



BARNARD BULLETIN

Volume XCIX

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February 10, 1992

THE RECESSION



In This Issue:

- Effects of NY State Budget Cuts
- Seniors Face Post-Graduation Anxieties
- Beauty and the Beast: Disney Fails at Feminism



STUDY LEAVES

STUDENTS CONTEMPLATING A SEMESTER OR more of study at another institution, whether abroad or within the United States, should contact Dean Schneider, 105 Milbank, x42024, early in the decision-making process. Eligibility for a study leave is not automatic. Approval is contingent on academic standing, curricular goals, the quality of the program, and other factors.

PEER SUPPORT GROUPS

THE FOLLOWING PEER SUPPORT GROUPS are being offered on a weekly basis this semester: SENIOR SUPPORT, Mondays, 11 a.m. - noon in the Health Services office, Brooks Lower Level; PROCRASTINATION AND OTHER ACADEMIC OBSTACLES, Tuesdays, 11:15 a.m. - noon in 108 Milbank; and COPING WITH THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE, Fridays, 11 a.m. - noon in 108 Milbank.

ABSENCE NOTICES

THE DEAN OF STUDIES OFFICE HAS discontinued the routine sending of student absence notices. Students are now asked to notify their instructors directly. If a student is unable to notify her instructor because of illness or an emergency, the Dean of Studies office will intercede on her behalf. In the case of an extended absence, a student must also notify the Dean of Studies office and the Disability Services office in addition to notifying her instructors to arrange for note-taking, the taping of lectures, or other assistance.

FUNDED PROGRAMS FOR MINORITY STUDENTS

THE WOODROW WILSON PROGRAM IN PUBLIC POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS will offer an intensive summer institute for minority students planning a career in public service who will be seniors in 1992-93. The program will be held at the University of Michigan, Carnegie-Mellon, Princeton, UC Berkeley, and UT Austin, from June through July. Full support for the cost of the program, which includes room, board, travel expenses to and from the home college, and a \$1,000 stipend will be provided.

The application deadline is March 12. To apply, contact Professor Caraley, 409 Lehman, Professor Pious, 401 Lehman, or Dean Schneider, 105 Milbank, by February 24.

THE ANDOVER-WOODROW WILSON INSTITUTE FOR RECRUITMENT OF TEACHERS

IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FROM AFRICAN American, Native American and Latina college juniors majoring in the humanities and the social sciences who are seriously considering a teaching career at the high school or university level. Participants will receive a stipend of \$1,000, room, board and travel expenses to and from the Institute in Andover, MA. Students in the program will be offered extensive counseling when applying to graduate programs at a host of major universities. The application deadline is April 15. For further information, see Dean Schneider or Dean Taylor by March 12.

INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR HALL COUNCIL?

ELECTION INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE beginning February 10 in the Office of Student Life or any Resident Director's office. Applications and platform statements are due Monday, February 24.

SPECIAL INTEREST HOUSING APPLICATION

ILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE OF Student Life and Residence Directors' offices beginning Monday, February 17. There will be an informational meeting for interested students on Monday, February 24 at 4:30 p.m. in 49 Claremont Parlor. Applications are due on Friday, March 6 at noon.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM HEALTH SERVICES:

YOU ARE REMINDED THAT YOU MUST consult Health Services or the physician on call before visiting a hospital emergency room. Failure to do so may result in loss of insurance reimbursement benefits.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

FINANCIAL AID APPLICATIONS FOR the 1992-93 academic year will be available in the Financial Aid office on Monday, February 17. All students currently receiving financial aid must re-apply. The deadline for submitting

completed forms is Friday, April 17. **AID FOR PART-TIME STUDY** is available. If you think you may qualify, see Susan Lee in the Financial Aid office by Tuesday, February 18.

SENIOR CLIPBOARD

JUNIORS INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR THE SENIOR SCHOLAR PROGRAM or the JOINT SIPA-BARNARD PROGRAM are reminded that applications must be filed by Friday, February 28. **RAO WALLEMBERG SCHOLARSHIP** Graduating seniors interested in being nominated should see Dean King soon as possible. See last week's BEAR ESSENTIALS column for details.

PRE-MED STUDENTS:

A LIST OF SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FOR APREMEDICAL students and for MINOR premedical students is available from Dean Rowland. Please see her or the pre-professional secretary, Jayme Abdoo, in 105 Milbank for information. Many programs have early deadlines.

UNDERGRADUATE BUSINESS COURSES:

ALTHOUGH GENERAL STUDIES OFFERS UNDERGRADUATE business courses this semester, only one, BUS F300 (Introductory Finance), has been approved for Barnard degree credit. BUS F3020 (Introduction to Marketing) has NOT been approved. Prospective Economics majors taking BUS F300 should consult the Economic Department about its relationship to major requirements.

STUDENTS WHO TOOK THE YESHIVA UNIVERSITY ADVANCED PLACEMENT JEWISH HISTORY EXAM

IF YOU TOOK THE EXAM IN 1990 OR 1991 AND WHO SCORED 4 OR 5 (on either or both halves (I and/or II Classical or Medieval Periods) should contact Dean Denburg, x42024, at once.

LECTURE ON CHILDREN WITH AIDS

CO-SPONSORED BY THE CHEMISTRY department and Career Services office will be given by distinguished pediatrician and author Perri Klass on February 13 at 5:30 p.m. in Sulzberger Parlor. Please come!

TEA AND TOPICS:

PROFESSOR ROBERT O'MEALLY WILL discuss his new book, "The Many Faces of Billie Holiday" on Thursday February 13 at 4:30 p.m. in the Brook Living Room.

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.

The Barnard Bulletin
3009 Broadway
105 McIntosh Center
New York, New York 10027

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cover: Jeannie Hutchins , courtesy of Dona Ann McAdams

Do you have a nose for news? How about just a nose?

Join the BARNARD BULLETIN and delve into a world of
action and excitement!

Come to our weekly section meetings and pick up an
assignment.

Write occasional pieces, or write for every issue.

News - Tuesday, 7:15 PM

Commentary - Wednesday, 5 PM

Features - Wednesday, 6 PM

Arts - Wednesday, 8 PM

Women's Issues - Wednesday, 8 PM

All of the section meetings are located in the BULLETIN
office, 105 McIntosh. Interested photographers should
call the *Bulletin* office.

Can't make a meeting, but are still interested? Call the Bulletin
x42119.

Try the BULLETIN...it will change your life!

Barnard Bull

The Barnard Bull roamed through campus this week in an effort to give people the opportunity to name a course that they wish to take but is not offered.



◀ **Eizelle Taino (BC '95)**

"I want a career in business, finance. Since this is a liberal arts school, it's lacking in that sense."



◀ **I-Jung Chiang (BC '95)**

"Something like philosophy of law. They have that but it's always limited enrollment. The professor picks about 25 people."

Lisa Botshon (English graduate student) ▶

"I would really like to take a course on film theory or alternate film and/or contemporary popular culture."



Kathryn Cassino (BC '95) ▶

"I think that all the classes I need to take are offered."



◀ **Maria Jebejian (BC '95)**

"Something along the lines of advertising and communication because there are a lot of students these days that want to go into advertising or communication and there aren't enough courses that support that major. For example, some students want to be buyers and there's nothing for them to know about that field of work."



◀ **Tracy Akner (BC '94)**

"First I'd like to say that the Barnard Bull stole this question from the New York Times Education section from a few weeks ago. But the class I'd really like to take is how to do my laundry with just 25 cents."

New York State Budget Proposals Affect the Liberty Partnership Program, STEP, and Bundy Aid

The New York State budget proposal for 1992-93 includes a significant cut in funding for educational programs and private colleges, affecting the Liberty Partnership Program, the Science and Technology Entry Program (STEP), and the Bundy Aid.

According to Vivian Taylor, the Director of Higher Education Opportunities Program (HEOP), STEP, and the Liberty Partnership Program, the reductions in funding would "mean that we'll have to find more economical ways to provide the same education and programs."

Although HEOP will be funded at the same level due to its outstanding success, the equally important Liberty Partnership Program will be cut completely from state funding. The latter program was created to help high school students between the seventh and twelfth grades who were at a high risk of dropping out. Through counseling and advising, the Liberty Partnership Program ensures more high school degree graduates, and encourages continued education. According to Taylor, the program will turn to private sources for continued funding and aid if necessary.

Furthermore, the New York State STEP has also been cut by one-third in the budget proposal. STEP serves to prepare minority students for entry into the scientific, technical, and health-oriented fields of post-secondary degree programs.

Although the program's staff was disappointed by the cuts, they were relieved since STEP had been eliminated from state funding in the 1991-92 proposal. Last year, STEP was supported by so many lobbyists that legislature did not pass the governor's proposal for discontinued funding.

Regarding the similarly jeopardized state of the Liberty Partnership Program, Taylor strongly feels that "if enough people write, we can do it again," and keep the program intact.

Bundy Aid, which is New York State's funding for private colleges, has a proposed reduction of one-half to three-fourths less than the past year's allowance. Bundy Aid was already significantly cut last year, and the 1992-93 proposal has been described as "wrong and unfair" by Barnard's Vice President of Business and Finance Sigmund Ginsburg.

The amount that each private college receives in Bundy Aid is based on the type and number of degrees given out by the institution in the previous year. As unrestricted funds, Bundy Aid is a valuable resource in that the money can be used wherever the college deems necessary. Although this year's Bundy Aid received by Barnard College was only \$400,000 out of the total operational fund of \$54 million, Ginsburg stresses that "any cut in state funding is important to us."

The direct impact of a reduction in Bundy Aid for Barnard remains unclear since the 1992-93 Barnard budget is in the preliminary stage, and the Bundy dollars are widespread within the general pool of operational funds. Christopher Koutsovitis, Director of College Activities, held the common opinion among Barnard operations staff that "a cut in Bundy Aid would have an overall effect." When questioned on high-risk areas, Koutsovitis stated, "I don't foresee any direct

effects on College Activities in particular."

Other areas of immediate concern are financial aid and salaries. However, Ginsburg stressed that "every aspect of Barnard's budget would share the burden - salaries, expenses, financial aid, etc. . ."

In addition, it appears that with a stagnant economy the need for financial aid is greater than ever, and a reduction in Bundy Aid could only compound the problem by depleting scholarship funds. Yet, Taylor explains that education is the basis of our society, and that "we need an educated community for all groups." The change in last year's proposal proves that the voice of the community is a powerful lobbying force. As Taylor states, "It's a tough road ahead, and we all need to pull together."

Allison Marshall is a Barnard College sophomore.

**Nominate Your Favorite
Barnard Professor**

for excellence in teaching and
dedication to students

The Emily Gregory Award

please submit nominations in essay form to
Room 112 Lower Level McIntosh

**DEADLINE:
MONDAY FEBRUARY 17**

MAC
McIntosh Activities Council at Barnard

Seniors Face Post-Graduation Anxieties During the Recession

The hard times that have hit the nation have particular resonance for Barnard seniors. As commencement nears, post-graduation anxieties are familiar feelings for many a Barnard senior deliberating over her future, and the current recession has only served to increase these fears. Whether Barnard seniors are job-hunting or going on to graduate school, the recession has sparked real concerns about what the future holds. The important issue for seniors is to determine whether it is necessary to alter or revise their post-graduation plans in these precarious economic times.

