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letter from the editors

This past weekend saw two pivotal decisions placed in the hands of two highly important bodies. The first, and closest to home, was the University Senate vote on the proposed Sexual Misconduct Policy. The second, which had implications far outside New York City, was the verdict in the criminal trial of the four New York Police officers who shot and killed Amadou Diallo.

The Columbia University community will be greatly affected by the University Senate's decision to pass the proposed Sexual Misconduct Policy submitted by the University Task Force. Students who rallied behind the proposal now say that we have the most progressive sexual misconduct policy in the nation—the only University with a full time position on the staff to directly address the issue of sexual violence on campus. All oversight committees for cases of sexual assault will now be one-third composed of students, another progressive step. Students can now claim victory in their fight for a safer campus and a fairer sexual misconduct policy.

The Diallo verdict, however, did not bring together rallies of celebration, as did the sexual misconduct policy passage. Instead, it led to massive protests here in New York City, with more than 2000 people marching together from midtown to City Hall, making numerous stops along the way. The rally, although planned from before the time of the verdict, did not have a permit, and as a result, all protesters were forced to remain on the sidewalks, held there by the NYPD's implementation of arrests, beatings and use of constraint materials such as mace. Numerous Barnard and Columbia students were involved, and several were arrested on charges of disorderly conduct. More protests are planned for the coming days, as people come together to express outrage at the horrible injustice done to the Diallo family.

The Diallo family does still have recourse, however, and with the Reverend Al Sharpton behind them, they may pursue a federal trial for civil rights violations, and a wrongful death lawsuit against the City of New York.

The jury in the Diallo case has said that they felt that they had no choice but to acquit the four officers charged in the murder of the African immigrant. Taking into account the judge's instructions, they say that the only answer they could come back with was an

acquittal. They were put into a situation in which they were forced to leave their emotions out of the courtroom, and forced to make a decision based on the facts presented before them. The people of New York have seen those facts as well, and they are certainly not leaving their emotions out of it.

Amadou Diallo was shot nineteen times in a spray of 41 bullets in the doorway of his Bronx apartment building. He was reaching for his wallet, perhaps to identify himself to the police officers who surrounded him. Perhaps for his keys to enter his apartment. Perhaps, since he was doing no wrong, he was simply choosing to ignore the police—his legal right. And four police officers fired enough shots at an unarmed man that two of them actually had to reload their guns to continue firing. There was no gunfire being returned. They were in no physical danger, other than that caused by the reckless endangerment of a spray of 41 bullets from their own guns.

Clearly, the jury made a decision they found to be the only reasonable one. But we, as members of the New York City community, must be made to feel safe on our streets, and feel that we won't be targets of police suspicion for our physical appearance. I was there last year when thousands of people marched across the Brooklyn Bridge, calling for justice for Amadou Diallo. And I was there this weekend, listening as the verdict came down and those thousands of people's hopes were dashed. Now, again, we must band together and show our support for the family of Amadou Diallo, and show the City of New York that we won't stand for this kind of injustice on our streets, or in our lives. There will be a speak out tomorrow, Thursday, March 2 on Lehman Lawn from 12-1pm for all of those interested in making their voices heard. We hope to see you there.

No justice, no peace. The city hasn't heard the last from the thousands of Diallo supporters out there. Or from us.

contributors

Junior Lara Crock is the *bulletin* photography editor. She is a biochemistry major and is from the Chicago area. Lara currently works in the physiology lab department at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital. She is also a skateboarder and snowboarder, and enjoys vegan desserts. Check out Lara's photography skills throughout this week's issue.

**lara wiley
crock**

Sophomore Kiryn Haslinger is from Upstate New York and is the *bulletin* features editor. She is a chemistry major and pre-law student, even though she does not intend to be either a chemist or a lawyer. Last Thanksgiving, Kiryn climbed the Great Wall of China. This week, she branches out of the features section and writes about *All's Well That Ends Well* for the arts section.

**kiryn
haslinger**

Kelly McCoy is a sophomore and *bulletin* staff writer. She is a philosophy major and is from Minneapolis. Kelly was born in Alaska and loves extreme weather. This week, she brings us inside Joe's Pub in the music section.

**kelly
mccoy**

barnardbulletin

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tenure denial of two Barnard

By Renee Gerni

In 1992 Lynn Chancer joined the staff of Barnard College in the sociology department after having taught at Yale University and Hunter College. That same year she published the first of four books titled *Sadomasochism and Everyday Life*, *The Dynamics of Power and Powerlessness*. In the next seven years, she designed a new class for the sociology department on gender, race and class; published several journal articles and book chapters; and gained the respect of hundreds of Barnard students. In 2000, Chancer was denied tenure by Barnard College.

Many University community members were surprised at the College's decision to deny Chancer tenure. Two other female professors, philosophy professor Jennifer Uleman and religion professor Judith Weisenfeld, were also denied tenure this year. This has led to speculation about discrimination against feminist scholars in the tenure process, as well as to concern about Columbia's role in the tenure process of Barnard professors. On Tuesday, February 15, the Student Government Association hosted a public forum on the issue of tenure at Barnard. The panel included President Judith Shapiro, Provost Elizabeth Boylan, Dean of the College Dorothy Denburg and Appointments, Tenure and Promotions (ATP) faculty member Elena Foley.

Educated at Princeton and the Graduate Center of CUNY, Chancer has concentrated her career on studies of gender, culture and criminology. As a feminist scholar, the opportunity to teach at Barnard was ideal. "The most wonderful thing about teaching at Barnard is the students," she said. "I think one of the hardest things about my situation now is that I have no way to say goodbye to my students."

After teaching at Barnard for the

standard seven years, Lynn Chancer began the tenure process in fall of 1999. As in all tenure cases, a personal dossier was created including a personal statement, details pertinent to her professional life, course evaluations, and statements by faculty, students, and scholars on Chancer's scholarly work and teach-



President Shapiro answers student questions at the tenure forum

ing abilities. This dossier was then reviewed by the Barnard Committee on Appointments, Tenure and Promotions which consists of five elected faculty members, Boylan and Shapiro. Chancer was unanimously passed through this committee.

Her case then moved on to the Columbia Ad-hoc Committee, a group assembled for each individual tenure case. The committee is comprised of two members of the Barnard faculty, two from the Columbia College faculty and one academic peer of the tenure candidate outside of the Columbia University community. Professor Chancer passed this level as well.

But in a last minute decision, Shapiro withdrew her support for Chancer's tenure. Shapiro makes the final decision on Barnard tenure which cannot be appealed unless there is evidence of a breakdown at some level of the committee process.

Chancer was shocked by the decision. "What happened was totally unexpected. I think that my case was just one extreme case of the system being arbitrary," she said. Chancer went on to say

that there might be discrimination in the tenure process against female scholars, especially against female scholars who study feminist issues. "It is possible that the cumulative effect of going through two departments places feminist scholars at a disadvantage. The Columbia departments are older and more mainstream. Therefore they may not look favorably on feminist scholars," she said.

Chancer believes that the combination of Columbia's reputation and tenure decisions like her own will surely have an effect on Barnard's tenure reputation. "Columbia has a very bad reputation for tenure being difficult," she said. "It has already had an effect on the people that look at Barnard to teach."

At the February 15 forum, Shapiro and Boylan explained the full tenure process to a concerned group of Barnard students. Because of Barnard's position as a college within the larger University community, and the cross registration between Barnard and Columbia, Shapiro and Boylan explained, dual approval within the tenure process is necessary.

Chancer says that she does not understand the reasons for dual approval. "I think it's an ironic situation for a women's college that wants to be independent, because its own structural situation is inherently dependent," she said.

The notion that the Columbia committee and department approval is the final say in a tenure case was repeatedly refuted by both Shapiro and Boylan. "We have tenured faculty that we supported that their Columbia College department counterpart did not support," Shapiro said. She went on to say that the dual approval process is more about the exchange of information and support of faculty.

Chancer has not been the only professor to be denied tenure in the past

professors sparks controversy

year. Junior Elizabeth Dayton said, "I was really disappointed that one of my favorite professors, Jennifer Uleman, didn't get tenure."

In a situation unlike Chancer's, Uleman was under a two-year contract with Barnard College as a visiting professor. This semester being the final of that two years, Uleman's case was reviewed to determine if she would be offered a tenure track position in the philosophy department. She was denied the opportunity to continue on a tenure track at Barnard.

Uleman said, "Nothing horrible happened in my case." She said that the stipulations of her contract and the tenure process were made clear to her at the beginning of her two-year term by the philosophy department.

But she agreed with the sentiments expressed by Professor Chancer regarding the dual process of approval by both Barnard and Columbia. "There is a lot of concern among the junior faculty about the tenure process because of the dual process. It's very demoralizing," she said. "Had I been offered a tenure track position, [the dual process] would have been the only thing to really worry me."

Uleman's specific areas of research interest include feminist theory, moral and political philosophy, and German idealism. "The Columbia philosophy department just has a different style and agenda of philosophy," she said. While she says that her case had nothing to do with

her interest in feminist theory, Uleman said, "It seems like the administration really wants to maintain the image of Barnard as a finishing school and not a hotbed of feminism."

Senior Rebecca Utton attended the open forum because her senior thesis advisor, Weisenfeld BC '86, was also denied tenure this year. Questioning the panel several times, Utton pointed out

that the religion department only has one tenured female professor. She says that some of her questions are still unanswered. "Most of what they are saying right now is just buzz clips," she said.

Utton's senior thesis examines the religious experiences of African-American women, a topic that Weisenfeld is considered an expert on. "I believe that they are trying to tell us the truth, but there is more going on here. Clearly there is more going on," she said.

Boylan says that gender discrimination is not occurring in the tenure process. She said, "A recent study did not show any evidence of gender discrimination in the process." However she stated that there is a trend among the junior faculty of female professors leaving Barnard before their tenure case is reviewed at the end of seven years or leaving before they have the opportunity to be offered a tenure track position. "There is great concern among the faculty and on the ATP committee about the rash of women junior faculty leaving," Boylan said.

Both Boylan and Shapiro said that female attrition among junior faculty

One student in attendance at the forum said that the Barnard faculty is currently under-tenured. Boylan concurred this. "There are fifty-eight tenured professors now, out of 89 available positions," she said. The philosophy department specifically highlights that availability. After this semester, there will be only one tenured professor in philosophy, department Chair Alan Gabbey.

One of the main ideas that Shapiro and Boylan conveyed to students was that the nature of the Barnard faculty often makes the tenure process appear tedious. They maintained that a Barnard professor must be a combination of a learned scholar and great teacher. "The professor's research abilities are important because we have very high aspirations for our student body. We want to ensure that you are exposed to the cutting edge of available information," Shapiro said.

Shapiro said that the main focus of any tenure decision is how it will effect the future of Barnard College. "We don't have bad faculty. A tenure decision is based on when we are going to make a

Lara Crock

lifelong bet on someone," said President Shapiro.

Both Chancer and Uleman say that Barnard has a continuing reputation among scholars and young professors of being a difficult place to obtain tenure. "People outside of Barnard College don't want to come here because of the tenure process. They

just don't want to be second class citizens to Columbia," Uleman said.

Shapiro says that this reputation does not have a negative effect, but rather a positive one. "I think it's good that Barnard is perceived as a hard place to get tenure, because then we end up attracting really good people."

