

Volume XCV Number 12

October 9, 1989



BARNARD BULLETIN



How Barnard Can Accomodate Pregnant Students

Project Help Explores On-Campus Housing and Childcare Opportunities

◆
Philosophy Department
Rebuilding after Spring
Departures

◆
Defining a Canon: Not How
Should It Be Done, But
Should It?

◆
SGA Resolution Puts Cap
on Funding for Off-Campus
Events

BEAR ESSENTIALS

JUILLIARD JOINT DEGREE PROGRAM: Students interested in this new program, which leads to the Barnard A.B. and the Juilliard M.M. (Master of Music) degree in five years (the first three at Barnard followed by two at Juilliard), should complete one year of music history, two years of theory, and two years of ear training by the end of the junior year to strengthen their credentials for admission. Instrumental instruction with a member of the Juilliard faculty, for as many semesters as possible, is also strongly advised. This is achieved for those not currently enrolled in Juilliard lessons by passing the March 5-9 auditions (application deadline January 8) or the May 21-23 auditions (March 15 deadline). Interested students are expected to apply and audition for the Juilliard Master's program in their junior year, at the end of which 90 points of credit and all general and major requirements should be completed. For further information call Dean Bornemann, x42024.

FIRST-YEAR AND TRANSFER STUDENTS who have not filed the required medical report and questionnaire with the Office for Health Services are urged to do so immediately. The information these forms supply is needed in your interest, for it enables the College physicians to be fully responsive to your health needs. Moreover, a complete medical history is sometimes crucial to appropriate treatment in an emergency.

STUDY SKILLS: Dean Denburg offers a three-week mini-course covering note-taking, time management, effective study techniques TUES., OCT. 17, 23, 30, noon, 206 Centennial. Sign-up in Centennial Hall Office by OCT. 16.

SOPHOMORES: The fourteenth annual competition of the scholarship program operated by the Harry S. Truman Foundation is now under way. The Foundation Board of Trustees will select one Scholar from each of the 50 states and 52 Scholars-at-Large. Each scholarship covers tuition, fees, books, and a room and board allowance up to a maximum of \$7,000 annually for two undergraduate and two graduate years of study.

These awards, based on merit, are made to students who will be college juniors in September 1990 and who have outstanding potential for leadership in public service at the federal, state, or municipal level. Interested sophomores with GPA's over 3.4 who are planning a career in government service must call Dean Dorothy Denburg (x42024) before MON., OCT. 16.

JUNIORS: Applications for the Education Program can be found on the bulletin board outside 336 Milbank. Applications should be returned to 336 Milbank by TUES., OCT. 17.

PRE-LAW APPLICANTS FOR 1990: Dean Rowland is having a group meeting and walk-in TUES., OCT. 10, 12-2 p.m., to discuss procedures, to open new files, and to check those already started.

PRE-MED APPLICANTS FOR 1990: An interview workshop is planned for TUES., OCT. 10, 4-5:30 p.m. Please call Dean Rowland or Fran Moncrief to schedule. Next workshop will be NOV. 3, 2-4 p.m.

PROTECT YOURSELF! Six-week workshop on sexual coercion meets Tuesdays, 4-5 p.m., Brooks Living Room. It is intended to empower women through knowledge, skill, and mutual support. OCT. 10: Dean Gatch, Dean of Student Life, and Ms. Weems, Director of Security, will discuss Barnard policy and procedures in regard to sexual coercion; OCT. 17: Akiba Taimaya will speak as a representative from N.Y. Women Against Rape.

MC INTOSH BULLETIN BOARD POLICY:

— All flyers and posters must be approved and stamped by the Office of College Activities. Posting may occur only on authorized bulletin boards in moderation and with regard to other advertisers.

— Disregard for policy will result in removal of the flyer or poster. Blatant and continued disregard for policy will result in denied access to the bulletin boards.

— For complete policy guidelines concerning all campus areas, please refer to the Barnard programming guide.

The Barnard Bulletin is looking for students who are proficient in Pagemaker to help with layout.

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BARNARD BULLETIN

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The Barnard Bulletin is published on Mondays throughout the academic year. Letters to the editor are due in our office by 5pm the Wednesday preceding publication. Opinions expressed in "Point of View" and "Women's Issues" are those of the authors, and not necessarily of this publication or Barnard College.

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Student groups organized to promote some social cause are nothing new to this campus. But a student group that seeks to obtain pre-natal care, post-natal care and on-campus housing for pregnant students, as well as on-campus daycare for the children of faculty, staff and students is new — completely new.

Yet, what is even more amazing than the fact that Project Help has just now come to exist is that it has to exist at a women's college at all.

Sure the Barnard administration says it already has conducted a lot of research into the possibility of providing such facilities, but why hasn't it done anything? Research was only the most preliminary step.

By definition a women's college is a place where a woman's options are not supposed to be limited because she is a woman. So how can Barnard not provide the facilities and care necessary for mothers (faculty, staff and students alike) to be able to pursue their other goals?

Liability, no space, staffing costs, federal and city regulations, they answer.

Barnard can overcome all of these obstacles if it wants to.

To begin, in order to have a center for health services on campus Barnard had to pay higher premiums on its liability insurance, but the school did so because it felt it should provide these services. It should feel and do the same in this situation.

The same goes for space. Find it — make it, if necessary.

As for staffing, or at least for some of it, we could develop a program with Teacher's College, in which, in exchange for course credits students would receive a stipend rather than a full salary.

Sure this all sounds simpler than it will be and sure it may take five years to implement these programs, but, again, when you want to overcome these obstacles you can.

However, it is apparent that students are going to have to help the administration to want to. This means that we must take it upon ourselves to present the administration with formal proposals for the housing, pre-natal, post-natal and childcare programs we seek. Proposals that address the obstacles that exist. But, if the administration has done the research it says it has, who knows, maybe we will meet our goals sooner than we expected.

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LETTERS

SGA Responds to Clubs' Criticism

To the editor:

SGA received quite a lot of criticism in the October 2 edition of *Bulletin*. Representatives from various clubs accused SGA of being unfair in club allocations and placing too great an emphasis on social events. The criticism is completely unjustified.

SGA has limited financial resources. It is fiscally impossible for us to give every club all the money it has requested. In the long allocations process we strictly adhered to the excellent set of criteria outlined on the first page of the budget and decided upon allocations that were equitable and feasible within the SGA budget.

Furthermore, it is interesting to note the history of two of the clubs that attack SGA. The Women's Cooperative had not submitted a budget (budgets were due last spring) by the first Rep Council meeting this semester. Understanding the importance of the Women's Coop, the SGA Executive Board allocated money without the group's budget and presented it to Rep Council. Postscript, whose funding rose dramatically this year, requested \$35,000, or a third of the money for all student organizations. SGA cannot afford to accept requests like that. Why is it that the clubs with which SGA has

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SGA! Criticism Can be Constructive

To the editor:

At the October 4 Rep Council meeting, the Student Government Association's executive officers distributed a statement responding to some clubs' concerns about its budget allocations — concerns club members raised in the October 2 *Bulletin* article entitled "Clubs Question SGA's Budget Priorities." I would like to respond to the executive officers' statement (*see letter left page 4*).

