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ISSUE 17



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KATZ AND ASTROFF RIVAL FOR TOP SGA POSITION

Michelle Katz and Ronnie Astroff (this year's candidates for SGA president) present a tough choice to voters who want the best for Barnard. Both Astroff and Katz have extensive experience in student government and activities programming and planning a range of issues that include work on the Quad Hall Council and the Seven Sisters conference.

Katz has been involved in campus politics since her first year, working her way up the ranks as first the treasurer and then the president of the Quad Hall Council (QHC).

"I know how to make people feel as if they have a mission," Katz said of her leadership abilities. "I know how to delegate, how to supervise, how to motivate people."

As SGA treasurer, Katz worked to streamline the budget process by revising the current budget forms. As president of the Quad, she worked in close contact with a small board. She said the experience introduced her to the world of programming and communication.

Ronnie Astroff, currently the SGA representative at large for programming, has worked on Springfest, the New Student Orientation Program, the Seven College Conference, Urban New York, and January Orientation for transfer students.

As co-programming coordinator, Seven College Conference, Astroff oversaw planning for meals, housing, and contacting of speakers. She said it is important to open up communication and form ties with other schools. She also worked to strengthen ties within the school by organizing teas for students and administrators to meet.

Both Katz and Astroff saw apathy and as one of the biggest challenges they would have to face as President.

Katz said that she wanted to see more students attending in SGA meetings to offer their input. She said that SGA's responsibility is to get information out and make things easier, but that apathy is a problem for everyone to deal with. She encourages clubs to work

together to work on joint programs and to take the initiative to put an end to apathy.

Astroff said one of her goals if elected would be to increase student awareness of SGA.

Either they don't know, don't care, or dislike SGA, Astroff said. We must reach out to students because right now there's a gulf in between SGA and the students.

Astroff wants to increase student involvement in the campus politics, encouraging them to attend meetings with criticisms, and she would also like to keep holding meetings in dormitories once a month to keep closer ties with students. She would also like to work with resident assistants to plan events where students could become more involved.

Both candidates had plans for making SGA more efficient.

Katz hoped that efficiency could be reached through more open lines of communication. Within SGA, she believes that the President should call board members personally each week, and she wants the oral reports which are made by each SGA member to be supplemented with tangible descriptions of each activity or event so that SGA knows what SGA is doing.

Astroff thought that the Rep Council should receive paperwork before each meeting, and the discussions should be capped if necessary in order to make meetings run more smoothly. She also said that paperwork could be filed more effectively in the office, and she wants the Exec Board to have a better understanding of what other members of SGA are working on at any given moment.

These candidates have attempted to address the problems facing the Barnard community, and now it is up to students to take the time to read through the platforms, talk to the candidates, and reach a decision for the good of the community. If we want things to change, we must offer our input. Don't forget to vote.

Editorial Policy

In order to be considered for publication, all letters to the Editor must be signed by an individual or by a Barnard SGA and/or Columbia Student Council recognized organization. Letters to the Editor must be submitted no later than the Wednesday preceding publication and must include a phone number. All letters are printed under the discretion of the Editors; opinions expressed in the Bulletin are those of the authors, not necessarily Barnard College or the Barnard Bulletin. The editorial board reserves the right to edit all submitted material.

The Bulletin Welcomes Letter to the Editor

BEAR ESSENTIALS

PROGRAM PLANNING MEETINGS are being scheduled for students interested in finding out about departments and departmental majors.

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| *Architecture | Wed, 3/27 3pm in 307 Barnard Hall |
| *Biology | Thurs, 3/28 12:10pm in 903 Altschul Hall |
| *Chemistry | Fri, 3/29 12-1pm luncheon in Altschul Lobby |
| *Computer Science | Thurs, 3/28, 12 noon in Computer Science Conference Room in the Computer Science Dept. in Mudd (Engineering Bldg) |
| *Economics | Thurs, 3/28, 12 noon in 302 Barnard Hall |
| *Philosophy | Thurs, 3/28, 12:30pm in 326 Milbank |
| *Psychology | Thurs, 3/28 12 noon in 405 Milbank Hall |

Students interested in studying in the Asian & Middle Eastern Cultures department should contact Rachael McDermott (x45416) for North Africa, the Near East, the Middle East (including Hebrew concentrators), & South Asia; Irene Bloom (x42125) for China & Korea, and Keiko Ikeda (x42238) for Japan

BIOLOGY PRE-REGISTRATION- students must preregister for all Barnard Biology courses for fall 1998. Sign-up sheets for NC1001x lab and lecture and BC2002x lecture and 2003x labs will be posted on 9th floor Altschul

Preregistration for all other courses will take place in 1203 Altschul according to the following schedule:

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Tuesday, 4/16 | |
| Seniors L-Z | 8:45-11:45 |
| Seniors A-K | 12:45-3:45 |
| Wednesday, 4/17 | |
| Non-seniors L-Z | 8:45-11:45 |
| Non-seniors A-K | 12:45-3:45 |

1998 FALL PROGRAM FILING DEADLINE students who will be enrolled next fall must file their programs with approval of advisers by Friday, April 19

WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE- the last day to withdraw from a course with a W on your record is Wednesday, April 24.

SOPHOMORES- majors are to be declared by Monday, April 15. Please file form at the Registrar's Office

CELEBRATION OF BLACK WOMANHOOD 1998 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

From Friday, March 22 until March 31, Black Sisters of Barnard and Columbia will present their annual Celebration of Black Womanhood. This is a time to honor the black women who have become heroes and to acknowledge their achievements. BSBC has planned an exciting series of events open to all students.

- Today, March 27**, there will be a study break including free food and beverages in the Zora Neale Hurston Lounge beginning at 9pm.
- Thursday, March 28** two forums will be held. The first, "Between Women, Finding Common Ground" will take place from 12-1pm in Sulzberger Parlor. The second, "Alumnae of African Descent- Our Struggles, and Sacrifices, and Victories" will feature prominent black alumnae who will discuss their struggles and successes. This forum will be held in Sulzberger's North Tower from 6-7:30pm.
- Friday** is the dedication of the Zora Neale Hurston Lounge. The Lounge is on the first floor of Reid Hall and the festivities will be from 4-6pm. Live entertainment and food from the African Diaspora will be featured. Later Friday evening keynote speaker, renowned poet, essayist, and political activist Barnard alumna June Jordan will be speaking in lower level McIntosh from 7-8:30pm.
- Saturday, March 30** award winning author of *Breath, Eyes, Memory* and *Krirk?Kraik!* Edwidge Danticat and BC '90 alumna will speak at 3:30pm in Sulzberger Parlor.
- The final event will be a showing of *The Women of Brewster Place*, a novel written by Gloria Naylor. This movie/study break will take place in the "new" Zora Neale Hurston Lounge at 8pm.

Absa Braithwaite, BC '98 contributed to this calendar of events

Zora Neal Hurston Lounge Reopens After Renovations

by Jennifer Arend

With renovations nearly complete the Black Sisters of Barnard and Columbia are hosting the grand reopening of the Zora Neale Hurston Lounge in Reid Hall on March 29.

The Hurston lounge has been in existence since 1982 but according to Charlyne Brumskine, Secretary of the Black Sisters of Barnard and Columbia, it had fallen into disrepair. With money from the club's budget, the Barnard Student Government Association, and the administration, the lounge will reopen, refurbished with a brand new library of books by and about African American women writers like Hurston.

Brumskine said the organization, which has always had its meetings in the Hurston lounge, has provided additional decorations like posters of Hurston and a display of art dedicated to African Dance.

Hurston, known for her books *Dust Tracks on a Road* and *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, received a scholarship to Barnard and studied under world famous anthropologist Franz Boas. After graduating Barnard in 1928, she wrote several novels, making her most important contribution to American Literature through her anthropological studies of black folklore and myths.

Hurston's biographers describe her as an intelligent woman who did not let her college education alienate her from the folk culture that she dedicated her life to studying. Writing as a member of the Harlem Renaissance, Hurston focused on the coming to consciousness of black women, something both her male and female predecessors had ignored. Hurston's stories and novels bring the African American tradition to life as she preserved the tenacity and spirit of African Americans in her writing, and most notably, through her rich use of Southern black dialect.

Critics have said that the lyrical language of her novel can only be appreciated by reading it aloud, allowing the reader to hear a Southern twang while pronouncing the phonetically spelled dialogue. This richness of content in the following passage from *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, a novel about a woman's self discovery after a series of romantic relationship slips and female friendships.

Dis evenin we all assembled heah to light tuh lamp. Dis occasion is something for us all tuh remember tuh our dyn' dyn'. De first street lamp in uh color. I wuz lift up yo eyes and gaze on it. Ah! when ah touch de match tuh de lantern wick let de light penetrate us de f' yuh and let it shine let it shine let it shine.

Hurston was also known for her staunch opinions, including her position to school integration and her refusal to believe that there was something wrong with her blackness. Alice Walker said Hurston's work was characterized by "racial health, a sense of black people as complete, complex, undiminished human beings, a sense that is so lacking in so much of our literature."

Hurston, who grew up in a black town of Florida, Florida, was raised with a sense of pride, honor, and self confidence that she brought into her work with African American folklore. It really, she felt, that she and obscurity, as well as the impact that her work had on American literature.

Jennifer Arend is a Barnard First Year.



"I had the same feeling at Barnard that I did at Howard (University) only more so. I felt that I was high privileged and determined to make the most of it. I did not resolve to be a grind, however, to show the white folks that I had brains. I took it for granted that they knew that. Else, why was I at Barnard? No everyone who cries 'Lord! Lord!' can enter those sacred iron gates. In her high scholastic standard, equipment, the quality of her student body and graduates, Barnard has a right to the first line of Alma Mater."

Beside the waters of the Hudson, Our Alma Mater stands serene! On an Gildersleeve has that certain touch. We know there are women's colleges that are older but not better ones.

Zora Neale Hurston
Dust Tracks on the Road

Students of Several Eastern Colleges Gather to Discuss Civic Responsibility

by Samantha Nicotia

In her keynote address at the assembled women of the several colleges conference NOW 2001 Delores Fund Executive Director Kathy Rodgers (50) and Barnard's vice president and general counsel urged the women present to take civic responsibility in their own hands and exercise their vote in an important election year.

Civic responsibility was the theme of the conference chosen by Barnard organizers as a vital issue for students and the world outside.

While many of the students talked about civic responsibility in the sense of community service, Rodgers stressed voting as one of the most important aspects of civic responsibility.

