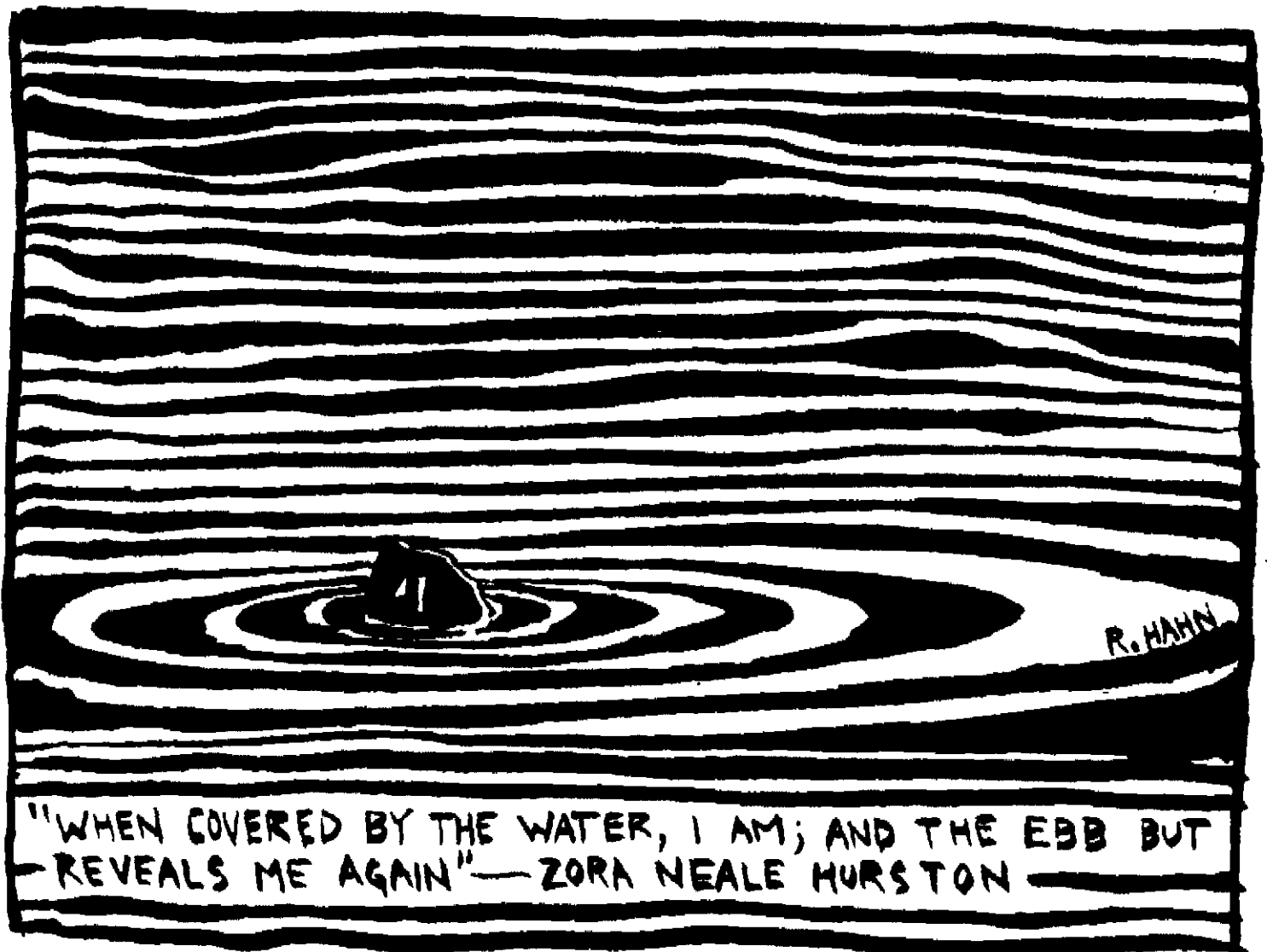




Volume XCVI Number 3

February 19, 1990

# BARNARD BULLETIN



"WHEN COVERED BY THE WATER, I AM; AND THE EBB BUT  
— REVEALS ME AGAIN" — ZORA NEALE HURSTON —

## Heightened Awareness of Cultural Differences Sparks Coalition Building

◆  
BOBW: Marking its History

◆  
Clerical Workers Walk Out

◆  
Students Strive to Unite  
Against Racism

# BEAR ESSENTIALS

**CHOOSING A MAJOR IS EASIER FOR SOME THAN FOR OTHERS.** If you are a **FIRST YEAR STUDENT** (BC '93), you have a full year to come to a decision, but you have been encouraged to give the matter some thought and to diversify your semester programs as the best means of making the most informed choice. (If you're considering a major in the more sequential disciplines, it obviously requires somewhat earlier action, for you would otherwise lack prerequisites for more advanced major courses). If you are a **SOPHOMORE**, you are expected to file your choice of major with the Registrar by **WED., APR. 11**. Should you be among the undecided—whether merely ambivalent or at sea—it will help you to attend the meetings given by the major departments you are considering and, especially, an event sponsored by the Sophomore Class and the Dean of Studies Office where recent alumnae will talk about their majors and how they affected their choices in life after graduation. Information about majors and minors, prepared by individual departments, as well as departmental directories, will also be available. Mark your calendar now: **TUES., MARCH 6, 8 pm** in the Brooks Living Room. For further details, call Leigh Fairchild, Sophomore Class President, (x31063), or Dean Denburg, Sophomore Class Dean (x42024).