Helen LaFave, director of the Barnard Career Services Recruitment program, has been helping Barnard seniors to answer this question. Recruitment is a program which aids seniors in all aspects of post-graduate job placement, from providing advice on resumes, cover letters and interviews to actually bringing prospective employers on-campus to interview and hire students. LaFave feels that the recession "will definitely increase stress," which is already a factor in post-graduation decisions. And though "it is difficult to determine just how the recession will affect Barnard seniors in terms of job-placement because we are in the middle of Recruitment right now," LaFave already notices students making an extra effort to research their fields of interest and the companies with which they are interviewing, thus putting tremendous amounts of energy into interview preparation. "In troubled times, when companies have fewer resources, they are less willing to take on 'raw material,' so this kind of

prospective employee will have the most success in today's troubled times.

With a tighter economy comes a sparser job market, fiercer competition, and a longer job search, all of which are to be expected in recessionary times, as LaFave affirms. "This is where the research and preparation pay off, but it is also important for Barnard seniors who are job-hunting to review their expectations and above all to be realistic." She adds that last year, many students' job searches took longer and she expects that this will also be the case this year. Not only will the search itself be more lengthy, but firms will take longer in deciding whom to hire, and will probably conduct more interviews than in previous years. All this appears ominous to many Barnard seniors who are looking into other options for their post-graduation plans. Lisa Veleff (BC '92) says, "The job market is horrible. I have friends who graduated last year who still haven't found jobs, so I've made alternate plans to work abroad next year."

Almost every Barnard senior has heard job-search horror stories, but it is important not to be deterred from one's goal because of these accounts. Instead, seniors who have opted not to attend graduate school in the fall should direct their energies towards the job search and not turn to the security of graduate school. "It is important to be tenacious," LaFave admits. She hopes that instead of being discouraged, Barnard seniors will concentrate on preparation; certainly any naivete about the job market will be dispelled by concerns about the economic situation, and that realistic attitude can only lead to positive results, LaFave insists.

"The job market is horrible. I have friends who graduated last year who still haven't found jobs, so I've made alternate plans to work abroad next year."

-Lisa Veleff (BC '92)

A realistic attitude is necessary, but it must be balanced with optimism if one is going to enter the job market. Tina Andreadis (BC '92) maintains that "Things are tight right now but, but not overwhelmingly discouraging. Certainly I have fears about next year. I feel like it might almost be safer to be in graduate school next year rather than face the perils

motivation and preparation can make the difference in being hired."

Another hopeful sign has been in the number of firms participating in the Recruitment program and the number of training programs available; last year there was an increase in the number of on-campus recruiters, and this year all the firms which participated in past years remained in the program. Even more encouraging, some have expanded their training programs. LaFave attributes this positive sign to the fact that in troubled times, firms turn to schools such as Barnard where they are assured of finding "high-achieving, highly motivated women."

One question many students seem to have is, "Are firms really hiring?" The answer, according to LaFave is a resounding "Yes!" and it is important to convey that message to students who may be discouraged by the aura of economic doom that seems to have pervaded the nation.

Another common stumbling block for Barnard seniors is the "I have to have a job by graduation" syndrome. Allowing concerns about the recession to hinder one's job search is foolhardy. The experts agree that a smarter strategy would be to have an awareness of the difficulties and to approach the job search with added zeal. The recession has had some very real effects on the job market, and an informed and realistic

of the job market; but I won't let those fears stop me from job hunting!" The feeling that it may be safer to remain in school rather than brave the "real world" is a sentiment shared by many. Dean Rowland, Associate Dean of Studies and advisor to pre-professional students regards graduate school as the safer and even the smarter alternative right now. Especially with respect to the legal profession, which has been undergoing reduction in recent years, she explains that some pre-law students feel that working in the field before going to law school seems almost futile given the current situation.

To remain realistic, LaFave feels that students should recognize that every field, and in fact every firm is different. It is important to be aware that some fields will be even more difficult than others. LaFave points to communications, always a competitive field, as one that will get even more competitive in these times, when scaling down as opposed to expansion is the order of the day. In addition, government jobs, previously an area of vast and interesting opportunity for Barnard students, will be difficult, even scarce this year. Retail is another field that LaFave targets as more difficult, but she is optimistic for the future. "There may be fewer spots overall, but it won't necessarily be more difficult for Barnard students to get those jobs."

Recruiters have been very

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The Tradition of African American Storytelling

Ossie Davis Speaks at the Zora Neale Hurston Festival

Actor Ossie Davis was the keynote speaker at this year's Zora Neale Hurston Festival of the Arts and Humanities, which was held in her hometown of Eatonville, Florida January 23-26. Mr. Davis appeared in "Zora is My Name: The Zora Neale Hurston Story" directed by his wife Ruby. He discussed the importance of continuing the tradition of storytelling. The speech was delivered at the banquet which took place on the evening of Jan. 26 at the Altamonte Springs Hilton.

Introduced by Wesley Snipes who played Davis' son in "Jungle Fever," Davis began his speech with a tribute to Librarian Emeritus of the Moorland/Springarn Collection at Howard University, Dr. Dorothy Porter Wesley. Davis met Wesley while he was a student at Howard University in 1935 when he was assigned to work in the library. Wesley's influence over him was, he said, "One of the best things that ever happened to me." It was through her that he learned the importance of the preservation of African-American culture. Moreover, he learned about the historical significance of the 'storyteller' within African-American communities.

Describing himself as a "storyteller who hasn't exactly been appointed," Davis related his version of the Yoruba folktale of "Ixtapa and the Hot Water Test." This folktale, adapted from the Yoruba, demonstrates one of the ways that we can see similarities between the Brer Rabbit stories told among African-American people, and the other animal stories derived from West Africa.

"The habit of telling stories," Davis said, "enabled us to survive slavery. Brer Rabbit stories sum up many ways that African slaves survived when surrounded by all kinds of power. The heroes and sheroes of these folktales would never confront the power on equal terms because there was nothing equal about slavery. But they would find ways to get around these obstacles. In a way, it is like saying that we need folktales to get by."

Davis changed the original ending of the story. "It is important that the storyteller adapt the story that he or she

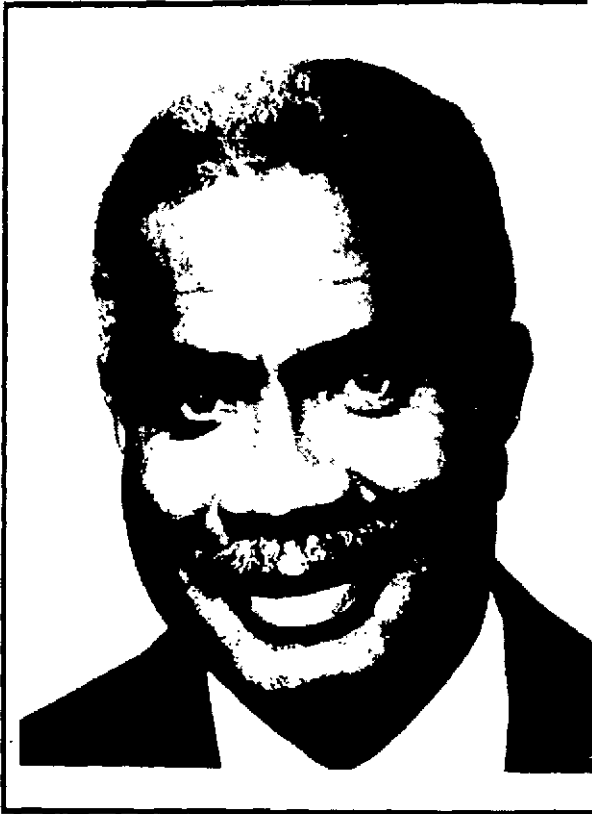
is going to share into the culture in which you live. That is the responsibility of the storyteller." Davis added, "Zora did that."

Davis voiced that, "Folktales about Brer Rabbit, Ole Sis Goose, and Tar Baby demonstrate the many ways in which African-Americans, like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., advocate non-violent resistance. The division between Ixtapa and his fellow workers also demonstrates the disparity among members of the African-American community. Zora Neale Hurston demonstrates this in one of her accounts of a folktale collected while sitting on Joe Clark's store front porch."

Davis suggested that "We [African-Americans] need to find some way to bring ourselves together. We are separated by class, skin color, religion, etc. When I was growing up, I used to hear stories about Sister Snail and Brother Fly. I didn't know it then but these stories are important in that they bring families together. There are societies whose aim is to preserve folk heritage."

Representatives from The Association to preserve the Eatonville Community, The Society for the Preservation of Weeksville and Bedford-Stuyvesant History, and the Moorland/Springarn Collection gave panel discussions on their function as "protectors of our heritage." Davis regretted that he did not have the chance to participate in the other workshops that this festival offered.

In an effort to reach out to the many underserved children of color, Davis



continued, "Again we are at a crisis point. Our children don't read, so how are we to get our stories to them. Stories are portrayed through motion picture. Brer Rabbit and Sis Snail are not represented at Disney World. We need to find a way to get our messages to them."

The following are additional excerpts from Davis' speech.

"Twenty percent of our black men are in prisons. Why? Because Brer Rabbit and Zora Neale Hurston was not there to whisper stories to them. There is a great need to have access to what Zora was trying to lead. We have to go back to the habit of sharing information like telling stories. We need to use the means of instruction to pull the threads together."

"People in a group often reach up one trying to get up the ladder and pull them back down. This reminds me

Continued on page 16

Reuter Forum Tackles International Economic Problems

Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism presented the Reuter Forum: A New Framework for a Changing World on Feb. 5, the first in a series of six panel discussions revolving around critical issues in international economics.

Topics covered by the panelists included U.S. foreign policy in the wake of the Cold War, global environmental concerns, and going beyond the current paradigm in dealing with international economic issues.

The first panelist, Theodore H. Moran, professor and director of the program in International Business Diplomacy at Georgetown University, began his discussion of U.S. foreign policy by employing the analogy of trees in a forest. Moran's assertion that "management of national security policies will become more difficult [with the end of the Cold War]," constituted his metaphorical forest, while specific issues comprised the trees.

Focusing on U.S. energy policy after the Persian Gulf war as the first "tree" in the forest, Moran cited statistics of U.S. dependency on foreign oil. Prior to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, America was dependent on foreign sources for 50% of its oil. One year later, "it is the same and getting worse," according to Moran.

Furthermore, the U.S. is expected to become dependent on foreign oil for 2/3 to 3/4 of all its energy needs by the year 2000. Moran remarks that, "this is the good news," as the country increasingly turns to foreign oil to meet its utility needs. "History may look back on this period and wonder how we let ourselves rush headlong into this," states Moran.

The second tree, which has taken root recently, is the giving of aid to the Soviet Union as it struggles with the economic phantasms of communism and attempts to make the transition to a free market system. Although, Moran contends that the "easy way of thinking about [giving aid] is to just take it out of the defense budget," he stresses that this action will incur costs on society by siphoning money to the Soviet Union, instead of ameliorating America's domestic ills, such as homelessness and health care.

Touching upon the recession, Moran

denounced "Japan bashing" for the sluggish economy, explaining that "as long as we consume more than we produce, we are going to have a trade deficit," whether or not Japan buys U.S. products.

The next panelist, Peter S. Thacher, senior counselor at the World Resources Institute, addressed the future relationship between the environment and development.

