

boomerbulletin



Al Gore visits Columbia
no more political apathy
ambience at the Postcrypt
get ready for Halloween

letter from the editors

Yesterday, I found myself walking a familiar path: headed East through Cooper Square, I crossed 4th Avenue and was headed for St Marks when I was stopped by two middle-aged women in business attire. They didn't look like tourists, but they didn't look like they should be wandering around on St. Mark's, either, so I figured that rather than pull a typical New-Yorker move and act as if I hadn't heard them, I'd pause and find out exactly what it was they were doing there.

They were nearly indistinguishable—as a matter of fact, trying to remember what each of them looked like is proving difficult. There was lots of beige; some Burberry here and there (maybe a scarf?); sensible, square-heeled pumps; large, round glasses; neatly-layered, slightly-graying hair, and well-tailored, to-the-knee business-type skirts. The two of them are sort of a montage in my mind—they may as well have been one person, and I got the idea that one of them was the assistant to the other. The one who stopped me first, who I presumed to be the boss, asked my politely if I knew where kids "skateboarded" in the area.

I was a bit taken aback, given that we were standing all of ten feet from The Cube, a sculpture around which there is a constant flurry of alterna-kids on wheels. I motioned toward the 15-foot high black iron sculpture and said, "well, a lot of people skate near The Cube."

"The cube?" she asked. "What's the cube?"

I hesitated for a moment—was this woman trying to pull a joke on me, somehow? Was I just not getting something? I mean, we were practically standing underneath the thing. "The Cube," I answered, pointing to the enormous structure behind me.

I think she may have been disappointed that The Cube was nothing more than a sculpture in the middle of a traffic island. She explained that she was making a print advertisement and was looking for, in her exact words, "hip, edgy kids, with piercings and tattoos, who were into skateboarding."

At this point, I must have given her a strange look, because she seemed flustered and apologized for stopping me. After another brief exchange about the other places in the city where people skated (they knew about the Riverside Skatepark—a little better at the Upper West Side than the Lower East), they thanked me and went on their way.

As I walked further East, and found myself buried in a flurry of pseudo-punks, raver kids, goths and indie-hipsters. I began to feel a little cheap—as if I had been used. Then I began to feel bad, realizing that I had revealed to her places where kids actually skated. She wanted to capitalize on a trend, on those "crazy, Lower East Side, alternative types," citing an incredibly diverse group of people—who happened to share an age range—as a single demographic. They specifically wanted tattoos and piercings, 'cause that's what hip now. That's what's "in." Use those cool, subversive kids to sell more products.

The worst part of the whole realization, however, was knowing that those women had a market. While I felt cheapened by the experience of sharing a little part of that which is *not* mainstream with those women, so many of the people I found myself surrounded with have bought into the system of mass-commercialized subversion. No longer does it mean anything to have blue hair, tattoos, and a septum piercing. The irony of mass-subversion has never seemed so obvious to me as at that point. The creation of the consumer culture of generation Y has been about shock value: *what will your parents say when you come home like that, young woman?* We are a generation our elders would have us defined by our consumption patterns: not by our art, or our politics, our the ways in which we shape the world around us. We are the generation that buys "dirty jeans" retail for hundreds of dollars. I say stop.

Stop buying things, stop consuming to impress others, stop shopping retail and supporting sweatshop labor, stop defining yourself by how you look. Take a look inside, and reject the commercialization of how you see yourself. Don't allow yourself to assimilate into commodified subversion: subvert from the inside out. Write something, say something, sing something, listen to something. Define who you are by what you do, and what you believe, rather than how you're dressed. You'll probably never see yourself in a magazine ad, but you'll learn a lot more. I promise.

Ly and B

contributors

Senior Lara Crock is the *bulletin's* photography editor. She is from the Chicago area and is a Biochemistry major. Lara is a proud vegan. She is currently working in a research lab, studying heart disease and Alzheimers. Her interests include skateboarding and bowling. Check out Lara's awesome photographs on the cover and throughout this week's issue.

Angela Tsang is a sophomore from San Francisco, California, who was born in Hong Kong. She is majoring in Sociology and Political Science. Angela once lived on a Navajo Reservation. She enjoys singing on the street. She likes love and dislikes revenge. This week, Angela writes about views of New York City for the nyc living section.

Junior Allison Baker is the *bulletin's* new copy editor. She is from Houston, Texas and is a Comparative Literature major. This past summer, Allison interned at a decorative arts museum in Madrid. Look for Allison in this week's arts section.

barnardbulletin

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Gore concerned by Bush's fiscal plans

By KB Torgovnick

Al Gore spoke at Low Library Thursday, October 19, describing his plan to continue economic growth in the United States, and revealing why he believes George W. Bush's policies could be destructive to the booming American economy.

In an event sponsored by the Columbia Political Union, Gore joined former Secretary of the Treasury Robert Rubin in explaining the concept of fiscal responsibility in economic policies. Both men stressed that fiscal responsibility is one of the main differences between Gore and Bush, and a key difference in the 2000 election.

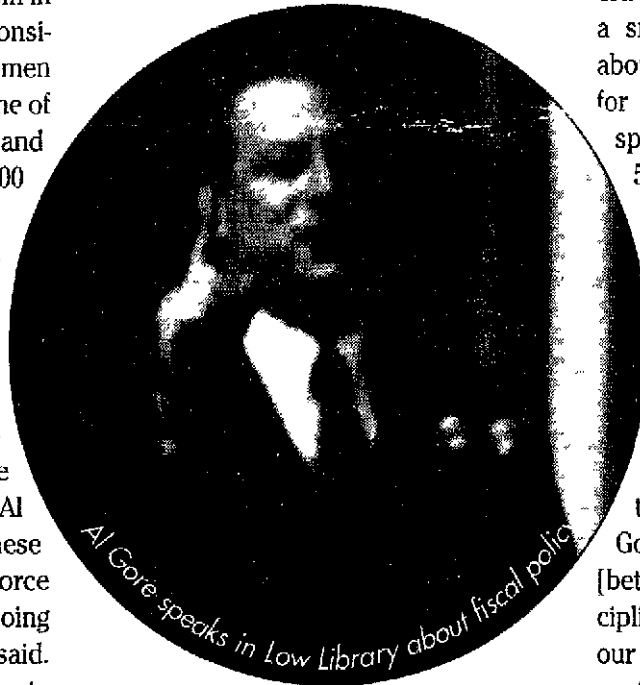
Rubin introduced Gore, giving an economist's interpretation of why Gore is a strong candidate for president. "Beginning in 1992, President Clinton and Vice President Gore put in place a dramatic change in economic strategy. We have had the strongest economy in a generation. Al Gore has been at the center of all these economic decisions and is a strong force in doing what's right even when doing what's right is politically tough," he said. "Fiscal responsibility is not easy, tax cuts are much easier, but it's what is the right path."

Rubin applauded Gore for his plans to pay down the national debt, to set aside money in case of a lower-than-expected surplus, and to strengthen social security. He described these policies as fiscally responsible. "Over the course of the campaign, Vice President Gore has set forth a key economic plan. I believe this plan sets the right goals for America," said Rubin. "It is the most detailed and serious economic plan offered by a presidential candidate in my memory."

Rubin went on to describe the economic unsoundness of Texas governor Bush's economic plan. He described that Bush's plan weakens social security, and rejects the basic principles of fiscal responsibility. "This election poses a strong choice," said Rubin. "Vice President Gore has a powerful plan to best

spread prosperity to more Americans. His opponent proposes plans that undermine the continuance of prosperity."

After Rubin's introduction, Gore mounted the stage to a huge applause. "In just 19 days from today, America will choose a new future," he began. "Will we seize this moment to extend prosperity and share it with everyone? Will we make the right choice and the right way to keep our country going, or will we bustle it with



a tax cut for a few?"

While describing the economic strength of the United States today, Gore stressed possibilities for the future. "I am not asking for your support because of how far we've come, but how far we can go together," he said. "I want to make sure prosperity is shared by everyone through tax cuts to the middle class."

Gore outlined an economic plan which seeks to eliminate national debt by underspending the surplus. "I'll devote a larger share of our surplus to paying down the deficit every year until it is completely eliminated," he said, drawing a large response from the crowd. Pointing out that more money is spent per year paying the interest of the national debt than on many social programs, Gore said, "I plan to eliminate the third largest federal program by discharging these obligations to the past."

Stating that he does not begrudge tax cuts, Gore explained that his smaller tax cuts ensure money for other, more important purposes. "Because my tax cut is smaller, the resources are there to pay down the debt and to set the first priorities on education, prescription drugs for all seniors, Medicare, and a clean environment," he said.

Gore also focused on the need to streamline the federal government. "The era of big government is over—the era of a smaller, smarter government is just about to begin," he said. "Under my plan for the next eight years, government spending will be smaller than in the past 50 years."

While emphasizing his commitment to the maintenance of a strong economy, Gore addressed concerns with Bush's economic strategy. "Governor Bush's plan gambles with our prosperity by bringing back the deficit, draining social security, and delaying deficit reduction, fueling higher interest," said Gore. "One of the biggest differences [between us] is on the issue of fiscal discipline. Fiscal discipline is a reflection of our values."

Gore repeatedly criticized Bush's tax cut proposal, which targets tax cuts to the wealthiest Americans. In the third presidential debate, moderator Jim Lehrer asked Bush if his plan does indeed benefit the top 1% of the American population. Bush responded, "Of course it does." Referring to Bush's statement, Gore said, "Is that unfair for American families and wrong for our country? Of course it is. Under this, 3,000 wealthy families would get more in tax cuts each year—25 billion dollars—than all the money that goes to education nationwide for more than 43 million children in our public schools. Does that present the wrong priorities for America? Of course it does. Does it put the interest of a few before the interest of the nation? Of course it does. And does it risk our prosperity? Of course it does."

Gore likened Bush's policies to the trickle-down economics of the '80s, policies often credited with

bea**essentials**

MANDATORY FIRST-YEAR PROGRAM PLANNING MEETINGS:

All first-year students must attend one of the following Program Planning Meetings with Dean Kreger: Wed., Nov. 1, from 5 to 6:30pm; Wed., Nov. 8, from 4 to 5:30pm; or Friday, Nov. 10, from noon to 1:30pm. All meetings will be held in the James Room, 4th floor, Barnard Hall.

SENIORS: Dean Schneider's series of workshops on proposal and personal statement writing will begin on Friday, October 27, at 10am, in 202 Milbank. Please call x42024 to reserve a space. Participants need not attend every workshop.

ELIE WEISEL PRIZE IN ETHICS: Juniors and seniors interested in submitting an essay for consideration should contact the Reference Desk as soon as possible. Please email your essay to ethics@barnard.columbia.edu with a description of your topic. Essays will be judged on a low-key basis. The award will be presented at a luncheon on November 15, 2001.

DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAM PLANNING MEETINGS:

CLIO: Weekly walk-in workshops will be held on the 2nd floor of the Barnard Library as follows: Research Strategies for CLIO and the World Wide Web Thursdays at 3:15pm and Fridays at 11:15am. Improve your research skills using CLIO, find out which are the best Web search engines, and learn how to evaluate your searches so that you can find the best information available. Research Strategies for Online Indexes and Databases Thursdays at 11:15am and Fridays at 1:15pm.

CONSULTATIONS FOR RESEARCH: The Barnard Library offers a consultation service to students undertaking a research paper or thesis. A reference librarian will assist you in identifying and using library resources—bibliographies, catalogues, periodical indexes, electronic resources including the internet and other materials relevant to the project. Appointments for an individual conference can be made at the Reference Desk on the 2nd floor of the Library or by completing the consultation form on the Library's home page and submitting it to refdesk@barnard.columbia.edu. Please supply specific information about your research topic to the reference librarian and allow a sufficient number of working days for the librarian to prepare for the session.

DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAM PLANNING MEETINGS: These meetings are very informative, and we urge

prospective majors, as well as majors, to attend. Listings will be updated in future issues.

American Studies: Tues., Nov. 14 at 4:30pm in 409 Barnard Hall.

Anthropology: Wed., Nov. 8, at 11am in the Ella Weed Room (2nd floor Milbank).

Biology: Thurs., Nov. 2 at noon in 202 Barnard Hall.

Chemistry: Fri., Nov. 10 at noon in the North Tower (Lehman Hall). Will include a luncheon and speaker.

English: Tues., Nov. 14 at noon in 214 Milbank.

Computer Science: Fri., Nov. 3, at 1pm in 307 Milbank.

Economics: Thurs., Nov. 9 at noon in the Altschul Atrium.

Education: Wed., Nov. 15 at noon in the Ella Weed Room (2nd floor Milbank).

Environmental Science: Mon., Oct. 30 at 6pm in 530 Altschul.

European Studies: Tues., Nov. 14 at 4:30pm in 409 Barnard Hall.

French: Thurs., Nov. 8 at 11am in 307 Milbank Hall.

German: Tues., Nov. 14 at 4:30pm in 409 Barnard Hall.

History: Wed., Nov. 15 at 11am in 307 Milbank Hall.

Italian: Wed., Nov. 8 at 11am in 307 Milbank Hall.

Japanese: Thurs., Nov. 9 at 4pm in 329 Milbank Hall.

Mathematics: Mon., Nov. 13 at noon in 622 Mathematics.

