the process. Every robbery is timed and he continually takes that extra minute. It's no wonder the recidivism rate is so high.

The script may be a bit too pat, the characters sometimes stereotyped, but the performances will hopefully be remembered come Oscar time. Dustin Hoffman is a steely-eyed calculator, every gesture so perfectly orchestrated that one does not question the lack of background information needed to understand him: We believe.

His partners in crime are no less effective. The gutless Willie does Max wrong, but Busey's expression is so like a naughty child, or helpless pup that his blunderings seem excusable. And Stanton, whose motivation was not at once clear, becomes transparent as his face brightens when he gazes into a stolen bag of goods.

The female roles are slightly less believable but the performances are of an equally high caliber. Theresa Russell is both angelic and sexy in her role as Hoffman's girlfriend, Jenny, although her eagerness to help him is not convincing. Stanton's wife is also a convict lover, her ex-husband and ex-lovers all in prison. A little far-fetched perhaps but when her "I'll take care of you" attitude is brought forth we are persuaded. The only woman in the film who does not follow along the "I love a convict" theme is Busey's wife. Pleading with Max to stay away from Willie in spasms of uneasiness she gives

herself and the rest of us, on the "outside" away; she and we are afraid.

The film is taut, whether it be Hoffman exploding in rage or a police car too near for comfort. Even the sole love scene is full of tension as Max shakingly takes Jenny in his arms. The fast pace of the film also creates a hold until it slows to show the tediousness of

booking a suspect, finding a job or locating a home. Perhaps it is this highly-paced action of the criminal world that thrusts the cons along, because the rituals of *Straight Time* are really a drag. But see it for the suspense, the excellent supporting performances, and need I add, Dustin Hoffman.



Dustin Hoffman doing "Straight Time."

## Glee at Alice Tully

On March 29th, Alice Tully Hall was filled by the spirited sound of the Columbia University Glee Club in a performance of classical choral music as well as traditional and popular song. The concert marked a revival of the Glee Club's "downtown" concert tradition, a tradition inaugurated in 1923.

The seventy-member group, conducted by Warren H. Brown, offered a varied and difficult program. Among its selections were compositions by Bach, Beethoven, Schumann, Copland, Persichetti, and two a cappella Renaissance pieces (including the beautiful motet *O Vos Omnes* by Vittoria). The Glee Club obtained a rich

sound in both Schubert's *Widerspruch* and Virgil Thompson's setting of Frost's "Stopping by the Woods on a Snowy Evening." Carl Orff's *In Taberna* featured an excellent bass solo by Jerry Godfrey.

The audience responded warmly to The Notes and Keys (a triple quartet) and The Bluenotes (a barber shop quartet); two tight musical ensembles comprised of Glee Club members. The evening's concert closed with a performance of the Columbia Songs (including a rare, sober rendition of "Roar, Lion, Roar"). Many alumni were present, and were invited to stand and join in The Glee Club's performance of the Columbia Alma Mater.

—Sandra Sawotka

## Bulletin Board

Because of general exhaustion and an acute case of spring fever, **Bulletin** will not come out next week. The next issue will appear on April 24.

**Bulletin** would like to offer its congratulations to all the winners of the Undergrad election; good luck, and don't forget the stomach pills.

Many thanks to the aces of the Light Table. You, do, indeed, have hands like seismographs.

## Dorms

close that there's no sense of privacy whatsoever.

What has emerged from the "616 experiment" is the administration's view that the results were successful. Lisa David, who coordinated a protest meeting in Plimpton last week to protest the doubling, said that when she explained the situation to Chairman of the Board Arthur Altschul, "he seemed surprised that the students regarded the situation in 616 as a failure."

David cited a letter from Dean Mattia to Plimpton residents, which stated: "... It was viewed as reasonable and fair, that (Plimpton) too be considered for doubling up, in light of the precedent having been set in 616." David reasoned that the use of the word precedent precludes success. She believes, generally, that "The doubling of rooms hasn't really been well thought out, and "616" is being used as a precedent, when they don't really know how it has worked."