According to Thacher, "the rich/poor gap of developing countries has grown wider every decade for the past four decades," signaling a grim future for these countries. "Money was used for essentially political objectives to governments doing us favors...now there is no reason to send money abroad except to promote exports," states Thacher, noting that the end of the Cold War brought the "death of foreign aid" for developing countries.

The poverty which permeates such developing countries as Africa may force them to employ chloroflourocarbons for industrial growth, according to Thacher. Chloroflourocarbons are chemicals known to deplete the ozone layer and contribute to global warming.

Thacher also criticized the U.S. for being less environmentally conscious in comparison to Europe, pointing towards the ceiling as an example. "You won't see this kind of bulb [in Europe]," remarks Thacher, explaining that the lightbulbs available in Europe use significantly less energy than what is used in the U.S. "The U.S. is twice as inefficient as France in terms of the energy needed to make one unit of product," comments Thacher.

Thacher is also advisor to Maurice F. Strong, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, scheduled to meet in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992. According to Thacher, changes "will start in Rio that will come to a head in 1995."

The third panelist, Winifred Armstrong, a principal organizer of the annual "The Other Economic Summit" and contributing editor to the People Centered Development Forum, introduced alternatives to the present economic paradigm that shapes analysis today. "Neither capitalism nor socialism

will suffice to earn a livelihood or be sufficient enough to sustain ourselves and our families," said Armstrong.

Citing that 25% of American children are in poverty, while 80% of Americans have experienced a decrease in the standard of living, Armstrong insisted that it is "time to not just try harder at existing policies, but take a look at underlying premises." One of her principle revisions consisted of a "move away from our current system of replacement and obsolescence towards a system of repair and recycling."

Armstrong also suggested taking into account the costs of environmental damage and the use of non-renewable resources when determining prices of products. Presently, "there is no requirement to invest back into resources," according to Armstrong, "because they are counted as a positive in GNP." Armstrong illustrated the urgency of changing the economic system in the near future, asserting that "most of the Africans that I talked to [while I was travelling] do not think that they will be able to survive under the current system."

Moderator Robert L. Heilbroner, Emeritus Professor of Economics at the New School for Social Research, commented that he was "dazzled by the size of these problems," stating that the major foe of solving these problems is resistance to change. "If we are going to change inertia forces...the only way we can do so is through politics," maintains Heilbroner.

Unfortunately, "politics in the U.S. is stunted...it has been in a kind of sleep for 10, maybe 20 years," according to Heilbroner, who expressed hope that the magnitude of international problems would change this by catalyzing a political awakening in the U.S.

The next panel debate in the Reuter Forum is titled "The Americas", and will take place at 5:00 pm on Feb. 19 in Altschul Auditorium in the School of International and Public Affairs.

Stephanie Staal is a Bulletin News Editor and Barnard College junior

Schroeder Speaks About Funds For Children and Their Families

As part of a three day conference from Feb. 3-5 entitled "Focus on Children: The Beat of the Future", Representative Pat Schroeder (D-CO) spoke last Monday at the Columbia School of Journalism. In an impassioned speech about the importance of federally funded programs for children and families, Schroeder expressed her concern for the future of a nation that "talks family" yet is in reality, "one of the least family friendly nations on the planet."

As the Chairperson of the House Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families, Schroeder has demonstrated her continued commitment to issues concerning children and families. Schroeder has been especially involved in the fight to keep Head Start and WIC, a food program for women, infants, and children, funded in these times of economic recession. These programs, Schroeder claims, are actually tremendously cost efficient. "For every dollar spent on WIC, or dollar spent on immunizations, or dollar spent on Head Start, you save between three and ten dollars in federal money over the next five years. It's amazing they get shots and they don't get sick," said Schroeder.

In her battle for pro-child and family

The bottom line, says Schroeder, is that "a country that doesn't care about its kids doesn't care about its future."

legislation, Schroeder is discouraged by the lack of support in Washington. "For twenty years I've been dragging around the same issues." Turning the focus to domestic issues in this year's State of the Union Address, President Bush promised to increase Head Start by 600 million dollars. "What he didn't tell you is that he is leaving out the 25 percent set aside to increase quality, and the money will only go to four year olds," said Schroeder.

Schroeder worries that focusing on four-year olds and excluding three-year olds and full day care will compromise the effectiveness of the program. She explained that, "If you only do four year olds, and you don't do three year olds, and you don't try to move to full day

care, Head Start is not going to test out as well in a couple of years. Then, people will say, 'I guess we don't need it. It doesn't work anymore,' and you can throw it away."

Schroeder also commented on Bush's proposed study of the American family. Schroeder resents the notion that the commission for a study could be considered adequate action and said that "a nation of dysfunctional families becomes a dysfunctional nation, and you don't need a survey for that."

Schroeder expressed her frustration at the lack of real concern for these issues by other government leaders. "Every politician elected is pro-child and pro-family. They think that pictures equal concern". The problem is that children are not power issues, says Schroeder since "they don't have PACs (political action committees). They don't vote." As a result, Schroeder emphasizes, child and family programs are often the first to go when it comes to budget cuts.

Schroeder sees the attitude as testimony to the superficiality of concern in Washington and asked the audience to imagine "a family sitting at the table trying to figure out their own budget crisis, and saying, 'I know what we'll do. We won't give the children

shots this year.'" Yet in Washington, Schroeder added, "when the crunch comes, the first to go are the kids."

Discouraged by the stream of promises that repeatedly go unfulfilled, Schroeder mentioned specifically that President Bush promised to sign the Family Leave Bill last year and then proceeded to veto it. As it stands, we are the only industrial country which does not have a family leave bill. Politicians have learned, Schroeder explained, that it makes no difference how you voted in the past as long as you promise to vote differently in the future. Schroeder said that the most effective thing concerned citizens can do is advertise the voting records of Congressmen, and hopes that '92 will be the year we can "pin the records to politicians". Schroeder challenged Bush to sign the bill before March 20.

Part of the problem, Schroeder believes, is that Washington leaders are not in positions to really understand these issues. She referred to a study done by The Women Attorneys which shows that while only ten to fifteen percent of the population as a whole is living in traditional family units, only ten to fifteen percent of elected leaders in Washington do not live in traditional family units. "We elect symbols of what we think we're like, and then we wonder why they don't understand real life. Well, they don't live it. When I talk child care, they talk babysitting," said Schroeder.

Noting the changing face of the American family, Schroeder maintains that the role of the government at the family level is more important now than ever. At the beginning of the century, Schroeder explained, almost every child was living with two parents with the extended family nearby. Now, with single parent or dual working parent households becoming more and more common, children are often on their own. Schroeder suggests that "the government better start being the aunts and uncles of all these kids."

Schroeder is also concerned about adolescents in this country, and referred to studies done by Children's Hospital in Denver that show that adolescents are the "worst served medically." She is concerned that adolescents are dealing with incredibly complex issues, and that they are not being dealt with in a straight-forward manner. Schroeder advocates educational programs concerning issues such as alcohol, sex, AIDS, and eating disorders. She strongly resents Jesse Helms' proposed Title 20 program which would have groups going into high schools with slogans such as "Don't be a louse, wait for a spouse," and "Pet your dog not your date." When expressing her concern about the effectiveness of these programs, Schroeder says she is falsely accused of being against abstinence.

The bottom line, says Schroeder, is that "a country that doesn't care about its kids doesn't care about its future." She claims that this is really an issue of competitiveness, and is convinced that "it's over for us in the 21st century if we really want to compete in the global market." Schroeder compared U.S. social programs to programs in Europe.

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SGA Update

At the Student Government Association (SGA) meeting on Monday, Feb. 3, it was suggested that a symbol representing everyone in the Columbia University community be promoted. This idea was originally discussed at the Town Meeting that was held on Jan. 30. Additionally, it was announced that news about upcoming SGA elections will be distributed to First-Years, Sophomores, and Juniors in their mailboxes.

In other developments, a letter concerning the University Food Market (UFM) boycott was sent to all clubs. The boycott begins after Friday, Feb. 7. Last Wednesday, February 5, an "Iron Boosting" table was set up in Lower Level McIntosh, where students tested their iron levels and tried free trail mix of high iron foods. A list of suggested iron-increasing foods was distributed. The Spring Mini Blood Drive was held on Thursday, Feb. 6 from 11:30a.m.-4:45p.m. in Upper Level McIntosh.

Important issues that are being investigated and discussed are the facts that there are more Columbia College students taking Barnard College classes than there have been in the past and Columbia is getting less money. Additionally, there are students who are worried about Barnard's commitment to its Need-Blind Admission Policy and feel that there should be a letter sent by the Office of Financial Aid discussing the issues.

There is a search to locate Barnard College Alums who are currently enrolled in graduate schools other than Law School, Business School, and Medical School, in order to connect them with Barnard's present senior class who might need some encouragement and/or instruction.

In other news, SGA recognized U.M.B. as a new club. U.M.B. is a programming organization that unites minority clubs. The traditional allotment of \$150 for new clubs was approved. PULSE, a club that introduces students to general issues with the opportunity to unify science clubs, also received unanimous recognition as a new club and received \$150. PULSE membership is open to students from all undergraduate colleges of Columbia University. The Political Organization of Women (POW), which is designed to unite politically aware women, was also recognized and received \$150.

The pre-orientation program Columbia Urban Experience was allocated \$500 by a vote of 13 to 2 with no abstentions. This program, which is a community service activity, will continue in the years to come. Since Urban Experience operates as if it was a club, SGA discussed the fact that it should be given annual allocations from the budget.

The Class of 1992 has planned for Tuesday, Feb. 11 to be the date of the Class Dinner. According to Senior Class President Cleo Pappas, Senior Disorientation was a complete success.

The Class of 1993 had their Class Dinner on Thursday, Feb. 6 in the Brooks Living Room and Thai Food was on the menu.

The Class of 1994 has scheduled an International Theme for the Class Dinner to be held on Wednesday, Feb. 26.

Don't forget: every Tuesday from 12:00-1:00p.m. in lower level McIntosh there is a gripe table where you can voice your complaints.

Karen N. Wasserman is a Bulletin News Editor and a Barnard College sophomore.

This Week ...

Black History Month Events

Several groups at Barnard College will be sponsoring events throughout February in honor of Black History Month. Events for this week include:

- Tea and Topics, sponsored by Career Services, will present "The Masks of Billie Holiday" with Professor Robert O'Meally at 4:30 pm on Feb. 13 in the Brooks Living Room.

- The Barnard Organization for Black Women (BOBW) will be having an alumni panel discussion entitled "History of Blacks at Barnard College and Columbia University" as part of their Brunch and Session Series. It will be held at 10:30 am on Feb. 16 in the Sulzberger Parlor of Barnard Hall.

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- Determine priority and policy issues



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Inside the Pamyat

A Close-Up Look at Racism

The following article is based on a soon-to-be released documentary on anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union, entitled "Freedom to Hate," and on an interview with Ray Errol Fox, director, producer and writer of the documentary.

"Aryans are only infected by AIDS. . . Jews die from it. . ."

"Only one religion sleeps with animals. . . only Judaism. . ."

"There are 62 ways to identify Jews. . . the shape of the eyes . . . the nose, the protruding chin. The behind is larger, the walk is like Charlie Chaplain. . . even the smell of their sweat is different. . ."

