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Students of Bryn Mawr College

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EXPANSION CAMPUS CENTER DISCUSSED

At an open meeting with members of the administration, students voiced their concerns about Bryn Mawr's planned expansion and campus center. Present at the meeting, which took place on Wednesday, October 24, were President McPherson; Acting Dean Sandra Berwind; Treasurer Margaret Healy; Academic Deputy to the President Frank Malory; and Director of Admissions Elizabeth Vermey. The meeting followed the recent decision of the Board of Trustees to expand the student body of Bryn Mawr by 20%.

Healy began the discussion with some remarks on Bryn Mawr's recent financial history. Her Healy Report two years ago, she explained, included goals of a 3% increase in faculty salaries and a 12 million reduction in the College's budget base. Under this financial plan tuition increase was successfully kept to 8.1%, at least 2% less than that of many Ivy League colleges. But the Report assumed an annual inflation rate of 6%. An actual rate of 1% made the Report's goals impossible to realize for, declared Healy, the College must seek an increased revenue base, and expansion should achieve this aim.

Anne Platt brought up the subject of admissions, and Vermey declared that expansion would necessitate a more energetic search for applicants, particularly in the northeast and west. Although the number of college-age women will decrease by about 26% from 1977 to 1992, this decrease is not expected to affect drastically the nation's most prestigious and selective colleges such as Bryn Mawr. Vermey did concede that average SAT scores of entering classes may drop by about 20 points.

A related issue, raised by Melanie Edwards, was the possible competition for matriculants by a coed Haverford. The common assumption that Bryn Mawr and Haverford would appeal to different sorts of prospectives and would therefore not compete was challenged by Melanie, who observed that, as a campus guide, she had spoken with various prospectives who were considering both colleges.

The effect of expansion on the curriculum was also discussed. Berwind declared that the current curricular review would most certainly take expansion into account. The inevitable decline of the faculty-student ratio was also a topic of concern. It was pointed out that the alternative to expansion, drastic reduction of programs, would cause this same decline. Moreover, Berwind observed that in the twenty years at Bryn Mawr, the enrollment has increased by more than 200 students, but that she has not noticed an adverse effect on student-faculty relationships.

BMC PURPOSE EXAMINED

What is the purpose of a women's college? The answers to this and other questions were discussed at the open meeting concerning the purpose of Bryn Mawr as a women's college Sunday evening.

"I'm not quite sure how productive this meeting was in relation to what we had expected" said committee member Denise Kulp. Approximately 15 members of the bi-college community, including two Haverford students, were in attendance. Major topics of discussion included the definition of a women's college, how Bryn Mawr gives women a sense of sisterhood, and the effects of living in coed dorms.

"I was personally rather disappointed at the turnout," Kulp continued. "I think we had all hoped that a lot of people would come out for the meeting. We were not really exposed to the diverse modes of thought which I know exist in the community." The meeting was designed to provide background for the committee which is currently preparing a questionnaire on the purpose of a women's college. Sheila Bennett of the Bryn Mawr Sociology Department is aiding the committee in preparing the questionnaire, which should be ready before Thanksgiving break. Nearly 100% return is needed for the report to be valid.

Committee members have been conducting interviews with various members of the administration to aid in the preparation of the report, which will be presented to the Board of Trustees in February. Due to the small turnout for the meeting held Oct. 28, the committee is considering holding more open forums to elicit further student opinion on the issue.

FALSE FIRE ALARM

A false fire alarm interrupted an open dorm party in Pembroke East last Friday. According to dorm Social Chairmen Hillary Miller and Dianna Eberly, between 400 and 500 people were at the party when the alarm sounded, at 11:00 a.m.

Security arrived promptly—within 4 minutes of the alarm—and the Fire Department arrived within 10 minutes. The Fire Department quickly discovered that there was no fire, and students re-entered the building less than half an hour after the alarm sounded.

It was first believed that the alarm was sent from the box on the second floor of Pembroke East; however, the Fire Annunciator board indicated that it had been set off in the basement of Pembroke West. According to Claudia Krefets, Head Fire Captain, the alarm could not have been pulled by accident. The identity of the culprit is still unknown.

