

Bryn Mawr College

## Scholarship, Research, and Creative Work at Bryn Mawr College

---

Bryn Mawr College News

Bryn Mawr College Publications, Special  
Collections, Digitized Books

---

4-14-1989

### The College News 1989-4-14 Vol. 10 No. 10

Students of Bryn Mawr College

Follow this and additional works at: [https://repository.brynmawr.edu/bmc\\_collegenews](https://repository.brynmawr.edu/bmc_collegenews)

[Let us know how access to this document benefits you.](#)

---

#### Citation

Students of Bryn Mawr College, *The College News 1989-4-14 Vol. 10 No. 10* (Bryn Mawr, PA: Bryn Mawr College, 1989).

This paper is posted at Scholarship, Research, and Creative Work at Bryn Mawr College.

[https://repository.brynmawr.edu/bmc\\_collegenews/1398](https://repository.brynmawr.edu/bmc_collegenews/1398)

For more information, please contact [repository@brynmawr.edu](mailto:repository@brynmawr.edu).

# THE COLLEGE NEWS

VOLUME X Number 10

FOUNDED 1914

BRYN MAWR COLLEGE

April 14, 1989

## Erdman roofers' sexual harassment outrages students

BY JEANNIE HEINSOHN

Last week, eight students complained to the Dean's Office and Student Services about harassment from Erdman roofers. Students were uncomfortable overhearing blatant sexist remarks about women's appearances accompanied by mooring, catcalls, and foul language. A series of meetings involving students, workers, BMC staff, and administration quickly followed. Sandy Silverman, associate director of Student Services, expressed confidence in the satisfactory handling of a potentially inflammatory situation, saying, "I've been really impressed by and appreciative of the level of student cooperation."

U.S. Roofing contracted to repair Erdman's roof. In order to save time, unionized roofers are doing the entire roof at once instead of diamond by diamond. However, within the first day and a half of work, students

complained of verbal harassment and being stared at as they walked past groups of roofers lunching or hanging out.

In response to student concerns, Mo Malek, the associate director of Physical Plant talked to the head of the local roofers union, the vice president of U.S. Roofing, and the project manager to express displeasure with the workers' conduct. Patrice DiQuinzio commended Malek's foresight in anticipating problems. Malek wrote provisions into the original contract limiting the workers' actions. In his meeting, Malek thus had the option of citing specific contractual breaches.

Jessie Washington, a student living in Erdman, reacted to the roofers' harassment. She first discussed the situation with other students who were feeling threatened and angry. After considering several different scenarios, she put up a poster on

*continued on page 9*

## Pro-choice Mawrters defend Philly clinic

BY MAGGIE KRALL, ALISSA ROSE, AND ELAINE ROTH

On March 24, 1989, Good Friday, at 5:00 a.m. a group of Bryn Mawr students caravanned into Center City to participate in an action outside of the Elizabeth Blackwell Health Center. We joined the pro-choice group of at least 300 in front of the clinic in the cold, pouring rain. The initial strategy was to protect patients' access to Elizabeth Blackwell, as it was believed to be the only clinic local anti-choice groups had targeted for protest and attempted shut-down. By 7:00 a.m. the pro-choice assembly numbered 500, although about 100 had been redirected to Planned Parenthood, another clinic around the block. Originally it was unknown whether the anti-choice protesters were aware that Planned Parenthood would also be performing abortions on Good Friday. Elizabeth Blackwell has for a number of years been the only clinic to provide this service. The clinics worked jointly to develop two plans of action in response to the movements of the protesters.

In the best-case scenario, the protesters would not have figured out that Planned Parenthood was open, and all of the patients could have been directed there, avoiding the altercation in front of Elizabeth Blackwell. However, after a short wet

wait, the anti-choice activists arrived in large groups at both clinics. A second scenario came into play, if necessary, Planned Parenthood could be shut down, since Elizabeth Blackwell as the main focus of the action would be better defended. This plan would entail moving patients from Planned Parenthood to Elizabeth Blackwell.

As a result of these plans, the actions at each clinic were of a very different nature, with Mawrters at both sites. The action at Blackwell was much bigger, much more controlled, and entailed virtually no physical conflict between the opposing parties. The large pro-choice crowd bolstered themselves with songs and chants ("Pro-choice is pro-life", "Pro-life is a lie—they would let the women die"). The semantic battle surrounding the terms pro-life, anti-choice, pro-choice and pro-abortion continues to rage. Most of the pro-choice activists at the rally used the term anti-choice when describing the group that names itself pro-life in order to emphasize that hundreds of thousands of women's lives have been lost to illegal abortion.

At the Blackwell clinic 60 trained peace keepers were present, as well as numerous legal observers. The crowd was upbeat, and impenetrable because of its size. The anti-choice group maintained itself across the

*continued on page 11*



Over 250 Mawrters join 600,000+ marchers in D.C. Photo by Cheryl Kim.

## The March for our lives

BY ARELLANO, HEINSOHN, KIM

On Sunday, April 9, about 600,000 people marched in Washington, D.C. to support the Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortions—the right of women to control their bodies is being challenged. Women from diverse backgrounds and heritages united in political struggle. Five busloads of Mawrters (and those who drove separately), faculty and alumnae made their presence felt.

After speakers, including Molly Yard of NOW, the wait to march began. Rumors circulated that pro-lifers were blocking the march—these rumors proved false. Instead, the delay was caused by the difficulties in organizing huge numbers of marchers. Many people arrived on their own and were not members of organizations, further complicating tactical coordination. After an hour and a half of waiting, the Bryn Mawr contingent finally marched proudly

down the down the Mall and to the capitol.

Interesting posters seen at the march included: "George, keep out of my bush!", "As soon as a woman is born, the Bush administration loses interest in her fate.", "Women want rights, not roses.", "Pro-life, what a lie. You don't care if women die!", "Don't force children to have children." and "Just say 'Roe'!"

The march had problematic issues. NOW and NARAL traditionally do not recruit among working class and poor women. Only people with the leisure and funds to travel to Washington were able to march: This excludes large numbers of poor women who might not be able to afford either transportation costs or, if they were Washington residents, child care. In fact, these women have already had abortions effectively denied them with the passing of the

*continued on page 6*

## Peace Studies Mission explores East Central Europe

BY ILONA FRIED, ANNA PRIMROSE, AND LAURA SIMEON

Between March 11 and March 22 we traveled with Louis Bonilla and Patrick Hartnett of Haverford College, Secretary of Bryn Mawr College Alexa Aldridge and Haverford professor Linda Gerstein to Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia as part of the Bryn Mawr-Haverford Peace Studies Mission. While in East Central Europe, we met with many people, such as members of Parliament, students, professors, and economists. However, the Polish League of Women was the only women's organization with which we spoke.

The League is the official women's organization in Poland, and as such it is funded by the state. Director Jolanta Bulinska and legal representative Gertrude Uscinska spoke to us briefly about the organization's goals, history, and activities before re-

sponding to our questions. Their main concerns centered around improving child care, maternity leave policies, the position of women in the workforce, and the division of household labor. They are also trying to shift school hours in order to eliminate the phenomenon of latchkey children. Unlike other groups with whom we had met, the Polish League of Women was able to articulate its concerns and goals and had developed a concrete agenda to achieve them. This is not to say that they will be the sole agents of reform in the women's sphere, but they were perhaps the most prepared to initiate change. In addition, the League provided instruction in knitting, embroidery, sewing, and in other domestic activities.

The speakers stressed that Polish women are expected to work full-time outside of the home as well as be responsible for most of the house-

*continued on page 8*



# EDITORIAL

## Classism often overlooked

"Diversity" is a word which most often calls to mind differences in ethnicity and race, but Bryn Mawr is also diverse in terms of class. This difference is often overlooked: classism is a word which always seems to come at the end of a list of "isms." In the recent draft on issues of harassment, presented to the community by President McPherson, there was no mention of equality of treatment regardless of class differences. In spite of the little attention that is frequently paid to variances in our economic backgrounds, for many Bryn Mawrers, classism is an ever-present part of life here. Unaffordable course-books, time consuming on or off-campus jobs, and the annual nervous wait for the arrival of next year's financial aid package are part of the reality that many students on this campus live with.

Economic factors do not solely affect the schedules and pocketbooks of Mawrers; differing class backgrounds also play a large part in defining our cultural backgrounds. Classism stigmatizes poverty and the working class is constantly dehumanized. In the value system of American society, those who are poor are labeled "lazy", "lacking motivation", or "aberrant".

Last year's attempts at housekeeping staff unionization highlighted the awkward interaction between Bryn Mawr students (inherently elite) and those working class individuals who maintain the comfort we all share. Rumours of union-busting intervention by the administration brought up difficult questions about the role of Bryn Mawr students in fighting classism in all spheres of campus life: How do we work towards our ideals of eradicating classism without speaking for other people in a way which disallows them from speaking for themselves? And how do those of us who take classes at Swarthmore reconcile ourselves to the fact that we are participating in a system in which maids are still required to clean individual student rooms? And how can we reconcile the lip-service we give to eradicating classism with the fact that many among us continually leave common rooms in the dorms in deplorable condition on the assumption that sooner or later, housekeeping staff will arrive to clean up after us?

In our talk of awareness and respect of diversity, we must not overlook the importance of class difference and the potentially devastating effects of classism.

## Honor Code an integral part of bi-college community

The failure of the Haverford student body to ratify the Honor Code this past week has broad ramifications for all Bryn Mawr and Haverford students taking classes, living a change. Since all students took the time to write an essay about the Code when applying to Haverford they obviously care about the foundation of the life at Haverford, and therefore, the College News urges students at Haverford, holding offices or otherwise, to take action to ensure the survival of the Honor Code.

# COLLEGE NEWS

BRYN MAWR COLLEGE Volume X, Number 8 April 14, 1989

Lisa Arellano  
Editor  
Box C-7  
526-5550

Carrie Wofford  
Editor  
Box C-1182  
668-1746

Cheryl Kim  
Associate Editor  
Box C-1299  
526-5681

Thida Cornes  
Publishing Editor  
Box C-215  
526-5712

Ipeleng Kgositstile  
News Editor  
Box C-1355  
526-7741

Beth Stroud  
News Editor  
Box C-1515  
526-7809

Julie Park  
Arts Editor  
Box C-744  
526-5539

Meiko Takayama  
Photography Editor  
Box C-1519  
526-5423

Holly Arnold  
Resources Director  
Box C-1210  
526-5433

Kerry Williams  
Sports Editor  
Box C-281

Julie Zuraw  
Sports Editor  
Box C-292  
526-5706

**Editorial Board** Annick Barker, Jocelyn Cordell, Thea Gray, Jeannie Heinsohn, Tania Kendrick, Smita Lahiri, Kelly Love, Mara Rubin, Kim Savo, Pearl Tesler

**Resources:** Mary Elizabeth Cave, Ariel Kernis, Andhra Lutz

**Layout Goddess** Tracy Trotter

**Graphics:** Thea Gray

**Deadline:** Saturday April 20 at noon in the Rock office. (Humor submissions wanted) Please submit articles on a Mac disk.

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. The College News is published every other week 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.

## Non-lesbians also harassed in spring of '88

Dear College News:

I am writing in response to Cheryl Kim's article of March 31. It contained an erroneous statement concerning the situation in the Spring of 1988. Not all of the recipients of anonymous harassment were lesbians. My best friend who was neither a lesbian nor perceived as such was victimized.

When my best friend began receiving the disturbing materials under her door, she contacted Kathy Steinbeck, the Head of Security. Kathy was able to begin working on the problem and she was able to assure my friend that she was not alone. Another woman who was receiving harassment in the same dorm contacted no one and assumed that she was the only one. (My message here is: if you are receiving harassment, TELL SOMEONE. Your HA, Dean, a Security Officer, Dorm President or a good friend.)