Is this rhetoric from pre-war, depression-ridden Germany? No. It is speech from citizens of the now defunct Soviet Union and it is in the soul and on the tongues of an enormous number of people, as reported in the documentary, "Freedom to Hate," filmed last year on location. The film, hosted by Dan Rather, is essentially one hour of interviews with Soviet citizens as well as with members of the anti-Semitic movement in Russia called the "Pamyat," both of which provide a chillingly realistic account of anti-Semitism in what was then the Soviet Union, and what is now Russia. Glasnost has had a newfound openness of civil rights, such as freedom of speech. Yet, at the same time, another consequence has taken shape. A new forum has surfaced, a revivification of

overt anti-Semitism. As Dan Rather stated in the film, "The freedoms unleashed by Glasnost have given others the freedom to hate." According to the law in the Soviet Union, there is to be no anti-Semitism. But, with Glasnost, such talk is galvanized, especially with the help of the Pamyat.

The Pamyat is an elusive, growing movement that encompasses a host of racist and virulently anti-Semitic factional hate groups. Pamyat is Russian for "memory." This is viewed by many to signify a longing for the old days, when the Tsars were in full armor, instituting pogroms, and equipped with the fervor for Jew-bashing. The constitution of the Pamyat is almost verbatim to the Nazi Manifesto. This seems to be ironic, for Hitler was seen as an adversary of Russia during the second World War. Yet, the Pamyat and Hitler share a common enemy - the Jews.

A pamphlet put out by sympathizers of the Pamyat maintains that there is an intifada going on in the Soviet Union. The symbolism denotes a presumably misleading affinity to the Palestinians. The claim assesses that all the Russians live under territories occupied by Jews. Thus it is necessary to pursue a guerilla-type war against the Jews, the Zionists. Plots include the burning of apartments owned by Jews. A Jewish man who has experienced such torture (his wife and daughter were burned to death in their flat) fears the night, just before he goes to bed, when he is "suffocated by

anguish."

In May 1987, the birth of the political action of the Pamyat was hailed at a demonstration outside the Kremlin in Moscow. An assessment of the popularity of the Pamyat is approximated to be about 50,000 supporters in Moscow and Leningrad alone. Throughout the Soviet Union, there are five million members - a number larger than the number of supporters for Lenin in 1917!

The leadership of the Pamyat consists of four (now three - one was recently found dead) central characters in the Moscow area. The movement is so widespread that it is known to be linked to the KGB, the Soviet Interior Ministry, and sanctioned by certain priests of the Russian Orthodox Church. A member of the KGB admitted that the Pamyat can, in reality be stopped by the power of the KGB, but is not. In fact, the Pamyat has been called "the army of the KGB."

The Pamyat is believed to have been covertly government-sanctioned. One Soviet writer has blamed Gorbachev for not cracking down on violent acts of racism. When Soviet Political Commentator Vladimir Posner asked Boris Yeltsin about Pamyat, Yeltsin continuously evaded the questions. Later, after the interview, Yeltsin admitted that he did not want to antagonize the leadership of the Pamyat until becoming President of the Russian Federation. Yeltsin apparently was exploiting the Pamyat for his own political gains.

So pervasive is the Pamyat that its membership includes partisans from peasants, to the "blue-collar" class and all the way up to the intelligentsia. Intellectuals, artists and writers are all taking part in the movement. However, many people will not admit to membership of the movement, although these people espouse the same anti-Semitic rhetoric as the Pamyat. At the grass-roots level, as an initiation, new members of the group must specify at least five Jews as potential targets for anti-Semitic acts. Those that do not will be seen as "hidden Jews," a term used by the Pamyat to label non-Jews as Jews who have changed their names to Russian ones as a disguise.

Although there are laws against acts



Title to Ray Errol Fox's Documentary Film

of racism, such laws are rarely enforced. One man who was charged with conducting violent racist acts was tried. However, his trial was continually interrupted by rowdy Pamyat sympathizers. Subsequently, the man was convicted with a light sentence. This case was seen by critics as a token, a farce.

Why is the Pamyat gaining such wide-spread support? Posner explained that the origins of modern anti-Semitism in Eastern Europe was when the King and Queen of Spain kicked out the Jews in the 1400's. At the time of the Inquisition, Poland needed a stronger economic base, so it welcomed the Jews - many of whom were traders and businesspeople. The Jews would be able to retain their cultural identity, while helping Polish noblemen develop their trade. But the deal was that the Jews were to be responsible for collecting taxes. In 1648, the Ukraine joined Russia and the first serious pogroms started, whereby Jewish property was pillaged and Jews were brutalized and murdered by the tens of thousands.

The scenario in the Soviet Union is horrifying and similar to pre-war Germany. If Yeltsin is eventually ousted from power (after the Soviets become disillusioned with his lack of experience and knowledge), a right-wing fascist may eventually gain public support. The present situation suggests that at least one of the scapegoats to be blamed for the economic ails will be the Jews. Ray Fox, director and writer of "Freedom to Hate," doesn't believe that a situation like Nazi-Germany could come about in the Soviet Union. "Jews wouldn't let it happen. The lobby power of today versus the 1940's is much stronger." Fox adds that the communications network today is far more advanced than it was in the World War II era. When asked if he thought another Holocaust was imminent, Fox replied, "Not another Holocaust, but it's foreseeable that the killing of Jews en masse could start again." Others believe adamantly that indeed an actual Holocaust could recur as anti-Semitism is not dying but rather escalating. Those who do, see that the only hope for Jews in the Soviet Union is to leave immediately.

There are, however, numerous problems associated with this course of action. For one, the emigration process is extremely bureaucratic and time-consuming. The process can take over a year to become finalized and additional time is needed to obtain a plane ticket. Secondly, it is quite expensive to emigrate and then start over again in a



Meeting of the Pamyat

foreign country. Additionally, the documentary makes an argument that if all the Jews were to somehow leave the Soviet Union, there would be a "brain drain," whereby the country would lose many of the educated and scholarly citizens since the Jews are disproportionately well-educated. According to the famous non-Jewish poet, Yevtushenko, who is considered by Pamyat members to be a hidden Jew, "Russia is like Borscht. If you take out the honey, it will be different. If you take out the Jewish people, then it will not be Russia." One of the leaders of the Pamyat light-heartedly asserted that because the "Jews were responsible for the genocide of the Russian people, we can't let them go." He demanded that they must stay because it would be unfair for them to take out of the country what they have robbed. "They shouldn't be allowed to take our soil. . . . Another leader of the Pamyat had an alternative suggestion: "All the Jews. . . I'd put them in front of the Russian border and just kick them out by my leg. . . kick them below the belt, in the ass and push them out of the country."

It is certainly understandable that Fox, himself a Jew, would be apprehensive about spending time alone with the leaders of the Pamyat during his interview with them. Fox recalls being particularly frightened of one leader who waved one of his torture weapons threateningly in Fox's face. During another interview, Fox had a physical confrontation with a member of the KGB, thought to be affiliated with Pamyat. The KGB member's final words were "We'll meet again - and next time it will be more interesting."

In the documentary, a Jewish Soviet

woman tells of her frightening experience with anti-Semitism: when she was seven months pregnant, she was walking down the street and was brutally beaten by a man who was unrelentlessly kicking her. All of her pleading proved futile. Passers-by simply turned away. "Please, please stop!" she shouted. "My baby, my baby!" But the abuser and everyone else ignored her. "You dirty kike!" her tormentor screamed. "Your baby will never be born, but if it is, it will be a distorted creature, you kike!" On the verge of being raped, the woman spotted a dog who sensed that something was wrong. The dog proceeded to run to the woman and scared off the rapist. The dog was the only "human" who helped her.

There are still 2-5 million Jews living in the Soviet Union today. It is quite obvious that the Jews should get out of the Soviet Union as soon as possible. Unfortunately, about 2-3 million will never be able to leave due to their age and/or economic status. The ones that are able to leave are going to Israel which unfortunately is not able to keep up with the influx of immigrants. But there are still Jews who are choosing to stay. They are not listening to the harsh realities and changing political climate of their country. Think of how many Jews in Nazi-Europe could have survived had they opened their eyes and had not been so afraid to get out. . . when they still had a chance.

Dawn Zuroff is a Barnard College senior.

Students Call for New Asian American Studies Courses

On Jan. 27, the Barnard Student Government Association (SGA) recognized the existence of the student organization Asian-Americans Working for Education (AAWE). According to AAWE's constitution, Article II, Section I, the organization's purpose is "...to educate the Columbia University community about Asian-American issues by incorporating the field of Asian-American studies into the undergraduate academic curriculum and by sponsoring community events which address these issues."

Closely related to AAWE is the Ad Hoc Committee on Asian American Studies at Columbia. It focuses on the specific issue of Asian American Studies and is a coalition of students and student groups. The Ad Hoc Committee sponsored the Nov. 12, 1991 event entitled "Racism in Education: The Exclusion of Asian Americans, A forum on Asian American studies in the U.S. and its exclusion from the curriculum at Columbia."

The Ad Hoc Committee has as its ultimate goal the institution of a complete program in Asian American studies. Such programs already exist in several institutions on the West Coast. At UCLA, Berkeley, and San Francisco State, a major or concentration is offered in Asian American studies. Asian American studies is becoming "a salient issue" for students on the East coast as well, at such institutions as SUNY Buffalo, Hunter College, Brown University, and Yale University. Programs at these universities are still in the very early stages, offering one or two courses or an adjunct professor. The only extensive program on the East coast is at Cornell University.

Currently Columbia University offers two courses in the history department. "The History of Asians in America," is taught by Adjunct Professor Peter Kwong in the fall. In the spring semester he teaches "Asian Americans in Post 1965 America." The first such class at Columbia University was taught at Barnard in the spring semester of 1991.

According to Eliza Noh (BC '92), who, along with Penny Bunyavroch (CC '92) coordinates the Ad Hoc Committee, the first step in enlarging the curriculum is to hire a tenured faculty member. At this point, Professor Kwong does not have a permanent position. "This," Noh said, "is not a commitment. If he goes, there goes the course." A program in Asian American studies, she envisions, would be interdisciplinary, exploring the role of Asian Americans in American history, economics, public policy, gender issues, and other areas. Alexandra Suh, a graduate student in the School of Arts and Sciences, thought that Asian American studies could include the history of Asians in Latin America, South America, the Caribbean, and Canada. Some students are interested in the Asian experience in "the Americas" while others focus more on the United States.

Although AAWE is broader in its purpose, it is working together with the Ad Hoc Committee on an event for Feb. 21. This event will include workshops and a student panel discussion on Asian America issues and Asian American education. "It will be a consciousness raising event. We can look at our own personal experiences and be able to realize that these are actual social issues that need to be addressed within education," stated Noh. "The event will put Asian American issues in the context of the education of all students, not just Asian Americans," explained Suh.

Not all students of Asian descent feel the necessity for an Asian American studies program. When presented with this

idea, Jane Lee, a graduate of Columbia College and a graduate student at the School of International Affairs, said that she had not noticed Asian American studies was lacking in the curriculum. Echoing comments from other students that most Asians in America are first or second generation and don't really identify as Asian American, she said, "It's a time yet."