Physics and Astronomy: Tues., Nov. 14, at 4pm in 502 Altschul.

Political Science: Mon., Nov. 13 at 4:30pm in 421 Lehman.

Psychology: Thurs., Nov. 2 at 12:15pm in 323 Milbank Hall.

Russian: Wed., Nov. 1 at noon in 202 Barnard Hall.

Social Work: Wed., Nov. 15 at 2:30pm in 409 Barnard Hall.

Spanish & Latin American Studies: Thurs., Nov. 9 at 4pm in 207 Milbank.

Statistics: Mon., Nov. 13 at noon in 622 Mathematics.

Theatre: Wed., Nov. 15 at 6pm in 229 Milbank.

Women's Studies: Tues., Nov. 14 at 5pm in 101 Barnard Hall (Center for Research on Women).

WOMEN OF COLOR: This group provides a safe place for women of color to share their experiences of being women of color at Barnard and in society. The group meets every Tuesday from 5-6:30pm, in 102 Hewitt. Call x42024 for more information. Sponsored by Barnard Counseling Services and HEOP.

new scholarships to be awarded for Biosphere 2

By Lisa Patrick

Columbia University's Earth Institute has recently established ten undergraduate scholarships for Barnard and Columbia students who plan to attend the Spring 2001 Earth Semester at the Biosphere 2 Center in Oracle, Arizona. These scholarships will be awarded to applicants who demonstrate academic excellence and a commitment to a systems approach to understanding the interactions between humans and the planet. Columbia's Earth Institute will award scholars \$1000 for travel expenses and a scholarship for half of their tuition.

Students interested in applying for this prestigious scholarship must submit a completed Biosphere 2 application, a resume, a transcript, and a letter of recommendation from a Columbia or

Barnard faculty member. Also, students should submit an essay describing their particular interest in the Earth's sustainability.

In addition to 10 new Earth Institute Scholarships, students for the Spring



Biosphere 2 in Oracle, Arizona

2001 Earth Semester can also apply for the Volvo Scholarship, sponsored by the Biosphere and AB Volvo. Applications for the Volvo Scholarship consist of the same materials as the Earth Institute

award, plus a Statement of Good Standing and a student aid report (SAR or FASFA) Recipients of the Volvo award will receive a full tuition scholarship. Upon completion of the semester, Volvo scholars will have to complete a final written report of their experiences gained during Earth Semester and be willing to attend and contribute to special Volvo events in their community.

To facilitate the application process, interested students can apply for both scholarships online at the Biosphere 2 Center's financial aid site, http://www.bio2.edu/education/fin_aid.htm. Additional information can be found either online or by contacting the Office of Student Admissions at 48144.

Lisa Patrick is a junior and the bulletin news co-editor.

<< page 4 >> widening the gap of economic inequality in the United States. "It makes good economic sense," said Gore. "But we learned the hard way that tax cuts are an invitation to deficits and economic decline"

Gore said that he is not alone on thinking his plans are economically irresponsible, pointing out that Bush has been attacked by many economists for his fiscal policy. Gore expressed concern that Bush's plan promises money to two or more purposes—money not being available in his budget to begin with. He also said that Bush's plan requires Social Security to start borrowing money, causing a deficit. Gore referred to confusion within the Bush campaign about economic policy, quoting Gore's chief economist saying, "I don't know why [Bush] said what he said." Gore replied, "That's not exactly reassuring 19 days before the election. If his chief economist has no idea what he's talking about, how are the rest of us supposed to figure it out?"

Using Bush's record as Governor of Texas, Gore illustrated how Bush's economic policies benefit the wealthy "The state of Texas has squandered opportuni-

ty. Today, in this extraordinary time of prosperity, America can not afford to squander our opportunity to keep prosperity going. Prosperity is on the ballot," said Gore.

Repeatedly showing the logical flaws of Bush's plans, Gore stressed that he does not think that Bush is a bad person, but feels that his policies are misguided. "I am not questioning [Bush's] heart," said Gore. "I am questioning his priorities."

Gore juxtaposed Bush's plan with his own plan to provide targeted tax cuts to the middle class. "Let's open the doors to college wider than ever before by making up to \$10,000 of college tuition tax deductible," he said, eliciting cheers from the audience.

Gore made a strong promise to the crowd in Low Library. He said, "If you want to make sure our prosperity reaches all our people, then I ask for your support because I want to fight for you. I will work every day to keep the economy strong and I will never let you down." With that, Gore left the stage in a flurry of applause and secret service agents

Admission to hear Gore speak was chosen on a lottery basis. Students

received notification of the event on Tuesday, October 17, through their Cunix email accounts, and were asked to respond to the email if interested. From the replies to the email, students were chosen randomly to attend the event, and were notified by email on October 18. The lottery system barred many interested students from attending the event, particularly Barnard students who do not check their Cunix account on a regular basis.

Besides annoyance over the lottery system for ticketing, students seemed impressed by Gore, giving huge applause throughout his speech. "He was better than I expected," said Columbia College sophomore Carla Goudge.

Though generally positive about Gore's speech, Goudge criticized the speech's lack of originality. "I thought [Gore] didn't make any points that I hadn't heard him make before," she said. "He imitated Bill Clinton a lot using the same mannerisms which I know aren't [Gore's]."

K8 Torgovnick is a Barnard junior and bulletin co-editor-in-chief. Photo by K8 Torgovnick

it's a woman's world wide web

By Renata Bysritsky

On Thursday, October 19, the World Wide Web gained faces and personalities, as a group of Barnard students and alumni gathered in the James Room of Barnard Hall for another one of Barnard's panel discussions. For the first time ever, the Office of Career Development hosted a panel called "Women On the Web" (WOW). The panel consisted of five speakers, all Barnard alumni (with the exception of one current student), all of whom have worked in the web-industry. As the discussion went on, it was difficult not to be aware of the modernity of our age; several cell-phones began to ring during the course of the discussion and had to be silenced by their owners.

During the reception preceding the discussion, the panelists mingled freely with Barnard students, staff and alumni. There was an impressive turnout; people came for various reasons. Many of the younger guests were considering a career in this field; quite a few of the Barnard RCAs were in attendance. As well, there were some alumni who were taking a step in the direction of the burgeoning e-world. Magaly C. Lucas, for instance, is a Barnard alum and an attorney who is launching a website for her Spanish-speaking clients who would like to learn more about getting good credit in America.

The panelists included: Katherine Brooking (BC '92), who is vice president for business development of the International Division of About.com; Vanessa Catalano (BC '96), a multimedia and television producer at CBS Marketwatch; Cynthia Hollen (BC '86), who is CEO and founder of Knowledge Strategies Group (one of the oldest online strategy consulting companies in the world); Catherine Winchester (BC '84), who is the president, CEO and founder of Soliloquy, Inc. (as well as founder, former CEO and president of Wanderlust Interactive), and Stacy Cowley, the youngest panelist, who is finishing up her last credits at Barnard

in the evenings, while she works as the managing editor of Silicon Alley Daily, an electronic publication that circulates via e-mail.

Maryam Banikarim, (BC '89) moderated the discussion during the first half of it, directing questions to each of the panelists. Each of the women spoke of their beginnings in the relatively new world of Internet Technology; nearly all of them had gotten into it by following their gut feeling and taking a risk. Winchester, for example, had worked as a



Raven Hardison explores the world wide web

self-described "adequate engineer" for four years before picking up and moving to Hong Kong, where she founded her first company, InterOptica Publishing, Ltd. Hollen founded her own company with a partner, "with credit cards, out of an apartment with three cats." Brooking had worked in the financial world for many years before interviewing at About.com. "You have to take a risk. Stick your neck out," Winchester stated emphatically, when asked for any piece of advice she could offer.

By their own words, the field of technology has not been easy; nor do they foresee it getting much easier. "It hasn't been easy," Brooking admits "it's been a struggle...you just have to be persistent." This persistence, she stresses, is key. Starting and running one's own company is not easy; Hollen and Winchester related the times when they were "so stressed, your stomach is completely tied in knots," as Winchester put it.

Inevitably, the issue of women—and their traditional roles—came up. "No, I don't think you can have it all," Winchester admitted, when asked about whether she wanted children. Her work, at this time, is the most fulfilling thing in her life. "But my work and my personal life are one and the same...Internet parties are fun!"

When asked about how being women affected their working life, the responses were instantaneous. "Embrace the fact that you're a woman!" Hollen exclaimed. "Heck, I'll wear a tight sweater if it will get me a sale!" On that sentiment, she was joined by several members of the audience, such as Lucas, who enjoyed the duality of being able to be "a stereotypical woman or a strong woman".

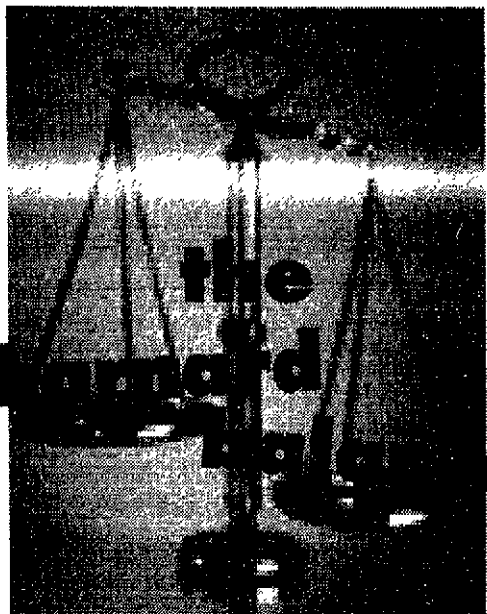
"This new media has allowed women to grow," Hollen said, when asked about her opinion on the role of women in the industry. "Women have more opportunities to start their own business without dealing with discrimination."

Not that discrimination is nonexistent. "I ignore it," Catalano said. "The rest of the world is not Barnard; not everyone out there is enlightened, and...there is a lot of discrimination in [the television industry]. But I do whatever I think I can do, without thinking that I can't do it [because I am a woman]."

Winchester concurred with that. "Knowledge and arrogance are often inversely proportional [among men I've worked with]," she said. Regarding traditional male-female roles, "Women set their own limits. Whatever you do, it doesn't matter if you are a woman. I have 13 brilliant, male Ph.D.'s working for me.. and I'm the boss."

And according to Hollen, we've already got one great advantage. "The best thing I ever did for my career," she said during the reception before the panel, "was start it at Barnard."

Renata Bysritsky is a Barnard sophomore and bulletin columnist



a weekly weighing of
Barnard news

On Saturday, Columbia University celebrated Homecoming with a 49-21 win over Dartmouth. Students could be heard yelling, "Suck it, Big Green!" throughout the game.



Speaking of sports, this week is the World Series between the Yankees and the Mets. To celebrate the subway series, students are not taking the subway to bars, but rather, crowding the West End.



With all of this good news, students want to call their friends and family. However, with the new 10-digit PSC codes, it is almost not even worth it to pick up the phone.



This past week there was a dance showcase in Miller Theatre, with works created by students, faculty, and guest artists. This begins the long list of upcoming dance performances at Columbia.



This week's total. . .



= good news



= bad news



barnard**events**calendar

October 25

Writing Toward Hope: A Symposium and Performance on Literature and Human Rights. 6:30pm in James Room, 4th Floor, Barnard Hall. For information, call the Barnard Center for Research on Women at x42067, or visit www.barnard.edu/crow/

October 26

Lunchtime Lecture Series presents *Where Have All the Women Gone?: Lots of Chemistry Undergrads but Few Faculty.* A lecture with Linda Doerrer, Assistant Professor, Chemistry, Barnard College at noon in the Center for Research on Women, 101 Barnard Hall. For information, call the Barnard Center for Research on Women at x42067.

October 27, 28, and 29

Family Weekend. Various activities and discussions offered throughout the

weekend.

October 27

Dance Showcase. Showcase concerts present works created by students, faculty, and guest artists in an informal theatrical setting, At 2pm and 3:30pm in the Streng Studio Theatre, First Floor, Barnard Hall Annex. Admission is free and open to the public. For information, call the Barnard College Department of Dance at x42952.

October 27, 28

The Bread and Roses Play. A comic love story written by Steve Friedman with music based on Mozart's Don Giovanni. Directed by Denny Partridge and designed by Erik Flatmo. At 8pm in the Minor Latham Playhouse, Milbank Hall. Admission is \$5; \$3 with CUID. For reservations and further information, call x42080.

October 28

Feminist Art and Art History Conference. 9am to 6pm in the Upper Level of McIntosh Center. Admission is \$20 (\$10 for students and independent artists). For information call Barnard's Women's Studies Department at x42108 or visit www.barnard.edu/crow/

October 31

Gildersleeve Lecture Series presents *The Lost Land.* A Reading and Commentary by Irish Poet Eavan Boland. 5:30pm in the Julius S. Held Lecture Hall, 304 Barnard Hall. A reception will follow. Dr. Boland has published eight volumes of poetry and is universally acknowledged as the preeminent female poet of her native Ireland.

Annual Halloween Parade. Barnard students will perform *The Ubu Apocalypse*, a giant puppet performance.

Parade starts at Houston Street and works its way uptown on 6 Avenue to the 30s. For information, call Amy Trompetter at x41709.