My friend and I discussed at length some of the common factors why certain women were singled out over others. The recurring characteristics of all the women were that they were

all self-assured women who portrayed confidence in their abilities and had little to fear from men. I think that describes most of us here. All of us, not just lesbians, or just straight women or whatever are singled out for harassment. We're ALL fair game to a potential harasser. And we need to COMMUNICATE and stick together.

I talked to my best friend on the phone after I wrote the article and she wanted to add a comment and include her name. "If someone wants to be racist or sexually biased, it isn't right, but it's their own choice, so be it. But I do not like the fact that their activities are tarnishing the name of my school into which I invested 4 years of my blood, sweat and tears. Their activities are lowering the standards of the school which they expect to give them a name and a foothold in the door. In the long run, they are hurting me, but they are hurting THEMSELVES and others as well."

--Mercedes Meyer,  
Bryn Mawr AB 1988

Thank you Cheryl for writing the article; I only wanted to add my 2 cents. **Murray A. Mallett '89**

## Skeeter's replies to 'Hawaiian pizza' protest

To the Community:

We are writing in response to last week's letter concerning the naming of Skeeter's "Hawaiian Pizza". We would first like to emphasize that, in regards to the name, Skeeter's had no intention of "distorting or exploiting" any image of Hawaiian culture or people, whether destructive or otherwise. Rather, in introducing the pizza, we adopted an already established and wide-spread association between the name and the toppings with which it is associated—a connection which we perceived of only as analogous to an Italian hoagie or various other food combinations familiar to the public. We were therefore shocked and concerned upon receiving the letter which was sent to us only a few days prior to the printing of it in the News and in the College News. We had in no manner anticipated such a reaction prior to the letter, particularly as "Hawaii" has been used previously for Hawaiian chicken in the dining centers and as a theme for last year's luau at Bryn Mawr.

In response to the voiced objections, however, we respect and honor the discomfort felt by various members of the community, as we had no intention of offending anyone. This response is not written in defense of or in apology for our actions or opinions. Once informed of the cultural stereotypes some felt were implied by the name, we were able to respond to the discomfort of those offended individuals and to address their concerns. With respect to those individuals, "Hawaiian" will not be used either in association with the pizza in the future or in subse-

quent advertising.

Our concern is the manner in which we were approached with the objection, in that no effort was made (other than a copy of the letter) to communicate directly with us. Skeeter's is not an indifferent money-hungry organization—we are students working and living within this community, sharing many of the same concerns as other students. In a community which operates under a code of mutual respect and trust, open communication is vital for any honest attempt at understanding and education—for either the confronting party or those confronted.

We have tried to maintain both an open mind and an open line of communication within the community, but feel that we were addressed in a manner which could only be detrimental to both parties. It is not our desire to fight against anyone, but to work towards a mutual understanding of that which is perceived of as misrepresentative of a culture—a goal which could have, and should have, been achieved with more respect towards us as willing members of the community. Instead, we were forced into a position in which we felt attacked and immediately defensive, and from such a position it is that much more difficult to respond with respect and objectivity to those who do not appear to reciprocate this respect. Hopefully, this letter will have succeeded in doing just that, as we have tried to be objective and respectful in our response.

Thank you,

**Wendy Longwood '91**

**Matt Gardner '90**

**Jacobo Ortiz-Blanes '92**

**Managers of Skeeter's**

The staff of the College News would like to thank Lorrie Kim for the wonderful, amazing years she dedicated to the evolution of this feminist newsjournal. Lorrie had been involved with the production and ideological input of the paper since her first semester in the fall of 1985, as a writer, Associate Editor, Editorial Board member, News Editor, Editor-in-Chief, and back to Editorial Board member. Indeed, she's been around almost as long as the paper itself, instrumental in our evolving self-definition, and constantly the most eloquent member of our staff on those varying definitions. Lorrie also worked to support editorial members in our own self-understandings, while pushing the paper—and the community—to maintain a more challenging political awareness. She combined her acute analysis of Bryn Mawr's upheavals with a beautiful, poetic style of speech. The College News will always be indebted to Lorrie Kim for her continual support and love.



## Anti-apartheid group brings 'South African awareness'

BY IPELENG KGOSITSILE

The Bi-College Anti-Apartheid Committee recently formed on March 27, 1989 which was the first time the group met in order to "brainstorm" about ideas for fundraising, projects, etc. A clothing drive to benefit South Africa's rural areas (as well as some fundraising activities to secure a financial base) are the goals this semester. The rural areas have been chosen since they are immersed in poverty and most of the people who remain are unemployed women and their children since their husbands are working in the cities or mines.

Together with the Overseas Development Network there will be a week of South African Awareness preceding the conference entitled "Toward Peace and Security in Southern Africa" at Haverford College the weekend of April 28-30, 1989. There will be tables at Bryn Mawr and Haverford Colleges with information about South Africa. The Committee will also have a similar

table on Diversity Day, April 14, 1989. The groups will also hopefully bring Wendy Newstead, a South African dancer, who works with children in the townships to get them to relate the torture they experience by the South African police force at some point during the week of April 24-27, 1989.

Next semester the group plans to begin consistent letter writing campaigns to Washington as well as directly to the South African regime since it is a means in which we can affect change in U.S. foreign policy towards South Africa. Bringing speakers, South African culture, and posting news about the current situation in South Africa are others goals of the Committee. While the Committee is very much in its early stages the aim is to be an arena where students in the bi-college community can utilize their efforts and anger against the apartheid regime in order to affect change. For more information you can contact IpeleNG Kgotsitsile at 526-7741/C-1355 or Pia Zain at 526-5988/C-851.

## Faculty respond to Diversity Day

BY BETH STROUD

On Friday, April 14, the Bryn Mawr community will be celebrating "Diversity Day:" a day of speakers, panel discussions, workshops, displays and entertainment organized around the theme, "Diversity: From Analysis to Action."

Last April, a similar day-long community meeting was called in response to an anti-racism and classism petition which almost 400 students had signed. At the opening of that meeting, when the floor microphones were made available for speakers, several students and one professor stood up to ask, "Where are the faculty?" Although a significant number of faculty members were there, students expressed anger that many of their professors had not canceled classes for the meeting. A few had even scheduled tests that day.

What are the faculty doing this year for Diversity Day? The College News staff conducted interviews with as many professors as possible who teach Friday classes. Information from those interviews is reprinted here to give the community access to the decisions the faculty have made, and the reasoning behind these decisions.

Of the professors who were interviewed as of Friday, April 7, only three had decided unequivocally to cancel classes. Four were planning to leave the decision up to the students,

and all the others were planning not to cancel, although all of them made it clear that they would not penalize students who chose to skip class in order to attend Diversity Day.

Many faculty members were concerned that they had been given such short notice and so little information. None remembered having received any written material; the information they had received was limited to a five-minute speech by President McPherson at a faculty meeting just over two weeks ago.

Yes: Planning to cancel classes Janet Doner, French: "I do wish... we had been consulted concerning the timing of the event - and much earlier. Our very detailed schedule for Intensive Elementary French, for instance, had already been distributed to the students up to and including the 14th. It is unfortunate that we should be losing that particular day of class time as the 002 students will be sitting the Proficiency Test the following Monday (17th). Otherwise the idea of having such an event has my wholehearted support."

Grace Armstrong, French: "I would hope that students would attend diversity forums. I have rescheduled a quiz set for that day as a take-home."

Amalia Lasarte-Dishman, Spanish

Maybe: Waiting to consult the students

Karen Greif, Biology: She feels the information she has received has been too vague. She is very flexible

continued on page 10

We would like to apologize to Carole Joffe for mislabeling the jumps, and for using three paragraphs of her insightful piece on abortion which was historically informative and incited many of us to march. We offer sincere apologies, and ask our readers to bear with us as we learn desktop publishing.

Additionally, we apologize to our colleagues at the Bi-College News, for our coverage of their request for a computer system. Bi-College News editors contested a number of facts stated: 1) that they did not buy computers before they had money; rather, Haverford SC had lent them enough money, but they "wanted an equal commitment from BMC"; 2) that there was no meeting with Alecia Domer, Jaye Foxe, and Pat McPherson; there did occur separate meetings with Jaye and Ms. McPherson; 3) that the computer system cost \$22,000, not \$26,000—and they did not overspend for it, as some SGA members asserted.

Clearly, interviewing one of their staff would have helped us avoid the misstatements of facts. Overall, we apologize for causing any hard feelings, and want to continue to build a good working relationship with our counterparts at the Bi-College News.



## Historian Barbara Tuchman remembered as female role model

BY CAROLYN WOFFORD

Speaking at her granddaughter's grade school graduation, Barbara Tuchman asserted that the need for role models was a need specific to our generation, and that role models external to oneself are superfluous—we should look within for our role models. Indeed, Barbara Tuchman, herself, never looked to any role models at all.

So recounted her daughter, Lucy Tuchman Eisenberg at the memorial service February 12, following her death, in the New York Public Library. And, yet, Lucy Eisenberg was joined by an impressive array of eloquent speakers all paying tribute to this grand historian, this two-time Pulitzer-prize winning woman—who served as role model in one way or another for them all. From the St. Louis Reporter editor, Richard Dudman, who asserted that her books should serve as texts as important as Strunk & White's Elements of Style for all journalists, to the historian Robert A. Caro who described an 'academic honesty' we should strive to emulate in her meticulous, original research (such as driving the routes of marching Medieval armies across French terrain), to her daughter, Alma Tuchman, whose image of her mother's perseverance, of continuing after one stroke to walk to the gate

for the newspapers, falling full force, but not stopping or accepting help, just as she continued to write even when almost blind, to her daughters' description of her intellectual independence and strength in her cries of "look it up, look it up!" in debating her intellectual equal and companion, her husband Lester Tuchman.

Barbara Wertheim Tuchman, born January 30, 1912 to the great New York Jewish philanthropist, businessman, and impressionist art collector, Maurice Wertheim, and his wife Alma Morganthau, of another influential New York based family (she was the sister of Henry Morganthau Jr., Secretary of the Treasury under President Franklin D. Roosevelt), died on February 6 at 77 years old after suffering a stroke.

A highly respected and well-known historian, Barbara Tuchman brought history to the common reader with her best-selling, broadly sweeping narratives making such connections as the America's mishandling of the Vietnam conflict with the Trojan's admitting the Greek horse into their city, and with other historic policy mistakes in The March of Folly: From Troy to Vietnam.

Bryn Mawr College Seniors recognized both her talent and her ability to speak to a varied audience in their nomination of her for

continued on page 11

## Rumors of mass freshwomen exodus completely unfounded

BY JOCELYN CORDELL

This semester the rumor that almost forty freshwomen left has been prevalent throughout Bryn Mawr. Many people easily believed this rumor, because they thought that several freshwomen were overwhelmed by the issue of plurality and, therefore, had more difficulty adjusting to college than usual. When asked about the reason for this rumor, Gina Kim ('92) commented, "I think a lot of people didn't expect the first semester of their freshman year to be so socially intense. One didn't expect to come to college and be bombarded by the problems going around on campus. In high school you're sheltered or maybe unaware of the issue of plurality, but these issues are prevalent everywhere. It is important to discuss them." Carla Tohtz ('91) added, "Last year as a freshwoman, pluralism was an issue, but not nearly like it has been this year. Almost every freshwoman I know has taken steps in the transferring process—they have been hit from day one with a triple dose of pluralism and awareness." Dean Michele Meyers stated that "the rumor occurs every year, but the rumor this year was a little worse... Clearly it was a tense first semester with the diversity issues."

Not only has the issue of plurality

made it difficult for freshwomen to adjust to Bryn Mawr, but the lack of social outlets has also affected their adjustment. According to Thu Tran ('92), "A lot of people were overwhelmed with the issue of pluralism, but the main problem is the social life here, or lack thereof. Over winter break people talked with their friends from home, and the social life at Bryn Mawr in comparison to their friends' social lives seemed less exciting."