Many proponents of Asian American studies agree that this point in time there are diverse ways of identifying oneself: Asian, American, South Asian, Chinese American, Thai, Filipino, Indian American. Noh feels that the Asian American experience is so diverse, consisting of people from different ethnicities and coming into American history at different times, that the term Asian American cannot be a monolithic, qualitative term. Suh emphasized her idea that Asian American is a practice "not an essential identity." In fact, "it is not by common origins that we can identify Asian Americans but a combination of certain limited experiences and the choice to work together." Among the common experiences is included the way Asians have been viewed and stereotyped.

The question of identity came out in a joke told by Sanjiv Kim, (CC '92). In a common scenario for people of Asian descent the dialogue begins with, "Where are you from?" "Columbia." "But where are you really from?" "Queens." He noted that people "don't accept the fact that you're American. They think you must be from somewhere else."

Kim pointed out that there is a significant difference between Asian American studies in the context of American history and Asian studies in the context of specific Eastern cultures. In fact, he says, Asian American studies has little to do with shaping one's own identity. It has to do with expanding a narrow perspective on American history. History, he feels, is interpretive. Asian American history is not an embellishment of so-called main-stream history. It is actually looking at American history from another side. "To expand knowledge of American history to the fullest "there must be adequate interpretations from other view points." For example, in not including texts from a variety of cultures, some of the "Great Books" classes, "From an intellectual standpoint one is cutting oneself short."

According to Noh, the importance of Asian American studies is that Asian Americans have made contributions to American society that haven't been recognized. "The fact that we've been invisible in the broader social, political realm reflected in our education at Columbia." Kim agrees that there is a long tradition of Asian American history that a lot of people, even of Asian descent, don't know about.

Asian American history begins in the 1840s when people started immigrating from China to America. Because there is such an abundance of material, Professor Peter Kwong explained that what was originally a single course on Asian American history had to be broken up into two semesters. Students still complain about there being too much work for each class. The problem for scholars is not a shortage of resources but rather keeping up with new information. The Asian American population has grown from one million in 1960 to 7.3 million today. Asian Americans are having a major impact on the development of the American scientific establishment and on important segments of the economy.

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African American Studies at CU: What are We Neglecting?

Columbia University has recently begun to face the issues of multiculturalism in the curriculum and the fact that the student body is very diverse. Although Columbia University seems to be offering students the opportunity to study cultures and civilizations other than Western civilization, this may not be so. At Columbia College, out of the 12 required core classes, only two of them must be about non-western civilization and though an African-American studies major exists, there are major issues about the adequacy of the African-American studies major. Furthermore, although there aren't any required core classes at Barnard College, Barnard still does not offer a major in African studies.

The African-American studies major was created at Columbia in the spring of 1987. Columbia first created an urban studies major (which was never implemented) as a response to student agitation and racial tensions of the 1960's. By 1985 the Committee on Instruction was in the process of working out the feasibility and structure of an African-American studies major. Ultimately the committee created an interdepartmental major. This major consists of a specialization in one department with a minimum of five courses, six specific lecture courses, and two seminars.

The African-American studies major may sound rigorous, however, many of the classes which are listed under the major are only tangential to the field of African-American studies. Examples of such classes are Modern American Texts, Main Currents in American History, and Political Change in the Third World. When asked about the program, Columbia African-American studies majors mentioned that they did not feel immersed in African culture and that they and other students were advised not to major in African-American studies because it is not a real major and would not be impressive for applying to graduate schools.

Why should such a situation exist at a University as renowned as Columbia University? This may be a result of professors who are teaching African-American studies not specializing in African studies, but in the traditional field in which a specific African studies

class is taught. Chair and Director of African-American studies Professor Marcellus Blount commented that "What we don't have at Columbia yet is the ability for appointments to originate in African-American studies. . . and I think that until that happens we will be at a disadvantage."

For appointments to originate in African-American studies, Columbia would have to implement a program by which professors are hired with specializations in both African-American studies and a traditional field. According to Blount, this program has been successful at Yale University, University of Pennsylvania, Harvard University, and Dartmouth College.

There does exist a provostial fund at Columbia which is an incentive for departments to hire Africanists or minority faculty. However, Blount commented that the fund is underutilized. He further stated that "The provost could give more encouragement to departments to fill positions with minorities and to create positions which would attract minority scholars."

Nonetheless, if there is to be any growth in the number of African - American studies majors from the handful which exist today, more faculty would have to be hired. As African-American studies major Ben Young (CC '92) said, "Chances are you'll run out of African-American studies classes in a department before you reach the five classes [for specialization]." According to Blount, the university would have to make a structural commitment to African-American studies by hiring Africanists and letting the departments know that if they do hire Africanists they will not be sacrificing elsewhere. This would be a serious commitment of both the faculty and the administration. Blount commented that "What Columbia needs to do is rethink intellectually the notions of ethnicity and race and gender and provide students with the kind of knowledge that they need in the world that awaits them, so we're not talking just about African-American studies."

The other model for African studies, which has been very successful at Cornell University, is the African studies department. However, a department would require a major allocation of

funds and there is no indication that the University is in any way considering it.

At Barnard College the situation seems even more dire since an African studies major does not even exist. This fact was not brought to the attention of the administration until a sub-committee of the Curriculum Review Committee suggested that a Pan-African studies major is necessary and viable. The Pan-African Studies Committee is chaired by Professor Robert O'Meally. The committee has proposed that departments be given incentives by the administration to hire professors with specializations in both Africanist and established studies.

The committee seems to be at a deadlock at the moment because some members of the administration feel that the need for the major is not urgent and could be established at a later time. Student Government Association Senator Jennifer Bullock (BC '93) replied, "I find it offensive as a student of color that they [the administration] don't consider the continent of my ancestors to merit research and academic study." The sub-committee does have the Student Government Association's backing and Representative-at-Large Allison Pierre (BC '94) is currently working on a student petition for the creation of Pan-African studies.

Elham Cobanin is a Bulletin Associate Features Editor and a Barnard College first year student.

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support

other men and women support men, as opposed to Sextet where only men support women. Dancers - in groups of varying numbers of women and men perform alone and together, sometimes at once on stage. This seems to me a more equitable solution to Tharp's problem of authority.

Jullayn Coleman is a Barnard College third-year student.

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such as the German program of government-funded spa leave for mothers and the one thousand dollar incentive for women in France who enroll in the government's pre-natal program. Schroeder insists that the U.S. government must also start investing in people and suggests that "in the 1990s every single decision by government should be made on the basic following fault line: are we preparing this country to compete with Canada, Europe and Asia with the highly skilled, highly paid, and highly educated, or are we getting ready to compete with the developing world?"

A press conference followed her address. Among other things, Schroeder was asked if the perceived rise in women candidates since the Clarence Thomas hearings was real or an invention of the press. Schroeder responded that women are now polling ten points better than men, and that voters perceive them as more likely to deal with domestic issues. The problem, however, is that because women often do not have the same access to money that men historically have had, women candidates are often perceived as unelectable. Schroeder said that she is discouraged by the fact

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crabs in a basket. We need to use a different image like the ones we find in folktales. We need to put new images into place. Don't watch the crabs, watch the coondogs."

"Coon was a delicacy, but very fast, so it was difficult to catch. The trick was to train coondogs to find the scent. Without the scent they run, fight, and step on each other. 'Bell' would yowl when she gets the scent and follow it to the coon. Our problem is that we haven't found what the scent is. Soon somebody somewhere will find the right scent. Like the '60's and '70's in the fight for equality.

The knowledge of our history is not written in books but folktales and oral stories like that. Tribes all over the continent (Africa) were able to communicate. "The talking drum."

"It was the drum that defined us as Africans. Someone would be beating on the drum and across the island they would know it was saying, 'everybody duck, here comes Henry Kissinger.'"

"The contemporary storyteller is more of what you see today in the script of comedians. That is a degradation of comedy. Me, I can change history by wit, intelligence, persuasion, and being civilized. We need somehow, now, to find a way to explain the truth of our history and what is really going on today in which a child can know more than what is shown on the news today. You can understand how presidents get by through sound bites."

"Is it true that capitalism really broke down in 1929? And that the New Deal resolved our problems? And that in '37 unemployment was the same as it was during the Depression? And that war resolved our economy? And that from '65-'67 there was another war which seemed to stimulate the economy? If that is the case, then we are now back economically to the Depression. Brothers and Sisters, these are some hell of a times. We need to find ways to explain how and what is happening in the simplest ways so that everyone will understand."

Kimberly Elaine Parker is a Barnard College senior.

that there were 25 women in Congress in 1964 and only 29 in 1992, yet she remains hopeful for the future.

Jenna Buffaloe is a Bulletin Women's Issues Editor and a Barnard College junior.

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such as the garment, high tech assembly, and service industries. The shift to the use of immigrant labor has affected the issues of labor movements, unions, and exploitation. Many schools have put quotas on admissions because they see Asians as overrepresented in universities. With the increase in the number of Asians and Hispanics in American society, racial issues can no longer be seen as black and white. America is becoming more and more a multi-racial society and the question of how Asians fit in has increased in importance.

The question of Asian American identity is only a small part of what Asian American studies is about, emphasizes Kwong. The content is of wide interest and aims at understanding American society from an Asian American viewpoint. 65 students, not all of whom are of Asian descent, attend the class "Asian Americans in post 1965 America." The first time such a class was offered at Barnard, one student remembers that 150 people showed up for the first class during the shopping period.

Suzanne Osbinsky is a Barnard College sophomore.

Beauty and the Beast: Disney Fails at Feminism

The 2pm showing is over. Families huddled together, leave the dim theatre smiling. I overhear talk about "an independent heroine", and "a fine moral message," I scream. Obviously not quite loud enough, for most responses I've heard have hailed Beauty and the Beast, Disney's latest release, as a well made, progressive film. While the animation is brilliant and the score innovative, when examined closely, one might begin to see this film's insidious content pervades a seemingly "feminist" plot.

Responding to earlier criticisms of undeveloped heroines, Disney attempts to create an independent, spunky, and intelligent female character. Yet, the very first time we meet Belle, her most developed trait is her beauty. It is literally the talk of the town. It is the essence of her name; ("Belle" - the French word for beauty.) I'd like to know if it could ever be reversed in our society? Could the dashing prince fall in love with the ugly, beastly woman? But of course Disney knows us best. Reared as we are on dainty women and wealthy men, it simply would have confused us.

Wealth is introduced to us in the form of the rich, selfish prince, who turns an old hag (an elderly "ugly" woman) away when she requests charity. Wanting him to look beneath the surface, our hag becomes a beautiful witch who casts her spell. This emphasis on inner beauty suggests the prince's crime was that he did not look beyond the exterior; for when he realizes the hag's beauty and power, he attempts to repent. His punishment is to remain the beast, until he can love and be loved in return. How does this prove he can look beneath the surface, when the object of his love, Belle, is absolutely beautiful? How ironic that it is Belle who looks beneath his surface, as the ugly and terrifying beast. To coincide with his sin, a more fitting punishment would have entailed the prince falling in love with an old ugly woman, but would our audience still smile?

Once again beauty begets wealth, as the film's happy ending is in place.

