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Students of Bryn Mawr College

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THE COLLEGE NEWS

VOLUME IX Number 2

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BRYN MAWR COLLEGE

October 7, 1987

Physical Plant petitions to unionize with AFL-CIO

by Laura Miller and Lillian Daniel

According to physical plant workers, on September 21, 1987 Bryn Mawr College attorney Phyllis Lachs responded with an emphatic "No way" to their request that they be legally recognized as a union. On the same day, workers filed an official petition with the National Labor Relations Board to start proceedings to unionize as an independent local chapter of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union AFL-CIO.

In an otherwise closed meeting for workers on October 7 attended by a *College News* reporter, physical plant employees voiced concerns about pay inequity, recently decreased benefits, excessive outside contracting, favoritism in promotion and many other issues. "There seems to be a three-tiered system within the staff: you have the faculty and administration in the top two slots and physical plant at the bottom" said one worker, who like everyone else at the meeting insisted upon anonymity.

AFL-CIO union organizer Mike Slott said, in an September 30 interview, that he came to Bryn Mawr after receiving an anonymous phone call from "someone in the Bryn Mawr community." After talking casually with workers who were on their lunch break, he says "There was interest in the union immediately. Two weeks later organizing began... at a meeting, 21 out of 23 physical plant employees signed membership cards. On September 21, myself and two-thirds of the physical plant employees went to Cartref to ask Phyllis Lachs, as a

representative of the college administration, to recognize the union based on a majority interest. She did not even want to talk to us and we got a flat-out refusal."

In an October 1 interview, Bryn Mawr College president Mary Patterson McPherson explained the administration's position. "Union membership is down in this country and they want to build their base. They have been on this campus a number of times, as they have with other campuses."

President McPherson referred to the fact that in 1978-79 the library unionized with a different union, AFSME, but then withdrew from the union during the first year of her presidency. "The record of unions in colleges has not been so successful," she said. "They have been losing more elections than they have been winning. It is sad to see what

has happened to a great movement in the United States." But she added, "Everyone legitimately has a right to see if they will be better represented by a third party than by dealing directly with administrators and supervisors... I am perfectly happy to work with unions, but we will bargain very hard."

AFL-CIO organizer Mike Slott and many others at the union meeting often cited the television documentary, "Women of Summer" which showed Bryn Mawr educating working-class women in the 20's and 30's. Out of these historic summers came many future organizers including Carmen Lucia and Freddie Paine, who was one of the first AFL-CIO organizers. "I was seriously disappointed that the Bryn Mawr administration is doing the exact same thing that large union-busting corporations do," said Slott. "They

are not living up to their tradition."

In response to this charge of hypocrisy, president McPherson said, "You have to realize who we were educating... women in industry. The project was to provide women education who were otherwise denied education. I have no problem with unions. They have been a great strength in the U.S. But, as management, I will deal with them hard, not because I don't think they're good but because I'm for all the folks. I see no conflict in any of that."

"If one unit is represented by an outside party, other units will still have to go through the normal channels. I don't want to improve one group of people's situation at the expense of others." One widely held opinion at the workers meeting was that the real reason

(Continued on page 3)

Civil Rights leader John Lewis to speak

by Carrie Wofford

John Lewis, one of the foremost leaders of the 1960's Civil Rights Movement will be at Bryn Mawr on Monday, October 19 at 8 p.m. to informally discuss with students "Reflections of a Participant on the Civil Rights Movement as a Political Strategy." Sociology Professor Judy Porter said of John Robert Lewis, "[Bryn Mawr] usually cannot attract speakers like this. We have a unique opportunity for students to see and hear someone of major historical importance."

Professor Robert Washington, also of the Sociology department, said that people get the sense that Martin Luther King, Jr. was the only one in the Civil Rights movement, and that John Lewis needs to be rediscovered because he was a major factor throughout the movement. Professor Washington is excited about the informality of the discussion as it will allow students to talk with Lewis in a "give and take" relationship, rather than a lecture situation.

One of the three or four most prominent figures in the Civil Rights movement, John Lewis "became a known public figure with his participation in the national student movement," according to Robert Washington. Lewis was one of the founders of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC—also nicknamed SNIC and SNICK), of which he was then Chairman from 1963 to 1966.

Lewis is here as part of a series of lectures and film showings of "Eyes on the Prize" on the Civil Rights movement organized by the Bryn Mawr and Haverford Peace Studies Program. The main purpose of the Peace Studies Program's "From Civil Rights to Black Politics" series, according to the BMC

Peace Studies Program Coordinator, Political Science Professor Marc Ross, is to provide a retrospective look at the Civil Rights movement in terms of assessing the changes made in American society, assessing the political strategies used to achieve political and social change, and attempting to make the movement available to this generation of students.

John Lewis' Education

Born in Troy, Alabama in 1940, Lewis attended the American Baptist Theological Seminary for a B.A. in 1961, and Fisk University, also for a B.A. in 1967. Haverford Philosophy Professor Lucius Outlaw, who also graduated from Fisk in 1967, explained that Fisk and the American Baptist Theological Seminary were historically and predominantly Black institutions which were important in incubating and nurturing the black struggle for civil rights.

The American Baptist Theological Seminary was funded by black churches as a black liberal arts college. Professor Outlaw reminds us to recognize the importance that theological institutions and churches played

(Continued on page 3)

Famed musicians grace Goodhart



The Endellion String Quartet will perform with Katherine Selby at Bryn Mawr on October 15.

by Marit Danielson

The Endellion String Quartet will be performing along with Kathryn Selby on October 15 in the second event of the Bryn Mawr Performing Arts Series. This concert, the first in their U.S. tour, promises to be the major musical event of the Bryn Mawr season. The program will include Mozart's Piano Quartet in G minor (K.478), Bartok's 3rd String Quartet, and Dvorak's A Major Piano Quintet.

The Endellion Quartet is fairly new to the concert scene, having been formed in 1979. Its members are violinists Andrew Watkinson and Ralph de Souza, violist Garfield Jackson, and cellist David Waterman. They have toured extensively and made numerous recordings. The Endellion's performances have prompted such praise as "The clean virtuosity puts many longer-established quartets to shame." (The *Strad Magazine*) and "The players were scrupulous

and intelligent, sounding both elegant and committed." (The *New York Times*). I had the pleasure of hearing them last year in New York and found their performance both technically and musically exceptional.

Kathryn Selby is an Australian-born pianist who came to the United States in 1977 to study at the Curtis Institute of Music. In 1979 she came to Bryn Mawr desiring a more diverse education than a conservatory had to offer. She continued her piano studies privately.

Selby has received many awards, made recital debuts in major cities and performed concertos with orchestras both here and abroad. She is presently studying with Rudolf Firkusny at The Juilliard School while enrolled in its doctoral program. Kathryn Selby met Ralph de Souza while studying at Curtis and through this connection the Endellion-Selby concert series was born.

(Continued on page 5)

Alumna Messina joins Admissions

by Margaret Jewett

Susan Messina, Bryn Mawr '86, has returned this fall to work as Assistant Director of Admissions. Messina is concerned with women's issues, and sees recruiting for a women's college as part of that agenda. Since graduation she worked as assistant to the director of Women in Transition, a Philadelphia women's organization, where she worked in public relations and development.

Now working for Admissions as a full-time job, Messina has noticed a significant increase in applications to and interest in Bryn Mawr. She notes that last year there were 50% more early decision applicants than before. This year's freshman class shows that more applicants than ever before have actually chosen to matriculate. Messina is also heartened by a greater general interest in women's colleges among the high school students with whom she has contact. A large part of her job is travelling to high schools to give information sessions about Bryn Mawr, and attendance at these meetings has sharply increased. She notes that, "In Schools where about 6 people usually show up, 15-16 are showing up."

When asked about the Admissions Office's representation of cooperation with

Haverford to prospective students, which some students have felt to be unrealistic, Messina stressed the real importance of academic and social cooperation for both schools. "Cooperation can't end," she says, "it's too important." However, she does ask prospectives in interviews about their perceptions of cooperation, and makes sure they are aware that attending Bryn Mawr is not going to be the same experience as attending a co-ed college. She attempts to emphasize at the same time the advantages of cooperation and of attending a women's college, because she feels that both elements are important.

Messina has had a long-standing interest in Admissions. While a student at Bryn Mawr, she hosted prospectives' overnight visits, then began guiding tours of the campus in her junior year. As a senior, Messina was a representative to the Admissions Committee, a position which involved reviewing applications and discussing them with the Admissions staff. After graduation she interviewed prospective students on a part-time basis.

Messina is enjoying her work for Admissions, and she plans to stay for two or three years before pursuing a graduate degree in Anthropology or Social Work.

EDITORIAL

The proposed Diversity Requirement was the subject of hot debate last year. The hopes of many students and faculty were raised at the first vote of the Faculty Committee when the Diversity Requirement was passed by a close margin. At the second vote of the Faculty Committee in May the proposal was not passed and thereby defeated.

While many of us invested our hopes for "diversification" of the Bryn Mawr curriculum by the implementation of the Diversity Requirement we have to realize that we now need to look for alternatives to an academic requirement. Perhaps some of us were looking for an easy solution or a first step to correcting the Western bias of our curriculum. But since student mobilization for the proposed Diversity Requirement did not prove to be a viable answer to the problem of the Western bias of our curriculum, we need to look for new solutions.

The diversification of the curriculum to include subjects outside of the traditional Western academic curriculum is one goal. Requiring all students to take a one semester course whose main focus is outside of the Western tradition is another. But a new approach to achieving this goal is to revise, department by department, our current course offerings.

When the proposed Diversity Requirement was being considered, the Curriculum Committee reviewed each of the humanities and social science departments. Some departments were better prepared to fulfill the requirement than others. An evaluation of each of the department's course offerings is one way of pointing out both inadequacies and strengths.

But changes will not happen simply because we recognize the inadequacies of biases of departments. There must be demands on the part of the students to offer courses whose focus is on non-Western peoples or traditions and that material needs to be incorporated into the current course offerings. General agreement with the intention of the Diversity Requirement is not enough. Students must use the channels available to them to make their concern for a continued effort towards diversifying the curriculum.

This can be done through the upcoming Trustees meeting this weekend. Students are invited to have lunch with the Trustees on Friday, October 9 at Wyndham. Students can also speak with the Student Representatives to the Board of Trustees, Lynne Bowers and Linda Friedrich. The Student Representative to the Faculty, Beth Posner, is also able to inform the Faculty of student demand for continued attention to diversifying the College's curriculum. Students may also make appointments with their Deans, the Dean of the College, Michele Myers, and the President of the College to express their concern with the curricular offerings.

Last year's struggle and the intention of the Diversity Requirement should not be forgotten. The controversy generated a lot of positive concern and self-criticism of our curriculum, on the part of both students and faculty. We should not leave what we learned to stagnate at the back of our minds. The goal of diversifying the curriculum should be passed on to incoming students so that the progression toward a more diverse curriculum is a steady one.

MARCH ON WASHINGTON

Sunday, October 11, 1987

In support of Lesbian and Gay Rights
FREE transportation available

Leaves BMC-CAMPUS CENTER 7:00AM	Leaves HC-STOKES 7:15AM	Leaves SWARTHMORE 7:45AM
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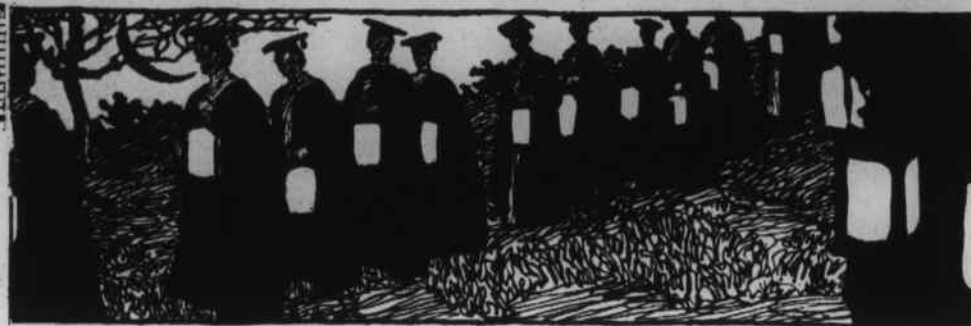
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The College News is a Bryn Mawr publication serving the entire College community. People interested in joining the staff should contact one of the editors. Deadline for letters to the editor is Friday preceding publication. The College News is published every other week on Wednesdays while classes are in session.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: The College News seeks to provide a forum for the students, faculty, administration, and staff of Bryn Mawr. While articles on topical subjects will be published, each issue will seek to examine in-depth an issue of relevance to the College community. The College News welcomes ideas and submissions from all members of the community, as well as from outside groups and individuals whose purpose or functions are connected to those of the College.



Traditions

The 1987-88 year is off to a great start for Traditions, with a very successful Parade Night and Freshmen Hall Plays. We'd like to thank all the freshmen who participated this year. The plays were very funny and creative and showed much of the enthusiasm that is a trademark of the class of 1991. Thanks again!

Lantern Night is to be held this year on Oct. 18 at 8pm in the cloisters. For all sophomores, freshmen and upperclass swingers, the rehearsals are as follows: Either October 7 or October 8 at 4pm in the Great Hall, as well as two mandatory rehearsals after Fall Break; October 14 at 4pm - cloisters; and October 17 at 3:30pm - cloisters.

Bathrobe signouts will be publicized at rehearsals, and we'd like to remind you that continuing last year's successful policy, the failure to return your bathrobe will result in a fine of \$100!

Please attend all rehearsals, as it is essential that you know all the songs and the routine so that Lantern Night will proceed smoothly.

