

Bryn Mawr College

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12-6-1994

### The College News 1994-12-6 Vol. 16 No.13

Students of Bryn Mawr College

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#### Citation

Students of Bryn Mawr College, *The College News 1994-12-6 Vol. 16 No.13* (Bryn Mawr, PA: Bryn Mawr College, 1994).

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# THE COLLEGE NEWS

VOLUME XVI NUMBER 13

FOUNDED 1914

BRYN MAWR COLLEGE

DECEMBER 6, 1994

## New campus group fights xenophobia and Proposition 187

by Amanda Moon

December 1 at 10 o'clock marked the true beginning of a Bryn Mawr alignment of people who are opposed to Proposition 187 and to all other forms of xenophobia. The purpose of that meeting was to raise Bryn Mawr awareness about the Coalition Against Xenophobia (CAX) which started at Swarthmore College after a panel discussion on Prop. 187 last November 15th, and to inform people about a rally organized by CAX. At the meeting were representatives from Mujeres, College Republicans (yes! This is a bipartisan issue), CHANGE, BMC Greens, Bi-Co Civil Liberties Union, Color, Students For Children, Amnesty International, Latino Services Network Organizations, Latino Culture Association, Asian Students Association, and Sisterhood. Joyce Miller, director of our Office for Institutional Diversity, was also there. Between the thirty or so odd people who participated, I am sure that many other groups were represented; these are the groups who pledged their support to this cause and specifically sent a representative. All in all, it was a wonderful turn-out!

For those of you who are unfamiliar with Prop. 187: when this law goes into effect, it will prevent all illegal immigrants from receiving any public school-

### The word on classes and profs

by Julia Alexander

For those of you who signed up for classes, but still want to shop around a little, or who want to hear what other people think of classes, or who just want to read yet another article in this illustrious journal; I have compiled a brief survey of the people who responded to my request for comments on classes... I'll let the students speak for themselves (anonymously).

"I really like my bio. (intro) class but am scared of telling the world because I don't want to be considered a freak..."

"I warn all freshmen to stay away from Soc. 102. I think that it should not be an intro. course because of its tough project at the end."

"Sharon Ullman [History]: She's a great professor, and an excellent teacher, which makes her lectures fun whether you agree with what she says or not. She's a hard grader, but she goes out of her way to explain how to improve papers, and is willing to help you do so."

"Judy Porter [Soc. of AIDS]: Terribly demanding, but you'll have a blast. This is very much a hands on class. She is a straight-forward, no-nonsense sort of prof. She expects no less from you. But, continued on page 11

ing, social service, or health care (except under emergency situations). Although the bill was passed by the citizens of California at the last election, it is currently under attack in the court system for being unconstitutional, racist, and inhumane. The basis for these claims stems from many issues.

The argument that this law is unconstitutional focuses not only on the fact that it violates basic human rights, but on its challenge to our constitution on two major issues: one, that the constitution states that no individual state has the power to pass immigration laws and, two, a Supreme Court ruling about a similar bill proposed in Texas in 1982 declared that education is more important than legal status and it was, therefore, unconstitutional to have a law that denied education to any group. The allegations that this law is racist mainly centers around what is commonly re-

continued on page 3



Stuffed squirrel in action pose-Susquehanna Museum. Look for other photos from the geology field trip by Erika Jacobs in this issue.

## Do you really think you hate this place?

by Michele Drivon

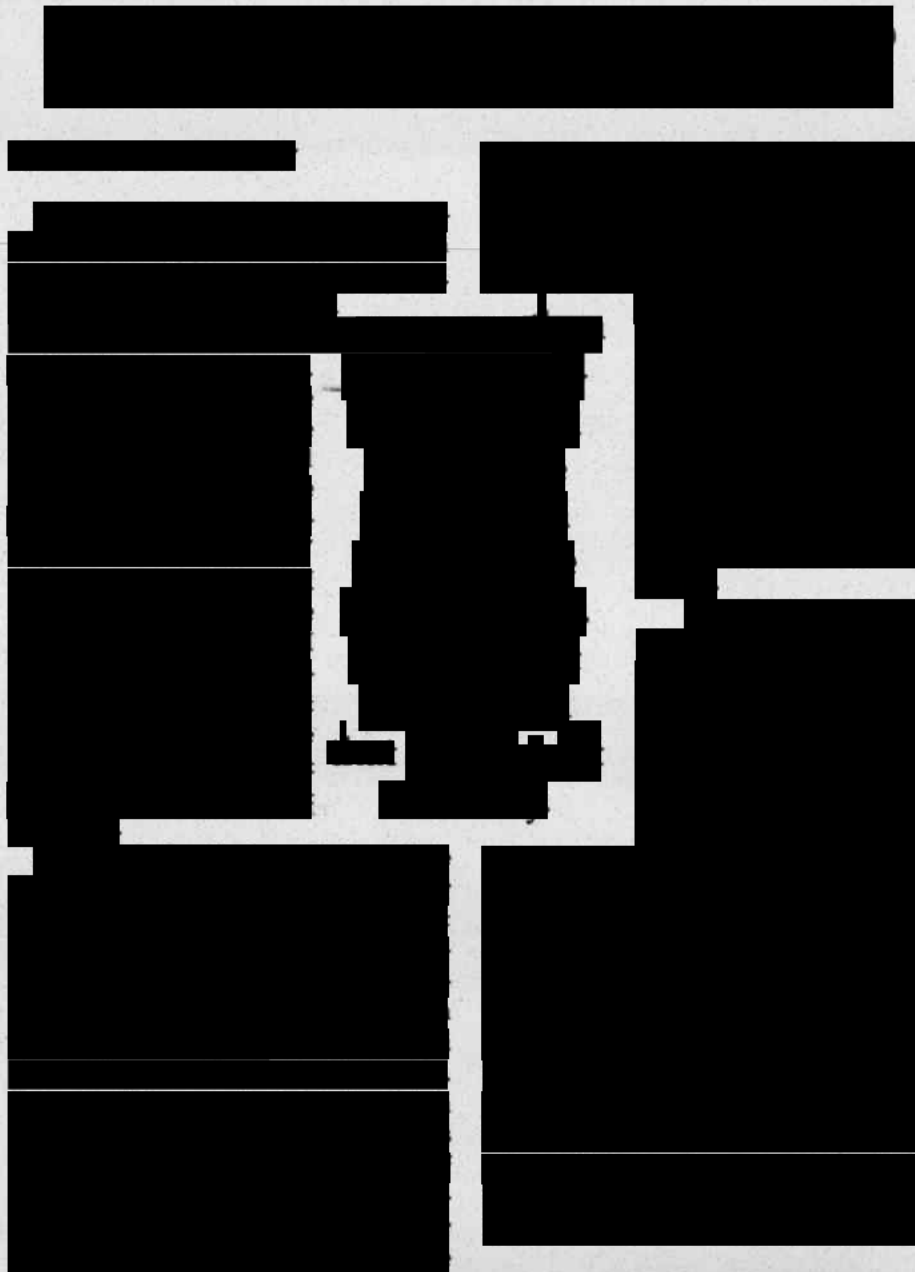
I HATE THIS PLACE!!!

Do you find yourself saying this? I've heard it all too often from all sorts around campus. It upsets me in several ways. Yes, there are things about Bryn Mawr that we all have reason to dislike, but this place has innumerable positive qualities about it that make it special. But the real reason this kind of attitude upsets me is because I'm afraid people don't realize that places are, for the most part, neutral; what determines how you feel and are is YOU. Let me explain with an anecdote from my own life.

I didn't really want to go to college. Deep down I did, because I actually love school, but as a high school senior all I knew was that I was miserable and I wanted OUT. I had no idea where to, though. A friend of my mom's suggested I go to Lehigh University, so I did. Why not? I told myself, "If I hate it, I'll leave." I hated it, so I left. I came to Bryn Mawr and for about a month it was pure bliss; then reality struck again. I was still miserable, and the work was harder.

But good things have come from this experience. I realized at Bryn Mawr all the things I loved about Lehigh that didn't exist at Bryn Mawr, things I really miss, like a choir that was family, and a gym that was open from 8 am to 10 pm every day. Sometimes I really really miss having weekends with nothing to do except have water-gun fights with the (male) frosh on my hall. BUT! I belong here. I love the smallness, the dining halls, the academic challenge, the community, even the fact that when I go to Ford or Swat, let alone anywhere else, I feel like I stick out as a Mawrter.

So from all this I learned that there are good things about every place, and bad things too. I learned that what determines how you feel, in any given place, is YOU. My unhappiness with myself didn't go away when I transferred from a prepie all-white male-dominated engineering school to the best of the women's continued on page 3



## CENTERSPREAD THIS ISSUE:

AIDS To be found on pages six and seven

# EDITORIAL

## A fond farewell from your fair editors

Once again *The College News* has reached its annual transition: the signing over of the editorial duties to a fresh new regime. Stacy and Elizabeth bid a weepy au revoir to the biweekly 10 PM Sunday night ritual of insipid editorial-writing which concludes each paper production weekend. We want to thank our relatives, pets and close personal friends who collectively made these journalistic efforts possible. It's been fab. Thank you especially to all who contributed and helped with this last issue, coming as it does at this stressful, end of semester time in all of our lives. We are proud to make our LAST paper a 12 pager with your help! Of course, we expect everyone to think "*College News*" over the coming break, and return to give your refreshed energy to our new co editors, Sarah and Shannon.