Renee Gerni is a Barnard sophomore.



Students at the open forum on tenure

was beginning to be investigated and maintained that if some gender discrepancy does exist, it is a result of some element of the junior faculty experience, not the tenure process itself "Eighty percent of recommended cases get approved [at Barnard] and out of that eighty percent, eighty-five percent then also make it out of the Columbia committee," Shapiro said.

bearessentials

PROGRAM PLANNING MEETINGS FOR MAJORS AND PROSPECTIVE MAJORS: ANTHROPOLOGY Monday, April 10 from 4-5pm in 237 Milbank; CHEMISTRY see Prof. Lessinger, Monday-Friday from 9-11am in 705 Altschul, and departmental luncheon Friday, April 14 from 12-2pm in Altschul Atrium; MUSIC Tuesday, April 4 from 11am-12pm in 319 Milbank; PAN AFRICAN STUDIES Tuesday, April 4 from 4-5pm in 202 Milbank; PHILOSOPHY Wednesday, March 29 from 2:30-4pm in 326 Milbank; POLITICAL SCIENCE Monday, March 27 from 4-5pm in 421 Lehman; RELIGION Thursday, March 23 from 10:30-11:30am in 403 Barnard; THEATRE Tuesday, April 4 from 6-7pm in 229 Milbank; WOMEN'S STUDIES Monday, March 27 from 5:30-6:30pm in 202 Barnard.

PRE-MEDICAL, PRE-VETERINARY, AND PRE-OPTOMETRICAL STUDENTS are planning to apply to medical, veterinary, and optometric schools. They are looking for information and help for the application process. The meeting will be held on the date of the meeting. Contact Ms. Abdoo at x47599 for more information. The meeting will be held on the date of the meeting. Contact Ms. Abdoo at x47599 for more information. You will receive a notice of this meeting only if we have your contact information.

PRE-LAW STUDENTS There will be a panel of lawyers speaking about different careers in the law on Thursday, March 23, 6-8pm in Lewisohn Lounge. For more information, contact Ms. Abdoo, 105 Milbank, x47599.

SIGN UP FOR HISTORY SEMINARS If you intend to take a History Fall 2000 Seminar, you must apply beginning now

through the deadline, Friday, March 10. Seminar applications and seminar lists are available across from the History Office, 405 Lehman Hall. You may also get a list of seminars and apply online via the History Department website, <http://www.barnard.columbia.edu/dept/history>.

STUDENTS SEEKING TUTORING Please speak with your instructor first, but if you need additional help from peer tutors, they're available for many (unfortunately not all) courses. Fill out a tutor request form in the Dean of Studies Office. For more information contact Ms. Pearson, x42024.

LOOKING FOR HELP IN PHYSICS? Stop by the Physics Help Room, located in 413 Pupin Hall. Hours: Monday-Thursdays, 1-6pm.

LOOKING FOR HELP IN MATH? Come to Barnard's Math Help Room, located in 333 Milbank. Hours: Mondays, 10am-12pm; Tuesdays, 9am-5pm and 7-10pm; Wednesdays, 10am-5pm; Thursdays, 10am-5pm; Fridays, 10am-5pm. For more information, contact the door for particular information. Website at <http://www.math.columbia.edu/~mathhelp/>

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES for students with a strong interest in management and leadership of community-based organizations. Those selected will receive \$10,000, which includes a stipend and tuition assistance toward an appropriate master's degree. Contact Dean Runser, x42024

barnard events calendar

Wednesday, March 1
Women and Glass Ceilings
7:30pm in Lower Level McIntosh. For more information call Melissa Marrus at x32867.

Thursday, March 2
Lunchtime Lecture Series presents *Modes of Cultural Resistance Latina Theater in New York* A lecture with Flora Schimnovich, Professor of Spanish and Latin

American Cultures 12-1:30pm in the Center for Research on Women, 101 Barnard Hall

The Helen Rogers Reid Lecture Series presents *Woman An Intimate Geography* A reading and discussion with Pulitzer prize winning journalist and Barnard alumna Natalie Angier BC '78 Angier will discuss her latest work 6:30-8pm Julius S Held Lec-

ture Hall, Barnard Hall.
Friday, March 2, Friday, March 3 & Saturday, March 4
Barnard Dances at Miller Theater
8pm in Miller Theater. Tickets are \$10, \$5 with CUID.

Monday, March 7
Back to the Classroom, With the Kids A lecture with Sara Katz Rothman, Professor of Sociology at Baruch and at CUNY's Graduate

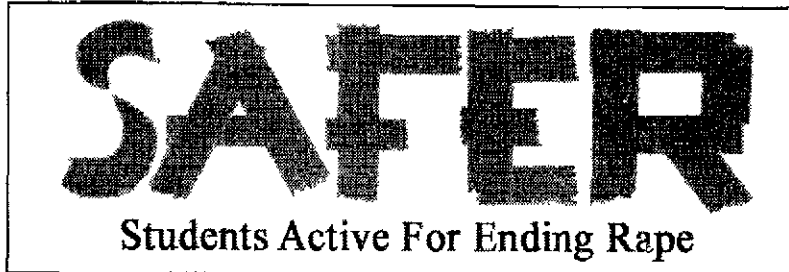
School and University Center. 12-1:30pm Altschul Atrium. For more information call x42067.

Thursday, March 9
Speaking of Women A lecture and reading with Nancy Caldwell Sorel. 6:30-8pm Altschul Atrium For more information call x42067.

sexual misconduct policy passes

On Friday, February 25, the proposed Sexual Misconduct and Assault Policy, submitted to the University Senate by the Senate Task Force to Review the Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedure, was passed after much debate, in the presence of a number of the Policy's many supporters, including groups such as the Policy Reform Organization, Students Active For Ending Rape, Columbia Men

courtesy www.columbia.edu/cu/safer



SAFER is one of the many student groups celebrating the passage of the new sexual misconduct policy

Against Violence and Take Back the Night. These groups posit the new policy as "the most progressive sexual assault policy" in the nation. Expect complete, in-depth coverage in the coming *bulletin*.

Democratic primary candidate Bill Bradley visits Columbia

lara crock



Senator and presidential hopeful Bill Bradley spoke at Columbia Wednesday, February 3 in Lerner auditorium. Bradley spoke about economic policy, and his goal of continuing economic growth that occurred in the 1990s. Bradley said, "Our success is a blessing, not a birthright," stressing that economic growth is an accomplishment which must be continued. Though he applauded the U.S.'s current economic conditions, he noted that economic disparity has been widening. He said that he hopes to focus on workers, families, and minorities who have not benefitted from the '90s economy.

THE BARNARD FRENCH DEPARTMENT

*cordially invites faculty, administrators, and students
to a bilingual poetry reading*

featuring **EMMANUEL HOCOQUARD**, French poet and Visiting Professor in the French Department of Barnard College, together with three of his poet-translators:

Norma Cole, Serge Gavronsky, and Ray Di Palma.

March 23, 2000 - 7:30pm - 304 Barnard Hall

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

get primed for the primary!

With the presidential election impending in November and the New York State primaries only a few days away, the *bulletin* thought it might be a good time to evaluate the candidates. What issues are at stake and what positions do each of the candidates take? It is admittedly difficult to be an informed citizen and keep up with national news on a daily basis while at college. In this issue, our writers endeavor to complete an extensive investigation of the presidential candidates, focusing on their political records, platforms, and public opinion. I hope that the information presented here will be useful to the Barnard Community in formulating fact-based views and making objective decisions about the future of our nation.

all photos courtesy *Time* magazine

—Kiryin Haslinger

Gore tries to speak with actions

by Courtney Martin

Just a little less than a year ago, Presidential hopeful Al Gore told University of New Hampshire's graduating class, "Some of the most powerful lessons are never spoken in words. What we say is usually far less important than what we communicate in the way we live our lives." Gore's own philosophy can be applied as we face the coming primaries and establish just what it is he stands for.

While in office as Vice President Gore has been active concerning many of the issues that Barnard voters may potentially care about most—such as education, reproductive freedom, poverty, and the environment. He cosponsored the Freedom of Choice Act which sought to codify the *Roe v. Wade* decision into a federal law. In the realm of education improvement, he fought to have after school investment increase from \$1 million in 1997 to \$453 million in this year's budget.

He acted as the coordinator of a 1994 Family Reunion Conference in order to stress his belief that the American government needs to crack down on deadbeat dads, making it necessary for them to find jobs, with the help of the staff provided through the Welfare-to-Work funds, or go to jail. He has continuously voted for legislation to protect the environment. In other words, Gore has fairly consistently followed through on most of the issues he claims are the basis for his platform.

On the other hand, many have reser-



vations about his character based on his affiliation with President Clinton, including allegations still existing within some political and media circles that he accepts funds from religious groups which contradict his political agenda. Others very clearly see the Vice President and Clinton as business partners, but not ethical equals. Political science professor and American government expert Lori Minnite, said,

"My tendency is to separate Gore from Clinton in terms of character. It is not a make or break problem for me while making my decision about who to vote for."

Others seem concerned about his lack of charisma. There are countless Internet sites specifically devoted to satirizing his monotone style of speaking, including one cleverly titled, "Bore 2000." Regardless of these, and other issues which lead some voters to look to Bradley as the next Democratic nominee for president, many Barnard students express support for Gore.

"I would probably vote for Gore because he seems like the most qualified candidate. He actually stands for something unlike a lot of the other candi-

dates," explained Barnard senior Maya Capoor.

Others are not so enthusiastically committed to voting for Gore, but have decided to based on other criteria. Afua Agyarko, a Barnard senior, said, "I would vote for Gore simply because he is the lesser evil."

This less than optimistic attitude seems to pervade a lot of the voting public in the Barnard community. Political science professor Dennis Dalton commented on the upcoming elections, "All of the candidates seem trapped by the system, unable to identify the real problem of poverty. Gore is certainly able to address issues, but I haven't heard him address the problem of poverty specifically." When asked if this oversight would prevent him from casting his vote



for Gore come primary election time Dalton responded, "Until someone addresses poverty head on, I will continue to reiterate that I want a candidate I can vote for, not one that I deem the lesser of two evils. In the '60s we always wondered—what if someone put on a war and nobody came?" By the same token, I now ask—What if

someone put on an election and nobody voted?"

Courtney Martin is a Barnard sophomore and bulletin staff writer.

Bush in defense of tradition

by Courtney Martin

The Republican front runner, despite his loss in the New Hampshire primary, is most certainly George W. Bush. While some of the other candidates prefer to paint themselves in a progressive light, Bush's campaign is more centered around his identity as a traditionalist, all the way from him paternal roots in politics to his prestigious educational background and his closely connected family.

He focuses on military spending as a necessary precaution, the improvement of education through family involvement, and the instillation of better "American" values through faith-based organizations. He is overwhelmingly in support of most traditionally Republican sentiments, such as limited gun control, hard prison sentencing, and the death penalty.

Barnard students are weary of Bush's potential candidacy. Barnard first-year Whitney Kassel summarized a lot of the Barnard response to Bush's leadership when she said, "I definitely would not vote for Bush because he is a scary, right wing, conservative Texan. I haven't heard anything good about him at all."

Barnard senior Robin Mindlin added, "I heard on CNN a while back that he had a really low GPA in college which I find indicative of having little initiative. His strict pro-life agenda bothers me a lot too."