Although the transition from high school or another college to Bryn Mawr may have been more difficult this year than in previous years, the rumor that forty freshwomen left is fortunately untrue. During the first semester only one freshwoman left Bryn Mawr by taking a leave of absence with the expectation of returning. At the end of the first semester six freshwomen left. One took a leave of absence, and the other five withdrew. Dean Michelle Meyers said that she expects the freshwomen who withdrew to return as well as the ones who are on leave. She stated, "I have no reason to believe that the number of students leaving will change much... The problem is that we gripe a lot. When you hear that, it is not hard to reach the conclusion that people are unhappy here and want to leave."



# Mawters volunteer in shelter and housing co-op

*The Spring Break Service Project is an organization that plans a service project each spring break. This year, 25 people went to Baltimore where they worked with the People's Homesteading Group and Community for Creative Non-Violence. The following three articles describe the groups and individuals' experiences.*

BY LISA ROHLEDER

PHG (People's Homesteading Group) is a relatively young grassroots organization which addresses the inner-city housing crisis in Baltimore. The group's first action was to occupy an abandoned building owned by the city in order to draw public attention to the puzzling juxtaposition of homeless families and empty buildings. Since this first confrontation with the city, PHG has grown into a well respected non-profit agency which helps people with few material resources provide housing for themselves. Members of the group renovate properties purchased by PHG with grants or donated by the city. In a system of "sweat equity", to obtain a house each member must work 480 hours on other members' houses; additional work needed to make the house livable is contributed by other members who will receive an equal number of hours' work on their own houses. The cost of materials is covered by low-interest loans provided by PHG. In addition to a home, PHG members are given a sense of community from their participation in this process. The group is now trying to meet some of the members' other needs, such as child care, job training, and legal advocacy.

BY LISA FIRST, CHRISTINA PALMIERI, ALISSA ROSE, AND ELAINE ROTH

The Community for Creative Non-Violence began in late 1970, and opened a soup kitchen in 1972. Currently it is an important homeless lobbying group in Washington D.C., employing civil disobedience and media-oriented tactics to promote awareness of homelessness. The CCNV Federal City Shelter on Capitol Hill houses 1500 people. The FCS provides medical attention, counseling, shelter, food, employment services, housing counseling, continuing education, legal aid and information

about securing veterans' benefits to homeless people.

On Wednesday, March 15, 1989 the Spring Break Service Project (SBSPP) worked at the CCNV shelter. Our group of 25 split up to work in different areas. Some helped prepare dinner for the 2500 people fed there each day, some cleaned baseboards in the men's section, and some women mopped the floors in the women's section. Some of SBSPP also helped clean up after dinner in the enormous, immaculate, well-organized kitchen.

We were in the women's shelter, which houses 300 women (as compared to 1200 in the men's), no children, and prohibits men. The shelter is divided by partitions into dorm-like rooms in which 4-6 women generally live, though there are a few singles. The floor also contained a kitchen, cafeteria, lounge/library and several large community bathrooms. A degree of privacy is maintained for the floor; visitors are announced and the women meet them off the floor.

Cleaning the bathrooms, we couldn't help thinking of the employees at Bryn Mawr College who do the same every day. The comparison with Bryn Mawr is an interesting one, in that the shelter houses roughly as many people as the school, yet employs so few to run it so efficiently. The fifty full-time workers keep it running smoothly, incorporate volunteer groups, and with the aid of the residents and volunteers, provide meals and clean the shelter.

We were impressed by the shelter, its staff, and the residents and felt our own role to be problematic. The response from the residents varied; sometimes we felt useful yet sometimes we felt like intruders. The role of volunteers at a homeless shelter is an ambiguous one; the interactions among the different groups in the shelter are largely undefined. Mopping up in a shelter is important but can only highlight the enormous scope of the problem of homelessness.

BY JULIA DIXON

Going to Baltimore with the Spring Break Service Project was both one of the most painful and most rewarding experiences of my life. I and others in the group who had never worked with homeless people

before were surprised at what we found when working with PHG and CCNV, and this surprise was caused by the unconscious stereotypes we carried with us. Other people in the group had experience working with homeless people and did not react in this way. The entire group felt that the actual work accomplished was not as important as what we learned through the conversations with homeless people and dispelling the prejudices that probably many of us have. One of the most moving moments of the trip was when Tyrone, who had been homeless and took shelter at CCNV and now works there, talked to us after a long day of scrubbing floors and washing dishes. He laughed at us and told us that although we thought we'd been pretty busy all day and were completely exhausted, we'd really only saved the regular workers about an hour's work. He then went on to say "seriously" what we did "was a good thing". That the homeless people saw us scrubbing their floors in the living quarters and working with them in the kitchen with a broom in our hands was good because we and they were on the same level. We also had many conversations that day with shelter residents and people like Tyrone who worked there. He said that it was good for the homeless people's self-esteem and also for us to change our preconceptions that homeless people are alcoholic, old men or crazy. He told us to continue from here, and if we see homeless people in the streets to talk and ask them what they need. People usually just walk by homeless people and don't even like to look at them. It's almost as if homeless people are not really human in our country. He said, "Don't be afraid of anybody. You're not afraid of yourself, don't be afraid of others."

I thought about what he said as I worked on Natalie's house the rest of the week. Natalie had moved into her house two years ago because she and her two sons were homeless. For the first six months she had no elec-

tricity or plumbing in her house, and when we arrived to work, she still had no drywall on her ceilings or walls. She was a funny, outgoing woman, and she was genuinely grateful to us for working on her house. I wondered why this funny, outgoing woman had become homeless. She wasn't crazy; she wasn't on drugs (although, according to Tyrone, this often the cause of homelessness). In fact, she talked about how she felt about drugs the last day as we sat on the front steps eating our peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. It was a sunny Friday afternoon, and people were starting to move about the street. She said, "You know, sometimes you forget and think it's not so bad and then something happens and you remember where you are." She explained how Friday was payday and so people would come out on the corner to buy drugs. Sometimes they were women with children and sometimes they were pregnant women. Later that afternoon, she talked about some of her history. Her mother and stepfather were alcoholics who beat her. She was pregnant at fifteen, although she was on the pill, and by sixteen, she was married. Her son was mentally retarded, and her eighteen year old husband was gone for days at a time. She didn't know where he went and didn't ask. Later she found out he was addicted to cocaine. Still she managed to continue going to high school during the day while her mother took care of her son and then come home at night to feed and care for both her baby sister and son while her mother worked. She managed to graduate from high school. I thought, "That sounds familiar to me, particularly the age fifteen. That could have been me." I thought of her positive attitude and her ability to reflect back on her life and realized that she had done much better than I would have in the same situation. She had been homeless, and I asked myself, "If I had seen her on the streets before this week, would I have walked by?"

## Problems plague SGA elections

BY PIAVE PITISCI

The recent problems with the SGA vice-presidential and '91 Honor Board elections this semester have prompted an examination of the current campaign policies and how effective they are in promoting pluralism and continuing dialogue. Interviews with Activities Head Suzanne Galloway, SGA President Jaye Fox and '91 Honor Board Representative Cheryl Kim highlighted some important concerns.

It was felt by all three that the controversies did not solely arise from faults within the current campaign regulations. They were attributed in part to the current political atmosphere at Bryn Mawr. Galloway suggested that this was "one more manifestation of changing ourselves (the Bryn Mawr Community)." Fox felt that in several of this semester's campaigns "people were allying with people" and not focusing on the issues. There might be some danger that future

campaigns would come to resemble a popularity contest. Cheryl Kim thought the conflicts were indicative of the "polarization of the community" and felt that there might have been some fear of politicizing the campaigns.

Even though the campaign problems could be viewed as a sign of the stress and divisions felt politically on campus, it was thought that the campaign policies could have been more effective in promoting dialogue between the community and the candidates as well as between the candidates themselves. A committee, headed by Suzanne Galloway, is working now to revise the campaign rules. One of their goals is to make the campaign rules known to the entire community. As Galloway said, "The rules hold for everyone," not just the candidates. The regulations might also be clarified for the candidates. Fox suggested that the candidates might include their statements on all of their posters to promote the idea that it's

*continued on page 10*

## Tuition and wages raised

BY MARY ELIZABETH CAVE

Never fear, fellow Mawters, financial aid is here! Tuition has gone up this year from its measly \$11,880 to the substantial sum of \$13,200. One cannot blame Bryn Mawr for this raise, "for one gets what one pays for" is still a well-known phrase in today's society; and unfortunately, everyone past the age of eight has probably heard the word inflation at least once. This estimated 11 percent increase makes a percentage of the campus turn to the financial aid office inquisitively. According to Jerry Berenson, head of the Bryn Mawr

financial aid office, with every increase of tuition there is an increase in financial aid. Some Mawters may be worrying that they will be required to work more hours next year in campus services to compensate for a part of this increase. Well your worries are over, for there is going to be a general \$.35/hour increase in work study wages, and upperclassmen as well as freshmen will receive a hundred dollar increase in work study grants; upperclassmen will move from a \$1000 to \$1100 work study program and the freshmen from a \$850 to \$950.



# ARTS

## Newman observes and "interrupts" Spain, Portugal

BY VANESSA LIERTZ

Hilary Newman observes and "interrupts" life in the South of Spain and Portugal. She communicates her view of Spanish city life and of the Portuguese country side. Her large format photographs done mostly in black and white, are indeed "People pictures", as she calls them. She focuses on human scenes, observing and, very often interrupting them, creating a direct communication to us, the observer. She focuses mainly on the portrayal of life in Spanish cities. Many of the scenes reflect what the foreigner perceives as typical of the South of Spain. Such scenes that are captured are men chatting in front of a bulding, beggars on the streets, and a man with one of his children on his arm. One photograph of a beggar made a great impression on me because of the contrast of the man's impoverished condition with his proud expression.

Newman frequently experiments with the composition of her photographs. I found "Un hombre Sevillano", a Sevillian man sitting on stairs, especially interesting. In it, we only perceive his head, for a ballustrade cuts the picture in two halves. An arch of the fountain in the front is reflected in the arches of the houses in the background. The most interesting aspect of the photograph is the shadow from a statue cast on the ballustrade which forms a symmetrical counterpoint to the man. The male statue with its belligerent expression is reminiscent of the legendary Spanish macho spirit.

My favorite picture is "Olha o, el fumer" taken in Portugal which captures two men stooping. One of them is smoking and the smoke of his cigarette is visually reflective of the thoughtful mood of the photograph. Newman's insightful photographs again and again show her interest in human beings and the situation of their lives.

## Dance Concert to be held

Spring Dance Concert Announcement

The Spring Dance Concert will be held in Goodhart at 7:30 pm on Friday and Saturday, April 28th and 29th.

Bryn Mawr and Haverford students will be dancing in a modern piece and ballet piece choreographed by dance faculty members, Madeline Cantor and Sherry Shaeffer, in a grant supported tri-college production of a work by guest artist Karen Bamonte, and in several student choreographed pieces.

The concert is free and open to the community.

For more information, call ext. 5208.



Madeline Cantor, Instructor for the Bryn Mawr Dance Program

## Diversity in last semester's curriculum merely temporary

BY CELINA SIPPY

**DIVERSITY.** The most prominent issue on the Bryn Mawr campus today. Last year proved this by way of the curriculum: last semester's course guide was plentiful in "diverse" courses. Africa, the Middle East, South Asia, South East Asia, Latin America— courses in all departments and at all levels. Things finally seemed to be coming together for the Bi-College academic scene. But this one positive aspect was short-lived. Apparently this was but a tactical move by the faculty to pacify the uproar over the limited scope that the students had been faced with in the classroom. ADD SOME DIVERSE COURSES AND MAKE THEM HAPPY.

