Union Workers Picket Bryn Mawr

by Jenn Hogan

You’ve probably seen them when you go to catch the blue bus or go to class. They stand outside, rain or shine, quietly wearing signs, yet few students have stopped to talk to them. Who are these men and why are they picketing our oh-so-liberal arts college?

In an era where union membership has dwindled to a mere 13% of the work force, perhaps they are ghosts from past times. Yes, these men are genuine union workers and they have an issue with Bryn Mawr, both the administration and the students. These union workers, representing several different unions from the area, which are all part of the AFL-CIO super-union structure, are angry because when Bryn Mawr chose a contractor for the new Art, Archaeology, and Cities Library, they chose to go with Wohlsen Construction. Or at least Wohlsen says it’s its open shop. The veteran union members claim that not only is Wohlsen construction a non-union company, it is a union breaking company. Union officials like Tony Murphy from the Bricklayers and Allied Craftsmen Local No.1 and George Wright from the Carpenters Local 465 claim that Wohlsen uses unfair tactics to underbid union labor. How can Wohlsen get its prices so low, you may ask? According to the union officials, Wohlsen workers are temporary, relatively low-skilled workers who do not receive competitive wages, health care benefits, pension plans, or any of the customary benefits that you and I might hope to know can have health insurance? That’s not my problem.

These are all typical responses to this problem on campus. However, let’s look at the deeper reasons why they pay to go union. First of all, you all have walked by that big hole in the ground in back of Thomas. It’s not exactly a flurry of activity back there. The administration maintains that while construction is behind schedule, this is due to a difficult problem with underpinning the building. However, the union leaders claim that for less skilled labor, you get less professional results. The unions claim that because they are paid a decent wage for their work, they can’t afford to sit around doing nothing. They say that if union labor was on this job, the job would be on schedule, and quality-conscious skilled craftsmen would be doing excellent work.

Secondly, Wohlsen is a contractor from outside the area who has lately been bringing labor from outside the area to work on his jobs in this area. However, the unions are local people who all live in this area, send their kids to schools in this area, and eventually to local colleges. For example, the Carpenters Local 465 was founded in 1900 and has taken part in the building of all of the institutional buildings on the Main Line. George Wright maintains that the fair union wages he receives have allowed him to stay in this area. It’s all part of the community and Bryn Mawr’s role in it. Sure, we can say this is only a one-time case, but when these one-time cases happen all over the area, we are eroding our relationship with the community.

Third, how fair is it to support a company that does not think it’s important to provide health care benefits to its workers? Bryn Mawr provides its faculty and staff with health care benefits. However, it seems that once Bryn Mawr is no longer signing the pay check, it’s no longer so important to worry about whether workers for Bryn Mawr are getting health care. George Wright said, “It’s perfectly OK for Bryn Mawr to host a conference on the importance of health care with Bill Clinton and Marjorie Margolies-Mezvinsky, but when it comes to health care for off-campus workers, it no longer seems important.” This issue is especially important to those construction workers who are taking on the body. Is it fair for a company to take the productive years of people’s lives and not compensate them for health problems they might develop because of this job? Or is it one of the endless stream of externalities (such as environmental damage) with which companies should not concern themselves? Unions have always been organizations which empower their members to confront companies with these externalities.

Yes, the unions are angry with Bryn Mawr, and they will picket until the end of the job. They are angry with the administration, for turning its back on fair labor value in giving Bryn Mawr’s largest contract of the 1990’s to Wohlsen construction, and they are angry at the students for not protesting. Should students have offered to support a tuition increase to pay for the new Library? Should construction on the Library have been shelved until the college could afford to pay for it with fair labor? Or is all fair in contract bidding, and should the lowest bidder always get the bid? Keep these questions in your mind and your responses to them when you walk down the road, you are trying to convince your boss that you deserve health care benefits, a decent pay rate, and a pension plan. After all, there will always be a lower bidder who will be able to do your job almost as well as you can.