November 1

Election Issues. A panel discussion with Jennifer Bryon, Kathryn Rodgers and New York City Council Member Margarita Lopez. At 7pm in Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor, Barnard Hall. For more information, call the Barnard Center for Research on Women at x42067 or visit www.barnard.edu/crow/.

November 2

Women Poets at Barnard presents *Readings by Mei Mei Berssenbrugge and Martha Rhodes.* At 8pm in Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor, Barnard Hall. For reservations and further information, call the Barnard Center for Research on Women at x42067 or visit www.barnard.edu/crow/.

lecture brings film and queer studies together

by Gina Patterson

Acclaimed filmmaker Isaac Julien and Columbia professor of English and Comparative literature David Eng brought together the worlds of film, queer studies, and diaspora studies in a lecture Monday, October 16. Concluding a film series shown at Barnard over the past month, Monday's Queers and Diaspora lecture included film clips from the works of Julien and other avant-garde film makers. It was followed by a conversation about the nature of culture in an age of transnational change.

Julien opened the panel with a discussion of his films and the intersections that can form between race, culture, class, and sexuality. Later, Eng followed up with a more theoretically-challenging talk concerning issues such as the theory of Women's Studies as a discipline, the relationship between gender and sexuality, and the development of sexuality as a transnational concept. Eng also covered the impacts of queerness and transnational migration on the family and kinship systems. He asked the audi-

ence, "How has sexuality functioned in the concept of diaspora?"

Most importantly, Eng questioned the function of identity politics as a pathway to liberation. He said that the intellectual afterlife of identity politics



CU professor David Eng and filmmaker Isaac Julien

must become more globalized so as to create change based on access to family and kinship, rather than shared sexual or racial identity. Eng concluded his talk with two film clips dealing with the personal and economic consequences of coming out: Ang Lee's *The Wedding Banquet* and Wong Kar-Wai's *Happy Together*. Both films deal with homosex-

ual male couples coming out to their families, the world, and the audience, illustrating the connections between queerness, culture, and homeland.

Janet Jakobsen, director of the Barnard Center for Research on Women, Eliza Bang moderated the panel and engaged Julien and Eng in a dialogue to expand their views on the role of film in queer studies and diaspora studies. Jakobsen said, "The relationship between queer studies and diaspora studies is on the cutting edge of contemporary scholarship." Like many other audience members, she found it very exciting to have both a filmmaker and a critic come together to discuss issues relevant to both popular culture and academia.

Barnard senior Shireen Bar-day said about the lecture, "Rethinking diaspora is useful because it helps us to rework notions of home and homeland in the context of queer studies and identity." Julien and Eng sparked an interest in an area of study that is just developing.

Gina Patterson is a Barnard junior

you were one of those kids in high school who was
captain and president of everything, weren't ya?
well, why the heck aren't ya workin' for us?
climb the ranks of the *bulletin* ladder -
you'll be runnin' this thing before ya know it!
come find out how to get involved....
meetings monday nights at 7pm in 128 LL McIntosh.
but don't get too antsy, missy. you're not takin' over yet.

what apathy?

While political apathy may be rampant on college campuses and in the country in general, it is undeniable that there are citizens, students even, who care deeply about the issues in the upcoming elections (both presidential and senatorial.)

The *Bulletin* decided to get a few of these people here on our own campus together, for an informative and informal discussion of political ideology. The following is a dialogue about the upcoming elections, and politics in general, with three Columbia University students: Ginger Gentile, junior at Columbia College and member of Columbia Students for Nader, Sanetta Ponton, senior at Columbia College and CCSC vice-president, and Megan Romigh, sophomore at Barnard College and member of both the Campus Republicans and the Columbia Political Union. Our own Courtney E. Martin moderates:

Bulletin: If you campaign for a specific candidate, or you vote for a specific candidate, is that because you are truly content with that candidate, see them as ideal, or do you

Hillary could come into my state and say, "Hey I'm going to run for Senate. I could do a good job." Where she didn't understand everything I do in my 19 years of living here. But as I get to know Lazio I really see how his policies could affect me.

Bulletin: So it sounds like you're saying that people are originally attracted to a candidate because they see them as a lesser of two evils, but then learn that they may actually seem fairly ideal.

Romigh: Yeah, I guess I'm like every other voter. I think we really have to look closer to each candidate and what they stand for...not, "Oh I hate Bush, I'll vote for Gore," or "Oh I hate Gore, I'll vote for Bush." Look at what the candidates can do for you.



a dialogue on politics, gender

choose the lesser of two evils?

Gentile: I'm with Columbia Students For Nader and, basically, I feel that if I was going to choose the lesser of two evils I would be working on the Gore campaign. No one is an ideal candidate, but Nader is the only one I can say has integrity, has truth, and is not beholden to big corporations. He is his own person and has a tremendous impact on public policy.

But most importantly why I was attracted to the Nader campaign is that it is not just about a candidate, but about getting people active in issues. One of Nader's messages, whether he wins or loses, is that people, themselves, need to get off their asses and make change. If he was to get elected, he would facilitate that change, but in the end, it's not just about an election, it's not about a horse race. It's about getting people involved in the system and making change on local levels.

Romigh: I'm working on the Lazio campaign. I guess the most noteworthy thing is that I am from New York state so it is a pretty big issue for me . . . who is going to represent me.

The first way I saw Lazio was as the anti-Hillary, which is basically how he started out his campaign. I didn't like how

Bulletin: In light of last term's presidency, has integrity become a more important issue to you when you vote?

Ponton: It's hard to make a comment about integrity, or lack thereof, when you are talking about a candidate . . . we can go to Thomas Jefferson and talk about infidelity. The issue remains that we found out about Clinton and we didn't find out about other [presidents]. At the same time, what would happen if there had been TV cameras in Thomas Jefferson's bedroom? We just didn't know. . . Bush talks about his twins and how much he loves his wife, Gore talks about how much he loves his family, so America starts to see them as people. we get past the issues. The fact that you like that Bush started tearing over his twins really has nothing to do with how he is going to run a country. What we really need to look at now are the issues: will this person in office do the best?

Bulletin: What do you identify as the most important issues?

Ponton: Big issues like education. It's crazy that we can all live in the same country, all, for the most part, attend public schools. and someone's public school is so well-equipped and so ready to prepare them for Columbia,

Barnard, Harvard, Yale, and then someone else can barely make it to a community college

Romigh: I totally agree with Sanetta and I think it is just a reflection of what the political system today is really whittled down to. A lot of people don't even know what two sides there are to social security and Medicaid because they are really disinterested. In '92 they wanted to know whether Clinton wore boxers or briefs. . . I mean what have we arrived at here? People just really don't care about the political process and it's really sad. . . Issues I care about are education and the economy.

Gentile: The issues that are most important to me are getting corporate control out of the US government. I think a good question to ask yourself is: is the way our government works now, what Jefferson and Madison envisioned for us? Which you know is a lot of responsibility back to the citizens, and I would say no. Education is also important to me, and the growing gap between rich and poor.

Bulletin: How does the issue of gender or race influence or not influence the way you want to vote, meaning if the candidate is a woman or a minority, how much weight does that alone play in how you vote?

Ponton: No one group has a homogeneous way of thinking. So all we can do is look at Hillary and say, "Well it is great that a woman is running." Maybe because she is a woman we look at her a little bit closer, maybe we follow her a little bit more, but what it really comes down to is that an allegiance to womanhood or anything else is not going to get

feel more loyalty to my state and my beliefs, and my beliefs happen to not agree with hers. When Elizabeth Dole ran I was all gung-ho. I think women in politics are great, but we should really concentrate not on gender, but on the issues and what they can do.



Bulletin: Do you think that a lot of Barnard women are pro-Hillary simply because she is a woman and not because they agree with her on issues, and if so, does this disappoint you?

Romigh: I do and I hope this doesn't sound insulting but I think that Barnard is such a very stereotypically feminist campus. I feel like the anti-feminist. I have a very conservative viewpoint

based on where I grew up and my family. I guess I just think it is kind of funny that a lot of people don't know about Hillary and what she wants for New York, but they flock to her because she is a strong women, and we like strong women.

Gentile: I kind of agree with both comments. A lot of tyrants can be women. A lot of people point to Margaret Thatcher as this great prime minister of England. . . I think what Margaret Thacher did to the world was horrible and

and the upcoming elections

you anywhere. . . The fact of the matter is, at the end of the day, what is going to be best for, in this case, New York state, or in the greater perspective, the country. You really have to get past gender and race and look at who the best candidate is.

Romigh: I completely agree with you. Like it or not gender is always going to be an issue in politics. I guess on the Barnard campus I am [part of] a very small minority of those who support Lazio. What I tell people when they say, "You're working for Lazio. . . You don't like Hillary?!" is that I admire Hillary. I think she is a strong woman, but I think she should have stood up for herself during the Zippergate era. I guess I just



disgraceful; and her economic policies at home and her quasi-imperialistic policies abroad . . . if you want to put it in a feminist view point, she betrayed the sisterhood I guess you could say. What concerns me more is that in the history of our country we have only had one exception in the presidential office to someone who has not been white, male, and Protestant . . . and that was a Catholic. This year we have the possibility of getting in a Jewish man, but he is still white and male. Not that every woman or person of color is great, but there are some that are great, but they don't run, or don't have the opportunity to run. There's definitely an expectation that white, male, and Protestant is presidential. I don't even know if we are ready for an Italian yet (laughs).

Bulletin: Thanks for all of your informative and articulate points of view. It is nice to know that there are students on this campus who are so committed to political activism.

Courtney Martin is a Barnard junior and bulletin co-nyc living editor. Photos by Lara Crock

CHALK, ART, AND COOKIE DECORATING... QUEER AWARENESS MONTH COMES TO CAMPUS

By Anna Stevenson

It is October. . . obviously. What kind of an opener is that? However, this is not a treatise on the origin of the Roman calendar and its subdivisions, nor the cultural or geophysical phenomena associated with it—Oktoberfest, Halloween, or colorful leaves as the case may be. If this interests you, you may make these inquiries of your own accord.

So what month is it? It seems that every political and social cause has a “month” of intense programming, lobbying and “awareness-raising”—a four week thrust to bring the concerns of a nationality, gender, culture, or special interest group to the attention of the proverbial “public.”

Among other things, October is National Lesbian and Gay History Month; thus it seemed logical to the movers and shakers of the queer community on campus to plan this year's Queer Awareness Month at the same time. “Pride Day is in June,” explained Jeremy Wilson, president of Columbia Queer Alliance, one of the main organizing groups of QuAM events, “so this puts it roughly six months away . . . okay, 4 or 5 . . . but it's good to spread out the events through the year.”

Additionally, National Coming Out Day falls on October 11, so events were planned to center around that day. The day started at 12:01 am with a chalk-fest on the steps of Low Library. Anything you could imagine was written for the campus to wake up to, and participants and organizers were pleased that their art was left on the plaza for the day. Does anyone actually come out on National Coming Out Day? “Probably not,” explained Wilson. “It's just really a day to raise awareness, and a chance to harass my mom—call her up and be like, ‘Hey Mom! Happy Coming-Out Day!’”

Later on, when the rest of the world had awoken, there were information tables on Low Plaza staffed by various LGBT (Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual-Transgender) organizations. The events of QuAM were designed to raise visibility for queers—the self-assigned categorization of lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgendered, questioning, and twin-spirits—on both Barnard and Columbia campuses. “A lot of times,” said Tom Hughes, one of the main coordinators of QuAM, “events are labeled as Barnard/Columbia, but they're really not. We made a big effort to really have both campuses represented. Activities took place on both campuses, and organizations from both schools were involved in the planning.” Events have

ranged from a dinner with the University Chaplain, Jewelnel Davis, held to provide a forum to talk about various issues that affect the queer community, to the somewhat tame Study Break (food and gossip provided), Coffee House and Art Show, and movie night, to the more controversial “Genital Pride” event sponsored by Alice!, where men and women (separately) took an hour to marvel over, explore and celebrate the most private of body parts through art, poetry and cookie decorating, held on October 18.

Overall, the response to QuAM has been very positive. “Columbia is one of the more tolerant campuses, I think,” said a CQA member who did not wish to be identified. “It could be better. . . There's still some stigma in the administration . . . but for the most part, it could be a lot worse.”

The group of QuAM coordinators organized this month as a “one shot deal.” However, the organizations that contributed by planning and sponsoring events are active throughout the

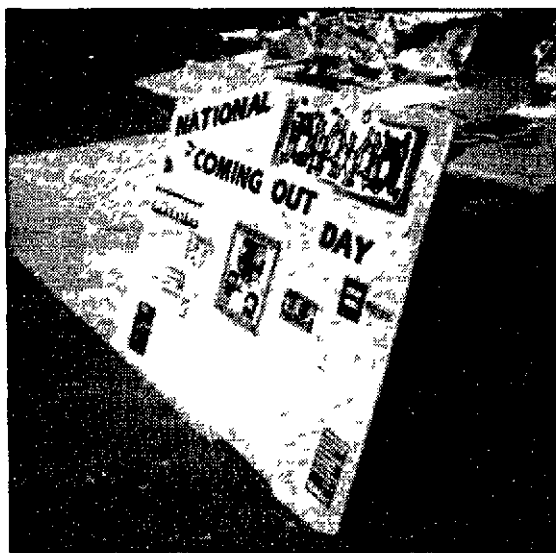
year. Though Columbia does not have an office of LGBT Affairs or an LGBT Alumni Association—as many other colleges do—queer groups on campus are very active, and cover a wide spectrum of interest, including political, social, academic, and racial concentrations.

