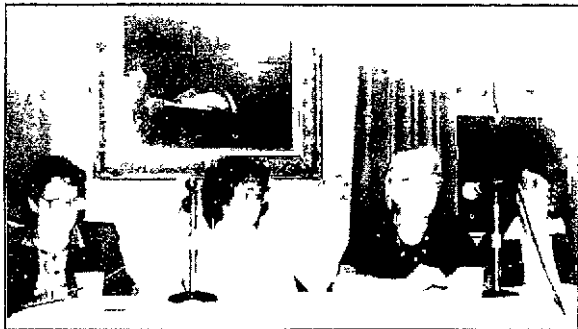


BARNARD BULLETIN

SEPTEMBER 28 1994

VOLUME CII NUMBER 2

Panel Discusses The Facts About Women and Breast Cancer



Inside:

- New Housing Policy
- Scholarship Winners
- The Dangers of "Terminal Velocity"
- First-Year Impressions of Barnard

SEPTEMBER 28 1994

BEAR ESSENTIALS

RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION

In accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, the College may release at its discretion and without prior authorization from the student the following information: name, class, home or college address and telephone number, major field, date and place of birth, dates of attendance at Barnard degrees, honors and awards, and previous school most recently attended. The law also gives the students the right to place limitations on the release of such information. A student who wishes to do so must file a special form with the Registrar. In practice, the College does not indiscriminately release information about individual students. For more information regarding these forms, call the Registrar's Office, x42011.

APPLICATIONS FOR THE REID HALL PROGRAM IN PARIS are due Monday, October 3, in 412 Lewisohn. Interested students should schedule an appointment with Dean Rundorf, x42024, as soon as possible.

EDUCATION PROGRAM applications for juniors are due Monday, October 3. Education Program faculty have office hours Tuesday 2-4 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday 2-5 p.m. If you have any questions, please call x42117 or x47072. Students interested in the **3-2 Joint Degree Program** with Columbia's School of Engineering and Applied Science are encouraged to attend an information session with SEAS Assistant Dean Jane Garfield on Tuesday, October 4, at 4 p.m. in 404 Barnard.

SENIOR CLIPBOARD

Important information will be given at the **Senior Meetings today**, Wednesday, September 28, at 4 p.m., and Thursday, September 29, at 12 noon in 306A Barnard Hall. Come to one of these meetings to learn about the services and activities for seniors provided by the Office of the Dean of Studies, the Office of Career Services, the Alumnae Affairs Office, and your class officers. **Fulbright applicants** are reminded that the deadline for submitting applications is Friday, Oct. 7. **Senior Scholar applicants** should see Dean Schneider before the Monday, Oct. 10, deadline. If you are applying to a graduate

program in the humanities (including History) and have a GPA greater than 3.5, you might qualify for a **Mellon Fellowship**, see Dean Schneider for details. The deadline for filing the Rhodes Scholarship is Monday, October 17. **Diploma Name Cards** for Feb. '95 graduates should be turned in to the Registrar's Office by Wednesday, Oct. 5. **Senior employment program information sessions**. Let the Office of Career Services help connect you with employers through on and off campus recruiting. The sessions will be held October 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, and 12. All will be held at 5 p.m. in Brooks Living Room. Don't forget to attend the **Graduate School Fair** on Wednesday, October 12, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. in Upper Mulatosh.

JUNIORS INTERESTED IN PURSUING A CAREER IN PUBLIC SERVICE may enter the 16th annual competition of the scholarship program sponsored by the Harry S. Truman Foundation. Nominees must be U.S. citizens. The scholarship provides \$3,000 for the senior year of undergraduate education and up to \$27,000 to cover graduate or professional school expenses. Based on merit, these awards are made to students who are college juniors in September 1994 and who have outstanding potential for leadership in public service at the federal, state, or municipal level. Qualified juniors with a GPA over 3.4 who are planning a career in government service should contact Dean Schneider, x42024, by Monday, October 3.

A STUDY SKILLS MINI COURSE taught by Dean Webster and sponsored by First Year Focus will be given in October. The four-week course will focus on note-taking, time management, and study strategies. If interested, contact Dean Webster, x42024 (or through e-mail).

NEED HELP WITH WRITING? Professional writers and peer tutors are on hand at the **writing room** to assist you. The staff is trained to help writers in all disciplines. Office hours and sign-up sheets are posted on the Writing Room door outside 121 Reid Hall. For more information, call x48941.

BREAVE MENT COUNSELING. The Coping with Loss Group meets Fridays, 11

a.m. - 12 noon in the Beau Parlor (Brooks Hall) beginning September 16. Call the Dean of Studies office, x42024, or Health Services, x42091, if you have experienced the loss of a loved one and wish to participate.

A SUPPORT GROUP FOR ASIAN WOMEN will be offered through Health Services. The group will explore issues concerning family, cultural/self-identity, academic pressure, career goals/choices, relationships, and sexuality. The group will start in mid-October and will meet on Tuesdays, 4:30 - 6 p.m. Interested students should contact Shinhee Han, x42091 or x42878.

AI UMNAF OF COLOR MENTORING PROGRAM provides African American, Caribbean, Latina, and Asian/Pacific Islander students with a chance to make early contact within their academic/professional fields of interest with a Barnard alumna. There are presently over 200 alumnae who are willing to serve as mentors.

BIG SISTER/LITTLE SISTER PROGRAM for students of color. Be a Big Sister to an underclass woman at Barnard. Come by the HEOP Office (11 Lehman) for an application or time a booster should be obtained. Three shots are required over a six-month period. The cost of the vaccine at Health Services is \$25 per injection. Since Hepatitis B is very common in Asia and Central Africa, the vaccine is particularly recommended for students who come from countries located in these areas. Don't miss this opportunity to protect yourself!

BARNARD BULLETIN

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Who Cares About Haiti?

I am often confronted with the impression that Barnard students have little regard for what occurs beyond the college gates. Not that this phenomenon prevails only at Barnard; it is, indeed, a general affliction of college students everywhere. We can take comfort in the notion that other students in other places no doubt practice a similar neglect of reality when they themselves are hopelessly embroiled in academic pursuit.

In any case, the infuriating degree to which we can isolate ourselves from the world at large has really hit home this week: each time I asked one of my fellow students what she thought of the U.S. occupation of Haiti. The most common response was a blank expression. Those who realized what I was talking about had little commentary to make on the subject.

Haiti is in the papers every day, but who has time to read the papers, especially with twenty books sitting on their dorm room desk? Our involvement with the Haitians is on TV every morning and evening, but how many of us have a TV? And, if we did have one, would we employ it to watch the news? Probably not. Who wants to dwell on one more brain-draining, confusing political ordeal when she has just arrived home from an exhausting day of intensive thought?

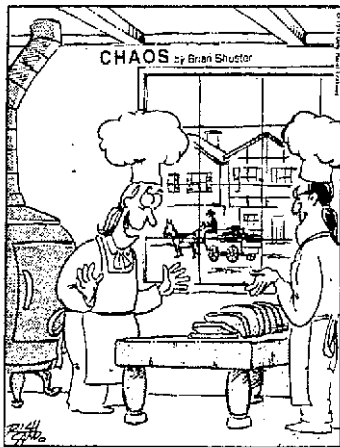
Amazingly, we spend hours studying politics, sociology, anthropology, english, etc., and generally becoming learned individuals, only so that we can let significant events in our own lives pass us by. We grow so fatigued in our academic lives that we lack the energy to absorb anything that is not compulsory. We have the opportunity to watch history being constructed before our very eyes, even to participate in the process, but, alas, we fail to grasp it. The situation becomes meaningful only some years later, when our distractions subside and we sit down to read a good book about "our generation."

I can hear the objections even as I write... there are concerned students who keep up with the news and make herculean efforts to understand what is happening in real life. I know, I know—but even then, the question I must pose (albeit with great cynicism) is whether they have a sincere concern in the fact that the U.S. is once again wielding our high hand in the name of democracy or whether they are just conscientiously collecting examples to use later on in some political science essay. Yet, at this point, can we afford to quibble? Who cares about motivations, as long as people are informed?

Perhaps some day, when school is done and we have more ample time, we will have the leisure to really care about and investigate what happens "out there." However, in light of everything I've heard from those already in the "real world," such belated concern seems unlikely, for we will then be too burdened with quotidian pursuits to have time or energy enough to bother. More likely, we'll only stop to really think about it when one of our kids comes home and asks for help with a homework assignment.

Editorial Policy

In order to be considered for publication, all Letters to the Editor from an individual must be signed by that individual and/or a Barnard SGA and/or Columbia Student Council recognized campus organization. Letters to the Editor must be submitted no later than the Wednesday preceding publication. Opinions expressed in the Bulletin are those of the authors, not necessarily of Barnard College.



"Sliced bread" Why, this is the greatest invention since... well since... well, ever 'guss'!

Housing Office Changes Security Policy

by Catherine Pajak

In response to students' concerns, the Housing Offices altered security policies within the residence halls this year. Sandy Johnson, Assistant Dean of Student Life, explained, "It was a couple of things that accounted for the changes. There was a community assessment in November 1993. And recommendations from two Tri-Partite committees, the safety and security and the housing, wanted changes."

