Three candidates vie for SGA presidency

by Kris Anderson

Three candidates are vying for the position of Self-Government Association (SGA) President for the 1984-85 academic year, a fact which is indicative of the recent increased interest in student government here. Last year Sara Hathaway ran for and garnered the presidency unopposed, and several other offices drew only one or two candidates. This semester, however, attendance at and interest in Sunday night Assembly meetings has been high, and numerous Mawrtys have tossed their hats into the ring based on the belief that they would desireably "reach the hierarchical concentration of power." Senator Jenny LeSar '85, Bruehwiler '85, and Kristen Steiner '85. Bruehwiler is running on perhaps the most specific "platform" of any of the three candidates. She is advocating a complete restructuring of SGA into a bicameral government, with a House and Senate, similar to the United States Government. She believes that as long as SGA is reviewing and updating its Constitution already, now is the time to examine the system and make major changes in order to render it more efficient.

The bicameral government would differ from the US national system in that there would be two presidents, a "junior" and a "senior" president, each elected to two-year terms, and the position of vice president would be eliminated. The position of treasurer would lose the political power it now holds and would instead be a committee-head position. All committee heads would combine to form the Senate, while the House would be made up of dorm presidents and other representatives.

Bruehwiler sees the House as dealing with "social/people problems" while the Senate would cope with "long-range/administrative problems." Asked if she fears fragmentation or communication difficulties under this system, Bruehwiler said, "No, because the two groups would come together on Sunday nights at Assembly." Bruehwiler said she feels the new system would be "more efficient" and offers more "dorm-based input."

Jenny LeSar '86 is co-president of the sophomore class and has been on the budget and constitution committees. She was also president of her student government in high school. LeSar sees her first priority, if elected, as finishing up the work currently being done on the constitution. She likes the idea of a bicameral government that stresses greater dorm representation and involvement, but she sees problems inherent in the two-house structure. LeSar would revise Bruehwiler’s plan to eliminate the need for two presidents who are both in office for two years.

Assembly debates SGA constitution

by Laura Greene

The current SGA Constitution works quite well, despite its advanced age and a few technical flaws. Nevertheless, there are elements in SGA Assembly which seek to restructure the Constitution, and have sought the same for about seven years now. In a rather dramatic presentation during the Feb. 5 Assembly meeting, a new, if not original, structure for Assembly was unveiled. This structure, a bicameral format, would designate a "House" and a "Senate" under the body of an Assembly headed by a junior and senior president. This would require new constitutional definitions of several key positions on Assembly.

The House would consist of hall presidents, class presidents, the Haverford and off-campus reps, four members at-large, and the junior rep to the Board of Trustees, and the junior president would preside over this body. This assembly would give these representatives a forum in which to discuss the issues specific to their constituents, and would desireably "reach out" to the general public more effectively than the current Assembly. The Senate would be a slightly extended version of the present Steering Committee, as the heads of all the major committees on campus would meet to discuss the problems and issues specific to their committees. This body would be under the senior president.

Though this structure seems rather radical, it is essentially the same structure, with more attention given to the concerns of the dormitories.

Several people at Assembly had questions about the feasibility of the junior and senior presidents structure, however. In the proposed structure, an elected junior president would almost automatically become the senior president the following year. Doubts were expressed that anyone could bear the stress and commitment of two years in the presidential office. In addition, the structure would give the junior president, who would go against the avowed purpose of the revised structure to "break up the hierarchical concentration of power," "real" power in SGA to the two presidents.

Further doubt was expressed that the new structure would fragment the elements of Assembly, causing severe problems of communication between the two bodies.