**PETITIONS** to the Faculty Committee on Programs and Academic Stand-

ing for exceptions to academic policy must be submitted to the Registrar by Monday at 4:30 pm for consideration at the next convening of the Committee. The petition should contain all relevant information and, if a specific course is concerned, the precise number and title are required. Pertinent faculty signatures should be requested only when the petition is complete. If the faculty indicates approval or support, she/he should add a comment, for a signature without comment is generally seen as *pro forma*. The Committee meets on alternate Thursdays. Questions may be directed to Dean Bornemann or to Ms. Cook, x42024.

**REPORTS OF GRADES AND DEGREE PROGRESS TO PARENTS:** Grade reports are not routinely sent by the College. A student may request that her grade reports be sent to her parents (or guardian) by filing a permission card with the Registrar. Parents who have established their daughter's status as their dependent may also receive such reports without her consent by direct request to Dean Bornemann. The awarding of Dean's List honors and other College prizes and fellowships, however, are routinely sent to parents as are notices of probationary action and unsatisfactory progress toward the degree.

**SENIORS** planning to participate in Barnard/Columbia Commencement exercises May '89 must complete cap and gown orders and return them to 209 McIntosh by **FRI., FEB. 24**. No charge

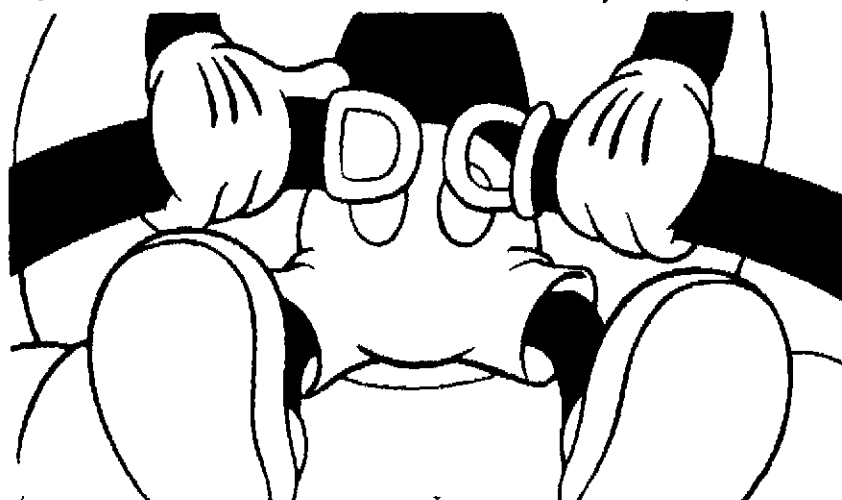
for cap and gown. You are reminded when you file your order to cast your vote for the Bryson Award as well.

**JUNIORS** interested in applying for the **JOINT SIPA-BARNARD PROGRAM** (see Catalogue, p. 42, for details), see Senior Class Dean King in the Office of the Dean of Studies, 105 Milbank, x42024. Applications must be filed by **WED., MAR. 1**.

**PRE-MEDS ALL CALSSES:** A list of summer opportunities for all premedical students and for minority premedical students is now available from Dean Rowland. Please see her or Frances Moncrief for the list and brochures/applications. Many deadlines are as soon as **THURS., MAR. 1**. **PRE-DENTAL STUDENTS:** Spring DAT (MAR., 31) deadline for registration is **MON., FEB. 19, 1990**.

**PRE-MEDS/PRE-DENTAL** students applying on 1990—don't forget the meeting with Dean Rowland, **WED., FEB. 21, 12-1 or 1-2** in the Jean Palmer Room. Bring lunch; drinks available.

**FINANCIAL AID:** Applications for financial aid for the 1990-91 academic year are now available in the Financial Aid Office, 14 Milbank. You must come into the office to pick one up. **REMEMBER** that all current financial aid recipients **MUST REAPPLY** for financial aid. The deadline for submitting completed forms is **TUES., APR. 18**. ♦



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# FROM THE EDITORS

## 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 the Bulletin are those of the authors, and not necessarily of Barnard College.

Call for our ad rates.

address

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New York, New York 10027

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All of us have witnessed, during the past two weeks, the exposure of racial tension that existed long before we enrolled here, and that will continue to exist unless we take responsibility for banishing it.

Many speakers at the February 11 rally against hatred and prejudice expressed the hope that we could banish racial tension from our campus; that we would be able to come together, learn about, and celebrate our differences in an atmosphere free from discrimination. We urge our communities to transform these hopes into commitments.

We encourage our professors and administrators to include and highlight the history, literature, and experience of African-Ameri-

cans in courses that they teach and in the overall curriculum that they design. The establishment of an Afro-American Studies major would be an important step in the right direction. The hiring of more professors and administrators of color should have already been realized.

We are heartened by the recent release of Nelson Mandela, and hope that his release signals the coming of genuine freedoms and political power for Black South Africans. We also hope that Mandela's release is emblematic of changing times in which all oppressed peoples may gain political freedoms.

PLEASE NOTE: A complete version of last week's editorial is printed on page 12. Bulletin regrets the error.

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# LETTERS

## "Muse Shrews"

To the Editor:

Regarding the column entitled "Muse News" —What are you folks thinking? The column is offensive in its perpetuation of fallacious and sexist assumptions about Barnard students. Honestly, it surprises me that a new magazine that seems almost entirely devoted to exploring feminist issues should choose to ridicule the manners of dress and speech etc. chosen by certain women on this campus. Is it that sisterhood is powerful and valid only among hippy dippy radical feminists? Does sewing, "loofahing," or color coding imply that a woman has somehow sold out and is therefore deserving of attack? I realize that you were aiming at humor, I realize that you wrote intending to caricature—however, in attempting to carry out your intentions you demean Winterfest and its organizers, all the while insulting the intelligence of your readership. If this is humor I'd hate to see what you call ridicule.

