

Volume XCVII Number 5

October 1, 1990



BARNARD BULLETIN



As Crime Snakes Through NYC,
Perceptions of Campus Safety Waver

◆
DSA to Emphasize
Women's Health

◆
NYPIRG Causing Conflict

◆
Fair Barnard:
It's a Mystery!

BEAR ESSENTIALS

IS ACADEMIC INTEGRITY INTACT AT BARNARD? Is It As Important To Today's Barnard Women As It Was To Those Who Established The Honor System in 1912? Does Our Honor System Make A Difference? By Declaring Our Community's Values Clearly At The Outset? These and related questions may be comprehensively answered if everyone who received a copy of the Academic Honesty Survey in her mailbox completes it and drops it in student mail (pre-addressed envelope provided). Barnard is participating in this nationwide survey of student opinion on the state of academic integrity at our most selective universities and colleges. Only if we have full cooperation will there be a truly representative sample of Barnard students' views and experiences on this vital issue. The questionnaire is BRIEF (should take you no more than 10 minutes) and ANONYMOUS to encourage candor and accuracy. DO DROP YOUR COMPLETED FORM IN CAMPUS MAIL BY WED., OCT. 10.

TRANSFERS, OLD AND NEW: On TUES., OCT. 16, there will be a Transfer Tea in Centennial Hall North, 17th floor, 4-5 P.M.

ALL FIRST-YEAR AND TRANSFER STUDENTS who are exempt or hoping to be exempt from First-Year English and who *did not* attend one of Professor Plotkin's lectures on the preparation of papers in early September are *required* to attend his repeat lecture: THURS., OCT. 4, noon, 304 Barnard Hall.

AT BARNARD, overseen by Professors Joan Snitzer and Janet Soares, features a special weekly event—a talk and/or performance by a prominent writer, dancer, choreographer, director, or photographer—and especially welcomes the newer members of the student body. Upcoming: Video artist Julie Gustafson on MON., OCT. 1, today! Dancers June Omura '86 and Holly Williams '79 on MON, OCT. 8. PLACE: Barnard Annex Studio. TIME: 6 P.M.

SENIORS: Important information will be given at a meeting to be held on TUES.,

OCT. 2, at 12 P.M. and 4 P.M., in 304 Barnard Hall. Come to one of these meetings and learn about the services and activities for seniors provided by the Offices of the Dean of Studies, Career Services, Alumnae Affairs, and your class officers. CORRECTIONS: The deadline for filing the MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP applications was THURS., SEPT. 27, and the deadline for filing the RHODES SCHOLARSHIP applications is MON, OCT. 22. FULBRIGHT APPLICANTS are reminded to have applications ready by the THURS., OCT. 4, deadline. SENIOR SCHOLAR APPLICANTS should see Dean King *before* the deadline of THURS., OCT. 11. DIPLOMA NAMECARDS for FEB. '91 graduates should be turned in at the Office of the Registrar, 107 Milbank, by THURS., OCT. 11.

JUNIORS: ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PURSUING A CAREER IN FEDERAL, STATE, OR MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT? Is your GPA over 3.4? Then you should know about the fifteenth annual competition of the scholarship program operated by the Harry S. Truman Foundation. The Foundation Board of Trustees will select one scholar from each of the 50 states and 52 scholars-at-large. Nominees must be U.S. citizens or nationals. The scholarship provides \$3,000 for the senior year of undergraduate education and up to \$27,000 to cover graduate or professional school expenses. These awards, based on merit, are made to students who are college juniors in September 1990 and who have outstanding potential for leadership in public service at the federal, state, or municipal level. Qualified juniors who wish to apply for a Truman Scholarship must contact Dean Grace King in 105 Milbank (x42024) *before* MON., OCT. 8.

EDUCATION PROGRAM APPLICATIONS are due MON., OCT. 8. Return them to 336 Milbank. If you have questions, please call the Education Program at x42117.

PARIS IN THE SPRING? REID HALL

APPLICANTS for next semester must submit all relevant paperwork by this very day, MON., OCT. 1, in the Reid Hall Office, 412 Lewisohn. In addition to filing the Columbia-bound application, be sure to file the Barnard application form as well. Available at Registrar's window, it requires the approval of your adviser(s), and of the chairs of the major and French departments. The completed form must be returned to 107 Milbank.

NEED TO IMPROVE YOUR NOTE-TAKING AND STUDY SKILLS? HOW DO YOU RATE AS A TIME MANAGER? Dean Brown will offer a four-week mini-course covering note-taking, time management, effective study techniques on TUES., OCT. 2, 9, 16, and 23 in 206 [or 204] Centennial, 7-8:30 P.M. Sign-up in the Resource Room (1st floor Reid) NOW. (First-Year students only.)

PRE-MEDICAL STUDENTS: Interview workshops on videotape will be held on Fridays, 2-4 P.M., on OCT. 12, 26 and NOV. 2, 16. Advance sign-ups only. See Fran Moncrief, Dean of Studies Office (x42024).

COPING WITH THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE? BEREAVEMENT GROUP meets FRIDAYS, 12-1 P.M., in 108 Milbank. Call Office of the Dean of Studies, x42024, or Office of Health Services, x42091, if you have experienced the loss of a loved one and wish to participate.

NEED HELP WITH LIBRARY RESEARCH? The Barnard Library offers a consultation service to students undertaking a research paper or thesis. Appointments for an individual conference with a reference librarian may be made by coming to the Reference Desk on the second floor of the Library. For more information call x43953.

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EDITORS' NOTE

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.

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Crime is not an issue to be taken lightly. While everyone wants to maintain the comfortable and warm atmosphere of Barnard, we cannot sit by silently as the media bombards us with stories of the decline of New York and our own friends share tales of stolen purses and suspicious intruders. While Barnard Security and Administration have a vested interest in creating a safe image of the school, they also have a responsibility to let students know the truth.

Thefts in McIntosh and Centennial, muggings on the subways, and stray bullets killing children are enough to cause alarm. And yet, the voracious appetite with which journalists are gobbling up the ugly events of the past few months does make one wonder how much they are being fueled by a hunger for the High Drama that accompanies reports of The Decline of New York.

For those of us who still want to call Columbia home for a while, there are two imperatives. One: Keep on top of the situation. Read the paper, pay attention to the security alerts that are often posted

around Barnard. If you are the victim of a crime, report it. Security guards and policepersons are our allies. It is crucial to let others know if they are in danger and to keep statistics as accurate as possible.

Second: Don't panic. While the city is experiencing an upsurge in crime, it is *not* the worst crime wave in NYC's history. In fact, the statistics for our precinct show a decrease of 18% in robberies and of 17% in violent crime for the past year to date (see page 6 for more stats). Comforting numbers; but don't go out to tell your friends about it without locking your door first.

The only way to live in New York is to live on alert. You've heard it before. But if unattended bags are still being stolen, then it pays to repeat the advice. Act offensively so you won't be caught on the defense. Finding a balance between being aware and being afraid will keep you looking relaxed while remaining conscious of your surroundings. Call it being street smart, adopting the New York walk, or heeding parental nagging—just do it. Hopefully, our slice of the apple will stay sweet.

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VOICES

Take Care of the Children!