Speaking about a recent backlash against women, Rodgers said to undo much of the work women activists have worked to since the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848, Rodgers said on the gender gap between men and women voters that can lead to real changes in legislation because at present, many more women exercise their votes than men.

Women are more involved in war and peace. They are more involved in child care, Rodgers said. Women in elected office will work toward women's issues. If we never we can set the agenda and shape policies for our benefit.

Rodgers explained how in the 1980s, no women's issues.

Royal Rodgers spoke publicly on Sept. 10, 2001, at the Delores Fund conference at Barnard College. She is the vice president of the Delores Fund.

Women are more involved in war and peace. They are more involved in child care, Rodgers said. Women in elected office will work toward women's issues. If we never we can set the agenda and shape policies for our benefit.

Civic responsibility was the



Students from Vassar, Smith, Wellesley, Mount Holyoke, and Bryn Mawr came to Barnard attended workshops on Saturday about students and civic responsibility.



Delores Fund Executive Director Kathy Rodgers, former Barnard Counsel and Vice President, spoke at the opening ceremonies.

Delores Fund Executive Director Kathy Rodgers, former Barnard Counsel and Vice President, spoke at the opening ceremonies.

Women Organizing and Mobilizing for Political Change: "Don't Let Those Bastards Get You Down"

By January Massin

As part of a day long symposium held on Sunday March 24 The Women in Politics Conference arranged a workshop entitled "Grassroots Organizing Careers in Political Activism." The hour long session was designed to explain the opportunities available to women for affecting political change on a local level. After asking those of us who attended the session whether we knew who our state legislator was BC graduate Sasha Soreff explained that although we are often informed of campus and national politics we are lacking of such information on the state level. Soreff organizer for "Expose the Rite" a group that challenges the religious rite's discrimination against various groups stresses the impact that we can have in local politics. Local politics rather than politics on an abstract national level is often about "someone helping their neighbor." Soreff continued to say that as active members of our community we have an obligation to hold politicians accountable for what they are doing.

Martina Metallos BC '85 admitted that her work at Urban Homesteading is not as overtly political as Sasha's and the others who spoke at the session. Yet she suggests that any opposition is political

when it entails affecting change in power relationships. Metallos is active in the effort to secure rent control in New York City buildings. She works with both low and middle income housing. Metallos is excited by the fact that she often helps in allowing tenants to become owners of their own buildings seeing how her work links with politics most strongly to such an accomplishment. These tenants are "establishing a micro small state democracy in their buildings."

Martie Runyon also works with low income housing through her participation in The Harlem Restoration Project. Runyon warns that none of us should turn our back on the problem of rent control. It doesn't matter where you live because one of these days you're going to be affected by the rent laws in this city. Her warning is in accordance with Metallos's suggestion that in issues in housing and in politics in general it is seldom about "them" and often about "us."

As a political activist Runyon finds herself fighting many of her battles against Columbia University. Columbia says Runyon has illegally and immorally evicted minority tenants on numerous occasions. It is because of these evictions that Runyon asserts that Columbia is "a racist institution." She finds it upsetting that as a University Columbia

advises its students not to venture north of 120 St. Harlem which Runyon says is a beautiful area. Her opinion of Columbia University can be best summed up in the following statement "It's a great academic institution but it isn't a very good neighbor."

Runyon's opinion of politics as a whole is equally as definitive. It's a big fat mess that largely the male world has created. She follows this statement with a bit of advice for women considering a career in politics. Do not go into politics for fame money or power do not enter politics simply because you are a woman and always go in with a purpose. Ana Maria Nieves local fund coordinator of "Do Something" added to Runyon's discussion by noting that women have impressively been the catalyst for social change throughout history. Yet at the same time she pointed to the fact that the largest age group of those who fail to vote are between the ages of 18 and 24 a considerable percent of this group being female. This obviously needs to change and hopefully more and more women will see to it that it does. And while we are doing so remember Martie Runyon's advice "Don't let the bastards get you down."

January Massin is a *Barnard Sophomore*

we are doing."

Urging the women present to be certain to exercise their votes in the coming presidential elections Rodgers told the story of the one woman who lived 72 years after the Seneca Falls conference to be able to vote in the 1920 presidential election.

"Those women spent their entire lives to get you something. Don't let them down. Vote," Rodgers said.

Civic responsibility is an issue currently receiving much attention at Barnard and Columbia with the recent initiative by the Columbia College Student Council that proposes to involve all undergraduate stu-

dents in community service.

The conference drew students from Vassar, Mount Holyoke, Bryn Mawr, Smith, Spelman, and Wellesley to Barnard for a two day affair that included panel discussions with professors and workshops on issues such as service learning, women's role in community service and voter registration. Delegates from Radcliffe College did not attend.

Dana White, BC '88, a panel organizer said, "We want to define civic responsibility. What should its role be in the community? How can we participate in the world? How can we continue our work in a larger envi-

ronment?"

Borcu Betul, a sophomore from Mount Holyoke, said that it is important to begin working with the community at college because it provides a beginning for later work.

"We've looked up our alumni who are engaged in community work and we've found that either their jobs or some part of their jobs include community service. It's something we stress on campus," Betul said.

Samantha Nicolsia is a *Barnard Senior and Consultant to the Barnard Bulletin*

And the Candidates Are...

Michelle Katz, BC '97 SGA President

As SGA Treasurer I have hands on experience working in student government. Barnard's SGA has the potential to effect tremendous change, but many inefficiencies currently hamper this potential. As treasurer I worked to eliminate inefficiencies by simplifying forms to help clubs keep track of their finances. As president I will continue to streamline student/SGA communication. Through innovations such as an "info wall" where forms and information pertaining to SGA will be readily available, access problems will be eliminated.

The position of SGA President is *experience intensive*. As QMC President and Treasurer I gained experience programming, delegating, supervising, motivating, and listening. I have insight, vision, and experience necessary to effect change on a macro level through working with administration and students to make SGA more efficient and responsive to your needs. For continuity of leadership and a strong student government, vote Michelle Katz, BC '97 for SGA.



Ronni Astroff, BC '97 SGA President

What I have done: Orientation Programs Coordinator, SGA Representative for Programming, Seven College Conference Co-Coordinator, January Orientation Co-ordinator, Urban NY Committee, Springfest Co-ordinator, etc.

What I plan to do:

- Improve SGA's efficiency
 - Increase student involvement and interaction with SGA
- In order for SGA to truly represent the student body, SGA must seek out students' concerns and suggestions. SGA has progressed, but still needs to improve in such aspects as record keeping and the transition to officers assume new positions.
- Increase student/faculty interaction
 - Restructure the student body/faculty/administration committees to increase their effectiveness and hold more social events for students and faculty.

I also will thoroughly investigate the tenure process and all dimensions and offices on the list show what SGA can do. I have experience and commitment to lead SGA to accomplish these goals.



Brenda Baer, BC '98**SGA Vice President**

My name is Brenda Baer and I am a sophomore running for Vice President of Student Government. My aim is to encourage individual student involvement within the larger school community. I feel that tripartite committees are an excellent opportunity to get involved and at the same time share opinions with the faculty and administration. I currently sit on the Food and Health Services committee and understand the value and necessity of students' voices. I got involved because I was not satisfied with these essential services and took the initiative to try and improve them. My experiences as both the treasurer and advisor to the Jewish Theater Ensemble helped prepare me for this leadership position. I have both the skills and the desire to work hard in helping to lead Barnard towards the future.

Elena Salkovsky, BC '98**SGA Vice President**

Since my arrival at Barnard I have been active in student life and activities. I currently manage the ticket booth where we not only sell tickets but organize and sponsor events and trips for students. I was also responsible for planning and organizing a variety of events as January '96 Orientation Coordinator. Furthermore as member of the Intramural Council I was instrumental in the operation of many recreational events.

As Vice President I will direct my energies towards developing activities which are not only fun but reflect the cultural diversity at Barnard and will work toward enhancing our sense of community and sisterhood. I can work closely with the CAO office staff and with the benefit of their resources and experience I can make better use of our budget and hard work improving the quality of events we can provide at Barnard.

Yuliana Gomez, BC '98**SGA Treasurer**

I understand the amount of work and responsibility that the treasurer handles. I am confident in my abilities and am willing to undertake all tasks and surpass any obstacles that may arise.

In high school I was involved in various activities and held the treasurer position in one of the largest clubs on campus. My mom is the financial manager of the church we attend and I frequently help her organize the church's financial accounts and other business. Both of these experiences are invaluable to the treasurer position I am seeking.

Aside from managing the various financial responsibilities, I would also like to stimulate student involvement. I will work especially hard for commuting students and their involvement around campus. Commuters need better representation in all aspects of SGA and more interaction with faculty, administration and other students.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM ANNOUNCED*By Julie Ann Boas*

With the enthusiastic spirit typical of the Columbia College Student Council's (CCSC) new approach to business, CCSC President and University Senator Chafé-Glarios '98 led a press conference Thursday announcing the new Civic Engagement Program which he promised will "capture diversity by giving students a chance to educate themselves about society."

The program has three goals: making diversity at Columbia really work, serving the community by involving more students in civic activity, and improving relations between the University and the Morningside Heights neighborhood which has at times been strained.

Participating students will be able to develop relationships with their peers and counterparts of diverse backgrounds while educating themselves first hand on civic and community involvement. The Morningside Heights environs will be affected through service projects and direct contact with the community. CCSC Treasurer Syretta McFadden '89 whose grandmother told her to "Give the world the best that you have" as she prepared for college said she envisions the Civic Engagement program as a "vehicle to improve the urban community through classroom knowledge and civic virtue."

Faculty and administrators expressed their support for the project at the press conference. Eric Foner, Dewitt Clinton Chair of American History and CC '83 said Columbia has come a long way in terms of diversity since he was a student, but that people must continue working together in order to "think[] into equality and cynicism."

As an urbanist, Judith Russell, Professor of Political Science, extols the importance of civic participation and would not be more enthusiastic about the program.

Robert Hanning, Professor of English and Comparative Literature described civic programs at Columbia. He called the Citizenship Program which began when he was an undergraduate student at Columbia in the 1950s a "noble beginning." Hanning described how students in the 1970s and 1980s decided they could not turn their backs on the surrounding community and distributed food to local people. This work was the impetus for Community Impact.