Much confusing and detailed discussion ensued, culminating in two votes, after nearly two hours of discussion. Before considering the bicameral structure in detail, Assembly voted to institutionalize some forum for the specific concerns of the Hall presidents in the Constitution. A "flexible" sense of the meeting vote was then taken, in which Assembly voted (ten to eight with two abstentions) to work on implementing the proposed bicameral structure in a constitution. With this, Assembly adjourned in various states of jubilation, despair, and frustration. Hopefully, a thoughtful Assembly will convene again next week, to further discuss the manifold issues concerning our not-yet-late, great Constitution.
TOC and me: notes from Cyprus

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Statement of Purpose

The College News seeks to provide a forum for the students, faculty, administration, and staff of Bryn Mawr. While articles on topical subjects will be published, each issue will examine specific problems that relate to the College community. The College News welcomes ideas and submissions from all members of the community, as well as from outside groups and individuals whose purpose or functions are connected to those of the College.

 Major's council seeking input

If you have had any experience, positive or negative, with

• transfer credit from a semester off
• transfer credit from a summer course or from other colleges
• major credit across departmental lines
• credits earned from European or non-European

please contact the Bryn Mawr Major's Council Committee on Transfer and Academic Credit. We are currently reviewing Bryn Mawr's attitudes and regulations on all aspects of the crediting process. Please call Julie Herman at X5607 or drop her a note in Dembgh.

Tocqueville, Tyranny & SGA

A history class was recently discussing what Alexis de Tocqueville, a Frenchman, had to say about American government when he visited this country in the early nineteenth century. He saw great individualism among the American people—the kind of individualism that "threatens to confine man in the solitude of his own heart." For America's future, Tocqueville feared two things: the political isolation of the people due to individualism run amok, and the tyranny of bureaucracy.

Whether or not you feel his predictions were accurate for the entire nation, it's interesting to consider them with regard to Bryn Mawr's Self-Government and the direction it may be taking soon.

In the past our sense of individuality and our desire for freedom—from any kind of restraint, and sometimes from any kind of responsibility—has kept many of us from being active participants in the self-governing process. We all want to go our own ways, and occasionally the "community of individuals" concept backfires. This has been true of SGA, where the best interests of the community are sometimes submerged to the special interests of the different personalities who chance to be in office in a given year. But nearly all of us have allowed this to happen: we've allowed ourselves to slip into political isolation, in the Real World as well as Bryn Mawr. If not formally involved, we have been blase.

The recent trend of high attendance at Assembly meetings contradicts this history. The wheels of the system are slowly beginning to turn: Assembly can be a legitimate forum, and we can have a relatively participatory government. Cussed individualism hasn't died, but political interest (including student-run voter registration campaigns) seems to be increasing.

Enter, suddenly, a new system, a proposal for a very different structure of SGA, complete with two presidents, a House, and a Senate. Proponents of the change suggest that the system offers greater representation of the people, through the emphasis on dorm-based representation in the House. But doesn't this system actually distance individuals from the government even more, taking emphasis from participation and placing it solely on representation? Doesn't it lean toward the kind of burgeoning bureaucracy that de Tocqueville foresaw?

The ultimate question is not whether the proposed structure is inherently "good" or "bad," it is whether Bryn Mawr needs it, and whether it would work here. Do we need it? We wonder why we should dump a system that seems to require only minor technical tinkering—say, in the area of delineating Steering Committee's duties—and not a major overhaul.

The dangers of the proposed structure obfuscate its value as something simply new and different. If we choose this type of government, are we choosing to "confine ourselves in the solitude of our own hearts"? Are we making the statement that we don't care to participate, that there is no real workable community here, so instead we'll create a system that de Tocqueville foresaw?—placing it solely on representation? Doesn't it lean toward the kind of tyranny of bureaucracy?

—1^_—_—_—

Dear Mr. Ellis,

It's really very nice here in Cyprus. I don't come back this semester; can I still go to Turkey? I am enjoying so much just lying here and looking at the stars and listening to the waves coming in on the beach. The batteries for my walkman are a little draggy or I'd be listening to Al Stewart still. Maybe I still just want to go out and take me with it; the next stop across the seas is Egypt or Sinai or some such place. What a wonderful way to travel.

I like Bryn Mawr, I really do, but I have finally figured out that you are all simply trying to get rid of me. I know, you call it graduation. But I'm too smart to be fooled. If I never come back from here, I will have foiled your plans to disguise it in all red tape and diplomas.