To the Student Body:

This past weekend, September 29-September 30, the leaders of 75 countries convened at the United Nations for the largest international summit ever in history. The subject of their convention might surprise you, as it did not concern the present situation in the Persian Gulf, nor was their focus the historical landmark of this week's German reunification. These leaders didn't talk about the world economy, arms control, or even issues concerning global environmentalism. They joined, instead, to discuss the future of humanity's most essential environmental resource...its children.

Today as you were going to and from your classes, meeting your friends for dinner, or talking to your loved ones on the phone, 40,000 children took their last breath and hugged their mother for the last time.

It is estimated that before this decade is out nearly 150 million children will die from malnutrition and disease, poverty and violence. This figure is 20 times the entire population of New York City. The tragic reality is that nearly one half of those deaths are preventable and they are preventable by incredibly minimal means.

For less than half the price of a cup of coffee a child can be immunized against any one of six diseases that each claim the lives of millions every year. More specifically, diarrhea kills nearly 7000 children a day from dehydration. A 10 cent packet of sugar and salt tablets could save the lives of these victims. Diarrhea is something most of us consider a menacing inconvenience. To these children it is a death sentence. Try to put that into perspective.

Perspective seems to be the one thing we have lost with respect to these suffering children. If only the immediate possibility of these lifesaving measures could be made a priority. If only for a day we could divert the attention of the world from its day to day life back to the children that are needlessly dying everywhere. (There was a time when statistics such as these shocked people). Then perhaps we could make real progress in subsiding this waste of life.

The summit was called by six organizing countries: Canada, Egypt, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan and Sweden. The response to their call was slow in coming, but inspiring in the end. Among those representing the 75 nations attending will be 38 presidents, (including George Bush) 20 prime ministers and two kings, as published in a Wall Street Journal report dating August 3 of this year. The meeting was an opportunity for the leaders to ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child, a document calling for the improvement of child welfare on all levels: educational

medical and social. The politicians appear to have finally made the children a priority on the world political agenda.

If only the public could do the same. A number of humanitarian organizations (like UNICEF, CARE and The Overseas Development Network) responded to the leaders' initiative by organizing a series of public candle-light vigils to highlight the summit one week before it began. These vigils were meant to show the leaders of the world that the public is also concerned, to demonstrate our solidarity with the suffering children. They were meant to ensure that this precedence-setting summit not be a missed opportunity, that it not be in vain. Vigils were organized in over 50 countries, at nearly 3000 different sites. Despite the great success of many other vigils held on September 23, the attention of New Yorkers seems, for the most part, to have been missed.

I attended the local vigil held across the street from the United Nations with some friends from the Barnard/Columbia chapter of The Overseas Development Network, one of the vigil's patrons. Like many people at Barnard, I knew nothing of the summit. It would probably have escaped my attention altogether, had not one of the ODN members mentioned the vigil to me in passing. There had been virtually no media coverage of the summit up to date, and only minimal coverage through the spring and summer.

Turnout at the vigil was relatively low. Not quite 2000 children and adults, at best, gathered to show their support. The disappointment was obvious on many faces. Those who had heard of summit must have expected the vigil to be a rather significant occasion. It did not appear that way from the street. It certainly should have been. Considering the magnitude of this historical event, such a small reception, especially for a city the size of New York, was disappointing if not pathetic.

Is there any excuse for the lack of response the vigil at the UN received? I don't think so. Not when the leaders of so many nations have set the stage for rebuilding the lives of these children once and for all. This appears to be time when the citizens of the world may need to follow the lead of their leaders, for a change. In this case the tail is trying to wag the dog, and for a good cause.

It has been said that students like ourselves often lack an understanding of Third World issues, and their "grass-roots" solutions. Unfortunately, this problem is not limited to the Third World. Many of these statistical deaths occur right in Barnard's backyard. Harlem is a good example of Third Worldism within America itself. We cannot turn our heads to this. We *are* all connected. If we show an

continued on page 23

Columbia Kicks-Off \$1.15 Billion Capital Campaign

—by Ali Stone

Columbia University President Michael Sovern launched a five-year capital campaign, last Tuesday, with an announcement of a target goal of 1.15 billion dollars, the largest higher education fund-raising effort ever mounted.

The celebration began with a gala dinner in the Reading Room of Butler Library. Nineteen Columbia Nobel laureates were honored at the dinner with the first presentation of the Columbia awards for Distinguished achievement. This gathering represented the most Nobel laureates ever honored at one time.

One of the central themes of the campaign is faculty excellence. At the dinner, Sovern declared, "Columbia means many things, but above all, it means the inspiration of great teacher-scholars, the excitement of able students, and the discoveries, large and small, that come from their work together." Sovern continued saying that the purpose of the new campaign is to "protect the quality of that wonderful collaboration."

At the dinner, Sovern announced a start-up gift of \$25 million donated by John W. Kluge, chairman of Metromedia Company. This donation, along with Kluge's 1987 gift of \$25 million, constitutes the largest single donation by any individual in Columbia's history.

Kluge, a 1937 graduate of Columbia College, spoke at the dinner saying, "It is my hope that this gift will help support the best of the next generation of teachers and scholars."

Kluge's donation will be used to establish the John Kluge Endowment for a New Generation of Faculty Ex-



BULLETIN/Hilary Krosney

President Sovern addresses guests at Capital Campaign celebration.

cellence.

Sovern also announced that John J. Curley, chairman, president, and chief executive officer of the Gannett Co., Inc., and a trustee of Columbia will serve as chairman of the new campaign.

The University completed a five-year campaign in 1987 that yielded \$602 million, a total which was 50 percent greater than the original goal of \$400 million. For the new campaign, a base fund of \$329 million, including Kluge's donation, has already been either given or pledged.

Fourteen of the Nobel laureates were awarded honorary degrees at a special convocation held in the Low rotunda last Wednesday. Honors bestowed included both Honorary Doctor of Science and Doctor of Letters

degrees.

At the convocation, Sovern delivered an address on national and international science policy. In this speech he said, "I am particularly troubled about the future of science in America. We know what American science is capable of. Will its future be as glorious as its past? Or will the epidemic of shortsightedness strike here too, leaving in its wake failed potential and unrealized dreams."

Sovern followed this address with an announcement that Columbia will host a major world conference of scientists and statesmen next year to help "shape a broad international scientific effort." ♦

Ali Stone is a Bulletin news editor and a Barnard College junior.

How Safe is Safe? The Ongoing Confrontation Between Campus Security and Campus Crime

—by Rhea Suh

The heavy iron fencing and the large entrance gates may deter some unwanted guests from entering campus buildings, but it's important to remember that Barnard maintains an "open campus."

The first thing Mom asked when she called the other day was, "Is everything okay? Are you being careful?" The last thing she said was, "Don't ride the subways, and don't go outside after seven. Remember, you don't live in Colorado anymore. You're in New York City."

Thanks Mom. How could I forget? Nevertheless, don't be surprised if you get a few extra calls from relatives reminding you to be careful. In recent months, newsstands around the country have been filled with articles and cover stories that focus on the rise of violent crimes in the seemingly rotting Big Apple.

Barnard students, in particular, are aware of these problems and many are growing increasingly concerned about matters of safety and security.