At this point of transition, we look back nostalgically to our first editorial, February 3, 1994.... "Since *The College News* last came out, the President has visited, we've had a national Women in Leadership Conference, we've been snowed in four times, a former campus employee has been arrested, and two months have passed." Remember that??? Wow, that was a year ago. Since then we have presided over a dozen papers, and we're still co-writing silly editorials.

For this, the ultimate issue of 1994, we present in our center-spread: information from the AIDS Service Network. We want to thank this group for putting together this informative set of articles, and we want to remind everyone that if you are inspired by this spread, we will always want your submissions of articles on this very interesting subject.

Also in this issue... a striking lack of Alison Bechdel, for the second issue in a row. We do not know why she is not making more. We are waiting just like you. Not to mention some spirited discourse in the mother tongue on various campus activities, a professor of Spanish, a game page, a spread of photos from the Geology 103 field trip, our usual recipes, graffiti, advice, and lesbian writer reviews from Kathryn. A special feature this week: Her Rita Mae Brown review that was supposed to be in the centerspread last week in place of the double printed article. (You were wondering, weren't you?)

Adios, bonitas amigas!  
con mucho amor, Elizabetha y Stacita, eds emeritae.

## THE COLLEGE NEWS

BRYN MAWR COLLEGE VOLUME XVI, NO. 13, DECEMBER 6, 1994

Editors	Stacy Curwood, C-549, X7537 Elizabeth Lyzenga, C-715, X7559
A & E Editor	Kathryn Kingsbury
Graphics Editor	Smriti Belbase
Features Editor	Julia Alexander
Editorial Board	Heather Batson, Sharon Cleary, Deborah Kamen, Branwyn Lundberg, Kristina Orchard-Hays, Thaisa Tiglao

This is the last issue of the semester. Letters and articles should be sent to our mailbox (C-1716), or placed outside our Denbigh Office (X7340). All submissions should be on mac or IBM disk (3.5"); disks will be returned via campus mail (we promise). We will accept articles and letters written by women and letters written by men. All opinions expressed in articles or letters are those of the author only, and are not representative of those of the editorial board. Come to Thursday night meetings at 8pm in the Denbigh office above the language lab or call one of the editors if you are interested in contributing to the paper.

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:** *The College News* is a feminist newsjournal which serves as a source of information and self-expression for the Bryn Mawr community. Recognizing that feminism is a collective process, we attempt to explore issues of interest to all women, both as members of this college and of the larger world community. Through this continuing dialogue, we seek to promote communication and understanding and to foster self-confidence and independence in expression.

# Letters, letters

## We are missed

Dear Friends,

I was delighted to read the article in the recent *College News* concerning my new found interest, my volunteer work with the Telephone Reassurance Program. This is in connection with The Lower Merion-Narberth Coalition on Aging and Adult Services.

Do I miss you? You bet, I do. Thanks to the Social Work Department and Ruth Biddison, a graduate of Bryn Mawr's Graduate School of Social Work, I am back doing what I love best: helping people. My Red Cross training, my association with Bryn Mawr College, plus persons like you, helped me to bring out my purpose in life.

Thank you all for your interest in me and for your support to the Coalition, in their Christmas and Thanksgiving Basket Drives and your donations in various ways.

Sincerely,  
Sarah Markley

## Grammatical errors spark controversy and internal conflict at *The College News*

Dear SWTUR KTK AE,

You ignorant beetle,  
We fear you did not read the article WITH CARE. Our intention in quoting the word retired was not for emphasis but to point out that while she is retired from her job at BMC, she is not retired from working. We are mortified that you would suspect us of writing skills on a par with those who write the decals on the entrances to McDonald's ("NO" bare feet), and no longer want to be your friend.

Submitted with equal if not greater respect,  
Elizabeth and Stacy.

"Dear" Kathryn,

"Bite" us. You're "just" peeved because we "accidentally" cut off, forget to include, and reprint your "articles" all the time. Well well, this is "it" for us, we're "out of here" and you can remain a vigilant "watchdog" over our next "editors" with our "blessings".

tired,  
E&S.



Touring with Flair at the Panther Creek Energy Facility

# OWL'S WING

by Krissy Davis

## Recognition of faculty panel

I want to appreciate the faculty and staff who participated in the gay, lesbian, and bisexual faculty and staff panel on December 1, as well as to recognize their courage in being publicly out on campus. It was exciting to hear the variety of experiences and thoughts represented by the panel members. I also want to thank those who helped me to organize the panel, and everyone who showed up! I hope that all of us continue to build a supportive lesbian, gay, and bisexual community on campus.

Catherine Hearne

## Salary discrimination exists for gays and lesbians

by CHANGE

...An independent study at the University of Maryland at College Park on the impact of anti-gay job discrimination has found that gay men and lesbians earn less than their non-gay counterparts with similar education, training, and occupations. The findings refute the stereotype of gay people as an "affluent elite" unworthy of equal rights under the law.

...The study found that gay men earned 11-27% less than non-gay counterparts with similar age, education, occupation, marital status, and residence. Lesbians earned 5-14% less.

"Far from having some mysterious advantage in the labor market, gay workers face discrimination that actually hits them where it hurts—in their paychecks," said School of Public Affairs Professor Lee Badgett... "Representative data...reveal an economically diverse lesbian and gay community with people who are poor as well as rich, with most falling in the middle. The real economic difference between gay and straight Americans is the daily struggle of lesbians and gays against the psychological and economic effects of discrimination."

(excerpted from *Outlines*, Winter 1994)

## How do you feel about where you are?

continued from page 1

colleges. My feelings as a frosh at Lehigh didn't have much to do with the school at all. In fact, I really believe that if I'd come to Bryn Mawr as a frosh I would have hated it too, and left. But instead I saw first what I didn't want, and now I can see clearer what I do want. I see now elements that I like and dislike at both schools, and it's given me a much more realistic view of the two.

My point is, I know what it's like to hate where you are, but it really has less to do with where you are than

with *how you feel* about where you are. Even if it serves no other purpose than to remind you how much better other places are, there is something valuable to be learned no matter where you go. So if you need to keep accusing Bryn Mawr as the source of all your woe, I think you will find out sooner or later that you were mistaken. You will never ever experience anything like this place again, so even if it's not what you want you've learned something about yourself by being here. Take it for what it's worth.

## Coalition Against Xenophobia

continued from page 1

ferred to as the "reasonable suspicion clause," which states that "Each school district shall provide information...regarding any enrollee or pupil, or parent or guardian, attending a public elementary or secondary school in the school district determined or reasonably suspected to be in violation of federal immigration laws..." (my italics). This clause is also specifically stated for public post-secondary schooling, and for public health and social services. Although the second highest number of illegal immigrants in California comes from Canada, it is well known that the only people who would be "reasonably suspected" of being undocumented is the Mexican population in California. This clause, therefore, can only lead to racial tensions and discrimination.

CAX was formed at Swarthmore to oppose every type of xenophobia, focusing short-term goals mainly against Prop. 187 and other bills of that nature (at least 18 other States are considering similar approaches). Thus far, there has been only one general meeting of the coalition, during which we signed up for individual committees. There were only two Bryn Mawr students involved in a committee previous to Thursday's meeting, but after the meeting many people expressed interest in participating, and so, hopefully, that will change. The committees include ones to outreach to the tri-co community, the other schools in the Philadelphia area, and a national outreach committee.

One of the main goals that the whole of CAX has been working towards has been the realization of the rally, which is to be held on Saturday, December 10—National Human Rights Day—from 1-4 pm. At this rally, there will be both speakers and music. Transportation will be provided to all who sign up for it (and probably any others who decide to join at the last minute). Sign-ups will be held in Erdman, and probably Haffner, the week before the rally—please sign up!! It will be a good way to show the courts of California that this law that is unjust and unconstitutional cannot be upheld. Other cities that are also holding rallies on this day of national action include San Francisco, San Diego, Houston, Washington D.C., Chicago, Los Angeles, and possibly New York.

## Women at the Well will return

by Elizabeth Lyzenga

This fall was the first semester for a new campus group, "Women at the Well". We have been meeting once a week for informal discussions about our Christian faith. Since we have not been around very long yet, we are still somewhat undefined in our purpose on campus, but we mean to continue expanding our activities. We began as a group for feminist/liberal/progressive Christians, and that's what we are, but that doesn't mean we talk politics all the time, or that we don't welcome people at our meetings who aren't sure they would identify themselves with those words. We would prefer to describe our discussions as having no confining orthodoxies, no wrong answers and potential for plenty of respectful controversy.