Organizations involved in the QuAM events were the Columbia Queer Alliance, Queers of Color, Lesbians and Bisexuals in Action (LABIA), Everyone Allied Against Homophobia, Student Government Association, Barnard College Activities, Student Development and Activities, the Earl Hall Center, Counseling and Psychological Services, and the Gay Health Advocacy Project.

There are still a few events left as this colorful month winds down, so if you haven't gotten involved, be sure to check out the following:

On October 25, check out the Guess Who's Straight panel discussion, where you can, as publicity posters for the event advertise, “test your gaydar skills, and be prepared to learn a few things as you interrogate a group of Columbia and Barnard students.”

There will be a closing dinner held in the James Room, Barnard Hall, on October 26 at 7:30, where you may revel in another successful year of QuAM events, and kick off the third year of the Next Generation Project. Queers of Color present The Queer Monologues: Becoming What I Am on October 27 at 8pm in the Ella Weed Room, Milbank Hall. This will be an evening of monologues from real people << page 31 >>



National Coming Out Day is a staple QuAM event

Latina Heritage Month more than a party

By Dorene Marinese

What is Latina Heritage month about at Barnard? The annual party in celebration of this month is always a well-publicized event. This year it was on the twelfth of October. But Latina Heritage month is more than just another excuse for a party. According to Barnard Senior Omaira Soriano, the Coordinator of the celebration of this month at Barnard, "Latina Heritage month is about understanding ourselves and learning to relate to other people of different ethnic backgrounds."

The official celebration of Latina Heritage month at Barnard began three years ago. It was a celebration for which events were held at Columbia College for some years before that. Soriano along with three other Barnard Seniors, officially founded this important cultural celebration on our campus in 1997. They saw that it was important to rec-

ognize this month on our campus for a number of reasons. One of the most important of these was to bring the focus of people's attention to Latina women. Another reason was to allow people to learn about Latino cultures and to allow people of Latino cultures to come together and celebrate their heritage.

This year Latina Heritage Month

holds a highly influential public position. According to Soriano, she was quite inspirational and is a role model for all Latinos, African Americans, and women. Soriano along with the co-chair of Latina Heritage month events at Barnard, Marsha Corchado, has devoted a lot of effort towards getting powerful and important women of Latino descent, like Castillo, to speak on our campus. The idea is to work toward raising awareness of the Latina Communities that exist within our college through the voices of major figures of our society.

Some other interesting events have occurred

in celebration of Latina heritage. On October 22, the Barnard Latina Heritage month committee watched a play written by Garcia Marquez at the Repertorio. Also, there was a movie night entitled "Muchachita" or "Little Girl" that will have the theme of a little girls' sleepover

<< page 31 >>

"Latina Heritage month is about understanding ourselves and learning to relate to other people of different ethnic backgrounds."

was kicked off at an opening reception that took place on October 5. The Keynote speaker was Rayse Castillo, the Deputy Political Director for Victory 2000, the Al Gore and Hillary Clinton Campaign. Castillo is an Afro-latina woman who, after having two children, went to graduate school and presently

wellwoman: midterm stress? some tips

Q I'm taking my exams and I'm so stressed out I can't think. What can I do about all this stress?

A Start to relax by taking a slow, deep breath. There are many ways for you to calm yourself. Here are some Well-Woman tips for managing stress.

Know your limits—it is amazing how much stress can be eliminated by giving up unrewarding activities, and refusing inappropriate requests. Keep your ambitions reasonable, and don't try to do everything at once.

Change Stressors—a good way to unwind is to switch an activity to one

that involves a different way of acting and thinking. If studying for a math exam is making your head spin, try doing a load of laundry or something that uses different muscles and different parts of your brain.

Eat healthy and exercise routinely—too much or too little food, or poor nutrition can weaken your resistance. Exercise allows you the opportunity to release frustrations and tensions.

Take time out—practice deep breathing exercises, stretch your muscles, nap, meditate, or do a few tension-relieving exercises.

Think positively and keep your sense of humor—focus on solutions instead of worrying, visualize positive

outcomes. Laughter has been shown to ease the pain of our overly burdened lives.

Take advantage of your body rhythms—if you are at your best in the morning, that's the time to schedule complicated tasks that require concentration. If you don't reach your peak until later in the day, start with easier tasks that don't require much thought.

Unwind before bedtime—Take a long soak in a hot tub. Do some stretching exercises, then read or listen to music. It helps you sleep better and sleep is a great stress reliever.

Remember... stress can't be avoided, but it can be managed.

"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 is for informational purposes only. Please take issues or medical concerns to your healthcare provider.

arts picks

for the week of october 25

art

Micha Klein

At Mary Boone Gallery (745 Fifth Avenue between 57 and 58). Open Tue-Sat 10am to 10pm For more info call 752-2929. Showing through October 28

Micha Klein is an Amsterdam club scenster and video artist. Klein creates color-saturated C-prints that are populated with high-tech club kids.

dance

Julio Bocca and Ballet Argentino

At City Center (131 W 55th Street between Sixth and Second Ave). Tickets are \$30-\$60. For more info call 581-1212.

Julio Bocca is a principal dancer with American Ballet Theatre. He presents his fine company with an evening of work by Alberto Mendez.

Octavia Cup Dance Theatre

At Williamsburg Art Nexus (205 North 7 Street between Driggs and Roebling Aves) For more info call 924-0077 Tickets are \$12

Laura Ward presents her all-female company in an evening of work

Mary-Anne Martin Gallery: Latin-American art

by Jessica Marcy

It's a wonderful thing to have favorite places. Since my sophomore year at Barnard, I have been both continually surprised and impassioned by the exhibits shown at the Mary-Anne Martin Gallery (located at 23 East 73rd Street) which with time has become one of my favorite galleries.

Dedicated to the exhibition of 20th Century Mexican and Latin American artists, the Mary-Anne Martin Gallery always displays thoughtful and varied shows. While exhibiting the work of Latin American artists, this

gallery does not stick to stereotypes of Latin American art, but rather welcomes a hybrid of expression. Within the gallery's rather small, two-room space, such varied artists as Elena Clement, with her intimate paintings of Mexican interior scenes, and Isabel de Obaldía, with her unique colored glass sculptures of butterfly-like creatures and poetic beastly figurines,

have been shown. Other thought-provoking exhibits I have seen include Alfredo Castaneda's *Nuestro yo y nosotros*, an exhibit of fantastical and meditative paintings that focus on the interplay between the individual and the communal and Luis Cruz Azaceta's *Bound*, an exhibit of incredible force that plays with a variety of mediums to express man's inherent solitude. All of these artists come highly, highly, highly recommended. This wonderful gallery

has also hosted exhibits on such artistic greats as Diego Rivera and José Clemente Orzco, one of my personal favorites of Mexican art.

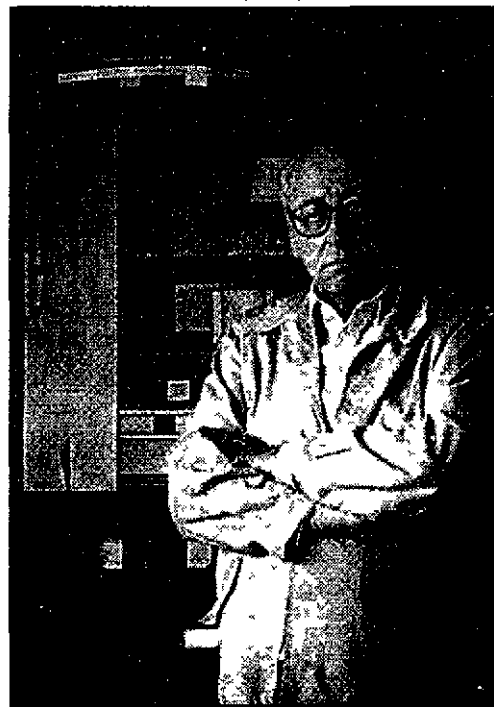
Presently showing at the Mary-Anne Martin Gallery are the works of one of Mexico's most renowned abstract painters, Gunther Gerzso, in the exhibit entitled *In His Memory*. Once again this gallery does not disappoint. Originally planned as a celebration for Gerzso's eighty-fifth birthday, the idea for this exhibit was transformed by Gerzso's unexpected death earlier this year in April. What was planned as a birthday

celebration was soon transformed into a celebration of this unique artist's life and work.

With forty paintings from this artist's starting years through the 1960s, the period of Gerzso's greatest works, *In His Memory* gives the viewer a good sense of Gerzso's artistic development, which found life in often colorful, abstract paintings that employ the use of geometric

shapes. Originally desiring to be a set designer, Gerzso was heavily influenced by European classicism, surrealism, and Mexican pre-Colombian art and archeology. Fusing all these elements together, Gerzso appears like a more refined and stylized Mark Rothko.

Though I was not as impressed by Gerzso's exhibition as I was with the other artists I mentioned earlier, I recognize the force of Gerzso's work. Through abstraction, Gerzso manages



Gunther Gerzso

at its colorful best

to conjure a definitive message. One of my favorite paintings exhibited, "Le Temps mange la vie (El tiempo se come la vida)," displays a dark background with various wrinkled square and rectangular shapes that are overwhelmed by a huge white textured block that takes over the canvas. In his abstract fashion, Gerzso painted a variety of themes as evident in the works "Paisaje (Rojo)", a rectangular canvas of varying reds that is overtaken by a huge crimson block that streams from the top, and Recuerdo de Grecia, a primarily yellowish-white canvas with disconnecting lines and darker blotches. This is also true in the works, "Desnudo rojo", a canvas of red and pinks that suggests a female figure, and "Mythology (Mitología)", a canvas primarily divided in two parts that suggest mythology's power to explain the unknown, the black paint which is pierced by a lighter streak. As I attempt

to give words to such paintings, I realize that the essence of Gerzso's works can not be captured by words. Describing the various colors used does not reproduce the works' moods.

The essence of Gerzso's works can not be captured by words. Describing the various colors used does not reproduce the works' moods.

Maybe there exists a certain artistic understanding about going to the exhibit of a recently deceased artist knowing that a canvas will never be filled in quite the same way or maybe its the own meditative nature of Gerzso's work that calls the viewer into a unique, reflective realm. I'm not sure.

What I am positive of, however, is that the Mary-Anne Martin Gallery should definitely be on your artistic list of places to go, whether it be for Gerzso's exhibit (which merits your attention and will be exhibited until November 11th) or for another one of their well-selected future exhibits.

Jessica Marcy is a Barnard senior and bulletin arts editor.

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artspicks

...continued

film

All About Eve (1950)

At Film Forum (209 Houston Street between Sixth Ave and Varick Street) Tickets are \$9. Call 727-8110 for more info.

A film about deceit and backstabbing made in the fifties. Starring Bette Davis and Anne Baxter.

theatre

Doll

At P.S. 122 (150 First Ave at 9 Street). Tickets are \$15-\$20. Call 477-5288 for more info. Through November 9.

An attractive suburban homemaker is slowly and comically turned into a Barbie doll.

The Bread & Roses Opera

At Minor Latham Playhouse (119th and Broadway) Tickets are \$8 for general admission, \$5 with CUID. For more info call x47907. October 27-29 & November 3-4.

Set in the great Lawrence, Mass. textile strike of 1912, this Barnard show is a love story set to music. Its score is based directly on Mozart's Don Giovanni, and its story reflects that of the legendary seducer, only with immigrant workers, organizers and strikebreakers as its cast of characters.

Quest for Justice exhibits healing through art

by Allison Baker

Quest for Justice, an exhibition of paintings by former Japanese military comfort women (Korean women forced into sexual slavery during the Second World War) held from October 6-12 in the James Room of Barnard Hall, was filled with images that communicate the unspeakable pain, shame, and rage of the artists.

The paintings are the result of an art therapy class begun in an attempt to give these women, many of whom were illiterate, a means of self-expression. Including a large range of works by several artists, this exhibit emerged as a means to heal some of the deep wounds of these women.

Perhaps one of the most haunting paintings, "Nightmare 2" by Soon-Duk Kim depicts a figure with arms extended overhead who is drawn helplessly into the center of a vortex. It is the very image of despair. Another of Kim's paintings is entitled "Stolen Away" and depicts her abduction by a Japanese soldier. The expression on her face is undoubtedly one of terror, but she also

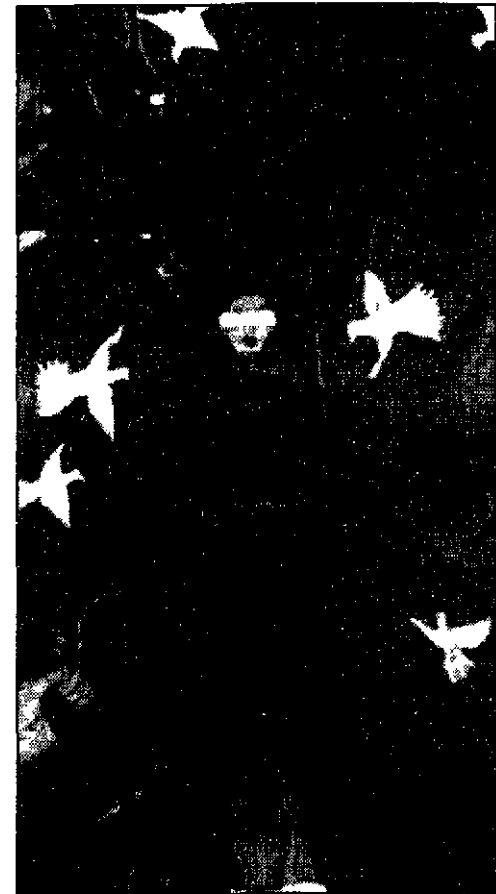
looks back as if imploring the aid and protection of some unseen figure. The pink blossoms in the background from which she is violently pulled away suggest lost innocence and a childhood cut brutally short.