—Rebecca Lieberman (BC '91)

## Isn't it AMUSEing?

To the Editor:

I cannot contain my rage and indignation over the affront to my personal dignity and sense of style published in last

week's *Bulletin*. I would never ever wear periwinkle to McIntosh. It is a well-known fact among my coterie, at least, that McIntosh's neon lighting does a grave injustice to every shade of blue except the purest shade of royale.

—Jennifer Nadelson (BC '90)

## Home (Not So) Sweet Home

To the Editor:

*The following is endorsed by the River Undergraduate Dormitory Council*

In spite of the many articles written in support of the revised Barnard/Columbia Housing Exchange, I feel compelled to point out that in many ways Barnard is getting the short end of the deal. While the new system does give Barnard students access to rooms in Hartley/Wallach and Schapiro, they must give up desirable spaces in the 600's and Centennial Hall in exchange. In addition, Barnard students are now stuck with 38 rooms in East Campus. For those who haven't yet been informed, East Campus is scheduled to undergo a full renovation of its facade and interior, a process which will continue throughout the next academic year. During this time, students will be relocated, two floors at a time, into "alternate" housing as construction progresses. Needless to say, East Campus

will be a very unpleasant place to live next year.

The elimination of existing Barnard spaces from McBain and River may seem like a small price to pay for a whole new system, but Barnard students will be sorely missed in these two halls. The rooms Barnard loses are all singles, ranging in size from small to among the largest on campus. The loss of Barnard students will dramatically affect the quality of life in River and will leave McBain virtually all male.

Neither Columbia nor Barnard made any attempt to ascertain the opinions of students before this plan was finalized. Not even the Undergraduate Dormitory Council was consulted. The specific revisions were all made behind closed doors and, according to those involved, were completed only after long hours of debate and compromise. Perhaps the efforts made by the committee members were a sacrifice on their part, but does it compare with that of a Barnard student who is awakened by the sounds of construction at 7:30 every morning and has to walk across Columbia's campus just to get to class?

—Wayne Jebian (CC '90)

## KEEP IN MIND

### February 19-23:

Mini Course sign up  
Lower Level McIntosh  
9-5pm

### February 19 and 20:

Josten Ring Company  
Lower Level McIntosh  
11-4pm

### February 20:

"Sexism in the Workplace"  
Brooks Living Room  
7:30pm

### February 21:

Career Planning Workshop IIIa  
Office of Career Services  
12-1:30pm

### Housing:

Barnard early group suite  
information posted.

### February 22:

McAc Movie Fest  
Lower Level McIntosh  
9pm-3am

### Housing:

Information session  
Jean Palmet Room  
12-1pm

Mini Courses begin

## Barnard Mourns Death of Dean Marsteller

Julie V. Marsteller, Barnard College dean for disabled students, died February 13 at St. Luke's Hospital. Marsteller was 46 years old.

Dean Barbara Schmitter said of Julie Marsteller, "never one to accept defeat, [her] ability to see a problem in context and to bring her incisive intelligence to its solution made her especially effective as an advocate for those with disabilities. But then she was a role model for all who knew her. We shall remember her for insisting that our buildings be accessible and our educational opportunities equitable, and every day we shall miss her quick wit, her wry humor, and a vision made sharper and clearer by her own disability."

At the age of 11, doctors diagnosed Marsteller as having muscular dystrophy, first diagnosed when she was 11. The disease's progression caused her to begin using a wheelchair in 1969, when she was 26. That same year Marsteller graduated from Barnard with honors.

After graduating, Marsteller served as college archivist before becoming a Barnard dean and a nationally known authority on disability services. Marsteller also served as a consultant to numerous institutions, programs and service or-

ganizations. Her work focussed on disability access, as well as equity for women with disabilities.

In 1980, she received the Ruth Kirzon Group for Handicapped Children Humanitarian Award and the Pilot International Handicapped Professional Woman of the Year Award. In 1986 she was inducted into the National Hall of

Fame for Persons with Disabilities, and this year she had been selected to receive Barnard's Medal of Distinction, the college's highest honor.

A memorial service for the campus community will be held on Thursday, February 22 at five o'clock in the Sulzberger Parlor. Please come to honor Julie Marsteller's life. ♦



Courtesy of Barnard's Office of Public Relations

Dean for disabled students Julie V. Marsteller (1943-1990)

## Close Encounters

—by Rebecca Lacher

*Sexism in the Workplace*, a panel discussion co-sponsored by the Women's Coop, Career Services, and SGA will be held on Tuesday, February 20 at 7:30 pm in Brooks Living Room.

Various constructive methods for dealing with sexism in the workplace will be the focus of the discussion. Speakers will also discuss their own experiences with sexism in the workplace.

Participants in the forum include Natalie Kampen of the Barnard Women's Studies Department, Tammy Bormann who works in the non-profit sector, Kathryn Nickerson who is an

MD, Miriam Wahrman who is an attorney, and Ann-Marie Ackley who works in Investment Banking.

Barnard College student Anyah Bernstein (BC '90) will act as a moderator for the event.

According to Bernstein, this discussion should be of particular interest to Barnard College seniors as they enter the workplace and may have to confront sexism. ♦

## Workers Walk Out

—by Paul Farber

Barnard clerical workers staged a one-day strike on February 15 after contract negotiations broke down with Barnard College administrators.

District 65, the union representing Barnard's 167 clerical employees, gathered at the main Barnard gates on the morning of February 15 and set up picket lines at all entrances to the campus. Workers picketing at different entrances communicated with one another by walkie-talkie in order to coordinate actions and to monitor the movement of "scab" replacement workers through campus.

Officials of District 65 announced a new strike deadline of Wednesday, February 21. In a mid-morning meeting on February 15, District 65 members once again unanimously confirmed their willingness to strike and to continue their struggle for what they think is a fair settlement.