Since our first organizational meeting immediately before budgeting in September, we have gone through a few name changes, meeting time and place changes and settled into something of a routine. At the end of each meeting someone usually volunteers to get discussion started at the next meeting. Sometimes we xerox short articles relevant to the topic and stuff them in the boxes of the people on our mailing list (many more people than can ever make it to the meetings). Other times the volunteer just begins the discussion with a few questions she had been thinking about. Some of our discussion topics have included science and religion's relationship, feminism & religion's relationship, and ways to serve as a Christian. Also this semester, we watched a movie at one meeting about "ex-gay" Christian groups; we invited Barbara Emery, pastor at the United Methodist church on Montgomery Ave, to come talk with us; and last week we invited

ATTN: TUTORS NEEDED

Three tutors are needed to tutor students at Haverford. The following students need you.

—a tenth grade girl needs help with geometry

—a 14 yr old needs help with ninth grade math

—a 6 yr old needs help with reading

If any of these sound like something you are interested in, give Dawn a call or stop by any of the office hours. The time commitment is only 1-2 times a week for at least an hour.

One more thing. Don't forget about the Owl's Wing project of the month. This is with YUHU and is on Friday, January 27th. It's a great time to get creative and meet some wonderful homeless kids who need to express themselves just as you do. And the great part is that, if you go and discover how wonderful it is, next semester you can keep going as much as you like. You can even rationalize it as a search for your sanity. Besides, no one says the volunteer can't have as much fun as the kids.

Remember, stop by and see Dawn in the Owl's Wing office downstairs in the campus center by the MAC machine. Or, if you're too depressed to leave your room call her at X7326.



Professor Linda Susan Beard of the English department to talk with us. We usually get off our original topics when we meet, but we always have wonderfully interesting discussions about our faith and our lives as Christians.

Next semester we are looking into meeting at dinner-time to make the meetings more accessible to people who do not live on campus, such as graduate students, McBrides and professors. Eventually we hope to join with other groups such as Christian Fellowship and Achot to put together events on campus. Some ideas include an ecumenical woman-centric worship service and a panel discussion on the role of religion on campus.

The last meeting of the semester will be Tuesday, December 6, 9 PM in Guild 102. We will probably discuss: next semester, what to do with our money if we are not allowed to reallocate it to buy books, and Advent.

If you would like to be on Women at the Well's mailing list, give a call or drop a note to me, X7559, C-715, or come to a meeting.

# Dear Mrs. Hank



Dear Ms. Hank,

I'm exhausted. All of my friends have been pulling four, five, six, even seven consecutive all-nighters. I find myself having to sleep every couple of days. What is wrong with me?

Signed,  
Sleep deprived

Dear Sleepy,

You are one of the few readers out there who has written in with a valid question. Everyone needs sleep but a few of us forget that we do. Consequently, they astound everyone with their stamina and we all wonder if our need for sleep is pathological. However, if you watch these people carefully you can catch them snoozing. They run

to the bathroom when they think no one is looking and sit in a stall, pretending to peruse a magazine but actually catching forty winks. Or they sleep even as they stand there having a conversation with you. Or they sleep in their classes. Most rude, however, is when they fall asleep in the hot food line and a huge crowd of people builds up.

My suggestion: buy some Jolt Cola if you really want to join the all-nighter club, and try it for a week or so. I suspect, however, that you'll find yourself bored with this after a while. You might want to leave it to others who truly enjoy life in the perpetually (un)conscious lane.

Death to the Patriarchy,  
Ms. Hank

## LADY ORACLE

Our Lady of the Seven Consecutive All-Nighters  
(Also known as Lady Oracle.)

Lady O. likes not sleeping. Really, she does. See, it makes her all the better a channel for those prophetic energies from on high, and, boy, has she felt them creative energies this week!!!

Virgo: The darkest hour is just before dawn.

Libra: Don't put all your eggs in one basket.

Infiniti: The meek shall inherit the earth.

Leo: Let them eat cake.

Scorpio: We must all hang together, or, most assuredly, we shall all hang separately.

Sagittarius: It's an ill wind that blows nobody good.

Capricorn: Don't count your money when your sitting at the table; there'll be time enough for counting when the dealing's done.

Gemini: A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

Ramses: People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones.

Taurus: Milk-it does a body good!

Aries: I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream!

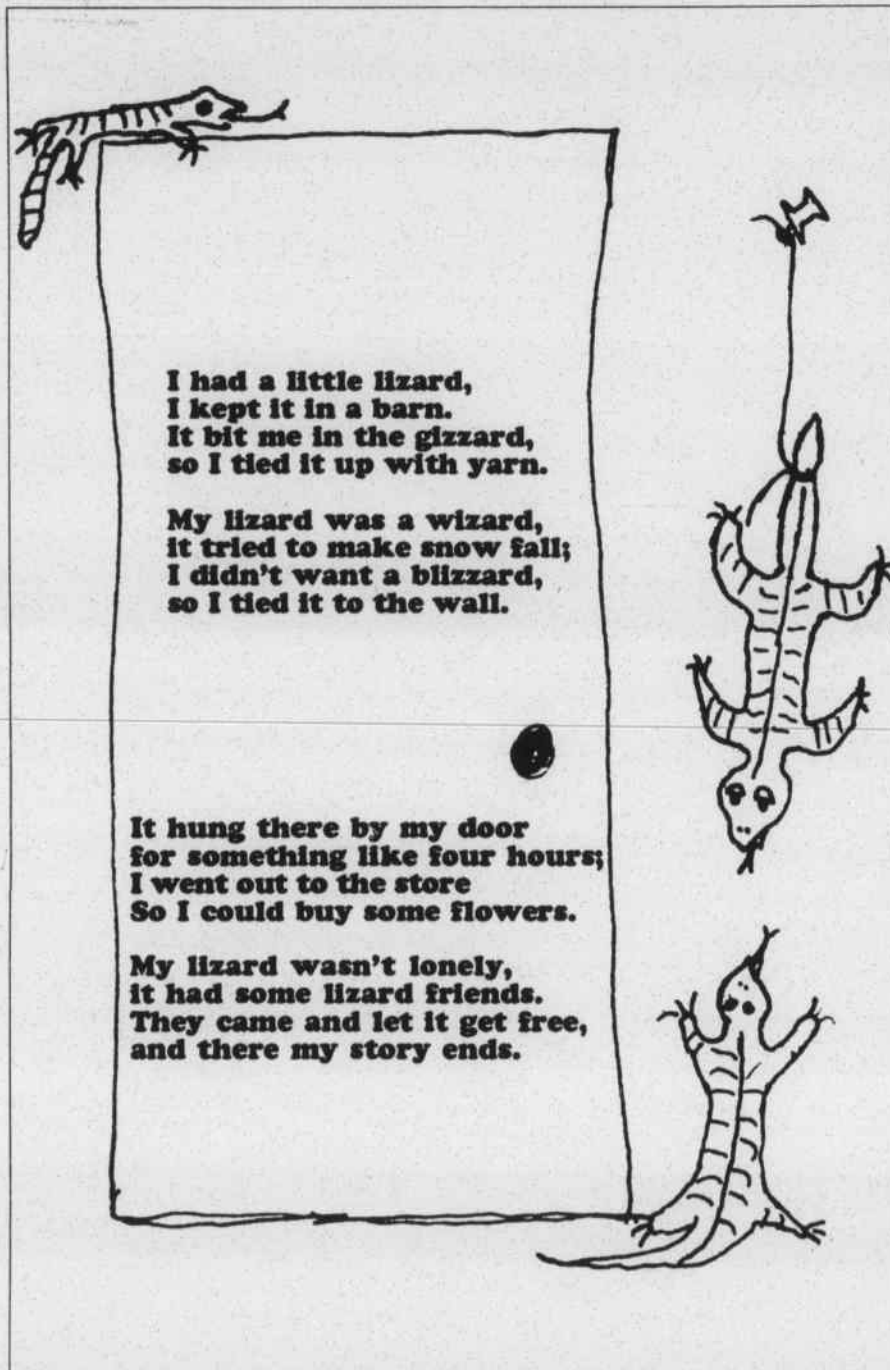
Mitosis: Mares eat oats and does eat oats and little lambs eat ivy!

Cancer: Workers of the world, unite.

Pisces: There's always another fish in the sea.

