

Barnard Bulletin

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April 7, 1980

BOBW Sponsors Conference On Black Womanhood

by Pia DeGirolamo

The Barnard Organization of Black Women sponsored a "Celebration of Black Womanhood" last week from March 26 to 29. Kim Nicholson, the past president of B.O.B.W., described the celebration as "the major black cultural event on the Barnard campus and one of the most important at the University as a whole." Held for the first time in 1978, it was cancelled last year because a deficit was incurred by the first celebration.

After laying the groundwork for the event, Nicholson appointed Sheila Greene, '81, to coordinate the celebration. Greene asked Marcia Sells, '81, to join her as co-coordinator. Together they worked to create a program that would in Sells' words, "enhance black awareness on campus as well as contribute to the cultural education of the general student body."

A reception and dinner, which featured Author Alicé Childress as guest speaker, opened the celebration. Over the next four days, students met with black alumnae of Barnard, attended arts presentations, and participated in workshops that dealt with black women in businesses and black awareness.

Although she was disappointed that fewer numbers of black students

than anticipated attended the conference, Nicholson nevertheless believed that "If a few participated and benefited then it was worth the effort." Sells, who said she was pleased with the whole program commented on the absence of black students saying, "Not all black women agree on what it means to be a black woman."

The fact that few students participate in black activities is a source of frustration to Nicholson and others who want to see greater cohesiveness amongst black students.

This issue was discussed in some detail at the Alumnae Networking session of the celebration when students met with past graduates. Students and alumnae acknowledged that academic commitment and concern with employment often overrides involvement in black social and cultural life.

Alumnae stressed that those who choose not to attend should not be made to feel guilty. Rather, they suggested that positive aspects of group interaction be communicated. "Unity won't come easily," said one

Freshmen Meet With Faculty To Discuss Departments

By Angela Wortche

In an effort to encourage freshmen to meet and speak with faculty



Photo by Jackie Barnhark

Hewitt Cafeteria

alumna. "We have to hope that our closeness radiates."

The celebration afforded many students their first opportunity to speak with alumnae. The experiences of the graduates were both a source of new ideas and of support.

Alumnae offered constructive advice to help change the "subtle racism" that exists among Barnard students and administrators. Cited as examples of inequality were the scarcity of black professors (there are

only two and they are untenured), of black administrators, and the omission of a black perspective in courses. Urging students to assert their rights as consumers of education, the alumnae encouraged students to demand instruction that recognizes black achievement. They counseled students to sit on the various decision-making bodies on campus, if only to serve as reminders of the black presence at Barnard.

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MacDermott Cited For Health Code Violations

By Pia DeGirolamo

On March 5th, the Special Projects Unit of the New York City Department of Health inspected the kitchen and dining room of Hewitt Cafeteria. Special Projects had been dispatched in response to an anonymous call regarding the possibility of food poisoning. The inspection the following violations:

1. Some dishes were encrusted with food residue.
2. Egg salad which was ready for serving from the serving table was at a temperature of 50° F rather than the regulation 45° F.
3. Protective covering was not provided at salad bars and cold cuts table.
4. Some salads on salad bar were not kept on ice.
5. Ice for soda was not provided with scoop. Ice is located in the dining room.
6. Soap dispenser was not present or was not provided with a bottle of soap at hand-wash sinks in kitchen.
7. Several floor drains in kitchen were clogged. Water accumulated around drain in vicinity of pot washing sinks.
8. Fire extinguisher in kitchen in vicinity of Kasher refrigerator showed that it was discharged. Last inspection — 1/14/80.
9. Large mixing pot was cor-

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Ruth Laredo, pianist, will perform at Barnard on April 10 at 5:30 pm in the College Parlour, 3rd floor Barnard Hall.

members about possible majors and career plans. Anya Luchow, Dean of Freshmen at Barnard, has arranged a series of informal gatherings with faculty members and administrative staff. Each department has arranged a meeting in which interested students may meet with faculty members and ask questions concerning particular majors, programs of the college, or careers.

A questionnaire was enclosed in each freshman's registration packet which asked students what fields they were considering and which meetings they would like to attend. Invitations were then sent out to all students who expressed an interest in a certain department.