This theme is played out in another painting entitled *Innocence Stolen* by Duk-Kyung Kang in which the artist depicts the cherry blossom tree under which she was raped. The soldier is superimposed onto the tree and his roots extend into the earth, taking their nourishment from the remains of comfort women sacrificed for Japan that lie beneath the flowering tree.

However, not all of the images speak of anguish and bitterness. In another of Kim's paintings, entitled *Meeting*, the artist is shown waiting to meet other former comfort woman living in North Korea. The painting speaks of hope and solidarity. In the wake of unimaginable violence and pain, these women were able to come together and find comfort in each other.

Allison Baker is a Barnard junior and bulletin copy-editor.

courtesy of Barnard public affairs



the painful reality of the lives of comfort women is expressed with hope

THE BIG SUB IS COMING!

Using close to 2,000 pounds of bread, ham, cheese and other deli staples, Barnard students plan to serve up a large bite of togetherness in celebration of Fall Fest 2000, on Wednesday, October 25, in the form of what may be the largest sub sandwich ever built on a college campus. The 700-foot hoagie, to be built between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m., and viewed and consumed between 7-9 p.m., is designed to bring students together within the Barnard and Columbia University community. The giant sub will stretch across the campus from Milbank Hall at 119 Street to the Quad at 116 Street.

The sandwich will reflect the diversity of eating preferences and customs within the Barnard/Columbia student population. The giant hero will weigh 1,725 lbs. and will be composed of 75 lbs. of tuna, 100 lbs. of turkey, 420 lbs. of bread, 50 lbs. of ham and cheese each, 50 lbs. of fresh vegetables, and 350 lbs. of lettuce. It will be divided into six stations representing the diversity of eating habits: vegan, vegetarian, kosher, meat, fish, and poultry. The grinder will be foot marked every 20 feet for the various stations. Each student will be handed a knife and a ruler to make sure they measure equal portions, and maps will be provided for the students to locate their preferred type of sandwich along the 700-ft. stretch, crossing the Barnard campus.

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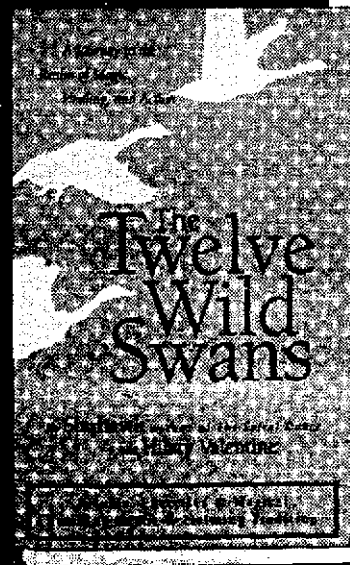
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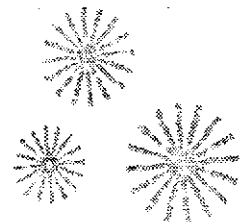
SPIN SOME MAGIC



"Engagingly written....
This volume should be
wildly and
deservedly popular
with neo-pagan
readers and other
seekers."

—Library Journal

"Engaging and
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AVAILABLE AT BOOKSTORES EVERYWHERE

musicpicks

for the week of october 25

october 26

Superdrag

At Bowery Ballroom (6 Delancy Street). Tickets are \$12. For more info, call 533-2111.

While many attribute Tennessee quartet Superdrag's lack of mainstream success to the group's grunge-meets-pop/punk melting pot sound, that doesn't mean they suck. As a matter of fact, they rule live and deserve a second chance.

october 27

String Cheese Incident

At Hammerstein Ballroom (311 W. 34th Street). Tickets are \$22. For more info, call 564-4882.

Hailing from Colorado, this Dead-inspired global music band is just one of a variety of bands making up the new "Jam Band" genre. They've been compared to Phish and Galactic, but String Cheese Incident has a much more inclusive sound.

october 28

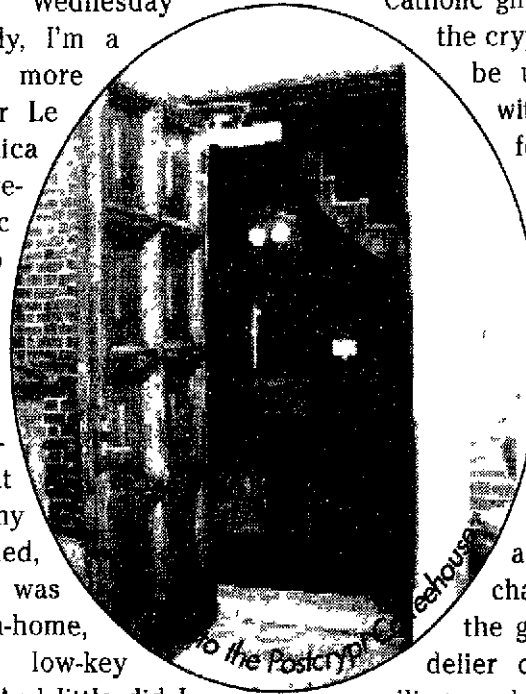
Mighty Mighty Bosstones

tales from

Friday the 13th at the

by Virginia Cromie

It was a balmy night, the moon was full, I felt feverish and sniffly from the latest bug, and I was still in deep mourning for not being able to see Radiohead on Wednesday night. Admittedly, I'm a rawk kinda girl, more prone to go for Le Tigre and Elastica live than to frequent acoustic venues. But deep down inside somewhere there's a Blues fiend lurking in all of us, just waiting to come out and play. What my soul needed, unequivocally, was some down-home, straight-up, low-key acoustic action. And little did I know that the perfect place to satisfy those broke and lazy, bummed out, Barnard-is-too-far-away-from-anything-worthwhile-blues was at The Postcrypt Coffeehouse, right in the



basement of Columbia's St. Paul's Chapel.

Having never been, I had no idea it would be free, or so atmospheric. The 'Crypt has got ambiance, baby. Tucked into the cozy ous-vestibule, (as a little Catholic girl, I always thought the crypt was supposed to be under the altar...) with a little platform for a stage and piano nearby, the audience and performer have a chance to get up close and intimate.

The décor consists of brick, a lovely vault ceiling, snug alcoves and tables and chairs. The effect of the gothic candle chandelier dangling from the ceiling and white Christmas lights behind the 'stage' help to create a sense of warmth and fuzziness. There's popcorn and beer to be had at the counter as well. With the Postcrypt Art Gallery two doors down, full of kids

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the 'Crypt:

Postcrypt Coffeehouse

celebrating the opening of a new show, one has the distinct feeling that this may indeed be the "coolest place on campus" on a Friday night, as remarked by one of our Postcrypt performers, Stephanie Corba.

It's an old one as well. The space was opened back in 1964 by Reverend John Cannon, the Assistant University Chaplain, as a way to bring students into to the Chapel.(1) Since then it has become a Columbia University tradition and a place of some musical repute, as artists like Jeff Buckley, Ani DiFranco, Lisa Loeb and Suzanne Vega have all shared the diminutive stage, along with Columbia a cappella, prominent folk and blues artists, and groups from around the world.

The three-act fun lovin' lineup for Friday night was Stephanie Corba, Kyle Shiver, and Kris Delmhorst. These guys know how to keep time with their boots. A self-proclaimed 'bluesy chick,' Stephanie ripped off tunes like 'Mighty Tight Woman' with a gigantic brassy voice and a little blues history in the process. It was nice, for example, to hear that 'tight' had multiple connotations in the 1920's when the song was first written. It was also nice to hear

about the songwriter, that woman pioneer of the blues, Sipi Wallace. Ever the Bonnie Raitt fan, I loved hearing 'The Road's My Middle Name' which was originally by John Hyatt. She was joined by Kyle for a number of songs, a hearth of a man at around seven feet, who during his own set strummed heartfelt tunes with titles like 'Gypsy Boy' and 'Matthew Shepard.' The final act of the night, Kris Delmhorst, showed off some especially good songwriting and rhythm guitar.

I don't know about you, but there are times when I'm not sure I can handle the four hour standing wait, mediocre opening bands, and the funky flesh to flesh sardine feeling of your average rock concert. Not to mention marathon club nights that leave you feeling like a drowned rag doll the next day. This doesn't have to mean that I'm getting old—it might just mean that every once in a while a little change of pace does me good. For more information about upcoming shows and events, visit the Postcrypt Coffeehouse website at: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/postcrypt/coffeehouse/>

Virginia Cromie is a Barnard junior.

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musicpicks

...continued

At Roseland (239 W. 52 Street). Tickets \$17.50. For more info, call 777-6800.

The Bosstones blow and skank into town to put on a madly hoppin' show. Go for their signature ska-core sound, or to see seven sexy guys in suits. Just go.

october 30

Sneaker Pimps

At Bowery Ballroom (6 Delancy Street). For more info, call 533-2111.

Trip-hop trio the Sneaker Pimps rose to fame with their 1997 single '“6 Underground.” Catch their edgy, trance-influenced sound when they blast in from the UK for a quick NYC date.

october 31

Alice Cooper

At Roseland (239 W. 52n Street). For more info, call 777-6800.

Mr. Halloween is here to show all you Barnard kiddies what scary really means. Check out the father of shock-rock as he promotes his newest album, *Brutal Planet*.

albumreviews



Orgy's newest release, *Vapor Transmission*, is *Candyass* part two. A little harder, a little more glam, Orgy's managed to deliver a good, if not completely new, philosophy. They're still posing as eyeliner- and badly-matched-foundation-wearing pretty boys (with one pretty girl to boot). They still prefer synthesizers to the real thing, and Jay Gordon's voice still has the same slightly irritating, whining quality. The band has, however, improved upon their trademark quirks, with songs that hit harder and showcase intelligent lyrics not heard in Korn's other protégés.

Perhaps Orgy would get a little more respect if they dressed like a "regular" hard rock group (not that can ever be defined). But no, that would take away half of the fun. I

get the feeling that all of their posing is tongue in cheek; they know how ridiculous they look, and at the same time, realize that negative attention is sometimes better than no buzz at all.

The lines from "Opticon," one of the better songs on *Vapor Transmission*, sum up Orgy's rationale best: "Let's fake an answer for the curious/ Let's fake it all for the fame." This band has a clear strategy for fame, and *Vapor* will definitely take them to the next level. Provided Orgy's look doesn't overtake their talent, behind the girlie hair and makeup lies a band with staying power.

—Thea Tagle



Southern California pop-punk kids Zebrahead are back with their second release, *Playmate of the Year*, which presents an interesting mix of alternative rock—à la Blink182—infused with rapping vocals more reminiscent of Fred Durst. While melodic at times, the album alternates between the two afore-

Zebrahead's *Playmate* mediocre

mentioned styles and fails to present a unified, unique sound. Rather, Zebrahead seem to capitalize on the passing trends of rap-rock and juvenile themes to pass off a mediocre, although tolerable, CD.

"The Hell That Is My Life" and "In My Room" both present an overeager, testosterone-charged image of a teenage boy stuck in high school, dreaming of supermodels and sex and fed up with detention. The title track, although bouncy and upbeat, is nothing more than a graphic teenage fantasy and an ode to the silicone injected beauties which fill the pages of *Playboy*.

Zebrahead attempts to portray an inkling of conscience, however slight, in "What's Goin' On?," which is a whine about the world's unfairness in high

school terms. Much as "What's Goin' On?" is the token social issue track (with backing vocals by fellow pseudo punker A. Jay Popoff of Lit), "Livin' Libido Loco" is the requisite Latin parody complete with Spanish guitar.

However, this album isn't entirely without merit. Its bland, upbeat sound is perfect background music for reading *Teen People*, and sexy horn lines drop in on track 5, "I'm Money," arranged by No Doubt's Gabriel McNair. But the bulk of the album is scattered pop rock with no meaning beyond masculine adolescent angst, and unless you share a taste for uninspired, recycled sounds that seem manufactured for Top 40, *Playmate of the Year* won't impress you much.