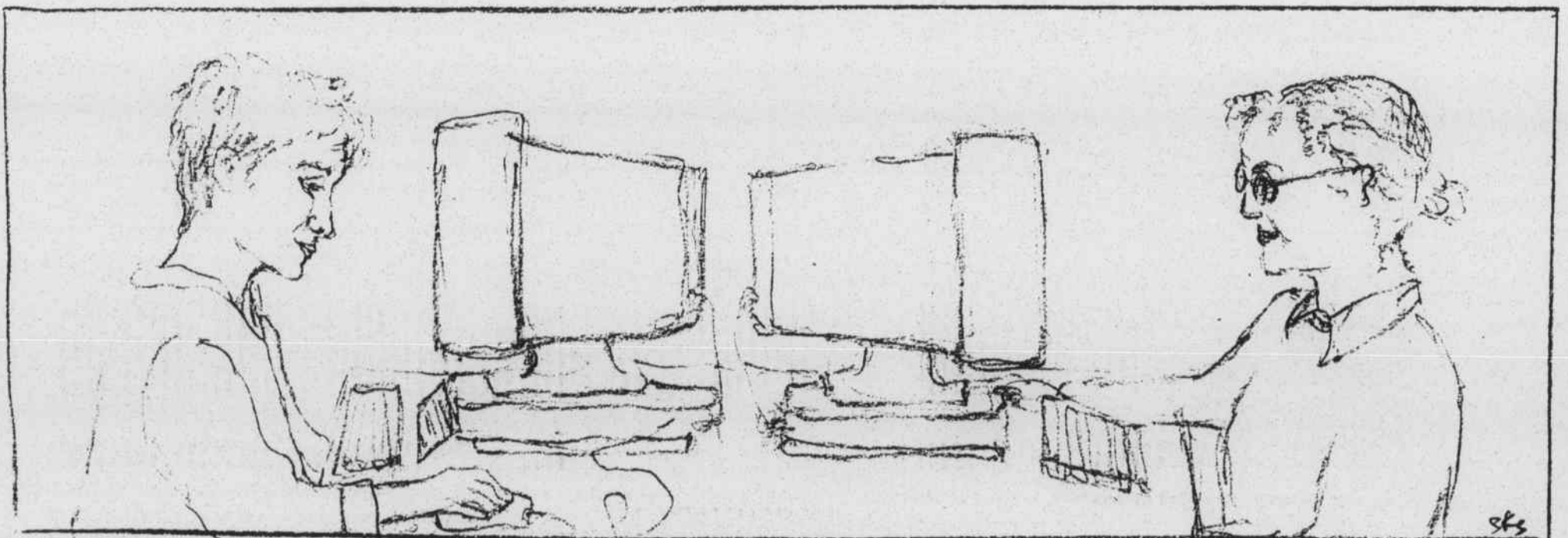
Mervyn: You can't make a silk purse from a sow's ear.

Aquarius: Take two of these, and call me in the morning.



Farewell, fair editors  
(see picture below)

by Shannon Seymour, incoming co-editor



# Images from the Geology Field trip

November 4-6, 1994

by Erika Jacobs



*The Pottstown Sanitary Landfill with a scenic nuclear power plant in the distance*

*A Susquehanna nuclear power plant cooling tower*



*Overlooking corn field next to nuclear power plant where produce is grown for radiation experiments*



*Our haute cuisine BMCDS catered lunch at nuclear plant's family picnic area*



*Acid mine drainage: scenic but lifeless*



*Death and destruction in Palmerton from zinc mining operation*

# AIDS Service



## Risky behavior

### Definitely Unsafe

There almost certainly would be sharing of semen, vaginal secretions or blood.

- Vaginal intercourse without a condom.
- Anal intercourse without a condom.
- Sharing objects put into the anus or vagina.
- Any activity that allows blood-to-blood contact, or allows blood into the mouth, vagina or anus.

### Definitely Safe

No sharing of semen, vaginal secretions or blood.

- Touching, massage, hugging.
- Masturbation, alone or with someone else.
- Rubbing bodies together.
- Social kissing (dry) on the mouth.
- Kissing or licking the body (clean skin, and no mouth contact with genitals or any open sores).
- Talking about sex, sharing fantasies.

### Oral Sex

- Considered by some to be low risk.
- There is an element of risk, but much less than other activities.
- Expert opinion varies, but those who believe it poses little risk have been oral sex.
- only risk has been oral sex.
- Pre cum or preseminal fluid may have been no studies on this.
- Semen and vaginal secretions may be possible infection transmission.
- Possible infection transmission of lesions in the mouth or throat.

# Survey results

#### "Correct" Answers to the Survey

In many cases, there is not one correct answer to each question—it depends on how one interprets the question.

2. What is the fastest growing group of HIV infected individuals?
- a) gay males    b) lesbians    c) heterosexual males  
d) heterosexual females    e) IV drug users
- c or d**

The largest group of people with AIDS is the homosexual male category; however, the numbers of new cases decreased from 1991 to 1992. The category of transmission (e.g., IV drug use, heterosexual contact, blood transfusion) showing the largest *proportional* increase was heterosexual contact. Within the group of heterosexual contact, men had a larger proportional increase than women. When all modes of transmission are taken into account, however, women had a larger proportional increase than men.

3. Would you feel safe getting a blood transfusion? Y or N

There is no right answer to this question. However, it is estimated that in 1990 (the most recent available statistics), 1 out of every 225,000 units of blood was infected with HIV. Only 29 individuals developed AIDS after receiving blood that screened negative for the HIV antibody.

4. It takes eight to eleven years for a person to develop AIDS from the time that s/he is infected with HIV. Knowing this, at what age do you think most people become infected?
- a) 13-19    b) 20-24    c) 25-29    d) 30-34    e) 35-39

The age group with the most people with AIDS is 30-34 (93,696 cumulative through June 1994), followed by the 35-40 age bracket (89,097). This suggests that the group with the highest HIV infection is 25-29. There are statistics on HIV infection (not AIDS), but as many states offer anonymous testing, these statistics are not truly representative of all people with HIV. (They do, however, also show the highest infection rate in the age group 25-29)

5. Where does AIDS rank as a cause of death for (ages 25-44)

Men:	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10		
Women:	1	2	3	4	5	
	6	7	8	9	10	

#### Men 1 Women 4

In 1992, AIDS was the leading cause of death for men between the ages of 25 and 44 (this is over all other causes, including accidents). During the same time period, it was the fourth leading cause of death for women of the same age. In 1991, it was the ninth leading cause of death for the entire population of the US. In 1992, it was the eighth.

6. Which of the following behaviors are considered definitely risky?

(circle as many as applicable)

- a) french kissing    b) anal sex with a properly used condom  
c) vaginal sex with a properly used condom  
d) sharing sex toys    e) oral sex without protective barrier  
f) sharing unbleached needles

#### d, f (e?)

- a) french kissing is probably safe if there are no cuts or sores in either person's mouth  
b) anal intercourse with a properly used condom is probably safe. "Properly used" means that there is no sharing of semen, vaginal fluids, or blood—the condom doesn't slip off or break.  
c) vaginal intercourse with a properly used condom is probably safe.  
d) sharing objects that are put into the anus or vagina is definitely not safe, unless they are thoroughly cleaned.  
e) oral sex with a protective barrier (dental dam or condom) is probably safe. Without a protective barrier is probably unsafe, although there has not been much research on this issue. If there were any cuts or sore in the mouth, the virus could be transmitted.  
f) sharing unbleached needles is definitely unsafe

7. There is a "window period" after a person is infected with HIV during which time they will still test negative for the HIV virus. How long is this window period?

- a) 24 hours    b) 3-4 weeks    c) 3-6 months    d) a year

#### c

The test for HIV is actually testing for antibodies to the HIV virus, not the virus itself. Thus, the window period depends on how quickly a person develops antibodies to the virus. It can be as short as a few weeks, or as long as 6 months. Organizations such as the Red Cross and the CDC estimate 3 months as average and use 6 months as a more cautious estimate.

8. What percentage of HIV positive women contracted it through sex with another woman?

- a) none    b) 1%    c) 5%    d) 10%

#### the answer is unknown

This was a trick question, because the CDC does not keep statistics on "women who have sex with women" and very little research has been done on woman to woman transmission.

All information provided by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention via the AIDS Hotline (1-800-342-2437) and HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report 1994; 6 (no. 1).

The AIDS Service Network People on Thursday, December 8, 1994. We the People is a group of activists who will help prepare and serve. We will help prepare and serve. Each day we will leave Bryn Mawr around 7 pm. If you are interested, contact Daria Curtis at x759. Regular meetings will begin at 4pm in Campus Center 105.

# Lesbian

Most lesbians do not have a high risk of contracting or transmitting the AIDS virus at this time. But for lesbians who fit into one of the "high risk" groups, practicing safer sex is a must to prevent further exposure. For lesbians who are at low risk, learning and practicing safer sex is the healthiest way to stay sexually active and prevent AIDS from growing in our community.

#### LESBIANS AT HIGH RISK FOR HIV/AIDS

- Lesbians who share needles or any other paraphernalia (spoons, works, syringes) when using IV drugs. *This is the single most important risk category for lesbians.*
- Lesbians who have had sexual contact with:
  - men who have been actively gay or bisexual since 1979
  - people of either sex whose sexual histories are unknown
  - people who use IV drugs,
  - people who are hemophiliac, or who have received blood transfusions between 1979 and 1985.
- Lesbians who have received blood transfusions or blood products between 1979 and 1985.

#### LESBIANS AT LOW RISK FOR HIV/AIDS

- Lesbians who have been monogamous with a partner since 1979.
- Lesbians who have been celibate and have received no blood transfusions or blood products since 1979.
- Lesbians whose sexual partners have not been at risk since 1979.