The evacuation went smoothly, though hindered by the large number of party-goers near the front door, said Susan Hasbrouck, Fire Captain for Pembroke West. Everyone got out, even those who were asleep or "inebriated," and stood where they would not black the fire engines. Fortunately those in the dorm kept their heads despite the bottleneck at the front door. But Krefets commented that it "could have provoked panic, and "could have had very serious consequences."

"Nobody got hurt—that's all that matters" she
Expansion Meeting (cont. from p.1)

Perhaps the most volatile issue at the meeting was the proposed dorm changes. Before additional student rooms can be created in the existing dorms, they must be brought up to the Fire Code. Even buildings not needed for more student rooms may suffer drastic alterations financed by the $8 million Pew Foundation grant. President McPherson mentioned deferred maintenance as a major problem, maintenance constantly being given second priority to academics instead of being dealt with promptly. Now she hopes to remedy this. The first buildings to be renovated will be Denbigh, Raited, and Ward. Of these, Bryn Mawr is important for housing additional students.

There is a proposal to replace Merion's old front staircase with a metal one in a different location. Several students voiced their vehement objections to this proposal. McPherson shrugged it off as a "staircase freak" and assured students that she is very concerned about preserving the beauty of the buildings to be renovated. Cheryl Holland suggested that a student from each dorm to be altered should be included on the committee planning the alteration of their dorm. McPherson agreed that this was a good idea.

Although expansion was the major topic discussed, students also voiced concerns about the student center to be built. Martha Bayless presented a case against the institution of central mailboxes. President McPherson argued that the "uncentered focus of social life was already fading and that Bryn Mawr needed a campus-centered focus of social life." She pointed out with some further away," They discussed such topics as the Future of Germany, the Papacy and the Effects of the Democratic Victory in 1959, and sponsored a spring conference with the topic of "How Much Power for Organized Labor."

The freshman class color in 1959 was dark blue. "Weights went up, grades, down." moaned Renata Adler (who has since won the Hemingway Award for speedboat and writes for the New Yorker) lived in Rhoads and worked on the Bevue, the literary magazine that cost 60c. The Chorus sang Vittorio's Ave Maria and Bach's and Buxtehude's Magnificat, among other things, such as caroling in Applebee Barn.

The College News noted that "ever-rising cost of conferences, the absence of oxen in recent May Days and the superiority of Latin as a universal language" with a characteristic tongue-in-cheek. The religious organization on campus was Interfaith, which even had a Chapel Committee to encourage attendance at chapel. "Alliance” reported that “the big word... was 'cooperation' with neighboring schools and even with some further away.” They discussed the topic of the Future of Germany, the Papacy and the Effects of the Democratic Victory in 1959, and sponsored a spring conference with the topic of "How Much Power for Organized Labor."

The freshman class color in 1959 was dark blue. "Weights went up, grades, down," moaned the class, "typewriter and tea set in hand..."

The College News is produced on alternate Tuesday nights in the Merion Smoker. Anyone who wishes to help will be exceedingly well-received.

BRYN MAWR 20 YRS AGO 1959
A COMpendium

In 1959 the College was much smaller. All meals were served in all dorms on tablecloths and 33 members of the senior class of 129 had dropped out--16 of them to get married. President McBride officiated at the installation of the Woodrow Wilson historical marker (behind Denbigh). Freshman Show had a chorus line, and College Theatre did "The Oresteia".

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MEDEA" A PLEASANT SURPRISE

Battling poor acoustics and inadequate lighting, the "Bryn Mawr-Haverford production of "Medea" opened Monday night in Thomas Great Hall before a house filled close to capacity. This was a warm-up for this Saturday's performance at the Allenmont Art Museum, sponsor of the production.

This critic attended Sunday night's dress rehearsal, which was bumpy at points but in many ways a pleasant surprise. While a full review is impossible based on a rehearsal, there was enough that was good able to anticipate some of "Medea" widening its influence.