Sophomores: watch for information from your dorm reps & class presidents regarding tea invitations and the tying party.

All Dorms: the sophomore reps will be holding dorm meetings to teach "Sophias" and "Pallas Athena." All classes are welcome!

Also, any Bryn Mawr or Haverford upperclassmen who would like to usher, please contact the junior songsmistress. We'll need about 20 ushers to seat guests and keep everyone quiet.

Any Bryn Mawr upperclassmen who needs a lantern, contact one of the Traditions Mistresses. If you did not attend lantern night as a freshman or have since damaged or lost it, you have to pay the present cost and buy a lantern from the bookstore. If you are a transfer and received the wrong color, we may be able to make an even trade. Contact one of us.

Freshmen, remember, don't look at your lantern when you receive it at Lantern Night until you pick it up to leave. It's bad luck! Also, don't blow it out that night either, the one that lasts the longest will indicate the first PhD of the class!

On a more serious note, in light of the current debate about the alcohol policies at both colleges, we ask that there be no alcohol present at either Lantern Night or the Step Sing following it. Deans, alumnae, parents and friends will be present, so please let us not spoil the solemn beauty of the 102-year-long tradition.

Traditionally yours,
Roopa and Amy
Box C-967 X5830, X6042

Dear Editor:

The Women's Rugby Football Club of Bryn Mawr and Haverford Colleges very much appreciates the exposure it received in the last issue of *The College News*. However the club would like to clarify the issue of the drawing, which was placed next to the article on women's rugby, indicating essentials for the game of rugby. It is essential that women ruggers have cleats, mouthguards, jerseys and shorts in order to play the game. It is also essential that they work to get their bodies in shape and to maintain an assertive attitude and a general sense of mental well being. Unfortunately the general conception of all ruggers is that they also have to have BEER. This assumption is not correct. The drawing which was printed in *The College News* emphasized a keg of beer as an essential of rugby. The BMC-HC Women's Rugby Football Club found this to be an offensive prejudice. The article tells of the high interest the club has of promoting more respect for the game of rugby and for the club in the bi-College community as representatives of both Colleges. We did not ask to be perceived in the light which the drawing suggests, that is as a social group of uniformed keg-killers. We women ruggers strive both fall and spring seasons to achieve excellence in this athletic endeavor of our choosing. We don't deny by any means the presence of a keg at the party after the match. After playing two grueling 40-minute periods with only a five minute half minute, not only does one feel she has earned enough P.E. credit for the season, burnt enough calories to eat three hamburgers at the picnic, but she also feels she deserves a beer if she so chooses.

The greatest aspect of the after match picnic is that both home and visiting teams are present. The clubs' social interactions strengthen the bonds between all those people who enjoy the game of rugby in a way that mere competitive interaction on the pitch cannot. The healthy camaraderie and competition which are the primary essentials of rugby are open to all whether one plays with us or just comes to watch. We hope that those who were misguided by the drawing in the last issue of *The College News* will come experience women's rugby for themselves at our next home match on October 17. We also ask that the editor print our letter as recompense for misconstruing the essence of our club and its sport in the drawing it printed in the previous issue of *The College News*.

The Bryn Mawr College-
Haverford College
Women's Rugby Football Club

BMC Hispanic group forms

by Edith Aviles and Grisel Jimenez

The Hispanic Student Association (HSA) is an organization that hopes to bring together Bryn Mawr students who share a common Hispanic background but not necessarily the same language or citizenship. This group is formed by Hispanics of the United States and international students from Hispanic countries, and hopes to become the means through which these members of our community can voice their concerns and interests.

This group is the result of a meeting held with the new director of Minority Affairs, Joyce Miller, and several leaders of minority groups on campus early this semester. At this meeting, it was pointed out there are more than forty Bryn Mawr students who consider themselves Hispanics but no organization that brings them together. Encouraged by the discussion at this meeting, seniors Grisel Jimenez and Edith Aviles decided that it was time to start such a group.

HSA wants as a first step to identify the

students of this community who consider themselves Hispanics and encourage an exchange of diverse experiences and cultures within the Hispanic heritage. HSA hopes to address among other issues the different problems and concerns of Hispanics as a minority group in the United States. The group plans to hold regular meetings to share and express concerns and to discuss issues such as the presence and participation of Hispanics in this community and country, the present situation of Latin America and the roles of Hispanic women in different countries.

HSA has already held its first two meetings, and a considerable number of students have shown an interest in the group. The members of this organization encourage all other US citizens with Hispanic backgrounds, as well as international students from Hispanic countries, to join the HSA and help the group to grow and become an important and active element of the Bryn Mawr community.



Bryn Mawr Dining Service employees working in Haffner dining hall.

Cambridge Report curbs meals

by Amanda Hassner

The news evoked the mumbling of curses and grumbling of stomachs. "Just as a reminder, our dining services will be closed to the meal plan during this year's Fall Break," read the memo sent to the student body by Joseph Giamboi, the new director of Bryn Mawr Dining Services. The memo informed students that, should they desire to eat on campus over Break, they must purchase breakfast, brunch and dinner at Rhoads Dining Hall at the prices of two, four, and five dollars respectively. The volume levels of the "mumbles," actually, were quite high as students voiced their outrage, both among themselves and on napkins posted on the boards in the dining halls. For some of them it is too expensive to travel during Fall Break and now they find they will have to pay to eat if they stay on campus. When was this decision made, and why is it that the students were not notified earlier? What is this about a "reminder"? A discussion with Mr. Giamboi helped clarify the situation and give an optimistic outlook for the future of BMCDS.

The decision to cancel the meal plan over all of the Breaks—Fall, Thanksgiving, Winter and Spring was made last year by the Administration as a part of the effort to reach "financial equilibrium". In other words, the Cambridge Report once again strikes home. Bryn Mawr College students may consider themselves fortunate that this college has its own food/dining service. This way, the service may offer more to its students since it works to meet costs, unlike private services which work to make a profit. Yet, as the college suffers, so must its dining service. The decision was made that, instead of effecting significantly the regular meal plan (remember the tuna), budget cuts

would be made in other ways, hence the fees for the donuts at Coffee Hour and the lack of meals during Breaks.

As far as informing the students of this decision, Giamboi assumed that students had been informed as a part of the Cambridge Report, but as he was not here last year he did not know how thoroughly this particular decision was publicized. Therefore, he believed that this memo was a reminder, and that this information would not come as such a surprise to the students. It seems as though, despite all of the discussion about the Cambridge Report, certain specific aspects were not emphasized well enough.

Giamboi pointed out that he is very pleased to be the director of BMCDS, and that Bryn Mawr College students should still feel fortunate, as they have a dining service that hopes to offer as much as it can to its customers. On a national average of college and university food services, BMCDS spends a good forty to fifty cents more daily for students. It continues to maintain a large selection of foods, including a strong vegetarian option. It promotes good communication with the students through the student-represented Food Committee. In fact, Giamboi himself invites students to call him directly and engage in one-to-one meetings with him to discuss any problems or suggestions concerning Dining Services. Despite the amount of cuts that seem to be happening, BMCDS is still planning on enriching the meal plan in the way of special dinners, including the traditional Holiday Banquet, a Pennsylvania Dutch style dinner and an Oktoberfest at the end of the month. "Haverford will have an Oktoberfest earlier in the month," stated Giamboi, "but we will out-do them."

The Future of Financial Aid

by Lisa Arellano

Every Bryn Mawrter is aware of The Cambridge Report, increased undergraduate enrollment, and, to one extent or another, financial aid. What Mawrter might not know, however, is how the three relate. When asked about budget cuts and financial aid for the class of 1991, Director of Financial Aid Jerry Berenson said, "They haven't been affected."

Of this year's freshmen, 42% are receiving grant aid, 44% are on work study, and 50% have student loans. Statistically, the class of 1991 is not receiving dramatically reduced financial aid. There are, however, new areas of concern and debate with respect to financial aid and increased Bryn Mawr enrollment.

One issue currently being discussed is Bryn Mawr's "need-blind" admissions policy. With each entering class, there is a 10-15% block of students who qualify for financial aid but do not receive a financial aid offer. Those admitted freshmen who fall in the bottom 10-15% of the admissions ranking are faced with paying for an education they are academically, but not financially qualified for. According to Jerry Berenson,

son, the majority of these students simply cannot come to Bryn Mawr. "Need-conscious" admissions would not, then, drastically alter the make-up of any given class. It would, though, make an official connection between academic merit and ability to pay tuition.

Although the preferable route would be adequate aid to offer all incoming freshmen, this is sadly financially unfeasible. Partially due to Bryn Mawr's policy of aid for upper class women. Any Mawrter who qualifies for and receives aid as a freshman will receive consistent aid for the remaining three years. Bryn Mawr will not, as some schools might, offer generous aid to all freshmen and then leave students out in the cold sophomore year.

There has been one small change for this year's upperclass women. Loan increase expectations have risen from \$300.00 to \$500.00 per year. Graduation will find many Mawrter with considerably larger debts to repay. Aside from this, financial aid at Bryn Mawr is the same this year as it was last year. What changes, if any, are yet to occur cannot be predicted. But for now, there are no more officially planned policy alterations.

Employees and Administration clash

(Continued from page 1)

that the administration is so reluctant to see physical plant unionize is that they are afraid that housekeeping and food service will do the same.

Slott told the *College News*, "there is an interest among the housekeepers and food service, but at this point there is just talk about forming a committee to discuss it. They are watching what is happening with physical plant, and they are very supportive of it. And from the administration's side of it, they are afraid that if one department gets a foot in the door, all will go."

"Please tell the students to take a look at some of us," said one physical plant employee. "Some of us have been here eight, nine and twenty-five years. We take pride in our crafts and our work... We care about the students and the school a great deal. But we feel like the way things are run right now is so inefficient that it is an injustice to the school and the students, because in the end it comes out of the students' pockets. We feel like the union would make things better for everyone."

Mary Patterson McPherson disagreed. "This 'efficiency' works both ways," she said. "They will have to be more efficient too. Our ability to respond to their individual needs will be reduced... it will be a very different way of working; much less human."

Physical Plant workers have a different

conception of their current relationship to the administration and how the union will affect it. There is general agreement among the workers at the meeting that the lines of communication run one way, from the administration to physical plant. "The administration is always talking about how we are a big family, and how the union will destroy this... Well, if we're a family then the administration are the parents and we're the children. That's not the kind of family we want."

Workers' Complaints

One of the primary issues for physical plant workers is pay inequity, for workers claim that Bryn Mawr's pay scale is lower than that of nearby colleges, including Haverford, Villanova and the University of Pennsylvania.

President McPherson has cited on several occasions the college's commitment to market adjustment. "Each year we study how our employees fit into the national average. Then we try to give everybody the best we can across the board. Our commitment is to set everyone in the staff to 100%."

A physical plant worker was skeptical, saying, "We are 24% behind the average worker in our craft. As far as I can see, they must do their market research in backwoods Georgia."

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Lewis discusses Civil Rights movement

(Continued from page 1)

as "sites of struggle."

The independence and freedom which came with control by blacks at Fisk and the American Baptist Theological Seminary created an atmosphere of support for involvement in the black movement. Many young people who passed through these institutions in the '50's and '60's became key Civil Rights figures.

Both Fisk and the American Baptist Theological Seminary were located in Nashville, a city which became a center of participation in the Civil Rights struggle by both black and white people, and particularly by the black middle class — a significant number of which supported the struggle. Also in Nashville were Tennessee State University, Meharry Medical College (one of only two black medical schools), and Vanderbilt Divinity School. These institutions and the persons at the institutions were important in the movement in Nashville. "That city and the configuration of institutions were important as nurturing strong traditions of the Civil Rights struggle," stated Professor Outlaw.

Lewis' Participation in SNCC and the 1963 March on Washington

Lewis left the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee when the leadership and the definition of its role were funda-

mentally transformed towards that of Black nationalism.

Professor Outlaw explained that originally, SNCC had been a "classical Civil Rights reformist organization in the reform tradition." This orientation and the tactics used were anti-racist, and even anti-racial in the way that the King-led movement was. What was considered important was the realization of civil rights and of racial equality. Thus, the decided shift to a thinking which was explicitly racial, to a desire for Black power, as distinct from a concern for the equality of individuals, created conflict between ideologies and persons in the student movement.

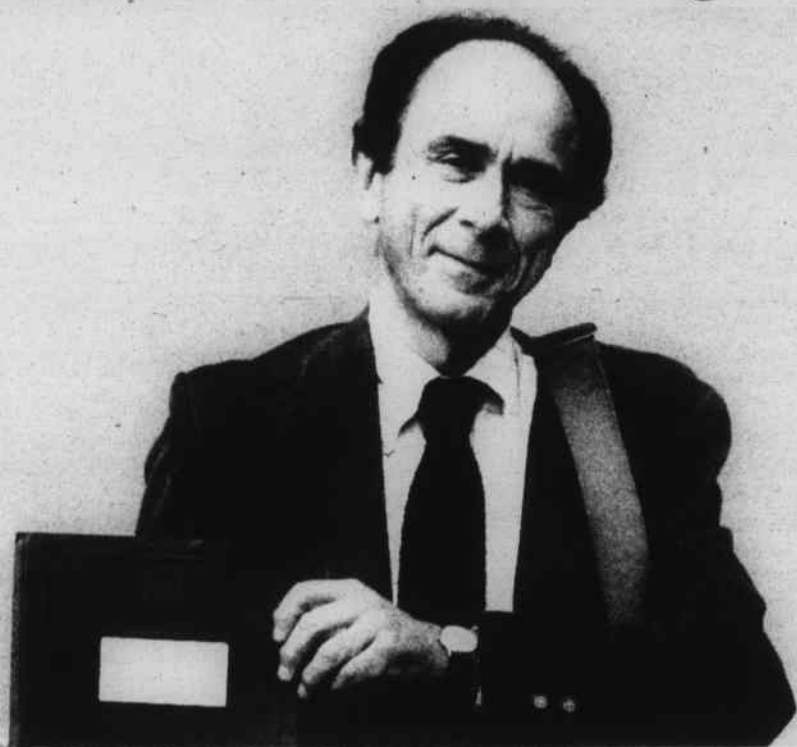
While Lewis' departure from SNCC at the time it became more Black Nationalist would seem to indicate that Lewis was less radical than some participants in the movement, he was asked by Martin Luther King to modify his radical stance when he was a speaker at the 1963 March on Washington.