"When I decided to come to Barnard, I was very concerned about my safety in New York," said Jennifer Davis (BC '92). "Unfortunately, three years later, those concerns are still very much there...sometimes even more so."

Recent incidents of theft on Barnard campus may also be fueling the

concern. Already, less than a month since classes have begun, reports have been made of checkbooks, purses, and pots and pans being stolen from Milbank, McIntosh, and Centennial Halls.

Invitations to Crime

One incident in particular was cited by Environmental Science Assistant Professor Steve Carson whose checkbook was stolen from his office. Carson apparently left his door open

while he stepped in to the next room to prepare a lab. When he came back he found a young man shuffling through his book bag. "I asked him who he was and what he was doing," said Carson, "and he told me he was a student looking for a lost bag similar to mine." After a quick inspection of his belongings, Carson let the man leave. It was only later that Carson discovered his checkbook was missing. "[Barnard] is an open campus. People can come and go as they please. It was my mistake in terms of leaving the door open," Carson said. "Having been away from the city for a while, I guess I forgot the risks." The suspect has not been apprehended.

Associate Director of Security Betty Weems calls unattended personal items, "invitations to crime."

In the month of August, there appeared to be an increase in the number of purse thefts in McIntosh cafeteria. Although there were increased efforts by security to place more guards in the area and to post memos alerting the students to thefts, Weems believes the community is not being cautious enough. "[Security] has to be a team

INCIDENTS REPORTED IN THE
26TH PRECINCT OF NEW YORK
CITY THIS YEAR TO DATE
JAN.-SEPT 1990
IN COMPARISON TO
JAN.-SEPT. 1989*

VIOLENT CRIME:
murder, manslaughter, decrease
felony, assault, rape. 17%

ROBBERIES: decrease
18%

*The above information was provided by the 26th Precinct of New York City which services the neighborhood of Morningside Heights, including Columbia University.

...A Word From Officer Phyllis Ben

Phyllis Ben has worked as a security officer at Barnard for the last twenty-six years. Although crime on campus is no worse this year than in the past, she warns students to be aware. New students on campus often forget they are in New York and leave their belongings unattended. This is especially important in McIntosh which is open to the public. Officer Ben says there have been no serious crimes because the students at Columbia University are "good kids." In fact, they are what Ben enjoys most about her job. She has made friendships with Barnard graduates with whom she still keeps close ties.

—by Tasha Blaine (BC '94)



BULLETIN/Hilary Krosney

Barnard Security Officer Phyllis Ben

effort together we can work to eliminate these types of problems...but we clearly cannot be everywhere all the time," said Weems. The heavy iron fencing and the large entrance gates may deter some unwanted guests from entering buildings, but it's important to remember that Barnard maintains an "open campus" where students may enter the campus through five ways during the day and one, the main gate, at night, added Weems.

"I think a lot of people relax and forget that we have such an accessible campus," said Debby Adler (BC'91).

INCIDENTS REPORTED TO BC SECURITY
ACADEMIC YEARS 1988-89 & 1989-90 (SEPTEMBER-MAY)

	<u>1988-89</u>	<u>1989-90</u>
<u>CHANGE</u>		
<u>TOTAL</u> * INCIDENTS REPORTED TO BARNARD SECURITY:	234	143
Decrease 39%		
Incidents on Barnard Campus:	193	122
Decrease 37%		
Crime-related incidents: <i>theft, vandalism, noise, graffiti, phone calls, mail.</i>	128	86
Decrease 33%		
Reported incidents: <i>illness/injury, fire/smoke, elevator, lockout.</i>	65	36
Decrease 45%		
Crimes against person: <i>Assault, rape, murder.</i>	0	0
Not Applicable		

* Some Barnard College students report incidents that occur elsewhere in the city. These incidents are expressed in the total number of incidents.
Information based on Barnard College Security files.

"It's not always security's fault if something is taken."

Effectiveness of BC's Security

Barnard Security currently has a staff of approximately 28 full-time and three part-time guards.

Weems doesn't feel that the problems of crime in the City affect the school at all. "Barnard has had no incidents of assault or violent crime [in the past two years]. The thefts that have occurred here could have been prevented and they are all types of crime that occur at every campus around the country," Weems said. "I don't think crime has gotten worse here...people just need to always use caution."

Weems' statement was echoed by Barnard College President Ellen Futter

in a recent interview with *Bulletin*. According to Futter, this year's incoming class was the largest since 1980. "Parents are not hesitant in sending their daughters here," said Futter in responding to whether Barnard's image has changed with the general rise of crime in New York City. The data concerning the numbers and kinds of crimes perpetrated at Barnard, as far as Futter is aware, has not changed significantly for the worse in the past year. "Perceptions can change," Futter acknowledged, "but [crime] is not unique to New York or even any urban center. Sprawling campuses [in rural settings] confront substantial security issues as well," Futter added. In an effort to allay possible fears, Futter said that

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Security

—by Rhea Sukromayanti

The College speaks candidly to parents about the health and well-being of students.

Barnard's Office of Admissions deals forthrightly in allaying fears about security. "We emphasize the security's strengths ahead of time," said Associate Director of Admissions Annette Decoste. "I always try to personalize the situation and tell parents that I can't even get in the dorms without an ID."

However, some students argue that the security system at Barnard is insufficient for creating a safe environment on campus. Empty security booths, inconsistent ID checks and poor lighting are some of the

most common grievances.

Facna Ward-Wafern, BC 92, a resident of 49 Claremont, faces a dark sidewalk and little security when walking home at night. "It really frightens me to walk back when it's late on the sidewalk of Barnard is so dark and the presence of a security guard in the booth [at 116th and Claremont] is so seldom. I walk next to the apartment buildings on the west side of the street. At least they have full-time security guards."

Facna Adams, BC 98, also voices similar concerns over the empty security booths. "While walking home to my room in Plimpton last week, Adams noticed a "tired and scary-looking" man peering over her from across the street. "He was holding his

arms and yelling to try to get my attention," Adams said. She quickened her pace to get home and noticed the security booth next to Plimpton was empty. "There was no one around. I couldn't believe it. It really freaked me out because something could have happened," Adams said.

According to Weems, the reason there are no officers in the booths is because the security guards are constantly on patrol, moving around to certain checkpoints. The guards on duty rotate from outside the housing complexes to certain floors inside the buildings. "It is not a sit-down job," said Weems. Because there are no full-time outside guards, the booths are seldom occupied.

Rhea Suk is a Barnard College writer.

The anatomy of a shrewd shuttle flyer.



PANAM SHUTTLE
THE CORPORATE JET

Sarfaty Accepts Executive Position at PR Firm Barnard Seeks New Director of Public Relations

—by Jen Sundick

Barnard Director of Public Relations Ruth Sarfaty is leaving Barnard College for a position as executive vice president at Howard Rubenstein Associates, a public relations firm which handles Mayor David Dinkins along with other prominent city figures.

Sarfaty came to Barnard, from Howard Rubenstein Associates, in August of 1987 amidst the preparation for Barnard's Centennial Celebration. Sarfaty describes this time as "a perfect moment for a public relations person." She explained this saying, "the Centennial really helped raise the profile of Barnard, both in the outside world as well as with former alums. There was a lot to be done."