Whatever respect I developed for Belle's individuality and intelligence was significantly depleted, as she seemed to live

for everyone but herself. Belle's dreams and desires are put to the side as her fears for the lives of both her father and the beast take precedence. Putting aside her own hopes, Belle, takes her father's place as the beast's captive, where she vows to remain forever, but for whom she later takes risks to defend. For those who believe Belle to be a more rounded

character, I am afraid I see little more than an introspective cheerleader. Moreover, the emphasis on Belle as a lily-white, good character, does not allow us to examine her actions as closely. The lines are drawn, Gaston is evil, while Belle is good. Yet, there is a crucial issue which is never addressed. Belle falls in love with her captor, the beast, who has taken her away from her family, seems ready to starve her, and is consistently yelling abusively. This seems to suggest women enjoy force and sexual violence. Is this the moral people have been referring to? A clean-cut family message?

I would urge those who claim this as a feminist film to look beneath the surface. Gaston, the chauvinist in this film, is perhaps the most undeveloped character of all. He is vain, full of machismo, full of himself, and believes in traditional roles. Of course Belle would not be taken in, but I fear this character typing is labeling chauvinism as

extreme and apparent, when it can be delivered as insidiously as it has been throughout this film. Is it coincidence that our intelligent heroine was a brunette, while the ditzy women sighing over Gaston were blonds? Why is this a film which excludes all peoples of color? Does the issue of captive/captor type relationships strike fear of sexual violence and force into no one but myself? Finally, why is it necessary to objectify this female character who truly had such strong possibilities? While some might claim Disney is making strides, I fear this subtle form of pat feminism may do more harm than good. I urge Disney to try again.

Dara Botwinick is a Barnard College sophomore.



The Art of Self-Defense

It's dark outside and I'm alone. Nestled under my fluffy winter coat and head scarf, and burdened under the weight of my backpack, I fight the icy winds as I trek up Broadway.

Suddenly, I sense that I am not alone. Although my vision is restricted by my winter layers and my movement hindered by the weight of my bag, I manage to see the shadow of a lone man steadily approaching. The stranger eventually catches up with me. I panic. But when he passes me and continues on his way, so does my fear. I began to breathe freely again and I blame myself for allowing my paranoid and over-imaginative mind to distort my rational thinking.

But was I really such a fool? Can I always be certain that the stranger will pass me? In a matter of seconds he could have come up behind me, grabbed me, and knocked me onto the frozen pavement, perhaps leaving me so stunned that I would not have even screamed. That's when I decided that no strong Barnard woman need subject herself to a needless form of vulnerability.

I signed up for the self defense classes offered by Barnard's Physical Education department and began to learn just how to fight back. For two hours a week, along with approximately 15 other women, I learn how to kick, hit, and block to protect myself against attack.

"What makes self defense techniques viable for women is to be able to utilize the first few seconds to their advantage to surprise the attacker. As the attacker attacks, they immediately respond within the first few seconds with a strong hit, jab, kick or some type of response that throws the attacker off long enough for the woman to get away," said Priscilia Gilmore, an associate of the Barnard's P.E. department and self defense instructor.

Gilmore, who has been teaching in the physical education department for almost six years, also teaches yoga and helps administrate the department's wellness programs. She is a second degree black belt which is the result of 13 years of studying Goju Rye, a style of karate.

It was not the daily fears of walking on the street that eventually sparked Gilmore's interest in self defense, but personal reasons. "I had several incidents since college where I was ruffed up by guys and it took me a little while to figure out that this was not the

way to go," Gilmore explained. "When I got into the martial arts classes I didn't even consciously take it because I was angry at being hurt as a woman, I took it because I wanted to exercise," she said.

After involving herself in the world of martial arts, where she also met her husband, instructor of American Te style martial arts, Ron Taganashi, she found out how necessary self defense techniques are for women. "I learned along the way that this is important for women. Women need to learn how to get in touch with a more aggressive self - to defend oneself very strongly to the point of death," Gilmore said.

Although the idea of self defense may bring to mind images of Bruce Lee knocking down all the bad guys with some swift and fancy footwork, the introductory level of self defense is not threatening or overly complex. While it is true that self defense, as a martial art, is both physically difficult and challenging, it is also a cumulative process. The self defense classes offered at Barnard begin simply so that students will know the basics.

The crucial first step a student must take is overcoming the psychological barriers which impinge upon her self-preservation. The psychological effects of being attacked is often panic and, consequently, an inability to move. If women, especially, are able to overcome these psychological barriers then they have a better chance of protecting themselves against attack.

The very first assignment Gilmore gave my class was to become aware of ourselves within our environment. Instead of giving in to the lulling make-believe inner world that habitually entraps unsuspecting students on our ways to classes, we were advised to remain in the present reality. "Look around you. See who is walking near you. Use store windows as mirrors and check the reflections to see who is behind you," Gilmore advised.

It is also important to realize that potentially threatening situations can be alleviated by relying upon our instincts and use some common sense. When I felt bad vibrations because of the approaching stranger on the street, I should have acted. I should have removed myself from the situation by perhaps crossing the street. More importantly, I should have trusted my innate feelings, instead of dismissing them as paranoia.

Gilmore urges her students to accept

their intuitions as valid. "What I try to do is get people prepared to practice this awareness feeling, the instincts and the vibes, so that over time your whole body and your whole mind become much more in tune with the environment," she said.

Women should also realize that is not just muscle strength that will protect them, but mastering the effective martial arts techniques. Part of that technique is the confidence that if a move is done correctly, it is the force by which the movement is done and not the muscular strength that will break the pursuer's hold.

Self defense, however, is a life-long process. Students should not falsely assume that one class will teach them all that they need to know to master the martial arts. On the contrary, Gilmore suggests that students who wish to really learn martial arts should spend a minimum of two hours two times a week for at least three years studying.

Despite the intensity of the art, students will learn the necessary and basic techniques in Barnard's self defense classes. "This is not to think that an individual who takes my class will not be able to utilize my technique. Whatever you remember, you can do," Gilmore said.

Even students who have never taken a self defense class can learn some techniques. They should know that if they are attacked they should always make a scene. Often women who are harassed or attacked in public are either paralyzed with fear, or they feel that if they ignore the attacker, he or she will just disappear.

Gilmore also stresses the importance of making eye contact with the

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TUTORING

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threatening individual. This acknowledgement of the potential attacker may dissuade him or her from actually acting.

Ideally, the self defense classes at Barnard are offered to encourage students to commit to a lifetime relationship with the martial arts. "Martial arts training should be looked at as a lifestyle and you involve yourself in it from day one on a pretty ongoing basis - two, three, six times a week," Gilmore said.

An obsession with self defense could potentially become an obsession with violence. On the contrary, Gilmore feels that the world would be a better place if people began to learn the martial from childhood. "If women, in general, learned self defense from the time they were young, they would be a little better off. For the victimization of people on the streets all the time and the victimization of women, especially, it would make a difference," she said.

It is sad and frightening how violent society is. Women, especially, face the danger of becoming victims to violent, patriarchal crimes such as rape. Part of the blame for such violence may be the way men are brought up. Ron Taganashi, Gilmore's husband as well as an advanced martial artist, taught self defense classes at Barnard last year feels that, "men have a major problem. There has to be a perspective coming from men that women haven't see. Most men are brought up in society to have no respect for their mothers. Men in the White House don't understand women's problems and where they are coming from." Taganashi feels that all women should learn self defense. "I wouldn't want my daughter to choose a man who will dishonor her, but if she can defend herself than she can take care of herself," he said.

Diversity is one of Barnard's central themes. This can be extended to include not only the interaction of different cultures and races, but also of the intellectual with the physical and spiritual.

Our bodies are ourselves. Barnard offers an opportunity to not only improve our minds but to preserve our lives. "Our lives are worth something. We only get one body in this world and we have to defend it," Gilmore said.

It's up to every Barnard woman to live to her highest potential, and that means becoming strong body, mind and soul.

Abigail Pickus is a Bulletin Women's Issues Editor and a Barnard College sophomore.

Late last week, a former Barnard self-defense instructor, Ron Moore, suddenly died. He was the husband of Priscilla Gilmore, who is an associate of the Barnard Physical Education department. Moore showed his students a new way to look at the world, and gave them the strength to find delight in their lives. He taught his students about the importance of nature and Mother Earth. He encouraged his students to love themselves and to protect themselves because their lives are important. He verbalized his belief that all women deserve to be treated with respect by all men.

The Bulletin editors would like to express our sympathies to Priscilla Gilmore, and let her know that we will remember her husband as a source of strength, love, and wisdom for his students.

Word On Women... Barnard and Beyond



by Jenna Buffaloe and Abigail Pickus

A Step Forward. . . A New York judge has ruled that two lesbian life-partners can adopt a child conceived by one of the women through artificial insemination. A boy was born to one of the women after the two women, who had lived together for 14 years, decided to have a child.

The ruling, established by Manhattan Surrogate Judge Eve Preminger on Jan. 30, establishes that "an open lesbian relationship is not a reason to deny adoption."

A report from a social worker claims that the adopted boy "seems to accept the fact that he has two mothers and seems to have an equal bond with both."

A Titillating Revelation. . . The FDA has declared a temporary cessation on the sale of silicone-filled breast implants due to recent accusations that the implant manufacturers knew at least eight years ago that the implants were dangerous.

Trial lawyers claim that court-approved agreements kept the papers which revealed the harmful side-effects of the implants secret.

For 30 years, silicone has been implanted into the breasts of more than two million women. These women may face side effects such as immune system disorders, connective tissue diseases and cancer.

The major manufacturer of silicone implants, DOW Corning Wright Co., denies the accusations and maintains that the implants are safe.

An FDA advisory panel is now reviewing the new data.

Culture Vs. Comfort. . . Religious and political leaders, as well as non-government organizations, have condemned female circumcision due to its serious side effects.

Female circumcision (when a girl's clitoris is completely removed) is done as part of a ritual custom among the Gisu and Sebei people of Eastern Uganda.

One out of every twelve patients in Kapchorwa's clinics is a girl or a woman who suffers from complications from the circumcision. It is feared that unhygienic knives used in the operation could spread AIDs. Some young girls have even bled to death after the operation.

A recent study on the effects of female circumcision among the Sebei people has shown that many of the girls resist the operation, but are later coerced into it due to social pressures.

Writers Block? . . We can help each other. You have something to say and we want to help you say it. You want to educate students about timely and consequential issues concerning women on campus and around the world; we want your words to reach a larger audience. Raise your voice with us. Express yourself in Women's Issues. Call the Bulletin office today (X42119) for more information (ask for Abigail or Jenna), or show up at our section meetings which are at 8 pm every Thursday night in upper level McIntosh.

Downtown Performance Space Tackles the Recession

"This could be either the worst thing that happened or it could be really great," says Mark Russell, Executive Director of Performance Space 122, of last week's benefit to supplement their budget, hard-hit by the recession. "The whole '80's tickle down has finally tickled out," maintains Russell, who strives to sustain a thriving arts center in the face of the economy's reversal of fortune. P S 122 sort of sees itself as a laboratory or a shelter for artists, claims Russell. Unfortunately, this institution of experimental art is threatened both by a financially wary public and a cautious national government, whose limited funding for the arts renders it more of a luxury than a necessity.

The structure that now houses Performance Space 122 was originally a public school, but was abandoned by the city in 1976.

For the next several years, the building was inhabited by artists and various social groups who accepted the credo that "if you could get into a room, pay the rent, and clean it up, you could keep it." In 1979, Charles Dennis, Tim Miller, and Charlie Moulten were invited into this community by artists seeking occupants for a large room there.