And what happened this time around? I flicked through the course guide last week, expecting to find yet

another attractive array of courses in all departments. But no, to my surprise (although I chide myself for not having expected it) I found pages and pages of unsatiating, unstimulating and yes... downright BORING courses. Economics No diversity whatsoever. Political Science: Latin America PERIOD. History: 300-level topics for seniors: U.S., U.S., Europe. Europe. I should be fair, though. South-east Asia and the Middle East both have solid foundations in the curriculum. I understand that important areas of the world must be represented. They are areas that are increasingly affecting our lives and are therefore important to study. These courses can certainly be classified as "diverse", but the motives behind the inclusion of most of these courses is that they are important, whereas the true reason for creating the



"Queen Elizabeth II" (1977) by Kuage: The Queen and her husband on the occasion of their Jubilee Tour.

## Colorful Papua New Guinea Art exhibit opens today

An exhibition of *The Contemporary Art of Papua New Guinea* opens today in the Centennial Campus Center Gallery, Room 204. The exhibition is curated by Pamela Rosi, a doctoral student in the Department of Anthropology, who will present a slide lecture at 3 pm in Room 105 of the Campus Center before the opening reception. A video and catalogue will help viewers to appreciate the context and symbolism of the objects on display.

The exhibit includes a colorful array of prints, drawings, sculptures, and textiles created by eleven national artists, associated primarily with the PNG National Arts School. Although these works show great stylistic variation reflecting the cultural traditions and educational background of the individual artists, they share underlying themes regarding a common concern for custom, folklore, and the dissonances produced by culture clash.

Although the tribal arts of Papua New Guinea are considered by collectors as amongst the most extraordinary of human imaginative creations, the contemporary art of the new nation has had little recognition from the outside world. With its direct and ingenuous imagery, this

contemporary art conveys deeply felt reactions to the imminent loss of a way of life that has been sustained for generations.

One of the newly independent nations of the Western Pacific, Papua New Guinea is a country of striking regional and cultural diversity. Collectively its people speak over seven hundred different languages, and the largely rural population is struggling to preserve the customs and beliefs of traditional village existence in the face of encroaching modernism and rapid urbanization. Confronted with the task of modern nation building, the national government is seeking ways to foster a collective sense of national purpose and identity.

Supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation and a travelling fellowship from Bryn Mawr in 1986, Pamela Rossi was affiliated with the National Arts School to research how contemporary PNG art is contributing to the articulation of a new national consciousness.

The exhibition will be open to the public from noon until 6 pm daily from April 14-30.

— Press Release from the Office of Public Information

### PREGNANCY TESTS

- \* free of charge
- \* confidential
- \* results while you wait

.....  
: AMNION :  
.....

**Crisis Pregnancy Center  
Bryn Mawr**  
(same block as  
Bryn Mawr Theater)

**CALL TODAY 525-1557**

"Diversity Requirement" (which is not in effect at Bryn Mawr) is so that students can choose courses, that may not have otherwise been chosen, BECAUSE THEY ARE INTERESTING. Unfortunately, there are only a limited number of such courses offered to us next semester; WHY? If the faculty and

administration really do want to adhere to "the spirit of a diversity requirement without the enforcement of one", why is the impression given that this semester's course guide was a cool towel temporarily placed on a fevered forehead?



# For richer or for poorer--the real

## All workers deserve our respect

BY ANASTASIA DODSON

Almost every day there are classist incidents in the dining halls that many of us don't even notice. It is very important for all of us to become aware of this classism and find the courage to speak out against it. Acts of classism, according to the Honor Code, are "devoid of respect", and violate the Honor Code. A crucial part of keeping the Code viable and alive is speaking up when someone's actions are not consistent with it. The Honor Code will continue to work for us only as long as our actions show our support for it.

The classist attitudes of some Bryn Mawr students become important issues when student workers in Dining Service are victims of classist actions. For example, at the end of a meal, when a meal-card checker has tallied up the number of diners, sometimes a student will come in after all the counting has been done

and demand to be let in to eat. This is a lot of extra work for the checker, who must redo the entire tally, just because someone couldn't get to the Dining Hall during regular dining hours (two hours per meal seems like it should be enough). To make matters worse, some students harass the checker if she refuses to do the extra work and doesn't let them in late. This is a blatant act of classism that violates the Honor Code.

Classist harassment generally happens every day in the Dining Halls. If a meal-card checker will not let someone in without payment or a meal card, she is often harassed by the diner who cannot pay. At every meal servers are harassed because of portion control or entree selection rules that they have no control over. Utility workers in the dishroom are harassed by diners for shortages of knives and spoons that, ironically, are caused by the diners themselves

*continued on page 10*

## Many ignore or deny class differences

BY GRETCHEN KREIGER

The following was a letter I wrote to the Bryn Mawr-Haverford News last November; I saw your poster requesting submissions for a spread on classism and initially thought, "I should send my letter. Maybe this time I'll get a response." After reading the letter through, however, I realized I had much more to write. So here is my revised letter on classism, this time specifically to the Bryn Mawr College community:

I wrote in response to Diane Mechling's letter to the Bryn Mawr/Haverford News, 11/11/88. I applaud Mechling for speaking out and vocalizing feelings that I have shared, yet kept to myself for too long. I too am from a "not so privileged background" and I share Mechling's disgust and anger at the classism of Bryn Mawr and Haverford.

Certainly we are all privileged by our very presence at Bryn Mawr and Haverford Colleges—privileged by the future options an elite education gives us. However, we are not all equally privileged. Not only do we bring widely disparate backgrounds, experiences and resources to college with us. (Different social classes do reflect differing value systems, which are in turn are considered more or less legitimate and/or appropriate, depending both on how economically privileged the social class is and on the class standing of the majority of the people in one's particular surroundings.) For instance, my sister and her friends—mainly white working-class adolescents—are self-proclaimed heavy metalheads. They look for something very different out of life than the average upper middle-class college-bound female. It is not an accident that few adolescent soon-to-be Bryn Mawrters (I would suspect almost

none) identified with Heavy Metal, a largely white working-class musical phenomenon, strongly enough to change their hairstyles, wardrobes, vocabularies, even their favorite cars. Whereas my sister and her peers think I'm lucky to be able to go to a "good" college (though they don't see themselves even at a community college), few upper middle-class kids aspire to or envy metal greatness, when we finally do get to college, Bryn Mawr and Haverford reflect the hegemonic realities of the society at large. Students from less privileged (that is, poor, working-class or lower middle-class) economic backgrounds are grossly underrepresented (largely but not only due to the outrageous cost of an elite, or "good" education). Students from poor, lower middle-class, or working-class backgrounds who do make it to Bryn Mawr/Haverford are automatically penalized for the fact that their families are not wealthy enough to pay. (These penalties are euphemistically called "work-study" and "Guaranteed Student Loans", among other things. I must note here, however, that the exorbitant cost of an elite education strains the pockets of even the most solidly middle-class families, thus putting even more students in competition for financial "aid.")

The reality of American society in general is that people are not terribly class-conscious, especially those who don't have to be—that is, those with class privilege. People want to think that they are "just middle-class". Most people—especially people who make it to elite institutions—don't challenge this assumption—we simply come to college for a good education (so we can get a good job, so we can make money... and perpetuate the hierarchical, exploitative class structure we've been brought up to accept). Those of us on the lower, "less

*continued on page 11*



March raises issues of classism in the feminist movement. Photo by Cheryl Kim

## Sensitivity on classist issues—it's not demanding too much

BY KIRSTEN ERIN ANDERSON AND REBECCA MATTIS

There is an assumption that everyone at Bryn Mawr College is rich. This makes itself known in many ways, such as a \$25 charge for a \$1 set of keys, the unavailability of generic products in the bookstore, and the comments of the administration and many students on campus. "You plan to save your work-study money for tuition?! But that pay is 'pizza money!'" — this from financial aid personnel. "So-and-so worked with poor people last summer. She got to see how the 'other half' lives." Nobody seems to realize that the "other half" exists on this campus.

Rebecca got a letter from her mom that came in a reply envelope, which had been sent to parents from BMC asking for donations. On the inside flap, it gave a list of donation amounts with little ratings for each... \$5000 and above was "Taylor Tower"... \$2500-\$5000 was "Thomas." The lowest, \$250-\$500, was "Lantern." We figured the \$10 Rebecca's mom might be able to afford would earn her the title of "Broken Pencil Stub." But there was no category listed for below \$250. Even if she were able to donate, her contribution would not be acceptable. It would be substandard. It is obvious to us that the administration as well as the students do not acknowledge that working-class students are here and are valuable. We perceive the underlying

influences to be as follows.

Working-class people do not belong at an upper-crust institution such as this. It is only due to the charity of the college that we are here. We are as intelligent and capable as any other student, but we are perceived as being arrogant to think we can rise above our station and claim the same respect and acknowledgement afforded the other students. This can be summarized by a comment made last spring in regards to the racism petition: "Why are you demanding so much? We are standing before you with open arms. Can't you be grateful for what we have given you? [not a direct quote]"

Such students and the college administration think we should be grateful because they have given us everything we could possibly need or want. They think they have provided for our expenses completely and they think they have brought us to a welcoming environment. Because we are patronized we are automatically belittled, even to the state where we are invisible. And because they have given us everything we have, we have nothing to give in return.

The following is an example of the way in which our achievements are devalued by this condescending attitude. As a part of her financial aid package, Kirsten received a scholarship from a source which helps Bryn Mawr fund deserving

*continued on p. 11*

## Classism and the D.C. March

Arellano, et al.- from page 1

Hyde Amendment (prohibiting women on Medicaid from using government funds for abortions). The horrors envisioned by the marchers with the reversal of Roe v. Wade are already a reality for these women. There was little mention of the plight of these women in the posters or speeches. In this aspect, the march did little to confront the media claim concerning classism in feminist movement. The reversal of Roe v. Wade will have little effect on women able to afford safe abortions. Middle

and upper-middle class women can always travel to foreign countries for abortions, or if the availability of abortions becomes dependent upon state legislatures, these women will be able to afford travel costs to the new "abortion centers." The illegalization of abortion will have the greatest impact on lower-income women who will be unable to buy safe, but expensive "blackmarket" abortions. It is important to remember that those who have the privilege of political voice need to speak up for those who do not.



# ities of life at Bryn Mawr College

## Classism stigmatizes poverty

BY MICHELE MCCAULEY

I guess I first became aware of classism when I went to a workshop on racism. I should say I became aware that it had a name. Chrystos, the woman who led the workshop, spoke not about overt hatred, but about one group of people imposing their value system on another. She talked about white people accepting her only as a white person, rather than acknowledging and accommodating her native American culture.

When I heard her, I realized that this is what had happened to me—people assumed I was like "everybody else," that is middle class. They pushed their value system on me by failing to try to understand mine. I remember the constant questions from my gymnastics team-mates—Why do you bicycle to work-out? Why don't you think tanning salons are worthwhile? Why aren't you going to the meet in Idaho (or Montana, or Utah)? Why don't you want to come to the Wild Waves Waterpark with the team? Why don't you watch/enjoy our favorite television programs?—my usually inarticulate attempts to explain how my values were different from theirs without getting too deep into why (I couldn't let them know why, because they would have said I was poor, and I couldn't admit that). Always they replied with a deadpan "oh." and always they would ask the question again if it ever came up.

My mother had been brought up

on a middle class income in a middle class neighborhood and sincerely believed we were "nobodies," because the head of the household was not a doctor or lawyer or scientist or successful businessman. There was a great deal of pressure on me to appear perfectly middle class, though at the same time I was a nobody. I always hated Kringling at Christmas time because I had to go along with it (there was no excuse that did not reveal poverty) because such trinkets were such a waste of money which could be better spent. But people assume that if you are taking ballet classes and gymnastics, if you are traveling to Washington D.C. and Germany, that the basic household "necessities," are taken care of, that you have a certain amount of "spending money" not already allotted to rent and groceries. We were never poor—we had all the advantages that middle class kids had, even if we didn't have a car, even if the four of us lived in a tiny apartment, even if we did go through some winters without heat.

Coming to Bryn Mawr from this environment was a relief. Having things like toilet paper and heating taken care of, no invincible splotches of mold spreading across the walls, no worry over how to pay for gymnastics, travel expenses, tape, uniforms, my mother not there having fits if I wasn't being impeccably conformist, people assuming if I didn't participate I didn't need to justify it.