In the statement, they said that "Representatives from various clubs accuse SGA of being unfair in club allocations. . . The criticism is completely unjustified." Criticism, however, can be constructive.

When I was asked to comment on the tentative budget printed in the *Barnard Bulletin* on September 18, I was criticizing SGA's "bias" when funding "social clubs", but I was not implying that SGA was unfair in their allocation of funds to the Women's Coop's 1989-1990 budget.

My comments in the October 2 *Bulletin* article were meant to illustrate a trend in funding. Specific groups and events have been allocated huge amounts of money. For example, Clubs Day received \$4,900, Founders Day \$900, the Student Leader Conference \$1,000, the Student Leader Recognition

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Feminists Should Seek Community Not Exclusivity

To the editor:

Perhaps I view feminism from a simplistic male perspective, for I am certain that I can not fully comprehend a women's struggle to find a personal and a communal identity. Nonetheless, I am an advocate of basic human rights (women's rights included). I am also a Jew.

The articles published in your last issue on the topic being Jewish and feminist, as well as the Jewish feminist (or feminist Jewish) movement as a whole, alienate men like me. The need for women's groups is important. The sisterhood that women share is not to be neglected. However, the exclusivity that

has formed around this cause is self-defeating. It creates an insider/outsider status resulting in further alienation, which makes me, by virtue of my sex, to be one of "them" and not one of "us".

In recent decades the Jewish religious community has had many transformations in regard to the role of women. We have seen the beginning of a change in the way that religious Jews view traditional role models so that there are now girls growing up in religious environments who do not experience the discrimination of our childhood. Again, this is only a beginning and much is yet to be done. But all those who have

sought equality within the Jewish community are to be congratulated on this achievement — not only the "feminists".

If indeed the result we want to see is equality, exclusivity must be avoided. Feminists must bow their prideful heads to accept others. It is obvious that women and men are different. However, combining the exploration of these differences and self-awareness with a quest for similarities must be inclusive from its start if it is to succeed

Charles Kalech (JTS '90)

Disqualified Candidate Files Formal Complaint

In response to her disqualification from last month's election for class officers, Shari Jakubowitz (BC '93) sent a letter asking Student Government Association executive officers to reconsider their decision.

SGA disqualified Shari Jakubowitz (BC '93) from the race for class treasurer because her posters exceeded the size limitations set by SGA.

Jakubowitz sent the letter to SGA President Leora Joseph (BC '90) and Vice President of Student Government Lisa Rotmil (BC '90). She also forwarded copies to Barnard College President Ellen Futter, General Counsel Kathryn Rodgers, Dean of Studies Vilma Bornemann and a host of other administrators.

Dated September 28, the letter explained Jakubowitz's position: "Disqualification for such a minor infraction, committed so innocently and so unintentionally, in my opinion, is comparable to capital punishment as a result of a parking violation."

The letter listed reasons why she should not have been disqualified from the election and posed such questions as, "If this rule was as serious as its consequence, then why was no one in charge of measuring the posters previous to dis-

play?"

According to Rotmil, who serves as chair of the elections committee, Jakubowitz had been directly informed to check the rules posted outside the SGA office. After a complaint was filed against Jakubowitz, she was found to have broken the rules.

"I am sorry to say it. She broke the rules. That's it," said Rotmil.

Rotmil responded to the whole incident at the October 4 Rep Council meeting. After acknowledging that the whole incident was unfortunate, Rotmil said, "SGA had no recourse but to disqualify her."

According to Class of 1993 President Deborah Geller (BC '93), there may have been some miscommunication, as another candidate told Geller that she does not remember receiving any notification of these election rules.

Both Rotmil and SGA Treasurer Shannon Lafferty (BC '90) maintain that all the candidates were directly informed.

Jakubowitz has not yet made an appeal to Judicial Council and said she will wait to hear from SGA before she takes any further action.

—Jennet Chin

Four Students Attend Health Services Workshop

Four students attended Barnard Health Services' first workshop in a six-week series concerning sexual coercion.

According to Health Service's Program Coordinator Dr. Giselle Harrington, the decision to hold the workshops resulted from both her and other administrators' work on the Columbia University Sexual Coercion Task Force and from concerns raised by the students at the Seven Sisters Conference. At the conference students complained that many of the Seven Sisters do not have anyone to talk to about sexual coercion, said Harrington.

Harrington along with Dean of Student Life Georgie Gatch and Associate Director for Safety and Security Betty Weems organized the workshops. All are members of the Columbia University Sexual Coercion Task Force, which currently is developing a policy on sexual coercion. The workshop is a way to put parts of the policy into action before it is accepted by the administration, said Harrington.

At the workshop students and the organizers discussed the definition of sexual coercion, how it can be recognized and the kind of person who gets assaulted.

In brief, they concluded that sexual coercion can be defined as any form of sexual or sexualized activity imposed upon an individual who does not want such attention — "an assault can be subtle or blatant." Sexual coercion is essentially a broad term that ranges from subtle innuendoes to overt demands and physical force. There is no such thing as a "type" of person who is vulnerable to such assault. People of all genders, races, and sexual orientations, are potential

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BULLETIN/Kate Zipserman

October 2 '93 Blood Drive Falls 64 Pints Short of Goal

New Student Organization Wants Housing for Barnard Student Mothers

— by Stacey Rees

"Just because you don't see pregnant women walking down the halls doesn't mean they're not around. In fact, you'll probably see some soon, there are about five of us here," said Arris King (BC '92) when she brought the issue of Barnard College's responsibility to these women to the attention of the Student Government Association at the October 4 Rep Council meeting.

Unlike the majority of Barnard students who become pregnant, King has decided to keep her baby and to remain at Barnard. Or rather, King says, she has decided to try to remain at Barnard.

In order for her to do so, she first must find solutions to the problems that most expectant mothers face: Where can she get good, affordable health care? Are there day care options available to her so that she can continue to go to school and/or work after the baby is born? As a student, she faces still more questions: Will she still be allowed to live in Barnard housing once she has her child? How will

her financial aid package be affected once she is no longer a "dependent" and instead will claim a "dependent" of her own?

A new student group, Project Help, has come together to work with students such as King to find solutions to these problems. The group will focus their efforts on locating university housing for student mothers, obtaining affordable childcare for the children of students, faculty and staff, and insuring the availability of quality health care for all members of the University.

In the past, primarily staff, including members of District 65, and faculty have raised this issue. Now, for the first time, student groups such as Rep Council (see box page 7) and Project Help are raising this issue for themselves and are working seriously to establishing a childcare program.

Also responding to the present urgency of the issue, Student Government Association Representative-at-Large Lisa Gersten (BC '90) has begun working with the administration in an attempt to resolve some of these problems.

Gersten recently met with Dean of Student Life Georgie Gatch and Dean of Student Affairs Barbara Schmitter to investigate Barnard policy regarding student mothers. She found that no housing policy currently exists, but some housing options (possibly in the 600s, College Residence, or in married student housing through room exchanges with Columbia) are available.