# Service Network

## Behavior/Safe behavior

### Other Considerations

- Body fluids such as feces, nasal secretions, sputum, sweat, tears, urine, or vomitus are not considered risky unless they contain visible blood.
- Breast milk has transmitted HIV from a mother to child in a few cases. Precautions should be followed with breast milk.
- Saliva has never been shown to transmit HIV, despite many scientific studies looking into this. Saliva is not considered risky (but, see above, "French Kissing").

### Probably Safe

Probably there would be no sharing of semen, vaginal secretions or blood.

- Vaginal intercourse with a condom. Condom must be used properly, and must not slip off or break.
- Oral intercourse on a man with a condom on the penis (proper use, no breaks).
- Oral intercourse on a woman with a plastic or latex barrier over the vulva (piece of non-microwave plastic wrap or a dental dam).
- Anal intercourse with a condom (proper use, no breaks).
- French kissing (wet). There should be no sores or cuts in either person's mouth.

# News from ASN

by Amy Sutton and Daria Curtis

Why don't we start with a short introduction? We are Amy Sutton and Daria Curtis, Bryn Mawr co-chairs of the AIDS Service Network. Amy, a senior, has been involved with ASN all 4 years, beginning with the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt display in 1991. She has walked the Philadelphia AIDS Walk all four years as well (and also enjoys long walks on the beach, candlelight dinners...). Daria, class of 1995 (long story, don't ask), became involved with ASN last year, also to help with the Quilt (this time the 1993 display). Neither of us is really sure why we got involved, that is, what we find so compelling about the AIDS issue. We just noticed that AIDS and HIV are rarely discussed on Bryn Mawr's campus, and if we wanted that to change, we'd have to get involved.

So far this year, the AIDS Service Network has focused on individual projects like the AIDS Walk and the World AIDS Day display. We've also had longer-term projects in the works, including volunteering in Philadelphia service agencies and building an ASN library. Next semester we hope to get five to ten people trained as AIDS educators, bring speakers to campus, and start organizing for the Fall 1995 Quilt display, in addition to our long term projects. We've set our sights high. It has always been difficult to fully attain the goals we set, but with the help of a dedicated core of members (you know who you are and we love you!) we have and will continue to accomplish a great deal.

ASN put out a survey the week of Thanksgiving that some 330 of you were kind enough to fill out (yes, we know the chocolate helped). One of our activities for World AIDS Day was to compile these results and post them with the correct answers. For the most part, we were not surprised by the answers given. In many cases, the questions were rather obscure, and we really just wanted to start people thinking, and perhaps give everyone an idea of what they don't know,

not just what they know for sure. We were surprised, however, that fewer than half the respondents said that HIV and AIDS had affected their lives. We were expecting more responses along the lines of the woman who said, "I don't know anyone with HIV or AIDS, but it obviously touches everyone because it's in the media and in our daily lives." The common response of, "It has, without question, changed my attitude towards sex," was less common than we expected and, in some ways, hoped.

We would like to take this opportunity to respond to a couple of questions raised by the survey and the display, not only in the campus center but across campus (remember the brightly colored geometric shapes?). One woman asked, "Why don't mosquitoes carry the HIV virus?" There are several answers to this question. For one, mosquitoes do not carry enough blood in them to pose a serious risk. For another, the HIV virus is extremely fragile outside the human body. For a third answer, the blood a mosquito takes from one person will not necessarily mix with the blood of its next victim.

The other issue we wanted to discuss arose on the steps of Rock Arch. We had posted a sign saying, "Everyone is at risk." To this someone had responded "I am a non-drug using virgin. I am not at risk," and signed their initials. Besides the issue of signed and unsigned comments, or of pointing fingers, we wanted to clarify our goal in putting up the sign in the first place. Our intent was to say that anyone who has or ever plans to have sex or has had or ever plans to have contact with an intravenous needle (for drug use or a blood transfusion) is at risk. While this may not encompass everyone, and while some practices are higher risk than others, the general statement still holds true. The sad truth about AIDS is that there is no one risk group, no one activity that can single us out. There is no way to tell from looking at a person, or even talking to them, whether or not they are at risk. It is these truths that lead us to this conclusion: educate and protect yourself. Prevention is the only cure.

### Guide to Sexual Practices, HIV Risk, and Interventions

Behavior	Potential HIV Risk	Assessment / Intervention / Health Education Message
Drug and alcohol use during sex	Heightens pain threshold and interferes with communication	Under the influence of drugs and alcohol, people may change their commitment to safer sex and increase the risk of exposure to HIV. Avoid or limit the use of substances during sexual practices.
Anal and Vaginal Intercourse; Oral Sex	Blood or semen may enter partner's body through breaks in the skin.	Use condoms to prevent bodily fluids from coming in contact with partner. 1. Persons may not be aware of breaks in skin - always use condoms. 2. Risk to both insertive and receptive partner. 3. Risk heightened with presence of sexually transmitted diseases.
Bondage and S&M	A partner may be unable to insist on safe sex practices	Include safe sex in the negotiation of sex play rules before play begins. Also, some S&M practices involve blood which can spread HIV.

network is sponsoring a visit to We the December 8 and Tuesday, December 13. up of and for people with HIV or AIDS. and serve meals in Philadelphia churches. e Bryn Mawr on the 2:54 pm train, and you are interested in joining us, please at x7596 or Amy Sutton at x5608. Our begin again next semester on Sundays at er 105. We hope you will join us!

## ans' risks

AIDS experts are advising lesbians who believe that they run the risk of either contracting or transmitting the disease to follow safe sex guidelines:

### SAFE LESBIAN SEX

Massage; tribadism (body to body rubbing); social kissing; voyeurism; mutual masturbation; sex toys which are protected with condoms, or cleaned and dried thoroughly between each partner's use; S/M activities that do not involve exchanging bodily fluids; and virtually any other activity that does not require sharing or contact with bodily fluids.

### LOW RISK LESBIAN SEX

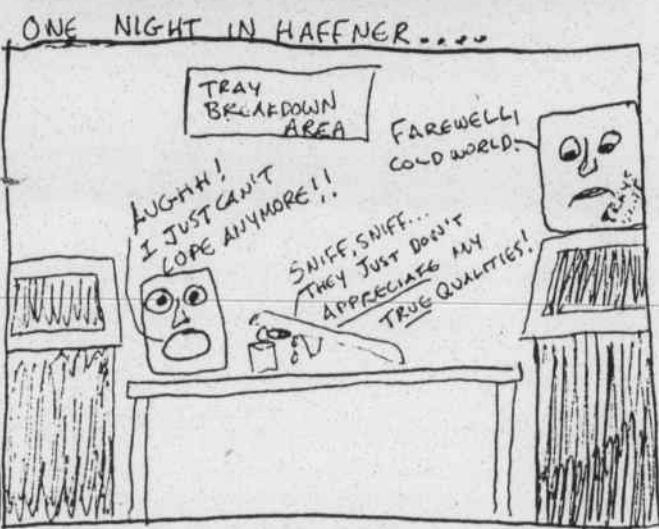
French kissing; cunnilingus or anilingus with a latex barrier; genital or anal contact with hands or fingers while wearing surgical latex gloves; genital or anal contact with hands or fingers when neither partner has cuts, scratches, or sores on their hands or genitals; and external water sports.

### UNSAFE LESBIAN SEX

Unprotected cunnilingus (especially during menstruation since menstrual blood is currently considered to be the same as any other type of blood); any type of blood exchange; unprotected hand/vagina or hand/anal contact; urine or feces in the mouth or vagina; and sharing sex toys that have come in contact with bodily fluids.



# Games for exam week!!!



JULIA ALEXANDER

## word find

These words may or may not relate to Bryn Mawr life. You decide.  
by Elizabeth Lyzenga

- |              |           |            |
|--------------|-----------|------------|
| Acme         | ergo      | pedagogy   |
| adept        | erudite   | rang       |
| agency       | ever      | reading    |
| allegory     | examine   | reinscribe |
| alluring     | exile     | roe        |
| arguable     | eye       | rune       |
| authenticate | gag       | sex        |
| been         | gaze      | soiree     |
| blend        | geek      | tale       |
| borne        | genre     | tenable    |
| brow         | Greek     | text       |
| cage         | IUD       | they're    |
| critical     | knowing   | toy gun    |
| decry        | leave     | trim       |
| deer         | livid     | ulcer      |
| Diana        | Maine     | unix       |
| die          | narrative | usee       |
| done         | nerve     | year       |
| enrage       | no-no     | write      |
| epistemology | notion    | zone       |

AERUDITEKEERGO  
LPBNSIBNSLCAGE  
LIVIDEERBORNE  
USEXROEAODIANA  
RTEXTCNGNWTRRT  
IEXILESEORIREP  
NMAUTHENTICATE  
GOMDRHKCITATED  
ALIDIEEYOELIEA  
ZONEMNEYNERVEG  
EGECUAGIROAEVO  
TYARGUABLENDEG  
RAEYNMALLEGORY