Others also had reservations about Bush's intelligence. "I've heard Bush

was basically just one of those spoiled brat politician's kids. Clinton got in his moral bind and all, but at least he was considered really smart," said senior Maya Capoor.

Political science professor Lori Minnite added, "There's something that profoundly bothers me about him being a governor of a state that has executed that many people."

Bush's stance on issues seemed unpopular among most Barnard students asked. He is pro-life, offering an increase in abstinence education as his cure for unwanted pregnancy. He supports parental notification laws, banning the

use of tax payer funds for abortion and banning partial birth abortions. He is against affirmative action, opposes same-sex marriage, and sees faith-based organizations as the "moral center" of America. "We [the government] should support private and faith-based efforts first and foremost," he said on his official web site.

He recognizes the importance of education reform and proposes that the school system would be greatly improved by more parental involvement. He also proposes a \$500 million incentive fund to reward states for

improving student performance and is pro-school vouchers, which would serve as grants to students who choose to go to private schools (usually those in failing inner-city schools.) While other candidates place emphasis on these social reform issues, Bush's pet project seems to be enhancing military defense. He said, "A dangerous world requires a sharpened sword."

He intends to sharpen America's sword by increasing military funding by \$1 billion and increasing defense Research and Development spending by at least \$20 billion from Fiscal Year 2002 to Fiscal Year 2006.

There certainly are Barnard students who feel that Bush is the best candidate, but they are few. Kassel told

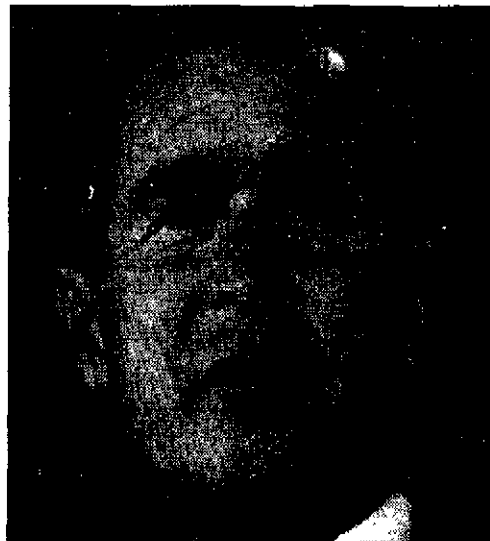
of an acquaintance who she claimed supported Bush because, "He was one of those well-liked Yale frat boys." Others see Bush's values as in line with their own or feel that his legacy predicts great things for the Texan governor.

Political science professor Dennis Dalton

reminds all Barnard students that, "Above all, Barnard and Columbia students need to recognize the importance of choice. I emphatically urge students to make that choice thoughtfully."

Courtney Martin is a Barnard sophomore and bulletin staff writer.

Election
Special



Look for the bulletin on-line.

It'll be there very, very soon.

www.columbia.edu/cu/barnardbulletin

Bradley accepts liberal label

By Renee Gerni

A professor is one of the many things that presidential candidate Bill Bradley has not been. However, lately this has been the description of Bradley's campaign demeanor. Bradley does have the experience of being a former Senator for New Jersey and a professional basketball player as he seeks the experience of the presidency against Vice President Al Gore.

Originally from Missouri, Bill Bradley was educated at Princeton and later Oxford. Generally, Bradley has presented himself as the reliable Democratic candidate by taking stances on typically Democrat issues like health care and the environment. Bradley has already proposed a near universal health care plan that would offer tax breaks for insurance premiums and subsidized premiums for low to middle income families to replace Medicaid. Bradley also supports gun control and government action in environmental preservation. As a senator

he tried to divert money intended for space stations to clean water and air programs

On the issue of abortion, Bradley has asserted his new aggressive attitude towards Al Gore.

Bradley boasts that he is the only pro-choice candidate running. In further attempts to disassociate himself from Al Gore and the Clinton administration, Bradley has also taken stances favoring affirmative action and opposing the \$792 billion tax cut package of the Republicans. Bradley is being endorsed by such black activists as Harvard Professor Cornel West and the Reverend Al Sharpton.

Although Bradley has spoken about his commitment to the family, he has publicly opposed marriage for gay couples. Bradley also opposed the 1996 welfare reforms but says now that he would build upon them.

In foreign affairs, Bradley supports the North Atlantic Trade Organization and the World Trade Organization. During his time in the Senate, Bradley voted to make China's trade policy

contingent upon their human rights record.

Despite a strong beginning, Bradley's campaign strength dwindled after a significant loss to Al Gore in the New Hampshire primary. Unless Bradley captures a substantial victory in upcoming primaries, especially on March 7. Super Tuesday, there is speculation his nomination bid could be over soon.

Renee Gerni is a Barnard sophomore and bulletin staff writer

Election Special



Keyes knows it's not over till....

by Daphna Berman

Allan Keyes, the former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations and self proclaimed "genuine conservative," is currently vying for the Republican nomination. This fifty year-old native of New York City supports school prayer, free enterprise, pro-life organizations, and a strong national defense.

Although he previously lost two Senate races in Maryland and placed seventh in the Iowa Straw Poll behind fellow conservatives like Forbes and Buchanan.

Keyes is not easily dissuaded. In a speech given to a group of supporters in Iowa last September, Keyes proclaimed:

"If there is any doubt in anybody's mind. . . I am seeking and do intend to pursue the Republican nomination. . . Whatever anybody cares to say, not a single vote has been cast in a single primary or caucus anywhere in the United States and until the people have had their say,

there is no election result. . . We are engaged in a life or death struggle for the soul of the United States. . . I want to make it clear that I will not abandon the

grass roots people of the Republican Party. . ."

Keyes unprecedented determination attests to his unique perseverance and unconventional approach to the American political system. Keyes has recently introduced the racial issue into his campaign, accusing the media and much of the Republican leadership of blatant discrimination. It is this general conspiracy that he now labels a "black-out." Despite his recent success in the Iowa Caucuses he trailed behind only Bush and Forbes, Keyes has a long way to go before securing his party's nomination

Daphna Berman is a Barnard first-year

Election Special

McCain chalking up primary victories

by Renee Gerni

A dynamic senator from Arizona, John McCain seems everyday to be a stronger contender for the Republican presidential nomination. Generally McCain has all the classic Republican characteristics: he's for tax cuts, breaking down the national debt and against abortion rights. However, McCain has emerged in this campaign as a "new Republican."

Taking a strong stance on campaign finance reform early on, he has retained this issue as one central to his platform. As a Senator, McCain has tried unsuccessfully for four years to prompt Congress to pass finance reforms and a complete ban on soft money. John McCain seems to maintain this position in his current campaign budget as well. Making his minuscule funds (relative to the standard) public, the Arizona senator has used this issue as a way to distinguish himself from the other candidates, especially his main opponent, George W. Bush, whose campaign is now costing millions per day. McCain has also proposed using the growing federal tax surplus to cushion Social Security and deplete the debt.

Aside from campaign finance, McCain

has also distinguished himself with an original campaigning style. Traveling the East Coast on his "Straight Talk Express," McCain has made it his policy to maintain an "all access" relationship with the press on the campaign trail. While this has been

received positively, some maintain that it has led McCain to be overburdened by the press, causing him to sometimes lose his composure and concentration on a particular issue. A recent example has been McCain's ambiguous stance on the issue of abortion rights.

While he has generally said that he has long been a staunch opponent of legalized abortion, he has told some reporters that he would never pursue the abolishment of *Roe v. Wade* if he were elected.

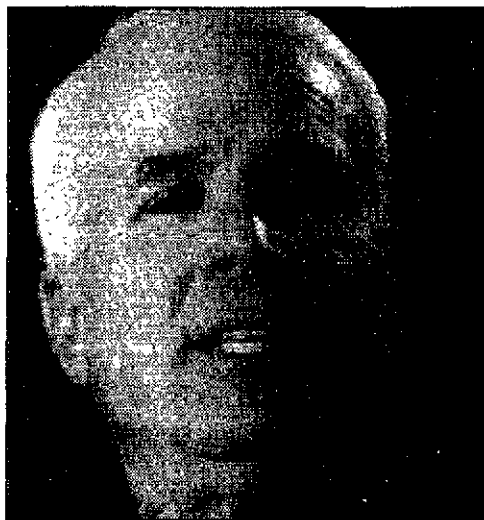
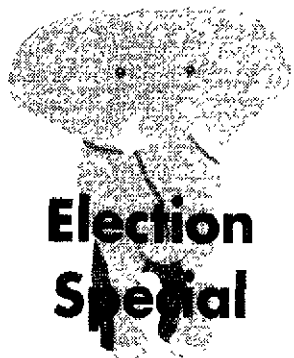
As a Vietnam war prisoner, McCain appeals to many veterans and other typically Republican-oriented groups. But his crucial win in the New Hampshire, Arizona and Michigan primaries proved that McCain is able to appeal to more than just the traditional Republican vote. In a surprising double-digit margin victory over Texas Governor George W. Bush, independents as well as firm Republicans in New Hampshire came out in full force for Sena-

tor McCain.

In foreign affairs, McCain maintains that the U.S. should use its primacy for "humanity's benefit." He advocates using American forces to support the overturning of regimes in Iraq, and North Korea and the Russian conflict with Chechnya.

The Columbia College Republicans have endorsed McCain as their candidate of choice. But less politically decided students still seem relatively curious about him. Sophomore Natalie James stated, "I like that he's taking a stance on campaign finance reform. All the money in campaigns right now is just really scary."

Renee Gerni is a Barnard sophomore and bulletin staff writer.



Buchanan eyes a new Republic

by Daphna Berman

Pat Buchanan, a recent addition to the Reform Party, is perhaps the most controversial presidential candidate.

A long-standing member of the Republican Party, he made the key switch in late October of 1999. An "America First" trade protectionist, Buchanan is a staunch advocate of non-interventionist U.S. policy. His public criticism of early U.S. involvement in World War II secured

him the "pro-Hitler" label, as well as the support of former Ku Klux Klan member/political activist David Duke.

In his most recent publication, *A Republic, Not an Empire*, Buchanan attacks what he labels, "hyphenated Americans" such as Blacks, Jews, Hispanics and Greeks. He accuses these minority groups of exerting too much influence on the political workings of Capitol Hill, a position he views as a direct threat to traditional Anglo-Saxon culture. A pro-life social conservative,

this former Nixon speechwriter traditionally had a small, but solid following in the GOP.

With Governor Ventura's recent announcement that he intends to leave the Reform Party, Buchanan is virtually guaranteed the nomination. This allows him to collect nearly \$13 million in Reform Party federal matching funds which were earned in Perot's 1996 presidential race. The practical implications of his nomination remain undetermined.

Daphna Berman is a Barnard first-year.



Green Party provides an alternate politics

by Christy Thornton

Republicans aren't the only longshots in this year's presidential race—while Alan Keyes and Pat Buchanan fight George W. Bush and John McCain for their party's nomination, a battle goes on between four members of a lesser-known, and drastically different, party.

The Green Party uses the slogan, "Ecological Wisdom—Grassroots Democracy—Social Justice—Peace/Nonviolence" to propound their platform worldwide. While Ralph Nader is perhaps the most well known Green Party candidate, earning write-in votes even in years when he does not declare his candidacy, there are currently four candidates seeking the nomination for the Green Party, and each, while adhering to the platforms set forth above, has his own take on what he would do if elected president.