A Call for Community Service: Get Involved!

by Krissy Davis

Once again it’s the end of the semester and time to test our resistance to ulcers and our dependency on Pepto-Bismol and caffeine. But the good news is that soon the semester will be over and we can all start anew next semester. So why not take a sunny breather and figure out what volunteer opportunities to pursue next semester? To help aid the daydreaming/study break, the Owl’s Wing is holding extra office hours (always ready to help our fellow Mawrters procrastinate!) on Tuesday 3-4, and 6:30-7:30; Thursday 10-11am, 2-4:30; and Friday 1:30-2:30 until the end of the year. These are in addition to the normal Wednesday hours of 3-6. And to help fulfill those New Year’s Resolutions of activism, there will be added hours upon returning next semester. We are all excited because the filing overhaul is going to happen, and we keep coming upon more and more exciting stuff. In fact we guarantee you’ll find something enticing.

Right now the Owl’s Wing Community Service Committee is sending letters to the faculty and administration to find out what volunteer activities are in progress by individual groups. We always want to give credit where credit is due. Besides being informed will help us help you. And of course as soon as we know the scoop, we’ll let the community know.

In this issue, Mawrters experience history in South Carolina, "why women shouldn’t have free speech", and the assassinations of Rabin.
Misogyny invades our world

It seems that almost thirty years of the feminist movement have done little to change people's perception of women. Women still have to deal with misconceptions, attacks, and misguided remarks relating to their role in society. We at Bryn Mawr have recently had to deal with misogyny during the "75 reasons that women shouldn't have free speech" controversy. Last week, as many of you know, our trusty e-mail server, ada, collapsed under the strain of many angry Mawrters trying to flame the Cornell server by forwarding comments on the offensive e-mail message containing such well thought out and witty reasons women should not have free speech as "She can't talk with my dick in her mouth, anyway", and "Then she can't cry rape". When I first heard about this controversy, I was more than a little dismayed. Before I was told the actual contents of this message, I figured that it might be one of those pseudo-intellectual, Bell Curve style arguments, that announce due to their biological inferiority, women should not have free speech, and thus take part in the political process. However, I must admit I was actually relieved to find that the message was just another sophomoric (no offense to those at Bryn Mawr with dark hair), frat boy style crude response to, I suppose, women having a role in society other than that of sex objects. I'll assume that this offensive message was supposed to be a joke except it was not funny (except if you have the mentality of a 13 year-old boy who has consumed a six pack). I think the internet has disseminated many hilarious new takes on the battle of the sexes, but it's just not funny anymore to rely on the tired old blow job jokes for a quick chuckle. Just like the "dumb blonde" effort to cover women's issues as news, we might be able to make greater and faster change people's perception of women. Women still have to deal with misconceptions, attacks, and misguided remarks relating to their role in society. The apparent well-meaning journals make a point of covering women's and feminist issues, for which I can only be grateful. But they then place articles such as the one covering the E.R.A. convention into the Magazine section of the papers around the country (and not the News). This is a more disturbing reflection of the misogyny in the world around us. These apparently well-meaning journals make a point of covering women's and feminist issues, for which I can only be grateful. But they then place articles such as the one covering the E.R.A. convention into the Magazine section of the paper on the same day that an article on catching the bouquet at a wedding fills a third of a page in the editorials section. This really happened. And this sort of thing happens frequently in the Inquirer. The only times we see women on the front page of this paper is when they are victims (of the government, of crimes, of disparities and inequalities) or they are stereotypical caregivers. Authentic women's issues appear on the back pages of the paper, with the comics and neighborhood news, as though the world were still separated into separate spheres for men and women—or as if the men who put together the paper believe that women's protests and demands belong with the comics and local high school's winning streak in basketball.

Maybe I'm being hyper-sensitive, but I think that if newspapers made a stronger effort to cover women's issues as news, we might be able to make greater and faster progress along the road to discarding misogyny in this society.

Letter to the Editors:
Are you Clueless?

Dear College News Editors,

Three cheers for Elizabeth Hill's piece on cluelessness! I've noticed cluelessness, too, and wondered whether it was a generation gap thing. (Well, not quite a generation gap, but pushing 30 is different from pushing 20. Besides, my housemates at Batten have noticed the same problem.) I would not only call this attitude "clueless" but ignorant, impolite, and at times even arrogant. There, now that should offend someone.

Now that I have someone's attention, let me offer some more examples in the form of a pop quiz:

1. You got a good AP score and you could place out of Calc 101. What do you do?
   a) Take it over again and goof off with your friends during class. Talk to each other, write letters and pay attention only when the prof is discussing something new. Life is over after BCM and you'd better pad that GPA "out of guilt."
   b) Take it over again but skip most of the classes.
   c) You look at the person and say, "Thank you."