### And now it's time to play "WHO'S THE BIGGEST SLACKER?!?"

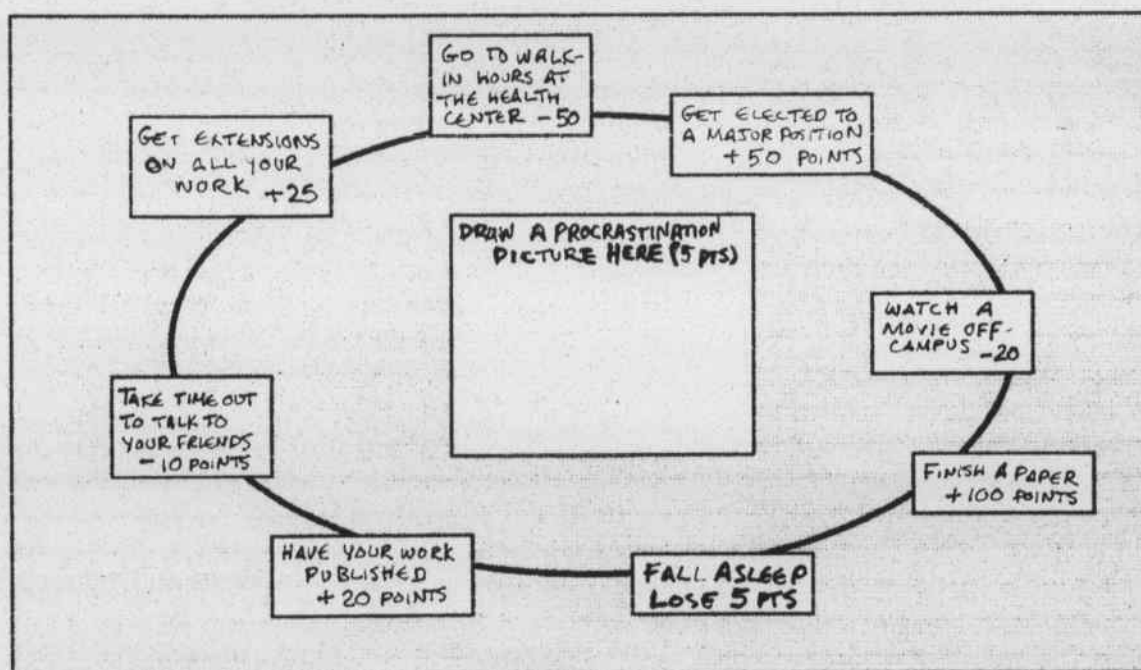
You too can learn to compete in this game of chance and skill. What infectious diseases can you pick up? How many papers can you write in a week? How far behind can you get in your reading before you give up and stop even *trying* to do it? How much coffee can you drink in one night?

So keep a copy of this scorecard handy, keep track of your points till the end of the semester, and then use those points to try your luck in the "Maze of Mawrterdom!"

Just remember: "DONE IS GOOD!!!"

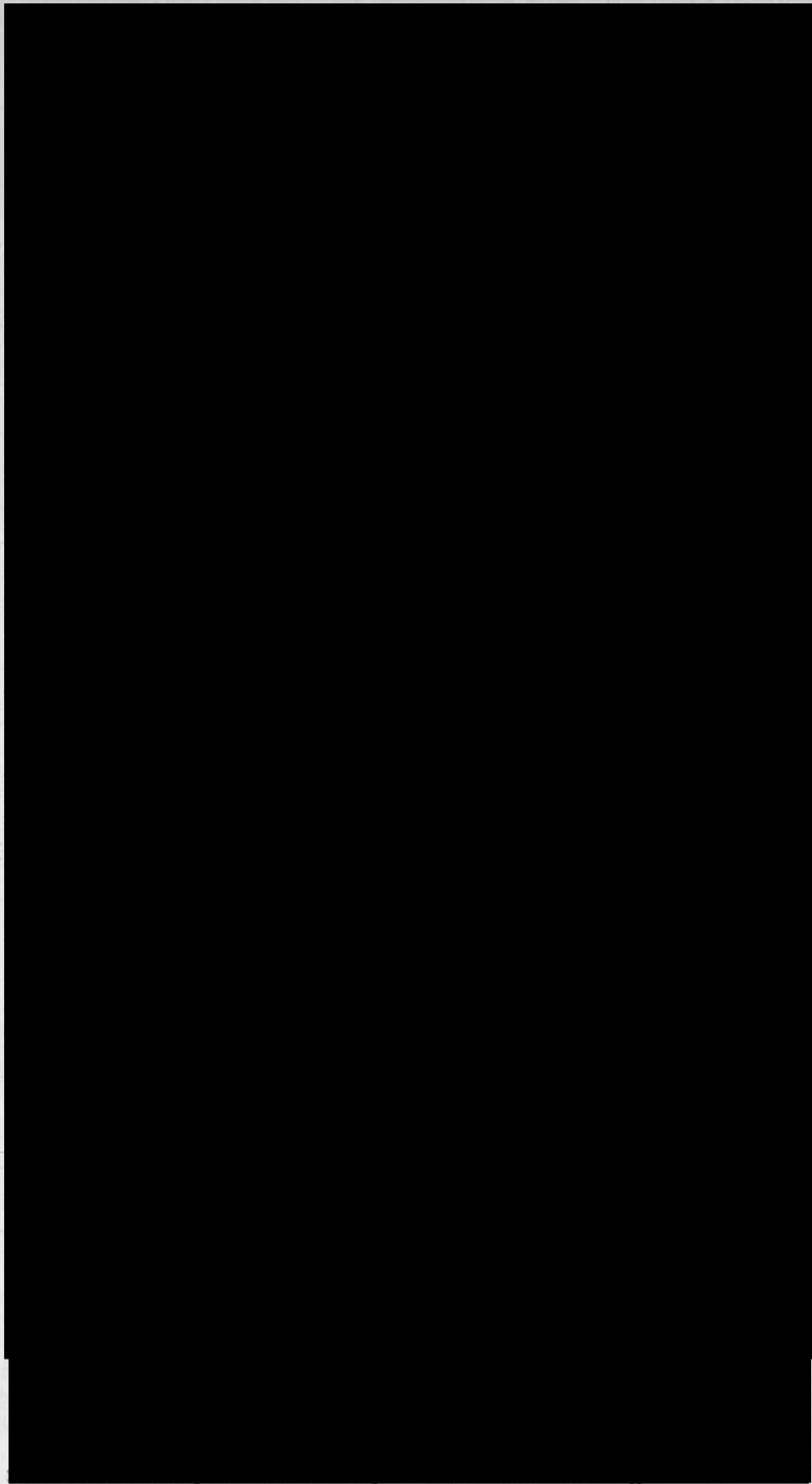
	POINTS
Number of extensions requested this semester	
Number received	
Number taken without permission	
Number of exams left to take	
Number of pages left to write before the sixteenth	
Number of books left to read	
Number of weeks it would take you to catch up	
Gallons of coffee drunk this week	
Number of all-nighters pulled this semester	
Number of days since you last showered	
Number of loads of laundry currently on your floor	
Number of hours you spend in the Cafe on the average night	
Number of hours you spend on e-mail	
Number of hours you spend watching TV	
Number of things you are too busy to enjoy doing	
Number of extracurricular activities you are do	

### THE MAZE OF MAWRTERDOM



NEED MORE POINTS?

- GET A MAJOR DISEASE. +100 POINTS
- WRITE A SONG WHILE PROCRASTINATING. +2 POINTS  
- IF YOUR FRIENDS LIKE IT. +10 POINTS PER FRIEND.
- DO YOUR LAUNDRY. +1/2 POINT.  
- IF YOU FOLD EVERYONE ELSE'S LAUNDRY +75 POINTS.
- HAVE A PROCRASTINATION PROJECT PARTY. +30 POINTS.  
- IF YOU OFFER THE PROJECTS TO ATHENA. +70 POINTS.  
- TO MARY PAT. +150 POINTS