Recognizing this as a workable rehearsal space, they set up shop, and so began Performance Space 122. Shortly thereafter, the unexpected occurred. The makers of the movie "Fame" sought the place as a set for their upcoming film. The artists were relocated, the movie was shot, and the fledgling arts center got a brand new floor out of the deal.

"We had a pretty charmed life through the '80's," says Russell. "[Those] were the Performance Art '80's, and people were looking for cutting edge performance." During the Reagan Era, P S 122 appealed to "a real downtown audience."

[Who was] going to four things a weekend and seeing the good and the bad, because they wanted to keep up on what was new and fresh." This was an age generously funded by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), and various private companies, who found it both "hip" and feasible to support local arts organizations.

Artists also prospered in this flourishing economic climate. "In the early '80's, [an artist] could do one job and get unemployment, keep going and create, and there were loft spaces available to rent and make [his/her] dance."

Now, however, things have changed. The artistic freedom afforded by the Reagan years has been hindered by the financial pinch of the current era. "New York is losing the race in some ways, in the culture wars—it's losing its prominence as a [city] which is a really great, interesting place to create. It's certainly getting easier to make work, if you can, outside. And then, a lot of people are leaving."

What was once a thriving arts center now struggles to maintain its programming. "Right now we are looking at substantial cuts, and one of those would be, probably, [that] we will lose a theatre. I'm gonna lose something, something big," Russell worries. The recession has already taken its toll. P S 122 was forced to close its doors for the first time in eight years. New York's art community lost this valuable asset for the summer months. "This year we tried to adjust by going from 52 weeks to 32." If further cuts continue, Russell estimates a mere 22 week season. P S 122 currently earns 40% of its income through ticket sales, rehearsals, workshops, and other services. Unfortunately, this is not

enough to pay artists' fees and maintain a professional staff. The funding allotted to the center by organizations like NYSCA and the NEA has been greatly reduced. NYSCA has cut its support by 60%, decreasing its former stipend of \$50,000 to \$13,000. The NEA has seemed to follow suit, depleting its approximate \$25,000 by \$4,000, due to a lack of funds. "And it seems like its only going to be shrinking," Russell laments. To combat these depleting monetary resources, he contends that "P S 122 is looking very hard for other sources of income." Russell adds that because foundations and corporations are also suffering the effects of the recession, they are less willing to increase donations. "We have to work very hard for each one of those \$1,000, \$1,500 chunks because they are always in great risk of falling out."

It's that fear across the board that's so crazy in this city now that people are so freaked about their own pocketbooks that they can't help a homeless person on the street. Despite the gravity of these statistics, Russell maintains that "P S 122 is an organization, it'll continue. But the people who are getting hurt, and this is really important, is the artists."

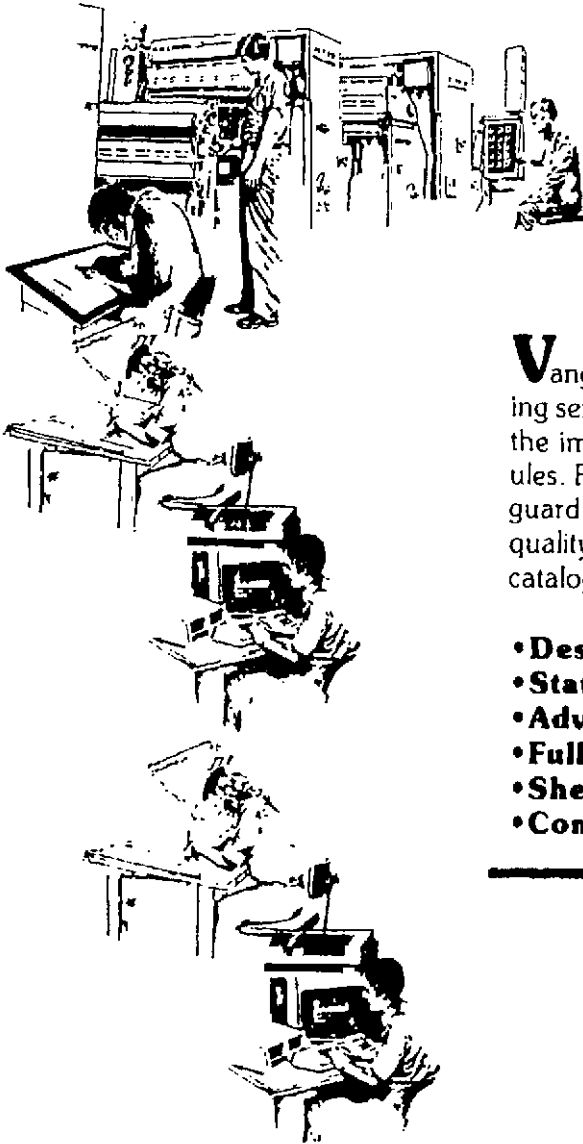
It is in this aspect that P S 122 has never lost sight of its initial goal: the nurturing of the artist. Russell says that [the] public that I'm really addressing, first of all, is artists—here's where they develop their art, here's where they can fail. And the audience is actually sort of a shapening stone which they work on." No longer able to live and work in New York solely on unemployment, many artists must cope with schedules structured around a litany of demands—they get done with rehearsal and they gotta go do a typing job and proof-read, and so how do [they] take that energy, then wake up in the morning and start doing it again? It's a question that artists feeling the financial crunch of the recession must answer every day. The patronage of the audience is obviously crucial. The enthusiastic viewers of previous years are "getting a little more gun shy and conservative." However, when that same group is finally gathered together in a theatre, "it's incredible, the feelings—when someone's telling them something they need to hear they realize that there's a lot of power in the room when it comes together." The artist, for his/her part, benefits from "performing in this room which has its own magic."

"I do think we need to get out there and shake around and find out how alive we are and that's what we hope to do through this three day thing," says Russell, in reference to the "More Artists!" fund-raising benefit held Feb. 6-8. "We didn't invent [the concept], but our benefits have become sort of legendary—but now, everyone's doing them—so I had wanted to make something like a machine gun of performance." To prevent artists from using old material from previous benefits, the Board of Directors loosely decreed that the participants perform "three minutes, only new work." The artists donated their talent to the benefit in lieu of dollars. Russell remarks that the show was "really about signing in going. Yeah, I support P S 122, and this is my contribution. I would give \$200, but I can't, so I'm going to give you my performance and let people pay \$200 for watching it." He adds that "this is a very big turning point" in terms of the future of P S 122. "I can't afford to lose money on this thing."

Isa Kumar is a Bulletin Arts Editor and a Barnard College first-year student. Jeri Johnson is a Bulletin Arts Editor and a Barnard College junior.

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Tharp Blends Diverse Dance Forms in Sextet, Men's Piece and *The Golden Section*

The moment I stepped out onto the sidewalk outside the City Center after a performance of "Twyla Tharp and Dancers" and heard a couple fighting with each other over which way to get home, I realized the relevance of - and problems with - the issues of love and dance in the three pieces performed. *Sextet*, *Men's Piece* and *The Golden Section* are set up as a sort of conflict-resolution between classical ballet and social dancing, men and women's authority in the dance, and eroticism and sensual restraint. Each piece demonstrates, in one way or another, possible ways in which men and women can dance together, and the relation between the dance and the social context of the dance.

Beginning with the traditional male-female couple, *Sextet* offers a somewhat idealized model for couples dancing. *Sextet* adds tango steps and music to a classical ballet structure. All of the women are on pointe, and are heavily classically trained; they seem to have problems adapting to the deep hip movements required by the choreographer. The six dancers are paired off into three male-female couples, who rarely leave each others' sides. Movements are perfectly balanced against each other without seeming unnatural; the partners, and sometimes couples, mimic and mirror each other to highlight another movement event of the third couple. The element of tango style prevents the choreography from becoming too rigid; the basis of the ballet in classical vocabulary prevents the dance from becoming too openly erotic, while allowing the (especially female) dancers grace and classic beauty. The last section of *Sextet* epitomizes the problem with this perfectly flowing exact balance of movement: it has become too graceful, too flowing, too perfect - it is weak.

In the next piece, *Men's Piece*, Tharp tries to deal with the problem of male and female roles in dance more directly - through verbal narration and the history of social dancing in the Anglo-Saxon world, splitting the stage into two halves with a line of tape. She begins by

trying to teach a march - a decidedly "male" dance form - to a group of male dancers. This is the most free-form of all the pieces. The men, at one point, break into a football mime, and Twyla and her male partner break into a boxing match. I wasn't sure what the term "eclectic music selection" meant on the program until I heard the tape played in the piece. It would start with an abrupt Sousa march and then be suddenly interrupted by a country ballad. This is precisely what the choreography achieves in this piece and *Sextet* - successfully blending forms as widely divergent as tango and ballet, 1950's twist and rigid-torso English folk dancing, the "Star-Spangled Banner" and "Stand By Your Man".

From all this zipping around through dance history, we learn of the problems of male-female social dancing in all its forms. There is no perfect classical balance in this piece, but a chaotic progression of men taking over the lead in dances, developing into a boxing match between Tharp and her partner. Tharp also has to stop at one point in teaching the men their march to ask, "Where are you, gentlemen? . . . In space? In relation to me?" They are ahead of her, and at this last query they promptly move behind her. Tharp is master of her stage, and resists various attempts by the men in the piece (they are the only other dancers, hence the title) to control the dance.

Finally, Tharp tries to resolve this problem of male vs. female authority on the dance floor by doing a Fred Astaire-



Members of Twyla Tharp and Dancers perform "Deuce Coupe IV" at the City

Martha Swope,
courtesy of the NYT

Ginger Rogers routine, to the singing of Astaire's "Why Can't We Love Each Other?". The dance is charming, even endearing, but, as Tharp herself comments after the dance, "Boring!" She proposes another solution, based on the idea of isometrics, two equal and opposing forces, and carries this out with her partner by a slow improvisation with him in which they clumsily fall over each other, lean on each other, and support each other. She asks the audience for a response to this idea, which is overwhelmingly positive. At this point the audience was happy to hear any resolution, no matter how much or little sense it made to them. In this final solution Tharp presents the same idea which the *Sextet* is based on, and is therefore, beautiful but weak.

On the other hand, *The Golden Section* is based on entirely different principles of dance. Dancers are not coupled, and ignore the concept of social dancing altogether. No one is on pointe, and there are no glissades or *ronde de jambes*. Needing less tension between ballet and other forms, between men and women, between free-form and strict choreography, there is also less tension over authority of movement and an unbelievable amount of unrestrained energy. In this piece

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Leff Field

By: Susan Leff

More than "music with a message", these recent releases take a hard look at the world around us, questioning the very idea of mixing music with "politics". I've given addresses where necessary because some of these records are too good to be missed, and you certainly won't find them at Boomer's (and if you did, you'd have to sell body parts to pay for them):

Red Hot Chili Peppers—BloodSugarSexMagik. (Warner Brothers.)

The originators of the California thrash-funk sound have grown up, dried out and vastly improved since 1989's *Mother's Milk*. Flea's bass lines have never sounded slinkier, the band's never sounded tighter and Anthony Kiedis sings two gentle ballads (one, "Under The Bridge," refers to his dad buying drugs in L.A.) "Give It Away" is arguably their best song to date, while "Sir Psycho Sexy" drips sex and Robert Johnson's "They're Red Hot," an obvious play on the band's name, ends the album in a jokey tone.