Jello Biafra, former lead singer of the Dead Kennedys, is perhaps the most controversial of the four candidates. Having chosen death-row inmate Mumia Abu-Jamal as his running mate, Biafra's platform points include the enactment of a maximum wage, the U.S.'s withdrawal from NATO and the WTO and the

abolishment of the CIA, the military and all nuclear weapons. His final platform point declares defiantly, "Eradicate all SUV's!", an attempt to reduce pollution due to lower emissions standards required for all sport utility vehicles.

Stephen Gaskin, a 65-year-old originally from Denver, Colorado, is a proponent of the legalization of marijuana and universal health care, in addition to state funded education through junior college. He proclaims proudly in his biography, "Politics: 'Beatnik'—Religion: 'Hippy,'" and calls himself a "tractor driver and community starter." He also advocates a better veteran's benefit system, gay rights, and campaign finance reform, and uses as his personal slogan, "a corporation is not a person."

Joel Kovel, a Columbia Medical School Graduate (MD 1961) whose daughter currently attends Columbia College, resides in Willow, New York, a rural district of Woodstock. Among his platform points are the abolition of the WTO and the IMF, a universal health care system funded with tax revenue, the "building of a democratic media" and a moratorium on the U.S. prison system. With his platform he intends to

challenge "Margaret Thatcher's nihilistic statement, 'There is no alternative,'" through the construction of non-corrupt government that "stand[s] for a future worthy of the earth and the humanity upon it."

Ralph Nader, the most well-known of the Green Party candidates, hopes to counter the problems of environmental degradation, corporate crime and fraud, "runaway harmful technologies," urban poverty and "relentless commercialization of every nook and cranny of our society and culture" through his candidacy. A 66-year-old from Connecticut, Nader is known worldwide as a consumer advocate, and has written numerous books, in addition to teaching at Princeton University and the University of Hartford. He says that "there can be no daily democracy without daily citizenship," and hopes to mobilize the nearly 50 percent of the U.S. population that does not turn out to the polls in any given election year.

The Green Party seeks to provide an alternate politics to the that of the two-party system under which our elections operate. For more information, visit <http://www.greens.org>.

Christy Thornton is a Barnard sophomore and bulletin co-editor-in-chief.

how to register to vote

College students. We are a politically active group, yet only an estimated 50% of us are registered to vote. According to the US Census Bureau, 45.6% of citizens ages 18-20 are registered to vote, and only 31.2% voted in the last presidential election. Of citizens ages 21-24, 51.2% are registered to vote, and only 33.2% voted in the last election.

There are many ways to register to vote. As a college student who resides in New York City, you have the option of registering to vote in New York State. If you have a permanent address in another state, you can also register there and

have an absentee ballot sent to you at school.

In New York, you can register in person, by mail, or online. To register in person visit the New York County Board of Elections (200 Varick Street). To call the Board of Elections, call 886-3800. You can also register at any New York State Agency Office, such as the department of Motor Vehicles. You can also go to the League of Women Voters of New York City (45 E 33 St.) to register. Their office can be reached at 677-5050.

If you don't have time to register in person, you can call 1-800-FOR-VOTE

and have an application mailed to you. Just fill out the application, and mail it in—it will only cost you the price of a stamp.

You can also register online. Go to <http://www.register2vote.org> to register quickly and painlessly. You can also download a voter application from the League of Women Voters homepage at <http://www.lwvny.org>. You can also register through the Federal Election Commission website at <http://fec.gov/votregis/vr.htm>. Just fill out the application, print it out, and send it in.

—K8 Torgovnick

digitaldivas:how to make a homepage

A weekly column by RCAs—write to resnet@barnard.edu with column suggestions.

This week's digital diva is Devon Forster

Making a homepage on your Barnard account could not be easier. There are three basic steps:

1. Login to your Barnard account and at \$ type `web.setup`
2. Another \$ should appear. Type
`$ cd public_html` (this calls up the `public_html` folder)
`$ ls` (this lists all of the files in `public_html`)
`$ pico index.html` (this opens your homepage, named `index.html`, in a text editor)
3. Now that you have your files set up you must write the HTML code. HTML may look intimidating at first but it has a simple concept and is not too difficult to learn.

There are many sites on the web that offer tutorials in HTML. Some include:

<http://www.ncsa.uiuc.edu/General/Internet/WWW/HTMLPrimer.html>
<http://www.barnard.edu/at/training/webpages/index.html>
<http://web.cantink.com/helpdesk>
<http://www.hypernews.org/HyperNews/get/www/html/guides.html>
<http://www.etour.com>

After you have finished coding type `ctrl x` to exit and save your work. Now, you can view what you just created by going to <http://eclipse.barnard.columbia.edu/~yourlogin> (your login is your email address)

That's it! It is that simple. If you ran into a problem here are a couple of troubleshooting tips:

1. Check your code to make sure that all of your tags are closed correctly (i.e. if you have a `<HTML>` tag make sure you have a `</HTML>` tag as well.)
2. Check to make sure that your `index.html` file is in your `public_html` directory by going into your Barnard account and typing `$cd public_html $ls` (`index.html` should be listed).

If `index.html` is not listed here you must move it to the `public_html` directory either in Unix (for help go to <http://www.columbia.edu/acs/email/cunix/unix.html>) or in WS/FTP (for help go to <http://www.barnard.edu/at/training/webpages/index.html>).

Look out for homepage and advanced HTML workshops as well as other classes brought to you by your local RCAs. For more information about homepages go to <http://www.barnard.edu/at/training/webpages/index.html>.

have a suggestion for this here bulletin?
e-mail us at bulletin@barnard.edu

wellwoman: Depo Provera shots

Q Almost three months ago, I received a Depo Provera birth control shot. I've scheduled a follow up appointment for the second shot next week (three months after the first shot.)

Am I protected for EXACTLY three months, or do I need to use a back-up method of birth control until I receive my second shot?

A Depo Provera, the hormonal birth control shot that is administered every three months, is as effective against pregnancy as the birth control pill.

Shots must be given approximately three months apart—or four times a year—to be effective. The shot is effective for approximately thirteen weeks—meaning if you had your first shot on January 1, you would need another

shot in thirteen weeks, or around April 1. It is important to space the shots out every thirteen weeks. If you are concerned about pregnancy prevention, it might reassure you to use a condom when you have sex. It is a good idea to use a condom with the birth control pill or Depo Provera, as neither of these methods help prevent the transmission of sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

"Well-Woman" is a weekly feature in the *bulletin*. The responses, written by the Well-Women Peer Educators, answer questions from members of the Barnard community. Questions may be submitted to the Well-Woman Office, 135 Hewitt. The information provided in this column is for informational purposes only. Please take medical concerns to your healthcare provider.

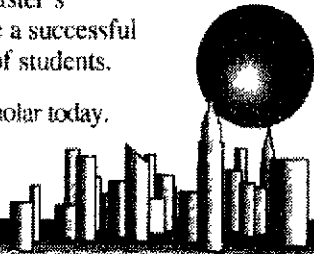
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lunchtime lecture series

Back to the Classroom Without Kids

a lecture with

Barbara Katz Rothman

Professor of Sociology at Baruch College and at CUNY's Graduate School and University Center

Noon

Tuesday, 7 March

Altschul Atrium, Altschul Hall

For more information call 212.854.2067 or visit www.barnard.edu/crow

This event is free and open to the public

BARNARD
CENTER for
RESEARCH
on WOMEN

got something you
want to say? something you want
people to know about?
e-mail us! bulletin@barnard.edu



WBAR

in cooperation with the Barnard Center for Research on Women and McAC, presents

Miranda

July

Screening her new film "Nest of Tens"

Tuesday, March 7, 2000 @ 7 P.M.
Barnard College, Altschul Atrium
W. 117th St. and Broadway

Join us before for refreshments, and afterwards for a q+a session

Call 212-854-6538 for more info

BIG MESS MOVIE
performance artist, director, producer, and video entrepreneur

artspicks

for the week of March 1

theater

Incorporated: a Cinderella Story

At HERE (145 6 Av., front 1). For information call (212) 647-0202. Admission is \$15.

Cinderella steps into the world of high finance in this satirical update of the traditional fairy tale. *Incorporated* integrates many kinds of documentary material, from popular media to internet postings, into the show.

Through March 12.

dance

Another Telepathic Thing

At the Dance Theater Workshop (219 W. 19 St). For information call (212) 691-6500. Admission is \$12, students receive 1/3 off ticket price with valid ID.

Annie-B Parson and Paul Lazar combine dance and theater in this theatrical production. Described as "The story of Angel Satan, Mark Twain, and Hollywood." Sounds intriguing...

Through March 5.

brush up your

Shakespeare

by Kiryn Haslinger

In the daily grind of lectures, papers, three-hour-naps that we call a night's rest, meetings and labs, it's easy to forget that life exists outside of Barnard. Just as easy is to lose track of what we're doing it for. All the work and stress and early mornings, the necessity of filling our bodies with synthetic stimulants just to survive the lifestyle that we have chosen for ourselves... all that for what?

I have found that a little perspective can be achieved by exiting our self-contained world of Morningside Heights for a reminder of what it is we're living for. Sometimes, when an evening's excursion

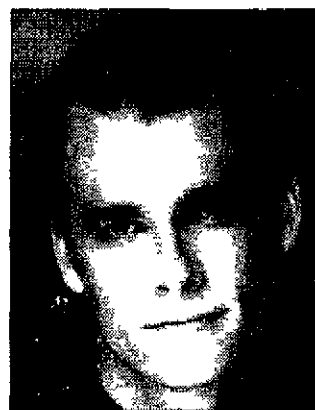
isn't a sufficient dose of promising reality, all it takes is a little Shakespeare.

The man who mastered the understanding of human emotion four centuries ago can still reach the soul of a 20-year-old student searching for her

When you forget that you live in the most exciting city in the world and you haven't left campus in three months...

lost purpose through a comedic story, offering hours of sheer enjoyment and wrapping up with the simple cliché. All's well that ends well. And suddenly I remember what it's all for.

All's Well That Ends Well was performed at HERE is a visual and performing arts venue in Soho that supports independent artists in its small interior which houses three theatres, two galleries, and a cafe. Little though



The cast of Shakespeare's *All's Well That Ends Well* at HERE (clockwise from top left): Erica Schmidt, Andy Laird, Andy Rein, Jake Robards, and Mary Swaim.

photos courtesy of HERE

...for sanity's sake

the space may be, the shows attract a relatively large and diverse crowd consisting of many young seemingly artistic-types. The attraction is in part due to the ambiance of the venue, the variety and affordability of the performances, and, the quality of the actors and musicians.

All of these characteristics combined with the timeless brilliance of Shakespeare created a wonderful evening watching a performance of *All's Well That End's Well*.

Never having seen or read this play before I was fortunate to experience the story for the first time performed with such talent. The eleven actors created a fantastic atmosphere with a small stage, simple but suitable costumes, and nothing but a wooden chair for a set. The actors' emotional delivery did justice to the play and could not have strayed far from what Shakespeare intended, with the minor additions of pop culture and the subtle allusions to the unconventional sexual orientation of the characters.