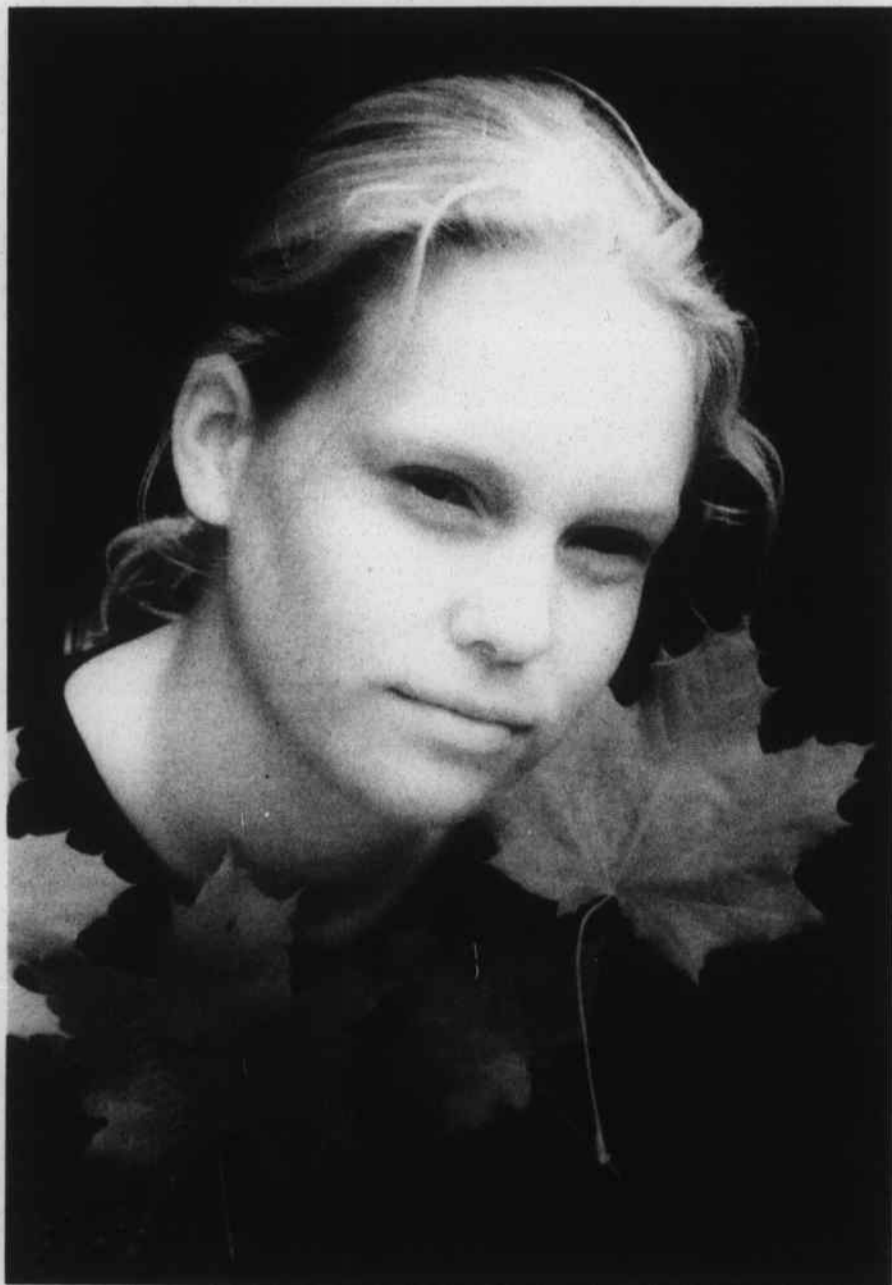


SELL BOOKS FOR CASH

DECEMBER 10, 12-3:30

DECEMBER 12-16, 10-4

BMC BOOKSHOP



# ARTS

# Who is that basque man?

by J. Pia Francisco

I'd like to start with your career, or with how your career as a professor began. Did you always plan to teach at a liberal arts college in the United States, or did the road of life just kind of lead you to Bryn Mawr?

I guess both. Yeah, I guess...since I was probably about fifteen or so, I wanted to be an intellectual—quote, unquote. I wanted to be like Jean Paul Sartre, or something like that. You know, people who write a book and sort of change the world. That was when I was about fourteen or fifteen. We had no music equipment, so the main source of culture was the television. But for some funny reason, they [his parents] knew that education was the door to, like, anything, which is like the American middle class, too.

In Spain, you finish somewhere between a B.A. and an M.A., and school for me was a really good experience. It was basically, um, an experience of disappointments. All these dreams I had about being an intellectual, producing knowledge and blah, blah, blah... all my professors systematically took care of shattering them, which I think was good. I learned that life was much more practical than that. And after all, to be a professor, it's a job like any other job, and you can't change the world and the world doesn't want you to change it overnight.

So why am I at Bryn Mawr? Why am I in teaching? I guess there are two answers. One is, like, I would be useless for any other job [laughs]. So, just by default. That's sort of the ironical response. The other thing is that I just love what I do. You know, teaching literature and all this kind of shattering of illusions. One thing that I've learned is that teaching, it's very professional, and it requires a lot of knowledge to be a good teacher. So I'm trying to learn to be a good teacher. I think I'm still far away from being a good teacher, but I think I'm taking this challenge well, and that it's a great challenge. I guess, well probably you've heard this a hundred times, but teaching is a little like a drug. If a class doesn't work, you really experience, like, withdrawal symptoms and you get really desperate and you want to... you want to, like, kill someone [laughs]. And if you have a good class, it's like the best high you can get. So teaching is really addictive.

Okay, so...

So, I feel very comfortable here at Bryn Mawr. Previously, for example, I taught a course at Duke and I made the mistake of teaching a course in Cyberpunk. Probably, like, 75% of my students were computer geeks (no offense intended toward computer science majors) or uh, um, bio... engineering... uh, genetics? No. It was worse than that. It was like neuro... bio... engineering, or bio-neuro engineering... well, something like that. It had something to do with neuro, bio, and engineering. I can't remember how they were put together. So all these people just kind of came together to [here, the professor lapses into a surfer accent] "Just have a good time." It was just kind of students who hung out in fraternities. So, compared with that experience, I'm, like, really happy at Bryn Mawr.

You mentioned that you're very much into popular culture and that you used to watch a lot of television growing up. Does this influence often find its way into your classes?

Well, you're in one of my classes so... obviously, [laughs] yeah. The answer is

*All these dreams I had about being an intellectual...my professors took care of shattering them, which I think was good.*

yes. The reason I came to the United States is because since the mid-twentieth century there's been a large cultural shift in which European high art-high culture has stopped being hegemonic and being the main source of culture for the rest of the world, and American mass culture has become the most influential, probably hegemonic, cultural form all over the world.

*We [Spanish 223] are studying Rosaliade de Castro to understand what's going on nowadays with Interview with a Vampire.*

I wanted to study and enjoy the basic form of culture that the United States has created, which is popular culture. Well, I guess the right term is "mass culture." I think it's very important to deal with mass culture. Any study of previous cultures, even like the nineteenth century — of which, supposedly, I'm a specialist — it always has to somehow come back to contemporary times. And you have to have some kind of comparison between mass culture and anything previous to the twentieth century.

So yeah, I do make some funny connections between like, Coca-Cola and realism and Balzac in the nineteenth century, and *Interview with a Vampire* and the gothic novel in Spain and women's writing, like Rosalia de Castro's. That's the only reason why we [Spanish 223] are studying Rosalia de Castro. It's to understand what's going on nowadays with *Interview with a Vampire*.

Has the process of learning several different languages had an effect on your teaching style?

Well, I never thought of it like that, but I guess, yeah. It has influenced my teaching system a lot. The way you speak a language is not by analyzing every sentence that you utter. You don't prepare yourself to utter three sentences. You either know those sentences,

and therefore you utter them almost automatically, or you don't. So my teaching system is very oral, and I don't take formal notes to teach each class. I do take some notes, but not many. I write down page numbers, etc., but they're just very sketchy notes. What I do work very hard on is that I constantly think about my classes. They are part of my own intellectual activities; they're not divorced. The things I talk about in classes are things

that interest me. Every time I go to the movies or watch TV, I make those connections.

In modern languages, I compare my teaching system to jazz, in which you always have to have a very high skill to play your instrument, and you have to be very much in contact with your instrument in order to express what you feel at that time. So you have to have a high level of competence. Yet, you do not prepare things for each performance; it's just you, basically. So, my teaching system, it's very oral. It's very jazz-like.

Tell us about your collection of published stories and your fiction writing.

This Christmas, I'm going to Spain to sign my second contract for a collection of twenty-four short stories, and all the characters are Basque. It's urban magical realism. They [the stories] are sort of parodies of *Heart of Darkness*. I have stories with a Basque terrorist and he ends up in Japan, in settings that are very futuristic, that look like *Bladerunner*. Basically, underlying all of this is the Apocalypse. I try to make fun of the Apocalypse. Everyone is saying that, since we're nearing the year 2000, that every-

thing is ending. I'm trying to sort of go against all these apocalyptic "signs" to show people that there are still a lot of Utopias to live. But, if we're forced to live in these apocalyptic times, let's just celebrate the Apocalypse. So, these twenty-four short stories, they have twenty-four characters. And I kill all of them systematically. The ironic part is that all of them die really happily. They really made sense of their lives. So it's a celebration of apocalypse, and obviously, it has a relationship to AIDS. So I'm trying to capture some political meaning for AIDS.

Also, the entire collection is really a very ironical, sarcastic reading of Basque nationalism. So, I do a whole reading of Basque history and I also make fun of every single chapter of Basque history.

What do you miss most about Spain?

Nothing. Well, I guess... Here, after seven years, I'm still not used to making plans. I try to be, again, like my teaching, very casual and spontaneous. In the Basque country, you just go out by yourself, and you always meet friends on the street. So you don't need to make plans. You just sort of improvise on the spot. It's just amazing. It's wonderful. But that's the only thing I really miss. I'm very happy here.

I mean, Basque nationalism, it's very strong. It asphyxiates any cultural endeavor that is critical of Basque nationalism. I guess that's further intensified by the reason that I'm queer — quote, unquote — and Basque nationalism is not very sympathetic towards non-heterosexual people.

If you could have three wishes, what would you wish for?