Ha ha.

Say hello to Mrs. Ridgway and Mrs. Ellis for me. And tell Julie she can keep the radio.

Cordially,
Sara E. Orel

"And you're going to put that in campus mail?" my cat dried, laying on his side on the window seat.

"But I haven't to show up for my Thursday conference then."

I finished sealing the envelope. "And I can mail him the chapter when I finish. It shouldn't take more than a couple of weeks.

Of course, one could always fade away into one's wallpaper and never leave the form at all." "Oh, no; I don't want to do that. The snow is finally melting a little bit and I promised some friends I would help them build a snowman before dinner."

"Why not a snow-woman?"

"Because I think they look too silly to be called women," I snapped, and suddenly I felt a little bit bad about it. I had to stop myself from apologizing for the tone of voice; those apologies are reserved for parents and friends.

"You have a geology lab to do and French to study and German to translate before you do that."

It hate cats who read my assignment books, I glared at him through the haze of fear which has already begun to gather around me as I think of the coming semester. "I didn't read it. You were talking about all your work on the phone last night."

Don't imagine, cat, it's not work. And he smiled. "You're a senior" or, when being introduced to me, please don't say "wow."

I know a lot of seniors like this acclaim. I don't know, it seems to make me feel like I should have done something for you (or even be able to do things)—feel as if I am very bad at grammar). If you think I have done anything worthy of your "wow," ask Mr. Ellis. I hate the sneaking suspicion that every time I walk out of his office he starts to giggle uncontrollably.

I don't blame him. I think a lot about the whole thing, I used to be in awe of seniors. Things look a lot different from here. For me, at least. There are a lot of folks in my class whom I go "wow" about, too.

But they aren't the ones who run away to Cyprus when they panic. And they aren't the ones whose thesis advisor asks them, "How do you know I giggle uncontrollably? I thought the door was thicker than that."

TOC and me: notes from Cyprus
Misery is normal: welcome to Bryn Mawr

by Alice Sillman

College News: Miss Vermy, how many applications for Early Decision candidates have you received?

Miss Vermy: We have two Early Decision plans, fall and winter. Last Friday, January 27, we closed the applications for the winter Early Decision candidates, this year about 75, including both Fall and Winter applicants. That is about one quarter of the 360 applicants we have received this year, both fall and winter. I was asked, "Did you detect a noticeable difference in the number of Early Decision applications this year as compared to last year?" There were not many Early Decision applications this year, but not significantly more.

You detected a change in the number of students taking tours or staying over as perspectives?

Elizabeth G. Vermey, Director of Admissions at Bryn Mawr.

It goes without saying that Bryn Mawr does many things well, perhaps too well. Dining halls and dormitories, handsome engraved invitations to learned gatherings, and an unyielding commitment to educational integrity (while mail-order term paper businesses thrive) exemplify BMC's concern with the academic. Indeed, Bryn Mawr's sense of perspective—(ar- chaic, elitist, and comforting) as to why it exists and what education should be—explains why Bryn Mawr fails to succeed in fermenting controversy. And before you recoil, shocked, at the idea of such activity, remember that on such a placid campus, remember that college was synonymous with radicalism and action not too many years ago.

Paula Tuchman

Helpless attempts to stir the Gothic, ap- thetic masses include the indubitable controversy, in which heroic Mawrtys battled the Modern Language Association's exclusion of that useful abbreviation, Attending a mass rally devoted to "ibid," retention, I ob- served the faces of Art & Archaeology refu- gees alight with the fervent glow of learn- ing. Meanwhile, I pondered why these same people could not unite to further a worthy social cause, to break down barriers of oppression, to strike blows for the libera- tion of humankind as well as worldkind.

Anguished, I asked—why must every- one ponder the same characteristics? Must we bring reading on such a placid campus, remember that college was synonymous with radicalism and action not too many years ago.