There is no pressure on the freshmen to choose a major now. Luchow wants freshmen to realize the career options that they have. The meeting will give freshmen the opportunity to learn about various fields.

At the departmental meetings students who are currently majoring in that field will be present to answer questions. Luchow urges all freshmen to attend the meetings. Luchow said "it is an excellent op-

portunity for freshmen to meet each other as well as faculty and upperclassmen."

The Sociology, American Studies, Anthropology, Chemistry, Geology, German, Medieval Renaissance Studies, Italian, and Spanish departments have already had meetings.

The schedule for future meet-



Anya Luchow, Dean of Freshmen

ings is:
April 7 — Political Science
3:30, James Room
April 9 — Women's Studies — 12
noon — Bring lunch, 416 Lehman
This meeting is rescheduled
from a previous one which had been cancelled.
April 9 French 4:00 306 & 307
Mifbank
April 10 Biology 4:00 1015
continued on page 2

Psychotherapy
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Food
continued from p. 1
roled with base metal. The pot was not to be used until it was returned with corrosion removed
10. Food stuffs were stored too close to or directly on floor of freezers in kitchen and also in other storage

rooms'
11 Paint was peeling from ceiling in refrigerator in kitchen near meat processing area,
12 Ice scoop for ice machine was unbagged and had ragged edges
13 Steam line at pot washing sinks was leaking.
14 Water accumulated on floor

in male lavatory and floor was littered with refuse
15. Soap dispenser was missing and wall tile was broken and was missing from wall in male lavatory
16 Hot water was not provided at three wash basins in ladies' lavatory.

17 Vacuum breaker was not provided on water line in hose bib in the garbage storage room
The Special Projects Unit re-inspected the MacDermott Food Service on March 19 Of the 17 previous violations, five remained. They were

- 1 Chicken salad which was ready for serving from serving table had a temperature of 56° F. It should have been below 45° F
 - 2 Some salads on salad bar were not provided with protective coverings.
 - 3 Ice scoop or suitable utensil for soda was not provided. Ice is located in dining room
 - 4 Food stuffs were stored too close to or directly on floor in storage rooms
 - 5 Vacuum Breaker was not provided on water line to hose bib in garbage storage room
- The five violations were subsequently corrected. Only one protective covering is missing from the salad bar. This had been ordered but was broken in transit
- The Health Department will make a third inspection later in April

BOBW
continued from page 1

The issue of sexism was also raised at the discussion sessions of the celebration. Alice Keyes Henderson, '71, referred to the divisive nature of racism among women, stating "We have been divided and conquered many ways, many times." But she also saw danger in submerging the goals of black women within the larger feminist movement. One participant voiced the opinion that the issue of racial inequality would have to be resolved before black and white women could "come together as women"

The double minority status accorded black women by affirmative action programs was seen as one of the major obstacles to the improvement of relations. Sells added, "a lot of people assume that we have an advantage but we work just as hard as everyone else." Sells believes that competition in the job market and especially for entrance into professional schools is so great that quality and performance rather than color or sex are the prime standards of judgment

White students did come to the celebration and the coordinators found that they enjoyed the interaction. Religious discrimination, feminism and the problems encountered by women who are combatting the business world's "locker room mentality," were among the issues discussed.

Though in general Greene and Sells were pleased with the celebration, they were disappointed that it didn't get as much publicity as it should have. They said, "We invited Spectator and no one showed. We spent many hours sending information to the Public Relations office at Barnard and we didn't get any coverage except for a notice in the calendar."

Frosh
continued from p. 1

- Altschul
April 10 Physics 2 15 502
Altschul
April 11 Religion 12 noon Br
ing lunch The Deanery
April 14 Education 12 noon 335
Milbank Bring lunch
April 17 Pre-Med Meeting 12
noon 405 Milbank Bring lunch
April 21 Art History 4 00 The
Deanery

Editorial

Surviving the Strike

The efforts of the Barnard administration to cope with the transit strike should be commended. The total absence of public transportation has certainly had an impact on the campus, as it has had on the city as a whole, but overall we're managing rather well. Columbia's bus service has been useful, the drivers courteous and punctual, and if doubles are a little difficult on a tennis court filled with bicycles, that hasn't prevented anyone from playing.