[Professor sighs for a moment.] I'm really bad at that stuff. I don't have any wishes. You don't have any? Well, probably my only wish is that I wish the projects that I have, they come true, that I'm able to realize them. And I think I will, here at Bryn Mawr. Obviously, as a writer, I have a very... I'm a dreamer. I dream a lot. So I have a lot of projects, a lot of "wishes." If they come true, I'll be a very happy person.



## Professor reviews

continued from p. 1

despite what anyone tells you, she does care about her students. She is not demanding without understanding."

"Michael Nylan [History] is a goddess! She'll kick your butt and make you do an insane amount of work, but she's just wonderful."

"I really like Kim Cassidy [Psychology], but she doesn't teach much on the undergrad level, but it's worth it if you're vaguely interested in what she's teaching."

"History 115 Take it if you think you hate history but like looking at things from lots of different angles."

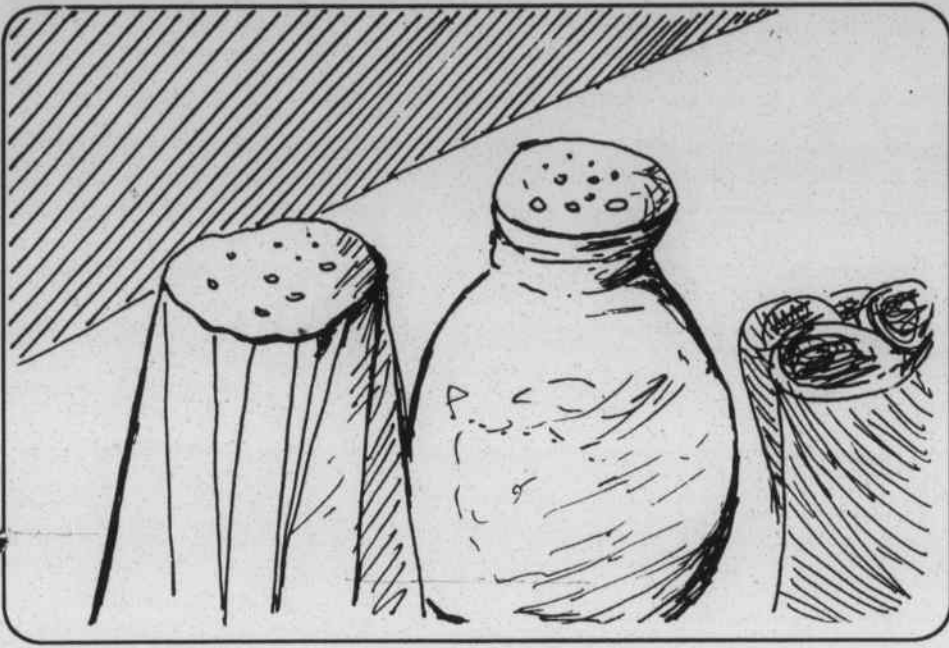
"Linda Susan Beard [English]: Take a course with her if at all possible. She lets her students' minds get really involved in the material. Literature seems really relevant to life when she teaches it."

"Madhavi Kale [History]: One of those profs who makes you question what you know or assume but also wonderful at drawing out what you do know. Very accessible."

"Janet Monge [Anthropology]: Has a talent for taking what could be a dry subject and bringing it to life. Literally. How many times do you get a professor on a table trying to demonstrate at eye level the important difference between the way humans walk on two legs and the way a chimpanzee walks on two legs? Her classes impart tons of information in a unique and delightful manner. There is a joke in the anthropology department about 'majoring in Monge'; most of those who have experienced her classes once do return."

"Barbara Cooper [History]: She's really nice, and a good prof. besides. She's interested in history, and does a good job communicating with students. She also works hard to make the class fair; when one person got an extension, she gave it to everyone!"

"Julia Gaisser [Latin]: She loves Latin and believes firmly that everyone else loves it too, and that we all want to be really good at it. Aside from that, the classes are a lot of fun, and she has a wonderful sense of humor, no matter how dense students are being on a given day."



# Tasty recipes....

by Julia Alexander

So, here we are, at the end of another semester. After this long, the dining hall seems to pale, and everyone wants to eat something they haven't seen already forty times this semester. Kudos, of course, to Dining Services for the excellent special dinner they put on! They should do this once again!!

Anyhow, reminiscing about great food has gotten us through many a meal, but there comes a time when something new and different (or even something you like well enough to want to eat every day) is necessary, so I offer for your use some recipes that came up in the dangerous way that things come up with my friends (which is to say, accidentally!) For something "different", you should try Elaine and Stacy's "Strawberry Daquiri": for this, take a little bit of frozen yogurt (preferably fruit flavored or vanilla) in a glass. Add a little bit of orange juice and then fill the rest of the glass with an even mixture of Hi-C fruit punch and Coke. Then drop a strawberry into it and announce, "Strawberry daquiri!" If you want, you can laugh as though you're making a joke (which you probably would be). However, if you like the kind of punch they serve little kids, this stuff is pretty good.

For something "new," there's a burrito made by Jessica. Take a tortilla and put several spoonful of plain yogurt in the middle of it. Add chili,

or beans, or anything of that type that they have in the dining hall. Add cheese on top of this. Zap everything in the microwave for a minute or so, until it gets nice and hot. Then, you can fold it up and eat it, although you may have to eat it with a fork. And remember to look for condiments like salsa, if you want those.

Here's another variation on the hot chocolate that I've been assured is quite good: Take regular hot chocolate, and add a mint teabag. Let it steep for a while. Or there's always the "Calvin and Hobbes" version of hot chocolate: Fill your cup with marshmallows. Add some Hershey's syrup. If you can fit it in, add a little bit of milk, and zap it in the microwave. To quote Hobbes, "So that's why you eat it with a fork."

Elizabeth's HCDC pizza: you can always make pizza at Haverford, but it's just that much tastier if, instead of using their sauce, just lay sliced tomatoes on the pita bread, sprinkle liberally with oregano, garlic and whatever blows your hair back, cover in shredded cheese and zap. You can do this at BMC too if they have mozzarella cheese or provolone.

For something you like well enough to eat every day, I just thought of Hope's Cookies, (right across from Borders Bookstore) where you can buy raw cookie dough. This is good to bake, if you have something to bake with, or you can eat it raw, which is what most of us want at this time of year, anyhow!!

# Graffiti

by Julia Alexander

Although it isn't really graffiti, I thought I'd use this column to mention the recent proliferation of Christmas lights on campus. There are some truly impressive displays inside, at least in Erdman. "A" diamond (over the dining hall) has some decorations, lights included, that put anything I do to shame. I also like the lights strung outside the tower room in Denbigh.

I like the idea of lights, and it always cheers me up to see them. As the nights get longer, and the world is generally darker, we have these cheerful, colored lights up everywhere. Am I the only one who thinks it's a little unfortunate that we take the lights down at the end of December, which means that we get ourselves through the easy part of the winter, the part with less of that miserable ice and snow? Just as things start looking really bleak, everyone thinks you're crazy if you still have your lights up. Sometimes, I just don't understand the world....

If all this talk about lights has made you start wanting some for your own room, you can get them at Thrift Drug, Acme, or the Dollar Store. Thrift Drug will give you two strings of fifty lights for five dollars, and the Dollar Store is selling strings of thirty-five for—you guessed it—a dollar (I haven't seen the price on lights up at Acme this year).

And remember, it's cool and alternative to light your bedroom with Christmas lights all year round! (Especially if you go somewhere more expensive, and pop for the lights with all sorts of weird shapes, like M&M's, cacti, or chili peppers.)

# Alas BDOC hopefuls

by Ruth Wielgosz

Well, I hate to disappoint everyone, but there just weren't enough nominations to hold the BDOC election. I did not foresee the problem that many people were too intimidated by the women they wanted to nominate to dare ask their permission. Under these circumstances it would really be unfair to allow less intimidating candidates to run for the position. Apologies to all three of you who were nominated. You definitely had winning potential, even if you aren't very scary. I can't reveal any names, but among those too scary to be asked were a well-known member of the administration, a professor, someone who already claims to be BDOC, and the lesbian poster child of *The College News*.

In addition, some people raised the concern that this might become a mere popularity contest, with everyone voting for her friend. Although I think our integrity is greater than that, it is undeniable that unconscious biases might have affected voting. Another valid point which has been raised is that the very need to have an election proves that there is no BDOC, for, by definition, her identity should be obvious to all. I prefer to think of the situation as one of too many choices, rather than too few...

In any case, until this year I was not aware that there could only be one BDOC. This is a needless limitation to impose on ourselves: the more BDOCs, the better. Was Renata less of a BDOC before Eleanor graduated? I don't think so! So go for it, everyone: you can be a BDOC too, if you want to. Personally, I think it would be too much effort; I need to concentrate on finding dates for this weekend.

THE BORDERS

Correction to  
Lantern Night  
Tea List:  
Erecon Prom  
will be held on  
Thursday, Dec. 8.  
Hors d'oeuvres at  
9 pm; dancing  
from 10pm-1 am.  
At Erecon, of  
course.