*continued on page 10*



## Working class Mawrters formed group in 1986

BY CARRIE WOFFORD

In April of 1986, a senior and a junior formed a group for women of working class backgrounds at Bryn Mawr—creating the first, and, so far, only such group in Bryn Mawr's herstory. Their experiences in forming the group, which might be compared to the current group for women of Color, COLOR, in providing space, strength, and self-definition, give us some of the necessary history and insight as we continue to struggle with these issues.

The group, "Working Class Women," was "originally inspired by Becky Young '86 and her silence-breaking article... on working class women at Bryn Mawr," explained Amy Whitney '87, co-founder of the group with Becky, in her April 14, 1986 piece in the College News. Whitney further introduced the group: "Working class women have a need and a right to meet together with other women who might share some common values and conflicts. This is the primary goal of our group." "My dedication has been fueled by my growing identity as a working class woman... We working class

women need to feel proud. We need to define ourselves and to realize the good things that have shaped us... For every hard thing I have lived through or lack I have had by middle class standards, I have had a valuable or good experience to look back upon... Because working class people are the only ones who know the whole story, we must define ourselves."

Her article prompted a somewhat tense moment during a challenge to the group in a letter from a guest student from Reed:

"In light of Amy Whitney's recent article concerning working class women on campus (and Becky Young's previous article) I ask that the term 'middle class values' be defined

—Thank you, Susan Davis."

And the answer, printed in the same issue, immediately below Susan Davis' letter, offered self-definition, assertion, and some anger:

"In response to Susan Davis' letter which asks for the term 'middle class values' to be defined, we would like to say this: As working class women we are mainly trying to define

*continued on page 8*

## Mawrters' writing dialogue illustrates the effects of classism

Commentary

We were asked by the College News to write something about being working class. This was a difficult request, because you just don't write a paper summarizing your life. So instead we excerpted from a written dialogue we had had among ourselves. The following is the excerpt sharing some of our experiences. There were six Bryn Mawr students writing, most of whom are working class. The names have been changed to protect our privacy.

24-MAR-1989

Well, I am very happy. I am overcome by a huge and insurmountable love for all my friends (that means YOU), which is so huge and insurmountable that I don't know what to do. I love it. But there is also lurking somewhere slightly to the left of between my shoulder blades a certain dissatisfaction and disenchantment about the world. I can't scratch it.

My mother called me last night which made me very happy, because I haven't heard from her in a long

time. But I am very, very worried now. She has whiplash from being rear-ended by a drunk dude, and a bladder infection, and because of these things hasn't been able to work her gardening job for three weeks and has no money. She has to move from the house because the landlady is selling the land, and she hasn't found a place yet. She hasn't been able to spend any time with her friends because they are all caught up with their jobs. The whole time I was talking to her she coughed. I was confronted last night with the possible reality that when she dies, it

will be from lack of money. She is basically unhealthy from lack of money and since the doctor that looks at you if you watch her kids and do her dishes is quitting, she will have big problems getting any health care.

I figured today that she won't die from lack of money, because there are plenty of people who will be overjoyed to take care of her if it comes to that. But she has got to change her life somehow. I am thinking that I will take the \$\$ that I am saving up to bring her out here and just give it to her, for her teeth or

*continued on page 8*

## BMCDS employees share insights on life in the dining halls

BY KATHARINE HEINSOHN

When asked if on the job they felt they were treated with respect by students, the three Haffner dining service student workers and one full time worker interviewed, all to remain anonymous here, replied that yes, they did feel that way for the most part—and then all proceeded to equivocate their positions. Interestingly but perhaps not surprisingly, the one most optimistic in general about the working conditions was the full-timer.

"Boy, all the food looks really gross tonight," was a comment encountered frequently enough according to one of the student workers, but the prime example of rudeness experienced by all four—that is, the most common infraction

of Bryn Mawr's Social Honor Code—concerns portion sizes: "people'll look down at their plates and then look at us," and proceed to complain and demand more. Another evidence of disrespect suffered by student workers, according to two, is that people constantly try to get in without I.D.s, whether through cajoling or walking right in when meal hours are over. But "It's hard to defend a law you don't believe in," said one. And so often workers don't.

On the issue of salary, one of the students felt that in serving and cleaning and sweeping, she worked as hard as anyone in the dishroom, and that therefore all student workers ought to earn \$4.05 an hour as opposed to the \$3.80 people working "general" earn. But another felt the pay levels ought to be even more

clearly delineated—that somehow checkers should receive less than those involved with werving and running. The full worker felt her wages were "acceptable," but when asked if she felt they were fair with respect to the hours and degree of job difficulty, conceded, "they could be a little higher."

All three of the student workers were quite positive about working with the full timers; in fact, one said, "I think that is the most valuable part." The full time worker said that not only did the student workers make the work easier, but they also lightened the atmosphere. Students felt that it was the joking around of the full timers which made working fun, and that as opposed to the manager, Neil, "they're the ones that encourage us."

Which leads to the issue of managerial attitudes and treatment. Haffner's top manager is Neil Radan; one student worker charitably put it, "I really think he loves being in charge." Complaints against him included the fact that he "curses a lot," and that "he curses that full timers out, but not us," according to one student worker. Two felt that he treats them somewhat demeaningly in not learning their names, and one said that he sometimes "will say something negative to me about a full-timer in a confidential way. I work for him, so I don't feel like there's anything I can say." Another said that he's intensely moody and that "when he has a good day things are fine, but when he's having a bad day we all know it."

*continued on page 9*



## Eastern European women discuss feminism

*Fried, Primrose, Simeon-continued from page 1*

hold chores. Because most households lack conveniences such as dishwashers, clothes dryers, and microwave ovens, to name a few, chores consume much more time than they do in industrialized countries. Furthermore, most people rely upon public transportation due to the expense of obtaining and maintaining a car. As a result, food shopping and other errands leave women that much less time for leisure. In short, women are over-burdened and receive very little help from husbands.

Fortunately, maternity leave policies and wage compensation are comparatively generous by American standards. The first six months of maternity or paternity leave are at full pay, and the following 18 months are at 70% wage compensation. They are guaranteed their previous job upon their return to the workplace. In the case of a handicapped child, the parent can take up to 17 years of work leave with some compensatory pay.

When asked if they considered themselves feminists, Ms. Bulinska answered that yes, they do, if one defines a feminist as one who works for women's equality but who is not antagonistic towards men. They expressed surprise and confusion when told that we attended a women's college. They viewed a

women's college as being inadequate preparation for cooperation with men in the real world; we would encounter this response many times during the course of our trip.

We asked whether they had or desired academic courses which focused on women's perspectives in literature and in history, for example. They were flabbergasted by the question, as they thought that history is history, and that literature is literature, and that all of it has been written and taught from the human perspective. According to these women, sexism and sexual harassment are not a problem in Polish academic institutions. They felt that women and men cooperated rather than competed in the classroom and that academic advancement was based primarily on ability. At this point we realized that these women's perceptions were vastly different from ours as to the status of women and the problems facing them. As a result, we reached an impasse in our discussion; further questions would have appeared to have been accusatory.

In retrospect, our encounter with these women proved to be the most stimulating of all of our meetings in Poland, perhaps because it directly confronted basic differences in our cultures as well as issues which are of fundamental relevance to our experiences at a women's college.



The passion of marchers was expressed in many different ways. Photo by C. Kim

## 'Working Class Women' formed

*Wofford- continued from page 7*  
ourselves and our own values. We are also trying to sort out our reactions to living in a very middle class environment. We do not think we should be asked to define 'middle class values' in The College News. If we printed a definition as individuals, we would be putting ourselves in a very vulnerable position. If our group 'Working Class Women' spent time formulating a definition, our focus would be seriously misdirected. If, however, you are still interested in the differences between working and middle class values, or if you are interested in working class perceptions of middle class values, we would be happy to send you a booklist over the summer.

—Sincerely, Amy Whitney, Becky Young

Although the group dissipated after Becky graduated that spring,

and Amy the following spring, Becky and Amy raised important questions in 1986, and the reaction they encountered, as well as their plan of action (which follows) may be useful now as classism and working class self-definitions are explored, as in this centerspread, and during community meetings:

"Working Class Women' will hopefully be a good space for us to [define ourselves] in. This semester, it is important to try to establish our presence as a group on campus and to share ideas. Next semester we can get a budget and do some more things, and maybe begin to discuss outside issues facing the working class and the poor, like union issues or Reagan cutbacks on social programs, as well as the issues in this article.

Those issues are similar to those raised by working class women in this centerspread..

## Mawrters experience classism in every day lives

*continued from page 7*

something. I think I will do that. It's kind of ironic — most of the money I have is from my dad, and if I give it to her, well, it'll be ironic. Because it's because of him that she's in the situation at all. Giving it to my mom is definitely the best thing I can do with my father's money. Sigh. Well, things have been worse. She could have three young kids too. I don't know, I don't know. Well, I'm happy, but slightly to the left of between my shoulder blades the world itches terribly and I can't scratch it.

Well, gotta go now, to see if I got Mom's letter today in the mail and to send her money, cause I promised I would today. . . goodbye, smiles to you all, and any happiness you might have would be greatly appreciated.

MARY PAT

29-MAR-1989

Thanks for being supportive enough for me to actually allow me to deal with how I was feeling at the time. In the past, when I have been in similar situations (isn't it sad that this country is so bad that I have experienced this before and probably will again?) - Anyway, in the past, I always shut off my emotions and concentrated wholly on surviving well and ethically. Any emotions that facilitated this were allowed and any that didn't weren't. And you were the important difference, in the past it has always been just me and/or one, two or three other hopelessly outnumbered people. I am not used to not being perceived as being alone in the fray. Thank you to those of you who have been supportive.

Ah, ugly class reality rears its ugly head. It is sobering, but not daunting. I wish I could make some in SGA

understand this reality. According to a couple people who were there last Sunday, when they talked about alternative ways to pay and raise dues, one girl had the ignorance to imply that anyone who "knew she had to pay \$150 and had all Summer to come up with the amount, and still couldn't" was irresponsible. I was also told that — made another one of her famous lines about "why should the rich have to bear the burden for the poor." Yet others argued that \$150 was not the huge sum that people were making it out to be.

I wish I could share my reality with them. Make them understand that I have three (sometimes four) jobs on top of my academics and on top of this bs outside of class, that I have paid my way (everything not covered by my financial aid package) for the last two years, with no help from either of my parents because they don't have anything to give. That my mother was really happy to send me \$100 to help deal with the spot I am in right now, because usually she doesn't have \$100 to give whether I need it or not, and I have only asked her once before for money and that was freshman year. And if \$150 is not a paltry sum to me, and if I can't raise it in three months it is not because I am irresponsible. And would they just stop and think for a moment at whose expense (literally) their daddies got rich? And I did all this struggle to come to Bryn Mawr and now I have to put up with bs from people who don't understand/haven't experienced half the day-to-day struggle I have, but who complain about it twice as much. This I wish I could share with people, but I can't. They wouldn't get it. Oh

well.

ERIKA

PS: The reason I wanted to share this reality is because there are a lot of people in the same position and just because we don't go around shouting it all the time doesn't mean we don't exist. Anyway, if we did, they would say it was because we were looking for a "free ride".

Again this strangeness has taken hold of me, or I guess it is a continuing feeling. I still don't know whether to laugh or cry. This has been going on for a few days now. My mom just wrote me another letter with even worse news, but nothing that was unexpected. Just the normal Mom is very ill, miserable, and unhealthy and entirely broke; my sister is ill, miserable, dead drunk all the time, slicing herself up with knives, and generally just as bad off as always, but off speed; we're still having trouble finding a living space; and little me is just as happy as can be, seriously overcome with a great and joyous love for all my friends and the earth.

Now how am I supposed to feel when I am on cloud 9,999 and my whole family is half-dead and/or f—d up?