Stephanie Kartopoulos BC 99
Officer of the Board

I Stephanie Kartopoulos a member of the Class of 1999 am running for the position of Officer of the Board. I am currently Springfest co coordinator and an SGA office assistant. As OTB I plan to work with the students faculty and administration of Barnard to foster a strong sense of community. I'll also work hard with the other SGA members to build enthusiasm among other students. One project I will carry out as OTB includes producing a newsletter for students and/or keeping an electronic bulletin board to regularly inform them on the representative council meetings as well as SGA news and events. My past experiences include office work at the New Jersey State Division of Highway Traffic Safety, Vice President of the Greek Orthodox Youth of America and Student Coach of Math Counts a Junior High School academic team.



Pargol Nazarian, BC 99
Officer of the Board

WANTED Devoted leader responsible for SGA meeting agendas and minutes programming blood drives allocating winter and summer grants SGA secretarial work. If interested please reply immediately!

My name is Pargol Nazarian BC 99 and I'm eager to answer the SGA want ad for the position of Officer of the Board. As President of my high school student government current member of our Judicial Council and of the Committee on Instruction I'm aware of the tremendous responsibility of serving as a representative for a dynamic group. I'm confident that my experiences will help me work as a team with other board members to best represent you the voice of Barnard.



Elizabeth Lawrence,
BC 97
Senior Class President

Hi! My name is Elizabeth Lawrence and I am running for Senior Class President. I have served as your class president this year and as your class vice president sophomore year. As senior class president my first and foremost duty will be to plan awesome events such as senior disorientation week which includes the senior ball and the Intrepid party as well as planning the ever popular senior pub night. It is our last year of school so I'd like to make it a really memorable one. I will continue my search for an amazing commencement guest speaker. I will also plan career panels as well as graduate school fairs. The best things that I can offer as your president are experience commitment and enthusiasm! So cast your very off right vote for Liz!"

Helen
Ehassian
BC 98
Junior Class
President

Hi My name is Helen Ehassian and I am running for President of the class of 1999. I am enthusiastic and prepared to make our junior year fun and exciting. As a member of the Student Activities Tripartite Committee I am working to strengthen the sense of community at Barnard College. We need this same unity to be reinforced in our class. I will plan activities that will allow our class to loosen up build friendships and have a blast. Also I will bring fresh ideas and new ways of doing things to make our sophomore fun new week in college giving us more fun things to do. I'll serve as a role model and I'll be delighted to be your class president for the Class of 1999.



**Kafi Brown, BC 98
Junior Representative to the
Board of Trustees**

If you look through college rankings in *U.S. News and World Report* magazine you'll find that Barnard is ranked the lowest of the Seven Sisters. This should not be the case. It is true that while there are many great things about Barnard there is room for improvement. It is important that student representatives work closely with the Board of Trustees and college administrators to help improve and maintain the integrity of the school creating a healthy dialogue so that student concerns are known. This is the responsibility of the BO T.

A big part of maintaining school integrity begins with our student leaders. I plan to decrease the apathy on this campus and increase interest in student government through providing greater publicity for SGA and ensuring that election processes are fair and well run. Experience: First year President, Engineering Liaison, Treasurer (U Panhellenic Council), Executive Board Sigma Delta Tau Society.



**Kafi Brown, BC 98
Junior Class President**

It is difficult to define what makes Junior so unique in relation to the other years we spend at Barnard. Junior year is a period of change. It is important because of the activities while still achieving and enjoying the college experience. As the role of Junior class president is to be a catalyst for success. This can be

achieved through organizing good social, academic, and spirit raising events for our class. Sophomore Junior Week is one such important event which celebrates all of these things. I would like to be responsible for planning this event as well as many others, including sponsoring programs to get a head start on planning our graduation job fairs, resume and graduate school application workshops. Working together Junior year will be our best.

**Brenda Alzadon
Junior Class Vice President,
BC 98**

Hi, My name is Brenda Alzadon. I am asking for your vote for the position of Vice President of the Class of 1998. I have a lot of great ideas for the major events of Junior year: our Class Dinner and Sophomore Junior class week. As the current SGA Liaison to Columbia College Student Council, I attend both SGA and CCSC council meetings. I am well acquainted with members of CCSC and the method of planning events in conjunction with the other classes of Columbia University. If I am elected, I intend to plan a number of social events for our class with Columbia and SEAS to create a more social and fun class of 1998 when the University class will be joined and willing to hear the concerns and issues of our class and work to put them into action. Thank you for your support.

SUMMARY: AND THE CANDIDATES ARE

SGA President
Ronnie Astroff
Michelle Katz

SGA Vice President
Brenda Baer
Elena Salkovsky

SGA Treasurer
Yuliana Gomez

Officer of the Board
Stephanie Kartopoulos
Pargol Nazarian

Senior Class President
Elizabeth Lawrence

Junior Class President
Helen Elmassian
Kafi Brown

**Junior Representative to the
Board of Trustees**
Kafi Brown

Junior Class Vice President
Brenda Alzadon

Sophomore Class President
Sucheta Sharma

Sophomore Class Vice President
Elizabeth De La Riva

Sophomore Class Treasurer
Ann Gill

Sophomore Class Secretary
Elizabeth De La Riva

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE

Sucheta Sharma, BC '99
Sophomore Class President

Hello! Elections are again upon us and it is time to re-introduce myself. My name is Sucheta Sharma, and I am the current First Year Class President. I have gained invaluable experience in this position and, as many of you may know, I am very dedicated to serving my class. I have started brainstorming for next year, and designing ways so that the Class of 1999 will still be involved in campus life, despite the fact that sophomore year is one of transition. I hope to set up informational meetings about majors, having major representatives and Alumni present to help explain. Also, I hope to plan many events that will be fun and enlightening for us. Of course, I will always be open to ideas from my fellow classmates. I urge all of you to vote, and to remember that experience counts in Student Government.

Elizabeth De La Riva, BC '99
Sophomore Class Vice President

My name is Elizabeth De La Riva and I am a member of the class of 1999. I look forward to being elected Sophomore Vice President for the 1996-1997 year. I believe that I possess the necessary leadership skills that are needed to fulfill the demands of such an important position. With my previous involvement in high school student government, I have developed strong leadership skills that have helped me to communicate and understand my classmates' concerns. Furthermore, during the summers I work as a volunteer at my local town hospital, as well as in the local soup kitchens. These experiences have given me the opportunity to meet a diverse group of people with various concerns and needs. I hope to apply these acquired skills with the diverse group of students that make up the class of 1999. If elected Sophomore Vice President, I promise to give my best in serving my fellow classmates.

Anne Gill, BC '99
Sophomore Class Treasurer

My name is Anne Gill, Barnard Class of 1999, and I am running for Sophomore Class Treasurer. I elected as treasurer, my main goal is to make sure that our class reaches all of the expectations and desires possible within our set budget. I have two years of experience with student government and think I am very well prepared for this position. In my junior year of high school, I was Class Representative, and as a senior, I was President of the student body. I also have a good deal of experience with financial responsibility. I have produced and sold a student magazine and, of course, I have managed my own finances both at Barnard and at home. If elected Sophomore Class Treasurer, I will work with the other class officers to make our class not only strong and well prepared financially, but also strong spirited and goal oriented.

Elizabeth De La Riva, BC '99
Sophomore Class Secretary

My name is Elizabeth De La Riva and I am a member of the Class of 1999. I look forward to being elected Sophomore Class Secretary for the 1996-1997 year. I believe that I possess the qualities and skills that are needed to fulfill the demands of this position. With my previous involvement in high school student government, I have developed strong interpersonal skills that have helped me to communicate and understand my classmates concerns. Furthermore, during the summers I work as a volunteer at my local town hospital, as well as in the local soup kitchens. These experiences have given me the opportunity to meet a diverse group of people with various concerns and needs. I hope to apply these acquired skills with the diverse group of students that make up the class of 1999. When elected Sophomore Class Secretary, I promise to give my best in serving my fellow classmates.

Gumbo, by Susan D. Clarke

Chapter one continued

Marva Shanda Karen Denise and a few familiar and unfamiliar faces sat on Shanda's stoop a few buildings down from this one doing their usual thing gossipin

"Hey Jadine come sit outside. It's too hot up there girl. Shanda hollered squinting her beady eyes and using her hand as a visor.

"Na chile I got some things to do. I said Yeah things like painting my nails and finishing my half empty glass of Kool aid. I'm not one for all that gossipin mess-talkin but whose chasin' up with who who walked out and left who and who ain't paid a lick of child support. I'm alright. I added.

I know they were too glad that I didn't come outside so they could throw me in their stew pot.

From the few visits and phone calls I done had with Marva I know they done mapped out my whole life. Serves me damn right. I should've just stuck to yes's and no's when Marva started playin' twenty questions but shit she had done turned her business into a soup kitchen. Now me I didn't go as far as that. All I did was make a bowl of soup—a small bowl. Now I see why I shouldn't have—all the reasons six of them were right in my view—sitting in front of building 631. I took a deep sigh swallowing a chunk of hot air and shook my head. I rested one hand on the windowsill and blew on my painted fingers.

Billy Mark Javon Keith and some other little peass-headed roughnecks from surrounding blocks were playing skeely in the middle of the street with a cover from an old plastic milk container. The knees of their pants were probably rubbed out and if they weren't I can guarantee that by the time they were finished playing they would be. That was their trademark. After the game their mommas could be seen wringing their ears and clunking them in the forehead for wrecking their good school pants.

Nubia and her little girlfriends were jumpin' double dutch by the curb between two parked cars. It was either double dutch or hopscotch and sometimes they played both on days like this until I made Nubia come inside for the night.

"When you're jumping double dutch you're really hard to beat. When your jumping double dutch you got magic in your feet. Laquandra and Alyssa hang as they turned the rope gyrating their undeveloped hips and swinging their hands in a chaotic whirlwind.

"Look Ma look!" Nubia yelled while jumping and slapping her jelly slippers on the hot pavement as she did pop ups and crisscrosses.

"I see you Miss Thang do your stuff. I yelled Nubia. I so excited that she messed up. The rope collapsed at her

feet. She threw a look at me while I scolding up at me with her hands on her hips.

Show I. I turned and playfully stuck my tongue out at her.

My turn on turn. Laquandra yelled dropping the rope and sprinted up and down a hill but two stumps pigtailed bobbed around her head.

Nubia sashayed to the bumper of one of the cars and with a fake it stuck her feet on the ends of the rope. Her and Alyssa began turning and shaking their little behinds from side to side.