As the wronged and vengeful Medea, Kathryn Morgan (who also co-directed with Leila Monaghan) is an exceptionally powerful presence. Her voice was clear and captivating over a wide range of tone and intensity, an absolute requisite for any actress playing this demanding role.

Although some members of the cast were clearly uncertain on the stage, due partly to awkward staging and partly to their lack of experience, several other players deserve mention for their fine supporting performances. As the Muse, Martha Taylor commanded the stage with a full zing, a good sense of stage movement. Emily Blake led the three-woman chorus with assurance and seemingly effortless vocal clarity. As the messenger who appears late in the play, Todd Garth brought on stage a level of intensity and energy that was missing elsewhere in the play, and sustained it throughout this crucial scene.

Because of the hall's poor acoustics, all of "Medea"'s performers took special pains with their diction; only a few lines were inaudible at Sunday night's rehearsal. This was partly because action taking place on the raised platform in the rear of the stage was so much farther from the audience than the action on the floor, where greater intimacy was lost when the action moved back to the platform.

Paul Roche's translation of "Medea" is neither too academic nor too colloquial, and is well-suited to college actors. The flautist provided welcome musical accompaniment.

Saturday's performance will be at 8:30pm at the Allenmont Art Museum. Tickets for non-members are $3.50.

WILLIAMS' PLAY VIVIDLY PRESENTED

The Bryn Mawr-Haverford production of "Summer and Smoke" October 12, 13, and 14 was one of those experiences rare to college drama.

The plot concerns a young woman, Alma Winemiller, who is in love with the young, brilliant doctor-next-door. Now, you might think that this situation could be found in every Harlequin Romance you pick up; but when you realize that she is a symbol of the decayed South, trying gallantly but hopelessly to capture something more of life than mere existence, you are forced to reconsider. Alma was played absolutely brilliantly by Stacey Stowell. The beautifully modulated voice, the nervous, fluttering hands, transport you back to Vivien Leigh as Blanche DuBois in A Streetcar Named Desire. Alma is most certainly the central character of the play, but in this production, several other characters were impossible not to note.

Playing Alma's more or less insane mother, Mary LaFrance was one of the most exciting parts of the evening. Mrs. Winemiller sits like an old lady; acts like a child, from her glee at disclosing Alma's passion for "Dr. John" to her love of ice cream cones; and finally reveals herself as still possessing the heart of a mother, as she consoles Alma after one of the numerous shocks inflicted upon her.

All these shocks can be traced back to Dr. John, who, as portrayed by Jeff Dunn, comes across as naive, weak, and rather detestable. After much time and effort, he brings Alma to the point of admitting that she is, after all, a human being with feelings and desires, and in fact, would like to go to bed with him (or, as they would put it, "experience the felicity of intimate relations"). Unfortunately, it seems that he has changed his mind, and, well, is getting married on Palm Sunday (the blushing bride, brought to us by Andrea Herz, is surely the stereotypical Harcumite as seen in countless Freshman Shows). Finally, Alma betrays her soul and seduces a travelling salesman.

The performance was not one that made you think, "What a fantastically well-constructed play." No, it made us come out of Roberts clutching at our emotionally depleted middles and with just two thoughts: "How could he marry that twit?" (to quote the girl in the next seat), and "Would it be better to commit suicide or try to pick up a travelling salesman?" (courtesy of the girl on my left).

Space does not permit me to do more than briefly mention a few more good things about the production: Michael O'Sullivan; Barbara Goldfarb; Howard Harris; Jennifer Lawrence; Richard Stream; Morey Epstein; Peyton H. Hurt (as the salesman); the director, Ralph Glickman; the crew; and most especially, whoever did Mary LaFrance's makeup.

RENAISSANCE CHOIR PERFORMS SPANISH WORKS

The concert of early Spanish music given by the Renaissance Choir and Band on Sunday was sublime. The musical groups presented a wide variety of pieces, from the densely textured, polyphonic motets to relatively simple but striking madrigals. Thomas Great Hall is an excellent place to present choral music of the Renaissance, for it is very resonant. Though the satchets (instruments much like trombones) sounded rather muddy, the recorders took on a greater and very pleasing resonance in such a concert hall.