Gatch said, she "will investigate these options in order to attempt to establish a policy." Gatch also plans to look into improving health care services for pregnant students.

According to the Guide to Barnard Student Health Services, if a student opts to have a baby, "the Gynecology Service will provide prenatal care, or will assist [the student] in finding an obstetri-

cian.."

Presently, according to Kathy Krieger of Health Services, pre-natal care is difficult to arrange through Barnard's Health Services because of scheduling difficulties. Health Services therefore prefers that students seek care from a doctor affiliated with a local hospital.

What Barnard Health Services always provides is counseling and information about what symptoms to expect, basic dos and don'ts during pregnancy, and prescription of pre-natal vitamins. They also are able to refer students to doctors or programs available locally. However, the student is responsible for meeting the costs of these outside programs.

Gersten also asked that Schmitter form a task force to investigate the possibility of affordable childcare at Barnard. Ac-

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Will she still be allowed to live in Barnard housing once she has her child? How will her financial aid package be affected once she is no longer a "dependent," and instead claims a "dependent" of her own?
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According to Schmitter, much research has already been done by the administration, but she is interested in working with students.

Organizations active around this issue, such as Project Help, said that for an institution that is dedicated to helping women succeed and to expanding the range of opportunities available to women, the lack of a childcare program seems almost a contradiction in terms. They said that indirectly forcing a woman to leave a college because of lack of support for her as a mother is regrettable; and that this should happen at a women's college is unacceptable.

At present, there are no satisfactory options available, they said. For instance, the Toddler Center is a developmental play group that provides structured play for about twenty-four two and three year olds; it is not an open day care center. Yet, the center is available for two hours each morning, and each child must be accompanied by a parent, or other caretaker. The fee for participation from September through May is \$1,375.00. And although children of

Columbia University affiliates are given priority placement in the program, the center has space available for only one third

of the children interviewed.

Chair of Barnard's Education Program Sue Riemer Sacks currently is working with Director of the Bank Street Family Center at Bank Street College Laura Guirano on developing a

tentative exchange program that might provide priority placement and/or a cost break to a few Barnard student parents who would like to enroll children in the Bank Street program. If such a program were implemented, Barnard would provide student teaching assistants to the center in exchange slots in the program. But again, since Bank Street's program is very small (only 55 families are able to participate, 35 additional families are on a waiting list) only a few slots, possibly five at most, would be available.

According to Gersten, the cost of the program, \$10,500 for full-time care from September through July, and the small number of slots that might be through this program, prevent it from being a major solution to the childcare problem.

Project Help Seeks SGA's Support

— by Sara B. Ivry

Project Help, a new student group organized to establish housing and pre-natal and post-natal care for student mothers and to obtain on site childcare for faculty, staff and students at Barnard, announced its existence and asked for support at the October 4 Rep Council meeting.

Representative at Large Lisa Gersten (BC '90) introduced Arris King (BC '92) a member of Project Help to Rep Council. Upon introduction, King spoke about the goals of the group and said that she already knew of at least five Barnard students who either have children or are expecting children.

Gersten requested that SGA make a pledge to look into such matters.

King said that Project Help also will try to seek the administration's help on its own, but that the group will work with SGA because, "a lot of people in SGA can get into the administration faster."

SGA President Leora Joseph (BC '90) said SGA is "investigating the possibilities and looking into the policies at the other Seven Sisters."

In addition, Gersten announced the formation of a task force made up of students and administrators that will look into affordable on-campus day care for faculty and staff.

According to Dean of Student Affairs Barbara Schmitter, one of the administrators Gersten has talked to about the task force, she is receptive to the idea and the administration has done some work on the issue in the past. Schmitter said, "I see this as something for the whole community, faculty, staff and students, maybe even the larger community."

According to King, who is pregnant, Barnard currently offers \$450 to pregnant students to help them find off campus housing, but that this amount is not enough to help a student looking for a place to live in the immediate area. She also said that Barnard Health Services' insurance will pay up to \$150 for an abortion, but that there is no package offered for pre-natal,

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Project Help, Rep Council and the proposed task force will continue to explore various possible solutions. ♦

Philosophy Department Suffers from a Shortage of Staff

— by Jessica Malberg

Since January 1989, the Barnard Philosophy Department has seen one of its senior professors go on sabbatical, one of its assistant professors leave to teach at another school, and another of its assistant professors go on sabbatical.

As a result, students have complained about a shortage of classes.

According to philosophy major Dena Patinga (BC '90), "There is definitely a feeling of dissatisfaction among students. . . The department already was so small that with the loss of the professors at Barnard and Columbia, lots of classes now are not offered."

"There are not enough courses, not enough teachers, and the courses offered aren't very interesting," said philosophy major Abby Lipson (BC '90).

Chair of the Philosophy Department Sue Larson said that the many changes occurring in the department have caused students' dissatisfaction.

"Some feel disturbed and upset, especially the ones who had been working with [the two professors on leave], since our department emphasizes working closely with advisors. It is really hard on the students, and in general, to lose two out of five professors in a year presents a loss of bonds, structure, and knowledge both for ourselves and the students," said Larson.

Barnard has tried to remedy some of the problems by hiring two visiting professors, Noa Latham and Robert Meyers. Latham, who studied mathematics at Cambridge as well studying at Deusel-dorf, Germany, received his Ph.D from Berkley. Meyers, a Canadian, also studied at Berkley and recently finished his thesis at NYU.

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"We had almost no time to put anything together. It was a nightmare."

Chair of the Philosophy Department Sue Larson

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Larson said she was pleased with both of the new professors and that the reason they have been given the title visiting professor is that they were hired in the spring, and not in the fall, when official job openings are available.

One explanation Larson gave for the department's staffing problem was that Assistant Professor Palle Yourgrau did not decide until late in the 1989 spring semester to go teach at Brandeis University and the department had to scramble to find a replacement.

"We had almost no time to put anything together. It was a nightmare," said Larson.

Plus, she said, last January, two senior professors at Columbia, Charles D. Parsons and Gisela Striker, resigned in the spring semester of 1989. Again their late decisions left almost no time to replace them before the 1989-90 academic year began. The two professors on leave from Barnard's department are Assistant Professor Robert Tragesser and Professor Hide Ishiguro.

"Since we haven't yet gotten a replacement for Charles Parsons, that means that we don't have anyone to teach logic, which is a requirement for the major. Next semester it will be taught, but there is no logic course this fall. We also can't offer 'The Idea of God,' 'Wittgenstein,' and Columbia can't offer certain courses," Larson said.

According to Larson, the department "worked on ways to temporarily replace [the two Barnard professors on leave], but we didn't know at the time that we'd have to replace others."

She added that Tragesser took a department-supported sabbatical, during

which the department is not allowed to hire anyone to replace him..

According to Larson, Barnard has started seeking applications for one position in the department, because the department does not know if Ishiguro will return.

Last semester other problems arose when the Barnard Philosophy Department discovered that the School of General Studies (GS) had made a curriculum change in its logic course and as a result, the course no longer covered the material necessary to fulfill one of

the department's majors' requirements. Larson then had to offer a course at Barnard, adding to her teaching load.