Sarfaty speaks positively about her three years at Barnard. "I love it here. It's a great place to work!" Sarfaty feels that "if there was ever a good time [for such a major change in the office] this is it." The next few months will not be as busy since all the major publications for 1990 have been completed. Keeping up with the publicity for upcoming events such as conferences, speakers, celebrations is the primary task for the fall semester.

Sarfaty's family: her husband, four year old and thirteen-month-old, are "very supportive of the move" al-

though both Sarfaty and her husband are concerned about the "less structured and often longer hours" an agency job demands. "My [four year old] daughter understands what is going on," Sarfaty explains, "However, she's more excited about going to my [going away] party."

Sarfaty is the last to leave of the three people who make up the public relations staff. The positions for Associate Director of Public Relations and Secretary have stood empty for the past two months. Sarfaty explains that the President's office will conduct the search for a new permanent director immediately and will hopefully fill the position by the end of the month. The search for a secretary and an associate director is ongoing.

Administrative Assistant Lisa Ponak, who has worked in the President's office for four and a half years, has accepted the newly created position of desktop publications coordinator.

Director for Special Academic Programs Beth Kneller will fill Sarfaty's position as acting Director of Public Relations.

Former Barnard Associate Director of Public Relations Gayle Zarr will join Ponak in a part-time interim capacity.



BULLETIN/Hilary Krosney

Director of PR Ruth Sarfaty bids farewell to Barnard.

Zarr will handle the student press and the *Barnard Reporter*. ♦

Jen Sundick is a Barnard College first-year student.

WOMEN LEADERS IN RESIDENCE

Tamar Lewin (BC '71) Reporter for the New York Times and Melody Walker (BC '81), Bureau Chief and Correspondant, Public Radio, will speak about their careers as journalists.

Tuesday, October 2, 5pm, Sulzberger Parlor

Funded by Bankers Trust Foundation

NYPIRG Causes Controversy: Students Divided Over Organization's Effectiveness

—by Lallie Jo

"We were asked to sacrifice our principles for the betterment of the organization... in ways that I didn't think were ethically consistent with a grass-roots environmental lobby."

—Carleen Hawn (BC '93), former Oregon State PIRG employee

The New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) is a state-wide organization of college students dedicated to environmental, consumer and student issues. NYPIRG organizers are currently trying to bring a chapter to the Columbia College campus.

The Columbia Student Council has already recognized Columbia Students for NYPIRG (CSNYPIRG). According to the Chair of Columbia Students for NYPIRG Len Lidov (CC '91), CSNYPIRG will "work to establish a NYPIRG chapter at the College and eventually at Barnard as well."

While Columbia's Student Council obviously regards NYPIRG with favor, Barnard College's Student Government remains wary, even skeptical at the effectiveness of the lobbying organization.

In order for NYPIRG to come to the Columbia College campus, it must be approved by students in a referendum. According to Lidov, "NYPIRG's funding is typical of the organization's democratic structure. Students vote to earmark three dollars from the Student Activity Fee...If any student disagrees with what NYPIRG is doing they can get a three dollar refund." Lidov cited the various services that NYPIRG can bring to campus as incentive for establishing a chapter at Columbia College. "The primary thing that NYPIRG provides is a full-time staff person at every school to train students to have better citizenship skills. NYPIRG also offers various internships." Lidov notes that in New

York alone there are 80,000 PIRG members.

As of yet, NYPIRG has no status at Barnard College according to President of Barnard's Student Government Association (SGA) Jennifer Cowan (BC '91). Cowan speculated that if NYPIRG did come to the Barnard campus it would gain recognition through SGA in the same process that other clubs go through to obtain funding. Cowan expressed doubts as to the ability for NYPIRG to be funded from the Student Activity Fee at Barnard. "It would be subject to interpretation...Article Five, Section Two of the by-laws [of the SGA constitution] say no organization is allowed to charge its members dues...I think it's against our laws," said Cowan. She added that, "opportunities for political activism which it [NYPIRG] offers students... are readily available in New York City." However, Cowan added that her understanding of NYPIRG is limited.

David Frost (CC '91), chair of the Columbia College Student Council believes that the campus would benefit from the presence of a NYPIRG chapter. "We need NYPIRG so we can work together with other students to effect change on issues that affect students. Within New York City there are lots of students with different backgrounds, but they have issues that bring them together. Columbia has not worked on basic student issues that need to be addressed," said Frost. "They [NYPIRG] are the most effective public interest group in New York

State," Frost added.

Although NYPIRG has been successful in passing legislation, some students who have worked within the Public Interest Research Groups (PIRGs) question the methods the PIRGs use to carry out their aims. Aileen Chang (BC '94) canvassed for NYPIRG over the summer. "The idea [of NYPIRG] is really good...but the practicality of it really isn't being carried out." Chang noted that members of the organization, who pay dues to NYPIRG, "don't know NYPIRG's stand on the issues. I think asking for money ruined the whole experience" of working for NYPIRG, Chang added.

In addition to the New York organization there are several other state PIRGs across the country. The United States PIRG is located in Washington D.C.. Its members are taken from the state PIRGs. Carleen Hawn (BC '93) worked for the Oregon State PIRG (OSPIRG) over the summer, "I didn't feel like I was working for a small scale grass-roots organization, which OSPIRG claimed to be. I felt like I was working for a big national corporation of environmental groups. Each state organization loses a little of its individual interests in that case...We were asked to sacrifice our principles for the betterment of the organization...in ways that I didn't think were ethically consistent with a grass-roots environmental lobby." For example, Hawn noted that OSPIRG employees were told to, "Go back to the same neighborhoods we were just canvassing in in the name of another group...[that was] affiliated with OSPIRG." This was done to "take full advantage of the opportunity to earn the most money," Hawn added. In addition to "abusing public trust," Hawn felt the PIRGs, "Are so big that they can't do everything they claim to do. The bureaucratic tendency of the PIRGs is detrimental to their effectiveness."

Lallie Jo is a Barnard College first-year student.

Last year we made over 14,000 students Wall Street Tycoons in the...

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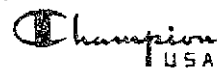
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Sociologist William J. Wilson Addresses the Question of "The Underclass"

—by Gretchen Crary

Popularizer of the term "the underclass", sociologist William Julius Wilson of the University of Chicago, worries that he may have influenced studies on the nature of poverty to take a wrong turn.

In an address to the Social Science Research Council on September 21 in Lehman Auditorium, Wilson clarified that things like the lack of access to well-paying jobs, low-skilled jobs, "statistical discrimination", and lack of good job references play a large role in keeping the poor in a cycle of poverty.

In his 1987 book, *The Truly Disadvantaged*, Wilson offered the term "the underclass" to describe the group of people who are most likely to become drop-outs, teenage parents, drug-addicts, and criminals. According to Wilson, he's afraid the term has now become somewhat corrupted. According to an interview with Wilson conducted by the New York Times on August 27, 1990, the sociologist is concerned that the term is "being used by journalists and conservatives to argue that the poor have created their own plight." Wilson now prefers to use the term "ghetto dwellers" to describe this group.