However, she conceded that as long as doubling up was to be an experiment, "no one could really say no to it." Lisa believes that a committee should be set up to evaluate the rooms

to be doubled next year, and to make sure that the right information gets through.

All of the residents of 616 that were involved in the doubling will readily admit that doubling rooms in itself is not a horrible idea. As Lenore Checci put it: "If the room was bigger, and you had at least the bare essentials, it wouldn't be as bad." Julie Grossman, a suite member of a remaining double, concluded that, "Barnard and Columbia should strive to be residential schools... but they should do it in a way that adds to the college experience, not detracts from it."

## Nursing

patient's well being. As a result, their work is often on a more personal level. But this level, as the students I talked to emphasized, is as important and in no way subservient to the type of care provided by a doctor.

The second reason nursing students resent condescension from preprofessional liberal arts majors is that they do not need graduate schools to have a career; their degree virtually guarantees them jobs (every member of the Nursing School Class of 1977 was placed in a job in her field of interest). One member of the group had switched

from the pre-med major at another school to Nursing at Columbia because she felt the field was "more open with opportunities."

Most of the women felt the snobbery of other students could be overcome by explaining the nature of the school to the offender. The school's obscurity in relation to the rest of the University seems more difficult to surmount. Nursing students are not allowed campus housing. Posters and notices of campus activities rarely find their way to the underclassmen dormitory on West 114th Street and *Spectator* is never delivered there.

In spite of the obstacles, the nursing students remain very proud of their school. It is, they say, one of the finest in the country; a B.S. degree from Columbia gives them a head start in the job market and it is an extremely difficult school to get into. One woman said she nearly applied to Barnard instead of the Nursing School because the application form was simpler.

It appears that the Nursing School and its students have done much to change and improve their profession. All that is necessary now is to convince the general public and the University community to wake up to the twentieth century. In the words of one nursing student, "I got over my Clara Barton kick years ago. I wish everyone else would do the same."



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 Will be profoundly diffused!  
 We are encouraged to be rationally adaptive,  
 Are we concerned about the consequences?  
 A phenomenon of nature is slowly dissipating  
 Dramatically entailing a cherished spectrum.  
 Analyzing at random the operative equivalent,  
 Oils' vengeance, will leave us embittered.  
 Thwarted by the fact of exploitation,  
 Potential expectations are now futile dreams.  
 Duration is amplified by financial collateral,  
 Yet this exclusive is an exercise of hopelessness.  
 Voicing our opinions however arbitrary,  
 Our dependence, however appropriate in contrast,  
 Is an unrelated insecurity of pride . . . .  
 The harsh adage, strategically remains—  
 That we are a people of a deviant suicide!

Soon

by Joe Soto

Joe Soto is a member of the  
 Barnard Security Force.

*I am dedicating this poem to Security  
 Officer Mr James Reid The Sentinel  
 who on the midnight watch secures your  
 dreams in B H R Mr James Reid was  
 the first black man ever to work on an  
 Atomic Submarine A man amidst the  
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## Engineering

(continued from page 11)

mosphere (some labs are, one woman feels, "like a locker room") and are reluctant to ask questions or comment in class. Others are discouraged by the workload. "Engineering is competitive, rigorous and mentally demanding," explained Inden, adding that "women engineers often have more diversified interests than men. They're more likely to want some liberal arts." Requirements at the school are many, electives few. So, several women each year drop out or transfer to Barnard, where they generally become math or science majors.

Most of them stay with it, though. According to Robert Zuleg, assistant registrar, there are 122 women engineering students (as of last fall) or 10-12 per cent of the total. The number has remained fairly constant in the past two years.

Still, if a woman can handle all the obstacles on the road to becoming an engineer, there is usually a fair reward at the end of the struggle. "Employers are actively interested in increasing the number of women engineers on all levels," said James Parker, Dean of Students. "The engineering field needs more women." Job prospects for Engineering School graduates? "Super." Dean Parker explained that a qualified woman would probably find a good job after graduation, even if she only holds a bachelor's degree.

Till then, women engineers keep going, drawing on sympathetic classmates, faculty members, administrators and the Society of Women Engineers for support. Most women find that engineering, like many other challenges, is worth the effort.

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