2. Someone pauses at the Campus Center doorway and waits for you, holding the machine. What do you do?
   a) Continue to talk to your friends and walk on through.
   b) You're alone. You sell on through, not a "thank you" uttered. After all, doesn't she know that you're not only a blood relative to Mary Pat and M. Carey Thomas, but that Athena has died and left you goddess of BCM? (No offense to MP or MCT.)
   c) You look at the person and say, "Thank you."

3. It's the last week of classes. Someone is struggling with the copying machine in the library. She's trying to copy something from an unannounced newspaper. You, too, need the machine. What do you do?
   a) Ask politely if you could make a one page copy.
   b) Go to another machine.
   c) Offer to help the person, politely, not sarcastically.

I could go on, but yes, homework calls and I think I made my point. But before finishing, let me add two points. My brother and his fiance just took teaching jobs at Vandy and Princeton, respectively. They, too, are human and they, too, have rampant cluelessness. You don't need to go off campus to realize profs are popple, too. Take an extra five minutes to get to know one of yours. And finally, to end my diatribe, please realize we all have good and bad days. Cluelessness might just be a sign of a bad day. Giving the benefit of the doubt helps.

Sincerely,
Beatrice M. Desper '96
feminism will be the next center-spread topic; give us your thoughts regarding the future of the movement, the problems with the movement, or just your own personal perspective of its place in your life

Don't Trust Bennett Taxi Service

by Julia Alexander

We might have known that Mawrters are not the best at dealing with stress, time pressure, and rejection all at once. It might sound like I got dumped during finals or something, but this is actually a warning to anyone who might think she can depend on Bennett taxi service for anything.

So, there I am, hauling my butt out of bed at six-thirty on the Saturday morning of the GREs, also the first day of Fall Break. I walk through a torrential downpour, the cabdrivers get a call from our dorms, assuming they both turned around) and drenching morning, trying to figure out how we're supposed to get to Swat, given how stressed out we are about missing our ride. When the discrepancy is never discovered, you tend to drift happily (or unapplying), simply studying, or singly absorbed by one activity or another. If you see the gap, and do something to bridge it, the combination of all that extracurricular and academic work gives you a real education, but often at a high price. Not every Mawter's experience is our experience, but we would like to see every Mawter become the best woman she envisions her future self to be.

What's the bell is EWOC, anyway? That's a good question— EWOC began as a series of summer conversations about the college, about ourselves, about the women's college experience and our place within and beyond it. The discussion provoked questions: Why is our being different so important? In what ways should the experience be changing us, reorienting us, and preparing us? From these questions, we realized the strengths of this very unique place and this experience. But we were still confused. In thinking with fellow Mawrters, it sounds as if intelligent, thoughtful women still aren't finding what they want here. So, what is the problem? Apathy? That strange, vague, response to explain every inadequacy the administration, student groups, or we examine? Doubly really believe that! How would an apathetic woman even be admitted to Bryn Mawr? Something must happen along the way, and we came up with a theory.

When you get here, the premise of the place tends to substitute for the reality. When the two don't add up, you get bitter. When the discrepancy is never discovered, you tend to drift happily (or unapplying), simply studying, or singly absorbed by one activity or another. If you see the gap, and do something to bridge it, the combination of all that extracurricular and academic work gives you a real education, but often at a high price. Not every Mawter's experience is our experience, but we would like to see every Mawter become the best woman she envisions her future self to be.

EWOC evolved out of an attempt to address parts of these different problems; hopefully, with the tools and techniques we learn through participation, we will learn much about ourselves and solve some BMC problems along the way. We are going to learn that we, as a group, all possess unique and valuable traits necessary to good leadership. And leading together, we are going to learn through the workshops planned by EWOC how to apply basic leadership skills (project planning, facilitation, developing individual leadership style) effectively to tackle issues generated by the participants. We believe that this kind of positive problem solving is a transformative experience, and will open up a new world of resources to students, within the college and the themselves.

Nowhere else will you find this kind of freedom. At Bryn Mawr, we can be who we want, do what we want, and pretty much think and say what we want in an atmosphere of support and sisterhood. But we do not. Not enough, anyway. This is our chance to change things. To prove that we are not a "culture of complaint". Labels such as apathetic do not answer the question "why?" anymore.