The adjusted policy allows Barnard students and Columbia students living in Barnard residence halls to freely enter all Barnard residences between 8AM and 8PM, after showing an ID. Non-Barnard students will leave an ID at the desk after the resident has given the Desk Attendant permission for the visitor to enter.

"Barnard students wanted open access to public areas in the bigger residence halls for all Barnard students. Specifically in the Quad, with the facilities located there, dining services and the computer center," added Johnson.

Between 8PM and midnight, residents will receive a Desk call asking them permission to receive all

guests, including Barnard students. After midnight, however, "the resident must come down to the front desk with their ID and escort their guest into the building," announced this year's "Barnard College Residence Hall Access and Guest Policy," distributed to all students at residence hall check-ins.

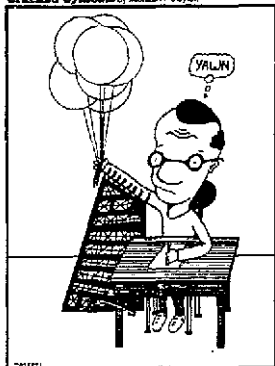
"It was a question of *who* was coming to visit. Sometimes, the guest might not be in an optimal condition, then the resident had to deal with that person," Johnson explained.

To students' concerned about forwarded phones which may prevent the Desk Attendant in their Residence Hall from reaching the student who has a visitor waiting, Johnson clarified that, "Sometimes if a Desk Attendant called, the call would reach another room because the student had forwarded their calls. And guests would be left wandering the halls, making other students uncomfortable." The new policy allows visitors access without having to be signed in, preventing this problem.

Catherine Pajak is a Barnard sophomore and the Bulletin Commentaries Editor.



Cracked Cymbals by Michael A. Bayton



"...and with elaborate means would keep my hand raised in silent perpetuity as testimony to my undeniable genius."

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Barnard Alumna Provides Scholarship Funds

by Heidi Luchsinger

Last Wednesday afternoon on the scenic seventeenth floor lounge of Sulzburger Tower four first year women of Barnard College were honored in the name of the Trust Family Foundation Recipients Reishma Scupersad Helen Elhassian Stephanie Saler and Adalisse Rivera accompanied by their families listened to a few words of congratulations by President Shapiro along with Mr. Martin Trust

This is the second year that the Trust Scholarship has been awarded to incoming first year students Laura Trust who was unable to attend the reception graduated from Barnard in 1989 with a degree in English Literature and is presently pursuing her MBA at the Sloan School of MIT When she was 25 she decided that she wanted to help those Barnard women in the pursuit of an education who faced financial obstacles She felt that during her time at Barnard she had received so much support that she wanted to return that good will to others

Therefore each summer for the last two years prior to their first year at Barnard 50 students who demonstrated heavy financial need were sent information about an essay contest Each essay would respond to a quote by Albert Einstein It is everyone's obligation to put back into the world at least what he took out of it Ultimately four students would be chosen as winners and each awarded \$2,500

Rivera responded to this quote with her experiences growing up in Washington Heights She realized when she received a full scholarship



Reishma Scupersad Helen Elhassian Stephanie Saler and Adalisse Rivera

in high school to Phillips Academy in Andover Massachusetts that not all wealthy people turn their backs on the rest of the world In Andover she tutored some young Latino students in a nearby town She realized that her peers although born to privileged families volunteered because they knew that their help was crucial She continued Their open hearts taught me the necessity for an open mind If education is the key and the key opens up doors to the most rewarding vocations then Barnard will serve me well They are exquisite keys that I feel so lucky to be holding in my hands Someday I'm going to take a student or two students or a hundred students from Washington Heights or wherever there is a need and I am going to give them some of the keys given to me

In her essay Scupersad reflected on her father's advice a good education is all you need to take you through life She wrote that the learning process should never be limited to the academic especially

not at this crucial stage of life The college years are a time for acquiring values adopting truths and personal philosophies and nurturing individuality Humans need interpersonal relationships on various levels and this social richness can only be maintained if every man assumes the responsibility to replenish it by depositing some of what he withdrew back into the pool In this way man ensures that future generations are given the benefit of a society that is supportive of their developments and maturation She believes that if humans are surrounded by senseless violence moral decadence and ruthlessness that there will be little hope for their future On the other hand if man makes a conscious effort to characterize his society with considerate action generosity and brotherly love as a result of his personal education there may still be a fighting chance left for him

Elhassian wrote about her experiences as a young Jewish woman in Iran where she lived for the first ten years of her life She

(Continued on next page)

and their faith, women in Iran and elsewhere are achieving far less than their potential because they do not have the opportunity to pursue a formal education. "Those who have had the chance to become educated have the obligation to contribute to society." Given the freedom to an education at Barnard in the future she hopes to pursue a career in helping people. "I have the greatest admiration for teachers and doctors. It is my dream to become a doctor as a way of using knowledge and compassion to help people who are in need." In her closing sentiment she stated: "It is ironic that while we have made many advances in technology, human suffering has not diminished. The human condition still challenges dedicated, compassionate people."

Saler reflected on a childhood experience in her mother's garden one evening. "I sat upon the warm soil as my mother explained that the earth offers many gifts and it is every individual's responsibility to give something back...she said 'Whatever you decide to do with your life, promise me that you will do it with your heart and soul.'" Saler didn't really understand what this meant until she was older. Last summer, she went to Israel for six weeks to volunteer in the Israeli army to do community service work. "volunteering in the Israeli army was exhausting and back breaking, much like the time my mother spent in her garden. Similarly, I was rewarded by being able to view the fruits of my labor." Saler plans to continue hypothetical "Journey" to Israel by continuing to contribute to society in the future because on that fateful summer evening with her mother, she fell asleep knowing

(continued on page 11)

Well-Woman Q's & A's: Empowerment=Knowledge + Choice

In conjunction with the other campus peer-education groups that work with Health Services (SPEACH, STAAR, WHISE), SCOPE would like to bring to the Barnard community information about health issues that affect our lives in particular as women. Because we would like this column to reflect a conversation more than an treatise on women's health, it will take a question-and-answer format.

SCOPE's Mission: We believe that women are empowered by gaining knowledge of their health and sexuality and, in doing so, are better able to make informed decisions about their bodies - decisions which we, as women, believe to be our right. These choices vary greatly, relating to everything from contraceptive options to sexual identity, from choosing a doctor to deciding whether or not to be sexually active at all. All of these decisions are better made by a woman who is knowledgeable about and comfortable with her body. By being informed, unbiased, capable, and interested SCOPE's play an important role in educating Barnard women about our bodies, women's health, and sexuality allowing us to better confront the decisions with which we are faced.

Questions about sexuality, contraceptive options, self-care (gynecological and other), sexually transmitted diseases, women's biology, HIV/AIDS, sexual assault and rape, body image and eating disorders are all welcome. We will also use this column to inform Barnard women about our services and upcoming panels and/or workshops on women's health issues. You may drop questions into the campus mail box in McIntosh, addressed to Health Service Peer-Education. We hope this Q's & A's conversation is informative to you and will form part of a joint effort to ensure the health of the women on campus as well as friends and family with whom you share the information.

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There's a Jungle in Here!

by Rana Bonnice

Everyone knows that New York City is a crazy place some would even call it a jungle. But did you know that Barnard has its own jungle? It's true but this not only a jungle with its own Tree Iguana Sharp Tail fish mango trees cocoa plant wild orchids and even the Mexican yam whose chemical defense was the inspiration for the Birth Control Pill! It also holds a subtropical and tropical deserts and forests and it's right on top of Milbank! No Silly it is *in* a gap in the time space continuum but you could call

Barnard's Greenhouse a small portal into another world and you don't have to be a plant buff to enjoy the sights.

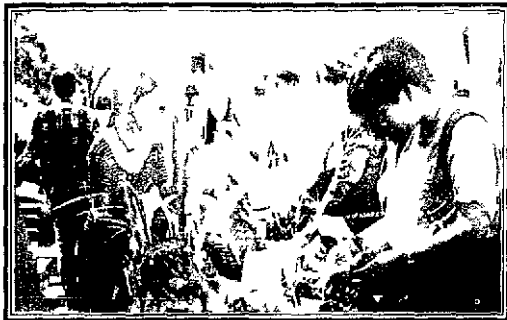
The history of the Greenhouse is actually a mysterious one since no one is sure of the exact date of its construction some say it was created back in 1914 while others hold it was founded by Professor Sinoott a plant geneticist in 1928. In either case its place in the Biology Department (then Botany Dept.) was forged and it was used for biology classes and labs. These days while it is no longer used as a lab site the Greenhouse still serves as a classroom for not only Introductory Biology classes but Biodiversity labs Professor Young

Plant Biology classes and Introductory Environmental Science classes as well translating into more than 500 students passing through the Greenhouse's three large rooms regularly throughout the year!

But the Greenhouse is more than a scientific oasis its lush greenery also attracts Columbia's drawing/

the inter relationships between humans and their silent green counter parts. John Cozza the Director of the Greenhouse humorously explains that the Greenhouse stimulates a cascade effect one positive response brings on an entourage!