—Roz Eggebroten

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thrills and chills: Halloween in the Big Apple

by Courtney E. Martin

Believe it or not, the devilish celebration is coming up. Put away your halo and your angel wings, lock the door to your cabinet of virtues. This is the night to get evil and rowdy. Here are a few suggestions of how to go about getting sinful:

The most widely attended option is the Village. This neighborhood, known for its mischief year round, represents full force on Halloween. First there is the parade, which notoriously causes a few masked heads to turn. All kinds of crazy characters get their chance to really work the costume catwalk when they decorate small floats or just march proudly through the streets. Get there early because this popular and well-known event gets really crowded. After the parade the party definitely doesn't stop, however, so if you have trouble zipping up your costume or actually moving in it in order to get to the subway, never fear. You can basically get there any time of night and you will be met by a host of eccentricities. The other lovely thing is that most bouncers feel a little festive and women have an easier time of getting into bars. I recommend the Slaughtered Lamb if you want to get really gruesome.

If you are not up for that scene, there is always the new option of seeing *The Exorcist* on the big screen. This old horror flick has been brought back from the dead for a second round of terror, complete with new scenes that the director hated to see end up on the cutting room floor. Bring a few friends or a lover, or heck, a few lovers, so you can have

access to squeezable hands. The little girl gone psycho is not the easiest phenomenon to swallow. The closest theaters showing this scary movie (made when, let's face it, scary movies hadn't mutated into cheesy, badly acted teenage trend fests)



are Magic Johnson Harlem USA and Sony Lincoln Square. Get there early for good seats or order on-line.

If you are in a more active mood, and can actually move around in your costume, you may want to check out one of the many clubs that are having special Halloween bashes. Take the N,R to Lime-light, located at 660 Sixth Avenue at 20th Street (212-807-7780), for a crazy time in a breathtaking church turned club (what could be more Halloween?).

If you don't feel like clubbing it, you may feel like going a little nuts at a concert. There are a huge range of shows including BB Mak at Irving Plaza (\$22.50 in advance, \$25 day of show), Medeski Martin & Wood at the Beacon Theatre (\$27), Squirrel Nut Zippers and Bit Ritmo at The Supper Club (\$22.50 in advance, \$25 day of show), and the most Hal-

loween appropriate and overpriced, Alice Cooper and Dope at Roseland (\$30 in advance, \$35 day of show). These little gigs will supply you not only with good music, but a guaranteed party.

Don't underestimate the fun to be had by checking out one of the Broadway shows you've been planning on seeing for two years now. De La Guarda, playing at the Daryl Roth Theater (20 Union Square, ticket prices ranging from \$20-\$45), will be showing at 8 pm Tuesday. With cast members flying through the air and little plastic figurines raining down on your head, you are sure to feel the Halloween surreal in full force.

Dress up crazy and head down to Club El Flamingo at 547 W. 21st Street between Tenth and Eleventh Avenues, for a wild costume extravaganza performance of the Donkey Show. This modern adaptation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* includes such killer disco hits as *Car Wash* and *You Sexy Thing*. Plus, the cast members' getups are so far from everyday, you will feel like you're at a costume party rather than a Broadway play. The whole thing is totally interactive, so don't be shy about your own crazy garb. Hooker boots and anything chiffon are recommended.

The stay-at-school option is always there, and always tempting when we do (ouch) have school the next day. Inevitably someone on this campus will have the proper priorities and throw something huge and Halloweenish in her suite. I say, dress up as a Columbia student and see if you can get by the guards without signing in. Wouldn't that be fun?

Courtney E. Martin is a Barnard junior and bulletin co-nyc living editor.

...and now, some tips:

your Halloween survival guide

by Courtney E. Martin

Halloween is certainly no longer as easy as it once was. As a little girl you had plenty of empty hours on the swing set or in your backyard to fantasize about a costume and plan its many intricacies. You bought it months in advance and tried it on frequently to make sure everything was in place. You showed up at school, shiny-faced and enthusiastic about all the little witches, cheerleaders, and Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles strewn about the classroom. You went home happy, trick-or-treated with your proud father, loaded up on candy, and then returned home, exhausted and belly full of chocolates, around nine o'clock.

Now you are in your twenties, you don't have anyone to give you candy, and you have been too busy thinking about midterms to even consider your costume options. Here are ten essential suggestions of how to make your Halloween in the city go smoothly, even without the preparation:

Do not, under any circumstances, call your mom last minute and ask for her advice. As a second grader, I somehow ended up without a costume, and in a panic Halloween morning, my mom dressed me up as Carmen Miranda. Yeah, you probably don't know who she is, and trust me, neither did the 30 other kids in my class who spent the entire day asking me why I was wearing fruit around my neck. Take it from me, mothers are not up to date on happening Halloween garb.

You always run the risk of creating a costume that you think is smashing, and everyone else thinks is stupid, so whenever possible, dress up with friends. If you are, for example, Charlie's Angels, all three of you can share in the misery of being laughed at if people think you are pathetic. If your costumes are a hit, you can team up and increase the gloat factor.

Hold on to your candy bags tightly. The big bad bullies of

yesteryear who snatched your bag have certainly turned into the thick-necked monsters you hear grunting in the weight room over at Dodge. Protect yourself and your chocolate.

If you are all grown up and substituting eating candy for gulping down mixed drinks, be sure to recall the lesson you learned all those years ago: sick tummies are no fun on Halloween. Back in the day, your mom probably checked all your candy obsessively for razor blades or other hidden dangers. Today, you will have to be the safety

queen by avoiding drinks that have been sitting at bars too long or mixed by someone else at parties

Please, please, please remember to distinguish what is the costume and who is the real guy/girl. I had the unfortunate experience of meeting a man at a bar last Halloween who said he was a prison guard. Let's just say I thought he was talking about his costume.

If Mr. Right tells you that he's an investment banker with a home upstate and an apartment on the Upper East side, he may be exploring his character.

Do not, under any circumstances, think about the fact that you have class on Wednesday.

Think of something inventive for your costume. Dressing all in black is, face it, the everyday uniform for a Barnard girl.

Okay, okay, so you have been trying to tell your friends back home that the city is not really such a dangerous place. You are right, 364 other days of the year, but don't forget that Halloween is every slightly crazy person's excuse to get really psychotic.

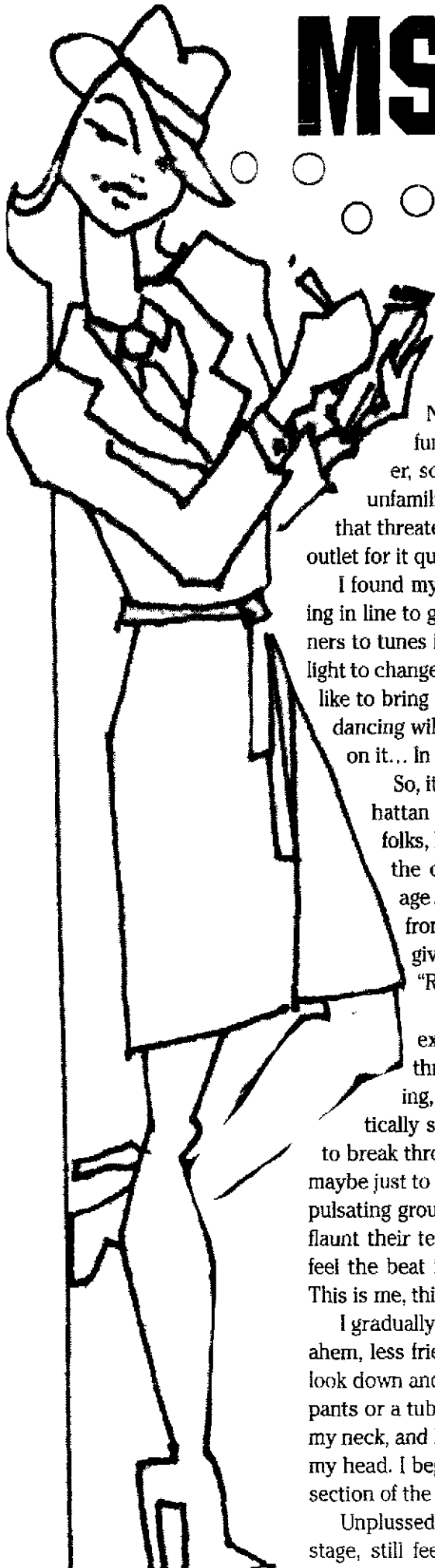
Have some fun for once. Take a break from your nervous fake ID masquerade of every weekend and pretend to be someone else legally.

Courtney E. Martin is a Barnard junior and bulletin co-nyc living editor.

Hold on to your candy bags tightly. The big bad bullies of yesteryear who snatched your bag have certainly turned into the thick-necked monsters you hear grunting in the weight room over at Dodge.

MS. MANHATTAN

groovin at a nyc club



Katie O'Shea

After devouring some greasy goodness, taking a few rides, and soaking up the Coney Island sun, I decided to experience the other half of this city. No more of this family-oriented fun stuff. I wanted something darker, something more exciting; I felt an unfamiliar impatience, a swelling energy that threatened to explode if I didn't find an outlet for it quickly.

I found myself tapping my foot while waiting in line to get wraps, dancing on street corners to tunes in my head while waiting for the light to change, and imagining what it would be like to bring a stereo into class and just start dancing wildly, as though my life depended on it... In short, I needed to go to a club.

So, it's a Saturday night and Ms. Manhattan is headed to Vinyl. That's right, folks, I get into line at about 12:00 with the other ravers, brakers, and average Janes and Joes. When I get to the front, the lady at the coat check gives me a knowing smile and says, "Right through that door, sweetie."

With an almost unbearable excitement, I step through the threshold, into the swirling, sweating, beautiful mass of bodies all frantically seeking to transcend this reality, to break through to some sort of nirvana, or maybe just to dance. I start on the fringe of the pulsating group, where the real ravers stay to flaunt their technique and close my eyes as I feel the beat in the deepest part of my soul. This is me, this is where I was meant to be.

I gradually become aware that some of the, ahem, less friendly ravers are looking at me. I look down and realize that I'm not wearing big pants or a tube top, there's no pacifier around my neck, and I don't have a pony-tail on top of my head. I begin to feel uncomfortable in this section of the dance floor.

Unplussed, I make my way over to the stage, still feeling the euphoria that dancing has always produced in me. As I step onto the

stage, I realize that this is marked territory as well. Everywhere I look, guys have on helmets and ski hats, and the few girls around are wearing sports bras and Adidas pants. These are the brakers. I watch, mesmerized, as two male dancers duel: one outdoing the other by a longer freeze, a wilder spin, or just plain better style. A thrill courses through my body. I could do this, I know it. I begin to scheme.

After about an hour of this, I make my way over to one of the better dancers and casually strike up a conversation. "You're an amazing dancer," I begin sheepishly, "I would really love to learn how to do what you do."

He laughs in my face. His friend looks interested and asks me if I've had any dance experience. I tell him about ballet classes and he grudgingly agrees to teach me one move. I'm overcome by excitement and follow my teacher off the stage into another, less crowded room. (Never did it occur to me that this was not the brightest of moves for a young gal to make on her own).

We start with the six-step... "one, two, three, four, five, six, that's it. Now again." As I clumsily make my way through the positions, I gradually begin to feel one movement connect to the next, effortlessly. My confidence is boosted when my instructor shouts, "Yeah, girl." He backs away, and I suddenly realize that I am BRAKING on my own. I feel exactly the same way that I had as a kid when my uncle let go of my bike from behind and told me to keep pedaling...terrified, thrilled, and free.

Then, suddenly, my ecstasy comes to a crashing halt as I collapse onto my thumb. It gives way with a brittle snap that is so painful that I briefly lose consciousness. When I open my eyes, my formerly enthusiastic teacher is staring down at me with a worried and slightly disgusted expression on his face. In a flash, all of my hopes are vanquished. No dueling, no freezing, no bandannas tied charmingly around my head. My braking days are done. After several trips to the hand surgeon and lots of laughs, I'm beginning to feel antsy. Ms. Manhattan is on the prowl again...

views of the city

By Angela Tsang

Lately, Barnard students everywhere have displayed some rather peculiar behavior. While some have seemingly carved a niche for themselves on the second floor of Lehman library, others possess the ability to sleep anywhere regardless of time, place, or setting and, sometimes, even at timed intervals of every five minutes.

For any innocent bystander, the sight of all these zombie-like creatures, lovingly regarded as students, is disturbing and unreal. Within this campus, however, it is reality. For all of us, this particular time of midterms and deadlines induce our bodies to withstand some harsh conditions, like three hour sleep patterns. We yearn for some peace and relaxation. Surprisingly, the solution is in New York City.

For many, however, New York City seldom conjures up images of serenity and tranquility, let alone enlightenment. Rather, it is characterized by hustle and bustle: crowds, noise, smog and filth, and constant, perpetual activity. Although this image of New York as fast-paced, demanding, and hectic certainly exists and appeals to all of us in a strange way, tranquil sanctuaries and hideaways within this bustling place suggest a wholly different way of life.

Fortunately for us, these havens are in our very own surroundings or easily reached by the swipe of a Metrocard. Quite literally within our two-block campus, magnificent sights await us in hopes of reminding us that shrubs do not constitute nature and shopping is not a relaxation technique. And beyond Barnard, countless hideaways within Manhattan offer any willing (and poor) student the opportunity to experience a little bit of Zen in her life.

For students badly in need of some rest, rush to these hideaways and re-enact the pre-school ritual of a nap. For exhausted students who refuse to withstand the insanity of yet another H&M store, retreat to these places and restore your karma. Lastly, for all those Barnard students who perhaps enjoy the experience of long days spent without sleep or food, hurry as

quickly as possible to these places and immerse yourself in the beauty of nature. Even if nirvana is not reached, at the least, it is a good excuse to escape and simply relax.