PLEASE JOIN EWOC ON SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18, 1995 FOR OUR WORKSHOP!!
by Julia Alexander

I made a resolution years ago that I would never stand in line for an autograph, never gape up from afar at some other human, never debase myself in general waiting around for a crumb of recognition from any celebrity. I thought I had some pride. In fact, I am ashamed to say I was smug about the idea of the masses lined up for hours, waiting to catch a glimpse of Danielle Steel or John Grisham.

I know now that I was devaluing myself. Dorothy Allison, author and a lesbian diva, swept into an overflow theatre on the second floor of Brecon Hall. She held us in thrall. We did not mind.

Pallas Athena must have been quaking in her sandals after this woman let her terrifying side show, bellowing and whispering her life story up to the stained-glass windows. Allison introduced herself and read a passage from her unpublished novel. I didn’t know when the introduction stopped and Title of Forthcoming Novel started, the way she slipped into it and transformed from friendly author into awing storyteller. “I want my people to be believable, my stories to haunt and obsess my readers. I want, in fact, to startle my readers, shock and terrify sometimes, to fascinate and surprise... it is completely amoral writer’s last.” she writes in her book of essays, Skin.

From her performance piece published as memoir, Two or Three Things I Know for Sure, Allison read about her people, particularly women, in rural South Carolina. She said that she, like all the women in her family, was not and could not be beautiful. I guess she would know, but she could have fooled me.

She said that she, like all the women in her family, was not and could not be beautiful. I guess she would know, but she could have fooled me... By the time she no longer deigned to take questions, the last tatters of my pride had been stripped and burnt and I was left with only a few minutes of pride. We did not mind.

Both of these recipes are from ideas that my friend Lyla suggested. They can both be made with ingredients that are fairly common in the dining hall, and they are both good enough to make you feel entirely satisfied after consuming them.

The first one is “Lyla’s Orange Lemon Honey Yoghurt Pie Substitute.” As the name implies, this lacks just a little bit from regular apple pie, but it’s also a nice change from routine, and if we can work out the kinks in the crust, it might just be perfect. Anyhow, take a good sized apple and cut it up with knife to take off the skin. Also use the knife to take off the apple with a clock. Also use the knife to take off the apple and from Breece, bed, and so on. These essays cover the broad spectrum indicated by the title. The first essay I read was a woman talking about her unadventurous body image while in a Moroccan bath. The most recent essay I’ve read was a very disturbing story about an anorexic woman in the hospital for treatment— from her side of the story. In between these essays there are images of women’s bodies in the world around us, the incidents that make women “into the body. Presbyterian, including cancer, pregnancy, infertility, and long-term treatment. This is a book for the sort of person who likes reading that will give her room to think in. I don’t necessarily agree with all the opinions expressed, nor can I see where every woman in this book is coming from. But I can also find connections between the essays cover the broad spectrum indicated by the title. The first essay I read was a woman talking about her unadventurous body image while in a Moroccan bath. The most recent essay I’ve read was a very disturbing story about an anorexic

ESsayS EXploRE oPpositioN SHIPS BETWEEN MINDS And BodIEs

by Julia Alexander


Minding the Body: women writers on body and soul. Patrick Foster, ed. Anchor Books, 1994. (I don’t have the price for this book, as I got it through a book club.)

The Bryn Mawr College and Haverford College Theater Program presents The Three Sisters: by Anton Chekhov on November 10, 11, 12 (Friday through Sunday) at 7:30 p.m. at Goodhart Hall, Bryn Mawr College. The production is directed by Mark Lord and designed by Hiroshi Iwasaki. Undergraduates from both Bryn Mawr and Haverford Colleges are featured: Tamar Adler, Zoe Chance, Lauren Dwor, Katie Figueres, Jennifer Franklin, Tony Gross, Michael Harris, Seth Hollander, Gabe Johnson, Anders Lifjeldheim, Juan Mora, Slavica Naukovic, Adam Orman, Gene Sander, Holly Scott, and Maggie Stiff.

The Three Sisters were written at the turn of the century by Chekhov, the Russian author of numerous short stories and plays. His writing took naturalism to new heights, both in terms of his sense of the ebb and flow of language and in his use of naturalism to experiment with art and define the theater. The play relates the stories of several characters who live in a provincial Russian town. The three sisters want to move to back to the Moscow they think they remembered from youth, but they never go. Their brother dreams of life as a university professor, but ends up as a minor figure in local politics. His wife, mean-while, slowly takes over their home. Also featured are an army without war, a family without children, artists without audiences, a doctor without skill, lovers with or without love, a duel we don’t see, two parties that don’t happen, and a clock that doesn’t tell time. "It’s a play," one critic wrote, "in which nothing happens. Except that one world ends. And another one begins."