While in the past the Greenhouse was used primarily for academic and scientific purposes Cozza stresses that the Greenhouse needs all the friends it can get! Continuous support is needed for its survival especially after last year's disaster when a major thunderstorm blew north over

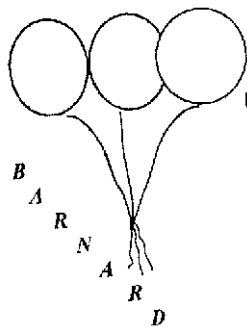


Plant sale revenues he left the Greenhouse

sketching classes Alumnae gatherings groups from the Family Annex Public Schools and Pre-Schools in the area as well as many of Community Impact's children's groups. In addition Columbia's Psychology Department sponsors a Project every spring which invites children to come to the Greenhouse to learn more about nature and their environment. A haven for hands-on education and learning the Greenhouse is also utilized during the summer by the STEP Program which offers high school students the opportunity to study Plant Biology and Ethno Botany which explores

the campus boasting 70 mph winds. Cozza in the Greenhouse during the terrible storm took shelter in the Greenhouse's kitchen which serves as an entry way into the complex exclaimed that all I could hear was the sound of glass smashing and breaking inside and the swirling winds outside. As renovation would entail a major gift to the Greenhouse the structure was already under significant disrepair due to lack of funding over the years so was no match for a serious storm. Framing was torn off with glass still attached while loose panes came crashing down especially on the southern side leaving the ceiling completely open to the elements.

(Continued on page 11)



**CELEBRATE BARNARD'S
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Breast Cancer: What Women Need to Know

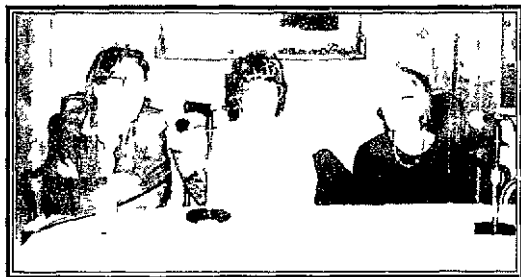
by Sheila David

Breast cancer kills 46 000 women annually in the United States. With this shocking statistic, Leslie Culman, Director of the Barnard Center for Research on Women, introduced last Thursday's panel on breast cancer. Members of the panel provided a wide range of perspectives on the many facets of the disease. Dr. Freya Schnabel (BC '78), Assistant Professor of Surgery in the Breast Service Unit of Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, spoke on known and suspected risk factors and screening guidelines. Dr. Polly Wheat, Director of Student Health Services at Barnard College, discussed the limitations of current research and screening guidelines, and Theresa Rogers, Professor of Sociology at Barnard College, spoke about the history of social and political action on the issue.

Breast cancer is far and away a disease of women; the ratio of women to men is 100:1. It is also primarily a disease of older women: women ages 20-24 have a 1:106 in 100,000 rate of incidence of breast cancer. That risk does not increase substantially until the 40-44 age group, which has a 1:117 in 100,000 rate of incidence. Certain aspects of a woman's family medical history and her own reproductive history can put her at greater risk of developing breast cancer. The greatest risk is for women who have already had cancer in one breast. Another high-risk factor is if a woman's first-degree relative is someone to whom she can reach on a family tree by drawing just one line, as with a daughter, mother,

sister, has developed bilateral (both breasts) premenopausal breast cancer. That woman is at a six to nine times greater risk of developing

until she is over the age of thirty also increase a woman's risk. Breast feeding for intervals six months or longer in duration offers some



Dr. Freya Schnabel, Dr. Polly Wheat, Professor Theresa Rogers

breast cancer than the general population. Having a first-degree relative with unilateral (one breast) premenopausal breast cancer gives her a two to three times greater risk than the general population. Having a relative with breast cancer is not necessarily a sign that a woman is destined to acquire the disease. A positive family history is found in only 20-25% of those with the disease. In fact, approximately 75% of women who develop breast cancer have no identifiable risk factors. Any risk factors that can be identified are useful in determining when a woman should begin a schedule of mammograms, since early detection is the key to survival. Prognosis is directly related to the stage of the disease when it is found.

Other risk factors discussed by Dr. Schnabel include reproductive history. An early menarche (first period) and a late menopause increase a woman's risk. Having no children, or not having a first child

measure of protection against breast cancer. Some of the other risk factors have varying degrees of uncertainty attached to them, but include the use of oral contraceptives by young women, exposure to DES (a synthetic progesterone-like hormone, having already developed certain forms of benign breast disease, being exposed to high doses of ionizing radiation, high fat diet, alcohol consumption, and a sedentary lifestyle. Dr. Schnabel debunked popular myths about several alleged risk factors: the use of hair dyes, cyclical breast pain, and fibroadenoma (a benign breast growth). None of these things are proven to show any increase in breast cancer occurrence.

Dr. Wheat spoke at length on the need for more research on breast cancer and the possible role of some other factors. She mentioned many possibilities, such as micronutrients, soybeans, alcohol, environmental

(Continued on the next page)

toxins, that may help or hinder the body in developing breast cancer. More data is needed not just on the substance itself, but on the form (pill or food source, for example) and timing of when the substance is taken (certain times in the menstrual cycle, early childhood or middle age, etc.)

Professor Rogers gave an eloquent but brief overview of the history of the social and political fight against breast cancer. Attitudes have changed a great deal since Theresa Lassen had a mastectomy in 1952 and became the first woman to develop a program to have women who have survived breast cancer come in and counsel sufferers about their options. This change in attitude has translated into political action funding in 1991 for breast cancer research was \$145 million, in 1994 it is \$325 million.

All of the panel speakers emphasized the fact women are not powerless against breast cancer. A woman can make changes in her own lifestyle that may help prevent her from developing breast cancer, and women as a group can lobby for increased funding and research on breast cancer. In light of this the Barnard Young Alumnae Association is asking all members of the Barnard community to attend a four mile walk against breast and ovarian cancer on Sunday, October 8 sponsored by SHARE. Anyone wishing to attend should call Lisa Cohen Associate Director of Alumnae Affairs at x46001.

Sheila David is a Barnard senior and the Bulletin Copy Editor

(Continued from page 7)

mother, she fell asleep knowing what it means to toil what it means to learn and what it means to live.

President Shapiro expressed her thanks to the Trust Family on behalf of Barnard College for their acknowledgment that it is a defining characteristic and tradition of Barnard to leave its doors open to any woman of demonstrated academic ability regardless of her financial situation.

Heidi Luchsinger is a Barnard Junior and a Bulletin Staff Writer

(Continued from page 8)

Remarkably, the plants experienced few casualties. But the Greenhouse was not to recover as easily. Scared by the threat of a hurricane from the north (which would mean glass and debris landing in front of Milbank), campus Facilities rushed to put a large net to cover the Greenhouse. Unfortunately the net killed more plants than the storm. I left on for over a month, not only did it shield the plants from sunlight but it still left the roof open to rain and wind, while the ropes to secure the net broke even more windows. Although the net was presumed temporary, to Cozza's dismay, not all of Facilities deemed the Greenhouse's damages with the same importance, so left the area untouched until Cozza himself investigated potential construction companies. But even then without funding work could not begin. In the end Professor Ammirato, Chair of the Biology Department, allowed funding from Biology to be allocated for the reconstruction to begin only to end just before the frost hit.

Now the Greenhouse is back in operation even though a large vent left uninstalled still leaves a gaping

hole. The broken panes were replaced with tempered glass 8 times stronger and Cozza hopes that someday (soon) all the panes can be replaced with this type of glass. With the glass as weak as it is scraping off the whitewash to allow more sunlight in the winter (so the plants don't starve for light) is very difficult. But the glass is not only weak due to the weathered frame. When Cozza first came to the Greenhouse, one of the outgoing managers pointed out to him small, bullet-sized holes sprinkling the frames along the south side of the Greenhouse, every year, more and more appeared. Apparently the tiny pebbles, similar to those covering a track, covering the roof of Altschul blow off, hitting the Greenhouse during episodes of strong winds. In fact, these pebbles may be partly responsible for a bulk of the damage that was incurred last year, especially to the side nearest Altschul. Cozza notes that during the storm "I thought I heard hail, but I never saw any hail." As of yet, nothing has been done to rectify this situation, leaving the Greenhouse vulnerable to future destruction.

Even so, the Greenhouse goes on just last week holding its Fall plant sale where cuts of all different sorts of plants are sold to clear up space in the Greenhouse while also raising funds for the Greenhouse Club, founded last year by Sharon Francis BC '95. Daughter club of the Botany Club Barnard's oldest club the Greenhouse Club encourages all students to join. But club member or not, everyone is welcome in the Greenhouse. Cozza encourages students to use the Greenhouse as much as possible. The Greenhouse is run by student helpers and volunteers but

(Continued on page 18)

Mob Misses a Hit

by Madeline and Idelia G

Director Frank Rainone's first independent effort *Me and the Mob*," is a satirical film about the legendary relationship between New York and Italian gangsters. This film, which opened in NY on September 23rd, begins promisingly with catchy music and a sequence reminiscent of the *Pink Panther* flicks. James Lorinz, the cute lead actor who bears a resemblance to Andrew McCarthy, has a good screen presence in his role of James Lorinz, a struggling writer. Unfortunately, this auspicious beginning is ruined by an endless string of uneven one liners.