Many Barnard faculty members, expressing their support for the clerical workers, moved classes off campus for the day.

Dozens of student supporters joined the picketers, chanting pro-union slogans and urging other students to join them in honoring the union's picket line. Student picketers expressed sympathy for the strikers and dismay with Barnard for its handling of the contract negotiations. Lisa McGire, a student at Columbia's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, explained that "it is fundamental that students support the workers' fight for a living wage. At a university, students are a key group and it makes a big difference if they support the workers."

Maida Rosenstein, a District 65 organizer, explained that the one day strike tactic was used in order to "give Barnard another chance to move up on its offer" before a full-fledged strike. "We think,"



*District 65 Votes for Strike*

BULLETIN/ Hilary Kroesney

she maintained, "that the College has made a mistake about the seriousness of our intentions."

According to Rosenstein, contract talks came to a stand still near dawn on February 15, as the union remained unsatisfied with Barnard's final wage and benefit offer.

The college proposed wage increases of 4% for each year of the three-year contract. The union's demands amounted to three annual increases of 7%, according to District 65's calculations.

In a leaflet issued on the day of the strike, the union stated that Barnard's final offer, if accepted, would result in increases of \$13.69 per week for the average District 65 member, with the lowest paid workers receiving weekly increases of \$11.92.

These increases, according to Rosenstein, would do little to fulfill the union's goal of achieving pay parity between Barnard's primarily female clerical workforce and its primarily male maintenance and security staff. The lowest paid maintenance worker at Barnard currently earns nearly \$1000 more annually than the average clerical worker; the administration's proposed increases for clerical staff, District 65 states, again fail to address this inequality. Rosenstein maintains that Barnard's proposals would create an even larger disparity between the two sets of employees. Rosenstein commented, "for an institution like Barnard to put forward a proposal [that would] widen the gap— to make clericals even lower paid than maintenance— is a slap in the face."

Rosenstein explained that the union's

final offer, which she described as "eminently reasonable," amounted to a 7% increase in wages for all members, as well as "modest" bonuses of \$250-\$1,000 for workers with three or more years of seniority. According to the union, these bonuses are designed to reward and retain long-term employees as well as to attract new workers to Barnard.

In addition to the compensation issues, Barnard and the union continue to disagree on the issue of health benefits. District 65 maintains that if the proposal for increased Barnard contributions to the union's health plan is accepted, the new contribution would still be substantially less than that for the current maintenance and security staff health plan.

"Even with the proposed increases," a union leaflet states, "Barnard would pay a maximum of \$2,714 per person annually for the total family health coverage [for District 65 members]. The college already pays \$4,200 per year for family coverage for a maintenance/security staffer and premiums are slated to rise again in May."

#### The Other Side

The Barnard administration has expressed frustration with District 65's demands and contends they will cost the college far more than the union has admitted.

In a letter to the Barnard community dated February 12, Barnard Vice President of Finance and Administration Sigmund Ginsberg stated that the union's demands would cost the college "\$400,000 a year for all clerical employees in the first year alone, with continuing higher costs in subsequent years." This sum, according to Barnard Director of Public Relations Ruth Sarfaty, "is simply impossible [for Barnard] to give."

Sarfaty explained that Barnard has



BULLETIN/Hilary Kroszney

### Clerical Workers and Students Rally Against Barnard

dropped all of its previous demands for cuts in the clerical workers' tuition and vacation benefits, and that the union has been "immovable" in their bargaining position.

Echoing Sarfaty, Ginsburg stated that "the College stands ready to meet with the Union when it is prepared to modify its unyielding position."

Ginsburg's letter of February 15 to the Barnard community said the College offered to create a fund for child care subsidies; to meet the Union's proposal to increase the contribution to its Security

Plan (its medical benefit program); and to assume a substantial new cost for a prescription drug plan which is being dropped from the plan maintained by the Union.

In light of the overall expense of the benefits the College offered, current budget restraints on the College, the need to keep tuition down, and wage and benefit conditions for other College employees, the Barnard administration believes their proposal to be fair.

According to Ginsburg, the proposed Union total cost increase hovers at some 15%, including a total wage increase demand of 9.7%. These terms, Ginsburg stressed in his February 15 letter, are "not reasonable."

According to Sarfaty, the college brought in approximately forty workers from a private security agency on February 15 to serve as replacements for the striking desk attendants. In addition, the college contracted other temporary workers to fill in for striking clerical workers in offices, "here and there," as needed, Sarfaty said. ♦

Paul Farber is a Columbia College senior



BULLETIN/Hilary Kroszney

### To the Picket Line!

## From Soul Sisters to Black Women: BOBW in Brief

— by Kimberly Elaine Parker

"The Barnard Organization of Soul Sister's (BOSS) aim is to bring about the changes in the college necessary to make it more relevant to Black students, and to give us a voice in controlling our environment. Long-range goals of the group are to have more black and Afro-American-oriented courses and more Black faculty, and to bring relevant examples of Black culture to campus."

In 1968 Barnard's black women met to discuss the status of blacks on campus. During these meetings the above proposal was drafted and a sisterhood for "soul sisters" was founded.

BOSS's main concern was to provide a support group for black students and to create an environment in which they could share and celebrate their experiences. BOSS became the medium through which black students could speak in a unified voice to the administration and the vehicle through which black students could exert influence on campus and in the community.

Today the Barnard Organization of Black Women (BOBW) continues to pursue the same goals as BOSS by serving as a support group for black women on campus. BOBW also serves as a way for black students to discuss and consolidate needs so that they can be presented to the administration. In this respect, it functions as an intermediary between the administration and the needs of black students on campus. According to BOBW President Nekesa Moody (BC '91), the group hopes "to make black students feel at home" and allay the fears of some minority students who may not be used to being in a predominantly white environment.