Wilson is very careful to point out that although in most cases there is a lack of positive role models for ghetto youth, ghetto dwellers he has surveyed in and around the south and west sides of Chicago show a strong and consistent belief in the work ethic.

—continued on page 23

SGA Finalizes Class Officer Nominations, Discusses Founder's Day Events, and Questions Coca-Cola's Presence on Campus.

—by Katherine Davis

On September 24, the Representative Council of Barnard's Student Council finalized the candidates for the Class of 1994 Class Officers. Candidates for President are Inessa Onefater, L. Clark Reybold, and Corrie Spiegel; for Vice President: Joanne Garce and Shira Roffman; for Treasurer: Corrie Spiegel; and for Secretary: Megan Weller.

Vice President for Student Activities Leigh Fairchild (BC '92) announced that Founder's Day and the "Best of Barnard" activities have been rescheduled for October 9 due to a previous conflict with the beginning of the Jewish holiday, Succoth. The time has been moved forward as well, 4:30-6 p.m., to encourage faculty participation.

The Founder's Day events will include speeches from Barnard College English Professor Mary Gordon and

various student leaders, and performances by the BC Gospel Choir, Bacchantae, Barnard Columbia Musical Theater, and Barnard Gilbert and Sullivan Society.

SGA will be conducting a student survey to determine how students feel about the presence of Coca-Cola in the dining halls in light of the fact that the company does business in South Africa. Tentative polling hours will be held October 8-15 in McIntosh at 11:30-1:30pm and in Hewitt from 5:30-7:30pm.

Student Services will be holding a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new commuter lounge on October 16, 12-1pm.

SGA will also be hosting an open house from 4:30-6 p.m. October 17 in the SGA office on Lower Level McIntosh. All students will be invited to attend. ♦



BULLETIN/Hilary Krosney

SGA Executive Board 1990-91: (Left to right) Jen Cowan (BC '91), Cristina Geigel (BC '91), Leigh Fairchild (BC '92), Maria Vallejo (BC '91), and Sara Bucholtz (BC '91).

2nd ANNUAL MINORITIES IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONFERENCE

Policy Reforms for Empowering Our Communities

October 1 - October 4

School of International and Public Affairs
Columbia University in the City of New York

Monday, October 1

Redistricting, Reapportionment, and the Community Empowerment Agenda

Speakers: Selwyn Carter, Community Service Society;

Gail Kong, Chinatown Voter Education Alliance; Yolanda Sánchez, National Latinas Caucus; Esmeralda Simmons, NY City Council Redistricting Commission

Room 1512, School of International and Public Affairs, 420 W. 118th St.

Time: 4-6 PM

Tuesday, October 2

Multi-Generational AIDS:

The Impact of AIDS on Women of Color and Our Families

Speakers: Marilyn John, J & B General Health Consultants; Dr. Barbara Justice; Annamarie Lewis, Women and AIDS Project; Dr. Jerry Nessel, PROMESA

Moderator: Joyce Howard, Ph.D. Candidate, School of Public Health

Room 212, Ferris Booth Hall at Columbia University, 2926 Broadway

Time: 8-10 PM

Wednesday, October 3

School Based Management: The Community Speaks...But Can Johnny Read?

Speakers: Carmen Alvarez, United Federation of Teachers; Edna Suárez Colomba, Office of Parent Involvement; Lucy Matos, Elementary School of Central Park East 1

Moderator: Robert Bailey, Assistant Professor, Political Science

Dag Lounge, 6th floor, School of International and Public Affairs, 420 W. 118th St.

Time: 7-9 PM

Thursday, October 4

Cultural Understanding Among Minorities: Mending Cracks in the Mosaic

Keynote Speaker: Wilbert A. Tatum, Publisher and Editor-in-Chief, Amsterdam News

Speakers: Bill Chong, Asian-Americans for Equality; Juan Gonzalez, New York Daily News; Jenny Sooknam Choo, Korean-Americans for Social Concern

Room 1501, School of International and Public Affairs, 420 W. 118th St.

Time: 8-10 PM

Sponsored by People of Color Alliance (POCA), School of International and Public Affairs

Co-sponsored by Intercultural Resource Center, Columbia University; Whitney M. Young Program; Association of Black Graduate Students; Acción Boricua (ABCU); Alianza Latinoamericana (ALA); Asian Women's Coalition (AWC); Black Students Organization (BSO); Caribbean Students Association (CSA); Chicano Caucus; Club Zamana; United Minorities Board (UMB)

DSA Joins the Fight Commitment to Reproductive Freedom Mandated

—by Abigail Pickus

"As part of a socialist organization, I believe that people should have control over their own lives. If a woman doesn't have control over her own body, than she doesn't have control over her own life," said coordinator of the National Health Care Committee of the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA), Alec Harrington, (CC '91).

Harrington's statement underscores the reasoning behind the recent approval of a national DSA mandate making the protection of women's reproductive freedom one of the primary concerns of the organization. Federal restrictions on abortion usually cause most harm to women of lower economic standing; such legislative "classism" conflicts with basic socialist values.

DSA's decision to focus on reproductive rights is a reaction both to the Supreme Court's ruling on Webster vs. Reproductive Health Services giving individual states the right to pass laws curtailing abortion rights, and the Hide Amendment, which denies Medicaid funds for abortions. Such funds had been previously available to women who are survivors of rape or incest.

"Abortions were never fully feder-

ally funded, but the Hide amendment took away what little federal funding there was. DSA believes that Medicaid should cover all abortions fully," Harrington said.

*Federal Restrictions
on abortion usually
cause most harm to
women of lower
economic standing.
Such legislative
"classism" conflicts
with basic socialist
values.*

DSA is a national organization with chapters at hundreds of college campuses, as well as local, community based chapters. The organization's commitment to women's health care issues makes immediately available an organized new base of activists willing to work for choice, thereby adding crucial strength and

energy to the larger pro-choice movement.

In accordance with the mandate, DSA at Barnard College and Columbia University will join forces with local 1199 and Barnard/Columbia Students for Choice (BCSC) to advocate nationalized health care, safe and legal abortions, affordable child care, and comprehensive sex education, among other issues.

In further support of the mandate, the Student Reproductive Rights Organizing Network of DSA published a student manual suggesting methods of activism to promote and accomplish DSA's goals of reproductive freedom and accessible health care.

So far, DSA at Barnard and Columbia is unsure what specific actions it will use to accomplish its goals. However, the types of action will include demonstrations, petitions, lobbying, and letter writing, according to Harrington.

The issues of women's reproductive freedom will be further addressed at a national DSA conference for health care issues at the University of Chicago on October 3.

◆
Abigail Pickus is a Barnard College first-year student.

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Fair Barnard

Memories From the Heights of Morningside

An Air of Mystery

—by Rona Wilk

This column, Fair Barnard, takes its name from an old Barnard song that was once heard throughout the College's hallowed halls. In these pages, we hope to bring to light (and maybe even to life) aspects of Barnard's past—a past that is rich with tradition, but that has been neglected for some time. Almost everyone has at least heard of the Greek Games, but how many know about the Mysteries ceremony? Or Ivy Day? Many know at least parts of "Roar, Lion, Roar," but how many know about Barnard's own songs: "Morningside," "Fair Barnard," "Squashy Chocolate Eclairs?" Hopefully, after this year, most of you will.