Soon, the audience learns that Jimmy's work as an author is uneven as well. Although he claims that he has sold articles to "Esquire" and "Modern Maturity," he now cannot write anything. He apparently has a bad case of writer's block. His best story idea is about a romantic triangle involving John F. Kennedy, Marilyn Monroe, and Lee Harvey Oswald. Obviously, this story sucks, so his agent suggests that he try writing a crime story similar to those portrayed on shows like "Rescue 911" and "America's Most Wanted." Unfortunately, (again), this genre is overflowing with cheesy stories. Maybe Jimmy should get another agent.

In addition, Jimmy needs to get a new girlfriend because his current flame, played by Sandra Bullock of *Speed*," screws him and dumps him. Then the vixen informs the pathetic writer that he cannot write because he does not know how to live. Hemingway she notes had the Spanish Civil War and Africa to

invigorate his imagination. Jimmy in contrast, has absolutely nothing but his drinking buddies. He realizes that he has nothing and is nothing.

As a result of this awakening, Jimmy tries to kill himself. These attempts compose some of the funnier scenes in the movie. For instance he tries to gently slash his wrists, to drink bathroom cleanser, and to burn himself in a bed of charcoal. During this suicide sequence, the visuals are accompanied with music that strengthens the narrative. Not a word is spoken, but the music carries the scenes and gives the film an energy which the dialogue often lacks.

After these unsuccessful attempts, Jimmy decides to work for his mobster-uncle played by Tony Darrow in an effort to find material for a juicy crime story. This portion of the film is a perceptive spoof on the gangster genre. Although there are many stock and stereotypical characters in this section, John Costelloe's portrayal of Bink Bink Borelli is endearing and engaging. Through his character we understand why mafia movies are so popular because most of the figures are funny and likable even though they commit horrific crimes.

All in all while this film had some good characters like Bink and a few funny moments, we do not recommend it especially to full price Manhattan movie patrons. Wait for the video if you are a fan of the gangster genre.

*Madeline and Idelia G. with
Barnard Sencors*

CAST AND CREW

Jimmy Corona, James Lorinz, Bobby Blitzer, Stephen Lee Lori, Sandra Bullock, Joey "Claris" Tantillo, Frank "Butch the Hat" Aquatino, Marty "No Neck" Scaba, Chacha Carcia, Aldo "Birdman" Badamo, Vinny Pastore, Frank "The Fixer" Giachetti, Frank Guo, Billy "Bunk-Bink" Borelli, John Costelloe.

Executive Producer

Nicholas Spina

Co-Producer

Vincent Viola

Producer/Director

Frank Rainone

Screenplay

Rocco Simonelle, James Lorinz,

Frank Rainone

Production Design

Susan Bolles

Costume Design

Barbara Krammer, Kim Druce

Casting

Todd Thaler and Caroline Sinclair

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Warning: Do Not See This Film

by Kate Angus

"Terminal Velocity," directed by Deran Sarafian ("Death Warrant," "Back in the U.S.S.R."), is a movie that promises little and delivers less. The plot can be summarized as a venture into the genre of "Boy meets girl. Boy takes girl skydiving. Boy sees girl die. Boy discovers girl is a KGB agent who has faked her own death. Boy and girl flee from

members of the Russian Mafia. Boy drives a car out of an airplane. Boy gets girl." Suffice it to say that if you're in the mood for quality cinema, go rent "Taxi Driver" or "Wings of Desire."

The main character, Ditch Brodie (played by Charlie Sheen) begins the movie as a macho thrill-junkie and ends the movie as a macho, yet sensitive, thrill junkie. This is the height of character shading in the film. Although Sheen's acting is a far cry from the quality of his performances in "Wall Street" and "Platoon," credit must be given to him for being able to spout out such lines as "I'm not just a walking penis. I'm a flying penis," with a straight face.

Nastassja Kinski, his co-star, also serves to be in a better movie than this. After appearing in such

films as "Paris, Texas" and "Furaway, So Close," I wonder what could have possibly possessed her to take this role. My bet is that heavy drink was

makes an admirable attempt to direct the audience's attention away from the plot's numerous failings.

And the failings are, indeed, numerous. Though David Twohy wrote the screenplay for "The Fugitive," expect no such dramatic tension or suspense here. The action (particularly early on in the film) is so obviously contrived that I found myself looking at my



involved. The other performances are uniformly adequate and James Gandolfini ("True Romance") is particularly adept at conveying a certain nostril-flaring sadism.

The impressive special effects provide the only conceivable reason I can think of to see this movie (unless you are yourself a budding filmmaker in desperate need of the encouragement provided by watching the professionals fail). There is some amazing stunt work done and the camera admirably captures both the beauty and the thrill of skydiving. Also, filmed in Arizona, the scenery is almost worth the price of admission. Which is not to say that the cinematography is extraordinarily impressive, but Oliver Wood ("Die Hard 2," "Bill and Ted's Bogus Journey," "Miami Vice") has a certain slick style and

watch part way through the movie and muttering such things as "Plot point two should appear in about five minutes" and "Okay, after narrowly escaping death, they'll kiss." The plot is going in so many directions at once that, when the idea of a Soviet coup led by the Russian Mafia appears two thirds of the way through, what can your humble film critic do but throw her hands up in despair? The dialogue, which offered up such gems as the aforementioned penis joke, was mediocre at best and painful at worst. At the beginning of "Terminal Velocity," Charlie Sheen says, "I can't believe this is happening." By the end of the movie, all I had to say was, "Neither can I. Charlie baby, neither can I."

Kate Angus is a Barnard First-Year

ARTS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

- Art in General

79 Walker Street, 219-0473, Gallery Hours: Tues-Sat 12-6pm

REVIEWING PARADISE: THE ETHNIC RESPONSE IN CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY FROM HAWAII

Thru Oct. 29th, Panel Discussion on Oct. 26th

RECYCLED DIVINITY LAMPS BY STUART NICHOLSON

Window Installation at Street Level thru Oct. 29th

SUPERIOR RELATIONS: WOMEN AND MEN ON THE PEOPLE THEY WORK FOR BY MOLLY BLIEDEN

Audio Project in Elevator

Thru Oct. 29th

- Greenwich House Pottery Center for Ceramics

FUNCTION

16 Jones St., 294-4106, Gallery Hours Tues.-Sat. 1-5pm

Works by Linda Christinson, Malcolm Davis, Ann Gabhart, and Gregg Pitts

Oct. 5th-29th

- Whitney Museum of American Art

945 Madison Avenue, Gallery Hours: Wed. 11-6 pm, Thurs 1-8pm,

Fri.-Sun. 11-6pm \$5 with Student I.D. and \$3.50 Thurs. 6-8pm

FROM THE COLLECTION: PHOTOGRAPHY, SCULPTURE AND PAINTING.

COLLECTION IN CONTEXT Thru Feb. 26th 1995

NEIL JENNY: NATURAL RATIONALISM Thru Dec. 11



LECTURES

- Center for Communication

570 Lexington Avenue at 51st St., (212) 836-3050, Free w/ Student I.D.

OFF OFF HOLLYWOOD: FILMMAKING ON THE CHEAP

With Moderator Dean Silvers, producer, "Spanking the Monkey" and David O. Russell, writer/director,

"Spanking the Monkey"

Tues. Oct. 4th 5:30-7:30pm

- Whitney Museum of Art

NEIL JENNY AND DAVID A. ROSS on "NATURAL RATIONALISM"

Jenny is one of the first artists to radically rework the American landscape tradition.

Wed. Oct. 5 6:30pm

DANCE

- Symphony Space 2537 B'way at 95th Street

LES GRAND BALLETS DE LOONY

Oct. 3rd, 8pm Performances of "The Dying Swan" and

"Tutti Frutti"

Tickets are \$12, Call (212) 864-5400

MUSIC

- St. Bartholomew's Church, 109 E. 50th St

LISA KOZENKO, OBOIST WITH DANA BURNETT, PIANIST

Oct. 5th 6:30pm

Call (212) 989-6443 for tickets



ART NEWS BRIEFS

• Earlier this month Warner Bros. signed a theatrical distribution agreement with China Film Distribution Exhibition Export & Import Corporation China's exclusive agency for film importation. Warner films dubbed in Mandarin will be shown in first run theaters in several key Chinese cities by 1995. Apparently box office revenues will be split. Also, Warner plans to open offices in China. This is a major deal for Warner Brothers since China, with a population of 1.2 billion, represents the world's largest movie going audience. Warner Brothers stated that they are pleased and honored to sign this agreement. Robert A. Day and Jerry Semmel, the studio's Co. Chief Executive Officers, also stated that "It is also our hope that we will be able to provide China Film with advice and assistance in the transfer of current motion picture technology and that we will be able to work with the Chinese film community to encourage exposure for domestically produced Chinese films." In light of the fact that several films about the Chinese community such as the *Joy Luck Club*, *Farewell My Concubine* and *Combination Platter* have done extremely well this year, Warner Bros.' new deal must have the other studios absolutely green with envy. *Que sera, sera!*

• Meanwhile, back in the states, production has already begun on *Outbreak*, a new bio thriller starring Dustin Hoffman, Rene Russo, and Morgan Freeman. The highly acclaimed director of *Das Boot*, *In the Line of Fire*, and *The Never ending Story*, Wolfgang Peterson, is directing the flick about a lethal virus transported to the U.S. via an African monkey host. The virus kills hundreds as an ex-husband and wife who head competing Federal agencies rush to stop its deadly spread. *Outbreak* is set to break out into theaters some time next year.