The speech Lewis planned to deliver in 1963 was very critical of the Kennedy administration, which he found hypocritical. King, on the other hand, was aiming for national consensus on black's equal rights. King and Bayard Rustin (an important organizer and leader) were trying to get Lewis to revise his speech, presumably on

(Continued on page 7)

A • R • T • S

BMC Fiction Writing Professor's play read in Philly



Fiction writing professor Chris Davis displays his manuscript.

Improvements in BMC Theatre

by Lisa Lee

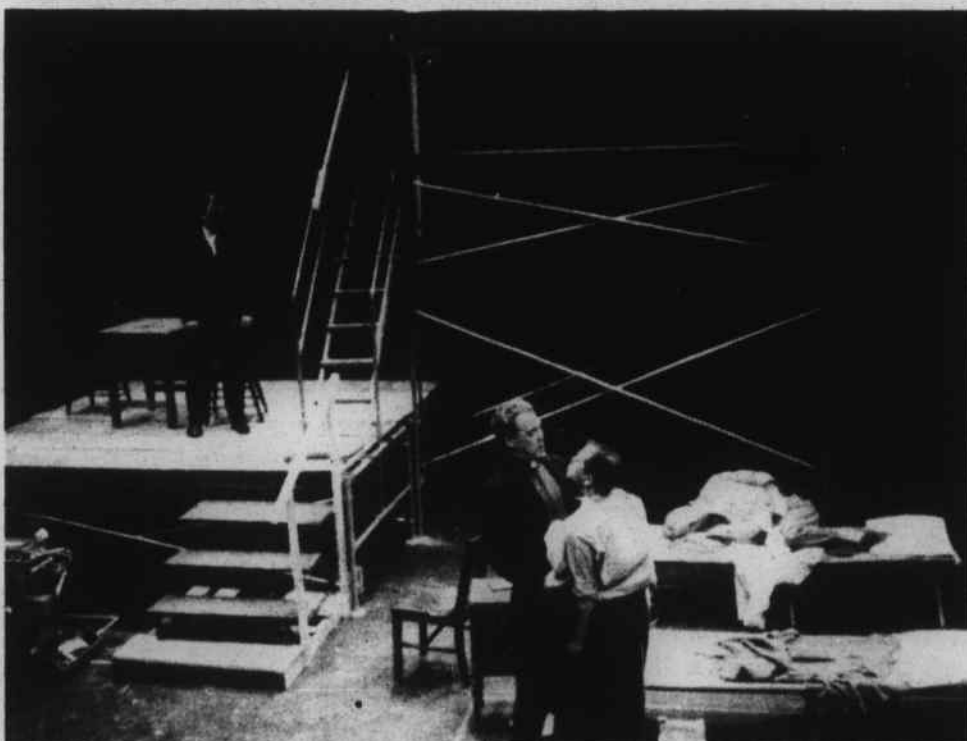
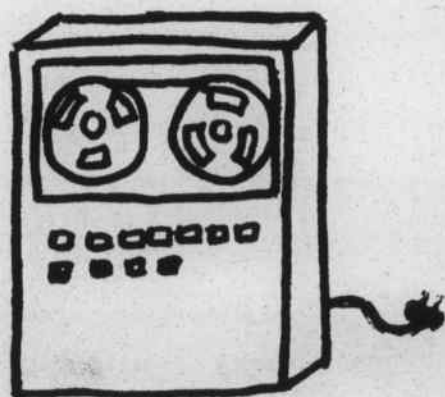
When Franz Kafka wrote, "Aye! A metamorphosis, and such a metamorphosis!" he could have been writing about the Bryn Mawr Theater Department which has undergone a mega-metamorphosis in the past year. All the additions and changes add up to a new theatre that will be more innovative, comfortable, efficient and safer, than ever before.

Carmen Slider, the Designer/Technical Director believes that one of the greatest additions is that of a thrust stage, which decreases the distance of the stage to the audience and "allows the performers to be more intimate with the audience, and no longer will the actors appear as postage-stamp sized people." This stage opens a whole new cosmos of dramatic repertoire and performance style.

For all people who used to complain about the pseudo-seats, alias benches, in the theatre, new seats have been put in, which are set up in modular units. They are comfortable, and more efficient to arrange. "This will allow the crew to best put their creative efforts in other matters, as opposed to mundane menial labor," said Carmen.

Other improvements include rewired electrical systems and the purchase of advanced technological equipment which will inevitably have an impact on future productions.

The sum of all these changes is the exciting evolution of a promising new year in theater.



Davis' play, "A Peep Into the Twentieth Century," was staged at Seattle Repertory Theater in 1986.

by Laura Engel
Review

On September 28 The Philadelphia Festival for New Plays sponsored a reading of Bryn Mawr professor Christopher Davis' play, "A Peep into the Twentieth Century." The script was adapted from Davis' novel of the same title which was a 1986 National Book Award nominee.

The play is the story of William Kemmler (whose name has been changed to Rupert Webber), the first prisoner to die by the electric chair. Davis remembers when he was a child his parents knew a man whose wife had been murdered. The convicted murderer was subsequently sentenced to death. "I remember waiting for the word that the guy was dead." The "particular horror" of the situation left Davis with the desire to write about the issues surrounding the death penalty. "Transforming a novel into dramatic form gives me a format to say what I feel about capital punishment."

"A Peep into the Twentieth Century" takes a fascinating look at the feelings and reactions of the people around Rupert; the warden, the guards, Rupert's attorney, the electrician, and specifically the Parson, who tries to get Rupert to "accept his death." "With the Parson's character I wanted to explore the role that religion allows itself to play in aiding the state to kill."

The stage is divided into different sections with Rupert's cell in the middle. "You need to

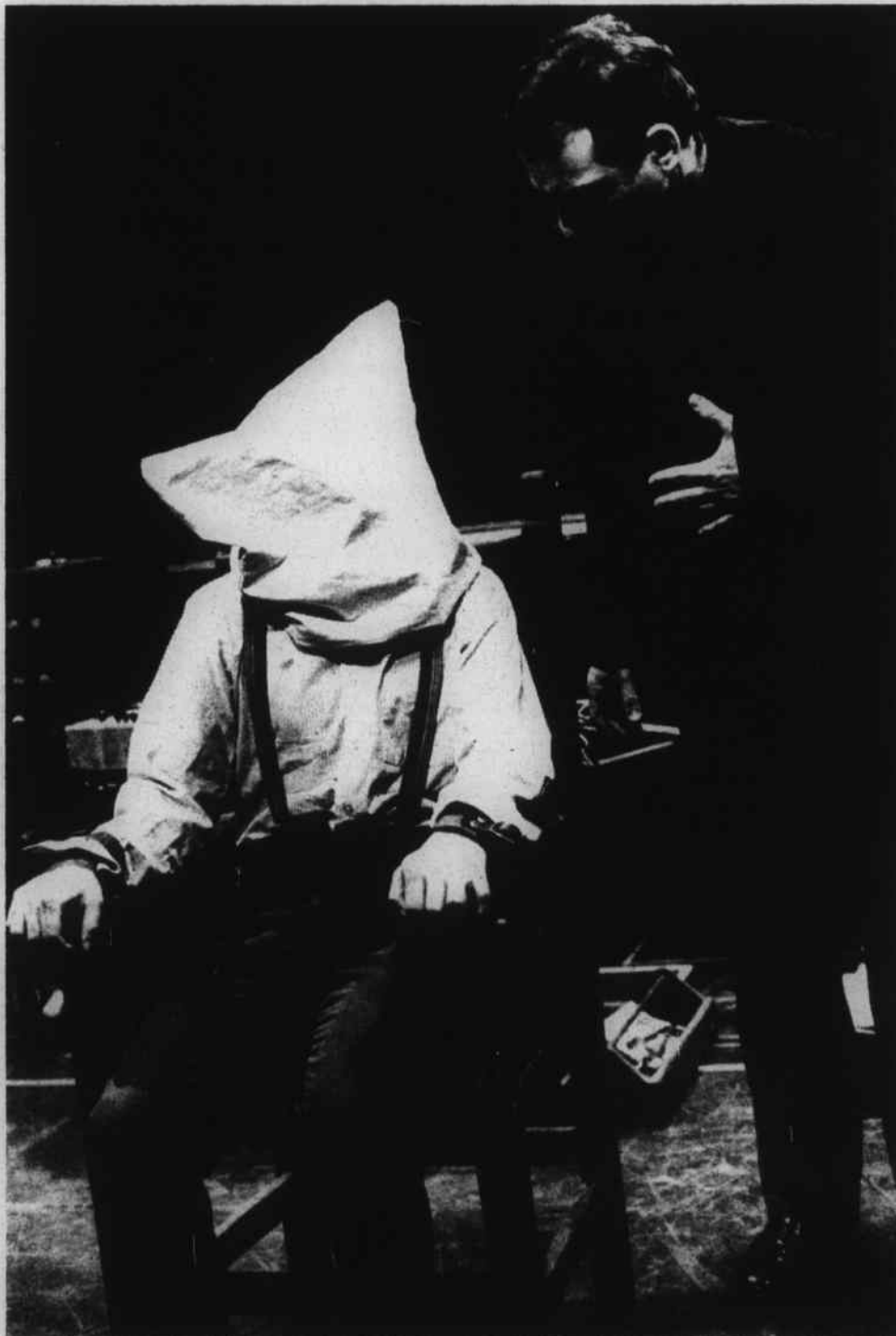
see that Rupert is outnumbered. You can't escape the state."

Rupert is both frightening and pitiable. The audience is aware that he has brutally murdered his girlfriend, but he is still likable. He has a witty biting sense of humor and a wealth of courage that seems almost strong enough to save him. The Parson's eloquent speech is overshadowed by Rupert's short powerful phrases. "It don't do. I don't want them to burn me!" Each character's voice is clearly and skillfully defined so that all sides of the death penalty issue are touched upon: religious, humane, political, and irrational.

Although it is difficult to get a sense of the action and "life" of a play in a staged reading, "A Peep into the Twentieth Century" was a gripping and emotional experience. The play is not easy to watch because it asks difficult and relevant questions; When is it right to kill another person? What constitutes an immoral act? How does one escape the power of the state?

"I had a picture of a man who had committed his crime in hot blood, who months later in turn was killed in cold blood. The second killing can be avoided."

Davis has been working on the script for about five years. The play was read and staged at Seattle repertory theater in 1986, and read again at the Long Wharf Theater in 1987. Davis is hopeful that the play will be produced in Philadelphia sometime later this year.



The main character in Davis' play is prepared for his execution.

Villella impresses BMC

by Julie Ten Eyck
Review

Edward Villella presented an excellent, entertaining lecture-performance called "An Evening with Edward Villella and Dancers" on Thursday October 1 in Goodhart Hall. Four dancers from the company he now directs, the Miami City Ballet, helped him illustrate the art of ballet while he spoke about it. Together they then performed excerpts and pas de deux from various ballets.

His cast of dancers and the pieces they presented varied from what was expected from the program, but with no apparent loss to the audience. This group of dancers; Kathleen Smith, Dominique Angel, Paola Manso de Sousa, and Tim Melady, all danced beautifully.

Before introducing the dancers Villella talked about ballet technique, describing its foundations and basic principles and revealing the almost scientific physical laws of movement that combine with style to produce such a beautiful effect on stage in performance. The four dancers then performed a quick version of a typical ballet class while Villella explained the logical reason for each exercise.

Villella introduced the first ballet, "Shenandoah", a short, lyrical pas de deux which he danced with Dominique Angel. He originally choreographed this ballet to teach himself how to partner a woman correctly in pas de deux. Set to a traditional American folk song, the piece is reminiscent of Romantic ballets like "La Sylphide", where a young man, alone on stage, gradually becomes aware of an ethereal, other-worldly woman. They dance briefly, then she returns to where she came from and he is left alone, haunted and wondering where she has gone. In this dance, Villella revealed the skill in partnering and consideration for his partner that contributed to his artistry for so many years as a professional dancer. Smith gave a lovely, lyrical performance as his partner.

Next, Villella and Kathleen Smith performed the "Tchaikovsky pas de deux", choreographed by George Balanchine. Villella described this piece as a gesture by Balanchine to Petipa, the great 19th century choreographer. In it, Balanchine gives homage to classical ballet while adapting it to his own 20th century style and vision.

Villella, although no longer dancing professionally, has such control, informing all his movements with such intelligence and clarity, that everything he does appears elegant and effortless. Smith has much of the sharp, fast, clean, attack and energy that characterize Balanchine's ballets, so that her personal style perfectly matches the steps she is performing. The two worked well together.