Well, I am doing what I can. I sent Mom 75 dollars, and told my friends that I love them

That is all on this strange night,  
MARY PAT

I have for the past month or more put myself on a regime of studying at least one hour a day for each class I have (4 hours a day of studying).

I have noticed that it frequently is very difficult to do this, and I consider this to be a very small amount of studying. Now, one of the reasons

why I am having trouble doing this is because I work, but I would like to ask you all: How many hours do you study on weekdays? I am referring to real study time so do not include the 20 minutes you spend daydreaming, the 10 going to the bathroom, etc. How many hours do you study on weekends? Do you work? If so, how many hours? Basically I want to get a feeling for how much each of us would study if we did not work. For those of you who work, if you didn't work (i.e. your mommy and daddy could pay enough so you didn't have to) how would you spend your time? ex. socializing, athletics, offices, causes, volunteering, studying?

PATRICE

[In response to ERIKA feeling that there are a lot of people in SGA who don't understand Working Class reality].

I don't think that's entirely true. A lot of different people have been trying to propose a sliding scale, a 2- or 3-payment plan, etc. But I think it can be worked out in some way so that there will not be undue pressure on those who can't afford to pay a huge amount.

JOYCE

PS: I'm responding to your comment that "if we did, they would say it was because we were looking for a "free ride." Most people, I think, know better than that. At least, I hope that I do.

30-MAR-1989

Re: "free ride"

Exactly. That's exactly what they would say.

JO ELLEN

*continued on page 12*



## Tri-college relations meeting: safer partying

BY MELINDA WENNER

On Friday, March 10 most students at Bryn Mawr, Haverford, and Swarthmore were preparing to leave campuses for a welcomed, and deserved, spring break. While bags were being packed and weekend plans made, a group of concerned students and faculty from the tri-college community were meeting to discuss a more serious topic.

A luncheon at Swarthmore College, hosted by Dean Janet Dickerson and a number of the Swarthmore Student Council representatives brought together members of the tri-college community to discuss tri-college relations with regard to the party situations on our campuses. Bryn Mawr was represented by Dean Karen Tidmarsh, Director of Student Services Chuck Heyduck and newly elected Self Government Association President Jaye Fox '91. The Haverford contingent consisted of Dean Matthews Hamabata, Dean Steve Waters and student Jeff Meyerhardt '92.

The meeting made it clear to members of all three college communities that there are two main issues for us to concentrate on as the

"tri-college social unit". There is a need for greater communication and interaction between the schools, and an even greater need to secure the safety of students who choose to travel to another college for parties.

The issue of alcohol consumption is obviously inherent to the issue of parties and safety. Because the new Bryn Mawr Alcohol policy restricts alcohol at parties, many Mawrters are going to Swarthmore on the weekends to socialize. Dickerson states that she is "delighted" that students are visiting Swarthmore's campus, but feels that the safety issues are extremely important.

The safety problem involves a number of areas of concern. Dickerson spoke of an incident in January where two Bryn Mawr students were discovered sleeping in the lounge of an empty building on the Swarthmore campus. They had been there for a party, and having stayed past the time the last van leaves, were planning to spend the night there. The last van leaves at 1:30 a.m. on Saturdays, meaning that students must leave parties (which typically run until 2:00 a.m) early, something many are reluctant to do.

**Swarthmore perceptions: fairness**  
The Swarthmore student body feels

there is not an even exchange between the three schools and the parties each gives. One Student Council representative stated that the perception at Swarthmore is that there are no parties at Bryn Mawr or Haverford, or that Swarthmore students are not welcome at them. Swat student and Student Council representative Norman Carter asserted there is a feeling of resentment at Swarthmore that they "buy the beer and hire the van, and there are bi-college students pouring in". He went on to say that, "It's an inaccurate perception, but the perception exists".

Swarthmore students also question whether they spend more money on parties we benefit from than vice versa, and whether the number of bi-college students who attend the Swat parties, (there were a rumored 2,500 people at the Swarthmore "Screw Your Roommate" party earlier this semester), and consume alcohol there, is equal to that of the Swarthmore students who travel to Haverford or Bryn Mawr to socialize. Swarthmore student Sameer Ashar seemed to answer the question by stating that, "I think on the whole Swarthmore students are pretty satisfied with what goes on here."

**Swarthmore liability for us**

The second major concern for the Swarthmore community is their responsibility for the students who attend parties at Swarthmore. Legal council sought by Swarthmore has assured them that they are not liable for students who drink on their campus and are then injured on their way home. Yet Dickerson and students are concerned about the drinking and driving.

Haverford Dean Hamabata asked whether Swarthmore students will drink before they come to large bi-college parties, because they know that those parties will be dry. Dean Dickerson returned that indeed Swarthmore's experience with bi-college students has been that there is too much driving while drinking, before and after parties.

**Policies affect party liberties**

The alcohol policies of the three schools are very different. All three policies inform students of the state

laws, but Swarthmore's is much less restrictive about the logistics of alcohol at parties than Bryn Mawr's which does not allow alcohol in any "public spaces" and does not allow the provision of college or student-fee money for alcohol at private or school wide parties. Students throwing parties for more than ten people at Swarthmore must sign a writ securing their responsibility of the event, and must make sure a bartender, substantial food and non-alcoholic beverages are all provided at the party.

Dean Dickerson explained the purpose of the Swarthmore policy is for students to learn moderation and decorum with regard to their alcohol consumption at parties. Dean Hamabata described that the policies which Bryn Mawr and Haverford now have, despite their differences, are "trying to create an environment which people treat as if they were giving a party in their own home".

Dean Tidmarsh added that because Bryn Mawr is in the first year of a new policy, we are still finding what role Bryn Mawr is going to play in the tri-college social life.

**Suggestions for better advertising**

Despite the frustration which is involved in these issues, a lot of ideas for improving the situation, as well as a great deal of positive feeling, were generated by the luncheon.

One very basic step towards improving the feeling of welcome is for all events to be advertised as "tri-college". Swarthmore stated that it has been doing this, but when they see signs for events at Bryn Mawr and Haverford they are generally marked "bi-college", giving the false impression that Swarthmore students would not be welcome. All three schools agreed that exposure of the events is important, and offered some ideas for advertising--such as a tri-college events calendar in the college newspapers, (organized by the tri-college social committee), and advertising in the buses and vans.

**Improving safety**

One suggestion made is that all Swarthmore parties be by invitation, thereby making the hosts responsible only for their guests. Another was that tickets be given out to all students who ride to Swarthmore on the vans or buses, and students only be

*continued on page 11*

## Roofers harass Bryn Mawrters

Heinsohn- continued from page 1

Erdman's front door asking students to write their comments and complaints of the situation. The poster's purpose was to determine whether the incidents were isolated or more pervasive. Washington located the poster on the front door. She placed it where the roofers could see it to let them know that the students were aware of their actions. Sandy Silverman and Chuck Heyduck left a letter on the poster asking the person responsible for it to contact them. Washington immediately communicated her concerns to them. Silverman explained that she did not object to students expressing their anger and feelings, but that she was afraid the placement of the poster where the workers could see it might escalate an already tense situation. She was expressly concerned with similarities to the campus graffiti situation in using anonymous avenues for communication. Washington explained that she had considered many different scenarios including leaving her name and asking students to sign their comments. However, she felt uncomfortable about possibly incurring further harassment. Washington's poster was anonymously ripped down and could not be found.

The next morning, Malek, the head of the local roofers union, the vice president of U.S. Roofing, and the project manager, held a meeting on the roof of Erdman and warned the workers that they would be immediately fired if certain expectations of behavior were not met. For example, workers are not allowed to congregate in large groups on campus.

That same day, a meeting was held with 25-30 Erdman students to discuss the harassment situation. Patrice DiQuinzio, Mo Malek, Sandy Silverman, Chuck Heyduck, and John Kelch (Physical Plant Director) facilitated the meeting. DiQuinzio discussed methods of dealing with

harassment. She suggested that the best way would be to immediately confront it by naming the harassment. She had one student report that she had told a worker, "That's sexual harassment and I'm not going to put up with it." However, she understood that students would often feel much safer reporting harassment incidents to the administration. Students were told that if they could positively identify the person who had harassed them, that person would be asked to leave the job.

The next day, Malek observed the workers from inconspicuous places around campus and detected no further problems. There has been one student complaint since the meetings, but the student was unable to identify the worker.

DiQuinzio was pleased with the final outcome of the situation. Her goals were not consciousness-raising for the workers, but to de-escalate the stressed situation. However, she expressed concern that there were issues of class differences as well as gender polarization involved in the confrontation. She restated that nothing excused sexist behavior and that she was in no way blaming the victims. However, she cited the generally negative condition of student-worker interactions on Bryn Mawr's campus. She believes there was probably objectifying on both sides. For example, she has often seen students walk past workers without indicating their presence as another human being with a nod or by saying hello. One possible solution she saw would be for students to meet with the people who would be working around their dorms. Jessie Washington agreed that students and workers should have more positive interaction on a personal level. She suggested solutions such as students bringing the workers coffee and donuts before they began work in the morning.

## Staff share perspectives

Heinsohn continued from page 7

The full time worker said, "I don't like anything artificial and I don't think anyone can plaster a smile on their face all the time." She felt, too, "We can accept him when he's had a bad day. . . I would not call Neil a disrespectful person and I would not call Neil an obnoxious person. . . You need to break the monotony." Later she said, "He jokes around. I think people take some of his actions too seriously." Early in the interview she said she felt she was lucky to be working here very convincingly, and, it seemed, quite honestly, she said about Mr. Radan, "We have a nice working relationship. I feel like he's my friend too. I feel like I can talk with him and give input and have it honestly heard. He treats me like a person instead of a subordinate. I feel like I have a real purpose here. . . Because of my manager, I really feel good about coming to work."

She concluded that could she change anything, she would want

"Shorter hours and better pay. . . Everything else is fine."

One student worker said that sometimes a full timer "will say, 'You can't make a student do that.' They seem almost to have internalized that we're all little tenderfeet." The same student felt that though she "knew no-one else would agree," students ought to wear "cook's whites" to minimize the obviousness of who's a full timer and who's a student. Of the bathroom workers use, she said, "It's disgusting in there. There are cigarette butts that have been there for weeks. It's really ugly and dirty and tiny." She felt, too, that although she worked hard, sometimes there was just very little for people to do as a result, in part, she felt of poor organization. She said, "You're payed so little. There's a general feeling of being useless. We're token workers." And about Neil she felt that although "He's really touchy," "I think he has a managing style that really works."



## Code applies to workers, too.

*Dodson - continued from p.6*

who "borrow" knives and spoons but do not return them. This harassment is, once again, blatant classism.

Some students seem to have the idea that just because another student is wearing a hat and apron, she is now some kind of "worker-thing" that does not deserve the respect of being treated with the principles of the Honor Code. Although the Dining Halls are run as businesses, the students working there are the same Mawrters that you respect in class and brush your teeth with. We are all equal members of the Bryn Mawr

community who should be accorded absolute respect.

An important step in ending classism is recognizing it. Many dining service workers are too afraid or apathetic to say anything if they are harassed. Many diners are also apathetic or afraid to speak out. Because few people are willing to engage in a friendly discussion of classism when it is actually going on, classism continues. I believe that the way to stop classism in the dining halls is to speak up and discuss the subject when something seems unfair. There can be no change in people's actions without communication.

I would like to note that I am writing this as an Erdman Utility worker; my position on the Honor Board has nothing to do with this article.

## Campaign controversy

*Pitisci - continued from page 4*

O.K. to make your feelings about issues known in ways other than just through the forums and the statements in the College and Bi-College News. Cheryl Kim thought the statements might even be lengthened. She also suggested that perhaps the structure of the candidates' forums are too strict. She said she would like to see an informal group gathering with the candidates to allow for conversation and discussion with interested members of the community rather than continue in the format already established which allows candidates to only answer specific questions posed to them rather than bring up issues they would like to address. This might be one way to encourage more questioning of the candidates on their views as well as continued confrontation of problems within the

community. In light of the new VAX technology, revisions of the campaign rules will have to include the extent to which the VAX is considered a means of private or public communication, and how its use by candidates should be viewed.