One two three up the ladder. Four five six up the ladder. Alyssa and Nubia sang in their songs as Laquandra pranced around the rope.

Nubia was my ebony gem. We had grown up together 'cause at sixteen I had just started learning how not to be a little girl. Mama died when I was thirteen so I spent the next few years being my own mama. Back home in New Orleans Louisiana Mama and I didn't have much of what was normally called fancy when I was growing up. Mama's family disowned her because they didn't like my Daddy from the get and I didn't know my daddy long enough to get to know his family—that is if he had had any 'cause Daddy and Mama divorced

when I was knee high. Reasons Mama never explained in me. I figured it out on my own a little later in life when Mama flipped through album photos stopping at her wedding picture to give me a word of warning.

No man is better than half a man. Never settle for no man's junk because that's the kind of garbage that no matter how much you clean it up it always leaves a stink. she broadcasted and then bsnkk flipped the page.

Daddy never came back.

When Mama went on I had to go on. Home was where I held my head at night—a friend's house a church and at worst the subway. The purpose of life was to make sure that I had food to eat and a place to sleep at least for a night. I would roam the streets in the daytime wearing my baggy cotton shirt dungaree pants and run down slippers—about the only set of clothes I had left—I was to get the rest for food. I wore my new pinked back in case with a rubber band in the belly. My little Dooz pomade and water. I knew though see you were down in the streets was the name of the game. You only got messed with if you looked like you wanted someone to mess with you. But if you had the fresh off the press stink look I was making damn sure you were gonna cause me of that. When I did get a thinking about it I would a had a little bit of Orleans. My momma used to let everyone

"No man is better than half a man. Never settle for no man's junk because that's the kind of garbage that no matter how much you clean it up it always leaves a stink."

Nubia was my ebony gem. We had grown up together, 'cause at sixteen I had just started learning how not to be a little girl. Mama died when I was thirteen so I spent the next few years being my own mama.



Liga Filipina

by Elenor Lipat

Sometimes I feel disillusioned by the failed attempts to achieve Multicultural Diversity on campus. I write this piece in an attempt to educate as well as welcome anyone who would like to learn about a culture that may not necessarily be one's own heritage. It is the culture of the 1,700 Philippine Islands, a breathtakingly beautiful one which encompasses the diversity of the world within itself.

You see, the Philippine Islands endured 300 years of strict Spanish colonial rule during which the people were taught to be ashamed of their so-called "primitive" indigenous cultures. Revolutionary mass struggles against the Spanish intelligentsia only won the people a short-lived victory since the rose-colored idea of independence was a mere tool to facilitate the conspired change of rule from Spanish to American hands. For 100 years Uncle Sam took care of his little brown Filipino brother and showed him the American Dream. My parents who were only allowed to speak English in school since kindergarten dreamed of becoming like Jackie Kennedy and James Dean.

The Philippines emerged from this 400-year-long colonial nightmare with battered souls indeed. A need arose to resurrect the self-confidence and pride in all that is inherently Filipino. But what is Filipino culture? A dynamic combination of a proud people embracing their Chinese, Spanish, Malay, Indian, and Indonesian roots and the resources of its 1,700 beautiful islands. There is a resurgent desire sweeping Filipinos in the Philippines and abroad to learn about their long forgotten treasures.

Liga Filipina has as its purpose statement to unify Columbia students interested in Filipino culture through social interaction, cultural programs, educational exchange, and political awareness, and to promote an awareness of this culture in the Columbia University Community. Some of our most recent events have covered topics within the areas of Philippine history and current social problems. Bal Pinguel, a revisionist historian, gave a lecture on Philippine revolutionary struggles, their global ramifications, and how the people's movements affected current social identity. Rex Mansueto, founder of the Lamuhan Research Institute, gave a lecture about the plight of the tribal peoples in Mindanao, southern Philippines, and what we students can do to contribute to their fight for survival against industrialization and cultural extinction.

Upcoming events include

- A forum on the portrayal of Asian Women in Media with the Gabriela Network: TBA
- A Halo Halo (Filipino dessert) and soccer Study Break
- April 27th The Barrio Fiesta: a multicultural dinner, culture/talent show, fashion show, and diva party hosted by Ev Basic, the actress who performed the lead role in "Miss Saigon" on Broadway.
- Liga Filipina also offers weekly Tagalog (most likely recognized Filipino language) lessons on Saturdays.

Elenor Lipat is a member of Liga Filipina and a Barnard Sophomore.

This is the beginning of a series of articles about various groups and organizations that exist on campus. If you are a member or leader of a campus organization and would like to have your group recognized in the Barnard Bulletin, please let us know. We are interested in finding out what your organization does, and any upcoming events you may be sponsoring. Remember, you don't need to write me if you let me know. You may address me at the following article ideas to Features Editor/Article Series Box 1578 McIntosh Student Center.

Gumbo, from previous page

priced the front stoop of his apartment building. "I know I'm a had mo folo," he sang as he glided his hand, studded with electroplated gold rings, across the navy suede hat sunfacing his retinal afro.

You sho is You slicker than an oil spill." Marva arched. The sun beamed down on him, creating a spotlight for his antics. He was dressed in a blue polyester suit, butterfly-colored floral shirt and white patent leather shoes.

"Fool," I murmured to myself. Who the hell else would wear a polyester suit and a suede hat on a ninety-five degree day, but Sand?

He stood in the front of the building grinning like a stupid ass hyena. He was exposing a mouthful of gold caps like he was in some kind of freak show with sweat beading his face.

This is for all the ladies out there, he proclaimed, breaking his pose. He strutted down the stairs sideways and slid through the front gate. He strode down the block dipping to the right with every other step, ignoring the snickers and laughter that trailed behind him.

Susan D. Clarke is a Barnard Senior

Stay tuned for the continuation of chapter one next week. If you have any comments or suggestions (indicate RESPONSE if you would like one) feel free to contact me by Barnard email, vol 6 phone x34605 or mail, McIntosh Box 148.

Contrasting Values "Triple A" Addresses Sexual Taboos and the "Model Minority Myth"

By Aimee Sims

Multiple Positions. Sea in Multiple Positions—the workshop sponsored by the Asian and Pacific Islander Coalition on HIV/AIDS (APICHA) might have drawn many attendees with ideas of discovering innovative sexual positions. When only twenty students came organizers questioned "do some Asian Americans still find it difficult to discuss sex openly?"

Asian American students at Barnard and Columbia and in the nation are in a unique position. Many come from second generation immigrant families holding values that can frequently clash with contemporary American values.

According to Marivic Dayrit Liga Filipina president many of the recent immigrants have come to the United States in order to seek out better opportunities for themselves as opposed to the early immigrants who left their countries in order to escape a repressive government. They are primarily professionals and Marivic believes that this influx of professionals may have begun through an effort to resuscitate immigration privileges to upwardly mobile Filipinos.

Marivic said he's doing work ethic that this latest wave of immigrants brought to the United States led to the increasing prominence of what she termed the Model Minority Myth which defines all Asians as over-achievers. A strong sense of effort (approximately 80% of all Filipinos are Catholic) combined with this work ethic lead Filipino families to ignore reality outside of these



Let's talk about sex, says Liga

spheres. As a result social issues especially issues relating to sex are repressed.

I think it's a common opinion among young Filipino Americans that the arts are not played up as much as occupations like lawyers and doctors. The Model Minority Myth puts pressure on young Asian Americans to pursue the most technical occupations and restricts the fulfillment of more artistic careers. Marivic said I think the Model Minority Myth is only one of the factors that helped to create the taboo that surrounds sex in our community because the taboo was present before we began to immigrate here.

In the workshops the students did role playing including a scenario entitled "You are a 20 year old Filipino man. You are gay you have a secret man that you've never fully come out to. How do you come out?"

Participants could discuss

make a list of all the terms used to describe sex. Erna Hernandez, an attendee noted that making one was not mentioned.

APICHA's threefold mission is educate Asians and Pacific Islanders in the New York City area about prevention education to combat AIDS related discrimination and the enhance the quality of life of Asians and Pacific Islanders particularly those with AIDS. APICHA's work shop in conjunction with the Filipina and the Chinese Student Club attempted to address the conflict between American and Asian family values (so called) in the past during the sexual revolution. Questions were:

Aimee Sims is a Barnard sophomore and Features Editor of the Barnard Bulletin.

Contributors Erna Hernandez BC '97 Marivic Dayrit BC '97 and president of Liga Filipina.

SUSAN FALUDI, NOT JUST THE GIRL NEXT DOOR

by Sara A. Stover

In an intimate lecture "Batterers and the Boys Next Door," feminist author Susan Faludi addressed a crowd of 300 Barnard and Columbia students about issues of domestic violence and relations between the sexes.

Faludi's observations from a weekly counseling session for male batterers gave her insight into society's misperceptions of batterers and also possible reasons why domestic violence occurs. Faludi shared her insights with the audience.

"They were men who I recognized," she said of the men in the counseling group. Later on in her speech she claimed that the problem is not out there, but inside within the most picture perfect family hearth.

At the onset of the feminist movement in the 1960's Faludi noted the image of a batterer became the guy in the dark alley, outside the safety zone of the traditional nuclear family. As a result, reports of domestic violence became abnormal and unusual. In other words, average wives and mothers who filed reports of assault were disbelieved.

By emphasizing that the men in the counseling group did not fit the stereotype of rapists or wife beaters but rather they were average Joe's Faludi proposed reasons as to why these ordinary men resorted to domestic violence.

There is a steep rise in the number of men who feel threatened by social changes. There is an extraordinary increase in the male sense of powerlessness. She explained "These men are losing their grip on many things, they can't affirm a gender construct, they women are the elites."

Engaged with spectators, she only brought to the audience

also to meet and surpass the achievements of their fathers, men of the 1990's crumble under the present conditions of society that prevent them from living up to high financial, social and domestic standards. High rates of unemployment and low levels of job security shatter their dreams of conforming to the ideal nuclear family.

Aside from today's economic impediments, Faludi also explained the role the women's movement plays in relating between men and women.

"The women's movement makes it hard for men to know what women want," offered Faludi, citing statistics that illustrates this gap between the sexes. While 86% of girls today plan to work, only 52% of men would expect their wives to hold jobs.

Faludi offered one way to correct gender violence and balance the rift between the sexes, she blocking out a woman. Attitudes that boys will be boys must be dismantled.