Timothy Melady partnered Dominique Angel in the third piece, Balanchine's ver-

sion of the Grande pas de deux from the second act of "The Nutcracker". The dancers appeared well-rehearsed, relaxed, and confident. They performed with the smoothness, grand fullness, and exuberance which this piece demands.

The next piece shifted styles. The "Tarentella pas de deux", also choreographed by Balanchine, is in the true neo-classical style; it is fast-paced, linear, and vivid, with a folk flavor. Smith and Paulo Manso de Sousa danced this colorful allegro ballet with spirit and a real sense of enjoyment. Wearing folk-flavored costumes and using tambourines for part of the piece, the dancers performed with certainty, giving it a sense of freedom and abandon and at the same time a dazzling sparkle. De Sousa's jumps were especially good, as were Smith's turns.

For the next piece, Villella danced the male variation from one of Balanchine's earliest and greatest ballets, "Apollo". Villella introduced the piece by describing how it was for him to prepare the role and work with Balanchine. Balanchine, usually taciturn about his ballets, described for Villella images for many of the gestures and movements of the ballet. Balanchine likened one step to an eagle perching in a crag, looking down.

Villella calls dancers "poets of gesture" who must understand the inside meaning of movement. He said of himself: "I don't dance anymore. But I still move." In "Apollo", he moved and danced beautifully, etching every movement and gesture clearly in space, giving every movement dignity and elegance.

In the final piece, the four dancers, this time without Villella, danced a ballet called "Fantasies" choreographed by John Clifford, with music by Ralph Von Williams. A beautiful, lyrical ballet about relationships, it suggests an archetypal story about the nature of relationships rather than a specific story. A man in green and a woman in white begin dancing, then rest while a woman in green and a man in white dance. Gradually the pairs shift so that the two in green dance together as do the two in white. They switch several more times while dancing a quartet.

The meaning of the ballet is amorphous enough so that the viewer can make his or her own interpretation of the meaning. Villella called the piece thematic; I was most impressed by the sense of structure, symmetry, and balance, juxtaposed with the flowing arm-movements and lyrical inter-twinings of the dancers.

Villella and his dancers gave a great performance, giving the audience an added understanding and appreciation of dance. Villella's wealth of humor and jokes prove that not taking yourself too seriously does not detract from greatness.

Latin American Film Series

- September 22 "El Norte" (with subtitles). Story of two Guatemalan refugees who make their way through Mexico to Los Angeles.
- September 29 "Missing." Drama set in Pinochet's Chile, starring Jack Lemmon. (In English and Spanish, with subtitles.)
- October 6 "Los santos inocentes" (Spanish, with subtitles).
- October 20 "Carmen" (Spanish, with subtitles).
- October 27 "La historia oficial." "The Official Story." Drama based on the experience of the *desaparecidos* in Argentina. (Spanish, with subtitles.)
- November 3 "Que he hecho para merecer esto?" (Spanish only).
- November 10 "The Kiss of the Spiderwoman" (English). Based on the novel by Manuel Puig.
- November 17 "Dona Flor and Her Two Husbands" (Portuguese, with English subtitles). Based on the novel by Jorge Amado.
- November 24 "Bodas de sangre" (Spanish with English subtitles). Based on the work of Garcia Lorca.
- December 1 "Erendira" (Spanish with English subtitles). Based on the work of Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

All films shown Tuesdays, 8-10 p.m. Thomas 110, Bryn Mawr College.



Edward Villella gave a lecture-performance at Bryn Mawr on October 1.

Pianist Selby appearing Oct. 15

(Continued from page 1)

"Kathryn Selby is a pianist with a future, eminently worth hearing right here and now," says The Sydney Morning Herald.

All five of these artists are already revered in the music world and promise to have even

more exciting futures. This concert is sponsored by the Bryn Mawr Friends of Music Fund. Tickets are available at the door or in advance at the Office for the Arts, Goodhart (645-6236)



Pianist Katherine Selby will perform at Bryn Mawr on October 15.

Bi-college resources for women meet varied

CAWS explores women's issues

by Marni Stiftel

CAWS, Coalition for Action on Women's Issues, is a non-traditional, non-hierarchical discussion and activist group, attracting a number of diverse individuals with various interests in current issues. CAWS does not have a President, Vice-President, or Secretary, but rather, each month one person is chosen to be the facilitator, recorder of notes, delegator of authority, and one who oversees the many projects that arise because of the broad topics that are presented at the meetings.

Individuals often receive support for ideas at the CAWS meeting, and they are given a direction in which to go to achieve the program they wish to organize or the awareness around campus they would like to create. Sub-committees include education, pro-

choice, anti-Bork, escorting, marches, pornography, and the portrayal of women in the media.

Current CAWS activities include escorting at the Northeast Philly Abortion Clinic on Oct. 3, Nov. 7, and Dec. 6, and the March on Washington. A speaker will be at BMC Wednesday, Oct. 7 to speak about the march. She will discuss the gay rights problem, goals of the march, and the need for the march. There will also be speakers about Judge Bork. Films against pornography and media exploitation followed by discussions are on the immediate agenda.

CAWS meetings are held Tuesdays at 10:30 PM in the Women's Center. Women who would like to listen, discuss, or contribute new ideas in an informal atmosphere are always welcome. For more information contact either Lucia—5685 or Sara—5683.

Changes at Women's Center

by Rachel Winston

With the fall semester, the Bryn Mawr College Women's Center begins its third year occupying "a room of its own" on the second floor of the Campus Center behind the double doors.

Describing itself as "a supportive environment for all the women of the community", the Women's Center serves, in part, as a student-operated research facility, main-

Open to all students, the Center doubles as a lounge, study space, and meeting room for various groups . . .

taining its own library, resource files, and bibliographies. Open to all students, the Center doubles as a lounge, study space, and meeting room for various groups, including CAWS, LBSG, WA (Women's Alliance) and others.

In past years, the Women's Center has sponsored "a broad spectrum of events" ranging from film and lecture series to concerts, performance nights, and "stress-relieving" Social Hours.

Students have run the Center through a network of collectives, each forming and disbanding in response to student need. The collective process, decided upon by the "founding-mothers" of the Center, is unique in its operation on the basis of consensus and its emphasis on autonomy.

Programming for the Center traditionally was given direction through the steering collective, an informal group responsible for contributing ideas to and coordinating the work of the other collectives, which included the library, health, and social collectives. In addition, for the past two years, a Dana Intern has been assigned to work with the Center, seeing it through its initial planning stages. Dean Patrice DiQuinzio, Coordinator of Women's Studies, has worked with the Center as "a faculty advisor to the students".

Senior Rebecca Wilson, last year's Women Center Dana Intern, explains that the Center is currently undergoing a structural change. "There won't be a Dana this year", she says. "Danas were helpful in organizing the Center, but we need to rely on someone other than an intern at this stage." She points out that the funding for Dana scholarships will run out in the next few years.

It's been suggested that having a paid student in the Center has created some tension. Says DiQuinzio, "On the one hand it's a student organization, but the intern is paid by the college. There was some conflict of obligation there that was unfair to the students who were interning."

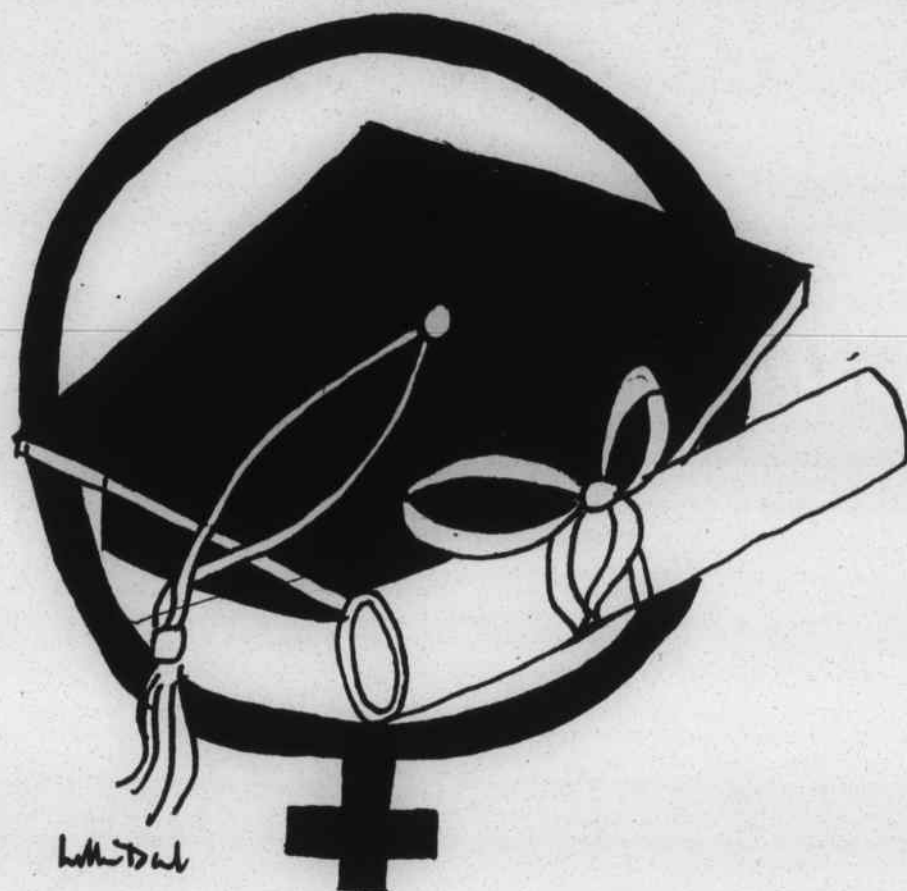
In response to the absence of Danas this year, Wilson, DiQuinzio, and the SGA are actively meeting to find an alternative. Most of the talk now centers on the idea of having an unpaid, SGA-appointed student to direct the Center's operations. There is a meeting tonight to finalize these plans.

Several changes may accompany this transition. In the past, funding for the Center's budget has drawn from a combination of college funds and an equal contribution from SGA funds. SGA money was taken from a portion of the money allotted to the Campus Center. With an appointed student position, Cisneros speculated there may be a change in the budgeting method, but adds, "this will have to be decided at the planning meeting".

Cisneros feels strongly that to make the plan for an appointed student position work, there "needs to be a commitment from the administration to continue to support the program every year." She has written a letter calling for ongoing financial support in the form of matching SGA's budget allotment. Cisneros envisions a system in which the SGA assists the Center's day to day operations and the college provides for tangibles such as books and resource materials. Says Cisneros, "Whatever is decided upon, I basically hope the whole transition comes through, I'm really excited about it."

It is agreed that the structure of the Women's Center this year and in the future depends almost entirely on the students. Says Wilson, "I'd love to see the collective process continue. It was the idea of the founding members and we've worked hard to make it function as a collective ever since."

DiQuinzio commented on the unique history of the Center. "It is a typical Bryn Mawr story", she says. "Students came up with the idea and followed through on it." Members used to meet informally in the Crenshaw Room, now Dean Lefarge's office in Taylor Hall. Soon, a library of books began to evolve and Dean Dunn (now President of Smith College) suggested the space available in Crenshaw be used to house them. The collection and student interest soon outgrew that space and the Women's Center was formed.



Fast times await you at the Bryn Mawr Bookshop

by Lorrie Kim

Every Mawrtyr inevitably spends time in the Bryn Mawr College Bookshop, located in the basement of the Campus Center. It doesn't take long to notice that it is an unusual bookstore—many things, from the storefront display to the pyramid-shaped arrangement of the new releases (near the clothing section) to textbooks for several courses, are decidedly woman-centered. Working from the simple assumption that who you are affects what you need, the Bookshop operates to serve a literate female community.

The selection of its merchandise is influenced by student taste, clothing and textbook representatives, and national meetings for college bookstore management. Ultimately, "we buy what we like," smiles manager Kathrin Platt. She has overseen the store's move in 1985 from Rockefeller dining hall to the present location, and says that the resulting increase in display space has allowed the freedom to be more adventurous. The storefront display, which various employees take turns doing, is topical:

women's tennis, banned books week, Valentine's Day romances, women in business, Eudora Welty and illiteracy in America, have been some recent areas of focus. Ms. Platt says that different sources keep her updated on happenings in the student community: the Public Information Office news release, the Office for the Arts, the President's office, and even (in the case of Eudora Welty's visit last spring) Professor Emeritus of English Laurence Stapleton.

The pyramid display, overseen by Carol Vassalo (when she has a moment away from handling textbooks) is where to look for up-to-the-minute new releases on a variety of intriguing subjects, many of them woman-oriented. The clothing section, which even has its own (much overlooked) changing booth in the far corner, is greatly expanded and sports an ever-changing variety of T-shirts, sweatshirts, children's wear and other items. Sally Allison, who orders the clothing, is guided not only by information meetings but also by the unerring taste of two young daughters. Clothing hits include the recent deep-purple T-shirt with white logo, and the perennial Greek and Latin ones that were originally sold by the Alumnae Club in

Cleveland. Debbie Cascarino is responsible for stationery favorites such as the Erte postcards of a year ago, the Sara Steele calendars or the current gold and silver college seals.

Carol Vassalo's choices for the women's studies shelves are made on a "hit or miss" basis, but she has certain clues: student special orders (which are done free of charge), faculty recommendations, and sales representatives. She speaks highly of small, independent knowledgeable feminist presses, such as Crossing or Seal, as well as more mainstream offerings such as Penguin's Virago Books series. The result is an impressively varied and wide-ranging spread of feminist titles, such as *Our Bodies, Ourselves*, *On Strike Against God*, *A Passion for Friendship*, *Good Enough to Eat*, *Pulling Our Own Strings*, *Alma Mater*, *The Making of a Feminist*, *The Hungry Self*, *Beloved*, and much, much more.