I am a black woman and a member of BOBW. When I transferred to Barnard

last fall, I was surprised by the few black students among the many white students. Zora Neale Hurston, one of the first black graduates of Barnard College in 1928, described her comparable experience in *How it Feels to Be Colored Me*, a collection of Hurston's thoughts compiled by Alice Walker.

"I feel most colored when I am thrown against a sharp white background. For instance at Barnard. Beside the waters of the Hudson I feel my race. Among the thousand white persons, I am a dark rock surged upon, and overswept, but through it all, I remain myself. When covered by the waters, I am; and the ebb but reveals me again."

Columbia University is set in the midsts of Harlem, but it continually tries to deny its existence. During Orientation, for example, how many people were told, "In order to remain safe in this community you have to know your boundaries. Don't go uptown beyond 122nd street or downtown beyond 110th street?" Barnard's avoidance of its surroundings makes me feel as though the school is trying to deny my existence.

BOSS wanted to claim the community which had, and continues to be, pushed further and further down the hill. The sisterhood was determined to integrate our black community into the community of Barnard College. In February, 1969, a written proposal was given to the president of the college demanding separate housing for black and Third World students, temporary office space in BHR, the implementation of nationwide recruitment for increased black student enrollment, and the creation of an Afro-American interdepartmental major.

In 1972, the complaints made by BOSS to the Director of Housing were hon-

ored. BOSS requested that the Housing department set aside 12 single sex suites for upperclass black and Third World students. BOSS had declared that the housing policy was discriminatory because it allowed "kosher only" housing but would not grant "soul only" suites. As a result, Seven Brooks and Seven Hewitt South were reserved as "soul only" suites.

In the spring semester of 1974, however, these institutionalized segregated housing policies were found to be unconstitutional by the New York State Board of Regents.

In 1976, BOSS officially changed its name to BOBW and was given temporary office space in Reid Hall, thus fulfilling the second of the original organization's demands.

The BOBW lounge was threatened when the Brooks-Hewitt-Reid complex wanted to add a recreation center for residents. The organization, thereafter, had to request a written contract from the Dean of Students, confirming the future of the space.

As for the third demand, in the fall of 1974, BOSS asked the administration to review admissions procedures, the curriculum, financial aid, and housing in an attempt to determine which policies discouraged minority enrollment. In recent years Barnard has made efforts to confront these issues.

New admissions procedures make a greater effort to recruit minority students. One of these involves getting minority students to accompany Barnard admissions directors to local high schools. However, these efforts are not enough. This year's course catalog does not include an African-American Interdepartmental major. The lack of classes

continued on page 12



# Racial Issues Confronted in Class

—by Julianne Cho

Issues of race and racism, and related issues such as human rights, are addressed in many campus classrooms. Several courses, each with its own particular slant, deal with these concerns from different departmental perspectives.

The Barnard Political Science department offers two courses, *Comparative Politics* and *Human Rights*, that provide platforms for the discussion of individual and collective rights. These courses also broach the wider question of human rights law and our obligation to other human beings.

Barnard Professor Peter Juviler, who teaches the above courses, believes that in order to guarantee present human rights and to secure them for all people "a thorough human rights education beginning in high school," is needed.

Visiting Assistant Professor David Farber teaches *The Civil Rights Movement*, and *America in the 60's* in the Barnard History department. His courses analyze changes in race relations

in the U.S. and focus on African-Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans, and American Indians.

In his courses Farber also concentrates on the ways that the economy, culture and politics control the growth and direction of racism.

Farber stresses that race relations have changed dramatically for the better over the past 25 years, and believes that "people really can make a difference in making racism a less pernicious factor in this country."

Katherine Richards (BC '92), a student in Farber's *America in the 60's* course said, "It is important to understand the history of blacks in this country and to put racism in a historical perspective. It is hard for people growing up now to realize what things were like 20 years ago." Although Richards admitted to progress in correcting racial inequities she had some reservations. "We really haven't come as far as it might seem," she said.

*Social Class and Social Mobility* and *Urban Sociology*, two courses taught by Columbia Assistant Professor of Sociology Eric Hirsch, use an open forum structure to discuss the unique position of specific oppressed groups.

Sheila Pugh, a General Studies student who has taken *Social Class and Social Mobility*, said that the course is particularly important since it explores the painful feelings generated by racial and economic inequities. "You learn about how people feel and how to be compassionate," Pugh explained.

However, as a black student studying Political Science, Pugh believes that, with the exception of Hirsch's *Social Class and Social Mobility*, Barnard and Columbia courses often take too theoretical an approach. ♦

Julianne Cho is a Barnard College junior.

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RECRUITMENT MEETING  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 8PM

THE REP COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING RACISM  
AND PREJUDICE ON CAMPUS THAT YOU RECEIVED IN YOUR  
MAILBOX ARE INCORRECT.

HERE IS THE CORRECT VERSION.

On Wednesday, February 7, Representative Council passed the following resolutions:

1) The Barnard student body opposes racism and discrimination in any form. We recognize and respect Professor Griff's right to speak and the right of the Black Student Organization to invite him. However we are concerned with the choice of Professor Griff as a speaker during Black History Month because of the blatantly anti-Semitic, sexist, and homophobic views and comments he has previously expressed. We condemn his hatred and prejudice. However, we recognize that the invitation extended to Professor Griff was not the cause of this hatred and prejudice. They previously existed. We are deeply saddened that this issue has taken away from the purpose, importance, and greatness of Black History Month.