Sulzberger Towers

Located in the Quad at Barnard, these high-rise suites not only offer the benefits of a cozy, single room, but also spectacular views of the river and of the city. The seventeenth and sixteenth floors, in particular, display awe-inspiring views of the Hudson River. At sunset or sunrise, the reflection of the glistening sun against the Hudson River is breathtaking. The backdrop of the sky, after sunset, is glorious to behold. Searching for inspiration from the natural world around us? Don't hesitate to visit this place.

Shapiro

Shapiro is a residence hall at Columbia that also offers spectacular views of the Hudson River and of the City. However, since they are located on the rooftop, to access these views requires a bit of ingenuity and daring. Although a risky endeavor, a trek to the roof offers the reward of a spell-binding view of river and city. Ready to take the risk? Rush on over to Shapiro and check it out.

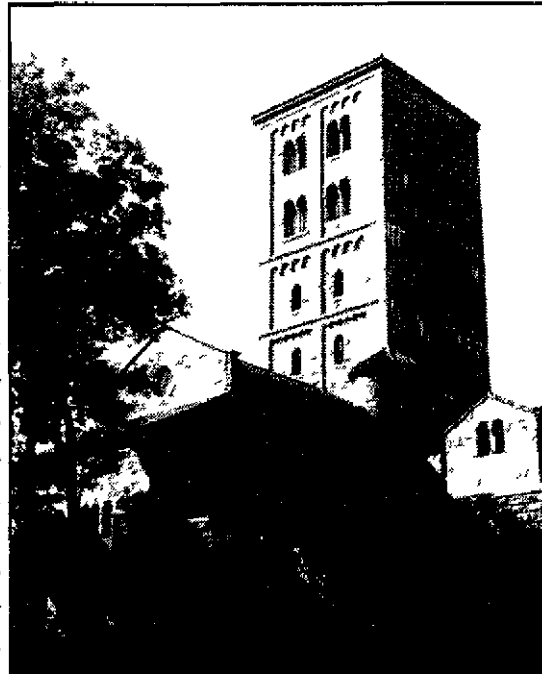
Manhattan Cloisters in Fort Tryon

Park

The Cloisters is heaven-sent. Built as a replica of a traditional, European monastery, it maintains an extensive collection of medieval art and unicorn tapestries. Surrounded by greenery, the Cloisters also has tranquil gardens and open terraces which face an extended view of the river. The serene surroundings, along with the beautiful views of the river, have the potential of reverting any spectator into an environmental fanatic. More likely, it will make one appreciate the beauties of nature. The Cloisters provides the most natural setting attainable in Manhattan, suited for aspiring monk or overwhelmed student. Want to meditate? Go now.

Sheep Meadows in Central Park

At daytime, Central Park is crowded by legions of people along its roads and in its compact gardens. << page 31 >>



take a peek from the cloisters...

Renata's rambblings

Watching flirtations in progress, I often find myself wondering how humankind manages to reproduce. Not only have we managed to effectively pigeonhole members of each sex into their respective and ridiculously limiting roles, but we have neglected to teach each of these members just how they should go about fulfilling these roles. Consequently, we are faced with a plethora of missed connections, misunderstandings and missed chances.

Oftentimes, I might observe the methods of some males. It is very easy to find; in bars, at parties, even at casual gatherings, one can discreetly watch a private little spectacle. Sometimes, to be fair, it does bring out a sort of amused sympathy, not unlike the "oh, how cute" response one might have to the babbling of a baby. However, most of the time, all that the boys' antics succeed in arousing is a general contempt for the male species.

Still, you have to admire the nerve of some of these would-be suitors. They smirk at a breasted human being, stand back and oh-so-nonchalantly compliment one of her body parts. Or, even better, spew forth one of those great lines that have been popularized by the mass media. Really, someone ought to tell those guys that those lines were used in *Austin Powers* primarily to make fun of their ineffectiveness. And also, we must not forget those stimulating types—the kind who stares at you with the intense scrutiny of a security camera. Unfortunately, the reaction these types get is much like a reaction to a security camera—which is basically complete lack of caring, tinged possibly with a vague sense of anxiety. We do live in New York City, after all.

I fondly call them the pie-lovers. Pie. American Pie.

However, we must not forget the other categories of flirts. We have the self-proclaimed Casanovas, oh, yes, we have all seen them. They walk with the unmistakable strut of a man who had been to many places. They gaze at females through heavy-lidded eyes. Their voices are smooth and deep, and their movements are suave. They think nothing of putting their arm around a girl they met only that day. In other words, the cartoon characters.

Then, we have the guys who want to stun us with their intellect. They quote liberally from obscure literature, insert (sometimes) relevant details about the life of Beethoven into the conversation, and look into the eyes of their lust object with pathetic hope. They hurry to characterize themselves as "The Smart Boys", the sort that they hope the girl's mother told her to find.

Well, okay, so they are boy

geniuses. Who the heck wants a boy? Boy, as opposed to man, that is.

However, lest I be panned for being chauvinistic, in the interests of being fair, I must also admit that there are some young ladies out there who quite frankly make me do double takes. It forever amazes me to see the

**You do not
make me horny, I
am not going your
way, and I can buy
my own God-
damned drink!**

transformation that can be wrought by the introduction of an attractive specimen of maleness. Assertive, intelligent women morph (quite visibly!) into simpering, wide-eyed ingenues.

They suddenly begin saying things like "Really!" in a disbelieving, admiring tone of voice. "Wow, that is just incredible!" they respond to tales of such daring feats as turning a full 360 degrees on a skateboard (Oh! Why he is positively a neo-Beowulf!) or successfully debugging a program, well, maybe after the rest of the class already did. The girls turn into gushing groupies, keeping that adoring gaze trained on the eyes of the blithering boy in front of them. They do not speak very much, letting the male talk about himself all he wants.

However, it should be noted that, overused and nauseating as this approach is, it does work. Use it at your own risk as regular usage can lead to such side effects as bleaching your hair blonde and wearing pastel makeup.

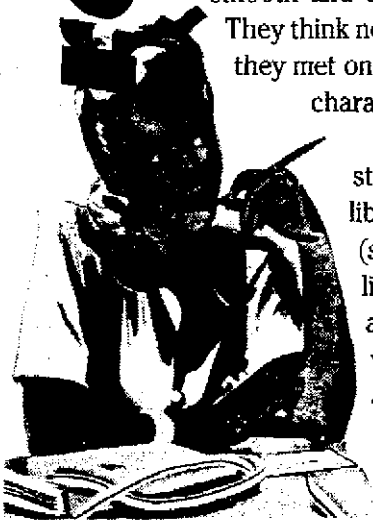
Yes. In a nutshell, this is what I am confronted with whenever I choose to go into a bar, a party or even, at times, the dorm room of someone who happens to have invited a male over. The interactions between the genders are fascinating to watch, they also have the potential to be frightening. So much of what I see in these interactions is completely false, utterly inorganic. And yet, these flirtations form the basis for relationships. Is it any wonder, then, that so many relationships fail? Sooner or later, the falseness becomes glaringly obvious. There is resentment at being lied to. There is also resentment at having been forced to pretend.

And just think how much of that resentment would be saved if we didn't kowtow to the tradition of pure falseness that forms the basis of "relationship politics."

Perhaps I am wrong in how I am going about this. I have watched some of my closest friends, and some of the most intelligent people I know, turn into stereotypical females, lavishing adoration on whatever male happens to be in front of them. I have watched them fall for lines that are glaringly, blatantly contrived. I have watched them take part in the age-old dance of concealment that is flirtation.

Then, again, I have watched them go on dates as I curl up with a good book. Who is better off? You decide.

Renata Bystritsky is a Barnard sophomore and bulletin columnist. Comments? Email her at rb557@barnard.edu.



bad journalism

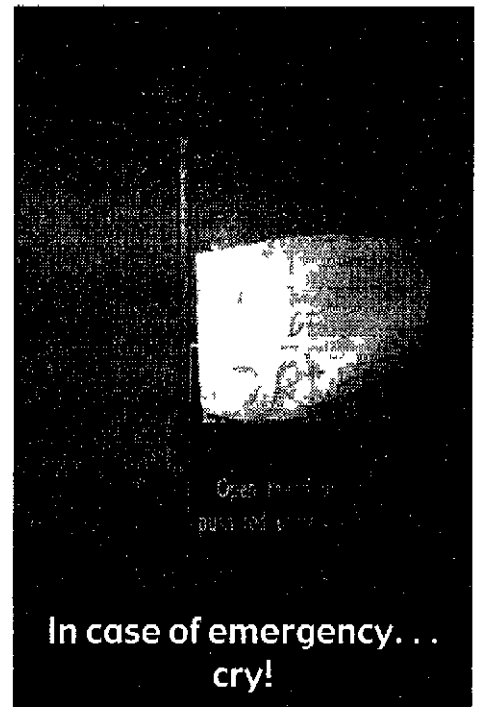
Things that never fail to make us laugh



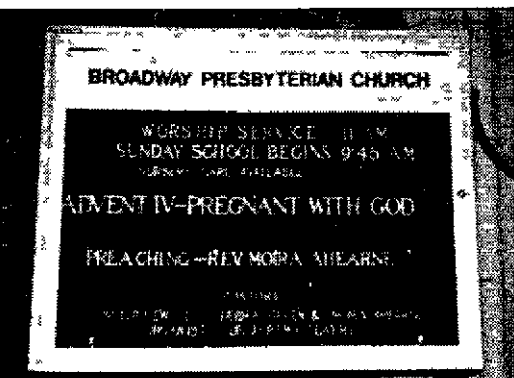
And the winner for most phallic object on Columbia Campus is. . .



Suspiciously located in close proximity to both Columbia fraternities and the West End.

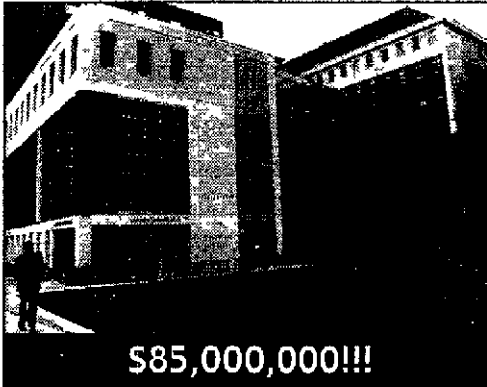


In case of emergency. . . cry!

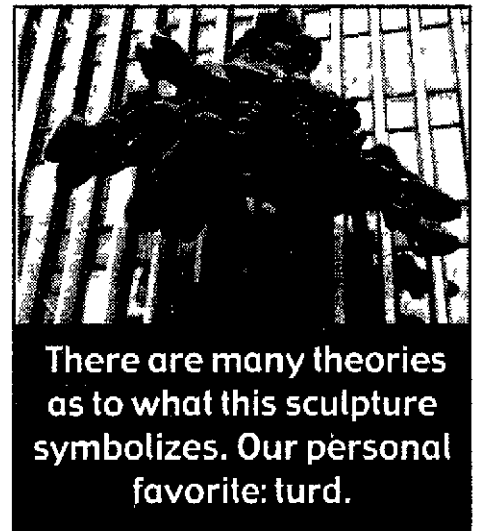


How does one have safe sex with a deity?

By Beth Blacklow, Dana Fields, K8 Torgovnick.
Photos by Beth Blacklow.



\$85,000,000!!!



There are many theories as to what this sculpture symbolizes. Our personal favorite: turd.



We love cult literature. We are avid Jews for Jesus pamphlet collectors. Our personal favorite: "Ten out of ten Jewish doctors recommend Jesus."

presidential election or popularity contest?

By Lauren Veloski

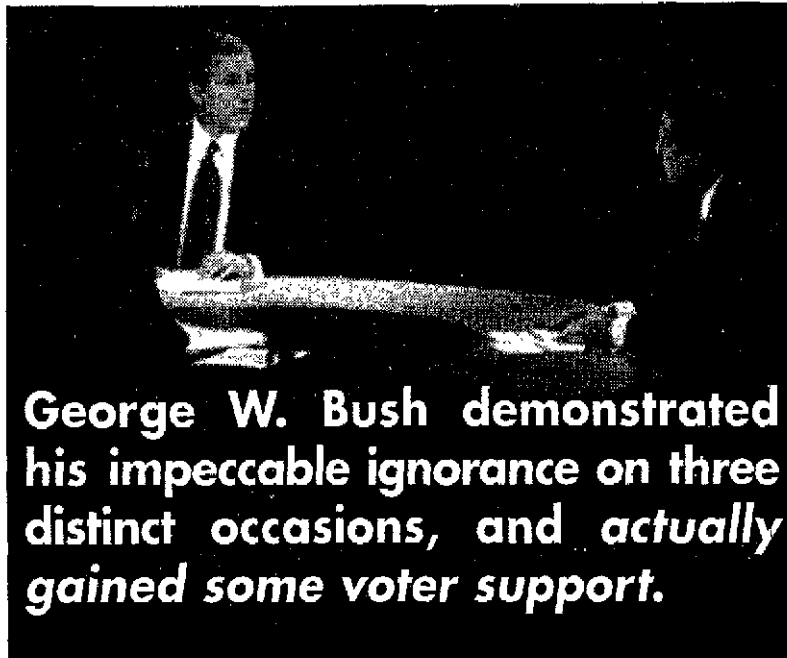
The presidential debates could easily be written off as painful displays of fragile ego—on par, perhaps, with junior high school student government elections. So why should we care? Here's why: On national television, George W. Bush demonstrated his impeccable ignorance on three distinct occasions, and *actually gained some voter support*. To me, each debate seemed a prouder display of Bush's unchecked bravado. But let's make no mistake about it: George W. Bush is now a serious contender for president of the United States.