• *Second Best*, starring William Hurt, opens on Friday, September 30th, at the Sony Twin and the Sony Theater 19th Street East Cinemas. The sensitive drama, set and filmed in Wales, focuses on Graham Holt's (Hurt) struggle to adopt a young, lonely boy.

• Meryl Streep, who is breaking her image as the woman with the thousands accents in *The River Wild*, will be joining Clint Eastwood on the set of *The Bridges of Madison County*. Streep has won the extremely coveted role of Francesca, an Iowa housewife whose life is changed forever by a brief, but meaningful affair with a visiting photojournalist played by Eastwood.

• Nicole Kidman has also won a hot role. She will play Val Kilmer's love interest in the next *Batman* flick. Kilmer has taken the role over from Michael Keaton. Tom Lee Jones and Jun Carney will also co-star. Kidman is working with some of the most talented actors in Hollywood, as if being Tom Cruise's wife is not enough.

• Teasers of Cruise's latest flick, *Interview with a Vampire*, have been in theaters for weeks now. In November, Cruise will battle DeNiro's *Frankenstein* at the box office. Which creature will reign supreme. Stay tuned.



Streep in 'Combination Platters'

"It's So Pure, It Floats"

by Cathi Martarella

Robert Redford, the highly acclaimed director of "Ordinary People," "The Milagro Beanfield War," and "A River Runs Through It," is bound to be nominated for an Oscar for his new film, "Quiz Show." On the surface "Quiz Show" may only appear to be a film condemning our 20th century media culture but it is also about timeless values such as honesty and trust. "Quiz Show" is not really about TV; it is about human nature.

Early in the film Dan Enright and Albert Friedman (David Paymer and Hank Azaria), the producers of the quiz show "Twenty-One," try to convince Columbia lecturer Charles Van Doren (Ralph Fiennes) that there is nothing wrong about presenting him only with questions that he can easily answer. When Van Doren appears not to be persuaded by their twisted logic one of the producers quotes the famous Ivory Soap pitch of "It's So Pure It Floats" to quickly end the conversation. The concise reference to the Ivory Soap ad campaign subconsciously reminds the viewer that Ivory is 99.94% pure. And how does the viewer know this fact? TV tells us that Ivory is pure and if it is on TV it must be true. Right? If TV or the people who produce TV state something it must be true. And with that short little line Van Doren is persuaded to cheat and the viewer realizes that she takes what is presented on TV as the truth. With a fast quip screenwriter Paul Attanasio reveals the persuasive power of TV.

TV is only persuasive because

the audience wants to believe. This sentiment is clearly demonstrated in the opening and closing sequences.

A fast and catchy version of Kurt Weill, Bertolt Brecht, and Marc Blitzstein's "Mack the Knife" from "The Three Penny Opera" accompanies montage of average Americans rushing to see "Twenty-One." The music catches the excitement as people race up subway stairs to rush either home or to the local pub. Just the simple repetition of hands switching the TV channel to NBC conveys that these people watch by choice. They choose to watch. Many Americans believe that our cultural loss of innocence began with the quiz show scandals of the 1950s. This so-called innocence never existed. These people found delight by watching the contestants squirm and sweat under TV's spotlight. They are no different than the spectators from Ancient Rome who watched the Lions devour Christians at the Coliseum. Week

after week these viewers enjoyed watching gentiles outscore Jews on the quiz programs and the ratings prove it. Human Nature was the root of the quiz show scandals.

Rob Morrow, the star of "Northern Exposure," plays a young attorney who hopes to put the medium of TV on trial during the congressional investigation. He becomes frustrated when the network and the sponsor, Geritol, escape condemnation and says exasperatingly, "We thought that we were going to get TV, but it got us." Goodwin was wrong to believe that TV was the only villain. The audience is culpable as well.

And this is shown during the closing credits as "Mack the Knife" is played again, but this time it is a much slower version. Instead of the fast editing that characterized the earlier sequence the camera pans slowly and disturbingly over a

(Continued on next page)



Quiz Show's most famous contestants

typical 50's audience enjoying the drama of "Twenty-One"

In between the opening and closing framework of "Mack the Knife" Morrow gives a subtle but impassioned performance as Goodwin. He is enraged by the inherent anti-Semitism in the game show fix, yet he feels a strong bond to WASPy Van Doren. Although he is Jewish, he is more comfortable with Van Doren's literary family in Connecticut than with geeky Herbert Stempel's family in his Archie Bunker-style Queen's home. Goodwin is sympathetic to Van Doren because he sees that the intellectual was tortured by his dishonesty. On the other hand, Herbert Stempel probably could have lived with the deception had he not been treated shabbily by the network. Stempel confesses because he wants revenge while Van Doren confesses because he knows that he cheated. Through these three central characters the film offers a revealing insight into the variability of the human psyche.

Even though "Quiz Show" is set in the world of 50's TV, the subject matter which it contains applies beyond those limits. In fact, this is a film which explores the complex aspects of human nature. And for this reason I expect "Quiz Show" to win several Oscars this spring. Unfortunately, "Quiz Show" loses points for being sexist and condescending because it credits two actresses as portraying "Barnard Girls." Excuse me Mr Redford any female in college should be called a woman and not a girl. Apparently sexism is a timeless vice like dishonesty.

Cathy Martarelli is a Barnard Senior and the Bulletin Arts Editor

Woodstock: A Fan's Perspective

By Geoff Sauveda

Okay, so you've read the articles in the Times Newsday say it on Pay Per View, or drooled over it on MTV. Well, I was there man! In the thick of it all. And I can definitely say that it was one of the strangest experiences that I've had. Many nicknamed it Greedstock, but those were probably the ones who actually paid (snicker, snicker). Hey, there were still some good bands there! Can any event be a complete sell out if Nine Inch Nails is playing? I think not!

Yes, food was incredibly overpriced - a small bottle of apple juice that normally costs 75 cents went for \$1.50. And the pizza! Small pies, that would be just enough for me, went for \$12! The boxes were then used to make signs either to find someone else, or try to find a fix (last I heard was that the boxes are now collector's items). But isn't this what our generation is about? Sex, drugs, rock 'n' roll and inflation, fads, violence and grunge fashion? Isn't that what Generation X (don't worry, that's the last time I'll be using that phrase) is about? This event characterized everything that my generation is and so I'm proud to say that I went!

But how could anyone think about paying for this? I wouldn't shell out \$135 for anything okay, maybe some things, but not for this. Not only is there the ticket price but what about food transportation and other miscellaneous expenses? You're talking about at least \$500 per

person. Apparently about 200,000 people felt that they could handle this expense, and so paid for their tickets. The other 200,000 or so (no one will ever know exactly how many people there were at the event) decided that the corporate world can go to Hell, and didn't pay.

Two weeks before Woodstock '94 I got the sudden urge to attend - I would do anything but pay to get in. So, I first tried to use the Bulletin, but they had stopped giving out press passes two months earlier. Maybe I'll sneak in, but that was too risky (at that point it still seemed like security was going to be tight). Hey, I'll volunteer! I'll help sell high priced food stuffs to cold and hungry people - hereby raking in the dough for The Man. I get in for free, get free food, get to park close to the site, and get to live on the Employee Campground (I suggest that volunteering at an event be considered before actually buying a ticket). I'd say that was a good trade.

In I went for a weekend of loud music, friendly frolicking, and peaceful activities. Actually, it wasn't that friendly (the Peace Patrol), nor that peaceful I mean, how can you call moshing peaceful? There was so much moshing that this activity can now officially be considered the sport of our generation. Moshing during the Cranberries, Joe Cocker, Sheryl Crow, Crosby Stills & Nash, etc.

What did all this moshing get us? A few hundred injured. There was some air of peacefulness and cooperation when someone had to
(continued on next page)

MUSIC

(continued from last page)

be evacuated out of the pit. The injured would crowd surf to the front, or the sea of people would part making an aisle for the medics to walk through. Many had to be taken out of sheer exhaustion. There were so many people that it would take an hour to walk from the front of the stage to the first water fountain. Once you got to the fountain you would have to deal with the "Mud People." Drainage was apparently not considered when placing the fountains. After about three hours of use, puddles of mud began to form.