She said, "The curriculum of GS was changed without our knowledge, which at the time were grounds for severing relations with the department there." ♦

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FEATURES

SGA Gives BCSC \$333.34 for NOW Rally

Cap Put on Funding for Off-Campus Events

— by Sara B. Ivry

Barnard's Student Government Association (SGA) voted to give \$333.34 in emergency funding from SGA's contingency fund to help Barnard and Columbia Students for Choice (BCSC) subsidize busing for the National Organization of Women (NOW) rally in Washington DC on November 12.

BCSC had asked for \$1582.13. However, earlier in the meeting, SGA passed a resolution placing a ceiling of \$333.34 in contingency funds that would be granted to each student organization per year for use at events taking place off-campus.

According to SGA President Leora Joseph (BC '90), who proposed the resolution, SGA came up with the figure after discussions with members of the Columbia College Student Council (CCSC), who are also planning to pass such a resolution. After agreeing that the CCSC members would seek a \$500 cap on funding, SGA considered the 3:2:1 funding ratio between CCSC, SGA and the School of Applied Engineering and Applied Science (SEAS) Council and set its ceiling at \$333.43.

Although the resolution had yet to be passed in CCSC at the time of the SGA meeting, SGA did approve its resolution



BULLETIN/Michelle Widlitz

October 4 Rep Council Meeting

with 14 in favor, one opposed and one abstention. SGA unanimously voted to give BSCS \$333.34.

Joseph said that "an idea of unification" with the other councils was behind the resolution and that she "didn't know what would happen if CCSC does not pass its resolution." However, she said, "There will be a cap no matter what, but if CCSC's proposal does not pass we reconsider the amount."

CCSC did pass its own resolution at its October 5 meeting.

The members of the BSCS Steering Committee who attended the Rep Council meeting said that \$333.34 is too small a sum to have any effect on the price of students tickets. BSCS wanted to send 25 buses to the rally at a cost of \$950 per bus.

According to Vice President of Student Government Lisa Rotmil (BC '90)

the reason that CCSC and SGA decided to put forth such a resolution was that the budgets of the respective student councils are limited. The contingency funds are designated for emergencies on this campus, she said, and SGA cannot afford to subsidize every event that qualifies as an emergency off campus

if it wants to protect its contingency fund for on-campus emergencies.

SGA to Sell Student Store to Career Services

At the meeting, Rep Council also unanimously voted in favor of Joseph's proposal to sell the Barnard Student Store to Career Services. Currently, the store, which is located in the upper level of McIntosh, is wholly a student-run enterprise and is under the auspices of SGA.

If the store was overseen by Career Services, as are the Barnard babysitting and bartending services, then Career Services would be responsible for debts or any other issues involved in the store, said Joseph.

In addition, Bookforum wants to close the Bookforum Annex, which is located in lower level McIntosh, she said. Vice-President of Barnard Bookforum Phil-

ippe Cheng said that the annex is breaking even, but that other expenses, such as theft insurance and workers' salaries, are making it difficult to maintain the annex.

According to Joseph, Cheng has suggested merging the Bookforum Annex and the Student Store while maintaining it as a student-run venture. Joseph said, Cheng would be willing to train a student in managing the proposed new store.

Cheng said that although Bookforum would not have a financial relationship with the new store, it would glad to act in an advisory capacity to the student store.

"The annex is going to close because there is not enough traffic to warrant it being open. . . If we do something we'd like to do it as correctly and efficiently as possible," said Cheng. "We'd be glad to

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SGA cannot afford to subsidize every event that qualifies as an emergency off campus, if it wants to protect its contingency fund for on-campus emergencies.

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help [the merger] in any way we can, it's our pleasure to do it. Our initial goal was to provide a service, but when it became difficult we wanted to let it go."

Cheng said that the Barnard Student Store is currently open during irregular hours and it could be open full time if it merged with the annex. He added that Bookforum would continue to stock the annex this semester and next semester, but that after that time stocking would be left to the student store.

SGA Reprimands the Press

In other business, Joseph made a public reprimand of what she said were misquotes and inaccuracies in recent *Columbia Spectator* and *Barnard Bulletin* articles. She said that SGA's Executive Board has considered closing Rep Council meetings to the public in order to avoid any further erroneous reporting by either publication. ◆

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SGA Letter

— continued from page 4

been lenient and generous are the first to criticize?

A club representative is quoted in the article as saying, "...the activities that got funding were the more yea, rah-rah activities." A fast glance at the SGA budget proves this statement false. SGA funds such diverse groups as The Committee for Palestinian Human Rights, Amnesty International, the Democratic Socialists of America, Barnard-Columbia Students for Choice, and the Columbia Coalition for Life, as well as many social groups and many groups which are educational and political, as well as social. Besides, what is wrong with being a "rah-rah" group? School spirit and fun events are essential parts of student life at Barnard. SGA is delighted that strong,

large organizations that create successful social programming are part of the diverse group of clubs that SGA funds.

Finally, the article mentions SGA money allocated for a production staff for *Bulletin*. A little clarification is needed on this point. SGA is allocated \$9,000 for its operating costs. The use of this money is entirely at the discretion of the SGA Executive Board. We are limiting our expenditures this year because we believe that a weekly Bulletin is a strong Barnard tradition that must be continued. Our decision in no way affects allocations for any Barnard club, or any other aspect of the budget.

SGA clubs are a wide and varied group. SGA has funded a record number of new clubs this year and established

clubs have grown in members and strength. Now more than ever a huge range of interests and beliefs are well represented and well funded. The unnecessary bitterness of a few people should not overshadow this excellent collection of organizations or the large number of students who find them an integral part of college life.

SGA Executive Board 1989-90

President Leora Joseph (BC '90)

Vice-President of Student Government

Lisa Rotmil (BC '90)

Vice-President of Student Activities

Jennifer Cowan (BC '91)

Treasurer Shannon Lafferty (BC '90)

Officer of the Board

Janet Alperstein (BC '92)

Criticism

— continued from page 4

Dinner \$2,800. In their response, the executive officers insisted that their funding of such groups as Amnesty International, which received \$300, Democratic Socialists of America \$400, and Barnard and Columbia Students for Choice \$350 illustrates their commitment to more diverse groups as well.

I am certainly not belittling the importance of ALL groups and activities on campus. What we need is to reexamine the whole process of prioritizing needs, interests and beliefs of students on this campus.

Furthermore, by singling out the Women's Coop in their statement, and providing Rep Council with our history as an example of an ungrateful group, the executive board itself has fostered "unnecessary bitterness."

The purpose of my criticism was to challenge, not condemn. Hopefully, through this dialogue, we can have more open communication between our community and our representatives.

Leslie Pearlman (BC '90)

Member of Women's Coop, acting as
treasurer

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DECONSTRUCTING THE CANON

— by Colette Brown, Risha Henry and Kenyatta Monroe

The existence and institutionalization of the Western canon has long been a central issue in the Morningside Heights academic community, and in the past two weeks the Women Writers of the Western Tradition Banner Project has brought to surface many of the underlying concepts that make the canon so problematic. Yet, the banner project itself is problematic, and in the end it falls short of fully refuting the canon — in both concept and content.