In revising the campaign rules, the committee is striving to come up with creative ways to encourage dialogue and interaction between the community and the candidates while ensuring that all candidates are given a fair and equal opportunity to be elected. As Jaye Fox suggested, in order to accomplish this, attitudes toward the campaign process must change from "one of competition and winning (as the ultimate goals) to one of education of the community" with the hopes of encouraging community members to voice their concerns and interests and allow for a greater exchange of dialogue.

## To Your Health: Costs

Although it is a bit late in the year, we (the Student Health Advisory Committee) thought we would try to clarify some misconceptions about costs and what insurance does and does not cover at the Health Center.

So, let's start at the top. If you are a full-time undergraduate student at Bryn Mawr this year, you are automatically covered under the college's health insurance plan. This plan was set up to reduce out-of-pocket expenses for the student at the Health Center. So, for each accident or illness the student health insurance plan will cover \$200 in expenses. Bottom line: **you will no longer be billed for any prescription medications** (other than birth control) or lab tests done in the Health Center; the bill will instead go to the insurance company.

For in-patient stays in the Health Center or in the hospital, and for any tests run at the hospital, like X-rays or ultrasounds, the college insurance plan will still only cover \$200. So, if you have your own health insurance, or you are still covered under your parents plan, you should first file with your own company and if there is anything left over, the college plan may pick that up. Remember, though, that your initial trip to the Health Center is covered, so you can go to the Health Center, and if any outside tests are needed but you don't have your own insurance, you can decide from there what to do. But walking in the Health Center will not cost you anything.

What's not covered? Contraceptive supplies are not covered. However, the Health Center tries to control the cost of these products, and they are available at the Health Center for a lower cost than most, if not all, of the local drug stores.

This article is meant to give you a brief overview of what you can expect to pay for at the Health Center and what you will not have to pay for. If you have any questions about the college insurance plan, feel free to contact Shelley Fitzgerald (Health Center x7360). She'll be happy to try to answer your questions.

*-The Student Health Advisory Committee*

### Study in Italy this Summer



TRINITY COLLEGE ROME CAMPUS

Hartford, CT 06106

Roman Art & Civilization  
Renaissance & Baroque Art of Rome  
Comparative Literature:  
Images of Rome & Roman Life

JUNE 3-JULY 14

Write also for details on Fall and Spring Programs

## Faculty discuss Diversity Day

*Stroud - continued from page 3*

with her class. She encouraged them to go, but they don't know much about it either.

Margaret Hollyday, Biology  
Willard King, Hispanic and Hispanic American Studies

Neil Abraham, Physics: "We need people who aren't committed to anything besides the ultimate goal to measure the effect of the program and use this information to plan for the next year."

Peter Beckmann, Physics: "I know some freshmen felt this diversity was forced on them in the beginning... we need to make sure that people don't feel the issue is being forced on them."

No: Not planning to cancel class

David Prescott, Biology: He plans to announce the Day to his class and give them the option of going.

However, his class consists mostly of seniors whom he feels would be less impacted by the Day; he thinks it's more important for students in introductory classes to attend. He won't cancel class since he feels the students have paid for it and deserve it.

Matthew Yarczower, Psychology

Richard Hamilton, Greek: Why couldn't Diversity Day be on a Saturday? The announcement came on short notice, and the Greek department had already cancelled classes for May Day. The college has not officially cancelled classes, and professors are under contract to hold them. This should not, however, be seen as reflecting the view that Diversity Day is not important, and time will be available for students who go to make up the class.

Gregory Dickerson, Greek

Maryellen Nerz-Stormes, Chemistry: "I think it's important... people have a tendency to put this on the back burner. This college is more aware than many other colleges... at other schools it's not

even discussed... [But] I think sometimes students don't understand the urgency a faculty member feels to teach. To cut that day at the end of the semester is tough. It's painful."

Charles Swindell, Chemistry: "I really hate to cancel a class. It has nothing to do with how important Diversity Day is." Two years ago, students asked the faculty for a divestment activity, but he held class anyway; many of the students in his class weren't particularly interested. He would not intentionally penalize students who skipped class to take advantage of Diversity Day, but "there will also be students who want to hear the lecture... They paid their tuition like everybody else."

Jane Goodale, Anthropology: "It's scheduled on the same day as something we've planned for a year, a campus-wide thing, although the publicity seems to have been lax... [It's an exhibit on] the relation of art to the formation of national identity, in Papua New Guinea... Papua New Guinea is a third-world place, a new nation trying to formulate out of tremendous diversity a national identity. They're using art and architecture as a way of formulating out of cultural diversity a sense of unity. It's obviously appropriate to a day dedicated to diversity. The College as well as the anthropology department have put a lot of money into it. I asked that it at least be advertised as a part of the Day, since it's conflicting."

David Filipov, Russian: He has neither cancelled his class nor rescheduled the quiz on the 14th. At the time of the interview, he didn't know anything about Diversity Day.

Thanks to Andrea Bial, Sara Rubin, Leslie Gutowski, Denise Tuggle, Mary Rhoads, Amy Hinkley, Elizabeth Murray, Pearl Tesler, and Laurie Dixon for interviewing professors.

## Poverty denied at Bryn Mawr

*McCauley - continued from page 7*

A thousand worries already taken care of.

I guess my complaints with classism are levelled more at society in general than at Bryn Mawr in particular. There are, however, Bryn Mawr policies which are classist. Students who have paid for room and board should get it during fall and Thanksgiving and spring breaks. WITHOUT EXTRA CHARGE. Students who have to work during meal hours should be allowed box meals. Financial aid should recognize the independence of students who are financially independent. It should be official policy that students clear food and garbage from their trays before sending them to the dishroom.

Students can do a great deal to eliminate classism (and other -isms) simply by being open-minded and considerate, by realizing that fighting classism is not simply a student-staff dichotomy, by looking for reasons for others' actions, looking for ways of understanding them, by recognizing and re-ordering the assumptions we make about those around us.

I read an Honor Board abstract in which a student, unable to afford a book, had borrowed it from the library. Over the course of the semester she came to regard it as her own and when she returned it, overdue, it was well marked. The Honor Board

pointed out that there were several sources of financial assistance that she had only to ask for help. They stated that borrowing the book was fine, but that holding onto it so long and writing in it were unacceptable. Both of these are true, but the abstract showed no sympathy for the fact that we are taught to be ashamed of poverty, some to such an extent that it is better to go needy than to ask for help. It failed to acknowledge the fact that some of us have experienced such a flaunting of wasteful consumption and extravagant ownership in the face of our struggle for enough, that we might consider it no crime to hold onto one small book when others less deserving are simply buying it.

I am trying here to give an example of assumptions made (it was easy for her to get help) and an attempt at understanding possible motivations, not to criticize the Honor Board, or make judgements of who was right. This is what I mean by "looking for reasons for others' actions." It is not always easy to do; reasons and assumptions are part of our cultural fabric, taught and reiterated until we no longer conceive of any other way of viewing the world. Nonetheless it must be done if we hope to eradicate inequalities (sexist, racist, "religionist," ablist, homophobic or classist), which we, as Americans have been taught are so evil.



## Historian Tuchman remains an inspiration

*Wofford- continued from page 3*  
Commencement speaker at this year's graduation. Barbara Tuchman was not, however, a trained academic: Although she first gained recognition in 1962 with her first Pulitzer prize, and continues today with her position at number 9 after 24 weeks on the nonfiction bestseller list of the New York Times Review of Books for *The First Salute*, she never had an academic title nor a graduate degree. "It's what saved me," the New York Times reported her as saying. "If I had taken a doctoral degree, it would have stifled any writing capacity."

And write, she could. Her daughter Jessica Tuchman Mathews recounted, joining her mother's schedule for two weeks in order to get some writing done. In sixteen days, Jessica Mathews wrote the first and final drafts of her doctoral dissertation. It was such discipline that allowed Barbara Tuchman to struggle for eight hours on a single

paragraph—that which opens *The Guns of August*.

As much a radical as a writer, Barbara Tuchman was outspoken in her political views. She earned her place on Nixon's enemy list by calling for his resignation early on in two letters to the editors. And, recalled Daniel J. Boorstin, head of the Library of Congress in Washington D.C., when women were not to be admitted to a literary guild, she addressed the guild: "if the guild values intellectual achievement and merits, then not accepting women means not that we don't have them, but that you won't."

However, she often disagreed with traditional liberals, earning admiration for her strong individual mind. For instance, she chastised a country which abandoned Jews world-wide not just in the 1930's and 40's, but again and again; and she believed young men ought not to avoid the draft after Vietnam, but rather should join ROTC, and then

strike. This, said in a speech to the commanders of the Army and CIA showed her courage.

Like her philanthropist father, Barbara Tuchman dedicated much of her time to those causes she believed in, putting in long hours, even when sick and nearly blind in her last years, on the Writers Guild, and Board of Trustees of the New York Public Library. Dr. Vartan Gregorian, President of the New York Public Library, told of the appropriateness of the service being held in the library, where she lobbied to have the "doors of knowledge, of wisdom" open on Thursdays (since the library was closed on this day), and where she created the Wertheim reading room for writers.

Robert Gottlieb, a major editor and important literary figure, who shared both a professional and personal relationship with Barbara Tuchman, spoke of a passion (as opposed to the common intellectual disdain) for her readers—as for those she hoped would use the library. She cared about leading the reader through history, making its lessons come alive for present concerns—and this, he posed, might have made her books, in particular, as astoundingly popular as they are.

Mr. Gottlieb also shared with us her most recent idea: although she needed her husband's and daughter's eyes to substitute for her own, and realized she ought to slow down, she just weeks ago had begun a book of essays on the great, accessible historians (none of whom had Ph.D.'s, like Tuchman)—McCaughey, Parkman, etc. Robert Gottlieb shared his belief that although Tuchman will not be able to write that book, it will be written, and she will be included among the other great historians.

Clearly a literary and political woman whose example her family and colleagues still respect and look to as a role model, Barbara Wertheim Tuchman gives an example of living, a perhaps 'distant mirror' which we young intellectuals and feminists ought to embrace.

This writer, Carolyn Wofford, was fortunate to know Barbara Tuchman and attend the memorial service as a second cousin.

## Tri-co parties

*Wenner- continued from page 9*

admitted to parties if they show this proof that they will have a safe ride home. The most unanimously agreed upon idea was that buses be provided on weekends rather than the smaller vans. This might only work for large events, but would make a great difference in the number of students forced to find their own transportation to Swarthmore.

### Improving BMC parties

Jaye Fox outlined her plan for improving the quality of parties and social activities at Bryn Mawr without alcohol: support fewer, and better, large parties with bands, rather than have SGA budget small, unsuccessful parties. Fox promised more advertising at Swarthmore, and a greater role for Bryn Mawr in the Alternative Concert Series.

### Inequal party expenditures

When the conversation turned to the subject of budgeting, all three

*continued on page 12*

## Fighting hard for dignity

*Anderson & Mattis continued from p. 6*

students. Though proud to receive the scholarship, she was upset by the patronizing tone of the financial aid office's award letter, which stated: "It is required that you write a brief statement about your interests, activities, and plans. Your statement will be forwarded to the appropriate person(s) and will serve as a major factor by the donors in continuing their support of Bryn Mawr students [italics ours]." We, Kirsten and Rebecca, read these letters and fear that if we are not properly grateful as they demand, we will lose our grants. In this way, we cannot even feel gratitude or pride without feeling that it has been forcibly drawn out.

It is this fear which enrages us. It is the fear that they can take away what they have given us—Bryn Mawr College, our education, our opportunities—and even diminish what is rightfully ours, our own sense of self-worth. And they can do this because they have control over the one limiting factor in our education — not intelligence, not ability, not willingness to work, but money.