It is important to note that the language used in this column reflects the vernacular of the time.

"Freshies' Cowed by Fair Hazers"

"Every Barnard Freshie Terrified by Hazers"

"Baby Bottles for Barnard Freshies"

These were only some of the headlines carried by the New York newspapers reporting on the "Mysteries" ceremony, which would be taking place about this time of the year. One of the oldest Barnard traditions, the Mysteries is celebrating its one hundredth anniversary. The inscription on the flyleaf of the Mysteries Book, an integral part of the ceremony, reads, "Presented by the Class of 1893 to the succeeding classes at Barnard College, New York City, October 21, 1890."

The Mysteries were the ceremony presided over by the Sophomore class that initiated the Freshmen into the College. It was "an occasion of great heat, tension, and mystery" and "an air of dignity and mock solemnity prevailed, with incense, candlelight, and flowing robes," as Alice Duer Miller and Susan Myers describe the early ceremony in *Barnard College: The First Fifty Years*. Amidst this atmosphere, each Freshman would take the oath of allegiance to Barnard, and were initiated into her secrets and traditions. It also became an opportunity for the

Sophomores to flex their muscles and show their "superiority," as they put the Freshmen through varying degrees of hazing. Some aspects were just embarrassing and humiliating. The Class of 1910, for example, forced the Class of 1911 to drink lemonade from baby bottles while wearing white baby bibs. The "Freshies" were then required to wear a green ribbon with a bell attached to it for several weeks, as a visible (and audible) symbol of their still "fresh" state. (Although, in this case, the Freshmen had a small triumph of their own, as they staged a symbolic discarding of the ribbons and bells in the Milbank quadrangle after the proscribed time had elapsed). Some aspects were more dangerous and violent, such as being forced to walk down a staircase backwards, while blindfolded. Indeed, the violent parts of the ceremony that increased as time progressed became the subject of a debate.

One constant aspect of the Mysteries, however, was the passing down of the Mysteries Book. The Mysteries Book was presented to the Freshman class, and it ultimately became a tradition for the Freshman class president to read from the book at the Freshman class luncheon which occurred in the spring. In the Mysteries

Book, the early classes (1893-1907) ranked their Freshman year professors and also wrote poems (often satirical) about them. After 1907 entered its observations, though, the book was lost, or at least not used, for several years.

During this time, writes a member

The Class of 1911, wearing white bibs, was forced to drink lemonade from baby bottles and wear green ribbons with bells attached. The sign as well as the sound was a constant reminder of their "freshness."

of the class of 1914, in the first entry in the book since 1907's, "mysteries' gradually degenerated into an absolute 'rough house,' culminated by the

somewhat notorious 'reception' given to 1913 by 1912." Indeed, that incident had sparked several letters to the *Bulletin*, calling for a reform in the rules governing the ceremony, as well as one letter from 1912 itself in its own defense, although apparently a crackdown was beginning even before this time, as a member of 1909 grumbled in her scrapbook: "Mysteries in general were very, very stupid, owing to the kind and loving forethought of Student Council, who forbade us to do anything which could possibly be any fun." Now, the member of 1914 continued, we should return to the friendlier tone of the earliest version of the ceremony, such as 1913 had done the year before, and who, under a set of strict rules, "presented a sketch showing the superiority of college spirit over class spirit...and kept up the hazing traditions solely by large amounts of talk and cleverly laid rumours aimed in our direction." Thus, the Mysteries grew into more of a pageant, with skits and tableaux, and eventually there seems to have been a tradition of a Mysteries dinner. Despite all these changes, however, it also seems, from accounts in the *Bulletin*, that some forms of hazing still persisted (in spite of 1914's hopes). Indeed, according to Miller and Myers in their history of Barnard, "a broken arm finally ended the mysteries forever."

Whether that's why they ended or

not, the mysteries did come to an end in the 1930's. But for a substantial part of Barnard's history, each succeeding class of Freshmen had undergone the trial of the Mysteries. And in conclusion, and in order to really give you an idea of what the Mysteries were like, we end with an account of the actual ceremony—in this case, the initiation of 1912 by 1911. The report is from a New York newspaper clipping found in a 1911er's scrapbook. It may be a little melodramatic, but it will give you an idea of the atmosphere the Mysteries created.

"In the afternoon the 1912 girls trembled and shrieked when they heard solemn knocking on their study. A tall, black-masked figure majestically motioned them to follow, and they all filed down the stairs and through the darkened halls lined with black figures moaning a weird. From behind black draperies concealing the door of the gymnasium [in Milbank] a deep voice ordered each of the freshmen by name to "Come forth!"...

"After the first girl went in there was a wild cry of glee from a soph. 'Slide, Kelly, slide!' she yelled. Sounds of suppressed laughter followed and then a bump. Soon the slide was busy shooting more blindfolded freshmen into the gymnasium. Some one heard a voice saying:

"Does any one love you, little freshie? Come into the garden,' and then came a whispered demand...[for]

more macaroni [sic]. Clanking of chains was heard and then cries for help and shrieks of agony calculated to freeze the blood of even the most calm and collected freshie.

"What happened in the gymnasium the oaths the girls took and the ordeals through which they had to pass, will never be known by any except Barnard girls. The 'mysteries' is a sacred thing to them...[and every girl took an oath of secrecy, along with the oath of allegiance].

"After the whole freshman class had been initiated into the 'mysteries' lemonade in bottles and animal crackers were passed around. The sophomore president...presented to the new girls a framed set of rules and regulations which they will be forced to obey. The rules are:

"1. You shall acknowledge the sophomores as your intellectual superiors.

"2. You shall yield precedence to them on all occasions—in the street car, lunch room, elevator and in the halls.

"3. You shall wear no veils, no class or fraternity pins, and no hair ribbons, unless they are green.

"4. You shall wear the green ticket engraved "Freshman" until November 15.

"Freshmen, you have heard—obey!"

◆
Rona Wilk is a Bulletin columnist and a Barnard College senior.

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Claying Around: It's Not Just For Kids

—by Jennifer Girotti

Remember making mud pies when you were little, squishing the cool, gooey mud between your fingers, and the feeling of pride and accomplishment you had in your finished product? You *can* recapture the feeling.

The Barnard Clay Studio, located in lower level McIntosh, offers beginning, intermediate, and advanced pottery classes to all Barnard and Columbia students. These non-credit one and a half hour classes meet on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. The classes are usually quite small with only about ten students per class, allowing for large amounts of personal attention from the instructor. An \$85 per semester registration fee (\$110 for Columbia students) entitles you to weekly instruction, all supplies, and unlimited use of the studio.

The Clay Studio has been in existence at Barnard for more than fifteen years. According to student co-director of the studio Erika Woodside (BC '92), "Barnard is lucky to have the clay studio." Due to the cancellation of Barnard's Program in the Arts in 1988, the only for-credit studio art courses open to Barnard students are the few offered at Columbia which tend to fill up quickly. "You have to be there the first day of registration to get in," stated Woodside.