A flurry of excitement surrounded campus after the initial announcement of the banner project. Many commented that it was a great idea, even the banner's creator, Laura Brown (GS '89), said that it is time for this. But women of color on campus have to ask what exactly is it time for?

Placing such a banner on Butler Library immediately proposed an alternative canon to the Columbia University community. But it was obvious that this alternative canon continued to exclude all people of color. As three women of color we feel compelled to question: Are we not part of the Western tradition? Exactly what are the politics of forming an alternative canon? How can we protest the canon, and what statements will be made by the forms our protest take?

To start, we need to think about the definition and meanings of a canon. A canon is a list of "good taste" — a definitive list of "masters" or "masterpieces" that aims to glorify or exalt. Importantly, a canon is necessarily exclusive, and it is through this that it gains much of its authority. Furthermore, a canon evokes religious connotations of the orthodox

or the sacred, implying that what is not canonical is therefore heretical. Is it possible then to resist a canon by establishing another canon?

In her academic career at Columbia University, Brown became upset, enraged, angry that the dominance of the Western canon on campus limited her exposure to "women's traditions." Laudably, she decided to act on her frustration, making public her feelings of exclusion

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The hierarchy is not deconstructed, but reinforced: White men carved in stone, white women on a banner, people of color out in the periphery.
◆

and neglect. Yet her alternative canon also excluded and neglected. And the placing of the banner above the inscribed names on Butler library, in fact, does not call into question the worthiness of the existing canon, but only proposes to make additions to it. The hierarchy is not deconstructed, but reinforced: White men

carved in stone, white women on a banner, people of color out in the periphery.

We find this exclusion completely offensive. Yet we are not naive enough to assume that the inclusion of people of color would signify some sort of equality. Works by people of color stand as acts of resistance in a society that attempts to silence us and demean what we say. The inclusion of people of color in an alternative canon would only signify a depoliticization of these works of resistance.

Clearly, this is what happened with Brown's alternative canon. Her idea for the banner was originally daring and rebellious. She attempted to disrupt University commencement ceremonies by lowering the banner — a response to the canon — at the moment when the University stands in admiration of itself and all it stands for. Interrupted in the act, she was arrested for trespassing on the roof of Butler: her strongly politicized rebellion was met with similarly politicized forces of repression.

Then, however, this act of rebellion won the support of the administration and became an official project at the library. It became an appropriated, sanctioned lecture series that featured a wine and cheese reception following the first talk. Suddenly, it was no longer repressed, but instead was now approved. The banner project thereby was depoliticized and could no longer stand as an act of resistance.

So how can we protest the canon? In this male-oriented and male-dominated university that requires us to deny our sex (if we are not male), our ethnicity (if

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Getting an Education in Fair Competition

— by Amanda Brooks

In the past “price-fixing” has been a term attached to greedy businesses that unfairly use their market power. It may bring to mind a telephone company that had a monopoly on the industry, but never have we associated it with educational institutions.

With the US Justice Department’s investigation of Barnard College and Columbia University underway, the phrase “price-fixing” has taken on a whole new meaning. A term that is unrelated to most of our worlds has been set down in the middle of our campus. If the allegations are true that Barnard and Columbia, along with other schools, annually set the tuition prices and the amount of financial aid given, then it is about time that we admit that higher education is nothing more than a business.

Educators maintain that there are significant academic advantages to price-fixing. They say that by having a fixed financial aid package, regardless of the school, a student will be able to choose the school s/he wants to attend based on needs other than monetary ones. They say that price-fixing also enables colleges and universities to spread the wealth among more students rather than offering all of their money to the top students. This may be true, but in this monopoly (however virtuously intended) it is too easy to use the unchecked power to the advantage of the institution instead of the students’.

If the “cartel” truly has had the students in mind, and not the institutions, its price-fixing hasn’t been effective. For the most part only members of one socio-economic class attend private colleges, and these students still struggle to

make ends meet. While price-fixing may help a few, it still does not address the most pressing issue: that private colleges, by virtue of the fact that they are private, do not really open their admissions to people with low incomes. There may be need-blind admittance, but when it comes to registration need-blind translates into need money.

Being alumnae of Barnard affords us the advantage of having been graduated

from a prestigious Seven Sisters college. We can use our diploma to get better jobs, make more money, and provide for the next generation of Barnard graduates. We’ve heard this from day one — from our parents, our siblings, our peers, our teachers. We are lucky enough to have been born into families who can afford to pay a tuition price that, even with financial aid, is very expensive. What we often forget, as do the people who run the institutions we attend, is that every year students turn away from Barnard and other private colleges not for lack of intelligence, not for lack of commitment to academia, but for lack of money. Even greater are the numbers who never apply to private colleges, knowing full well that short of winning the lottery, they could never afford Barnard costs. We are the lucky; they are the unlucky.

Whatever the intentions of the “cartel” of universities and colleges, it has not really attacked the perpetual cycle of “lucky” and “unlucky” students — the perpetual cycle of the haves and have-nots.

Just as the anti-trust laws help small businesses to compete against large corporations, perhaps there should be laws to help people with small incomes to compete against those people with large ones, particularly with respect to education. Many of those who favored anti-trust laws did so in the name of “fair competition.” If this outlook were applied to the way we approach education, then Barnard would admit students based on intelligence, not luck. ◆

Amanda Brooks is the commentary editor at the Barnard Bulletin.

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Surviving the Dreaded GYN Visit

— by Lainie Blum

You're going to the gynecologist.

Take heart; it doesn't have to be a nightmare. Consider this amusing story that proves gynecologists can be people too. A friend of mine recently paid a visit to Barnard's newest gynecologist for her annual birth-control update.

"I'd like to get a new diaphragm," my friend said.

"Do you have a good sense of humor?" the doctor asked.

"Yes, I do. Why?" answered my friend.

"Because you must have a good sense of humor if you use the diaphragm."

As many of us know, she certainly has a point there, but let's take it one step further. . . You must have a good sense of humor if you are going to go to a gynecologist in the first place. And since it's very advisable that you do go, at least once a year, it's not a bad idea to relax about it.

For some reason (or many reasons) women have been taught that they need go to a gynecologist only if they're sexually active. Where's the logic here? What's inside of you is there, regardless of your behavior. It's somewhat like thinking you only have to go to the dentist if your teeth fall out. But just as you may have any number of dangerous tooth and gum diseases that suddenly appear without warning signs, there may be things going on inside of you that only a gynecological exam would discover. Things that have nothing at all to do with sex.

Going to the gynecologist means taking control of your body. It doesn't mean that you now have a deep, dark secret that you can't tell your mother because she'll think you're having sex — whether

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The key to getting through it is to remember not to take yourself too seriously. But the key to getting something out of the exam is to take it very seriously. This is your body we're talking about.