"It’s a play," one critic wrote, "in which nothing happens. Except that one world ends. And another one begins."

The play takes place in four different spaces, both indoors and outdoors, and the audience will move through the building from act to act to experience the play. Please dress appropriately. Tickets cost: $8 each for the general public and are free for all students with ID. For reservations or information, call 526-5211 or contact echo@brynmawr.edu.

NEW FOODS

by Julia Alexander

Both of these recipes are from ideas that my friend Lyla suggested. They can both be made with ingredients that are fairly common in the dining hall, and they are both good enough to make you feel entirely satisfied after consuming them.

The first one is “Lyla’s Orange Lemon Honey Yoghurt Pie Substitute.” As the name implies, this lacks just a little bit from regular apple pie, but it’s also a nice change from routine, and if we can work out the kinks in the crust, it might just be perfect. Anyhow, take a good sized apple and cut it up with knife. Also use the knife to take off the skin. Then you mix the apples and cinnamon together and microwave for about two minutes. Add all the butter packets, and most of the rest of the sugar to the graham crackers. Stir this up, and go microwave for forty-five seconds, or until our butter and slightly crunchy. Divide the apples up into two or three bowls and top them with the crust. If the crust isn’t the way you like it, add sugar and butter until it is. Eat and enjoy the strange look on the people sitting around this. Actually, this won’t take much more than half an hour, eating included.

If you have a great recipe you’d like to share with the rest of the campus, please write a short article about it explaining how it’s made. You might want to stick with dining hall recipes, or things that can be made with ingredients that are fairly common in the dining hall, but from time to time, it’s fair game.
Women sent the message to at least the former and, several times as the message was passed along, Bryn Mawr women were among those to receive it.

Many of those who were angered or offended by the message wrote to the authors to let them know how they felt about the message. Some Mawrters treated the message as anything but objects. One message was passed along, Bryn Mawr servers were flooded with requests to take action and chose, as the first three women who received the email, to decide not to respond to the message. The authors were then involved in a concerted effort last week to forward the message to Bryn Mawr students. The theory was that if enough Mawrters received the message and replied to the authors by email, Cornell's server would be overloaded or "flooded" and the message would come to the attention of the authors. A way to do this was hypothesized, would have the power to close down the accounts of the authors which were used to reply, and when we burned up the server.

Presumably this message was passed around, Bryn Mawr students, a member of the group, said that they decided not to read it because "we thought it would get people really upset."

In the two weeks since the decision, the message has been forwarded from woman to woman, printed and passed around, quoted and discussed, repeated and ridiculed and condemned, and many Mawrters have, in fact, become quite upset.

Megan Harrington expresses some of the different reactions to this. The day before she says of the message: "I disgust me, made it sad, and it made me wonder if women are ever going to be treated as anything but objects."

One Haverford woman expressed another concern, saying that students at Haverford who had read the message were "furious." Some Mawrters who received the message said that they found it "stupid" and thought it "a message were "furious." Some Mawrters have, in fact, become quite upset.

The message was a list like those most students with email accounts receive frequently, such as "56 Ways To Drive Your Roommate Crazy" or "50 Fun Things To Do In An Elevator." This message consisted of "Top 75 reasons" to rape women, written by someone who writes that women (itches) should not have free
dom of speech. It opens with the sen
tence: "On October 30, 1995, many days when men were men and women were ribs," which the authors put in quotation marks: "Like or rib glasses, it's the message that went around."

Then follow the reasons, which range from the names of women considered by the authors to be annoying, such as Oprah Winfrey and Whitney Houston, to what some consider to be the most offensive: This is my dick. I'm going to fuck you. No more stupid questions. There are also political references, such as "affirmative action," "the legal rights and interests," and "feminists." The final category of reasons is those that are more personally sexist, such as "If she can talk, all she can do is complain," and "If she's in the kitchen, no one can hear her anyway."