These Mud People would occasionally run into the pit. They would form a train and dance their way to the front. Everyone who didn't want to become muddy would move out of their way, making it extremely easy to get to the front. Of course, by Sunday everyone was dirty, so it was useless to stay out of the way. How many people haven't heard that Nine Inch Nails played in the mud before coming on stage? Well, now you have.



Trent Reznor of Nine Inch Nails

NIN were on for much too short a set only forty minutes. What a tease! After their wonderfully jarring performance which included the introduction of the new single "Burn" (off the *Natural Born Killers* soundtrack) Metallica came on. I must say that this show made me realize that I have grown out of Metallica or they've grown out of me. It took them half an hour to finally show up (they had assured the stage crew that it was only going to take five minutes to set up.) When they did, Kirk Hammet came out looking like Michael Jackson: his curly long hair in a ponytail with one strand hanging down his face and the mustache shaved off. The music was not that exciting either. Singer James Hetfield sounded too clean. The main attraction of his voice had once been that it was raspy and rough, not so anymore. Face it, Metallica have lost their edge.

One set that wasn't disappointing was Primus' "Gee." Who would have thought that when they started playing "My Name is Mud" people would throw mud on stage? Lead singer Les Claypool quickly stopped the song and addressed the crowd: "You know, people who throw things on stage. It's a sign of small genitalia. This made the audience stop rather abruptly. During another song Claypool broke into the Star Spangled Banner. Sorry I just had to do that!" Primus finished their set by playing a piece by Metallica. If I remember correctly it was the beginning of "Master of Puppets."

I left the concert after

Metallica. I was suffering from exhaustion myself. I got home at four in the morning and slept in my warm comfy bed while the rest of my friends slept on the hard wet ground. The next morning I joined the rest of the world and watched the coverage on the news. I missed Peter Gabriel! How could I not have stayed until his show? Well, some of us have to work, and I had to be wide awake for Monday.

Geoff Saavedra is a Columbia College sophomore and a Bulletin Staff Writer.



(Continued from page 11)

Cozza emphasizes that 'it's not a fiefdom of people running it. I'd like to see people become a part of the Greenhouse and to include it as part of their Barnard experience. Everyone is welcome to come up here to study, draw, take pictures, visit, take a tour, get a demonstration, or just to see what's blooming. I see the Greenhouse as a refuge from the City, a place to learn about plants, a way to develop environmental awareness.

The Greenhouse is located on the fifth floor of Milbank and can be reached by taking the elevator (or stairs) to the fourth floor and then following the signs up to the Greenhouse. There is usually someone there until dusk, but feel free to call to make sure (854 5614). Cozza notes that the voice mail is on when no one is there, so if the phone is ringing, let it ring a while!

Rana Bonnici is a Barnard Senior and the Bulletin Photography Editor.

Stone Temple Pilot's *Purple*

By Mary Cait Curran

Amid the joy of returning to Barnard for my sophomore year (a k a saying hello to people I hated last year trying to find that perfect elusive Monday Wednesday 2 40 3 55 class finding out that a class entitled Cross Cultural Sex Roles has a twenty five page paper and dealing with the verriogo of sleeping on a bunk bed) I received a CD to review As I listened to the Stone Temple Pilots latest effort *Purple* I said to myself Why oh dear God why am I listening to this while my delicate mental state is being ripped apart by actually having to wake up before 2 PM and attend classes regularly? I mean lets face it almost everyone has heard the three popular singles off this album and you the *Barnard Bulletin* readership has already decided if you like STP or not You have either said to yourself These boys are MTV created losers who pollute the meaning of alternative music with their watered down rock pop and for this offense they should die by firing squad Or perhaps you consider them to be smackin Then again maybe you just don't care

So now that I have outlined all the reasons that I shouldn't have wasted both your and my time writing this I will explain why I am sitting in the Bulletin office on a Wednesday at 5 00 PM all by my lonesome pecking this puppy out The first reason is quite simple I got this CD for free and as our parents are so fond of saying Nothing in life is free Then I realized that you all really love me and care about what I think about every matter in life For

some of you I am your personal guru and without my leadership you are just lost sheep screaming Baa Baa in torment So for those of you who this applies to and I know your numbers are strong and growing I will descend from my hill and offer my guidance

So be I o v e d f o l l o w e r s here are my words of w i s d o m

Purple doesn't suck I think that that is pretty clear and to the point you know it is very important for gurus to be concise STP will never change the world with their impressive musical talent or lyrical skills They're defined by what they are which is a top 40 group Their music caters to the masses It's easy to listen to and it isn't annoying or offensive And let us not forget that the lead singer Weiland is beauty incarnate I also owe Stone Temple Pilots a great amount of gratitude for their song Wet My Bed which was a cut from their first album *Core* It was on my phone mail message forever The song went as follows Hey everybody wh r d Mary a



Above Stone Temple Pilots

where d Mary go maybe she maybe she swanraway

So in closing I will just say this buy the CD or don't buy it It doesn't matter Either way you'll hear almost every song on MTV or on the radio Mary Cait Curran is a Barnard College sophomore and a Bulletin Staff Writer

NIGHTLINE.
We're here for
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Uncanny Alliance: *The Groove Won't Bite*

By Naomi de Silva

"It's obvious the cloud is there, see the silver lining... we don't dwell in the clouds." If that went over your head, maybe you should take time out to listen to the upcoming debut dance album *The Groove Won't Bite* by Uncanny Alliance. This ingenious album is brilliant and original. Even though it addresses many serious issues, the group does not sacrifice music quality. While providing humorous lyrics and a heady beat, the duo manages to still get a strong influential message across to their audience.

"I usually like a lot of positive influence to come out in my writing...usually a thought or phrase will just pop into my head...and I'll

just take it from there," songwriter Brinsley Evans claims. Evans writes about many pressing issues including low self-esteem, unemployment and homelessness. Brinsley and E.V. Mystique put together thought provoking lyrics with a positive vibe and funky groove-laden rhythm. This is evident in a favorite "Diggin' For A Brand New Whole," on which Evans and Mystique sing, "I could see a time I was really really lost. I didn't have a job. I didn't have a heart...Never figured it out, but that's all right, 'cause that was a long long time ago, and now I'm diggin' for a brand new whole.. A whole sense of peace, a whole sense of me, a whole sense of who I'm suppose to be."

The duo is rightfully pleased with their product. The songs, "I Got My Education" and "I'm Beautiful Dammit!" were both big hits in the NYC club scene. "I Got My Education" reached the number two slot on the Billboard Dance charts. The hit "I'm Beautiful Dammit" was number one on the Hitmakers Club Chart as well as number five

on the Billboard Dance charts. Currently the group is awaiting the release of their single "Everybody Up," which differs from the other two singles in content. This song is purely a dance song with no serious message behind it other than to get up and dance." hands in the air, now shake."

When asked what they think of today's club scene, Evans replies, "Music, I think as a whole right now is great. There is a lot of alternative, rap, older stuff...the Stones, where everything is coming through. The only thing that is sort of lacking is that there is not a lot of positive stuff on the rap tip....but I can get into the whole gangster thing...but it would be nice if there could be a little more balance coming through...but everybody should get there say." The duo is influenced by a lot of 70's musicians including the Ohio Players, Raw, George Clinton, and the legendary James Brown. Current music interests are Coolio, who also shares the same positive vibe, as well as Nine Inch Nails.

An interesting show to catch live, the performance is theatrical and can be described as when "Broadway meets the clubs." Even though the NYC crowd is a tougher audience to please, the pair fares incredibly well and can hold their own. Uncanny Alliance is a group not to be missed, so if you are one to dance, grab your partner, put your dancing shoes on... and check this group out when they hit the NY club circuit next month.

Naomi de Silva is a Barnard College sophomore



Uncanny Alliance: Brinsley Evans and E.V. Mystique

Thanks to Gravity Made My Day

by Mary Cait Curran

I have often thought that there are two main reasons for going to a show. The first being that you really like the band and their music. The second being that you want to watch and be part of the audience. Having explained this to you I will now describe the acid tripesque experience of seeing **thanks to gravity** play at the Lion's Den on Friday, September 16.

I should explain a few things before I tell you about the show. Earlier in the day I had paid for the privilege of getting my hair temporarily dyed a lovely shade of pinkish-purple. It was, to be totally honest, the color of a little kid's puke who had swallowed a couple of packs of Hubba Bubba, sorry to gross you but this image is really the only means by which I thought you could understand the horrendous color (by the way it is fine now, it is actually a lovely shade of auburn). Not only did the color serve as a new thrill of embarrassment but my hairdresser, Suede (no, I'm not making her name up, or in any way trying to protect her "innocence" in this matter) had decided that since it was a humid day she would allow my naturally wavy hair to curl up into a lovely glitter style. This would have been just fine if I was attending my grammar school reunion in Brooklyn where the height of your hair measures your social status but I in no way wanted to look like Fluffy the Bad Ass punk poodle at Barnard. Being from Brooklyn I already get enough criticism without having to fulfill anyone's stereotype.

Anyway the point of my writing

all this is to show you the mental state in which I got on the 9 train to see New Hampshire's own **thanks to gravity**.