The story goes something like this: girl falls in love with boy who exceeds her social stature. Boy doesn't know girl exists. Girl wins favor with French king who coerces boy to marry her. Then off to war he goes so he doesn't have to sleep with his newlywed wife. And she in her conniving, womanly ways makes sure that she attains the love of her husband through a series of convoluted and not quite ethical steps. Through all this action, several quirky characters, whom you can't help but simultaneously love and hate, are developed.

The realm of thought and emotion provoked by this performance is nearly indescribable. Shakespeare's poetry

and HERE's production invite you to exit your busy life and stressed existence and enter a trivial yet evocative realm of human strength, weakness, success and folly.

Compelling as the story may be, the language cannot go unmentioned. During intermission I found myself singing to the rhythm of the verse. A very talented pianist who played lively classical music before and after each act also added to the Shakespearean authenticity and the overall experience of the performance.

I highly recommend checking out a show at HERE for anyone who wants to be a part of the ever-desirable artsy NYC scene, or who wants to have good coffee and see an entertaining show for a low cost.

When you begin to forget that you live in the most exciting city in the world and you haven't left campus in three months, or wonder why you pay thousands of dollars to eat poorly, sleep rarely, and work constantly, a change in environment, a little fantasy, and a lot of Shakespeare may be just what you need. And if your current situation isn't going quite well, keep in mind the title of Shakespeare's comedy. If the ends really do justify the means, then who needs to average more than five hours of sleep per night? Why not just grin and bear it, because for whatever reasons we each may have, the promise of some greater end result compels us to live in this bohemian fashion. If all's well that ends well holds true, then hard times become bearable. Or maybe Shakespeare was jesting.

Kiryn Haslinger is a Barnard sophomore and bulletin features editor.

...a little fantasy and a lot of Shakespeare may be just what you need.

artspicks

...continued

art

The Corset: Fashioning the Body

At the Fashion Institute of Technology (7 Av). For information call (212) 217-5779. Admission is free.

The corset is viewed as an icon of femininity as well as an instrument of female oppression. Along with corsets, the exhibit displays the physical and social results of the corset on society with medical records and corset-inspired fashion.

Through April 22.

film

U-Turn (1997, Oliver Stone)

At Film Forum (209 W. Houston St.). For information call (212) 727-8112

City boy Sean Penn gets stranded in a desert town and ends up in a deadly relationship with Nick Nolte and his seductive wife Jennifer Lopez. Bizarre locals include bitter grease monkey Billy Bob Thornton, and prophetic town drunk Jon Voight.

March 7 at 3 and 7:25pm.

Night Blooming Jasmine creates a Middle East Side Story

by Lauren Elkin

The best thing about *Night Blooming Jasmine*, a play by Israella Margalit, is the premise. Unfortunately the play does not live up to it.

What holds the attention, apart from the quiet, strong performances of the two leads, is the idea of an Israeli soldier in love with an Arab girl in contemporary Israel. Is love strong enough to conquer prejudices built up over generations? How can those prejudices be eliminated? How can Arabs and Jews live in peace?

The play asks all of these questions, but offers no answers; at least not easy ones. At first, I was annoyed by what seemed to me to be a trite, over-done trope in theatre: star-crossed lovers, their love forbidden by a power they don't understand. When the Arabs and Jews first encountered each other, I couldn't resist exhaling impatiently to myself—it was so *West Side Story*.

Yet as the action unfolds, the story refuses to pigeonhole itself into any set path. Fresh, interesting characters come out of the Israeli landscape. At every turn, I predicted to myself what was going to happen, and at every turn I was wrong.

Ian Kahn and Frances Anderson, as David and Jasmine (the “star-crossed lovers”) are subtly heart-breaking, but it is hard to get lost in their love affair because it constitutes such a small portion of the play. Too much time is spent building up the tension around them, to the point that the love story is not the point of the play, but rather an excuse for the playwright to express her frustration with the state

of affairs in Israel.

The story takes place in one long act. Consequently between this ceaseless action and the heavy concentration on the conflict, I felt, as an audience member, incredibly tired of the whole thing. It's a vicious circle, and there's no way out. It just drags on and on. This is clearly the effect the playwright was aiming for, and she achieves her goal.

courtesy of Carol Rosegg



Ian Kahn and Frances Anderson star as two star-crossed lovers

development and combination of these virtues. The casting, for instance, was a bit curious, and didn't quite work for me. Rather than casting different actors to play the Arab family and the Jewish family, the small cast doubled as both Jews and Arabs. In theory, this is a good idea. Presumably the intention is that all of the fighting and prejudice is unfounded; the only different between Jews and Arabs is ideology. In spite of their differences, they are both Israeli.

However, it is hard to suspend disbelief in the case of the mother character, played by redheaded Dana Smith, it is simply a question of appearance. In the case of the father character, played by Thom Christopher, he has such a strong presence as the Arab father that when he appears in the

next scene as the Jewish father, the shift is jarring.

At the same time, Joshua Annex, who doubles as Jasmine's activist brother and as David's friend Ely, is the casting agent's dream. He creates two utterly distinct characters, to the point that I didn't realize it was the same actor until quite a bit into the play.

The rest of the cast did their best to support the drama going on around them, and succeed admirably in defining their war-torn world for a New York theatre audience, making it seem as if the line separating our nation from theirs is very thin. Humanity is the real issue explored here. Ideology gets in the way of recognizing what we all have in common, to the point where tragedy is inevitable.

Margalit touches on the idea of the difference between “bleeding-heart” liberalism and actually effecting social change, but doesn't explore this split. In this, her first play, she seems unsure of what she wants to write about; there is too much war for it to be about the love affair, and there is too much love story for the split between action and theory to be done justice.

courtesy of Carol Rosegg



Thom Christopher is a double-duty parent, pictured here with Frances Anderson

taining theatre.

Night Blooming Jasmine is at the Tribeca Playhouse through March 4.

Lauren Elkin is a Barnard senior.

a look behind the scenes at the opening of Thesis Festival 2000

By Chava Brandriss

The 2000 Senior Thesis Festival opened the weekend of February 18 with eight performances of three senior theater-major productions. The Thesis Festival is the theater major's opportunity to showcase her or his work in her or his chosen concentration. Majors concentrating in directing, acting, writing, or design choose to work on a one-act piece, and the Thesis Festival is the culmination of each student's work. The development process of each thesis production requires the major to go through all the steps and stages that any writer, director, actor, or designer would have to go through within the professional theater world in order to put on a production.

I had the opportunity to talk with Natalie Robin, the production designer for Sherri Kronfeld's senior thesis production, *Dorothy*

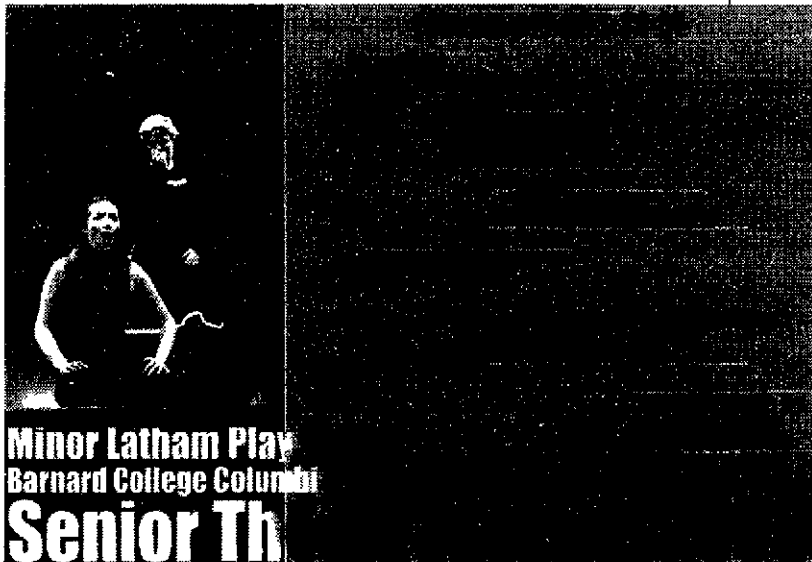
is Dead, who shared with me what goes into a senior thesis production. Natalie told me about what it was like designing for *Dorothy is Dead*, as well as what it was like working with Sherri, who both wrote and directed the piece.

The design process begins with planning and discussion meetings; it leads to drawings, models, or any other visual medium for expressing a design concept, and, of course, culminates in the actual building of sets and props. The designer works closely with the director when trying to come up with concepts and ideas that would best express the piece that is being produced. I learned from Natalie, and from actor Ryan Ghan, who played Willy in the piece, that it was particularly interesting working with Sherri, because as the director of her own play, Sherri had very definite visions of what her pro-

duction should actually look like. Other senior thesis directors, who have worked on pieces written by others, are in a slightly different situation because their job lies in the interpretation of another's work, rather than the bringing-to-life of one's own personal vision.

I had the privilege of attending all three productions that took place over the opening weekend of the Senior Thesis festival. On Friday night, February

Barnard Theater Department



Minor Latham Play
Barnard College Columbia
Senior Th

the Barnard theater department's Thesis Festival 2000

18, I attended *The Owl Answers*, written by Adrienne Kennedy, and directed by Jessica Pagan. The piece was performed as a staged reading, in Minor Latham Playhouse. The actors performed with their backs to the house, facing the audience, who were seated on and around the stage itself. *The Owl Answers* told the story of Clara Passmore, the Bastard daughter of The Richest White Man in Town and the Woman who Cooked for him, and her struggles with her own identity, and the identity of her ancestors. Jessica Pagan's direction of *The Owl Answers* produced a riveting, sometimes jarring, and completely thought-provoking experience.

On Saturday night, February 19, I attended two more productions, *Hello Out There* and *Dorothy is Dead*. The former, written by William Saroyan and

directed by theater major Luce Remy, was performed in 229 Milbank—a black box theater space—rather than in Minor Latham. The lights went down in the room to the sounds of Tom Waits's sonorous voice, and the rose from the complete blackness to reveal the figure of the Gambler crumpled up on the platform that acted as stage. The theater had been constructed to look like a jail, with single light bulbs as the main lighting devices, and bars all around the perimeter of the theater space. Luce Remy's directing brought out the characters, emotions, and conflicts within *Hello Out There* with wonderful clarity and feeling. The acting, design, and of course, directing of *Hello Out There* were absolutely superb endeavors.

Dorothy is Dead, performed in Minor Latham Playhouse Saturday and Sunday nights was, as mentioned earlier, written and directed by Sherri

Kronfeld. Filled with plenty of witty dialogue *Dorothy is Dead* is a lively and intriguing situational comedy. It emphasized the talents of its writer, director, designer, and actors in a piece that made its audience both laugh and think.

The efforts of all who have been involved in bringing this first weekend of the Senior Thesis Festival to life, including all the directors, writers, designers, actors, crew, advisors, managers, and producers (senior Cory Deluca in particular—the producer of this year's Thesis Festival), have truly produced a delightful collage of theatrical accomplishment that does Barnard College and Columbia University proud.

Chava Brandriss is a Barnard first year and bulletin staff writer

musicpicks

for the week of March 1

March 3

Catie Curtis w/ Buddy and Julie Miller

At *The Bottom Line*, (15 W. 4 St., between Greene and Mercer) for more info call (212)228-6300.

Admission is \$20.

Cambridge, Mass based singer/song-writer Catie Curtis will delight you with incredibly beautifully-crafted folk songs. Fans of Kaia will surely adore her, especially her gift as a story-teller in the tradition of Arlo Guthrie.