Clay-covered clothing and student pottery line one wall of the studio, while the opposite wall is packed with glazes, tools, and books. Light streams in from the far glass wall around a display of brightly patterned pottery for sale. The eight pottery wheels, two kilns, several worktables and barrels of clay leave little room to walk in

between them and while the studio is neat and orderly, the abundance of materials can make one feel a little like the proverbial bull in the china shop. While the "china" is not quite Wedgewood, these beautiful originals are certainly as aesthetically pleasing in their reflection of individual talents and styles.

In addition to classes, the Clay Collective holds workshops for its students in areas of special interest, and sponsors trips to museums, galleries, and other studios which are open to the whole Barnard and Columbia community.

Instructor Jane Schachat is a Barnard alumnae who began working with clay at the Barnard studio. According to Schachat, It's exciting to be following in a tradition that is thousands of years old. She believes that the studio is especially important because it gives women a chance to learn a technical skill.

Student co-director of the studio Neil Weinberg (CC '93) pointed out that pottery is "a skill that you can learn relatively quickly," and one in which the creative process is extremely important. The opportunity to see a project from its inception as an idea through to its finish makes pottery a satisfying experience. "I can think of an idea for a pot . . . and two weeks later the pot is finished, and I can give it to a friend," said Weinberg.

Working in a fine art also provides a necessary balance to students' primarily academic lives. "Everything you do at school is really analytical," said Weinberg, while working with clay is a "voluntary, tangible, and creative"



BULLETIN/Elena Wagenfeuhr

Work that clay!

activity. "It creates a nice balance with the course load."

Woodside agreed, "It's nice to have a quiet place to come to create something." Woodside cited stress reduction and relaxation as a major reason why she became involved with the studio. The atmosphere is supportive and relaxing. Students can learn how to run a clay studio or just how to make a simple pot. "You can learn as much as you want to learn," said Woodside.

Classes for the fall are already full, but registration is held in lower level McIntosh at the beginning of every semester. If you have any questions about the Barnard Clay Studio or would like more information about classes call Erika Woodside at x31757 or Neil Weinberg at x31168. ♦

Jennifer Girotti is a Barnard College first-year student.

Studio Museum of Harlem Celebrates Black Urban Culture

—by Hilary Krosney

Now showing at the Studio Museum of Harlem, from September 16 through December 30, are two exhibits exploring black culture in America.

The Blues Aesthetic: Black Culture and Modernism is a multi-media series presenting aspects of "The Blues" era in Afro-American culture. In the upper loft space of the studio is a second exhibit entitled, *Home: Contemporary Urban Images of Black Photographers*, a photographic essay of black urban life.

In his written introduction to *The Blues Aesthetic*, curator Richard Powell quotes a letter from Aaron Douglas to Langston Hughes which reads,

"Your problem Langston, my problem, no our problem is to conceive, develop, establish an art era. Not white art painted black... Let's bare our arms and plunge them deep deep through laughter, through pain, through sorrow, through hope... into the very depths of the souls of our people and drag forth material crude, rough, neglected. Then let's sing it, dance it, write it, paint it. Let's create something transcendently material, mystically objective. Earthy. Spiritually earthy. Dynamic."

Even with such a passionate, eloquent statement to serve as inspiration, the extent to which the curator of the exhibit has achieved his stated goal is debatable. This has nothing to do with the quality of the works. Rather the problem lies in the sense of commercialization that pervades the exhibit.

As the Executive Director of the museum, Kinshasha Holman Conwell stated, the exhibit "reflects[s] the role which African Americans have played in shaping American culture." However, one is left wondering toward whom the exhibit is geared. The exhibit is experienced through a more popularized view of black culture in America, rather than a unique or novel one. In many cases, the view that is explored is one that the white media has represented repeatedly throughout the years. The photos of Billie Holiday, James Brown and Ray Charles are beautiful, yet vaguely familiar instead of fresh or shocking. The scenes are lovely, as is the style of most of the art, folk to modern. Only the fact that the exhibit has been brought to Harlem, an area and community rich in Afro-American culture, makes the exhibit as a collection noteworthy in and of itself. The pieces are stunning, but brought together as a



Earlie Hudnall, Jr.

"Flipping Boy" on display at the Studio Museum in Harlem

group they fail to interact with one another or make any artistic or emotional inroads. As a collection the pieces fail to stimulate one another.

Once one realizes this, the exhibit can be enjoyed, albeit on another level. The pieces are aesthetically vibrant. The scenes are of lively blues bars or black women, absorbed in abstract dreams. A few white artists are included. Keith Haring's *Malcolm X* painting hangs among the others. Robert Colescott's *Pac-Man* is subtitled "The consumer consumed" and the piece, which portrays playful submission to a dominant consumer—society, has an overwhelming frolicking sexuality. Many works are accompanied by liter-

continued on page 22

Leff Field

Off-beat Record Reviews by Susan Leff

Crash Vegas, *Red Earth* (Atlantic, 1990)

Crash Vegas is a band that asks as many questions as it answers. Though not all the questions and answers on its debut album *Red Earth* seem to match, it is nonetheless a good album with some impressive arrangements and interesting vocalizations. While Crash Vegas uses many stylistic elements that sound somewhat familiar (i.e. Cowboy Junkies crossed with Natalie Merchant minus the preachiness of 10,000 Maniacs plus the spare-acoustic-guitar-and-vocals interplay of Suzanne Vega's first album) it ultimately blends into a clean phenomenon unlike anything I've ever heard before.

But who, you may ask, *IS* Crash Vegas, and what's with the peculiar name?

While I can't answer that last question (the name is anyone's guess), I can tell you that Crash Vegas is a two man/two woman outfit from Toronto, Canada. Colin Cripps' sparse but extremely effective electric and acoustic guitar mixed with Ambrose Pottie's Percussion create a folksy feeling that doesn't let up on its intensity. It's Michele McAdorey's haunting voice, however, that dominates the album: she steps aside only once to make room for Jocelyn Lanois' lead, on "It's Not Funny Anymore." Lanois makes the most out of her range and articulate lyrics yet I wonder why we don't hear more of her vocals on the album. She also plays bass on the album, proving herself to be of the same multi-talented stock as her brother Daniel Lanois, who is both a musician in his own right and the producer of Peter Gabriel.

"Red Earth," the first track of the album, is brilliantly executed and

quite riveting in its simplicity. McAdorey beguiles her listeners with the dreamlike tale she spins around a broken relationship: Dreamed of our old place again/You were inside trapped by the fire/Here on this Red Earth/Somewhere in Spain/Feel the Cool/Has come again

The flowing imagery of the lyrics meshes beautifully with McAdorey's singing style right up until the song's last unapologetic echo. While "Sky" and "Smoke" are slightly more ambitious efforts, they end up less grounded (never mind the pun) and less interesting than "Red Earth". The album displays other diverse styles as well: "Smoke" and "It's Not Funny Anymore," exhibit the bands country-influenced sound while "I Gave You My Heart" could have been recorded by the B-52's.

One real treat on this album is Crash Vegas' cover of Neil Young's "Down to the Wire." They easily capture the rough, loose spirit of Neil Young in the manner of "Harvest" and they play "Down To The Wire" with such energy that Neil himself would be caught up in the immediacy of the tune. They don't seem to get all the notes in, and as a result, this is the most solid tune on the album. With all due respect to Neil Young, Crash Vegas does it just as well if not better than he does it himself.