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you are or not. Having a thorough gynecological exam is a way of taking responsibility for your own health and destroying society's ridiculous (not to mention oppressive) stigmas.

So, now that you've decided to make that fateful appointment, make the proper preparations. It doesn't have to be so bad. Ask friends about the gynecologists at Barnard Health Services. Some of the doctors are really OK and others can make for a miserable experience. Of course, since they come and go

so quickly around here you need to do your homework well.

Now you've chosen the lucky doctor and decided on the date and time. Just as with that dreaded economics exam, this will approach very quickly, no matter how far in advance you make it. The day finally arrives, and you think, "What does one wear to a gynecological exam?"

This is not such a silly question. Keep in mind that you'll be instructed to take everything off. Of course, whether or not that includes socks is the big mystery weighing on all gynecologist-goers. Do you take off your socks or leave them on? Solution: don't wear any in the first place. Who needs that added stress?

After you've undressed and put your paper robe on, with the opening in the front, go into the examination room. You're going to hear these three lines. Because you expect them, you can now laugh at them. It will help you to relax. "Put your legs in the stirrups." It's OK to feel silly, but it is kind of necessary. "This will be a little cold." Worse things could happen. "Just relax, this might hurt a bit." The truth is that when you relax it really does hurt less, if at all. Giggles are definitely to your advantage.

The key to getting through it is to remember not to take yourself too seriously. BUT the key to getting something out of the exam is to take it very seriously. This is your body we're talking about. Ask a lot of questions because you can never count on the doctor to tell everything you want to know, unsolicited. Find out all your options about birth control or medication or anything. Don't feel like you're taking too much

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Carnegie Hall Comes to Your Backyard

— by Jennifer Goldberg

Most of us walk by Kathryn Bache Miller Theatre everyday without giving a thought to what's stirring inside. We're too busy to stop and peer into the windows, just as we've become too busy to venture downtown for a night at Lincoln Center or a matinee at the MET.

Everyone knows this isn't the classical music generation. This morning I heard on NPR that the only public radio station in Los Angeles that plays classical music will soon be closing down. It's not that we have to listen to it all the time, but it's nice to know that it's there. Not to mention that with CDs in our dorm rooms and VCRs at our fingertips, we are quickly forgetting the special feeling of sitting through live performances, remembering only the lines and the traveling time, the late subways and expensive tickets and all the other things we can avoid by staying home at night.

Yet there is hope. Directors of the Kathryn Bache Miller Theatre are taking to the shlep factor to heart. They want to cater to students' needs and busy schedules while still providing us with top entertainment.

They also understand students, many of them still are students. They love rock and pop music as much as we do, but they also love the great classical composers, the polished written words of modern day up-and-coming writers, the sounds and sights of cultures from all over the world — and they want to share them with us. So they have created what they believe is the answer, what Mike Ross, Assistant Director of Artistic activities of the Miller Theatre likes to call, "a Carnegie Hall at your own back door."

It was during its previous life, as the Mahila Theatre, that the idea for the current theatre was born — to create a center for arts entertainment on the Upper West Side, offering opportunities for young artists to try out their talents on eager audiences. But success came slowly to the theatre and crime was a real problem. On September 15, 1988, the Miller theatre reopened — secure, revamped with new top of the line equipment and excellent acoustics — prepared to serve the University and the surrounding community as a showcase for talented artists, providing high quality performances at reasonable prices, and as a space open to the local artists.

This season Miller Theatre opens with a list of events that should not be missed. It's offerings for the 1989-1990 season include renowned artists such as Hungarian pianist Andras Schiff, Israeli-American violinist Gil Shaham (a first-year student at Columbia College), soprano Dawn Upshaw, the Waverly Consort, the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Les Art Flourissants, and Speckilum Musicae, among others. With original readings by up and coming authors Mark Mathabane, Oscar Hijuelos, Cynthia Kadohata, Allan Gurganus, Mona Simpson, and Susan Minot, the Miller Theatre will continue last years well received Literary Reading Series.

As a celebration of multicultural art, the Miller Theatre will host special programs. One multi-media program called "Revolutionary Etudes: Paris, 1830-1848," will combine art, slides of paintings, readings, and commentary in its presentation of nineteenth century France on Sunday, November 19. The

theatre will also enrich the student body, faculty and staff with a presentation of works by the Japanese composer Toru Takemitsa.

Besides, importing talent from diverse cultures the world over, the theatre will also host some of our very own, including the University Orchestra, the Variety Show, and other university groups. While attempting to present itself as a space open to all student groups, the theatre works very hard to preserve its high artistic standards.

According to Miller Theatre Director Peter Smith, "The range and quality of the season's events is bound to consolidate the position Miller established in its first year as a major resource for the Columbia community, the premier performing arts space on the Upper West Side, and a desirable alternative for New York City performing arts organizations."

Tickets for individual concerts are available for sale two weeks before each event and are priced between \$4 and \$35 for students. A subscription for one season costs \$60 for students and \$100 for non-students. Tickets and subscriptions are available at 200 Dodge Hall. The Kathryn Bache Miller Theatre is located at Broadway and 116 Street. ♦

RECREATION

To all hoopsters and volleyballers:

Barnard Gymnasium is offering full court basketball on Mondays from 10pm to 12am and volleyball on Wednesdays from 10pm to 12am and Fridays from 12pm to 2pm.

P.S. Look for more open hours in the future.

People Who Know Call It "CBs"

— by Lisa Kanbar

As a New Yorker, I might be called biased. I'd rather call myself a connoisseur of this fair city, unmatched and unbeatable in its array of opportunities. Anyone at school in New York *should* explore every wing of the Metropolitan, *should* commit the subway routes to memory, *should*, indeed, attend a NY Philharmonic concert in Central Park, and *should* walk across the Brooklyn Bridge. But one *must*, before growing too old to appreciate it, go spend an evening at CBGBs.

What, you may ask, is CBGBs? Well, it's a little dilapidated club on Bleeker Street and the Bowery with a lot of history, a great reputation, and a whole lot of ambiance. Many a New York band got its earliest break there — The Talking Heads and Living Color included. CBGBs has been around for about two decades. That's the good news.

The bad news is that CBGBs looks just a little bit like Hell. I mean it's strictly unintentional, but the creaking floors, crooked tables, wobbly seats and sloping pool tables don't exactly distract you from the graffiti, blackened posters and general filth you see around you. Instead, they add to that aforementioned "ambiance."

Oops, I nearly forgot. There are more good points.

Number one: We can get in! Yes, it's true. You and I can get in without wearing exclusively black clothing or Doc Martin's, and without carrying fake IDs. CBGBs (call it that or else everyone will know you've never been there) is a very casual place. I know because I'm a very casual person. It's also open for everyone

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*You and I can get in
without wearing
exclusively black
clothing or Doc
Martin's, and
without carrying
fake IDs.*

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16 years or older for a small door charge (usually less than six dollars). But wait, I know what you're thinking. You think you're going to be the only one there with your SATs behind you. Rest assured, you're wrong. The only times that the 16-year-old crowd tends to collect are Sunday afternoons (hard-core matinees) and Sunday and Monday nights (audition showcases). You can trust me on that one. There's a bar there, so you know there will be people your age and

older. Lots of college students from all over Manhattan hang out there on weekends. The crowd is large and friendly.