March 6

Elf Power w/ Summer Hymns

At *The Knitting Factory*, (74 Leonard Street between Church and Broadway)

Admission is \$8.

Elephant Six recording artists Elf Power hail from the shiny, happy city of Athens, GA, home of R.E.M., and continue in the proud Elephant Six love-ly, effusive, lo-fi tradition.

March 9

The Mekons

At *Bowery Ballroom* (6 Delancy Street at Bowery) for more info. call (212) 533-2111.

Twenty-something years and the Mekons are still going strong, a true testament to the longevity of punk rock. As one of punks most enduring acts,

music can't exist in a vacuum

by Anjali George

The proposition is as follows: Can it strictly be said that music exists as an entity in itself? Well, let's see. Why don't we start by attempting to isolate it.

Grunge, um... no that doesn't seem to work. The first thing that comes to mind is the 1990s green-grubby-ardigan-wearing-anti-hero Kurt Cobain. It's a visual reaction, and it's also slightly nostalgic in tone, but musical? Yes, it's that too, but somehow the sound of grunge seems secondary to these other associations. Now isn't that odd.

So forget grunge. There it goes, flying out of the window. Why don't we attempt to abstract music a bit further and propose that pure music is something on the lines of Philip Glass stuff, classical music, or jazz—basically music that lacks the heavy laden associations that comes with words. This doesn't really work either. When I think of Philip Glass I think of an entire culture and entourage of people associated with his kind of music. Wouldn't music historians be out of a job if jazz and classical had nothing to do with culture and history? No matter what, even the "purer" forms of music have a contextual tendency.

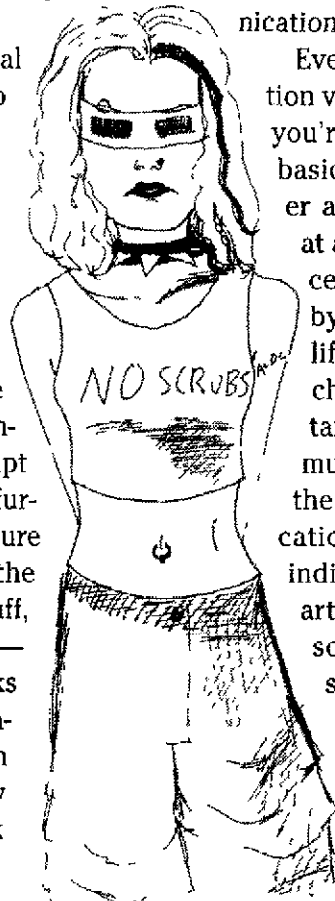
Now that that is all out of the way, and it's clear that music does not exist in a vacuum, let's discuss something far more interesting. Music as a form of communication. Most people are music lovers, and they're on the look out for others who like the same stuff they like. Music scenes, like punk, rave and underground hip-hop are perhaps first and foremost about the music, but they are also inextricably linked with the

desire to share and reach out to kindred folk. Hence the emergence of promotional t-shirts. Why are we willing to spend over \$15.00 on a t-shirt? Certainly it's not because we're interested in being a walking advertisement for R.E.M.'s latest release. We're promoting ourselves. "Hey, I want you to know that I like R.E.M., and if you like R.E.M., well then, let's talk." This form of communication can be very inviting.

Even if it's not a direct invitation via the good-old band t-shirt, you're accomplishing the same basic goal by wearing the proper attire that would single you out as punk, raver, or goth. Concert/club-wear gets co-opted by everyday-wear. Music and life exist in symbolic synchrony. However, it's important to note that before this music communication enters the realm of external communication it should provide the individual with a voice that articulates the internal: personality and identity. In this sense, Kurt Cobain and Tupac Shakur are more than musicians. They are eternal spirits that embody the confused, sensitive, and angry personalities of their fans. When you spot

someone literally wearing them on their chests, they are externalizing something internal, something that cannot be expressed as well with words. This general rule can be applied to punk apparel, raver apparel, goth apparel, emo, etc...

If music communication is capable of being inviting, then it makes sense that it would also be capable of intimidation. Music communication tends to keep certain people at bay while letting others in almost instantaneously. Underground hip-hop definitely has this tendency. Everyone is so concerned with looking bad, cool, and nonchalant at a show. It can be pretty sick-



corinne marshall

ening at times. Not to say that it's not a useful tool—it can be useful to a limited extent. It acts as a screening mechanism, a sort of filter if you will. To a varying degree musical taste serves as a criterion in the search, elimination, and selection of friends and lovers, depending on how heavily one associates personal philosophy with music.

As long as one is consistent with that notion, all is well. However the danger lies in the subordination of personality and identity to music culture. Some people can live such contrived lives through music culture, particularly groupies and fanatics. These people form close-knit communities speak their own language, and basically iso-

late themselves from others, justifying this alienating factor by claiming superiority. Those who do fall into this trap usually do so during their early- and mid-teens. This is music communication gone sour. If this is the case then when is it most ripe? Perhaps music communication is at its most ripe, mature, and sweet level when it breaks its own rules and yet somehow remains within the boundaries of communication by bringing together a "white-hatter" and "punk" or any two people who would have otherwise mutually overlooked each other.

Anjali George is a Barnard sophomore and the bulletin music editor.

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album **review**

Molina dark, sultry but not melancholy

Opening with the epic "Black Crow" and ending with the simplistic ode, "Just a Little Spark," *The Lioness* is songwriter Jason Molina's fourth and most dynamic and impassioned full-length album to date. Friends Aidan Moffat and David Gow of Arab Strap, and Ali Roberts of Appendix Out, contributed, in addition to Songs: Ohia veterans Geof Comings and Jonathan Cargill, it is, on its exterior, a touch darker than each of its predecessors.

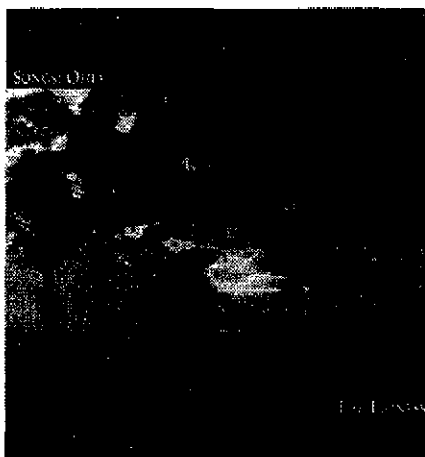
Jason Molina's desperate crooning (reminiscent of Will Oldham) is beautifully painful and striking. It truly adds to the self-reflexive nature of this album. Perhaps it was

the damp, dark Scottish weather and company that gave it the desperate feel; yet at the core of *The Lioness*, there is a warmth and tenderness unmatched by previous Songs: Ohia recordings.

Indeed, this is a dark and sultry record, but not a melancholy one. In fact there is something special about this one: many of the painful truths about love and loss

have been reworked time and again. This album is about love in its foundational and experiential stages, once the excitement of newness is gone.

Camella Clements is a Barnard sophomore and the bulletin music assistant.



music picks

...continued

The Mekons follow their own little whims and fancies, the latest of which is sex, sex, sex.

March 10

Anna Egge w/ the Flatlanders

At the Bottom Line (See March 3 for address and phone number). Admission is \$20.

Outspoken Texan lesbian singer/songwriter Anna Egge will thrill you with her gruff, incredibly human, yet very lovely home-brewed tunes in the great spirit of the folk entertainer. Egge opens for local heroes The Flatlanders, who, despite their NYC residency and frequent appearances, never fail to attract a sizable crowd.

March 11

The Magnetic Fields

At Bowery Ballroom (see March 9 for address and phone number).

Stephin Merritt, pop star extraordinaire, jazzes indie rock up with the Magnetic Fields's signature vintage electronica sound. They just Released not one, not two, but THREE volumes of love songs, most of which are about looking for love but bungling things up when it comes time to score. Even so, it seems unlikely that Merritt could ever do wrong, especially when he's strumming his ukulele.

JOE'S PUB on top of the music scene

by Kelly McCoy

In a city with a music scene that invents, reinvents, and transforms itself with such momentum that nobody knows what's coming next, it is good to find a venue that stays ahead of the game. Joe's Pub, at the Public Theater, is on top of this musical current and perpetuating its innovation.

Named in honor of the Public Theater/New York Shakespeare Festival founder, Joseph Papp, Joe's Pub is a refuge for eclectic entertainment. Presenting performances of all types, as long as the vision is unique, the voice engaging, the message controversial or the talent remarkable, Joe's Pub is a venue for artists engaged in redefinition. Here complex, clever, and compelling exploration is carried out nearly nightly.

Performances are chancy, but worth checking out. Attending an act without prior knowledge of the artist can result in an amazing discovery, but also runs the risk of being a not so pleasant encounter. Let's just say, the shows here are a bit like gorgonzola—either you love their potent flavor, or you're waiting for this pungent taste to leave your mouth. Good or bad though, the show will be anything but boring. Personal taste aside, almost all exhibitions here can be respected for their degree of artistic integrity and innovation.

The atmosphere is that of laid-back elegance, complementing most of the performances quite effectively. Seating at Joe's Pub is general admission at tables, couches, and the bar. Food and drink are available, with an offering of upscale entrees (around \$13) including pasta, chicken and salads. The bar is well stocked and provides choices of high quality beer and mixed drinks. The size of the room is relatively small, allowing for an intimate experience which suits the overall atmosphere.

The decor of this venue is of cultivated grace. Beautiful tables, lighting, and generous couches make the experience somehow exciting, as though seeing performance here is really a night out on the town. At times, however, the atmosphere begins to reek of trend and money. The schmooze-factor could be high here, but the performances draw a varied crowd. keep-

ing the overall ego in check.

Costs of performances tend to fall between \$15 and \$25, which is steep for the average college bank account. But the money will, most likely, be well spent on an evening of engaging entertainment. This is a great place to go for a special occasion, a celebration, or a break from the usual dingy bar. Dress-

up if you like, you won't be out of place, but average dress is acceptable as well.

This venue is located next door to the Public Theater, which houses theater projects and holds performances weekly. Collaboration with the Public Theater provides many options for Joe's Pub to explore concerning its aim and function. The Public, as it is known, draws a crowd with a

taste for the intellectual and the experimental. This attitude creates a strong patron base for Joe's Pub, allowing for freedom that a club on its own would not be able to financially risk. The management is allowed liberty when booking acts, resulting in an assortment of acts -

Joe's Pub transcends the labels of musical genre. Acts range from hip-hop to folk, offering blues, spoken-word, opera, and all types of genre-breaking music.

The Pub is open every day from 6pm to 4am, offering a pre-theater menu from 6 to 7:30. The regular menu is served until midnight. Because of the connection with the theater, the restaurant may become busy, but when the theater crowd clears out, it is a

nice place to chill, schmooze, and enjoy live music.

Tickets for most Joe's Pub events are available for purchase by charge over the phone. The number for this is (212) 239-6200. The Public Theater Box Office also sells tickets to Joe's Pub events. It is located at 425 Lafayette St and is open Sunday and Monday from 1-6pm and Tuesday through Saturday from 1-7:30pm. Tickets to some events, however, are cash only at the door.

Joe's Pub is located at 425 Lafayette between 4 St. and Astor Pl. Seats are general admission, so get there early.

Kelly McCoy is a Barnard sophomore and bulletin staff writer.