We are appalled by the ignorance, prejudice, and insensitivity that have been displayed by members of the Columbia University community. We urge our community to meet and discuss the issues in an effort to encourage mutual understanding. Therefore, we will set aside \$250.00 from the SGA contingency fund for further programming about the issue and relations between ethnic groups on campus. Representative Council will vote subsequently on specific funding.

2) SGA supports and co-sponsors the rally, as described in its Statement of Purpose, planned for Sunday before Professor Griff's speech.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Religious Groups

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

## ARE YOU A LEADER?

## DO YOU KNOW ONE?

Dorm Life

ATHLETICS

PUBLICATIONS

Clubs and Organizations

VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS

### SGA REQUESTS NOMINATIONS

for: Bear Pins  
Certificates of Merit  
Certificates of Distinction  
Administrator Award of Distinction  
Office Award of Distinction

FOR CRITERIA AND NOMINATION FORMS STOP BY THE SGA OFFICE, 116

MCINTOSH, AND TALK TO JENNIFER COWAN, VPSA.

**NOMINATIONS DUE FRIDAY,  
FEBRUARY 23 AT 5 PM  
IN THE SGA OFFICE**

# Rallying Reactions

The *Bulletin* presents a series of photos from the February 11 Rally Against Hatred and Prejudice. Accompanying the photos are the voices of several Barnard women working to effect positive changes in our communities.

Niko Louis is a visiting student and the Social Chair for the Barnard Organization of Black Women (BOBW). She stresses that her views are her own, and do not necessarily reflect the views of BOBW as a group.

Susan Zeller (BC '90) is a member of the Jewish feminist group Achayot/Sisters.

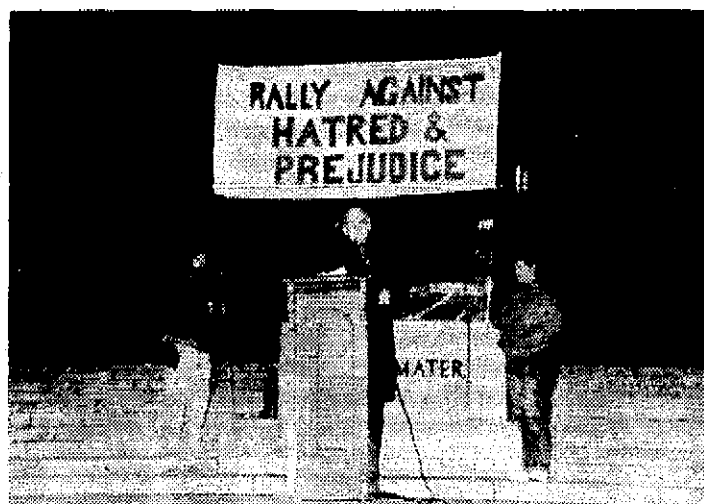
Vivian A. Taylor is Associate Barnard Dean for Student Affairs, and is a member of the Committee on Race, Religion and Ethnicity (CORRE). Dean Taylor will moderate a dialogue between BOBW and Achayot/Sisters on February 20.



"I think it's important for black people to deal with each other, once we do that, then we can work with other groups and reach a higher goal. Change will occur if we stick together as a people. A lot of black people think that Jews have nothing to cry about, and a lot of Jews think that blacks cry too much. We end up arguing about whose pain is worse. I'm more than willing to discuss how I feel with other women, but I don't think it will make much of an impact on the real world. Any dialogue between groups is important, though. I think it's a shame that we had to be brought together as a result of Professor Griff's coming here."  
—Niko Louis

"There's obviously tension because Griff was just here, the last two weeks are still really fresh in everyone's mind. Maybe it's too early to have this forum, but on the other hand we need dialogue as soon as possible. We need to be talking one on one, face to face. We don't want to let this simmer and build up. It might be harder for institutions like BSO and CJO to discuss issues of racism because of their direct involvement in last week's events. Hopefully dialogue in smaller groups will be more productive."  
—Susan Zeller

"I think the [BOBW-Achayot/Sisters dialogue] on Tuesday is one in a long line of activities like this that we need to have. We have misunderstandings, hurt feelings, miscommunication and miseducation about different groups on campus, all of this is a microcosm of conditions present in society in general. At least on a college campus we have the opportunity to sit down and talk, unlike in the outside world. I'm glad that people are taking that opportunity."  
—Dean Vivian A. Taylor



BULLETIN/Hilary Krosney

*Professor Dennis Dalton spoke on the steps of Low Library*



BULLETIN/Hilary Krosney

*The International Socialist Organization lobbied against racism*



BULLETIN/Elena Wagenfueter

*Students pray for unity and harmony among all peoples*

## CORRECTION

*An incomplete version of the following editorial appeared in the February 12 issue. Bulletin regrets the error.*

The Barnard administration's position in its negotiations with District 65 clerical workers again calls into question what Barnard stands for as a women's college. Where is the integrity of a women's college that does not actively support the needs of its primarily female workforce? That does not commit itself to providing childcare, decent benefits, and a living wage for its workers? That does not challenge sexist yet conventional practices of paying more for "male" maintenance work than for "female" clerical work?

Barnard, as a women's college, must recognize and affirm the challenge it represents to society's sometimes subtle and sometimes overt attempts to inhibit women's potential. In the classroom, Barnard dedicates itself to this challenge. But what about beyond the classroom? What about beyond adherence to abstract intellectual theories? Barnard must extend its commitment to women so that it truly meets the needs of *all* women at Barnard.

Barnard employs 167 clerical workers, 75% of whom are women, over half of whom are women of color. Many are single parents, and their Barnard wages represent their only source of income. The average Barnard clerical worker earns \$17,800 per year, although one-third of Barnard's clerical workers earn less than \$16,000 a year. While it is difficult to support one person on such an income in New York City, the thought of supporting a family on such wages is appalling. With the givebacks Barnard has demanded in negotiations, the situation will only be worsened. As students learn about the "feminization of poverty" in the classroom, Barnard perpetuates the phenomenon among its own workers.