We idealists may believe that debates can disarm surface assumptions, but image is the name of the game. Specifically Bush's game. He played it well. First and foremost, the televised bouts proved in pursuit of the elusive presidential "image." Sadly, it appears that Bush may have won. Though most younger voters may agree that Bush's ignorance absolutely beamed beneath the stage lights, a fair amount of us do not vote. Even more worrisome is the rest of the country's position: that Bush is a charming, able man.

The first debate—a traditional, podium-style format—left most voters unmoved by either candidate. But it defined the tactics Bush would fall back on in the next two rounds: playing to the audience and pandering for cheap laughs. At every serious conjecture, Bush shot back that Gore was using, "fuzzy Washington math," looked thoughtfully into the camera, softened his voice, and told America: "I want to share some of that money [the surplus] with you." Sweet-talking is Bush's expertise. His technique: make promises of goodies and watch as desperate, greedy Americans climb

aboard. It is a tactic not at all unlike, say, passing out lollipops with campaign buttons. Oh, the simplicity of junior high school elections. Sigh.

Why can't the American public—an exceptionally media savvy audience—distinguish image from word, promise from practiced sound-bite, and rhetoric from actual idea? In the aftermath of the debates, it seems that Bush's dumbing-down of the issues has won solid converts. Certainly, viewers couldn't have been swayed by his policy proposals—he offered none. Or, I should say, he offered



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none that he could fully own-up to while soliciting cross-partisan support. Even conservatives must have been annoyed by his shoulder-shrugging.

Bush's plain mediocrity was appalling. Miraculously, it cost him no points. Gore, who proved time and again to be phenomenally more informed, was labeled "overaggressive" and "defensive" by political analysts. Every time Bush managed to construct a series of semi-coherent sentences he was declared the winner.

But there's no challenge in ridiculing Bush's bewilderment with grammar, his speech impediment, or his exceedingly audible snorts. Much more to the point are his skilled, forceful deferrals. Bush's

rhetorical finesses was so effective in the debates that—despite refusing to commit to any actual *idea*—he had analysts calling his demeanor "presidential."

Presidential? Was there more than one George W. Bush on television? Did I miss the better version? Strange. The "Dubya" I witnessed was jumpy, evasive, and painfully uninformed. But also *predictably* uninformed. It was an honest performance, I suppose. Even within the dependable underpinning of the Republican consensus, Bush's readiness for the highest office in the land has been questioned. In a speech last month, Bob Dole remarked: "There's a feeling that he's not quite ready for prime time, that he doesn't fill the suit."

In the second debate, Bush attempted to disarm these concerns. He did this not with an assertion of his ability, but with the reassurance that "an administration is not one person." In other words, we can rest assured that the same people who have been whipping Bush's brow and feeding him lines all along will prop him up in the White House as well. Phew.

Why is America so determined to self-destruct? The mind reels. Gore clearly knew his stuff, but it scored him no points. Americans, it seems, want their candidate sugar-coated, clownish, and openly apathetic.

Following the debates, many praised Bush's "sincerity"—a term, no doubt, easily confused with "simplicity." Even under the watchful eye of dear old Jim Lehrer, Bush delivered an exquisite series of non-answers. Indeed, even in his discussion of the big issues—social security, education, Medicare, and abortion—cool cat Dubya managed to dodge all specifics. Most insulting was his slippery handling of the third debate—earnest audience members were met

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Barnard academically great, but socially lacking

By Tiffany Anderson

It seems that Barnard College is in its prime right now. Indeed, one would be hard-pressed to convince this Barnard senior that this college falls short of providing anything but an exceptional educational experience. The applicant pool reached a record high this year, and consequently the school is growing more competitive.

Students are arriving from all over the globe (45 countries!) to join the student body, and the faculty continues to inspire and impress its students. Graduate school admission rates are extremely high, and post-undergraduate job opportunities abound. In many ways, then, words of praise and self-congratulation are entirely justified.

However, these statistics and accolades overlook something very important. I feel that it is time that the Barnard College community engages itself in an open discussion about the quality of life at this school. I am convinced that the health and happiness of students on a campus is equally (if not more so) important as the school's praiseworthy academics, or career placement record.

Basically, I am not at all convinced that the quality of life here merits equal praise. My own history at the school might be a good example. I do not intend to turn this in to a personal diatribe against the school. I do, however, think it only fair to clarify my perspective before continuing.

I left Barnard at the end of my sophomore year, and in all honesty, I had no intention of returning. Of course, students leave schools all the

time. It is only natural to feel 'out of place' in college. The problem is that I don't think was out of place here! I love the city, its opportunities and fast pace. And I love the Barnard's academics. Hell, I even have great friends here! Two years at Barnard had made me a stronger student, with 'street smarts' that my suburban upbringing certainly did not provide.

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That would have been fine, if not for the fact that I was miserable. Completely, totally miserable. Again, this is only one experience, and I have no intent to blame the school for my "issues." Really, these problems evade very few college students.

It's just that the more I talked to fellow students here sophomore year, I felt less like the exception, and more like the rule. It seemed that I while I was lonely, and confused, and alienated I was in very good company. Academically, 'we' were fine. Socially, well that was a different story. Many people I knew were, and are, very unhappy here. I think a good deal of this stems from a lack of identity and sense of pride about being Barnard students.

This is not a conventional place, and this is why identity intrinsic to other schools is lacking here. We are a 'women's college' yet every class required for my major is co-ed! Essentially, I am immersed in a co-ed environment academically, but not 'socially', in

the conventional sense. We are part of the Columbia University. Yet Columbia students continually challenged my place in the university. Occasionally, I even felt mocked. The college touts the 'community' that a women's school engenders, yet it appears more individualistic (independent?) than almost any other school I have ever seen!

Additionally, (and this is really just my own confusion), the only social place on campus, the Quad Café, has been moved away from the residence halls into a large cavernous (and hence rather unwelcoming) space in the middle of campus! Dorm life varies, I realize. However, I could relate many stories of people who found the first

year or two of college extremely uncomfortable due to housing arrangements.

I want to repeat that for many many reasons, Barnard is an exceptional place, and I do feel very fortunate to have been a part of it. However, these elements are very difficult to value when the quality of life leaves much to be desired. I am convinced that I am not alone in these feelings. If I am...great! I would honestly be thrilled to hear that. It seems to me though, that there were (and are) an uncanny number of women feeling the same way I did. I think that this is really a waste of Barnard's enormous potential. I spent a good deal of time discontent and confused about my experience here.

It's only now, after a year away, that I realize that something might actually be done to help the situation! I think it would start with honesty.

Tiffany Anderson is a Barnard senior.

letters to the editor

Dear Editors,

As dean, I open the Bulletin each week with a combination of anticipation, looking forward to interesting features and news coverage, and dread, waiting to see what complaint/lament/criticism is coming our way.

Imagine, then, my delight in your October 11th piece entitled "Blessed to be at Barnard." It was refreshing to read your appreciation of the faculty and our student body; I was especially pleased with what you had to say about Barnard students.

You managed to capture the vitality and diversity of our students, the

very qualities that have kept me happily engaged in my 29 year career at the College. Thank you and I hope you that you continue to savor the riches of Barnard.

Sincerely,
Dorothy Denburg,
Dean of the College

Dear Editors,

Bravo to Kiryn Haslinger for her honest and up-front article about the liberal majority on campus. Opinion is an opinion, and no one should be bullied and coerced into believing in something because everyone else is and because it's "cool".

Particularly with the upcoming senatorial and presidential elections, it's important that people not be afraid to speak their mind, and vote with their mind, not with their fear.

Tarane Wangsatorntanakhun
BC '01

Dear Editors,

The article on fire safety that appeared in your October 11th issue, written by Danielle Bayer, was both fair and balanced. However, there was one very important omission that sheds quite a different light on how the college views fire safety and what is being done to improve this critical area and better protect our student population. Barnard College is currently in the process of having a fire safety master plan prepared by expert outside consultants. This is a time consuming and expensive undertaking, the results of which we are anxiously awaiting. Every facet of our equipment and procedures are being examined and the recommendations that are made will form the basis for an extensive upgrade of our entire fire safety operation. While all of our equipment and procedures are currently up to code, we realize that certain improvements are necessary and will further ensure our student's safety.

I'm sure the above information would have been a part of the article had your reporter been provided with it, an omission for which we are responsible.

Sincerely,
William Plackenmeyer
Director of Safety & Security

<< page 28 >> by an inexhaustible refusal to really respond.

If Bush is elected president, we can expect more of the same. Usually conservatives are opposed for their uncaring, discriminatory proposals. But Bush operates within an entirely separate sphere. His is a dizzyingly vapid approach. With cocky lines like "I'm beginning to think not only did he invent the Internet, he

also invented the calculator!" Bush made America only one real promise in the debates: to entertain. It fits. After all, the man was once a star cheerleader.

Let's take a moment and imagine George W. Bush's world. President Vicente Fox is "a man I know from Mexico." Affirmative Action is a non-issue, and easily replaced by the dormant policies of a fictional program called Affirmative

Access. Voters fall for badly crafted jokes every time. The oval office is a place in which to swivel in a big comfy chair behind the oval office desk and shoot spitballs. But we should not doubt Bush's sincerity. Reason #101 to get off your butt and vote responsibly: If Bush plans at all, he plans to win this popularity contest.

Lauren Veloski is a Barnard junior.

got a beef?

we want to know about it!
send your commentary,
questions, or suggestions
to bulletin@barnard.edu
even if you're a vegetarian.

<< page 12 >> about their experiences in their searches for sexual identity. Finally, on October 29, join the Columbia Queer Alliance for a repeat of its Sushi Party that was so popular at Orientation. This will be held in the Satow Room, Lerner Hall, at 7:00 pm.

Whether a movie about a Japanese

BDSM prostitute, the First Friday Dance (which jointly celebrated QuAM and Latino Heritage Month), a panel discussion about violence or health issues or a trip to Bluestockings, the famous women's bookstore, this month's events have had a two-fold mission: to inform and to entertain.

With the general turnout larger than expected, organizers are enthusiastically looking forward to next year, when QuAM will be an officially campus-recognized heritage month. Be sure to check it out.

Anna Stevenson is a Barnard first-year.

<< page 13 >> There will be a closing reception in Lower Level McIntosh on October 30 at 7 pm. Because November is Native American History month, this closing event will have a strong focus on Indigenous Latino cultures.

Another of Soriano's intentions in planning this month's activities is to bring students of various Latino cultures

together. "There are several different groups among us and we all want the opportunity to talk about feminist and racial issues from our respective cultural perspectives." This month gives students of Latina backgrounds to learn more about themselves and the cultures of other Latina women.

Dorene Marinese is a Barnard senior.

write for the bulletin! come on, ya know ya wanna!
meetings monday nights, 8 pm, in the bulletin office—
128 LL Mac. call x42119
or email bulletin@barnard.edu for more info!

<< page 25 >> However, the best time to experience Central Park and truly appreciate its unique existence is at night.

A trek to the park at night requires some preliminary advice. Do not go alone or else face the risk of becoming a news story. Be aware of your surroundings. Don't carry your life-savings. Despite these precautions, Central Park is a beautiful and surprisingly tranquil place at night. Sheep Meadow, in particular, is a great place to visit. An opened grass area that faces the New York skyline along Central Park West, Sheep Meadow is hugely popular at daytime. At night, this place is transformed into an open field with the stars overhead and the illuminating lights of the skyline all around. Tired of seeing the black sky overhead? This is your place.

Battery Park in Manhattan

Located at the outermost point of Manhattan, Battery Park faces the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island and parts of New Jersey.

Though tourists occupy almost every inch of this place by day, Battery Park, like Sheep Meadow, at night offers some of



...or take a look from the tower.

the best views of this city along with a peaceful environment. With the reflection of the Jersey Shore against the water and the illumination of the Statue of Liberty, night gives an entrancing and mysterious quality to Battery Park. Ready for deep contemplation? Grab your Metrocard and head downtown.

Even though the above-mentioned places are fun, brief, and, not to mention, cheap getaways, there are countless other places within all five boroughs of this city that offer spectacular, if not better, views of New York. Finding these places requires only two components: imagination and openness to experience. Certainly, you could pay ten dollars or more to peruse the sights at the Empire State Building or World Trade Center. However, truly beautiful and serene places are those corners of the City that do not require a camera or ticket, but only an examination and appreciation of the everyday beauties around us.

Angela Tsang is a Barnard sophomore

WANTED:

Risk-Takers
Influencers
Educators
Advisors

To compete in the Double Iron Triathlon, Patricia is focused on pushing her athletic limits. Back in the office, her concern is the well-being of 15,000 employees. What makes your heart race?

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