Faludi also addressed the limitation of using statistics to show how it is a sensationalized statistic rather than reality — 30% of married women have had a violent husband, her husband has 60 hands while she has 10. Faludi also noted that men are losing their grip on many things, they can't affirm a gender construct, they women are the elites.



are in pain and are striking out on female targets all across the country. After her lecture, a question and answer period and a book signing. Faludi settled down to ponder advice that she could offer Barnard women.

When women identify a problem, she sighed, one of the ways it gets discounted is by saying that's very rare. I think it applies to a large degree to women's lives in our areas (in domestic violence). For example, sexual harassment. When someone starts to say to you as a woman, that's not really a problem, don't let her dissuade you of an experience you've had. It's probably something a lot of women are laboring under in silence. Speak up, collect with other women, because if something is still bothering a number of people on campus.

At the end of the lecture, Faludi was interviewed by Sara Stover. She discussed her book "The War Against Women" and her new book "The Unbearable Automatic Gender of Things".

Sara Stover is a Barnard First Year and Bulletin Assistant News Editor.

Midwives: Birth the Old Fashioned Way

by Bari Meltzer

When our grandmothers were born, hospital births were just too expensive. When our mothers were born, very few mothers considered having their babies outside of a hospital. Today, however, the tide is turning back as more and more women are seeking midwives in place of obstetrician-gynecologists as a result of increasingly technological and deper-sonalized maternity procedures.

Obstetrics, traditionally an exclusively female field—has become male dominated since the turn of the century. The times are changing again as midwife-assisted births are on the rise. The increased appeal of midwives is simple: midwives charge less than obstetricians and more insurance companies cover midwife-assisted births today versus twenty years ago. In fact, more and more expectant mothers are demanding midwife births as a result of "impractical" hospital stays and the efforts of the feminist health movement.

The Puritans brought midwifery to America in the early 1600s, and for the first 200 years of America's existence, women were primarily responsible for delivering babies. Many people considered a man's presence in a birth chamber an evil omen, and a doctor was only expected to be present if a complication arose.

Midwives had a great deal of success in their first two hundred years, keeping rates of mother and infant mortality surprisingly low, considering the lack of technology and medical knowledge available at the time.

By the end of the nineteenth century, however, budding medical doctors had already started to plant the seeds of the technocratic and pathological approach to childbirth. A cohort of aspiring doctors, including Harvard graduate Dr. Walter Channing, began this crusade with the claim that their efforts were in the name of women's safety. His efforts rapidly removed midwives from the birth chamber.

Channing said, "It was one of the first and happiest fruits of improved medical education in America that [women] were excluded from the practice, and it was only by the unified and persevering exertions of some of the most distinguished individuals of our professions have been able to boast that this was effected."

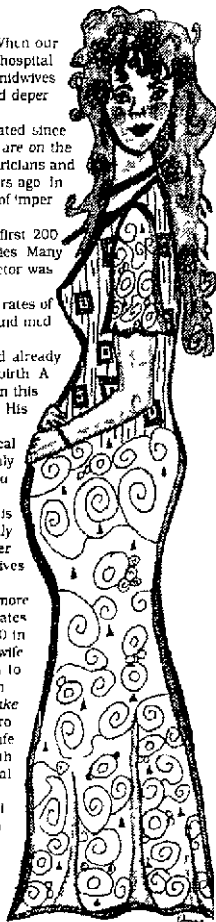
Many doctors do not endorse a midwife-assisted birth out of what they say is concern for women's safety. However, statistics indicate that there are significantly fewer grievances filed against midwives than there are against obstetricians. 60 percent of obstetricians have been sued for malpractice, while only 6 percent of midwives have been sued.

Despite all the benefits of a midwife-assisted birth, insurance companies are making it more difficult for midwives to remain in practice. Skyrocketing malpractice insurance rates for midwives increased from \$400 annually to a current proposed rate of \$24,100 in New York. Even though insurance companies are increasingly willing to cover midwife-assisted births, fewer midwives can afford these premiums, forcing some of them to close their practices, which in turn results in fewer health care options for women.

The women's health movement had also prompted interest in books such as *Take This Book to the Obstetrician With You*, an informational guidebook to women's reproductive health options. The book explains that one of the biggest draws of a midwife-assisted birth is its effort to enable women to assume more control over the birth process. The book also warns expectant mothers about the realities of hospital deliveries.

According to the book, hospitals mislead women to believe that their doctors will arrive at the hospital to comfort the woman during the course of the delivery. In truth, however, it is unlikely that a woman's doctor will appear at her side and hold her hand through her labour pains. Uncomfortable, busy women do not find out the harsh truth about hospital deliveries until it is too late.

Bari Meltzer is a Barnard Junior.



NOW THAT'S DEPRESSING

by January Massin

"So you mean to tell me you were really able to find women who were not depressed?" Such was a patient's response to her therapist Alexandra G. Kaplan when told of her research including interviews of both depressed and non-depressed women. Unfortunately this woman's response is entirely legitimate. There is now a significant amount of evidence that suggests that depression is a woman's disorder. In fact, one in ten of us will become depressed in our lifetime.

In her article "The Self in Relation: Implications for Depression in Women," Alexandra G. Kaplan asserts that the personality structure that is most common to those who are likely to become depressed is ubiquitous among women. Kaplan explains that women's sense of self is firmly planted in the interpersonal. She says that the female sense of self "achieves articulation through participation in and attention to the relational process."

Imagine that as you read Kaplan's quote many of you begin to cringe at the description of woman defining her self in terms of others. But psychologists warn that women's negativity toward such a personality structure contributes to the fact that depression is a largely female problem. Society tends to interpret a strong desire to connect with others as a weakness. In my own experience I see women chastised by both men and women for their relational qualities; they are told that they need to be more independent. But perhaps we should carefully re-examine this assumption and in the process question its validity. It is exactly this unquestioned lack of appreciation for relational qualities that restricts women from making full use of their resources. Women often are discouraged from utilizing their natural modes of self-expression and

it is this discouragement that causes their depression.

The four key elements of depression unfortunately are the four key elements which are part of the female experience. The first element explains Kaplan's vulnerability to loss. As stated before, a woman often affirms her own individuality through her connection with others. The devaluing of such modes of self-affirmation may cause women to feel as if they are experiencing a constant state of loss. Indeed, they continually feel the absence of their core self structure.

The second element of depression is the inhibition of action and assertion, also a common factor in the female experience. This inhibition is closely connected with women's vulnerability

"A WOMAN OFTEN AFFIRMS HER OWN INDIVIDUALITY THROUGH HER CONNECTION WITH OTHERS"

to loss. Fearing that there is a constant threat imposed on the basic sense of self through the denigration of her need for connectedness, women respond by inhibiting their own desires. They discourage themselves as they are discouraged by others from taking an active role.

The third element is an inhibition of a different kind, namely anger and aggression. Women fear that their anger will threaten the relationship that they have established. Thus they seek to suppress it. They structure to contain the rage and resentment. In their fear, society's qualities of

expressing such feelings.

The fourth and final element of both depression and the female experience is low self-esteem. Because society rejects the female form of expression oriented around relationships, many women are left with feelings of inadequacy. Thus society's stubborn will to hold on to its predetermined notion of the correct and incorrect forms of self-expression quickly translates to a lowered self-esteem for many women. Women also lack a sense of gratification due to the fact that their needs are continual, being restricted, denied, or unmet. Kaplan explains that analytic theory tells us that such a loss of gratification may have a detrimental effect on one's self-esteem. What is important to note here is that the female does not merely experience a lack of gratification due to the fact that she does not receive; she is equally dissatisfied by the restriction imposed on her ability to give. Overall, the woman translates an absence of gratification to a failure of the self.

The ubiquity of depression in women is a complicated matter. It seems that the solution is bound tightly to the cause of the problem. If we are to de-feminize depression, we are once again dependent on the relation of women most look toward others to put an end to the denouncement of the relational as a means of affirming individuality. Women's need to connect with others is not responsible for the high rate of depression among females, but society's rejection to the female need for connectedness is accountable for the alarming statistic. Perhaps when both men and women begin to understand that they reject the relational, women will have more cause to celebrate.

January Massin is a Barnard Sophomore and a Bulletin Staff Writer.

Before it was Legal

A Tale of Underground Abortion

by Sara Biggs

In the newly released *The Story of Jane: The Legendary Underground Feminist Abortion Service* author Laura Kaplan records the tale of approximately thirty Chicago women who organized to perform illegal abortions between the years of 1968 and 1972.

The book documents the group's formation, growth, and personal relationships from its inception as a consulting service through its evolution to a complete abortion service made up entirely of women not involved in the medical profession. Before the Roe v. Wade decision was rendered by the Supreme Court in January of 1973, abortion was illegal in New York State and abroad. Although the illegal abortion movement was thriving, it left few safe and affordable venues for women, particularly those in financial straits.

Jane's head member, who Kaplan refers to as "Jenny," had the dream of not only giving women a safe and affordable option to "back alley abortions" but also of dismantling the mystique and degradation built into the hierarchy of the medical profession. A Jane abortion was about taking an active role in your decision to abort, rather than being objectified. A Jane counselor emphasized that a woman's right to abortion hinged on her right to self-determination, and an integral part of that was realizing that the abortion itself was an activity that the woman was participating in, and a moral decision that they had the right to make.

We were not bombarded with the usual emotionalism of fetal images. The unborn were just that: not yet born, not yet human beings. The decision of when or whether to carry a child to term belonged only to the person in the pregnant woman. That very moral decision had to be hers. Kaplan explains in the introduction:

"The book takes care to pay its

emphasis to the feminist and service orientation of Jane. Its uniqueness lies in the fact that it is a book that unabashedly believes in what it is saying. Kaplan's stance on abortion and on independence doesn't waver or apologize for itself. She describes 10 abortions a day conducted in one apartment, curettes (abortion tools) scraping and blood pouring out onto the floor. She reveals the comparative simplicity of the abortion process, which many Jane members learned to perform. Kaplan explained that the medical profession holds us hostage. We mysticize their skills and develop dependence upon them, when we could possibly perform them ourselves.

This feeling of helplessness engendered by the hierarchy in the medical profession was exactly what Jane felt to be detrimental to the women involved. Abortion was and is landed in the hospitals in such a manner that the women involved feel that their bodies are being acted upon. Under those debilitating circumstances, they are under no obligation to take responsibility for their own bodies. Jane encouraged abortion as a joint and self-affirming effort on the part of the abortionist and patient.