Vassalo mentions Alice Walker, Adrienne Rich and Gilbert & Gubar among the constant best sellers. "Every March or so there seems to be a sudden interest in *Madwoman in the Attic*, and we sell about six copies" she adds, "Sometimes you end up creating the

audience. There's no formula—it's the slant or emphasis the books take that will decide whether or not they will be carried by the bookstore. We decided to expand women's studies to reflect the interests of women's colleges."

Other services the bookstore offers include photo developing, UPS, college rings, graduation announcements, lantern replacements and out-of-print searches. The snacks, contrary to common opinion, are not sold for profit (any profits go to scholarship funds); Lindt chocolate, herb teas and especially Pepperidge Farm cookies rival the "Far Side" books for all-round popularity. Above all, Vassalo stresses, student should ask at the information desk for assistance, since the bookstore exists to meet our needs. Both Kathrin Platt and Carol Vassalo believe that our needs are different from most: Ms. Platt describes Bryn Mawr students as "highly, academic," even in comparison to students in similar colleges, and Ms. Vassalo testifies warmly, "It's a pleasure to work at Bryn Mawr because the students here share such a love of reading and ideas."

ous needs and interests of the community



Feminist fiction flows off the shelves of the Bryn Mawr Women's Center's expanding collection. The Center is open to all women of the community as a study space, library, resource room, and gathering place.

Lewis at BMC

(Continued from page 3)

the grounds that it might alienate white liberal supporters. According to Professors Porter and Washington, this was an exciting moment because Lewis' speech was around the sixth to be delivered, and the tense negotiations behind the scenes were occurring even during the first speeches. Lewis revised his speech but it was literally a last-minute change.

Freedom Rider, Voter Rights Educator, and Congressional Representative

Lewis was involved in the Freedom Rides and marches starting with the first attempts to get from Selma to Montgomery around 1965. Professor Washington noted that Lewis was attacked on a number of occasions.

A major part of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee's work throughout the early and mid '60's had been voter education in the South. Professor Outlaw said this dedication to voter rights stayed with Lewis after he left SNCC, resulting in his helping to found and direct the Voter Education Project Incorporated in 1970. Outlaw explained that implicit in voter education is the dedication to black civil rights and power.

Last year, Lewis defeated Julian Bond in the Democratic Primary to become a Congressional Representative from Georgia. Porter and Washington noted that Lewis received significant white suburban support.

Professor Porter said that Lewis' career is in a sense "indicative of what happened to the Civil Rights movement". He began with SNCC, a radical student organization, continued his political commitments, and moved on to a more mainstream approach. It is important, she feels, to see his position as a Congressional Representative from the Southern state of Georgia as an indication of the success of his work for Civil Rights. "We'd never have had him as a Georgia Rep, given that blacks were effectively prohibited from voting in many states of the South," let alone being elected to office.

Professor Washington said, "basically, he is one of the three or four major figures in the Civil Rights movement, and was prominent from the 1960's on at the front line of everything." Porter agreed, adding "he is a man of immense personal courage. . . This is a part of our history and of our present."

Lewis' Additional Involvement and Recognition

Lewis' additional Civil Rights activities include: the community organization project director for the Southern Regional Council from 1967-'70, member of the American Civil Liberties Union, member of the Afro-American Institution, Advisor to the Committee of the Biracial Committee of the Atlanta Board of Education, Advisor to the Board of Black Enterprises, member of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Non-violent Social Change, member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, member of Leadership Atlanta ('74-'75), and life member of the NAACP (National Association of American Colored People).

In 1966, Lewis was appointed by President Johnson to the White House Conference "To Fulfill These Rights", and was a member of the Speaker's Bureau during Senator Robert Kennedy's campaign. He has received recognition also as "One of the Nation's Most Influential Blacks" by Ebony Magazine in 1971-2, as "One of America's 200 Rising Leaders" by Time Magazine in 1974, was featured in 1972-3 in *Who's Who in the South and SouthEast*, and is listed in *Who's Who in Black America*.

Women's resources abound at Haverford

by Margaret Jewett

The Haverford Women's Center and Feminist Group are the main resources for the women's community at Haverford. Although these are two separate organizations, their efforts are complementary and together offer much support for women.

The Haverford Women's Center, located in the basement of the Dining Center, is a spacious and comfortable room with plenty of couches and tables for reading and writing. One entire wall is filled with books and periodicals on women's issues, which are conveniently categorized in small groups so that finding a book on a specific issue is not an overwhelming task. A wide variety of issues and points of view are represented in this collection, and some of the books are used in courses at both colleges, making this a good resource for students. Books and periodicals cannot be taken out of the Women's Center, but the atmosphere is relaxing and surprisingly quiet (given the

room's proximity to the Dining Center dish room), so reading there would be a pleasant experience. In addition to the reading materials, the Women's Center also has a stereo and plans to amass a good collection of women's music in the near future. Announcements for women's events at Haverford and Bryn Mawr and in Philadelphia are posted near the door.

The Haverford Women's Center is operated by a staff of students, and is supervised by Marilou Allen of the Haverford administration. Several faculty members also help with Women's Center activities. Some activities being planned for this year are a reading by a lesbian poet, an AIDS awareness day with participation by members of the Philadelphia Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and films on domestic violence and on women in South Africa. A display of photographs will be shown in the Women's Center in conjunction with the film on South Africa. Multimedia events such as this one demonstrate

the Haverford Women's Center's strength in being a space with many possible uses, run by an active and creative group of people.

The Haverford Women's Center is open Monday through Thursday from 7-9 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 1-5 p.m. There are staff members on duty during these hours who can help with finding specific materials. Some classes are held in the Women's Center, and it is a good place to hold meetings and discussion groups.

One group which meets regularly in the Women's Center is the Haverford Feminist Group. Meetings of this group are used for discussions of women's issues. A topic is discussed each week, and different members of the group lead the discussion at each meeting. In this way, the Feminist Group is run as a non-hierarchical collective. Activities being planned for this year by the Feminist Group include self-defense/assertiveness training and a concert by a black women's capella group from Philadelphia. The Feminist Group also hopes to start a women's magazine, which would come out perhaps annually or bi-annually. The first issue is planned for the spring.

Both the Haverford women's Center and the Feminist Group are hoping for greater cooperation and communication with the women's community at Bryn Mawr. A few Bryn Mawr students have attended meetings of the Haverford Feminist Group, and members of the group hope that this trend will continue. A member of the Haverford Women's Center staff mentioned that the staff had attempted to contact the Bryn Mawr Women's Center at the beginning of the semester, but were unable to determine who is currently in charge of the Bryn Mawr Women's Center.

Faculty members teaching courses for the concentration in Gender and Women's Studies at Haverford also hope to combine their efforts with Bryn Mawr professors in Women's Studies so that a joint concentration might eventually be offered. Communication and cooperation between the women's communities at the two colleges could strengthen everyone's efforts for education and support of women in the bi-college community.

LBSG open to all women

by Michele Morris

The bi-College Lesbian and Bi-sexual Support Group has now started weekly meetings on the Bryn Mawr campus.

In its second year as LBSG (formerly LSG), the group is receiving a fair amount of support. It received a \$202 budget from SGA, and returning members feel there has been very good turn out, especially of underclasswomen at the first two meetings.

The group emphasizes that it is open to all women, be they lesbian, bi-sexual, heterosexual or just plain confused. Leigh Tamaroff, who is organizing LBSG this year, stresses that "we are a real relaxed setting for people who just want to know that there are other people who question their sexuality".

LBSG serves as an outlet, a sounding board for women who want or need to talk with other women who may have had similar experiences.

Unlike Haverford's Gay People's Alliance, LBSG is not a political organization. They do

hope, however, to provide a source of information for events occurring in the "outside" world, beyond the bi-College community.

On that note, there will be a speaker the night of Wednesday, October 7th, discussing the March on Washington (Sunday, October 11). It will be held at 7 pm in the Campus Center lounge.

LBSG is concentrating on information, support and awareness of particular issues such as homosexuality, bi-sexuality and homophobia on campus. They are hoping to organize awareness workshops dealing with these topics and others. Information concerning workshops will be posted at a later date.

Meetings will usually be held Wednesday nights at 10 pm in the Campus Center, room 210. Any changes will be posted. The group is also trying to arrange meetings on the Haverford campus to make itself more accessible to the Haverford student body.

If you have any questions, contact Leigh Tamaroff at box C-1163, x5465.

Bork vs. Liberals on Equal Protection and right to privacy

by Carrie Wofford
Commentary

The panel discussion on Bork last Wednesday, September 23, shed light on the strong opinions held by students, but not on the facts which surround the ideological debate over Bork. Such comments as "How could any rational person support Bork?" were heard, and, although the speakers

The Blessings of Liberty secured to ourselves, and the rights not enumerated but retained by the people are interpreted to mean that there are in fact rights and liberties which belong to the people and which cannot be denied them.

mentioned the issues, no one explicated from where in the Constitution each side draws its views.

For instance, both Joyce Miller (Director of Minority Affairs) and Virginia Kerr (UPenn law school professor and practicing lawyer) asserted that Bork ignores the 9th and 14th amendments. While they have both thoroughly studied those amendments and Bork's stance on the rights drawn from them, I felt that they did not convey their knowledge of the facts involved in interpreting these amendments, and that the students in attendance continued to express highly opinionated views without backing them up factually.

At one point, a student asked the speakers how much of the time Bork voted with the majority on the Court of Appeals. This came after students were articulating their assumptions that no one could possibly agree with Bork. No one could answer this question; no one was basing opinion on fact. I found Katharine Smerk's articulation of the necessity to be open-minded in her letter in the last issue of the Bi-college newspaper relevant here, and urge everyone to read it.

I would like to objectively outline the issues of the ideological debate as I understand them to be. I am not going to address those issues that do not address Bork's ideology (such as that over the firing of Archibald Cox during the Watergate Hearings). The rationale behind this debate over ideology has been that the Senate can and should take into account Bork's position on Constitutional questions, rather than just analyze his capacity to act as a Judge. While some assert that the Senate should not consider Bork's ideology, there is precedent for doing so, both on occasion during the past 30 years, and, as one *Boston Globe* reporter pointed out this summer, in almost each case before then.

The issues then, as I understand them, are the following: the right to privacy, and equal protection under the laws.

First, a disclaimer: I am not a law student, and do not claim to have a very good understanding of the laws. I am merely putting out what I do know from listening to some of the hearings, reading the newspapers, and talking with professors and lawyers. I have not, for instance, read any of Bork's writings, nor any writings on judicial restraint, and have actually only read one article on original intent (*The Blinding Light: Uses of History in Constitutional Interpretation*). If anyone feels I have misunderstood anything, please contact me, and write a letter to the *College News*.

Right to Privacy?: the liberal stand

Traditionally, liberals have rights such as that to abortion (*Roe v. Wade*), contraception (*Griswold v. Connecticut*), and homosexuality in the rights to privacy. Now, where do they find these rights? Some find them implicit in the rights of the people found in the preamble to the Constitution: "We the people of the United States, in order to . . . secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves

and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution." Others find them in what Virginia Kerr called 'ordered liberty': that substantive due process lies in traditions and values, in the social order, and that this protects the rights. (I am somewhat hazy on substantive due process, but I'll try to outline it.)

Substantive due process comes from the clause in the 5th amendment asserting due process of law, which historically referred to

the guarantee of due process (of the procedures protecting people from arbitrary punishment). Under the 14th amendment, due process became a general substantive limitation upon the police power of the state, thereby protecting the right of private property and free contract. (My understanding here is lifted from that in Kelly's sixth edition of *The American Constitution*).

However, most people who hold fast to their rights to privacy find those rights in the 9th amendment: "The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people."

The Blessings of Liberty secured to ourselves, and the rights not enumerated but retained by the people are interpreted to mean that there are in fact rights and liberties which belong to the people and which cannot be denied them. The traditional liberal stance on the intention behind the ninth amendment is that the framers recognized that they could not list all rights, and did not want those they did not list to be denied people.

These personal rights include, because they are personal, physical rights which are retained by people: the right to do what one wants with one's body, and the right to act as one wishes in one's home and bedroom (the fact that contraception and homosexual acts usually take place in one's home — which is protected from intrusion without a warrant — adds to the weight of these rights).

Right to Privacy?: Bork

Bork's position on this does not need as much explication: He simply finds that the right to privacy is not mentioned, was not intended, and therefore, does not exist. He finds that liberals are interpreting something which is not there, that they are being too broad in their reading of the text.

Bork's Judicial Restraint

His position on the ninth takes as its basis his belief that Constitutional interpretation should be restricted to only those rights which are explicitly stated in the text, and those which were intended by the framers of the Constitution. This latter facet of his ideology is sometimes referred to as originalist intent.

In order to understand what the framers were thinking at the time they wrote a part of the Constitution, one must study the understanding of the framers on an issue, and the political climate at the time of the writing.

Liberal reaction to Judicial Restraint

In response to this view, many liberals espouse broad interpretations of what is listed in the Constitution, and suggest using history only to shed light on the issues, but not to limit the evolving needs of the people and uses of the Constitution. This partly rests on the notion that the framers would not have understood or foreseen a lot of what makes up our society today, given the social and technical changes, but that they intended it to be adaptive.

Some liberals counter that Bork's understanding of the ninth amendment is incorrect even on the basis of the framers' intent. They say the ninth was meant to protect those rights not listed, yet still retained by the people, those rights which were never intended to be delegated to government control. The understanding of liberals is that the framers foresaw that the rights listed in the Constitution, which were meant to protect people, might be used against people by Courts who would say that there were no rights other than those listed.