Bryn Mawr's Insistent belief that both academic and personal integrity share the same characteristics has hindered its ef- forts in valiant, yet ultimately doomed at- tempts at pettiness, chauvinism, insipidity and stenache and protestation. Indeed, through political and social action. Too many Mawrtys feel those qualities and ac- tion, will it into a rational and construc- tive settling of differences? Must we bring reading on such a placid campus, remember that college was synonymous with radicalism and action not too many years ago.

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Infirmary committee reestablished
by Laura Greene

Re-established as a result of the student interest generated by last semester’s questionnaire on the College Infirmary, the Infirmary—Student Advisory Committee held its first meeting Tuesday, Jan. 31. The Committee, which has already prepared the agenda for its first meeting, plans to conduct a review to be held this Spring, and will remain as an ongoing committee to improve communications between the students and the Infirmary.

Three or four “outside” doctors, with an understanding of the special problems of college infirmaries but no personal relationship with either the Infirmary or its staff, will conduct the review, according to committee member Joaquie Worth. Julie Holman, a second-year Geriatric and Robin Shaughnessy are also on the Committee, which will convene biweekly for lunch meetings with Dr. Frieda Woodruff, Nurse Joyce Brotherton, and Dr. Margaret Termeles at the Infirmary.

Worth further reports that one important change has already taken place in the Infirmary’s operations. The center, which was in a locked room, to which only Infirmary staff have access. In a further development, Worth said that she would like to see the center moved to a building that can be opened to the public.

Feminist or womanist Christian women who would like to participate in a discussion/group please come to a meeting on Sunday, Feb. 12, at 4 p.m. in the Pembroke West living room or call Lucinda at 643-5863.
Law, medicine popular externships

by Karen Sullivan

"The Extern Program is by far the most popular program on campus," said Christine Cornog, secretary of the Career Planning Office and coordinator of the program. So far this year eighty-five alumnae and friends of the College have offered to expose sophomores and juniors to the inside-and-outs of their professions during spring break, while sixty-seven students have applied. In addition, thirty sponsors have agreed to feed and house the students for that week.

Though over a third of the externships are offered in law or medicine, the remainder of the sponsors range from a free lance artist to a director for Mondale for President, Inc. to an editor of Working Woman Magazine. While Cornog reported that "Law and medicine have continued to be the most popular fields for externships," she also noted a growing interest in business and banking in response to a climate more conducive to female executives in the business world. "Opportunities for women in banking have increased tremendously in the past few years," she stated.

The responses of the students to the program as indicated on the questionnaires they are later asked to complete have been overwhelmingly enthusiastic for the past few years. "For the vast majority of the students, the externship experience strengthens the students' interest in the field," said Cornog; for the few who are less favorably impressed, the experience can help them weed down their career options.

As the deadline for externship applications was this Monday, the Career Planning Office is now more crowded with students anxious about summer jobs and seniors anxious about their careers. Job Location and Development Coordinator Betty B. Schmidt sent a form to alumnae in December in search of summer jobs; the returned information, as well as information gathered from other sources, is now filed according to state. Notices on internships are published as they come in the weekly news bulletin.

Burstein discusses activism

by Jaquie Worth

Karen S. Burstein, Bryn Mawr class of 64 and President of the New York State Department of Civil Service, spoke on January 31 on "Public Service: Between the Idea and the Reality." Describing herself as a "political activist," she began while at Bryn Mawr in the smoker of Rhodes as the organizer of political seminars. During the late 60s, she was an anti-Vietnam activist, then became a New York state senator for five years, and as President McPherson added in her opening remarks, she was also the force behind the legislation to ban pay toilets from New York state. She continues to work for the ERA and battered women.

She was appointed president of the Civil Service in June of 1983 by Governor Mario Cuomo. Unlike her years in the legislature where she and the other senators were "like actors in a play" and she learned how to make specific decisions because "it was the same every year," in the Civil Service she doesn’t have the "luxury [to] repeat decisions." She described the effects of her work as a "slippery" unable to see the effects of any one decision, she must move on without the benefit of immediate feedback. When she does get a chance to "sit down and think," she can make arguments on either side of a decision. It was at Bryn Mawr, she said, that she learned to weigh either side of a decision. It was at Bryn Mawr work as a "slinky:" unable to see the effects the same every year," in the Civil Service she turned around. At Bryn Mawr, she studied political science and government and listening all the time, and moving around. At Bryn Mawr, she studied political science and government.