The two parts of the concert ended with ravelling excellently by Tomás Luis de Victoria, one of the best known Spanish composers. However, relatively little-known composers contributed most of the music on the program. As the notes to the program stated, no detailed records of composers were kept until the 16th Century, around the time of Victoria. The
unique character of Spanish music was evident in the performance. Some call it dark passion though many of the pieces on the program were quite lovely. Perhaps it is the hollowness, a feeling of spaciousness which is especially obvious when one compares the works of Palestrina. The casual listener, or even a perceptive but untrained listener, is able to detect the difference.

The performance itself came off well. Especially notable were "Si vos vues mirada" performed by Hilde Barry, Carol Roberts, and Joanna Wiekowski, a fascinating work; "Dum complerentum dixt Fentocestus", a "brilliant and dramatic" work (and performance); "Triste Espana sin ventura," a moving lament. A few selections sounded bit ragged, however, the concert was long and most of the mistakes came towards the end. Unfortunately, one of the pieces had to be eliminated because the soloist was sick. It was an altogether enjoyable concert, and I am eagerly awaiting the next one.

- Elizabeth Patton

**CANADAY GOES DUTCHE**

The Bryn Mawr College Library is helping the Netherlands celebrate the 400th anniversary of the Union of Utrecht, an event which signalled a turning point in the revolt against Spain, by the exhibition, "The Die Is Cast." The exhibition, arranged by the Director of Libraries James Tanis, will be in the Rare Book Room until February 15, 1980. A year in the making, the exhibition was inspired by the central painting, a portrait of Trijn van Leeuwen who led the Dutch in the annexation of Philip II of Spain's castle in Utrecht. The painting is on loan from the Central Museum of Utrecht, and is used on the catalogues and posters advertising the exhibit.

Beginning with a unique comparison with the American Revolution, this exhibition displays letters from John and Abigail Adams to their son John Quincy, expressing great anxiety, and private letters. A number of letters concern the Spanish ambassador, the Sieve of Leyden; The Union of Utrecht; The Seven Provinces; Four Great Cities; Life and Culture; and The Dutch Overseas.

A main focus of the exhibit, in keeping with the Bryn Mawr tradition, is on the role of women in the Netherlands and their influence on Dutch culture and society. The sixteenth century in the Netherlands saw the recencies of three women. The effects of many other women, including Elizabeth I of England, are reflected in the works on exhibit.

The exhibition has raised interest in areas outside the college. A number of groups from around the area have visited, and tours for classes from neighboring institutions are being arranged. Princess Christina and the Consul General attended the opening of the exhibition, and both the Dutch Embassy in Washington and the American Embassy in the Hague have requested additional catalogues to distribute.

-- Judy Calhoun

(see picture on page 5)

**Department Profile: ENGLISH**

English is one of Bryn Mawr's most popular majors, and consequently the department has a great many professors (21, according to the catalog) and a huge variety of courses. Everyone who takes EN 15 gets a taste of the English department: the approach leans to the critical and theoretical, which pleases some people greatly and irritates others. Each professor has her or his own specialties, knowledge of which is very helpful when choosing courses. More on these specialties later.

Eventually the avid reader, the suddenly non-scientific pre-med, and the flato­weary philosopher turn to English with one question: should I major in it? The best guide here is your own experience; the Bryn Mawr approach to literature does not suit everybody. As course numbers climb, the courses become more and more critical and theoretical, until Senior Conference is spent reading 15 critics to every author. Knowing every syllable of Barthes may not help you get a job anywhere, it is true, but as the department proudly claims, it will teach you to think, and if you can learn any profession. Combining English and pre-med courses is a popular way of as­uring both a livelihood and literature, and can actually be survived. Otherwise many EMC majors seem to go into publishing.