Barnard's position in negotiating District 65's wages and benefits package seems to rest on the attitude that clerical

workers have freely chosen their occupation and must accept the economic conditions of that choice. Vice President and General Counsel Kathryn Rodgers, stated it clearly in the Feb. 7 Rep Council meeting saying "I don't expect anyone in District 65 will become a millionaire." In her consciously sarcastic statement, Rodgers implied that workers should stop foolishly asking for more than they deserve, and instead should accept the consequences of their own decision to work as a clerical worker. The Barnard community, as a women's community, should recognize and denounce these attempts to blame the victim.

As a women's college, we must instead challenge the norms of compensation for women's work. We must insist upon—and if necessary set precedents for—childcare, adequate leave policies and health care benefits, meaningful educational opportunities, and pay that represents not only a realistic living wage, but also a challenge to the devaluation of work that is labelled "female."

Moreover, we can no longer accept the administration's patronizing excuses to Barnard students about the impossibility of such efforts. Students realize that Barnard is not as wealthy as some other institutions. Nonetheless, we wonder where our large tuition payments go. Clearly, a college has many costs, but students have a right to see how Barnard prioritizes these costs in a concrete way. If Barnard is so strapped for money, the administration should open its accounting books to the Barnard community and present us with the real constraints of our budget. In doing so, the administration would both reach out to students and staff in a respectful and honest way and would enable the Barnard community to work together toward the goals basic to a women's college. ♦

BOBW

*—continued from page 8*

dealing with black history and culture foils Barnard's attempts to increase enrollment of black students. Prospective students usually consult a college's catalog before deciding to attend a college. The absence of an African American major may be one reason why students, especially minority students, decline admission to Barnard. Columbia College does offer such a major.

Struggle between BOBW and the administration of Barnard is not new. The

implementation of our needs into college policies has been a slow process. But, through the unification and willingness of its members to pursue mutual goals, BOBW has remained a strong force against the sharp white background that is Barnard. ♦

*Kimberly Elaine Parker is a member of BOBW and a Barnard College sophomore.*

## A Dorm of One's Own

—by Jennifer Marks

Virginia Woolf spoke of women having rooms of their own; now that we at Barnard finally have those rooms, we are forced to surrender many of the best of these places to Columbia students under the new housing exchange.

Not that I am antagonistic toward Columbia students; I just believe that since we finally have adequate Barnard housing, we ought to keep some of it for Barnard students. Barnard has just spent a tremendous amount of money to build a brand new modern dorm. We've barely had time to look at it and already the administration is giving a sizable portion away to non-Barnard students; there are a limited number of spaces available in Centennial already.

Moreover, the new dorm completes a cohesive unit by sealing off a quadrangle, creating a sense of community that Barnard has, perhaps, lacked. Under the new

housing arrangement, this cohesiveness would be broken; the choice of upper-class Barnard women to pick into an all-female dorm would be eliminated. Only Reid and the bottom half of Centennial would be entirely female, closing the option of an all-women environment to upper-classwomen. Now, at least, we can choose to live in Brooks or the Tower; after the new housing arrangement, we will be denied an environment for which many of us have come to Barnard. Granted, you can still live on a single-sex floor, but, in my opinion, that's not enough. Barnard must remain true to its vision as a women's college. Many of our classes are co-ed; if all our dorms follow suit, is Barnard becoming a women's college in name only?

There is a uniqueness about living on an all women's floor that is difficult to explain in words. Perhaps the familiarity

of living with people of the same sex, the sense of comfort and support, all contribute to this feeling. I lived on a co-ed floor in Hewitt, but soon found myself missing the comradeship of an all-women's floor. Moreover, there is a sense of identity in living in an all-Barnard dorm. There is a sense of history in the rooms, such as Brooks, where Barnard students once hung banners demanding "Votes for Women."

Those who wish to live in co-ed arrangements should certainly have that choice, but allow us some space where we can be part of a cohesive community of women. Let us keep as many rooms of our own for ourselves—as places to grow, and create and establish the bonds of community that are so much a part of the Barnard experience. ♦

*Jennifer Marks is a Barnard College junior.*

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## Plus, They Rock: *The Mekons'* Latest

—by George Boulukos

◆

...it's  
entertaining to  
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show that  
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chapter of  
Eagleton's  
Literary  
Theory on  
post-  
structuralism.  
Plus, they  
rock.

◆

*The Mekons: Rock 'n' Roll LP* (A&M, 1989)

*The Mekons* would like to be thought of as the smartest band in Rock 'n' Roll. They've already demonstrated their erudition by citing books such as Adorno's *Minima Moralia* as inspirational in the liner notes for *Honky Tonkin'*. Having become the pet of rock critics with academic pretensions like Groil Marcus and having appeared repeatedly in *Artforum*, they seem to feel obligated to share their intellectual cool with their listeners.

*The Mekons* are delightful and amusing when showing off their academic side. There is something hysterical in the dull earnestness of lines like, "these lines are all individuals/ there's no such thing as a song." I miss the days when they were more bitter and less earnest. Tunes from their punk-rock days featured less self-important, if equally silly, lines like, "I work all week to buy your ring... extra hours to get you gold... you know I'll buy you anything." Still, it's entertaining to listen to a band that feels a compulsion to demonstrate that they've skimmed the chapter of Eagleton's *Literary Theory* on post-structuralism.