There are moments in the *Jane* where one may be prone to question Kaplan's idealization of the group as a self-organizing, critical, and fairly addressed, ethically possible, and safe. Jenny's quest for better health practices. There are moments when the reader may get the impression that the movement had a fatal flaw. It was the self-assertion of the practitioners, who were committed to the world by tak-



ing on responsibilities and traditionally "male" roles of doctors and organizers. Kaplan never addresses the possibility that Jane members go power hungry or careless.

The narrative in itself is strong, direct, and fast-paced. Kaplan writes in a personal and engaging manner. She speaks of those involved personally and lovingly, and weaves an involving tale. The story itself is an important part of the history of the women's movement. It provides insight into the mentality and concerns of the feminist movement 25 years ago, who's issues were in some ways more clear than they are today.

It is certainly an informative and important book to know about. I would keep an eye out for Laura Kaplan, also who may well be riding the talk-show circuit through the power of her success in the near future.

Sara Biggs is a Barnard First Year.

Warhol

Vogue

Velvet

Years



by Abigail Dye

The recently published *The Velvet Years* (Thunder's Mouth Press) attempts to lessen the mystique associated with Andy Warhol and his sub culture. During the years 1965 through 1967 Warhol had a loft apartment which also served the purpose of a studio on East 47 Street that he called the Factory. The Factory's where Warhol produced his films and created his pop art mass exposures while surrounded by a gaggle of young musicians, models, actors, and actresses who longed to absorb some of Warhol's fame and creativity. Twenty years later Warhol's followers have come together and collaborated with their shared memories to create *The Velvet Years*.

The *Velvet Years* consists of a collection of photographs taken at the Factory, as well as Warhol's followers' memories of their madcap adventures there. One would expect these photographs to be artistic and creative, but rather they are mere like-the-miss-a-mush-of-old-photos-aphs one would find in a family photo album. Like a family photo album, these photos tend to capture the memories of her subjects in their relaxed natural states. The new *The Velvet Years* is a mess of images

and allure of celebrities such as Lou Reed, Nico, Edie Sedgwick, and Warhol himself by showing them sitting and staring into space, dancing at parties, and laughing. Unfortunately, the text of this book cannot compare itself to the quality of the photographs which accompany it. The text follows the format of short personal memoirs which are written by those people who were present at the Factory. The subject of most of the memoirs (time spent at the Factory while being a starving artist who slept around and took drugs) is too predictable and common. Generally these memoirs are so poorly written, being both incoherent and incoherent as well as boring that the reader begins to question the intelligence of the people with whom Andy Warhol associated. After reading these memoirs, I came to the conclusion that the Factory people were really not extraordinary, were and still are full of themselves and were basically just Warhol's cronies. Like the book's text writer, Eric Thayer, the Factory people wrote memoirs that try to make it seem as though the Factory and Andy Warhol were really much more significant and central to their lives than they probably actually were.

The *Velvet Underground* in *Velvet Years* is the Factory and with Andy

Warhol swirls around his famed Factory.

Warhol was huge. In fact, their success at the beginning of their career largely stems from their association with Andy Warhol, but the reasons for titling the book *The Velvet Years* is unclear. The book contains memoirs written by John Cale, Sterling Morrison, and Maureen Tucker (all members of The Velvet Underground) as well as many photographs of Lou Reed and Nico (also of The Velvet Underground), but it is not a book written about The Velvet Underground and their success. Therefore it seems odd and unfitting that the book is titled *The Velvet Years* when it is really a book written about Andy Warhol and the Factory. The unaffected quality of the photographs in *The Velvet Years* is what gives the book its merit, unfortunately, the text detracts from the quality of the photographs and makes *The Velvet Years* a disappointment. *The Velvet Years* could be an interesting retrospective text if it were written about the artistic and creative processes that created Warhol's art and films rather than about the selfishness of the Factory people.

Abigail Dye is a Barnard sophomore and a *Bulletin Arts* editor.

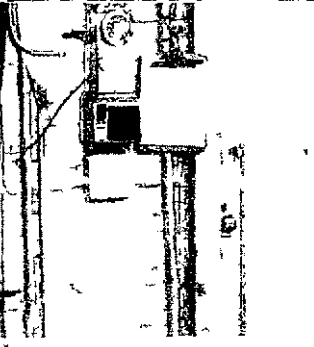


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All photos by Stephen Shore



Still Life/ With AIDS

Seeks an Audience

by Ann McCarthy

The Barnard Theatre Department's advanced acting lab is currently working on a provocative new project to be performed during the second half of April. The play titled *Still Life/With AIDS* explores the implications of the disease on the lives of eight young women bringing up issues that demand discussion and serious consideration. Professor of Theatre Denny Partridge and Theatre Manager Kai Kavanagh who have collaborated on editing the script and directing the performance currently seek groups or professors to sponsor its performance.

The play focuses on the lives of eight women played by Alia Einstein (BC 86) Kara Feek (BC 99) Courtney Greene (BC 98) Celeste Guzman (HL 97) Cassandra McLean (BC 99) Liz Pounsett (CC 96) Jen Shulte (BC 96) and Tara Thomas (BC 97). Each of the characters is a composite created during workshops between the students and a group of young women who are HIV positive or have AIDS so that much of the text of the play consists of direct quotes from these women. Denny Partridge comments that both the similarity in background and closeness in age served to create "a strong sense of identification with the women in the group." Because the play was conceived through improvisation a dynamic was created in which elements of the performers' personalities and experience became conjoined with the characters portrayed resulting in what Partridge refers to as a "personal chess within each." Kai Kavanagh feels that this dynamic allows the performers to become very truthful.

In part the play serves as a cautionary statement about the danger of the disease. The characters in the play all contracted the disease in encounters that don't fit the stereotypical and utterly false idea of AIDS as being concentrated in

gay and drug using population or even the idea of it being something of no consequence on a college campus like our own. Both Partridge and Kavanagh quoted a statistic stating that currently one in every four cases of AIDS is contracted by a person under twenty and as many women are getting it as men. Part of the inspiration for the play comes from "what a large epidemic female AIDS is and how underreported it is." And the particular stories that it communicates are broken down into acts and then into acts and scenes. Kavanagh

But Partridge goes on to say that the play is not necessarily about making a political statement but about storytelling. You meet eight women and see how their stories are. Quite important to the production is the idea that each of the women is an individual. As Partridge says "The play is full of interesting stories. It is not just a death trip." Central to the emotional effects created by the disease, Kavanagh finds "a unique and very different understanding and you as an audience can be seen where you don't see someone else. It is not just a death trip."

Partridge stresses that the play is not about AIDS in a narrow, politicized or moralistic perspective. It is about the encounters that don't fit the stereotypical and distasteful ideas of AIDS as having only



Tackling AIDS on stage, Barnard's advanced acting lab

that this is a face many Barnard women can recognize."

The project is an important one that the Barnard community should experience. The directors feel that a good way to make this happen is to bring the play to different spots on campus. For this purpose was created to equip its technicians with a flexible setting wise allowing it to be performed in dorm lounges or classrooms. All they now require is campus organizations and classes to sponsor it by providing an audience and a space and an evening during the last half of April and preferably during the first half if you are interested in sponsoring a showing of the live play. Write to: Dept. of Social Performance, Barnard College, 100th Street, New York, NY 10027.

Ann McCarthy is a Barnard Sophomore and Bulletin Arts Co-Editor.

CD Review:

Weapon of Choice

Highperspice



by Moushumi Paul

Eclectic. That's the only word that completely describes **Weapon of Choice** a George Clinton/P-Funk esque collection hailing from Los Angeles, California, and their second album **Highperspice**. Their music consists of a horn section, a guitar, a bass, keyboards, and plenty of other obscure instruments. It's funky with a heavy bass and semi-synthesized sound. But to all of you Parliament/Funkadelic fans out there, fear not! George Clinton is still a *id* and always will be the King of Funk.

The only person who can possibly attempt to describe **Weapon of Choice**'s sound is their co-founder/lead singer/bass player Lonnie Megann Marshall. He has created a brand new category for alternative urban rock music. He calls this eclectic eight piece musical experiment as Nutmeg music. So what exactly is nutmeg music? you might wonder. According to Megann, Nutmeg music is "use music where wherever you want to what they want to

be can be that. There are no rules. It's a lively energy combination that defies categorization. Nutmeg is multidimensional! You get a nut, you do nuttin', there's a sexual nut, a mental nut. The list goes on and on — it's limitless."

Still unsure of the sound? Listen to the 14th track on the CD, conveniently entitled **Highperspice (Nutmeg Music)**. The lyrics and sound are typical of the entire album and allow you to get a feel for it. If you like this song, you'll love the rest of the album. The same goes for pure repulsion. It just depends on your music taste.

The group has toured with a large variety of other contemporary groups. They started with **Pearl Jam** and eventually did shows with **Primus**, **Tool**, **Fishbone**, **Green**, **Apple**, **Quikstep**, **American Music Club**, **House of Pain**, **Ice Cube**, and **Living Colour**. Megann Marshall even knew and worked with Tom Waits for a year or so. This makes it all the more interesting that **Weapon of Choice** is a funk band. Although it's not a funk band, it's a funk band. It's a funk band.

in their style. They share the hyped, funky collection of musical instruments and the collective that sing different things at the same time. But there the similarity ends. Even though this group has the potential to be something great with producers like **Matt Wallace** from **Faith No More** and **Stone Gossard** from **Pearl Jam**, I could only hear them and think, "They're such posers." I really feel bad if they were going to take so much from **George Clinton**, they should at least stay true to the sound.

Now, granted, I am a huge P-Funk fan and they put me in a really good mood. But I don't think I can be used as my source that this music just can't compare. **Weapon of Choice** tries a little too hard to be like P-Funk. Unfortunately, it really does not pay off. But they do have a lot of potential. **Highperspice**, however, is only that. It's a little bit of a disappointment. It's not a funk perfect.

Moushumi Paul is a Barnard First Year.

Interview with Claire - oh and Weston too

by Ashley Atkinson

Chuck the singer and guitar player of Weston is bouncing off the walls. He is moving constantly digging through his stuff balancing his weight precariously on a rickety table and dissecting the food his girlfriend Claire brought for him. "Wow! This has butter on it!" he shouts with joy holding aloft a piece of bread. "Yeah." Claire explains patiently. "I buttered it for you." "Thanks!" He says before chomping away noisily. My favorite thing to eat is an egg," he tells me. "But this is good. I love eggs. I eat them all the time."