For those who merely wish to dabble in the department, Mr. Burlin's course on composition to make anyone appreciate Chaucer. Miss Nientzow specializes in American literature, Mrs. Burlin's "Women of Talents" is extremely popular, and anything with Mrs. Hedley comes well recommended. Mrs. Berwind, who is not teaching this year, makes a specialty of Yeats and Stevens and tends to overwhelm the timid. Mr. Kramer's power at elucidating Shakespeare cannot be faulted.

English 101, the stepping-stone to the major, involves some Chaucer, a large portion of Spenser's Faerie Queene, one or two plays by Shakespeare, Paradise Lost. "The Rape of the Lock" (usually a welcome respite), Wordsworth's Prelude (voted by many to be the bane of an English major's existence, though enjoyed by others), and usually Eliot's "The Waste Land". Emphasis is more on critical approaches than on historical develop­ment.

Creative writing is something the English department does not quite know what to do with, though both professors--Miss Stapleton for poetry and Mr. Davis for fiction--are excellent. As a private opinion, I found the Bryn Mawr creative writing courses much more useful than the traditional approach.

English courses have their disagreeable parts, and no one can deny the huge number of papers that have to be written. But it is, after all, only reading books--which is what a lot of people would give their eye­teeth to spend four years doing.

--- Martha Bayless

I have to put wax in my ears and with my own hands and shave to my own death--and do nothing but devote myself to Greek. But I have been putting it off too long and I shall fail.

M. Carey Thomas
The College News

**COLLEGE MUSE**

Turning and Turning in the widening campus. The student cannot hear the professor. Things fall apart; the center cannot hold; Here catatonia is loosed upon Bryn Mawr. The sleepless tides are loosed, and everywhere The ceremony of politeness is drowned; The work lacks all conviction, while the extracurricular is full of passionate intensity.

Surely some examination is at hand; Surely the second term is at hand. The second term! Hardly are those words out When a vast volume of Organic Chemistry Troubles my sight: somewhere in halls of the College A paper of many pages and the grade of 4.0 A thesis profound and pitiless as a prof., is moving slow thoughts, while all about it Reel shadows of the indignant final tests. The darkness drops again; but now I know That twenty hours of stony sleep Were vexed to nightmare by a clock radio. And what rough assignment, its hour come at last, Am I taking all night to do? --Papagena

**Astrology**

The Sun's entry into Scorpio marks the beginning of a difficult, aggressive social period. The outward characteristics of interpersonal relationships change little, but emotions run strong and deep. We are still romantic; we become possessive.

Materialistic goals and self-reliance receive focus with the Full Moon in Taurus on the 3rd. Practical matters deserve our full attention now although we become absorbed in philosophical and religious thought.

We are idealistic. Altogether this is an imaginative, creative period. We are adventurous and experiment with our functions. If we channel our emotional energies into our work and ethical responsibilities we'll make the best of it. --Mary Lou Soczek

Wenceslaus Haller 1607-1677

Theatrum Mullerum

London 1643

Gift of Ethelinda Schafer Castle '08

a portrait of the wife of an Amsterdam suitor

See article on page

**SPORTS**

**Volleyball**

The Bryn Mawr Volleyball team finished their season Tuesday night with a 3 to 0 victory over the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science. The Junior Varsity was also able to achieve another win with a score of 2 games to 1. Monday's game against Drexel did not fare so well, with both teams losing, the Varsity 0 to 3 and the JV 0 to 2. Drexel was probably their toughest opponent and the Varsity played very well.

Other victories were by the Varsity against Swarthmore on Oct. 15, with a score of 3 to 0, and Junior Varsity against Ursinus on Oct. 10, 2 to 0. The Varsity unfortunately lost to LaSalle, 1 to 3 on Friday; Ursinus 3 to 1, and Immaculata 0 to 3 on Oct. 17.

**Field Hockey**

The Field Hockey team closed their season with a disappointing loss to Harcum last Thursday. The score was one to four. Another loss occurred on Oct. 03 against Immaculata, 0 to 1, and a tie against Chestnut Hill on Oct. 18 with one goal apiece. The team was able to defeat both Drexel and Swarthmore on Oct. 12 and Oct. 16, with scores of three to two and one to zero.