Good point number two: The music can be very good. Sometimes it is very bad, laughable even. I made the mistake of going to an audition night to support some friends on stage. That, of course, meant inevitably sitting through some amateur group's performance of "The Farmer's Love Song," the chorus of which went "...I want to dig your hole." So don't go on audition night unless you'd like to audition.

On Thursday and Friday, and especially Saturday nights, the music and atmosphere are generally excellent. Usually, the music is ska, reggae, rock or progressive, and there are about half a dozen or so bands playing (the best play near midnight).

OK, so I've convinced you to give it a shot? Good. Let me tell you how to get there. You can take the number one or nine subway to Penn Station, change for the S to Grand Central, and take the number six downtown to Bleeker Street. From that corner you can actually see CBGBs. Just scan the street in either direction and walk in the direction of what looks like a dead end. Within a few steps you'll see the big red-and-yellow sign that identifies your destination. Otherwise, if you don't mind or are familiar with the Village, take the number one or nine to Christopher Street/Sheridan Square and walk west along Bleeker Street, which is just a few blocks from the station, until you hit the Bowery.

This small excursion always promises to be a night to remember! ◆

. . . lies and videotape

— by B. Nicole Ellison

Editor's note: An incomplete version of this article ran in the October 2 issue. For your convenience the entire article has been reprinted. Bulletin regrets the error.

During a recent family picnic, I had the chance to talk to a group of middle-aged, middle-class white Americans, both men and women, about the film *sex, lies and videotape*. During our conversation, I was struck by one thing — the women loved the film, thought it funny and emotional and clever. The men didn't. The reason, they stated, was that it didn't show anything. Specifically, sex.

"Talk, talk, talk. That's all they did," one complained.

The women, however, felt that they had seen all that they needed to see. Implication was enough. "When Graham opened his eyes, that one time on the couch, and looked at her, that was it. That was all I needed," one woman said, raising her hand to her heart rather melodramatically.

Why? I wondered. It is not uncommon for a group of people to disagree vehemently about the quality or message of a film. Rarely, though, are the lines drawn so obviously gender-based. There are many reasons why this film would threaten or bore men more than women. One, perhaps, is that men in this society are desensitized to the act of sex by their exposure to pornographic films, in which sex is fully removed from the realm of the emotional and is shown explicitly, from start to finish. Understandably then, men's expectations of a film with such an intriguing title would be very different from women's. Perhaps this is why men were more likely to walk away from the film disappointed.

A fuller explanation, however, encompasses the different socialization of men and women in contemporary American society. Men are expected to

act, whereas women traditionally are acted upon. This is true in sex as well as in other contexts. *Sex, lies and videotape* challenges this dynamic throughout —

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*Soderbergh uses his
power as director to
thwart our
expectations —
thereby making us
explicitly aware of
these expectations.*

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both by examining sex, the realm in which its existence is the most unspoken or denied, and by exploring the power that can be derived from the passive rather than the active. From expectation as opposed to action.

A feeling of expectation is retained throughout the film — the anticipation of sex, yes, but beyond that: Ann and Graham are fumbling and human and poignant, and we want to know that they make that vital emotional connection. We are allowed to see this connection in the last scene, yet we do not see them have sex. The fact that we don't see it in its mood-lit, soft-rock-accompanied

glory is perhaps secondary. We know it happened.

But perhaps not. For it is this fact that bothered the men I talked to about this film — the fact that the act is not shown.

This film deals extensively with the idea of power: the power of sex, of emotion, of gender relations. By not showing the viewer the act of Graham and Ann making love, is not Steven Soderbergh using his power as director to thwart our expectations — thereby making us explicitly aware of these expectations? Soderbergh turns the male gaze onto itself. No wonder my poor uncles were disappointed.

The passive female/active male dynamic is further challenged when Ann grabs the camera and starts to videotape Graham. In her stance, her rapid fire questioning, her thrusting and her cornering, she is much more threatening behind the camera than Graham. This is the only moment when Graham, the male protagonist, loses his cool, his hitherto soft-spoken nonchalance. The audience also feels extremely uncomfortable. One reason for this is that we know more about Ann than we do about Graham, and her act of filming instead of being filmed breaks the identification we feel with her.

But it is more than that. The discomfort of this scene also comes from the fact that she is a woman breaking out of the traditional role of being watched, being acted upon. She commands the focus, she asks the questions. Years and years of conditioning and socially constructed "truths" begin to crumble, and this, too, is threatening, if not terrifying.

continued on page 21

FAERIE TALES

ZORBO, I'M NERVOUS. IT'S MY SENIOR YEAR NOW, AND I'M AFRAID I HAVEN'T PREPARED MYSELF FOR ANY SORT OF JOB IN THE REAL WORLD.



WHAT WILL I DO IF I GRADUATE AND CAN'T EARN A LIVING?



I HEAR YOU, AND I HAVE A NUMBER HERE THAT I WANT YOU TO CALL. BUT, REMEMBER, THEY CAN'T CALL YOU. YOU HAVE TO TAKE THE FIRST STEP



APEX TECHNICAL INSTITUTE?...



YEAH, AIR CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION MAINTENANCE, PLUS THEY RECOMMEND YOU FOR A JOB!



Four Students Attend Health Services Workshop

Four students attended Barnard Health Services' first workshop in a six-week series concerning sexual coercion.

According to Health Service's Program Coordinator Dr. Giselle Harrington, the decision to hold the workshops resulted from both her and other administrators' work on the Columbia University Sexual Coercion Task Force and from concerns raised by the students at the Seven Sisters Conference. At the conference students complained that many of the Seven Sisters do not have anyone to talk to about sexual coercion, said Harrington.

Harrington along with Dean of Student Life Georgie Gatch and Associate Director for Safety and Security Betty Weems organized the workshops. All are members of the Columbia University Sexual Coercion Task Force, which currently is developing a policy on sexual coercion. The workshop is a way to put parts of the policy into action before it is accepted by the administration, said Harrington.

At the workshop students and the organizers discussed the definition of sexual coercion, how it can be recognized and the kind of person who gets assaulted.

In brief, they concluded that sexual coercion can be defined as any form of sexual or sexualized activity imposed upon an

individual who does not want such attention — "an assault can be subtle or blatant." Sexual coercion is essentially a broad term that ranges from subtle innuendoes to overt demands and physical force. There is no such thing as a "type" of person who is vulnerable to such assault. People of all genders, races, and sexual orientations, are potential victims.

Harrington said she hopes that the workshops will spark enough interest that students will get actively involved in projects such as peer counseling and/or educational videotapes. She said she hopes that future meetings will have higher attendance and she welcomes Columbia College men and women as well.

Harrington said the more information students have on how to protect themselves, the better equipped they will be to handle the situation when and if it occurs. She urges all students who have questions or have survived sexual assault to attend these meetings.