Ani DiFranco—Not So Soft. (Righteous Records; Cassette @ \$9, CD @ \$14; Write to Dale Anderson, 429 Richmond Ave., Buffalo, NY, 14222.)

Those who saw Ani DiFranco perform at Iphigene's Coffeeshouse last semester will agree that her follow-up to 1990's eponymous LP conveys more of her dramatic vocal presence while highlighting her songwriting talents as well. *Not So Soft* deals with some very hard subject matters, including homeless women with AIDS ("On Every Corner"), the (not so) subtle threat of acquaintance rape ("Gratitude"), and sexual intimidation within the structure of the music industry ("The Next Big Thing"). Ani's supreme talent, though, is her spoken-word poetry, as the title track shows. Buy the CD for the bonus track, "Brief Bus Stop."

The Cranes—Wings Of Joy. (dedicated/RCA.)

A remarkable debut from a young British quartet, it's hard to relate why *Wings Of Joy* is so instantly likeable, and why it gets better with each listen. To complicate the issue even further, comparisons to other bands in the same vein won't do the Cranes justice, because they don't play the same old

regurgitated "alternative" sound. "Starblood" and "Living and Breathing" demonstrate the refreshing mix between singer/bassist Alison Shaw's breathy, unintelligible lead vocals and guitar-oriented arrangements by brother Jim Shaw. Eerie, lovely and delicate, "Adoration" proves that this band understands the old adage "Less is more."

Roger Manning—Shout Sharp Shook: Lefty Bootlegs and Demos. (Cassette @ \$6; Write to Kristen Johnson, c/o Mighty Management, 73 Spring Street, Suite 503, New York, NY, 10012.)

Those who believe that music is as music does (as Roger Manning seems to) will find this anti-folk bootleg a gem. Documenting many of the injustices of 1991 - starting with the Persian Gulf charade, through the police action of Tompkin's Square Park and continuing beyond - singer/songwriter Roger Manning's latest is subtitled "Music, Words & Sounds", and makes use of sound bytes, percussion and discussion on 17 songs. Featured here are live performances on the radio, on the stage and in the streets which make chilling connections between police brutality in New York, the chemical plant in Roger's hometown of West Valley, PA, and American wars on foreign soil.

Susan Leff is a Barnard College senior.



Ring In The Year of the Monkey

The Chinese New Year began on Tuesday, Feb. 4. On the New Year, the streets of Chinatown are usually covered ankle-deep with the red paper shells of firecrackers. The firecrackers, which have been traditionally used to ward away the bad spirits, deafen and delight all the pyromaniac children while the red packets, full of lucky money meant to bring good fortune, allow them to buy their own explosives.

Parades headed by dancing dragons usually add festivity to the occasion. This usually happens on the first Sunday following New Year's Day. The celebration continues about two weeks into the year.

Feasting and visiting are primary aspects of the New Year's traditional ritual for the Chinese. Mothers and grandmothers cook dumplings and buns from scratch. Almost anything is possible with water, flour, scallions and ginger. Every delicacy - ranging from fish and fowl to tea and cakes - is brought out from the depths of the pantries and spread out on a table for all the existing generations of a family to enjoy. Each dish, sculpted like a masterpiece, brings squeals of joy from the younger children, and contented grunts of approval from the elders.

It was only recently that I saw any indication of a celebration of the Chinese calendar on this campus. I guess we've gotten too accustomed to the secular calendar, and that's the reason why no one could tell me what year it is. It's surprising that with as large a Chinese contingent on campus as there is, there are no huge preparations going on, like those which are undoubtedly going on downtown.

I had a hard time finding out what the Chinese year is in terms of numbers. It should be about 5800 or so, but because the calendar works on a complicated cyclical pattern, not many people (in fact, no one I asked) knew off the top of her head. All I could glean was the astiological year, which is the year of the Monkey. The earthly year, however, works on a digital cycle, as opposed to the heavenly 12-year cycle. That means that any particular combination of earthly and heavenly years will occur only once every 60 years. That was one of the main reasons why it was so difficult to calculate the numerical year.

Once upon a time, the ancient astronomers, who were also consulate general to the Emperor, decided to display the Chinese concept of cyclical time (as opposed to the Western idea of linear time) through the calendar. As the calendar's cycle began every 60 years, and most people didn't have a life expectancy of more than that, they thought they had discovered the divine calendar.

Each of the 12 animals represents personality traits and fortune telling information. For example, people born in 1972 were born in the year of the rat. This New Year is the year of the Monkey, as is the year 2004. The Chinese zodiac is not unlike the Western astronomer's system with Capricorn and Scorpio. What some superstitious Chinese may do is recognize the general predicted temperament of the coming year through the zodiac. Today, we recognize our own heavenly birth-years through the placemats in most Chinese fast-food restaurants.

Kim-Ming Chan is a Bulletin Commentary Editor and a Barnard College first-year student.

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Lee Frost
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Arts Calendar

Dance

"New Stuff" New dances by Sarah Johnson, Maxine Moerman, Jennifer Lacey & Guy Yarden; 2/13-16 at 9pm; P.S.122, 150 First Ave.; 477-5288

"Tian Long Acrobatic Troupe" rings in the Chinese New Year at the Taipei Theater. Directed by the best acrobat in Taiwan, Chen Chien-chang, the Troupe will blend graceful dance movements with startling acrobatic stunts and Chinese martial arts. 2/20-23, 27-29, 3/1 at 7:30pm; 2/22 & 2/29 at 2:00pm; Txs: \$5 (students); 1221 6th Ave., (btw 48 & 49 St.); 373-1850.

Orchesis. Barnard and Columbia student dancers perform Feb. 13, 14 in Streng Studio, Barnard Annex.

Film

Black Film Festival

Art Gallery, Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. State Office Building, 163 W. 125 St. @ 7 Ave., \$3 for students.

Feb. 13: "Harriet Tubman and The Underground Railroad," ('59), 1pm, 4:45pm

"I Remember Harlem: Toward a New Day," (Miles), 1:30pm

"Paul Robison: The Tallest Tree in the Forest," (Noble), 2:30pm

"Royal Federal Blues: Black Fighting Men of the Civil War," ('90), 4pm

"Dr. Leonard Jeffries' Albany Speech," 6pm

"We Came Before Columbus," ('89), 7:10pm

"Black History: Lost, Stolen, or Strayed," ('69, Foster), 8:20pm

Feb. 14

"To Sleep With Anger," ('90), 1pm, 3:45pm

"I Remember Harlem: The Early Years," ('80, Miles), 2:45pm

"Blacks in Blue Comedy," ('91), 6:30pm

Feb. 15

"Jungle Fever," ('91, Lee), 1pm, 4:40pm

"Straight Out Of Brooklyn," ('91, Rich), 3:15pm, 7pm

"Joe's Bed-Stuy Barbershop," ('83, Lee), 8:25pm

Zooproas:

"Memories of Under-Development," ('68, Tomas Gutierrez Alea; Spanish with English subtitles). Set in the early '60's, the film centers on a Europeanized Cuban intellectual, too idealistic to leave for Miami, but too decadent to fit into the new society. The first film from post-revolutionary Cuba to be released in U.S. 2/11; 7,9, and 11; \$2.

"Closely Watched Trains," ('66, Jiri Menzel, Czechoslovakian with English subtitles). A bumbling young switchman achieves a kind of heroism when he tries to stop German munitions trains passing through occupied territory.

Ferris Reel:

"Slacker." An underground hit exploring the hopes and dreams of an eccentric bunch of people from the college town of Austin, Texas. 2/13 at 8:00 and 10:00pm; Txs: \$2; Wollman Auditorium.

"Escape From New York." Kurt Russell has 24 hours to rescue the President from crazed convicts in this futuristic adventure. 2/16 at 8:00 and 10:00pm: \$2.

Music

The Ritz

54 St. west of Broadway

Box Office: 541-8900

Agnostic Front-Feb. 13, 9pm

De La Soul w/A Tribe Called Quest-Feb. 16, 9pm
Siouxsie and The Banshees w/The Wonder Stuff-Feb. 17, 9pm

Performance Art

Reno, working out some new ideas for the Campaign Project.

2/11; Txs: \$6; Dixon Place, 258 Bowery (1/2 block below Houston);

219-3088.

"Hystery: Hysteria Remapped," a show of solo works by Amy Elliot, Jennifer Fink, Julie Laffin & Laurie Weeks that will explore the complexities of desire & misogyny as embodied within the discourse of the hysterical woman! 2/15; Txs: \$10; Dixon Place.

Theatre

"Meet the McElroys," a cold war nuclear family. Ed, a rabid anti-communist, Edwina, an embittered bookworm, and their stuttering son Elvin search for his missing twin. One night only, 2/11 at 8:00pm at Cooper Union's Great Hall, 41 Cooper Square (7th St. & 3rd Ave.).

Txs: \$10; 925-4671

"Ready Aye Ready," featuring Diane Torr as Hamish McAllister. 18th century Scottish poet Robert Burns is refurbished in a cross-dresser's evening of bawdy dance, bawdy song, bawdy farm animals, bawdy poetry and bawdy bagpipes. 2/10 at 8pm, The Club at La Mama, 74 East 4th St. (btw. 2nd & 3rd Aves.); 475-7710

"Brave Smiles," another lesbian tragedy, featuring The Five Lesbian Brothers. Broken Hearts! Insanity! Alcoholism! Blackmail! A Brain Tumor! Suicide! A Shooting! A Drowning! Orphans! 2/13-15, 2/20-22 at 8:00pm. Txs: \$6 (Th) \$8 (F-S); WOW Cafe, 59 East 4th ST. (btw. 2nd & Bowery); 460-8067.

"From an Abandoned Work," written by Samuel Beckett, performed by Alan Benedit. This piece was written and literally abandoned by Beckett at the height of his notoriety, following the crucial success of "Waiting for Godot." 2/12-16 at 8pm; Txs: \$10. nada Theatre, 167 Ludlow St.; 420-1466.

"Savage Body," written and performed by Cora Hook, this solo theatre work explores the ways in which social, historical, and biological forces imprint themselves on the individual. Provoked by a mysterious letter, Phyllis Marie Savage decides to take a trip. Her only guide, a strange map leading her along the trail of her forbearers, down the spiral gene pool to the first Zygote, through the unexpected geography of her body and across the bloody terrain of her American history; with

"Haiku Moon" written and performed by Janine Hamilton, who examines the relationship of society and family to the dispossessed by telling of her own experience with the loss of a home, it's effect on her single parenting mother and their ensuing struggle to survive.

Both 2/20-23, 7:30pm; Txs: \$8; nada Theatre.

***FESTIVAL**

Columbia University's Jewish Student Union and the Student Life Office of the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) invite you to the second annual JEWIS COLLEGIATE FESTIVAL OF THE PERFORMING ARTS, Sunday, February 23, at 2pm, in JTS's Feinberg Auditorium (corner of Broadway and West 116th St.) Student troupes from Columbia, Princeton, Harvard, Brandeis, Brooklyn College, Penn, Yale, and other schools will come together for a very special afternoon of Jewish song, dance, and theater. The Festival is funded by the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations Irving and Saral Pitt Institute for Student Leadership. Special group rates are available; for more info, call 854-5111.