Going to the Lion's Den was my one ray of hope that the day would not be a total disaster. So I corralled my hair into a manageable size and tried to reject all depressing thoughts so that I could enjoy the show. I knew once I got there I would be immediately cheered up because **thanks to gravity** is a truly amazing band. Their acoustic/electric music and stimulating lyrics can bring you to a happier place, just like reading *The Great Gatsby* or going to St. John the Divine to sit and chill and be one with yourself (perhaps these are just my own little "Happy Thoughts" activities but the point is that **thanks to gravity** is a great band).

So the beloved buds and I boarded the train in high spirits, but after missing our stop and getting sexually harassed a million times our spirits had hit a new low. Let me just take this opportunity to say to any man reading this, women do NOT appreciate being referred to as honey baby, sweetie, or bitch. We also do not care to have loud kissing sounds hurled at us. This seems to be common sense to every woman in America and yet you boys lag behind. My advice to you is pick your knuckles off the ground and evolve already. (Sorry for that tangent but my god everyone has a limit and I have surpassed mine.)

Back to the show. After a few songs we were feeling better and actually starting to enjoy life again when this woman in a white body suit with the shoulders cut out and skin

tight jeans, started convulsing her body in spastic movements which we interpreted to be her way of dancing. Among her favorite moves was punching the air in what I guess was an attempt to grab the musical notes. Another classic was her moving her whole head in what appeared to be a 360 degree circle leading me to wonder when Barbara Walters would be there with the priest for the exorcism. This woman not only demonstrated that, yes indeed someone still shops at Mandie and Merry Go Round but that the human spirit and the need to express one's joy despite total and utter embarrassment is still alive and well.

She immediately put me and my friends in a wonderful mood and provided visual stimulation for the show.

So as I sit alone recounting this story to you, I actually have a smile on my face. One person can change our outlook on life and that, boys and girls, is today's life lesson. By the way, check the Village Voice for any of **thanks to gravity's** upcoming shows. The music is wonderful and you never know, that woman might be there. You really need to see her for yourself.

Thanks to Gravity, who many C U students may have seen playing on the steps during last year's Spring Fest, should be back in New York in October to do a major showcase at Wetlands. c d

Mary Cait Curran is a Barnard sophomore and a Bulletin Staff Writer.

First-Year Orientation: From Hell to Home

by Amy Bartell

Orientation the good ole days—back when the food was free people were friendly, and I had no earthly reason to rise before noon. Actually, I am quite relieved to have put that less than utopian week in the basement of my memory. I feel content to have more effectual things to do, such as work up yet another astronomically big phone bill and try to find out where the hell the Sulzberger classrooms are.

Surprisingly, the actual process of moving in went relatively painlessly. That is, until I opened the nauseatingly purple-trimmed door to my new home. I became convinced that I had mistakenly entered the psycho ward of a mental hospital or perhaps traveled back in time to the "hoovervilles" of the Great Depression. My neighbors and I felt like caged criminals, living in the slums of the Quad, on the other side of the carpet, just feet from air conditioning. Then we ventured into Brobbs, the servants quarters of the building complete with its own separate entrance and seedy elevators reminiscent of a low budget thriller movie set, even lower on the hierarchy of the Quad. Suddenly I felt lucky to be a resident of Reid.

One benefit of Orientation's conclusion is the return to the three meal day. Gourmet the food is not. In fact the slop that poses as my dinner makes the United Airlines cuisine taste like it was prepared by Julia Child—but at least we have escaped from the night wadded anorexia prompting brunch and

early dinner' that Orientation scantily offered. And while provisions for vegetarians may still be rudimentary (grease saturated tofu defeats the purpose—I prefer not to eat food in which I can see my reflection), at least we the health conscious have more to subsist upon than stale bagels and withered lettuce. (Although, kidney beans don't quite cut it.)

You know, no one is fooled by the tricky little conspiracy that forces First-Years to purchase the 19 meal per week plan assuring that we don't succumb to the 'Freshman (oops 'First-Year') Fifteen'. My parents aren't forking over twice the annual income of the average American in order for me to come home as an emaciated victim of an eating disorder. I have considered resorting to getting proper nutrients intravenously. (Guess who'll be footing the bill!)

Finally the conclusion of Orientation has meant the end of perhaps the most tiresome part of the whole dragged out week: meeting people. I am sure I met all 559 of my classmates, interrogated them about where they are from (which is invariably New Jersey) and demanded to know why they ended up at Barnard (a thin envelope from Brown nine times out of ten). Luckily the superficiality has waned and now people are starting to be themselves. In fact the fashion show here at Barnard seems to be almost over as well. No longer am I accosted by Gucci purses frightened by the ubiquity of suffocatingly tight chokers or

intimidated by platform shoes bordering on stilettos.

While Orientation may have been well HELLO, fast—friendships became compulsory because of our mutual agony. We could not help but get along, what with the common bond of mocking the speed-freaks who did pep assembly inspired cheers at College Night. Naturally, we were united by our mutual disdain for eating hospital style cafeteria food, our shared complaints/relief of our lack of male counterparts. And of course the unanimous bafflement as to why on earth Columbia named an entire building after Ferris Beuhler.

Ok, ok so the beginning of our college existence was not all that bad. I eventually got over the awkwardness of sharing a small walk in closet with a complete stranger, I am now accustomed to socializing while I brush my teeth. Sad but true, (well I wouldn't go quite that far) and I have now mastered the art of pilfering apples from McIntosh. Although my dorm is still a far cry from the Plaza, or even a Best Western, and while I still have not adjusted to my nightly heat strokes, I am beginning to feel at home.

Amy Bartell is a Barnard First Year.

Waiting... and Other Laments of a Barnard Transfer

by Catherine Pajak

Words of anguish flowed from my mouth as I entered the third hour of waiting in the Dean's Office to get my program signed. I criticized the secretaries for their annoyed attitudes, the Deans for taking too long and for taking phone calls while students sat in their offices, the lucky students whose Deans had short waiting lists, and most of all, I criticized myself for being so hostile at the situation. After all, didn't I have an afternoon to waste waiting for a three-minute conversation with a Dean who does not even recognize me?

I always expect a wait when dealing with administrative matters. The time lost did not bother me as much as the attitudes of the office staff, and more so that the situation could easily have been almost completely remedied by better planning.

Maybe I was under a delusion to think that the "shopping" period and, thereafter, program filing would be beneficial and efficient. As a transfer, I am unaccustomed to such a system, and I fully experimented with the possibilities, attending many different classes. I needed a whole week to settle my schedule.

I proceeded to the Dean's Office on Thursday morning to seek approval from my advisor (programs were due on Friday afternoon). He was not there, understandably since he was observing the Jewish high holy day. I wanted to make an appointment for the following morning. The secretary informed me

I could not get an appointment Friday and that I must return for his walk-in hours, the administrative translation of wait around time.

For over two hours I waited around because I could not get an appointment time. I tried to beat the rush with a morning visit but had to go to class. I returned, now at the bottom of the list.

One advisor called us, the students, "delinquent for waiting until the deadline day to file our programs. She did not appreciate that we were sitting on the floor either—we were blocking her way. She told my waiting companion and I to "move into the crowded waiting area. Her 'delinquent' remark flung me over the edge, driving me to bash the Colledge with my first words of hatred against Barnard since transferring here. Her judgmental words were completely inappropriate and inaccurate. In the case of most tired offenders Friday was not the first time we sought approval from our parole officers.

I should have kept track of all the time I have spent waiting in line during the past two weeks: moving in, picking up Orientation materials, seeking departmental approvals, buying a computer going to the bursar, getting an ID and registering. The waiting itself is to be expected but the reasons my waits extended are due mainly to irresponsibility. Buying a computer turned into an expedition when they told me I needed a fax from my father giving me permission to use his credit card even though I was an authorized user. My registration page was elongated

by another hour as I waited in two lines for the bursar. I was supposed to be charged a late fee on a housing bill that I never received.

At least, however, I received housing even if it was only two weeks before orientation four months after my April acceptance. Some transfer students were housed in the guest rooms of Sulzberger for over two weeks as they waited for housing "to open up." This brings me to my experience as a transfer student at Barnard. Coming from a public school in a rural area, with an enrollment almost three times as large as Barnard, I did not expect my adjustment here to be immediate. But I also did not imagine that I could face such nonsensical lines, administrators without answers, headaches, and judgmental attitudes (that "delinquent" comment has really stuck in my brain). In fact, being a transfer is much more difficult than I imagined it would be, especially because I have fond memories of my prior school. As a first year there, I felt embraced by the community more than I do here.

I am not blaming anyone. The Orientation committee made a good hearted attempt to cater to the more than one hundred transfer students. The admissions office has a commitment to transfer students. And Barnard women are also not at fault for my feelings of exclusion. Yet even so I cannot help but feel like an intruder in other people's college experiences. But after all it is their school, not mine—not yet anyway.

(Continued on next page)

I am still criticizing like an outsider. The issues I detailed above may seem trivial, but unfortunately this bureaucratic red tape has taken hours of my life and has overshadowed my entire transfer experience. I am finding everything here, from reading to making friends to installing the ink cartridge in my new printer, much like waiting in a line: unresponsive, frustrating, difficult—but it has only been a few weeks.