Let's just say, the **shows** here are a bit like **gorgonzola**—either you **love** their potent **flavor**, or you're waiting for this **pungent** taste to **leave** your mouth.



the interior of joe's pub is casual and inviting

check out these Joe's Pub events. . .

this week's events

Wednesday, March 1. 8:30pm. Admission is \$20. **IN THE WAITING ROOM OF THE 21st CENTURY: Notes from the Jazz Life.** A small jazz band accompanies the spoken word of poet and journalist Hattie Gossett. Described by *The New York Times* as "hauntingly poetic," this event is ideal for those seeking the cooler side of New York night life. A Sultry, calm, and shaded atmosphere—escape from the city smog into this smoky groove.

Thursday, March 2. 8:30pm. Admission is \$15. **Anthony & The Johnsons.** Self described as "big band horns, strings, and ethereal sound," Anthony & The Johnsons perform at Joe's Pub frequently. If you can't make it to this week's performance, future listings can be viewed on the Joe's pub web site, located at www.publictheater.org/joespub.cfm.

Friday, March 3. 8:30pm. Cash only at door. **Black Rock Coalition.** This event is a tribute to the music of Curtis Mayfield, legendary groove/funk vocalist, instrumentalist, and songwriter. Selections of his work will be performed by various artists.

Sunday, March 5. 8pm. Admission is \$20. **Opera Goes Public: Amy Burton & John Musto.** This performance and discussion, featuring prominent classical singers, contemplates a redefinition of the art form. Musical director Brian Zeger hosts 25 minutes of singing, followed by a dialogue about the breaking down of boundaries between opera, recital, classical, and vernacular

music. This event provides an exploration and expansion of the current constructs of classical music.

Wednesday, March 8. 8:30pm. Admission is \$25. **Bill Charlap.** An evening of jazz featuring this acclaimed pianist, with Peter Washington on bass and Kenny Washington on drums, suits the laid back elegance of Joe's Pub.

upcoming events

Tuesday, March 14. 8pm. Cash only at door. **The Moth.** A troupe of storytellers share their skill for fantastic, comedic, and all together entertaining tales. Find a haunting narrative lurking in the back of your own mind. Free audience involvement and energy—shut outs, taunting, exclamations—add to the impact of this impressive evening.

Thursday, March 23 through Sunday, March 25. 8:30pm. Admission is \$20 Cash only at door. **Kurt Elling.** Half comedian, half old-school jazz vocalist, Kurt Elling performs selections from his three Blue Note recordings. Performance will include original works as well as jazz standards.

Tuesday, March 28 through Wednesday, April 5. 8:30pm. Admission is \$30. **Virginia Rodrigues.** "Nos," a tribute to the carnival music of Rodrigues's native state of Bahia, is celebrated at this CD release party. Hailed by *The New York Times* as the "new voice of Brazilian music," Virginia Rodrigues presents a revision on the sounds of Brazil.

albumreview

Lo Fidelity AllStars' combination of rap and techno not for everyone

Listening to Lo Fidelity All Stars newest compilation is like going on a long road trip with someone else's mix tape in the deck. The beautiful thing is that it is full of the kind of raw spirit and buck wild fun reminiscent of any labored-over mix tape. At the same time, it is riddled with the exclusivity and oddities that make someone else's mix-tape, well, someone else's.

Recorded live in the Lo Fidelity bedroom/studio, the crew claims it is a "testament to every insane party before or since." True to their claim, it begins with none other than the booty shaking mantra of the summer of 96, "No Diggity," that though admittedly cheesy and lacking in any hint of musical talent,

makes one fondly remember a forty and a blunt in the backyard (or something equally enjoyable for the less ghetto.)

The fame stops there for the most part, with the rest of the album comprised of lesser known talent like Super Collider and Wildstyle Bob Nimble. KRS-One does contribute the lovely "You Must Learn" which still stands as one of the front running songs in meaningful rap. No one could help but love Jungle Brothers (with a quick cameo by the beautiful Q-Tip) on their track, "Black is Black." In true individual flare, the Lo Fidelity Allstars even include an enjoyable trip back in time with Felice Taylor singing "I Can Feel Your Love" that

sounds almost as supreme as the girls themselves.

Unfortunately, as much as the party is banging, it is also undeniably an invite-only. In other words, this album, with its smattering of jungle beats, old-school raps, and random techno throw-ins is not for the uneducated. The listener who will truly appreciate this album is one who not only likes to have a little fun, but knows something about the recent history of rap and techno, and has an ear for creative compilations. The top 40 diva will find herself swimming in a sea of no-name artists and "weird" tracks. But, if you've partied with Lo Fidelity before, or if you just have a couple old-school skeletons in the closet, this album will make you feel like a Saturday night.

—Courtney E. Martin



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Manhattan for brunch

by *Stacey McMath*

A few months ago, a friend of mine came to stay with me, and (good tour guide that I am) I made up a list of about eighty things that we needed to do. Tea at the Plaza Hotel, skating at Rockefeller Center, and riding the carousel in Central Park topped the list. However, by far the most interesting and memorable thing that we did was have dim sum on Sunday morning in Chinatown.

We took the 1/9 to Canal Street and wandered up past Little Italy toward the Bowery, past carts selling roasted ducks and fried rice, and past the strong-smelling (and sometimes still moving) wares of the fish markets. The particular establishment that we ended up in was The Golden Unicorn, at 18 E. Broadway (212/941-0911). This is not the only place in Chinatown that serves up this fascinating experience;

there are a lot of places to choose from, and some even offer all-vegetarian dim sum for those with a fear of unidentified organ meats.

The main dining room of The Golden Unicorn is filled with huge round tables sporting pink tablecloths, water, and tea. You sit down, they give you a ticket, and the fun begins. There are as many as fifty steaming push-carts on the floor at any one time, pushed by women who may or may not be able to tell you in English what it is they are serving. Dumplings, spare-ribs, pork buns, vegetables, fried shrimps and mussels are only a few of the things that they have to offer. If it looks good, you try it, and if you love it, you chase after the cart screaming for more. Some places have a line for fresh seafood, prepared in a variety of ways.

This is not the activity to pursue if you want a calm, quiet Sunday brunch. The air is filled with the sounds of peo-

ple speaking Chinese, babies chattering, cart-pushers shouting, and frantic hosts

calling for the river of people to follow them to tables. If you go in a small group, you will be seated faster, but if you go as a big group, you may get your own table.

It's not a terribly expensive endeavor, but plan to spend at least \$15 to get the full experience. The items are listed on the ticket in Chinese, so it is virtually impossible to tell how much your total will be until you get to the cash register. But it is definitely worth it. Take a risk, order something you may not be able to identify, and allow yourself to be carried away by what is probably one of the most interesting Sunday-morning activities in Manhattan.

Stacey McMath is a Barnard junior and bulletin New York City Living editor.

Little India

By *Samara Klein*

Little India is located in the East Village, on First Avenue between Fifth and Sixth Streets. There are dozens of Indian restaurants, each with something special to offer. The prices and quality do not differ drastically from one to the other, so you can just pick one and go with it. Some have live Indian music for your dining pleasure. If you are going in the spring or summer, I recommend Royal Indian Cuisine at 93 First Ave. They have a garden in the back, canopied with Indian tapestries, which is a find for any smoker. They will let you enjoy a cigarette in the garden after your meal.

The Milon Bangladesh Restaurant, also at 93 First Ave., but on the second

floor, is covered—and I mean really covered!—with funky wallpaper, flashing Christmas lights, and sparkling decorations. If you whisper to the waiter that it's your friend's birthday, they will conclude your evening with a garish birthday extravaganza. The lights go low, an Indian disco version of Happy Birthday plays, and a spotlight shines on the lucky individual. When the rest of the customers are clapping along and your friend is a deep red, the waiter appears with a dish of mango ice cream adorned with a birthday candle.

Very few of these restaurants have liquor licenses, but they do allow you to bring your own bottle of wine. So, with a store-bought bottle of wine and menu full of items that don't exceed \$10, you and a friend can thoroughly

stuff yourselves under twenty dollars. If you are a vegetarian, it helps because it narrows down the extensive list to twenty choices rather than sixty. One of my all-time favorites is banana fritters, an appetizer. I know, it sounds a bit strange, but trust me, they are truly delicious.

How do they provide their customers with fun and cheap dining? I don't know. My friend has a theory that there is one kitchen running under First Avenue and all the waiters from the separate restaurants dart through tunnels to fetch your order. I doubt it, but it's a great image. I don't question how such enterprises stay afloat, I just enjoy them.

Samara Klein is a Barnard sophomore.

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looking for love in strange places

by Mita Mallick

It's Sunday afternoon, a few weeks back. My friend and I are walking along Amsterdam Avenue in silence, both knowing what we're about to do. The secret that we alone share.

The secret which will now be exposed in this column. So there we are, between 83rd and 84th Street. 489 Amsterdam Avenue. We glance inside and all around, paralyzed by the thought that we might see a familiar face. Then, with courage, we enter.

We enter into Drip.

My friend of course wishes to remain anonymous, so I shall refer to her as Jann. I have no choice in whether or not my identity is revealed. When you have a column such as mine, humiliation, embarrassment, well let's just say they are no longer factors for consideration. My darkest moments are out there, sprawled on the tables of McIntosh for the student body to spill mustard and soda all over.

For sometime Jann would call me in her melancholy state, discussing the lack of men in her life. Like many of us, she wasn't meeting anyone interesting. "We should join a nunnery," or "I'm going to die alone" were common "Jann-esque" phrases. I would try to comfort her as any friend would do, "Jann you're an attractive, intelligent, and a dynamic person with so many different interests. It's just that we live in a twisted reality, a place called Barnard."

What did we need men for anyway? We were doing well for ourselves. But lately many of my friends were not following my "it's great to be single" philosophy. My friends, one by one, were falling prey to this epidemic of dating. So then there were two. Me and Jann. None of this was comforting to her.

I have always had this dream of being Jane Austen's "Emma." Surely I am no Gwyneth Paltrow, but the idea of matching my friends together strikes me as being such a wonderful, humanitarian deed. Only one thing has been in my way on my quest to be "Emma": I know far too many single women and not enough single men. My plan was foiled.

But not quite. All I needed was a large pool, a gigantic base of single, moldable men to work from. That's where my new friend Drip came in. Jann was to be my first shot.

For those of you unfamiliar with Drip, it's a cafe/bar on the Upper West Side. Drip is small and cozy, filled on weekend afternoons with many posing with their laptops under the guise of studying. For ten dollars, you can fill out a detailed form and join their dating service. Your identity on the form is marked with a five digit number. Your laminated form is placed in one of the many binders: "Men seeking Women", "Women seeking Men", "Women seeking Women" or "Men seeking

Men." To order someone is three dollars. So you sift through the stacks of binders and read through what people have to say about themselves. If you like someone, you go up to the cashier, cough up the three dollars, and request to meet them. The cashier looks them up in the computer and marks it down. She'll tell you their first name, and Drip contacts the person ordered and tells them your i.d. number and first name. Drip then sets the two of you up on a first date at —where else— their cafe. Where you meet, check each other out, and order a drink or two, only if the other person agrees to meet you.