Some of the tunes work better than others, but with all of their different influences, Crash Vegas has created a smooth, well-orchestrated debut. Keep an eye/ear out for this band. They may or may not "have something to say", but at least they're making some pretty interesting music. ♦

Susan Leff is a Barnard College junior.

Muse News

Act II: The Muse as Performance Artist vs. The Senator from The Underworld

"Balls!" said the Queen, "If I had 'em, I'd be King!" The Muse was practicing for her lead role in avant garde director Linda Mussman's daring version of Macbeth. She could hardly wait for opening night to shock Her audiences, preempting another tedious portrayal of Lady M. as a forceful but ultimately fragile female with one of a woman seizing the chance for power through any means possible.... (much like The Muse, come to think of it).

Just as She was Out Outing that Damn Spot, an all too familiar voice boomed, "Hey, you in the diaphonous gown! Do you want to make a quick buck? All you have to do to receive funding from the National Endowment of the Arts is sign right here on the dotted line. Act now and we'll throw in three ginsu knives and a copy of the Constitution." The Muse glanced over the NEA's statement of policy:

"None of the funds authorized to be appropriated for the NEA...may be used to promote, disseminate or produce materials which in the judgement of the NEA...may be considered obscene, including, but not limited to, depictions of sadomasochism, homoeroticism, the sexual exploitation of children, or individuals engaged in sex acts and which, when taken as a whole, do not have any serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value."

The Muse dropped her dagger. What would Athena do in a situation like this? There was no question in Her mind.

"You babbling idiot—full of sound and fury signifying nothing! Stop it, just stop it! I'm trying to appropriate one of Billy's masterpieces and convert it into one of female triumph! All the players are filtered through Lady Macbeth, whose vision of the story dramatically analyzes not only the way she has been treated by Shakespeare but also the way in which women have been treated by society. I don't want your soiled currency anyway!"

Musettes: Come support the decision made by Time&Space Limited to reject a grant of \$10,000 from the NEA in the name of freedom of expression and an unfettered NEA. Linda Mussman's M.A.C.B.E.T.H., presented by Time&Space Limited, opens Nov.1 at the Cunningham Dance Studio. Call 741-1032.

However, for the apathetic among us, the Metropolitan-Duane United Methodist Church is hosting a season of musical tributes to American composers. November 4 looks especially safe: Music from Disney, Zip-A-Dee Doo Dah and Chim Chim Cher-ee will be among the highlighted favorites. Every Sunday afternoon at three... Call 243-5470.

The choice is yours. At least for now. ♦

ArtsForum: An Outlet for Artists

—by Katherine Davis

"These artists are actually doing things that we're studying," said Susan Leff (BC '91) of ArtsForum 1990, a series of weekly presentations by current, professional artists representing various aspects of the art community.

Entering its third year, ArtsForum is run by Visual Arts Coordinator Joan Snitzer and Head of the Dance Department Janet Soares and is required of students enrolled in "Imagery and Form in the Arts" or the Dance Senior Seminar.

The informal ArtsForum meetings complement the art and dance classes by "dealing with issues of current art and what's going on now," said Leff.

Leff said that "while in college, it's really easy to be out of touch with the real world, even in New York City. . . ArtsForum put me in touch."

The ArtsForum speakers, many of whom are alumnae, reflect the definite interest in women artists. On the first of October, the current Millicent Carey McIntosh Professor of English and novelist Mary Gordon (BC '71) will speak. The following week, the session will feature acclaimed dancers

June Omura (BC '86) and Holly Williams (BC '79). Both women are members of the Monnaie Dance Group/ Mark Morris, which will be performing at BAM's Next Wave Festival October 6-14.

Snitzer stressed that ArtsForum "is not a lecture. It's a demonstration or discussion, incorporating political and technical aspects of art." Leff, a Women's Studies major with a concentration in Visual Arts, said that she values how "ArtsForum exposes you to another part of art that you lose touch with when studying art history and ties it all together."

ArtsForum also serves as an outlet for the community of visual artists and those students affected by the 1988 dissolution of Barnard's Program in the Arts. "The arts are severely underrepresented on campus," emphasized Leff, who is currently involved in an independent study with Snitzer to increase arts awareness campus.

ArtsForum is on Monday evenings from 6-7pm in the Studio Annex attached to Barnard Hall. ♦

Katherine Davis is a Barnard College first-year student.

Harlem Exhibit

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ary extracts, some famous, some not, which lend a more dramatic understanding of the images.

Two artists were successful in portraying aspects of the female persona: one wistful and one motherly. In Alison Saar's, *Black Snake Blues* and in Camille Billops' *The Story of Mom* we see, respectively, the dreamy relaxed and sensual world of a private black female and Billops' celebration of a mother's figure in a geometric sculpture emanating an esoteric and loving homage to "Mother."

Urban Images at Home in Harlem

Also showing in the studio space is a collaboration of photographic series by eleven black photographers, entitled *Home*. Included in this exhibit is a multi-media exhibit by Pat Ward Williams.

The images reflect the daily life of the home, of the street, of family and friends, of school, church, and neighborhood. They come together to expose a varied and rich view of an urban black community. Each photographer succeeded in creating an entirely unique perspective of their experience as black people in New York City, while demonstrating impressive photographic technique. Examples include the stark, warm portraits of Dawoud Bey and the precarious scenes by Brent Jones of youth and despair in New York. The most dynamic images of the collection were the rich storylines included in Jules Allen's *Scenes Across the City*, showing action and movement and a creative flair for composition.

The studio Museum is located at 144 West 125th Street, between Lenox and 7th Avenues. These exhibits, consisting of modern art, folk and narrative art, music, photography and sculpture, should not be missed. ♦

Hilary Krosney is a Bulletin photography editor and a Barnard College junior.

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Voices

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interest the media will respond. If the media responds more people will become involved. When more people become involved, more progress will be made.

The Barnard/Columbia chapter of The Overseas Development Network is a very effective way we can get involved. The group's focus is to explicitly educate students on Third Worldism, both locally and internationally, and to involve students in the "grass-roots" aspect of the solution process. ODN is a channel we can utilize to help save the lives of our children and our future. ♦

—Carleen Hawn (BC '93)

Wilson

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Wilson blames businesses which leave urban areas and move to cheaper suburban areas for the unemployment of ghetto dwellers. He also blames "statistical discrimination" against young black men for the cycle of poverty. Wilson noted that a large percentage of employers he surveyed found the "work ethic of blacks lacking." Employers also saw ghetto dwellers' to have "inadequate education" and bad presentation. ♦

CORRECTIONS:

The following errors were printed in the September 24th article, "Biology and Physics Departments Expand Course Offerings." Please take note of the corrections.

PHY BC1205, though not required for the major, does satisfy the quantitative reasoning requirement and lab science requirements. It is intended for first-year students, but is not a prerequisite for BC1206.

PHY BC1206-8 forms a three semester sequence in calculus based physics with chemistry and biochemistry majors encouraged to take at least BC1206-7. Physics majors must take all three semesters.

The new physics reading room is on the 5th floor of Altschul.

Bulletin regrets the errors.

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