The friends I am slowly making will last a lifetime; the ink cartridge should be good for a few hundred pages, and the worst of the lines will not be until next semester begins. I think I can manage. After all, I did not come here seeking a more efficient system or easy lifestyle. I knew transferring and finding a new niche would be difficult. Maybe once I feel comfortable in my place in line, I will feel part of the Barnard community. Meanwhile, I will "wait around" to see

Catherine Pajak is a Barnard

Cracked Cymbals by Michael A. Shapiro



The ultimate pocket protector

Ambition Gone Awry?

by Andrea Iane

Looking around campus I sometimes forget that I'm in a tranquil academic atmosphere. Despite the reminders of Lehman's windowed facade, I often feel like I've been transported to mid town during lunch, when all the young professionals emerge from their climate controlled offices to drink espresso and sample garden salads. This image of budding professionalism is further reinforced by some casual conversation—after all, I wouldn't want to be too close to anyone who wields a Filofax.

"So how was your summer?" The answer to my polite and cursory question usually prompts an answer along these lines: "I had a great internship at South-Barney, assisting the vice president of acquisitions." My eyes widen in slight shock because I worked at a beach this summer, familiarizing myself with the countless variations on John Grisham's single plotline and of course working on my tan. On a resume, this job would be inflated to Beach Maintenance Specialist. Yeah, right.

The woman I was speaking with turns away dismissively after some patronizing remark designed to make me feel inadequate and unworthy. She leaves dressed in a suit swinging her briefcase—no doubt pursuing her wonderful enriching pre-professional career that will no doubt make her a prime employment candidate after graduation.

I am left with the beginnings of insecurity for I have chosen to pursue only one career while at

college—that of being a student. Barnard women seem to have a strange compulsion to fill up their free time with outside jobs, all in the name of Experience. Rather than enjoy my time here, I should be prepared to dress up, network, and work for people to gain experience, but not money. And because I have chosen not to emulate the yuppies of the bygone 80's, some people may label me as non-ambitious.

Luckily, I have come to learn that I am not alone in the thought that entering corporate America before graduation is unhealthy. As one Barnard sophomore puts it, "I just figure that I'll get ambitious when I get older." Another friend has also figured out a good motto for his college days: "I didn't come to college just to find a career, but to have fun, and damnit, that's what I'm doing."

I'm not entirely certain where this desire to hurry up life comes from, but every month I am reminded of my lethargy and lack of resume by the bulletin from Career Services that seems to scream "underachiever at me." I have no Filofax because they're too heavy and I'd rather have friends than a network of contacts. I'd rather stay late at the West End than in an office, and I'd much rather wear jeans than a suit. It seems important to me that there be a definite separation between my memories of college and my years spent in the real world working not for the experience, but for survival.

Andrea Iane is a Barnard College sophomore.

The Heart of the Matter. . .

A Few Words of First-Year Advice

by Amy Leavey

Dear Barnard first-year students.

Hello! Let me be one of many who have welcomed you to Barnard College over the last month. I'm sure that your first few weeks here have been full of professors, administrators, faculty, and students congratulating you on your fine choice of academic institution and showering you with facts and figures about the school. So, instead of adding myself to the list of well wishers, I have decided to take this opportunity to help you with some smaller, more trivial problems you may have encountered.

I'm sure by now you have discovered how to retrieve your messages and change your answering options. I'm sure many of you have altered your greeting quite frequently. Perhaps, some of you don't even need to listen to all the directions anymore to remember how to delete a message. But there are two little tricks I didn't discover until March of my first year which I'll share with you. First, the star button stops a message in the middle. So if some how you have managed to get yourself on the Barnard-Columbia Skinny Dipping Team phone list, you can "star-6" the message without listening to the gory details of their midnight jaunt in the East River. Second, when listening to a message and you want to save the message but still have the message light blink, press "2." This is helpful if your roommate is particular about getting her messages, or if you're just really bad at taking messages.

Another thing I find extremely confusing here are the names of the buildings and rooms. Apparently, the same people give money to the school many, many times and they get their names placed all over. But, for us students it can be quite mystifying. For example, Sulzberger parlor is on the third floor of Barnard Hall, not in Sulzberger. Barnard's library is in the building called Lehman, but it's not called Lehman Library, it's called Wollman Library. Lehman Library is in the School of Social Work and Wollman Auditorium is in FBH. By the way, FBH stands for Ferris Booth Hall; I always say Ferris Bueller Hall, but that's just me. Lehman auditorium is in Altschul; it's room 202. But Altschul auditorium is in the Law School. There are two Shapiro buildings. One is a residence hall on 115th street and the other is an academic building on the north side of Columbia campus. Don't worry if you didn't get all of this on the first read. I'm a junior and I'm still trying to figure it out.

I hope other things are becoming clearer to you as you move around campus.

The tunnels aren't that confusing if you just remember it's really a straight shot from Milbank to the Quad, just get off at the building of your choice. Hopefully, your PSC and your mailbox combination are all working, so communication with the outside world is simple. The subways are probably becoming old hat for you; just don't make the mistake that a friend of mine did and think that the 2 and 3 express trains stop here. They don't.

I hope these tips are a helpful introduction to life on the west side of Broadway. And if you ever want a little cynicism in your life, I'm here every week trying to get to the heart of the matter.

Amy Leavey is a Barnard College junior and a weekly Bulletin columnist.

U.S. Agenda in Haiti Unclear

by Margarida Jorge

After years of policy fluctuations, economic sanctions and military threats, we are once again, for the second time in one century, going to Haiti in the interests of "democracy." This time, in the great tradition of Panama, El Salvador and the many other lucky recipients of our "help," we are going in to dismantle the military elite that we helped to build in the first place.

According to the text of the U.S. agreement with Haiti, "The purpose of this agreement is to foster peace in Haiti, to avoid violence and bloodshed, [principles thus far?]

Not surprisingly, we haven't exactly been the model benefactors to the Haitians. Contradictions abound in the U.S./Haiti agreement to promote freedom and democracy, and to forge a sustained and mutually beneficial relationship between the governments, people and institutions of Haiti and the United States." How well have we adhered to these Clinton's propaganda is inconsistent with his policy. He painted Haiti as a indigent nation with the worst human rights abuses in the Western Hemisphere (a title we bestow on whichever country is most convenient) when trying to muster enough support for military action. Yet, simultaneously the agreement allows the perpetrators of those severe abuses complete amnesty "certain military officers of the Haitian armed forces are willing to consent to an early and honorable retirement in accordance with U.N. Resolutions 917 and 940 when a general amnesty will be voted into law by the Haitian Parliament. Apparently while murder and systematic oppression may be

morally reprehensible they are politically acceptable.

As for Aristide, Haiti's exiled leader, the Clinton Administration's attitude toward him also turns with the political winds. At the beginning, we had to maintain some semblance of respect, since Aristide is Haiti's democratically elected leader. We did, after all, have to make some effort to convince America that this tiny nation deserved our attention. Although we are more deeply embroiled than ever in ensuring "democracy," in Haiti, and though Aristide is still the nation's democratically elected ruler, what little respect remains seems merely thinly veiled contempt for a man who the CIA considers mentally unstable and who the mainstream press (*New York Times*) calls "an unpredictable, emotional leader with poor English, vague mannerisms and an odd circle of activists." The derogatory tone of this wording is unmistakable. Apparently, anyone who fails to learn our language well and resorts to consistent use of his own tongue and the imagery of his own culture is simply not worth our while.

The frequent condescending pokes at Aristide in the press as one who, alone, is incompetent are substantiated by the Clinton Administration's insistence upon instructing Aristide on the particulars of nation management. Judging from one article in the *New York Times*, much of the condescension appears to stem from the government's impression that Aristide does not seem grateful enough for U.S. intervention in Haiti. Yet, to a large degree Aristide's lack of enthusiasm is understandable considering an agreement which grants amnesty to

his enemies, people who have harassed and killed the exiled President's supporters solely for their political beliefs. Furthermore, the United States' refusal to intervene in episodes in which the Haitian military beats and kills Haitians in the streets—Haitians who, ironically, herald the U.S. troops as protectors of their democratic rights—have done little to encourage Aristide's satisfaction. His supporters, after all, are still being punished. Aristide finds himself in the midst of a political deal, in which his agenda has been bypassed in the name of efficient negotiation at the expense of more Haitian lives. Clinton insists that the U.S. is not in Haiti to replace the Haitian police force already in place (though that police force is allied with the military junta which we are there to wrest from power). Nor are we going to be, he claims, "the world's policemen." This, however, raises the question of what, then, are we doing in Haiti? Preserving democracy? Instituting democracy? Returning democracy?

We are not complying with Aristide's agenda, and he is the nation's democratic leader—he represents the will of the people of Haiti. History has shown that we cannot impose our own brand of American democracy on another nation that does not already have the institutions and political culture to support it. Democracy must grow naturally out of these circumstances. Sometimes it seems that we have gone to Haiti to watch Haitians die close up (since we aren't doing anything to stop the killing) rather than from afar.

Margarida Jorge is a *Barnard Senior*.

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