Jann agreed to follow my advice. So there we were on Sunday afternoon, my pathetic attempt at being Emma. Jann was embarrassed to ask for the form, so I got it and we sat down, filling it out together. Randomly I picked out a binder and we sat side by side, flipping through one form after another of men seeking women. "5'4"?" I shrieked. "Ha! Nope," I flipped past the form.

"What about this one?" Jann said.

"Looks are the only thing that matters to him? I don't think so." One by one I vetoed.

"Oh, his favorite vacation spot is Greece!" she said.

"And he also likes to do the jitterbug. Yeah right." I said. I wasn't about to show any mercy. Her three dollars would be put to good use.

They were "self-educated." Disgusting forty-five year old men looking for a young twenty-something. They were looking for blonds. Only whites. Only Jewish girls. Some admitted they were students of Columbia University. They promised to put the toilet seat down, do the dishes, and rub your feet at night. Geez, who said anything about marriage? A date to brag to all your friends about would be sufficient enough.

Some were so honest it brought tears to my eyes. Sarcasm not intended. He wasn't so smart, he claimed, not a bookworm, and often didn't have intelligent things to say, but he had a kind heart and, as a carpenter, hoped to build the house of his dreams someday.

One and a half hours later, we, or maybe I, had narrowed it down to three choices for Jann. The medical student, the lawyer, and the consultant. Jann's choice: the lawyer.

My conclusion: too many sad and lonely people drifting in this huge city. Too many kind and interesting people just floating. Like me and Jann, many of you I am sure have reservations about a place like Drip. But you know what—it's a new century. A new time. a strange time to be in the single world. It's a different place than Austen's world. Whether you meet someone through a friend, your grandmother, or Drip, each experience makes you a richer person. We all need an Emma adapted to our times, scouring the dating scene 2000 style. What would Emma do? Probably think of new ways to get her friends to meet people. Become a frequent visitor at a place called Drip.

Mita Mallick is a Barnard senior and bulletin columnist.

sticks and stones may break my bones...

in defense of John McCain

By Renee Gerni

All right, I have been called a lot of names in my meager twenty years. Some of which would really not be appropriate to share in this context. However, in all of those various titles the word 'Republican' has never, EVER, surfaced. That's why what I am about to say may seem scary (for you and for me). HOORAY FOR McCAIN!!! Before all of you wonderfully liberal, radical, or independent Barnard women start foaming at the mouth (as I would hope for), let me explain.

I strongly disagree with him philosophically on almost everything. I don't like the idea of former military men in the executive office. But on a more superficial level, I like what he and his win in the New Hampshire primary represent.

Maybe this stems from an oh-god-anyone-but-Bush perspective. If you've been keeping up with the campaign you have probably gotten at least a few minutes of that nauseous feeling. But you might have seen more.

So far in this campaign, McCain has really been the only candidate that has had the chutzpah to do more than talk about an issue that is long overdue: campaign finance reform. Yesterday's paper gave a few rough estimates about the candidates' current bankrolls. George W. Bush has a total of \$68.7 million, while McCain has \$13.6 million. While I still gasp at the number of \$13 million, I picture McCain eating ramen noodles on his campaign bus when compared to Bush's whopping \$68.7 million. With that much money Bush really doesn't have to show up at any events, or do any actual campaigning. The simple fact that McCain essentially bet everything on the results of this primary tells me a lot. The simple fact that the New Hampshire voters realized that fact, gives me a grape-nut of hope.

I know, I know, optimism in politics is basically a dirty word, but that's what McCain's campaign seems to be invoking and that's exactly what American politics needs right now. While it's likely that campaign finance may never be mentioned again in the tenure of the next president (whether it's McCain or not) at least its now on the radar screen.

Right about now you might be thinking, "alright, but what about abortion?" Well, what about it? Obviously none of these candidates are ideal protectors of Roe v. Wade. But we

have seen the right to choose under fire even with a Democrat President. So what is really in a name anyway? Especially when we are talking about political parties in the U.S. Candidates and elected officials alike mostly wear their party affiliation like a name brand—Tommy Hilfiger or Calvin Klein maybe. They say more about what the person would like us to think they represent rather than what they really do represent.

Call me a realist, but on this issue I think we just have to look for the littlest of all evils. Yes, McCain has been a bit wishy-washy on the abortion question. But with the right to choose isn't that what we want —someone who realizes that

the issue is beyond their scope and moral opinion? Frankly, all of the candidates except Bush seem like they would be malleable on this issue. Furthermore, McCain has said that "in the short term or even the long term" he would not support the repeal of the Supreme Court's 1973 decision.

In my ideal election there would be a strong third party candidate that was not just middle-of-the-

roading-it. Obviously I'm a long way off. So what can I vote for? The fact is that if elected, none of these candidates will probably look the same to us as they do now. It's probably extremely difficult to agree with every issue that they stand for now. So I've resigned myself to trying to pick the candidate who I believe will do the best job of balancing his responsibilities and our interests. Specific policies and platforms often dissolve into nothing once that candidate is actually in office.

Finally, and maybe best of all, I'm happy about McCain's victory in New Hampshire because it's a slap in the face to Bush's presumptuousness. George Junior needs to wipe that snide grin off his face, and realize that this campaign represents the idea that party affiliation means less and less. Realize that not only are most eligible voters middle-class, but now middle of the spectrum. A strong base of independents secured McCain's victory in New Hampshire. While the name "independent" can mean a variety of things, for McCain it has come to mean really working for a nomination. Call me old-fashioned, but I like that.

Renee Gerni is a Barnard sophomore and bulletin staff writer

While I still gasp at the number of \$13 million, I picture McCain eating ramen noodles on his campaign bus when compared to Bush's whopping \$68.7 million.

you've got a voice—now use it!

By Courrine M. Knight

In the middle of New York City, Barnard College finds itself smack in the center of a cultural melting pot. This diversity of both thought and people lends itself to an increased clamor for political activism. From writing on sidewalks to outright protests, New Yorkers have a firm grip on political efficacy. Few Barnard students come to New York without knowledge of the words John Stuart Mill echoed in *On Liberty*, emphasizing that if one wishes to reap the benefits of society one has the civil duty to participate in it. With that in mind, what does activism mean to you?

It is a widely accepted theory that one is more liberal and politically active during the college years. Political culture is often formulated on the basis of the groups we belong to in society ranging from family and friends to religion. At Barnard, the statistics are no different. Students like first-year Megan Romigh, a devout Republican, and first-year Carrol Hand, an emphatic Democrat, report that family values played a huge role in the formulation of their political identities. Politics was an issue of discussion in both of their families each made stronger by their respective experiences living in the city on an everyday basis. Hand echoed many of her fellow students when she said, "It is amazing how like our parents we are."

Others though have not found their political niche. As many have noticed it is easy to lose track of the real world between studies and the rush of the day. Yet, voting is one of the most precious rights guaranteed to all United States citizens over the age of eighteen by the twenty-sixth amendment and is a right women fought for in America for decades. In short, it is a virtual right of passage

On a wider scope, the United States of America was built on the foundation that it would have a people's government. As a part of a representative democracy this makes it the responsibility of each individual to stand up for his personal beliefs for the good of society. America is a nation in which 66% of its citizens vote in elections on national and state levels. Yet, political activism takes on another aspect. It is the phone call made to one's senator to voice one's opinion, or the attendance of President Shapiro's "Barnard What's it to Ya?" program. Earlier in the year Barnard's campus became the scene of a fervor of activism when students gathered to march

down Broadway in protest of Columbia's sexual-misconduct policy. It was a shining moment for the College, the University, and the nation when students raised their voices in protest. The fight for revision is not over however, and activism continues to take a quieter stance behind the scenes.

Yet, this just touches the surface on the extent of political activism to be found at Barnard. While attempting to find out who its students are as individuals and as members of society, the University called on students to put a foot forward for their future in Voterpalooza '99. Many turned out to register for the first time in their respective states and others registered in New York to have a say in the community of which they have become a part.

Activism on Barnard's campus has gone beyond the realm of the Columbia community. Firm in the belief that every vote is important, first-year Kristen Peters was among the several

lara Crock Barnard students who used activism to campaign for Senator John McCain in the New Hampshire primaries. When asked about her strong convictions Peters stated, "I'm politically active because I believe that we as individuals and citizens have a civic duty to ourselves, our peers, and our country to care about our future."

Furthermore, as part of the New York community students have the unique opportunity to closely track the progress of Hilary Clinton's race for the senate

seat and to judge the ethics of her move to New York against New York City's current mayor, Rudolph Giuliani, a native born New Yorker. Megan Romigh, a New York resident, commends Hilary Clinton for her feminist ideology, yet she is most adamant in her belief that Clinton's politics have no place in New York. "She has done nothing for this state and has no knowledge of what it means to be a New Yorker," said Romigh. Others point out that Hilary's track record as an active First Lady speaks volumes. However, Giuliani has served the state of New York in a variety of capacities ranging from United States District Judge for the South District to his currently held position.

While you are at Barnard the opportunity is at hand to grab hold of your future and to make a difference. In many instances, it only takes one voice, one vote, and one single protest to change the world as we know it.

Courrine M. Knight is a Barnard first-year



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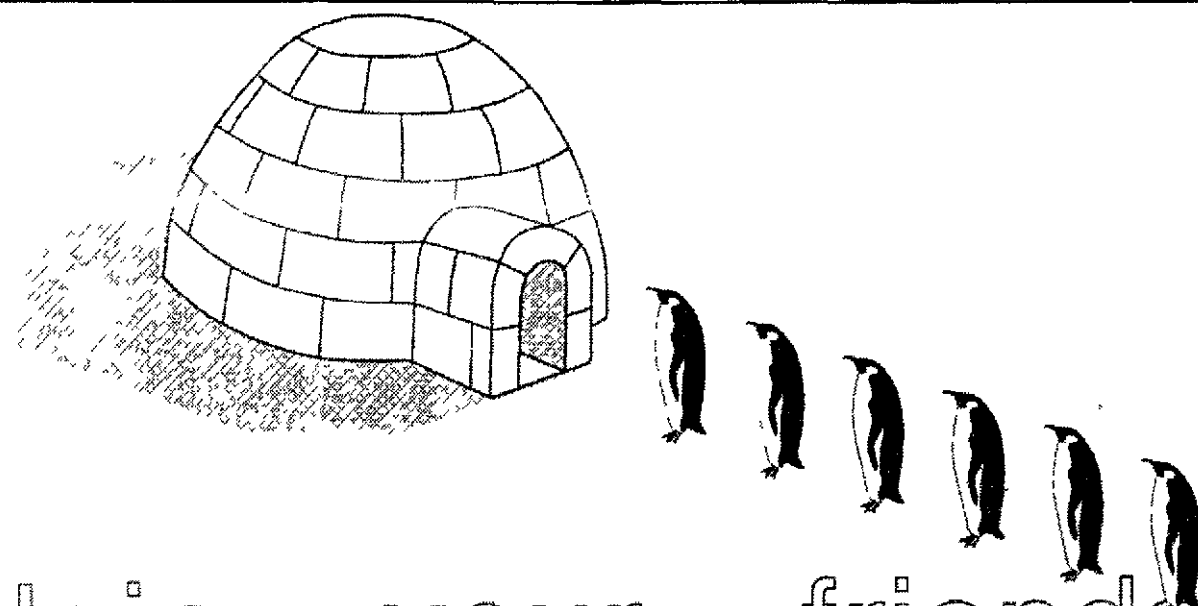
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