But the feeling of camaraderie which stems from everyone trying to cope and to cooperate with one another makes the effort worthwhile. Very specifically, we have to thank Barnard administration for their foresight and planning in providing places to park cars, bikes and persons; TJ's for the extra meal hours, and all of the faculty, administration and staff who have tried to help out.

Happy Birthday Beth

Bulletin

is a not-for-profit weekly newspaper published by the students of Barnard College. Signed letters to the editor are welcome. We're at 107 McIntosh (x2119) and wish you were too.

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Peking Man : Major Chinese

Work Performed

at Columbia

By Eleanor Johnson

Peking Man, a play by Cao Yu, one of China's leading playwrights, is playing for an extended run during April 12-13th at the Horace Mann Theatre, Teachers College.

The Center for Theater Studies at Columbia has extended itself for this production. The furniture is antique; the costumes are correct in every detail. During his current visit to the US, playwright Cao attended several dress rehearsals to ensure the production's authenticity. The play inspires neither wild enthusiasm nor boredom. It is merely a good, solid production.

Peking Man examines the plight of an aristocratic family in the changing, prerevolutionary China of the 1920's. The family wishes to keep its traditional way of life in a society that is rapidly becoming Westernized. They are desperately trying to keep their home safe from the outside world, even though it is literally falling down around them. The eldest son of the family realizes their tradition-steeped way of life is no longer tenable, but feels unable to change.

Only the maiden aunt and the rejected wife of the grandson, who feel themselves outsiders from the family, have the courage to leave the house and find freedom.

All of Cao's characters, from the patriarch to the manservant, are drawn with an eye to detail. Particularly realistic is Zeng Siyi (Lori Tan Chinn), the eldest son's wife, a harpy of the first order. She is recognizable whatever the viewers' background.

In manipulating everybody, she changes from an iron-jawed shrew to the picture of shy helpless womanhood in as brief a time as it takes to catch her breath.

Her husband Weiqing (Isao Sato), epitomizes the dilemma of the play's characters. Educated as a scholar aristocrat, Weiqing would like to spend his days writing poetry, drinking tea and smoking opium, but the family's financial situation forces him to find work.

However, Weiqing is trapped by his upbringing. He loves his cousin, Su Fang, but was married at an early age to Siyi. When he ultimately returns home, unable to cope with the outside world, he escapes in the only way he can by suicide.

All the characters try to escape in some way or other. The Western educated son-in-law (Freddy Mao), also a failure in the outside world, retreats back to the house and tries to forget his failures by drinking.

The patriarch (Peter Yoshida) is obsessed with the family's forms of ceremony and religion. Only those who are able to act for themselves truly escape at the end. The rest of the family is doomed to cling to their aging house, struggling impotently against the changes which will eventually sweep them away.

The set, designed by Quentin Thomas, is an authentic period piece. All of the furnishings are authentic and some were antiques borrowed or rented for the occasion. The small props are authentic as well, right down to the live chicken and the Chinese vegetables. In fact, if there is anything wrong with the set, it is that it is too perfect.

The family complains that the outside wall of one of the rooms is collapsing, but the paint in the parlor is not even cracked. The floor shows no signs of wear, and the chairs look newly reupholstered. The lighting reflects the world the Zeng family lives in, very bright outside and muted inside. One light however, is annoying because it unaccountably highlights only half of a large central painting.

The costumes present a nice contrast of styles. Characters who are considered outsiders wear Western dress, while the family dresses in traditional robes.

The play's main weak point is in Act Two, which Cao has written to be very stuffy and ponderous in the beginning and melodramatic at the end. It is a great change of tone from the rest of the play, which is quite naturalistic.

Many people do not give their programs more than a cursory glance when they see a play. It is vital to the understanding of who is who, in *The Peking Man* play, to read the cast of characters and the short glossary carefully. It is essential to concentrate on who is related to whom, or the play becomes confusing.

It is not often that American audiences get the chance to see modern Chinese theatre, and this is a very good production.