He then up ends a bottle of Robitussin sucking at it to get all of the drippy medicine. "I'm sick," he says. "I hate Bronchitis and my ears are all stuffed up. I tried to find one of those what do you call them?" Umm ear unpluggers? Claire helpfully guesses. Yeah one of those (ucky baster looking things but I lost mine. So I took a hypodermic needle with the needle off of course and tried to suck it all out with that. It didn't work," he concludes glumly.

For a band that's been working as hard as Weston they have a surprising amount of energy. Having fun from Eastern Pennsylvania, Weston's different adventures contribute to their spunky upbeat punk sound. I love playing," Chuck admits with a smile. "It beats my old job at

lling beat up at an old people's home. I was an orderly so my job consisted of lifting old men out of bed putting them on the toilet wiping their beemes. I felt sorry for them. It must suck to be helpless. But they always punched me in the face when I tried to lift them and that pissed me off.

When I ask about Weston's tour of Europe earlier this year, Chuck laughs uproariously. "Yeah we were with Gwar on Valentine's Day in

For a band that's been working as hard as Weston, they have a surprising amount of energy. Says the band of their growing success: "We all think it's great."

Barcelona they're so funny. I know this sounds strange but really they're real people. They wear weird scary costumes and all that but they're nice. They're a group of funny guys from Virginia basically. This one kid came up after the show and asked what does the G stand for? They were like "What? And he says "The G In G War." So this kid obviously was a bit confused. But they just said the G stands for guitar. I got pretty hazy the hard I've been here in Paris."

By the time we finished our conversation, it's 11:30. Chuck. "We had a really fun

getting our passports. Jim actually didn't get his in time. We left without him. We had to play songs without him. He didn't sing for a few shows and then we picked him up in Amsterdam. But the rest of the tour was great. Hamburg was a blast. It was freezing. The hookies wore snowpants! Actually snowpants with legwarmers. That's how you know they're prostitutes. You see. The legwarmers. This woman wanted me to go up with her to her room and I honestly thought she was offering me pizza. I know. I sounds stupid. I was really confused. The language barrier and all that."

So how does the band feel about their growing success? "We all think it's great," Chuck explains before Claire interrupts to ask me to give a shout out to three Barnard girls named Marissa, Melissa and Yvonne that she met at the Ben Folds Five show. A Maxwell's Asprited. Do you know so and so?" type of discussion ensues. ACTUALLY, Chuck shouts jokingly over the conversation. "I want a four wheel drive vehicle. And to not have to live with my parents. That would be the two things I really want to turn materially out of his. That would be nice. Want to buy me a watch for Valentine's Day? I'd like a pink one."

Ashley Atkinson is a Barnard First Year and the Bulletin Music Editor.

Put those needles together for..... THE KNITTING FACTORY

by *Rachael Finn*

Every night two stages are cluttered with piles of amplifiers, drum sets, microphones, and heavy black instrument cases as jazz and rock musicians inhabit the Knitting Factory, a recently relocated club in the heart of Tribeca. The Knitting Factory acquired its name when it was first based in an old knitting factory hence the title. Due to its increasing popularity and lack of space, the club moved to its new home down in Tribeca on Leonard Street. The Knitting Factory draws famous jazz artists such as Anthony Braxton, Evan Parker, John Zorn, Pharoah Sanders, and Naumex. Over the years it has increasingly become not only a venue for jazz and avant garde musicians but a supporter of indie rock bands such as Helium, Idaho, Low, and Cake. Like just recently Yoko Ono and Irma played to a sold out crowd of rockers.

This two floor club comes fully equipped with two performance spaces which simultaneously produce the sounds of live music beginning around nine in the evening. The main space as it is called in Knitting Factory lingo serves as both a standing and sit down venue. Generally jazz shows book the cramped black folding chairs to be wheeled in and piled all the way to the back of the room. The main floor also consists of a bar which serves drinks, coffee, cappuccino, etc. the occasional sandwich.

The floor directly below it is a sit up bar and the second stage

otherwise known as the alterknit theater. It is here that one can catch the upcoming talents of local artists. Many of the alterknit musicians fall under the jazz and new music genre. Even though the alterknit is a small theater the acoustics are superb. Adjacent to the alterknit is the tap bar where many people hang out on the plush tufted couch or the small stools and tables. After eleven or so, it might be late night players hang out here. This is where a lot of the hippos who don't want to pay to hear the melodies of jazz can hang out and take in the goods at the tap bar. In general the shows cost around eight dollars depending on the artist.

The crowd is very friendly yet intensely musical. One can often hear the buzz of jazz musicians talking about their latest project or general musicians gabble. I have even seen women smoking pipes. The staff is extremely friendly and diverse (the bar boys sport mohawks and the genre punk look if there is one). The Knitting Factory is even non-discriminatory in people whom you once saw somewhere on a subway and somehow you have met up again at this club of crazy run-ins. Shows rarely start on time so you don't have to worry about getting there too early. If you're going to see a rock show people generally don't show up until the second or third band is early time slots are booked either for unknown bands.

The Knitting Factory offers something for everyone. If you are

interested in the innovative new music scene you might want to check out the shows at the alterknit theater. Big names in jazz and indie rock are only a flight of stairs away in the main space. Check out the Knitting Factory's program guide which lists events held there for the next two months. The program notes also include times, prices, and brief bios on the various artists. If you want to see a good show where you won't get trampled by a sea of teens who are possessed to mosh to even the mellowest of songs, this is the place to be. The crowd ranges from twenties up promoting a much more subdued and enjoyable musical experience.

Rachael Finn is a Barnard First Year.

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— The Need for Information Behind a Cause —

by Jessica Ullman

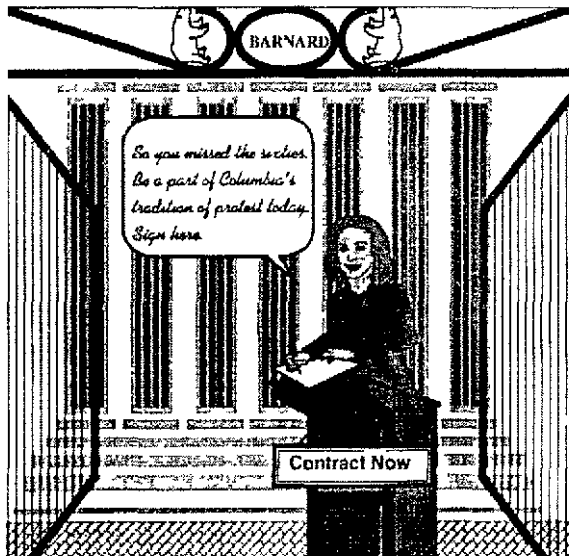
In the realm of Ivy League lightbulb jokes Columbia University's is as follows: How many Columbia students does it take to screw in a light bulb? Answer: 76. One to do it, fifty to protest, and twenty-five to hold a counter protest. The joke originally brought to mind the radical protests of the 1968, but this semester at the University the joke is less humorous than accurate. Barnard and Columbia students have participated in numerous protests and advocated multiple causes—a commendable series of actions. But there is a marked difference between informed activism and fervent but mindless protest, and it seems that too often the student protestors are more vocal than knowledgeable.

The student body's attitude towards change—inquisitive and occasionally volatile—is a trait to be proud of. Few other institutions can boast of equal student involvement in relevant issues.

However, student involvement is not to be admired when it is simply for the sake of shouting. The students around Barnard's campus have been undaunted in their support of Local 2110, but how many of them are truly aware of the issues at hand? At the Committee for Ethnic Studies February 6th sit-in in Dean Austin Quigley's office, how many of the students were motivated only by an overwhelming spirit of 68? Protest is often the key to change, but uninformed protest is no more worthwhile than inactivism. If the students wish to support the Union, the best method is to vocalize a knowledgeable opinion on the issues. The plight of Local 2110 will not be alleviated by random cries of Socialism now.

When forced to confront a situation of conflict, it is easy to ally oneself with the group that speaks the loudest, rings the most bells, and distributes the most publications. The Barnard student body was no exception, and the result here was that many students immediately adopted an anti-administration attitude.

President Shapiro and Dean Denburg became the enemies without an opportunity to present their case. Even those students who consider themselves informed about strike issues seem to be unaware that the process of negotiation requires the cooperation of two parties. While it is important that the students of Barnard remain sensitive to the workers' needs, it is imperative that they remain updated on the measures the administration is taking in response to the strike. Any student paying the \$25,000 tuition knows the truth in the saying: Nobody rides for free. There is no exclusion with our union. Consider that those involved in the conflict the administration and workers are all losers. The Union supports



Is the strike over?

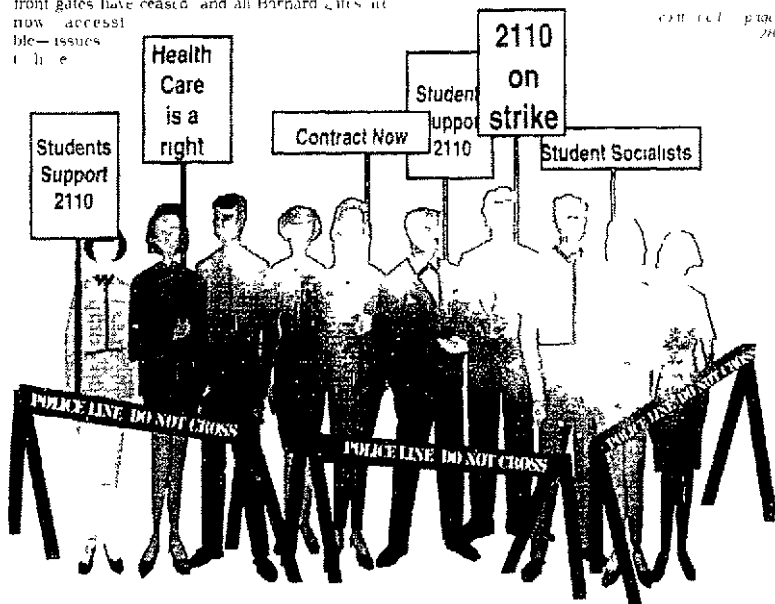
by Jillian Cohen

Looking out my window, I don't see workers marching or chanting. Unfortunately, that does not mean that the fight for a fair contract is over. The Barnard workers represented by Local 2110 of the United Auto Workers (UAW) are back at work, but their contracts remain unsigned. Before the strike began, the union decided that unless the strike was in order, the Barnard administration would continue to prolong the negotiating process. They will not budge on the issue of health care despite good faith efforts exhibited by the Union. In fact, the success is highly beneficial to the administration. Visible protesting and striking were harmful to Barnard's reputation and were an embarrassment, particularly during prospective's season. In addition, daily hassles such as flashing our IDs at the front gates have ceased, and all Barnard gates are now accessible—issues that we

don't train them daily in the form of angry students. Barnard does not have to compensate replacement workers (scabs) at a costly expense. With the workers back at work, daily functions of the College can continue at a smooth and professional pace.