In the following weeks speakers will include: Akiba Taimaya from New York Women Against Rape, Gatch, Weems, Priscilla Gilmore from the Physical Education Department.

— Daniela Amiri

Students Celebrates Barnard's Founding

The Student Government Association (SGA), the Public Relations Office, McIntosh Activities (McAc) and College Activities co-sponsored Barnard's first Founder's Day Festival on Thursday, October 5.

SGA Vice President for Student Activities Jennifer Cowan (BC '91) said she hopes that this event, honoring the foundation of Barnard, becomes an annual tradition.

"I think this is a fabulous idea," said Cowan. "I love the fall weather and everyone should be outside enjoying it." The goal of the celebration is for people to enjoy themselves and celebrate Barnard, said Cowan.

Cowan also said that although the event is geared towards students, other members of the Barnard community, like

administrators and faculty, were asked to participate.

According to Centennial Committee Coordinator Karen St. Pierre, the celebration is "for the students, by the students and in celebration of the students."

The festival's main events were a "Battle of the Bands," that was held in lower level McIntosh from 10 pm until 2 am on October 5, and a party held in the Centennial quad which offered free food, music, sports and a performance by the Barnard Bacchantae, and will be held from 6 to 8 pm on the same evening.

— Sonia Low

Workshop

— continued from page 5

victims.

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time or being too naive. Just ask. If the doctor doesn't like it, then too bad for the doctor. She is doing a service for you, and she ought to do it to your satisfaction. If you have a PAP smear done to test for cervical cancer, call in for the results when they tell you to. Have them read the entire lab report to you. The same goes for any other test.

On your way out, avert the goofy glances from the nurses. Or stare right back at them. Don't feel you have to avoid anyone you know in the waiting room. It's OK that you went to the gynecologist. In fact, it's damn good you did.

Lainie Blum is a Barnard College senior.

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The Wall Street Journal 2000

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More "truths" waver as we witness the different reactions Ann and her sister have to the question of masturbation. When her therapist asks if she masturbates, Ann is confused at first, and then by degrees embarrassed, uncomfortable and shocked at the idea. Her sister, on the other hand (not intended), not only masturbates but feels no qualms about masturbating in front of the camera. The whole concept of women masturbating is a loaded issue, because it destroys so many of the tenets that our society was based on for such a long time — namely, the myth that women could not enjoy sex without a man. Through this issue, Soderbergh confronts the interactions of sex, gender and power, and their impact on his characters.

Even though the film is not always discussed within these theoretical frameworks, it seems that these are the underlying issues that emerge when people talk about this film.

Whether or not they liked it, most people were disturbed to some degree. Whether it was my uncle's irked disappointment at not witnessing a juicy tete-a-tete, or some women's inability to accept the character of Graham, a passive male, the reasons they cited indicate an initial questioning of gender roles, dictated sexual norms and other socially constructed "truths". Hopefully this questioning will move beyond the lives of the characters in the film and into our own.

ACC WORKSHOPS

INTRO TO IBM PC'S

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(10/19, 6-8pm; 11/14, 4-6pm)

SPREADSHHETS

(10/17, 4-6pm)

DATA MANAGEMENT

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WORDPERFECT

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Call X48477 to register.

(The ACC now has six new Macintosh SE's)

Project Help

— continued from page 7

delivery or post-natal expenses, thus limiting the options available to students.

However, according to the Guide to Barnard Student Health Services, if a pregnant student decides to have the baby, "the Gynecology Service will provide prenatal care, or will assist [the student] in finding an obstetrician and making any other necessary arrangements. Being pregnant does not affect your status as a Barnard student." Health Services also offers a number of physical and mental health services for both students who wish to continue the pregnancy and those who wish to terminate it.

Director of Barnard Health Services Dr. Harriette Mogul said Health Services "doesn't provide for any dependents. We are a student health services. We don't provide care for faculty, staff or any dependents, that differentiates us from health services at other large universities."

King said, she assumed that because Barnard is a women's college it would help with some post-natal costs and childcare.

She said that it surprises her that a private women's college does not offer childcare to its students when New York City public high schools do. ◆

Canon

— continued from page 13

we are not white), and our class (if we are not affluent), how can we effectively protest the constant assault on our non-elitist sensibilities?

We need to think seriously about new alternative types of protest, that challenge not only ideas of elitism, but also the ways in which that elitism is instilled in us. The fact that Brown's protest took the same form as what she was protest-

ing—a canon—rendered her intended statements weak and ineffectual. Perhaps a read-in of works by women would have responded more effectively to the problems that the canon, inscribed on the facades of our buildings, poses for us.

We suggest another protest. And it too includes a banner. But our banner is blank and covers all the names on Butler library. ◆

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Letters to the editor are due in the *Bulletin* office, 105 McIntosh, by 5pm on the Wednesday preceding publication.

THERE ARE STILL POSITIONS AVAILABLE ON TRI-PARTITE COMMITTEES.

HEALTH SERVICES: ONE FIRST-YEAR STUDENT TO HOLD A 2-YEAR POSITION.

HONOR BOARD: ALTERNATES.

COMMITTEE ON INSTRUCTION:

ONE STUDENT MAJORING IN A PHYSICAL SCIENCE.

ONE STUDENT MAJORING IN ONE OF THE HUMANITIES.

TWO STUDENTS WHO ARE STILL UNDECIDED ABOUT THEIR MAJOR.

WOMEN'S COOP: TWO STUDENTS ARE NEEDED TO SIT ON THIS COMMITTEE.

COMMUTERS: STUDENTS WHO COMMUTE ARE NEEDED TO SIT ON THE HOUSING

COMMITTEE.

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APPLICATIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON

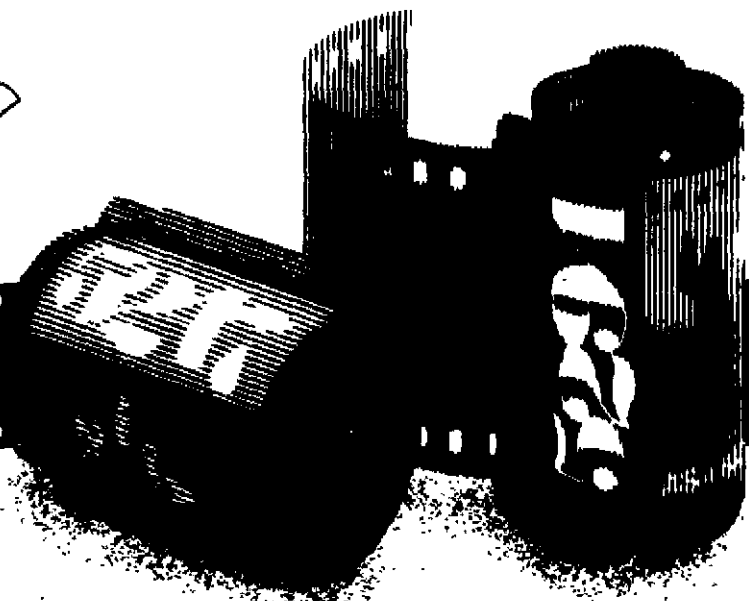
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