Throughout, the message stereotyped and denigrated women as a group. It also refers to acts of violent abuse as though they were acceptable interactions between men and women and implies that only if a woman "criss capes" is there a problem with such behavior. Further, the authors suggest that, even then, it is only a prob
ing our minds, so that the message themselves from sexist attitudes and thus can only be good."

The "Top 75 reasons" were written as a joke by four Cornell students who call themselves "the twosome and a couple from Cornell." Presumably this message was passed around Cornell and among the friends of the students. The message was forwarded to the message to three women. These three women began to pass the message to other women. Many Bryn Mawr students and teachers were outraged. They sent the message along to their friends and help them to "anonymize the fuck out of those guys (the authors)" by emailing them. Th
More Matsby the Matriarch: Grandma Schultz Learns to appreciate BMC

by Kim Schultz

Happily I got off campus a while back and spent quality time with my parents in the Hudson Valley region of New York. Everything looked quiet as we approached the house, but who should be waiting for me and my unsuspecting accomplice, Julie, but Grandma Schultz? Yes, my mother had taken my grandmother to the eye doctor that morning, so she had invited Grandma Schultz over for dinner. Grandma Schultz has apparently been anxious to see me, and my mother roasts a good turkey, so of course she accepted my mother's invitation and was perched on the sofa, nursing hereye-and-diet, when Julie and I unknowingly trudged into the lion's den, or the living room, as it may be. The question leaping to everyone's lips now is, "Why was Grandma Schultz so eager to see you?" especially since Grandma Schultz has never been eager to see me since I turned my back on the world of babies and bridal magazines in order to go to a girls' school that none of her friends had heard of, save one "old Jewish lady at the pool" who called it "that hoity-toity school." Although she tried to be interested in my college life, she found it as foreign as ancient baby sacrificing practices. But recently, BMC suddenly became a fascinating topic for discussion, originating, as things often do, with Grandma Schultz, with the brain-sucking book tubes. Grandma Schultz saw a made-for-TV movie about the conflicts between a wealthy Texan who wanted his daughter to go to the best liberal arts college in the country — which was, by the way, Bryn Mawr College — and his daughter who was set on going to the best liberal arts college in the country instead of a stinky girls' school. I have no idea where she ended up, by the way, so don't ask. Grandma Schultz stories rarely have complete endings, except for her Nixon story, but that's another column altogether. Apparently, this television drama impressed upon Grandma Schultz the "most competitive" status of BMC. Four years of fun facts from Admissions and copies of Bryn Mawr News never gave Bryn Mawr the credit it was due, according to Grandma, and we should probably get a copy of this flick for Preview Days so prospective students would fully understand the glory that goes with the school's name.

Of course, her friends all saw it too, so now she can walk around bragging that her granddaughter is a senior at Bryn Mawr College, "that school in that movie on TV." The only problem is that she hasn't sat down and talked to me since I graduated high school about how school is or what I'm studying, so the scop of her bragging is limited, it says the least. You'll all be glad to know that Grandma Schultz got enough information about my life at BMC to make her an expert of the highest degree and put her in good standing with the ladies at the pool and at the firehouse and with her friend Claire, although I'm sure she is a bit out of date now. Unfortunately, I last saw her, she was still wondering what history majors do if they aren't historians and what psychology majors do if they aren't psychologists. But I'm still wondering about that myself.

Remembering Rabin: Soldier and Peacemaker

by Jenn Hogan

Yet another shocking incident of violence has shocked the tiny strip of desert known as the state of Israel. The assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzak Rabin took the whole world by surprise. Rabin was one of the few voices who called for peace in a place where a state of war is always imminent. Perhaps the saddest aspect of Rabin's murder is that the man who pulled the trigger in this latest incident of terrorism, was a member of an extremist Jewish group, reflecting deep divisions in Israeli society over the peace process.