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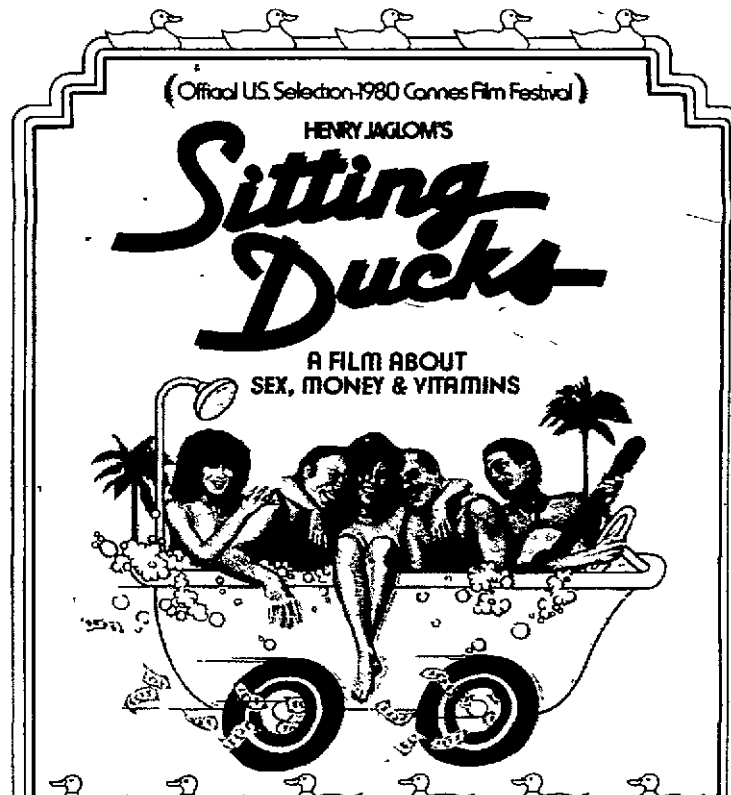
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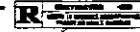
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REQUIRED PROGRAM PLANNING MEETINGS
 Thursday and Friday, April 10 and 11

FRESHMEN: April 10 with class advisors
SOPHOMORES & JUNIORS: April 10 and 11 with major departments

See Registrar's bulletin board for schedule.

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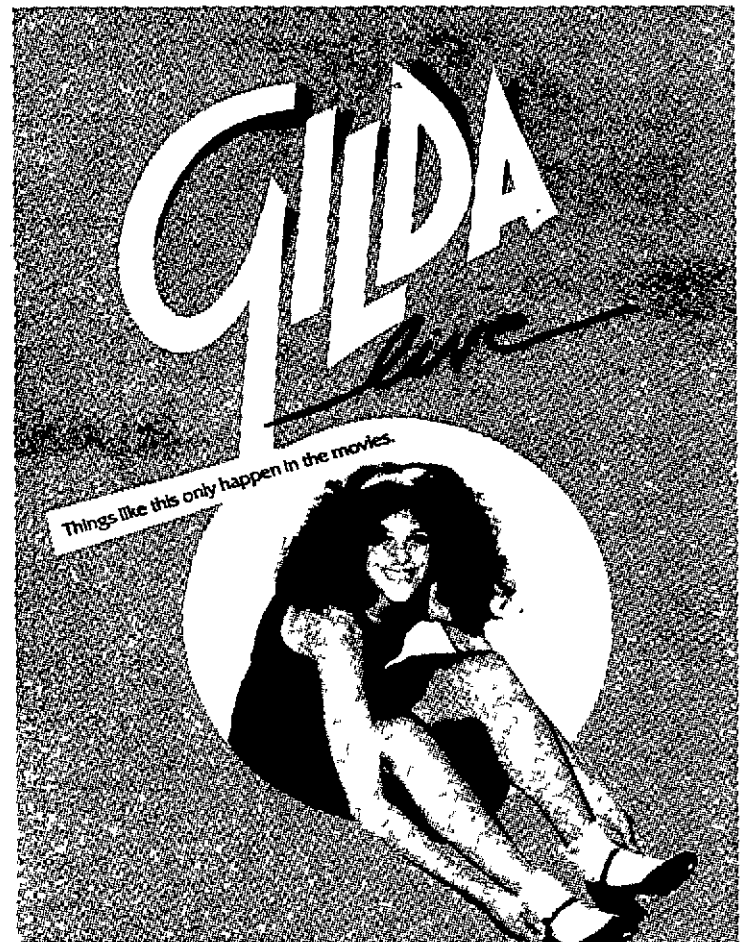
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