## Working class co-opted

*Kreiger- continued from page 6*

"privileged" end of the spectrum are both co-opted (we want to "be successful", we are ashamed of our backgrounds, we want to give our children "what we never had") and silenced (a friend, whose father earns what I consider an inconceivable salary of \$100,000/year, says to me "but we're both middle-class". I want to tell her that, as a nurse, my mother makes \$15,000 a year, which is less than it costs for nine months at Bryn Mawr College and my usually-absent father rarely has a job, but maybe I shouldn't talk about it, it's "gauche" to talk about money. Or another example: the professor says to the class "in this room, I can tell that you're all pretty well-off, from middle-class backgrounds" — I want to shout, "what's 'well-off'? who's middle-class? how can you tell?? why do you assume such a thing and render me, my background, my own particular problems invisible?")

Ironically, it took nearly a year of elite education for me to question the class structure of American society, to begin to reformulate my definition of success and my future plans of action in society. It has taken me nearly three years at Bryn Mawr to feel able to publicly speak out against classism, to take seriously, and thus be able to express my anger and frustration to the community at large. Discussions of "diversity" attempt to bring the -isms (racism, classism, heterosexism, ableism, etc) to the surface. In an environment like Bryn Mawr, where I know more about my neighbor's sex life than about her financial situation, classism is the invisible -ism, one so often experienced in solitude, without support. So I'm glad that the College News is giving me another chance to speak out about the issue of classism. I hope that others, of all social classes, will respond and continue the dialogue.

## Pro-choicers support clinic

*Krall, Rose, and Roth- continued from page 1*

street, with only a few attempts at breaking into the pro-choice crowd. After several hours the police arrived, set up a double row of barricades, and placed a police line between the two groups. The anti-choice contingent sang hymns, "God Save the America" and "Give Peace a Chance" over a megaphone, recited prayers, and waved signs and banners, including a black cross with a bloody "fetus" nailed in the middle. The pro-choice gathering often joined in with the hymns, songs, and patriotic anthems. Both crowds dispersed at about 11:00 a.m., the pro-choice forces leaving second, at the bidding of the clinics.

The scene at Planned Parenthood was entirely different. Only about 100 pro-choice advocates defended the clinic from a physical onslaught by the more than 200, mostly male anti-choice protestors. The anti-choice crowd formed into a circular mass, with all members facing the center. The pro-choice group had prepared themselves to defend the entrance to Planned Parenthood by linking arms and forming a semi-circle around the clinic's gate. The physical confrontation occurred as anti-choice demonstrators, several rows deep, began pushing the pro-choice human barricade. The conflict, which was undeniably physical, was especially disconcerting in that the scores of people pushing to access the clinic did not acknowledge the violence of their actions towards the pro-choice activists. One of the most aggressive demonstrators was a priest who steadily pushed on the woman behind him with enough force to eventually bring her to tears. He only spoke to her in an effort to silence her as she was participating in the chants, insisting as he attempted to push her out of the way that she was yelling in his ear. The tense struggle lasted perhaps 30 or 40 minutes before the police announced that they would begin arresting any protestors who did not clear the street and sidewalk in front of the clinic. Gradually the bulk of the pro-choice group, at the

request of their organizers, moved behind police barricades that had been set up off to the sides of the clinic. A smaller number of Planned Parenthood supporters remained directly in front of the main entrance to insure the safety of the clinic. Nearly all of the anti-choice demonstrators refused to clear the area. The group adopted classic civil disobedience techniques in forcing the police to carry them on stretchers to the busses. As the demonstrators were being loaded into the police vehicles, many of the pro-choice activists behind the barricades continued to sing and chant.

Hours later, after the last police bus departed and the pro-choice group had dispersed, some anti-choice die-hards returned and renewed their efforts to invade the clinic. They were repelled by the workers at the clinic and a few other clinic advocates, mostly trained peacekeepers who had remained after the rally. Several such interactions occurred throughout the afternoon.

Our involvement in this action to affirm choice rights was an empowering experience. It was also sometimes frightening, particularly the physical nature of the conflict at Planned Parenthood. For those of us who escort, finally outnumbering the anti-choice protestors was satisfying. At a time when our right to abortion is gravely threatened it was validating to be part of a large definitive action. The crowd included a significant number of men, demonstrating that the fight for abortion rights is not only being carried on by women of child-bearing years. Apparently the pro-choice turnout succeeded in surprising the anti-choicers, who are used to demonstrating unchallenged. In the past the police have requested that there be no pro-choice turnouts, in order to avoid confrontations.

All of the women who had appointments with the clinics for abortions and other services were able to keep them. The action was successful: "Philadelphia is pro-choice!"



## Enthusiastic teams participate in triathlon

BY JULIE ZURAW

### At Last - The Team Triathlon!

The Athletic Association's fourth annual Team Triathlon, held April 2, was a huge success. Twenty-two teams from the bi-college community participated. The athletes arrived enthusiastic and chipper at 7:00 AM (or was it 6:00 AM after turning clocks ahead the night before?). That enthusiasm lasted all day long, and as observer Lisa Goekjian noticed, "People seemed excited. Anticipation was in the air. Enthusiasm was soaring, and there was strong camaraderie amongst the athletes."

Each member of the three-person team completed one leg of the entire race, which consisted of a 50 length swim, 14.5 mile bike, and 4 mile run. Top finishers in each individual event recorded impressive times. Bryn Mawr College swim coach Barb Bolich topped the swimmers with an incredible 15:25:43 swim. Equally impressive was the performance of Steve Piotrow, Haverford alum and creator of the new bike route, who completed the biking portion minutes ahead of his closest competitor in a time of 45:55:62. Haverford freshman Eliot Frieder, who stated that, "It's a gorgeous day. The run was easy," led all runners with a blistering 21:16:70.

The overall winning team in the all-female category was the trio of Bryn Mawr alumna Karen Lewis, Jan Lewis, and Jennifer Kraut, who finished with a time of 1:42:27:61. Finishing just minutes behind them was the team of Juniors Kate Lowerre, Amanda Hassner, and Sophomore Catherine Payne. They recorded a time of 1:44:08:73. Amanda Hassner was also the fastest woman biker, finishing in 58:17:39.

Only one all-men's team finished the competition, but the very impressive 1:37:32:48 finish of James Mamary, John Capen, and Kurt Calia was nevertheless the third fastest of the competition. James Mamary's 20:51:48 swim was the fastest of the men.

The winners of the mixed team category, and the overall fastest team of the day was the trio of Sarah Silberberger, Gordon Meehl, and Eliot Frieder, who finished with a time of

1:32:56:17. Finishing second in this category, close behind the first place team were Bryn Mawr College Athletic Trainer Martha McMahan, Steve Piotrow, and Bryn Mawr Track Coach Cassie Bradley, who recorded a time of 1:33:23:00. Cassie Bradley recorded the fastest running time for the women, completing the 4 mile course in 24:24:99.

All first-place teams won a combination a gift certificates from Cycles BiKyle, Bike Tech, Gullifty's, Al E Gators, and Eden. Skeeter's Pizza donated pizzas for the nine second place winners.

Perhaps the most exciting part of the day was when worker/timer Shannon Heath jumped into the race. After the biker of one of the teams finished his leg of the race to find that his runner had not arrived yet, Shannon heroically agreed to run for his team. Without having time to even change into running shoes, and after having already done an early morning work-out because she "didn't think (she) was going to participate," she took off. Her 30: 02:48 finish deserves mention.

Equally crucial participants in the event were the nearly 40 volunteers from the Bryn Mawr Community. Most were route monitors, standing alongside the route for all 3 hours, helping to insure the safety of the athletes. The athletes were pleased with the help and enthusiasm they showed, and according to Athletic Director Jennipher Shillingford, "The workers were great: they assumed a lot of responsibility."

Organizers Julie Zuraw and Kerry Williams were very pleased with the day. According to Zuraw, "We couldn't have asked for more beautiful weather, and believe me, we were asking. Thanks to the enthusiasm for everyone involved, the day ran smoothly and was just a lot of fun!" Zuraw and Williams also wished to extend a special thanks to co-officers Kitty Turner and Sonya Dutkewych, and the Physical Education Department.

The Solo Triathlon will be held Sunday, April 23, at 8:00 at the Gym. Come and cheer and join the fun! If you are interested in working as a volunteer, please contact Julie Zuraw C-292.

## Career Plans Undecided?

### Consider the Opportunities in Nursing!

Albright College offers the undeclared and R.N. student an accredited four-year program leading to the B.S. in Nursing and the many career options associated with professional nursing.



For information return the request below to:  
Dr. Barbara Haus, Chairperson - Department of Nursing  
P.O. Box 15234, Reading, PA 19612-5234

Please send information on Albright's Nursing Program to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
College or University \_\_\_\_\_

# LOOK



## Bryn Mawr

FLOWER SHOP

928 W. Lancaster Avenue  
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010  
(215) 527-6131

\* ALWAYS 10% off in store purchases

\* BRING THIS AD FOR ADDITIONAL 5% OFF ON GARDEN PARTY FLOWERS (MIN. 10.00)

\* ORDER EARLY for BEST selection

\* DISCOUNT ON CASH purchases only

\* WIRE ORDERS EXCLUDED

# 527-6131

## Attending Swat bashes safely

Wenner- continued from page 11  
delegations were amazed by the difference in the amount spent on social activities. Swarthmore has an estimated budget of \$30,000 annually, compared with the Bryn Mawr budget of \$8,000. The bi-college budget is in fact comparable to Swarthmore's, in part because Haverford spends approximately \$12,000 each year on Haverfest. Chuck Heyduck, Bryn Mawr's Director of Student Services, suggested that Bryn Mawr needs to reassess our party budget; perhaps looking forward to fewer, bigger parties will mean spending more

money.

The meeting ended with students exchanging phone numbers for future communication, and with all three groups feeling that a great deal had been accomplished in beginning to improve tri-college relations and safety. Increased communication, transportation, and advertisement, along with controlled access to some parties, were the general solutions decided upon. Dean Dickerson summed up the feeling of all three schools by stating, "We are all eager to maintain good social relations with the other colleges; the aim is to make it work well."

## Mawrters confront classism

continued from page 8

I just made a big realization today about the unfairness of book costs, lab fees etc. What happened was this: everything was going wrong anyway and then I broke a \$40 addition funnel. Now, given the stress of having screwed up anyway and then having broken something, coupled with all the stress I've been under the last couple of weeks, I ran to the bathroom and burst into tears.

Now, I know where the \$40 to pay for the funnel will come from. They may not be happy about it, but my parents will provide the money.

I suddenly had the beginning of an idea how much more upsetting that would have been if, in addition to all the other stress I've been under, I had been struggling frantically all week to get rent together in time or to buy my books. Or to get money for SGA dues. And then - wham - another forty bucks for a f-ing glass funnel. I might change my major.

JOYCE

31-MAR-1989

I am at college for much more than classes. As far as schoolwork, I do what is required. This philosophy affords me time to spend on more important things: people, events, thoughts, myself.

As far as employment I am really lucky to have gotten a job that pays really well. I work 3-6 hours a month and will make this semester the same amount I made working 16 hours a month at security. I am thankful for the extra time. Add sleep to that list up there.

KAREN

An interesting conversation that I overheard this morning, sort of in line with one of ERIKA's recent messages—

A group of people were discussing Swarthmore's laundry and whatever else they have service, and one of them said something along the lines of "Well, I think I should be able to have a maid; after all, my father can afford to send me here!" She was very indignant about this. I thought of something I heard at Quaker meeting a couple of weeks ago. A woman who had lived in Norway was talking about how there is no such thing as a service industry—people who don't pick up after themselves are considered immoral. No one there expects anyone else to ever clean up after them. Obviously I've never been to Norway and I can't attest to the truth of this but I thought it was an interesting contrast.

JO ELLEN