I have just recently begun to see the problem with sending an army into the West Bank. Every man is fighting for his homeland. These groups were hoping to derail the peace process anyway they could. One should not be surprised that after rhetoric so inflammatory as this, violence was not far behind. Many experts have stated that these radical Jewish groups, like the right wing Jewish settlers in Hebron and other parts of the West Bank, are the biggest threat to peace. However, although Rabin was the messenger of peace, his message has not died with him. Let us remember that Rabin was assassinated at a peace rally with 100,000 participants, a huge number considering Israel's population of 4.5 million. The peace process has gone too far to turn back now. The new interim Prime Minister, Shimon Peres is just as committed to peace as was Rabin. The likely new defense minister, Ehud Barak, is known as a tough military leader who is committed to the peace process, the same qualities that made Rabin's message of peace feasible to the Israeli people. In addition, the killing of a Jew or another Jew is the worst crime in Israeli eyes, and perhaps this will focus people more on moving forward towards peace and showing unity in the face of crisis. Rabin was a man who was instrumental in the creation of the state of Israel, working closely with David Ben Gurion in the 1948 war for Independence, and then playing a key role in the Israeli victory in the 1967 war. He was a general, a man who had made war his career. That is why it was so amazing, that later in his life, Rabin turned into a great peace maker. During the Intifada or Palestinian Uprising which took place throughout the 1980s, he began to see the problems with sending an army into to quell the rock throwing of little children. He began to look for other solutions besides military repression, and this path lead him to become an advocate of peace. He was a politician who changed 180 degrees in his political position, but he once he moved towards peace, he held to his position. Rabin did not, like so many politicians, change his ideology at every change of public opinion polls. Things have changed in the Middle East. Rabin, who applauded Anwar Sadat's assassination from making peace with Israel, publicly condemned the assassination of Rabin, calling him a peacemaker, and all the leaders of many Arab states, and the leaders of the American Jewish community. Rabin was a casualty on the rough road to peace, but let us hope his struggle was not in vain.
Mawrters Experience History in South Carolina

by Stacy Curwood

Two weekends ago, Professor Linda Susan Beard accompanied students in her African American Literature class on a trip to Charleston, South Carolina. I joined the group because, while I am not in the class this semester, I was last year and was so eager to go on the trip that Professor Beard invited me.

I’m glad that she did, because although the concept of sleep was unknown, we packed more into 36 hours than I had ever thought possible. We started down Route 95 at three in the morning and emerged at Williamsburg, VA at ten a.m. After Williamsburg, a short stop at Jamestown Museum, a visit to Hampton University (A Historically Black College), a quick dinner, and on the road to Charleston, stopping for a few hours’ rest at a Motel Six. In Charleston, we sat at the Woodworth’s lunch-counter there (which had been one of the lunch-counters involved in a 1961 civil rights sit-in), toured an old plantation, drove around a Sea Island, and had dinner at Alice’s Restaurant (“authentic Southern cooking”).

Our whirlwind tour had a purpose: to witness history from the perspective of African American people. At Williamsburg, we had a tour guide who had been instructed to focus our tour that way, and some of us felt that she had done a fine job while others felt as if they hadn’t heard the whole story. The interesting thing about Williamsburg was that we saw history told in different ways; it’s a history we had known from our reading and discussion, the history our regular tour guide gave us, and the history of a slaveholding house, held given us by a different guide who showed us that house from the perspective of the slaves in it.

At the Charleston plantation we toured, we got a quite different story. We took the regular tour from a woman dressed in a bright green petticoated dress, and learned all about the china, the architecture, and the furniture. We asked questions about the slaves, and received cursory answers, one of which is that nobody is sure where the field slaves lived (Interestingly, one of the African American housekeepers, when asked, said that her mother knew where those quarters had been; they had been torn down too many years ago). Our feeling when we left the plantation was that the version of history given each tour that went through the house was misleading and closed to anyone who wanted different perspectives besides that of the master. However, the house slaves’ quarters still stand in front of the house, and we stood inside one of these (not at once, however, because we could not all fit).

Taking the trip made some of the history I know become more real. I stood on the ground that slaves walked on, and sat on the stools that people sick of segregation sat on. Some was disturbing, and some was enlightening... all was informing.

Help (dis)orient future Mawrters!

by Julia Alexander

Okay, everyone, this is my final try at putting together some sort of “disorientation handbook.” For those of you who don’t know what this is, it’s a handbook where someone (such as me) collects anonymous replies to questions such as those listed below, and then compiles them for the use and convenience of people like you who would then read it. Someone from Haverford put one of these together my freshman year, and it was exceptionally helpful in deciding from whom I wanted to take classes, as well as being a nice pointer to stores and delivery places in the area.

Please, please reply to this questionnaire, as it looks REALLY stupid to do one of these with fewer than, say, fifty respondents. Please also hand the questions around to your friends who didn’t notice the article in the paper. This is anonymous, so don’t worry about offending anyone. Please send replies to Julia Alexander, box c-367, or jalexand@tynanawr.edu. Thanks.