Key issues here are a primary concerned students' health care issues, as well as continuing us and the UAW. The UAW is the lowest paid workers at Barnard, with a median average salary of \$24,000, not beginning to touch their basic needs. The administration has stated that it is their principle that workers should pay for part of their health care. This principle extends to the Barnard faculty who will be forced to pay a percentage of their health care premiums, despite a resounding vote of 70-1 against this measure. This information has not been widely publicized. Since the Faculty is not allowed to

continued page 28



COMMENTARY/ADVERTISEMENT

Is the Strike Over?

continued from page 27

unionize they have no recourse against this decision. The administration says that the Barnard workers are lucky to receive any health care benefits. This statement alone is an outrage. Members of local 2110 have emphasized that the reason that they can afford to work at Barnard despite meager salaries is the decent health benefits they received in the past. Despite attempts made by the administration to belittle the issue at hand (we are all victims of Barry Kauffman's letters and voice mail) this is not a dispute over a couple of dollars per paycheck. On the contrary this is about meeting the needs of workers who are quite aware that health care costs will continue to rise significantly. Making low wage workers contribute toward premiums on their health care puts them in compromising positions especially those workers with families and children.

Health care costs rise dramatically and unpredictably each year. The wage increases proposed by the administration of 2.5, 2.75 and 2.25 percent over three years do not begin to compensate for the health care costs especially when considering the recent 20 percent increase in subway fares. Although Columbia University and Teachers College offered higher salary percentages without forcing their workers to contribute toward health care, Barnard workers are willing to negotiate salary increases. They are fighting to meet New York City's daily living expenses.

Health care is an issue that will affect everyone directly or indirectly. A friend's father changed jobs and lost full health care coverage as a result. Although his salary was above the \$24,000 range and his wife had a part time job, he was forced to take his children off the plan because he could not afford it. For a year his two children did not have health insurance, a potentially harmful and costly situation. Barnard

workers will even fall into this dilemma if forced to contribute toward premiums on their health care. If it comes down to paying rent or child care versus not being family members, it is likely that they will stop insuring their families.

Barnard claims to be a progressive institution. President Shapiro has said that paying for health care is rising rapidly among colleges. Here at last weekend President Shapiro gave the keynote address at a conference on "Women and Love." If the College wants to prove that it is progressive isn't the best way to support its workers, both male and female? It is in a time that we continue to talk about the issues to ask questions and to challenge the administration (email: JShapiro@barnard.edu; local 2110 support our everyday needs and now they need our immediate support).

Jillian Cohen is a Barnard First Year.

Need for Information, continued from page 26

Local 2110 or the students on the Committee for Filmic Studies should be praised for their interest in a cause. The leaders who organized the strike or the sit in should be noted for their success in receiving recognition. And the students who have attended the informational meetings, learned the facts and listened to both sides of the conflict should be encouraged to speak their minds and take a stand. Even those who are simply concerned about the issues can make an effort to learn more. An informed student supporter is invaluable to a cause, and all members of the student body have a right to involvement in the issues that affect them. But a supporter who lacks facts to back up his or her shouts does more harm than good.

Jessica Ullian is a Barnard First Year and the Bulletin Commentary Editor.

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Don't Believe the Hype!

by Elizabeth Gold

Don't believe the hype. That's my thought of the week. Last week it was "I just don't give a flying @*%!" but this week I'm listening to The Fugees (speaking of hype articles about them appeared this week in Spin, The Voice, Paper, Rolling Stone, and Vibe) trying to catch up on sleep and fighting off the steadily encroaching anxiety attack that is spelled M A Y. So I guess I am believing the hype because after reading all those articles I went out and bought The Fugees's CD and it's as good as all the music journalist wackies (who I aspire to be) say it is. And though I thought I didn't care about school anymore, the fact is it doesn't matter because school still seems to care about me. It's impossible to get away from it while you're in it because every time you think you've escaped it just reaches right back around and grabs you.

The facts: a failing grade on my psych midterm, two out of three of my latest Italian grades are F's (I know the Italian trauma is getting a little tired but that language requirement is still kicking me in the head after three and a half years) and my thesis is lying on my advisors' desks, betraying me by multiplying its typos with every passing second.

I'm sick of whining, sick of studying, sick of not knowing what's coming next. Okay, scratch the studying part. As my last paragraph plainly states, I could use a little more of that. It's the idea of studying that gets me down. Everything's gloomy right now. March is blowing in like the proverbial lion and seems to show no signs of impending lambhood. The strike as of today still hasn't ended. I keep losing things, note books, keys, my mind.

I'm reminded of a favorite rhyme of my childhood, too unspeakably disgusting to print here, but with the same rhythmic scheme as the little chant I've been repeating in my head: *senioritis, plod, plod, senioritis, plod, plod*. Why won't someone make the sun shine, find me an apartment in Park Slope, and offer me a job writing a weekly column for *The Village Voice*?

All night, all night. Enough of this maudlin, self-paying business. February's hell is over, it has to get warmer soon, and even if I don't get the job of my dreams, at least I'll be able to practice my LPC scanner operating skills at my local Barnes and Noble Superstore. After all, what's a \$100,000 education for?

They never promised me a childhood when I enrolled at Barnard. If I had wanted that, I should have gone to DeVry. I've gotten my money's worth at Barnard, just like the Union is going to benefit from the University's health care plan. No, but seriously, I have enjoyed most of my classes, and there is a lot to be said for a learning environment free from the constraints of the real world, even if the instant we step outside of our classrooms we are confronted with it.

Honestly, I don't mean to be so negative. It's just been a tough week. Let's look on the bright side of it: while Spring break is coming soon (by the time I've

I'm reminded of a favorite rhyme of my childhood, too unspeakably disgusting to print here, but with the same rhythmic scheme as the little chant I've been repeating in my head: senioritis, plod, plod, senioritis, plod, plod.

comes on, it will be over) and by tomorrow I'll have a batch of cover letters written, ten resumes printed out and envelopes addressed. I even have Marilyn Monroe stamps to put on them, for luck.

It's the all-absorbing fear of sending those letters out that's gnawing at me more ferociously than any 114th Street rat ever could. Once I send them, they're my little babies let out into a cold, cruel world. What if I misspell some potential employer's name on the envelope? She'll think I'm an idiot. What if my old boss forgets who I am or doesn't find my jokes remotely amusing anymore? She used to think I was hysterical, but that was when I was an unpaid intern writing snotty commentaries on other writers' life work. Now I'm one of the sweaty masses, my grubby palm outstretched, commanding her: "Give me a job." What if the people that I interviewed for my thesis topic and have now sent query letters about entry-level jobs to decide to throw a party together, and sit around reading the stupidest parts of my letters out loud? And what if they're living in apartments in Brooklyn on beautiful tree-lined streets, listening to the laughter of children outside their workroom windows, with painters and musicians and experimental film makers as their neighbors, and they're all smirking and saying, "Well, never let the likes of her live down here."

Or maybe I'm just totally paranoid. I'll be sure to keep you up to date on that point. By the way, I bought The Fugees's CD. The lead singer, MC Jazay Jay Z, is actually putting her 100 grand (Columbia didn't do it) to some solid use. The hype is all it's cracked up to be, and I'm pretty cracked up today myself.

Elizabeth Gold is a *Barnard Senior and Bulletin columnist*.

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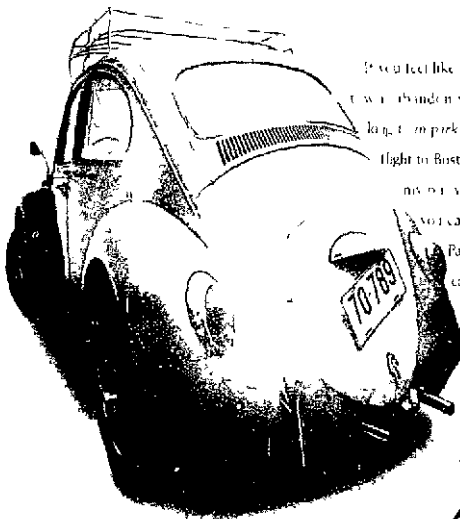
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Voiceless Victims: Hunger in Underrepresented Areas

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Speakers

Juan Bernardo Rosado: Social and Political Conflict in Columbia

**Aurora Parong: A Phillippino Medical Doctor on the Right to Food
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**Chitra Bala Krishnan: An Indian Lawyer on the Development of
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Oxfam America's Spring Semester Activities Barnard Students Can Get Involved

This Spring Oxfam America attempts to heighten hunger awareness by presenting a forum and raising funds for hunger relief. All students are invited and encouraged to get involved and spring will be a success. Oxfam's first event will be a forum held on Tuesday, April 2 at 7:00 pm in 204 FBH. The forum will consist of 3 speakers from Columbia, the Philippines, and India who have extensive knowledge of hunger in under represented areas of the globe. This forum is an educational opportunity for our community to get informed and discuss issues facing our world today.

Oxfam's other major event of the semester will be fundraising at dining halls and at other locations around campus including FBH, McIntosh, and Hewitt. Half of the money raised will go to Oxfam America to help fund international projects in places like Haiti, Guatemala, and regions of Africa. The rest of the money will go to funding of Community Impact Food Pantry and other projects. This term Columbia College has decided to not allow its students to donate points or meals. This means that \$10,000 of fundraising money is lost per term. Therefore for now, most of the fundraising will come from Barnard College students who are encouraged to donate points and meals. Columbia College may still donate on a cash basis. Barnard students can make a difference by donating. This will make a point to the administration that hunger relief is important to students and that Barnard taking a stand. Students are also encouraged to get involved by tabling on campus to facilitate donations. If interested please contact the Oxfam office at ext. 41492 or stop by the Community Impact Office, at 204 Earl Hall to donate. It's yours of your time to help end hunger.

This spring can be a success. Get involved. Get educated. Make a difference.