Equal Protection: Bork's originalist view

The fourteenth amendment states: "no State shall . . . deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law." Bork's understanding of this amendment is in opposition to that of liberals who use the 14th to grant women and all citizens equal protection.

Bork believes the 14th should be restricted based on the framer's intention. Here, he would, if he had his choice, pay attention *not* to the actual words of the text, but, rather, to the framers' intentions implicit in those words. Whereas the 14th says 'any person,' Bork understands the intention to be men, and the 'equal protection' to extend only as it pertains to racial discrimination.

His rationale lies in the fact that the 14th was written specifically in order to give the newly released male slaves the same protection under the laws that white men were

guaranteed by the Constitution. The thirteenth amendment, which abolished slavery, says that "neither slavery nor involuntary servitude . . . shall exist within the United States." However, in merely abolishing slavery, that amendment does not guarantee Constitutional rights and protections to the freed slaves. The 13th was brought in on December 18, 1865, and the 14th on July 28, 1868.

Equal opportunity: Bork's originalist view of the 14th amendment

Bork draws his understanding of the way the fourteenth should be used from the historical moment in which it was written. Historically, there was a need to grant the black freed men Constitutional protection.

Thus, Bork understands the fourteenth, in its totality, as focusing specifically on applying Constitutional rights to newly freed blacks. Let's go through this amendment to understand what it says, and what the implications of each section were for the people *at that time* (i.e., what it meant for the framers).

First, the amendment says that all persons born or naturalized in a state are citizens of that state and the U.S. (thereby including previous slaves as citizens).

Then, it says that States cannot abridge the rights of citizens, and gives equal protection to all of those citizens (thus, neither previous condition of servitude, nor skin color, can be used to deny a citizen his rights).

(Continued on page 8)

Student opposes Bork

by Karen L. Smith
Commentary

While organizing an Anti-Bork letter-writing campaign, I was surprised how little Mawrtys, especially freshmen, had heard about Bork during the summer. Let's start with basic on Bork.

He's a rabid conservative. He taught at Yale Law school, specializing in Antitrust law. During Watergate, he fired special prosecutor Archibald Cox (ask your parents, they remember). And Reagan loves him. Now he wants to be a Supreme Court Justice.

Bork is a WASPy male who will never risk losing the power this country awards to anyone of his gender and class. His statements reveal this bias: "Government cannot function if anyone can say anything anywhere at any time", "When a court adds to one person's constitutional rights, it subtracts from the rights of others", and "Roe vs. Wade is itself an unconstitutional decision." These pathetic quotes reveal that Bork's interpretation of Free Speech, Equal Rights for All, and Individual Privacy fit neatly into the box marked OPPRESSIVE PATRIARCHY.

Let me explain with more facts. Bork opposed the 1963 Civil Rights Legislation because he was worried that white store owners would lose the freedom to deny service to blacks. This is the argument of a man who has never been oppressed. The point of the Civil Rights act was to limit racial oppression, not to insure that those running a caste system could continue. Since Bork has no sense of power-relations in struggles for equality, he cannot interpret the Constitution as it really is: a compromise. His sad reaction to the Civil Rights Act reveals that he never understood the euphemistic phrase on representation in the Constitution: "those bound to Service for A Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other persons." (Article I, Section 2) That 3/5th compromise, an insult, allowed the South to deny rights for humans and still count them in the population towards Congressional representation. Bork's statement about the Civil Rights Act insults the idea of human dignity.

The Pro-Borkians scream, "But he recanted that statement in 1977. Blacks are citizens to Bork." I react by saying "What took him so long? Blacks were marching and dying in the streets for years before he realized his error. Vietnam had come and gone. Women were fighting for Equal Rights, and he finally figured out that the most basic premise of the Constitution applied to Black people?" Bork hung on, clinging to the racist idea that a Black's freedom would infringe upon his own, until such words were considered socially unacceptable.

This brings me to the next thoroughly offensive thing Bork has done: While Bork decided that Blacks are protected by the Constitution, he has consistently maintained that women have no constitutional protection against discrimination. (So when they tell you that the "he" is a "universal he", just tell them what Bork says.) The concept that half of humanity can be treated terribly fits right into Bork's white-man-take-all interpretation of the Constitution. Nowhere is his view more apparent than in his interpretation of the famous case that legalized abortion, *Roe vs. Wade*.

Such a tragic decision, stuck between an unwanted pregnancy and an unpleasant abortion, is the woman's personal decision. The United States must stand behind the statement in the Declaration of Independence that everyone has the right to "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness." An unwanted pregnancy, if it results in an unwanted birth, can prevent the citizen from achieving her life, liberty, and happiness. The United States must guarantee abortions to anyone who needs them. Bork would rather not. His decision banishes women to the world of male domination. Bork would like to keep women banished.

The United States Senate sees right through Bork's secret agenda of maintaining oppression. That's why Arlen Specter (R-PA.) voted no. He said he was not convinced of Bork's commitment to "fundamental principles of constitution law." We will stop Bork here and now.

Bork debate

(Continued from page 8)

Then, the amendment outlines the way to decide how many representatives each state gets (since the number of reps is apportioned by the number of citizens): it counts "the whole number of the persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed," thus modifying the original clause in the first article, section 2, that said a slave could only be counted as 3/5's of a person.

Then it states that male citizens of certain ages — who have not been involved in insurrections — may run for different public offices (thus, allowing blacks to hold public office).

Finally, the amendment says that neither the U.S. nor any state will pay any debt or claim of financial loss by people involved in "insurrection or rebellion against the United States" (i.e., previous slave-owners of the South who formed the Confederate army which fought the U.S. decree abolishing slavery). The implication of this is that it denies the slave-owners the right to claim payment for the loss of their slaves, because they did not own the slaves legally.

Given this historical context, Bork says that the fourteenth ought to be restricted to equal protection with respect to racial discrimination.

Equal opportunity: the liberal reaction to Bork's understanding

Liberals oppose this, saying that here Bork is narrowing the clause beyond what it actually states, the 14th says "no state shall deny . . . any person . . . the equal protection of the laws," and Bork wants to narrow its application to: only men, and only with respect to racial discrimination. Many liberals become infuriated with Bork on this because they say he is inconsistent: that sometimes he limits an amendment's application to only what it explicitly states, and sometimes he says that what it actually reads is not what it means to, and so further reduces its application.

Liberals also have seen this instance as a good example of an originalist being too restrictive. They say that he used history to narrow explicitly broad language on his assumption that the drafters intended to have it limited to the historical time. They counter that the framers were narrow where they wanted to be (for instance, in the 13th, which is limited to color or previous condition of servitude), and that the framers were purposely broad where they wanted it to be.

Equal opportunity: the liberal standpoint

Liberals use the 14th amendment to guarantee women and "all persons" who are citizens equal protection. The Supreme Court has also done so.

Equal opportunity: Bork's willingness to follow suit

Bork, although he disagrees with this interpretation, said during the hearings that he is willing to go along with broadening his understanding of the application of the 14th to women, aliens, and handicapped people, but no further than that.

The reason he agreed to go along with the Court's application is that, while he still finds it a mistake, he says that this usage of the 14th is "too settled," that the Court has based a lot of decisions on this broad understanding of the 14th, and it would be too difficult to overturn all of those cases, and too disruptive to society. However, he stands firmly that the 14th cannot be broadened to further areas (such as persons who are gay), and would overturn any such decision.

While some liberals are willing to believe that Bork will go along with the traditional understanding of the 14th, as he has said he will, a few do not trust his word. This is because, on occasion, he has said that precedent is not as important as a correct judicial interpretation and decision (although he now excludes from that standpoint commerce laws, equal protection, and legal tender — all of which are too rooted in the interpretation, through it is not originalist and incorrect in his view).

Dates Women Make

Wednesday, October 7

College News Editorial Board meeting.

Room 210, Centennial Campus Center, 9 pm

Speaker on the March on Washington in support of lesbian and gay rights

Lesbian Bisexual Support Group (LBSG) CCC, Room 210, 10 pm.

Auditions for Student One Act plays. Goodhart, 9:30 pm

Haffner Italian Table. 11:30-1:30 am

8th Dimension sponsors a Chinese cultural center volunteer orientation. CCC, Room 200, 6:30 pm

Writing Clinic sponsored by academic Support Services. Thomas 251, 7 pm

Lantern Night Tea invitations due to sophomore reps

BMC field hockey vs. Philadelphia Textile. BMC hockey field, 4 pm

BMC volleyball vs. Glassboro State. BMC gym, 7 pm

Student Investment Committee. CCC, Room 210, 7 pm

Writing Clinic. Thomas 241, 7 pm

Fall Break begins.

Graduate Record Exams.

MARCH ON WASHINGTON

Classes resume after Fall break.

CAWS meeting. BMC Women's Center (in the CCC), 10 pm.

White Women Against Racism (WWAR) meeting. CCC, Room 210, 9 pm

LBSG meeting. CCC, Room 210, 10 pm

BMC performing art series presents Katherine Selby and the Endellion String Quartet. Thomas Great Hall.

"Paperworks": an exhibit of selected student work in print making and works on paper from the BMC fine arts program. CCC gallery.

College News articles due in Rockefeller 41.

LANTERN NIGHT.

SGA meeting. CCC Room 105, 7 pm

The Chamber Music Society at BMC presents a students faculty recital in Goodhart music room.

College News graphics and photos due in Rockefeller 41.

College News lay out in Merion coke room. 4 pm-9 pm. All are welcome.

CAWS meeting. Women's Center. 10 pm

Dr. Keith S. Thomson on "The relationship between developmental biology and evolutionary theory." Biology building, Room 25, 8 pm.

Women writers at BMC. A lunchtime reading and open workshop by poet Josephine Jacobsen. CCC, 1 pm

IF YOU WANT ANYTHING INCLUDED IN "DATES WOMEN MAKE," DROP MEETING TIMES BY ROCKEFELLER 41.

Thursday, October 8

Friday, October 9

Saturday, October 10

Sunday, October 11

Tuesday, October 13

Thursday, October 15

Friday, October 16

Saturday, October 17

Sunday, October 18

Monday, October 19

Tuesday, October 20

Wednesday, October 21

Who after Bork?

Because recent counts of the Senators' positions indicate that Bork may not receive their approval, both supporters and opposers of Bork are now beginning to ask the question: "Who next?" While no one knows, we can assume that it will be someone who agrees with Reagan's anti-abortion, anti-homosexual, etc., stance.

In "The Week in Review" last Saturday, September 26, journalists began to think about the implications of a new nominee for Bork's opposers. Some good issues were brought up: 1) Are there enough people for another fight? 2) Will there be the same level of scrutiny? 3) Can there be scrutiny if there is not as complete a judicial record to judge as that of Bork?

The sheer number of people and organizations who contacted their Senators and lobbied against Bork was unprecedented. For instance, never before has the influential American Civil Liberties Union taken a stand on a Supreme Court nominee. Could the opposers retain their interest and energy until the next nominee? Are the same number of people going to be available or receptive to

another fight?

There has been heavy scrutiny of Bork from the time of his nomination and throughout the hearings. Speeches he gave to law school students were dug up, as were small articles in university law review journals. Will there be the same level of intense scrutiny? Will Senators have enough energy? Will as many bright lawyers be interested enough to track down and study his record?

More importantly, will there be a record to study? Bork's long period as a judge and professor has resulted in an enormous amount of decisions to read, as well as many scholarly writings and lectures. Will the next nominee have written so much? Will the next nominee have written any substantial amount in the past decade? The discussion on "The Week in Review" surfaced the fact that many nominees do not have enough current material to be studied.

However, while Bork is still being considered, write your Senator with your opinion if you wish (although most have decided how they will vote): Honorable _____, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510.

"Eyes on the Prize" to be shown

Professors Washington and Porter urge students to see the Civil Rights documentary, "Eyes on the Prize," because it will serve as terrific background for the October 19 talk with John Lewis (he is in almost each part of the film series). Parts I-III will be shown on Wednesday, October 7 from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m., and parts IV-VI on Thursday, October 8, same time. Both will be in Taylor G.

Additionally, on Thursday, October 8, from 4:00-6:00 p.m., there will be a faculty panel discussion, "Eyes on the Prize as a Portrait of the Civil Rights Movement." Participants will be Paul Jefferson, Joyce Miller, Lucius Outlaw, Judy Porter, Marc Ross, and Robert Washington.



Student offers stress tips

by Laura Engel

As fall break approaches and we all have midterms, tests, and generally more work than we ever imagined, stress becomes our good friend. That's why I've decided to write out some rules, guidelines, and all-around helpful hints on how to survive this pressure cooker situation.

1. The Art of Complaining: Here is how a typical pre-fall break conversation should progress:

Friend: Hi—how are you?

You: (roll your eyes upward) Oh my god, I have so much work! (so much should be properly emphasized).

Friend: Oh so do I! I have a . . . (while your friend launches into everything she has to do in the next three days, pretend to listen, you're next).

You: Well, I have . . . (remember it is important to include due dates, length of papers, projected difficulty of all exams, the time you absolutely positively have to leave on Friday, and always end with: I am never going to get through this!).

2. Social Studying:

Directions:

a) Go to the Bryn Mawr/Haverford library
b) Notice who is talking and who is studying

c) Sit next to someone who is talking

d) Listen to the conversation

e) Join in on the conversation

f) Be comforted that all of you are doing no work together.

3. Do not under any circumstances abstain from eating chocolate. (Helpful hint: if it is on your friend's plate it is less fattening.)