1. What year are you?
2. What dorm(s) have you lived in? Did you like it?
3. Why, or why not?
4. Who have your favorite profs been? Why?
5. Who have your least favorite profs been? Why?
6. Which classes have you taken this semester, and what did you think of them?
7. Please mention your favorite and least favorite classes, with reasons.
8. What classes/profs do you think everyone should experience before they graduate?
9. If you had an academic problem, whom would you go to, and why?
10. If you had a personal problem, to whom would you go for help, and why?
11. Have you gotten an extension? Did it help or not?
12. What’s your favorite place to order out from? On this campus!
13. Where do you go shopping?
14. Where do you get your news?
15. Where do you work, and would you recommend this job to anyone else? (To whom, and why or why not.)
16. What on-campus activities are you involved in?
17. What do you do for fun?
18. What are your favorite meals in the dining hall?
19. What do you eat when those aren’t being served?
20. Would you use the health center by choice? Why or why not, and at what time of day?
21. Would you call a prof or other faculty member at home? Under what circumstances?
22. What on-campus activities are you involved in?
23. Would you call a prof or other faculty member at home? Under what circumstances?
24. What do you do to make your room more livable?
25. What do you do to make your room more livable?
26. What is your favorite way of staying awake when you have to?
27. What is your favorite way of staying awake when you have to?
28. Do you use e-mail?
29. Do you use e-mail?
30. Do you watch TV? (What shows, how often?)
31. How often do you leave campus, and where do you go?
32. Are you basking this on experience, or hearsay?
33. What do you think of traditions?
34. Which campus events do you go to?
35. Do you believe the Honor Code works?
36. Is there anything else you’d like to tell us?
37. What do you think I should have asked that isn’t on this list of questions? (And please answer the question!)
Features
You know, crazy stuff

Lady Or... ur... that is, Lady Oracle's Next Door Neighbor

Hello, everyone. It is I, your premier Bryn Mawr Muppetologist, next door neighbor to Lady O. As we gasp-trapping-off into the cold voids of winter and midterms, most of us are in dire need of some preschool regression time, so this week's additional horoscope will be offered in the voices of favorite muppets from Sesame Street and The Muppet Show.

Pisces: Hello, everybody, this is your lovable pal, Grover. Your life will go up and down and in and out in the coming week. In the going week, you will travel near and far, through light and dark. Your feelings will move through love and hate, happy and sad, and hungry and full.

Aries: COOKIES!!! This is Cooky Monster!! I like cookies. You will like cookies. Cookies, cookies, cookies! C is for... COOKIE! You should eat more cookies next week. And drink lots of milk, which is good with cookies. Yum yum yum yum yum!

Taurus: One, one unlucky horoscope, hah hah hah hah hah! Two, two unlucky horoscopes, hah hah hah hah hah! Three, three unlucky horoscopes, hah hah hah hah hah!

Gemini: I, Gonzo the Magnificent, will perform your horoscope hanging by my nose from Taylor tower, juggling twelve fluffy white CHICKENS! Bgaawk!


Dear Ms. Hank,

I am a spec. My mother and all my friends are worried that if I come to Bryn Mawr I will turn into a dyke, or worse yet, a feminist. But I really like it here. What should I do?

—Non-dyke, non-feminist

My dear baby dyke,
The summer before college, dye your hair blue, get a couple of earrings in interesting places, wear buttons that say, "Woman power" and "AIDS is a disease, not a crime," and start spending all your free time with a chick in a leather jacket. This way you can allay their fears, and, after they try to put you through reconditioning by locking you in a room for three days with no food and hungry tigers, they will let you do whatever you want.

Death to the patriarchy,
Ms. Hank

Dear Ms. Hank,

I came to Bryn Mawr under the impression that this was a big dyke school. Boy, have I been disappointed. Not only are there straight people in some of my classes, I think that one of my roommates might be straight. Also, there are people here who, even if they are dykes, have long hair and wear make-up and sometimes even wear dresses. What's the point of coming to an all-women's college if I still have to deal with these reminders that the patriarchy exists?

Disgruntled Freshman.

Dear Grunt,

Death to the Patriarchy.
Ms. Hank.

Dykes To Watch Out For

The Power of Speech

November 7, 1995

Death to the Patriarchy!