Plus, they rock. I miss the post-modern country band that they once were, but I guess they had to sacrifice that to the concept of "rock 'n' roll" that pervades this LP. They maintain the same melancholy tone established on *Fear and Whiskey* (exemplified in the sound of the record but also in the song "Chivalry", for example, in "I was out late the other night/ fear and whiskey kept me going/ I swore somebody held me tight/ but now there's just no way of knowing.") The occasional use of the fiddle seems an almost conscious attempt at creating nostalgia for their own past.

There is good reason to miss their country sound. It's not that they shouldn't have changed— I liked *So Good It Hurts* a lot— but the concept of rock'n'roll is so heavily present that it becomes burdensome. There are blissful moments of self-irony, say when Sally Timms sings "When I was just 17/ sex no longer held a mystery/ I saw it as a commodity/ to be bought and sold like rock 'n' roll," but the Meeks verge on sounding forced too often. *Fear and Whiskey* and *Edge of the World* have provided me with relentless pleasure, but there's something so bottom-heavy about this record that I have to put it away for weeks at a time, and I do so with relief. Listening to this record, I focus on the lyrics excessively, but many of the songs seem to be constructed as mere accompaniment. "Empire of the Senseless" is one of the better tunes, but the lyrics don't bear much scrutiny— the entrancing quality of the song is ruptured when one hears "Ollie North down in the subway dealing drugs and guns— (Empire of the Senseless) Turning little lies into heroes — that's what they've always done— (Empire....) This song promotes homosexuality." The heavy-handed effort to make social commentary is both endearing and embarrassing.

This is a fine record, but nowhere near the level of genius this band has achieved in the past. I think it proves that obscurity was good for the Mekons; their current vague notoriety has lead them to absurd feelings of responsibility and self-importance that are touching but verge on the unbearable. ◆

George Boulukos is a Columbia College senior

# Dance Theater of Harlem Sashays into Wollman

—by Diane Webber

Dance communicates feelings and ideas and has the power to move an audience in ways that the written word cannot. Dance performances can skid across ethnic, racial, and cultural boundaries, while maintaining and exposing a unique identity. Incorporating a universal vision of communication through dance as well as the specific purpose of learning about one's individuality is the motivation behind the Dance Theater of Harlem.

The Dance Theater of Harlem School Ensemble, invited by the Black Student Organization of Columbia will perform an array of classical and neo-classical ballets in Wollman Auditorium on February 23 at 8 pm.

According to School Ensemble coordinator John Ruddock, the program at Columbia this week will sample different dance styles of the Dance Theatre of Harlem. A neo-classical ballet trio choreographed by Royston Maldoom will be performed with music by Gustav Mahler entitled *Adagio No. 5*.

"The Greatest," a pas de deux choreographed by Arthur Mitchell will feature Theresa Howard and Jeffery Watson. "The Greatest Love of All," composed by Linda Greed and Michael Masser and made popular by George Benson accompanies "The Greatest." The classical pas de trois, *Holberg Suite*, will be performed to music by Edvard Grieg.

All of these works belong to the DTH company repertory as well as the ensemble repertory.

Dance Theatre of Harlem is a world famous professional ballet company and dance school founded in 1969 by Arthur Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell, former principle

dancer with the New York City Ballet and currently Artistic Director of DTH, wishes to "share the beauty of dance across this country and around the world." The Dance Theater seeks to provide a sense of pride and connectedness to Harlem and to cultivate an awareness of dance as a discipline and an art form.

An important component of the Dance Theater of Harlem is its School Ensemble, which provides performances for people who might not otherwise have

◆  
*The Dance Theater  
seeks to provide a  
sense of pride and  
connectedness to  
Harlem...*  
◆

the opportunity to see live dance.

The School Ensemble has a dual purpose. First, it tours the tri-state region, participates in educational arts festivals, and performs extensively for New York City schools. But it also provides professional performing experience for the most gifted and promising students in the DTH school.

DTH programs are supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. ◆

Diane Webber is a Barnard College senior

## Muse News

The Muse's heart reaches out to the members of the Barnard/Columbia community for whom the proposed housing switch has created a great deal of angst, yet, She feels a duty to alert her loyal readers to an even greater real-estate fiasco. According to a CBS press release slipped under The Muse's silk pillow, at 3:47 am last night, : "THE BRADY HOUSE IS JEOPARDIZED WHEN A FREEWAY RAMP IS ROUTED FOR CONSTRUCTION THROUGH THE LIVING ROOM, ON 'THE BRADYS'...."

The omniscient CBS visual orb has seen the future, and it is the past.

Tired of the ephemeral existence of Love, Sydney and the decade long Single-Mom-With-Calder-Motif-School bus road trip of the Partridge Family? Has the social frolicking of the Loveboat failed to keep you home on Saturday nights as a post-pubescent? Does Cha-Chi's bandana 'round the thigh fashion sense leave you cold?

The Muse offers consolation for the Columbia couch potato: The Lovely Lady, her three Very Lovely Girls, The Man Named Brady and the three Boys Of His Own are back!!! (Alice, too, though The Muse regrets that the presence of Sam the Butcher cannot be guaranteed.)

Remember. You heard it hear first. With only six months to move before the wrecking ball destroys their family home, the Bradys are back and ready to fight. In an inspirational attempt to rally the neighborhood for a battle for justice against City Hall, Mike gives a moving speech which becomes his entree into the ever-exciting world of politics. Meanwhile, on the home front, Carol is no longer at home. Freed up by her Lovely Girls' emergence into lovely women with families of their own, spread out all over the country, she has reached new heights pursuing her career as a high-powered real-estate agent. Also, in this premiere episode, Cindy and her widowed boss, Gary, now the proud father of two children, decide to make a try at a Relationship, while Greg accepts a position at the hospital where he was born, moving his family back into the warm and cozy Brady fold. ◆

The Muse knows where She will be on Friday nights from 8-9 pm.



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