4. Borrow something: a tape, a sweater, a hat, anything. If you are lucky it will not only make you feel better but your friend will probably forget that she's lent it to you and you can keep it for all of fall break.

5. Remember this really has no bearing on the rest of your life. (Don't you hate it when people say that?)

6. If all else fails, call Mom, she will want to listen to everything you have to do after everyone else has already heard it.

Good luck and happy vacation.

Love,
Laura

Expansions made on Social Honor Code

by Karen Kerr, '89 Honor Board Rep.

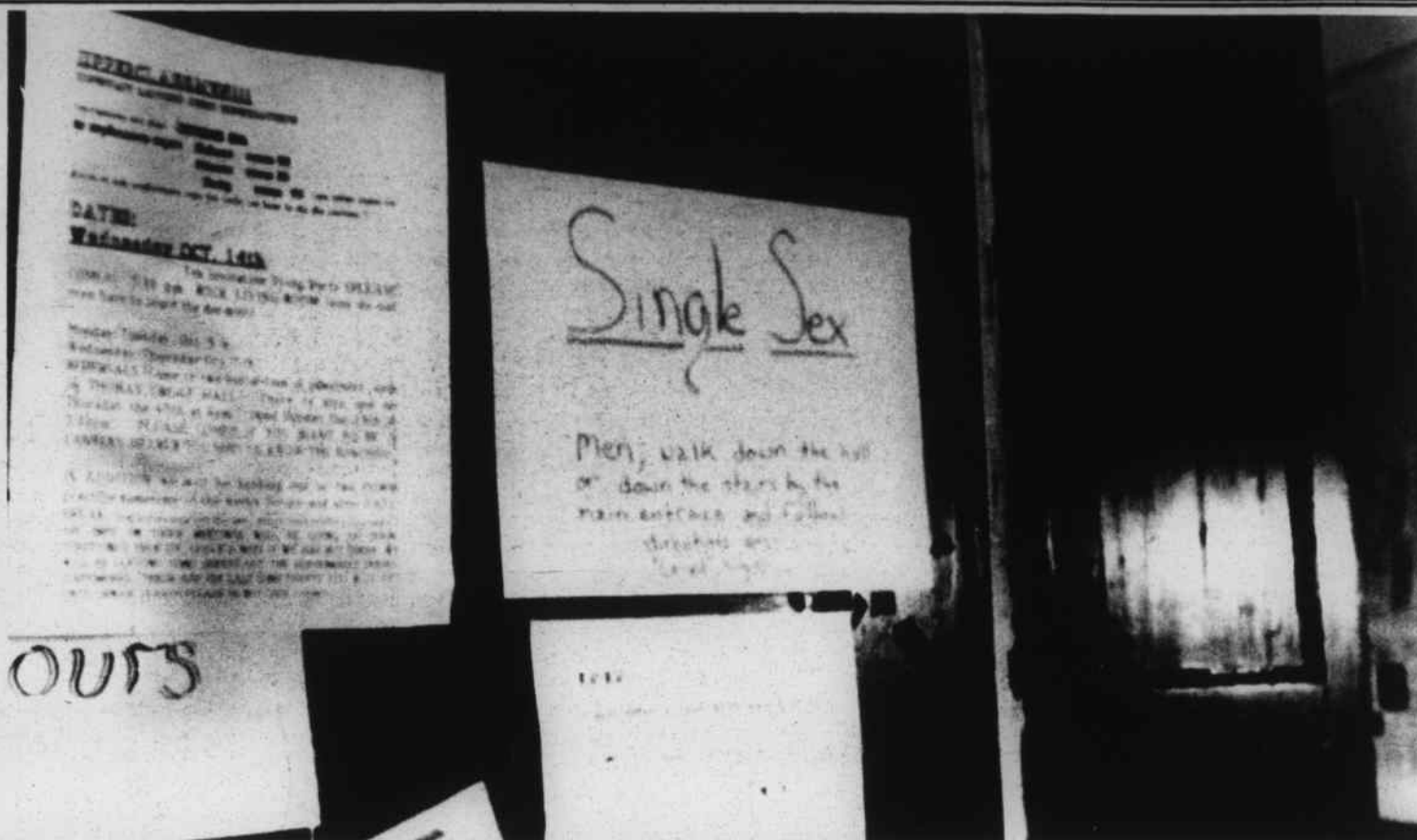
This year we are celebrating the 200th anniversary of the Constitution. The survival and continued strength of this document is due to its flexibility and the ability of the courts to apply not only the letter of the law, but the spirit of its founders to today's concerns. Likewise, the effectiveness of the Honor Code, more specifically the Social Honor Code, lies in the interpretive nature of the document and its ability to succinctly express the values that make a community such as ours possible. Of course, the Honor Code, like the Constitution, does not and cannot address every issue that might arise.

One such issue is the use of community property in the Computing Center. The drafters of our code could not have foreseen the construction of this facility. It seems, however, that if such a facility has existed at the time, the use of it would be subject to the Honor Code. The library, whose use is specifically mentioned in the Code, can be considered similar to the Computing Center in that both offer borrowed resources. Indeed, when the word processing facilities were in the basement of the library, their use was subject to the Code. Expanding and relocating the facility does not mean that its use ceases to fall under the Code. Thus, we must remember to abide by the regulations of the Computing Center in signing up for computer time and we must not forget to pay for the use of the laser printer.

The use of Dining Centers is also an issue that the Code does not mention. Whether or not the use of these facilities should fall under the Code is a matter for debate. At the present time it does not. This does not give us the right, however, to remove things from the Dining Centers for our personal use. The Code charges us to respect others within the community. Part of that respect is a regard for their property. The Dining Centers, whether or not their use falls under the Code per se, are part of the community and their property should be respected.

The Code does not address the distressing matter of student theft (i.e. theft from dorm refrigerators or students' rooms), but it is quite clear to even those who might favor a strict interpretation of the Code that this is a Social Honor Code issue. Perhaps it is not mentioned specifically because it was not a pressing issue at the time the Code was drafted. Unfortunately, with the recent rash of student thefts in Radnor and Rhoads North, it has become a pressing issue, an issue that has raised concerns about the ability of the Code to deal with the matter. If the residents of Radnor and Rhoads knew or had an idea about who might be responsible for the thefts, they would find our system most effective. Being totally baffled about the situation, these residents cannot confront directly, but must do so indirectly by putting up signs and discussing the matter in dorm gatherings. Indirect confrontations can be effective in that they serve to remind us that we ought to respect the property of other people in the community. It is the hope of the Honor Board that these thefts can be prevented if people know the other residents of their dorm. The theory here is that one is less likely to steal from someone that they know. To this end, the Board has and will continue to sponsor brunches in the dorms. The Honor Board, however, does not have all the answers, and we welcome the suggestions of other members of the community.

If you have any comments or suggestions about anything that was discussed in this column or about a situation in the community, please feel free to make use of the comment board that is up in the Campus Center.



In one of only a few single sex bathrooms on the Bryn Mawr Campus, men are told on the sign to "walk down the hall."

Students pissed about coed bathrooms in single-sex dorms

by Susan Brown

The single-sex bathroom issue has caused a great deal of concern among many Bryn Mawr students living in single-sex dormitories. While residents get to vote on the issue, many students who live on floors with co-ed bathrooms wanted them to be single sex, and assumed they would be when they chose to live in a single-sex dormitory last Spring.

In Rhoads South the decision was made by floor. The first and third floors voted for co-ed bathrooms and the second floor was voted single-sex. A short while later a note was posted in the second floor bathroom calling for a floor meeting as some students were unhappy with the single-sex decision.

A compromise system was worked out in this case using two different sets of signs: one reading "empty/women only" and one reading "co-ed/man in bathroom". Besides being a confusing system, Genevieve Bell, '90, says that often the signs are not flipped when people leave.

Bell said the question at the heart of the discussion in Rhoads South seemed to be whether the dorm was co-ed, catering to men, or single-sex making allowances for guests, and that "people assumed it was a co-ed dorm".

Becky Wilson, '88, said a similar assumption was made in Merion. Although several students living on the third floor wanted a single-sex bathroom, the second floor bathroom was the only one voted single-sex. According to Wilson, "Everybody said 'This is how it was last year'." The point that different people live in Merion this year was raised but not addressed, according to Amanda Hassner, '90.

The fact that in Merion the whole dorm voted for each bathroom instead of by floor also angered some students. "Logistically, it stinks," Hassner said.

It's also against the rules. According to the 1987-88 Student Handbook, "Men's use of bathrooms shall be determined by each corridor in any women's hall [emphasis added]."

Wilson said much of the problem in Merion was that people were coming from very different points of view. Pembroke West experienced a similar disparity of opinions. Michele Morris, '91, said "those who wanted co-ed made it into a contest without considering that other people might feel strongly about [having a single-sex bathroom]. I chose a single-sex dorm for a reason."

Juliet Simpson, '90, a Merion resident, agreed: "I'm not anti-men or anything like that, but I didn't come to a single-sex school for nothing." She explained that one time when she went to the bathroom the seat had been left up and there was urine all over the rim. "I was irritated—at least they can clean up after themselves if they have to be there."

According to the tradition, as long as there is one co-ed bathroom in a dorm, if one person feels strongly that her bathroom should be single-sex then it should be. According to Morris: "It's not something you can just vote by numbers."

Dear Mrs. Hank



Dear Ms. Hank,

I am an aspiring cartoonist for the Bi-College News and I was wondering if you could give me a few unexplored stereotypes of witches at Bryn Mawr. I had some great ideas over break about this comic strip that shows some Bryn Mawr girls being tortured during Honor Board trials with this great big long knife. There is nothing like this to get a few hyucks from my friends, and I pride myself on some pretty subtle symbolism.

To tell the truth, I have considered myself a Quaker for the last two weeks and I am generally considered to be a pretty sensitive guy, so I wanted to get it straight from the horse's mouth, so to speak. I think it's fine to make fun of things, as long as you do it to everyone. And besides, the witch in my cartoons usually gets out of the scrapes unharmed, because she has these special powers and, to tell the truth, she's a bitch. As yet another feminist witch type, do you think there is anything wrong with my using this one character as representative of your school in my cartoons?

Signed,
Aren't I Funny?

Dear Aren't,

Funny you should ask! As a matter of fact, senses of humor like yours seem to be the

norm in the above mentioned publication this year. Bryn Mawr seems to be the butt of a lot of "jokes" that focus on Mawrtys as witches, radical feminists, man-haters or man starved.

True, there is a tradition of bi-college banter that goes back a long way, but it has usually been in the spirit of fun. At step sing, which is not, by the way, a demonic sacrificial ceremony set to music, Mawrtys and Fords sing back and forth, "You can't date a girl who's a grind," and "You can't get a man with a brain," but there is no sinister tone or misogynist allegations made. Maybe this sort of humor seems dull to you, if you're like the Ford I recently heard defending your strip: "We're not degrading women," he said, "We're just being men."

I suppose Bryn Mawr is easy for you to make fun of, since you appear to live unburdened with any real knowledge... of the institution and what are really its traditions. It's true, we do have witches, but they are probably not who you think they are. The woman you portray bears no resemblance to any woman I know, but in all fairness, neither does that lead pipe. The point is, a real woman would not be able to put a hex on someone pointing a knife at her or get out of an Honor Code confrontation in that way. (Which brings up the question of what does

that hilarious scene say about Mawrtys and the Honor Code?)

This is not the first time in history that smart women have been labelled witches. Bryn Mawr's reputation for having a lot of witches began when its dean's office began using the word "witch" as a euphemism for lesbian. It seems like there is a little of that going on in your thimble full of grey matter too. We do have a few man-haters (whose numbers seem to be growing, coincidentally enough). But is it possible that you and your friends are confusing women who don't think you're funny with man hating?

This is the paradox of sexist humor. If you don't go along with the joke, men say you have no sense of humor. And if you do, you participate in your own degradation. And you also start feeling like you have no backbone.

This is usually simply a humor column, which you're no doubt surprised to find in a feminist newspaper. As is my usual practice, I have included no spells or incantations that make it possible for fellow students to plagiarize, castrate or transform Haverfordians into pools of stinking black slime. We don't need to.

Yours, in the hope that your consciousness has been raised to the level of the average Neanderthal,

Ms. Hank

M. Carey Thomas seen in a different light

by Lorrie Kim
Commentary

Bryn Mawr College, as Helen Lefkowitz Horowitz's book *Alma Mater* amply proves, is M. Carey Thomas; word writ in stone. Reading the chapters on Bryn Mawr's conception and early years reaffirmed for me the necessity of history and herstory in our lives: we need to understand the women before us to understand ourselves, we need to see what went into the spaces around us to realize how we are here. And M. Carey Thomas the woman will live on as long as the buildings of Bryn Mawr are standing: she is the institution.

In her book *Sweet Death, Kind Death*, Amanda Cross (who is not even an alumna) called Thomas "the modern incarnation of Athena." The description is apt: though this college was founded by a member of The Society of Friends for Friends, we feel as much if not more Greek influence in our crest. Goddesses abound, underneath the library (Hera), within the Great Hall (Athena), in our school cheer (Nike), and in the Greek department.

To me the best emblem of our rebellious paganism is the face-off between Thomas Great Hall and Taylor Hall. The latter, Bryn Mawr's first building, was created by Quaker men to suggest a modest Quaker lady; Thomas Great Hall, where Thomas is buried (within Cloisters), was planned by Herself in obsessive detail to be neither modest nor Quakerly. The Quaker men on the Bryn Mawr board at the time were horrified by it, and planned while Thomas was away to build it thirty feet farther from Taylor than she wished. Of course they were caught, it wasn't allowed, and the building does indeed dominate its surroundings. The pagan Athena stares inscrutably from her permanent home engraved above the portal—you can bet they hated that too (although Horowitz doesn't say). Nobody standing in the Cloisters on a moonlit night can deny the awesome chthonic power of the building; nobody staring into the formidable eyes of M. Carey Thomas' portrait in the Great Hall can avoid feeling slightly unsettled.

Bryn Mawr was partially made for her. She was one of the brilliant Quaker women that Joseph Wright Taylor had in mind when he conceived of this college. When it opened in 1885 she had just received her Ph.D. *summa cum laude*, and applied for presidency. She was rejected on the basis of her sex, her inexperience and her indifference to the Quaker faith. The spot went to James Rhoads, and she was made Dean.

Now, about the question you're dying to ask: was she a lesbian? That depends on how you define the term. We do know that from adolescence she formed primary, monogamous relationships with women and made plans to build a life for them. We have from Horowitz a highly amusing account of Thomas' lust for (I kid you not) Cleopatra; we know that her final companion, with whom she shared the Deanery (where Canaday now stands), was Mary Garrett.

Garrett was rich, and Thomas' tastes were expensive; one of their renovations of the Deanery (which was the size of Merion) totalled \$100,000. And then there is the little matter of what Thomas called "a sweet & clever attempt to use Mammon for righteousness." In 1893, a year after Rhoads retired, she finally won her bitter struggle for presidency. It had something (not everything, admittedly) to do with Mary Garrett's offer of \$10,000 a year to the college for every year that Thomas was president.

Now, if you consider that she was president for twenty-six years (this was the turn of the century) and the promise was kept, you begin to understand the huge, huge plaque in the Cloisters dedicated to Mary Garrett's generosity.

Those twenty-six years were crucial. Thomas instituted Bryn Mawr trademarks such as collegiate Gothic architecture, large and private rooms for students, strong female role models that we might learn

(Continued on page 12)



Perry House, The Black Cultural Center, has a small but growing collection of Afro-American literature which is accessible to the bi-college community. Monday night is open house night in Perry House, in which the livingroom is used as a quiet study area open to the college community. Perry House will also be the site of specific workshops and social events reflecting issues concerning the cultural heritage of Black people in Africa, America, and the Caribbean. All events will be sponsored by The Sisterhood. Therefore, look out for the posting of dates and times of our events.

Administration and Physical Plant Clash

(Continued from page 3)

President McPherson said that the recent high technology boom in surrounding areas such as Valley Forge, King of Prussia, Atlantic City and the city of Philadelphia has made workers realize that "people engaged in the building trade can make a lot of money. In a period of no growth, this was considered a good job. Now people want better salaries and benefits, when the industry is booming."

But across the board wage equity is not what physical plant employees demanded at the meeting. They did not demand pay increases to match national averages, but asked simply for pay rates comparable with other area colleges.

Accusations of Disorganization

Workers claimed that there is presently a lack of consistency and guidelines from the administration concerning job descriptions, pay scales, and defined paths for advancement. "Certain job descriptions [in physical plant] are never posted," said one worker who has been with the college for almost twenty years. "They are just assigned. How do we know what kind of raises should go along with these new positions?" Said another worker, "Whatever the administration feels like doing at the moment is the guideline. It's hard to work under these conditions... without any kind of order. It's completely chaotic."

Several workers complained that if a raise is granted, it takes an exorbitant amount of time to appear in the pay checks, though when it finally does the difference is made up. "Even though you hear that you've gotten a raise, it takes anywhere from 4 to 9 months to see it on your paycheck. Sometimes I think they do it on purpose so they can keep the interest, but I'm sure it's also because they're so disorganized."

Workers claim that this type of disorganization also results in favoritism. "I have been here two years," said an employee, "and then they hired this guy who started off at just ten cents less an hour less than I make, after two whole years!" They believe that as a local independent chapter of the AFL-CIO, they would be able to have job descriptions and pay scales listed as part of their contract. "This is just a way for us to get some legal representation," a worker said of the plans to unionize.

Outside Contractors

Physical Plant workers complained at the meeting that many jobs on campus are given to independent unionized contractors: "There are fifty-two buildings on campus and we only have one painter, two plumbers, two electricians, two carpenters and two movers to take care of all that." Physical plant workers claim that if they had a full staff, they could do much of the work presently handed over to contractors for significantly less money.

Referring to an incident during the summer in which the job of building closets in Haffner was switched from physical plant to an independent contractor, a worker said, "The contractors were getting \$22 an hour and our guys were getting \$8. We went back and looked at their work and our craftsmanship was ten times better. We could have done the job for a lot less money, with quality that would have lasted the college many more years."

"The college used to pay for workers to go to educational trade seminars," continued another employee, "and instructors would always tell us that we were a highly advanced working unit." Some workers think that the college doesn't want to have to pay overtime to regular employees, even though the workers are convinced that the college would still be paying out less money than they pay to contractors.

President McPherson explained the use of contractors in this way: "We have increased the staff of physical plant in the last ten years. We have a short time in which to do major work, and that's the summer. We must have outside help and that's when we use contractors, to augment and help. We use them when skills are needed that no college our size could have. The idea is not to reduce staff by using contractors."

Classism

One worker suggested that one problem of communication between management and workers at Bryn Mawr comes from an attitude of 'noblesse oblige' on the part of the administration. "The administrator is supposed to be so liberal," he said. "But they have an upper class attitude, like: 'You're our gardener. You're our maid. We'll take care of

you. Just don't overstep the line.'" This same worker then wondered out loud, "Why is there only one white (non-managerial) employee in housekeeping?" He believes that housekeeping and food service have a greater need for unions than does physical plant.

President McPherson is now preparing for the extensive bargaining process that will take place if physical plant does vote in the official elections to unionize. "A tremendous amount of staff time goes into bargaining. If they unionize, all the things they can now count on must go to sum zero, and be renegotiated..." she said. "My worry is the staff time of college officers as well as their's. We will pay large legal fees and they will pay union dues. Our time and money could be spent more effectively."

Meanwhile, President McPherson said that she realized that most college staffs are unionized today. "Bryn Mawr, Haverford, and Swarthmore are three dodos, living in another era," she said. "But they are nice dodos," she added.

BMC Infirmary

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know that there is a Student Liaison Committee to the BMC Infirmary. Currently, however, I am not only the committee head, but the entire membership as well. I am looking for a few good women interested in being resource people for the community and the infirmary. This is a great opportunity to have an effect on health care in your community without getting all that red tape adhesive stuck in your hair. If interested, write campus mail to Madeline Marcus, C-739. I would prefer freshmen and sophomores as to guarantee continuation of this important group. In the meantime, feel free to contact me with any questions or issues you feel warrant discussion.

Oh, and one final news flash... a quickie, as it were. Remember that Safe Sex is the phrase for the eighties, and that condoms are available on the honor system at the back door, and in the front waiting room of the infirmary twenty four hours a day, six for a dollar. Feel free to drop by anytime, and Hey! Let's be careful out there.

SPORTS

BMC Soccer beats Haverford and Swarthmore

by Michele Morris

The Bryn Mawr soccer team traveled to New England the weekend of September 17 and 18, specifically to Northampton, Massachusetts, where Smith College hosted the third annual Seven Sisters Soccer Tournament.

Among this year's competitors, Bryn Mawr, Smith, Vassar, Wellesley and Mt. Holyoke were the only official Sister schools to participate, but Haverford, Swarthmore and M.I.T. joined in the competition.

Columbia's team, which played in last year's tourney, was moved up to Division I status, and was therefore made ineligible to compete this year.

Bryn Mawr finished in an admirable fifth place, moving up from last year's seventh place, beating both Haverford and Swarthmore, but losing to M.I.T. Smith won the tournament this year, for the third time in a row. "They're inspiring to watch", says team member Denise Tuggle.

Coach Ray Tharan was pleased with the way the team played, and felt they "represented Bryn Mawr really well both on and off the field".

The team now has a 4-4-0 record, with an impressive 3-0 win over Drew last Thursday. According to second string goalie Dee Warner, "we are on the upswing, and that's what counts". And if they continue to play like they did on Thursday against Drew, that seems inevitable. "We can play really well when we put our minds to it", says starter Tanya Sharon. Let's hope they do.

Other Seven Sisters events include the field hockey tournament, to be held here at BMC, and tennis, hosted at Mt. Holyoke in the spring.



The Bryn Mawr soccer team is in fine form this semester.

X-country team sets fast pace; prepares for championships

by Elizabeth Skokan and Shannon Heath

Bryn Mawr's Cross Country team started off its first season amongst nervous stomachs and shaky legs, but still was successful in taking 2nd, 9th, and 10th at the Ursinus Invitational. Bryn Mawr's top runner, Catherine Payne, a freshman from Berkeley, California (where they have 'real hills') showed her spirit in the next meet against Division I schools. Payne climbed the final hill in fifth place, despite having fallen on the University of Delaware's rough terrain. Although the competition was poor, Bryn Mawr's team worked together as a pack with several runners finishing their first race at the Cheyney College meet, the following Saturday.

Against the backdrop of sunny skies and cheers from a Swarthmore football game, Bryn Mawr's harriers fell to defeat against a surprisingly strong Swarthmore squad the final weekend of September.

The early season looks promising for Bryn Mawr's young team. Coach Bob Ousey was hired only last spring, when administrators made a definite decision to add a cross country team to the fall sports program. One of the three runners to help interview the prospective coaches last spring was Sarah

Elsing who now says: "The minute we saw him we knew he was the one for the job. We haven't regretted it by any means and we hope he stays around for a while." Coach Ousey, who often runs workouts alongside the team, says: "I've always enjoyed coaching and I still enjoy it. I enjoy the team concept. People who aren't involved in cross country don't realize what a team sport it is."

The team looks forward to continued improvement as they intensify their workouts, hoping to place well at the Seven Sister Championships the 16th of October in New York.

M. Carey Thomas

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unhindered by "horrid boys," a curriculum, as rigorous and classically grounded as any men's schools, and who know what else.

But as these advantages were based on what Thomas wished for herself, the college also bears the marks of the woman's ugly prejudices. Yes, the love of women is the heart of this school, but which women? Until a few decades ago Mawrtys didn't even make their own beds; they were made by the black women denied entrance here "for their own good" for far longer than at comparable colleges, a racism whose legacy is visible in the imbalance of almost-no-black faculty and students. An unabashed snob, Thomas also despised domesticity and would not allow her students to be taught domestic skills—unrealistic for all but the well-to-do.

When I ponder the contradictions of this school I see the contradictions of this woman—how can I hear, from outsiders, "Bryn Mawr is conservative, it's a finishing school for rich girls" as often as I hear, "Bryn Mawr is radical and full of raving feminists with no hair"? The fact is that one side of Bryn Mawr couldn't exist without the other: without the classism that courts rich alumnae our radical voices wouldn't have the power to carry nearly as far, yet without the commitment to radicalism the elitist society would create an intellectually stagnant college. When I ask myself what I am doing trying to find myself in this often racist, often classist, often patriarchal institution, I realize that there is much that I can do. I can fight those prejudices in myself; I can look at all of us Mawrtys—we women of genius and privilege—and remember M. Carey Thomas' most important lesson of love, of commitment, to ourselves and other women.

Bryn Mawr Infirmary introduced

by Madeline Marcus

Louis Kahn fans aside, there is a building on Bryn Mawr's campus that inspires even less architectural adulation from undergraduates than does the cinderblock dormitory immediately to its right. Yes, you guessed it, flu season fans, the good old Bryn Mawr Infirmary. There are plenty of things and services going on in this venerable structure that require some mention.

First, this year brings us the dedicated services of Shelley Fitzgerald, the nurse practitioner whose clinical acumen comes as no surprise to this author. This new addition to the infirmary staff will make more free time for the harried college physician, Dr. Kay Kerr, just recently back from her maternity leave. There will hopefully be an increase in clinic hours, as well as a heightened attention to the needs of patient education on relevant health issues.

General clinical services are provided to resident undergraduates and fee-paying non-residents by Ms. Fitzgerald, Dr. Kerr,

and the current batch of third year residents imported from the Bryn Mawr Hospital Family Practice residency program and teaching service. The residents will handle the cases in walk-in clinic, and their work is subject to chart reviews made daily by Dr. Kerr. Less pressing walk-in cases will, as always, be seen by the nurses and nurse practitioner.

Other services available to women at the infirmary include gynecological care by our capable staff of nurse midwives, who dispense contraception at low cost, and provide pregnancy testing and counseling on a purely confidential basis. Again, serious cases may be referred to other members of the infirmary staff, and outside medical professionals are "brought in" (or, rather, you will be sent out) as needed.

The dispensary at our establishment is well stocked, and medication not immediately available can often be acquired through the drop-off delivery service set up with Haverford Pharmacy with no inconvenience to us pathetic, drippy sickies. It should be added here, however, that it is the policy

of the infirmary NOT to fill a prescription written by a doctor outside the infirmary staff without express approval by Dr. Kerr. Only through policies such as this can the health professionals hope to provide continuity of care to such a diverse patient population as our own.

This year especially, the Counseling services at Bryn Mawr will provide a needed resource to the community. Included in your basic health care are six (no, not four) free sessions with a counselor. You may even switch around, and allow yourself to get acquainted with several members of this integrally important part of health services at BMC. As with all parts of infirmary services, counseling is confidential (barring life threatening circumstances) and will never appear in your general medical file. There is currently discussion as to whether there will be in-dorm counseling available during high stress times. Stay tuned to future Health Columns for further details.

Speaking of further columns, you should

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