The Talmud says that "knowledge is power over people's lives; I can say that this person can affect people's consciousness" and then "you're dead." She said she became a state senator because she saw she could "affect people's lives by being a part of the process to change the law." And in the Civil Service, she says even more direct "power over people's lives; I can say that this person can take this exam."

Martin Luther King was supposed to speak at her Bryn Mawr Commencement, but sent a telegram saying that he could not come because he was in jail. Nevertheless, his inspiration was part of the foundation of her "informing vision." Hearing him on another occasion made her realize how one could be transformed by the power of words and [by example of] individuals putting themselves up against a bad system. "While life in the government may be "intellectually debilitating," it is also "fun, very exciting, and really fine." As Karen Burstein concluded, "The Talmud says that if you save one life it is as if you've saved the entire world and I really believe it."
Violence against women permeates our society

Difficulties in defining rape in our society

by Kathy Roth

A woman walks home from visiting a friend and finds a man at her door. A man lunges at her, and, with the point of his knife pressed to her throat, he promises to kill her if she struggles or screams. She is raped.

What happens?

Thirty-five years ago and within city walls, according to Deuteronomy, the woman would be killed. She could have screamed for help, but the chance is that she would be murdered. The descendent of the law—in the books in many states—requires evidence of a physical attack to the sex organs to prove rape. In a case like the above, the woman has to risk death in order to merit protection from the law.

Under Deuteronomy, if the woman is unbetrothed she marries her rapist—if he pays her father fifty shekels. Today in Sicily, in the Shehitet Uktel, according to the Boston Globe, the woman marries her rapist—abduction is one method of solving the problem.

If the above case took place in the fourteenth century and the victim was proper, she would have been raped by her husband or a father. In forty states in 1984 it is legal to rape your wife. You can’t steal something from yourself.

The problem with rape is that it is a crime that occurs in a society which is prone to rape and loathe to protect the victim. Estimates of the number of women who have been raped in their lifetime range from the federal government’s estimate of one in fifteen to a Washington, D.C., rape crisis center’s figure of one woman in three. At the same time, at least twenty percent of rapes are reported, conservatively speaking—typically around one percent of the cases will end in a conviction. In 1972 in San Francisco, in 1984, for rapes and non- rapes, six offenders were eventually sentenced to prison—a 97% conviction rape.

Furthermore, society and the courts sanction rape in many circumstances. Some cases have already been mentioned: if the woman was unbetrothed or couldn’t physically struggle, if the rapist is her husband. In addition, though researcher Jean Mackeller reports that there are states in their descent line from the law.

It is not often that the issues of sexism, racism and other forms of the institutionalization and reorganization of violence are exposed and confronted in the context of our own lives and our own community. Last semester, one such “social event” that was head in the public display of a female mannequin in a Lunt suite window. Exhibited nude, with various serious costumes, and, for a pe-
trod of time, with a beer bottle positioned between her legs, the manipulation of the mannequin constituted a sexist and violent act.

Numerous women were offended and anger was focussed on the display, and, in part, the responsibility of confronting the men in the suite. In my view, those confrontations were not without any dignity of standing, nor respect, though the mannequin was eventually removed from the window.

Because sexism is evident in many of our interactions, and in the curriculum and policies of both Bryn Mawr and Haverford, a letter was written to the community to call attention to the display as a concrete and specific act that should be recognized as sexist and condoned as such. The letter evoked a virulent and expressly hostile reaction from a majority of the community, because it was read as an attack on the Lunt residents, rather than on the act for which they were responsible, that of dis-
playing the mannequin. This distinction is central to the task of transforming our atti-
tudes, and more importantly, our behavior about issues of sexism.

While I was offended by the display, the conflict with the Lunt men cannot and must not be reduced to a simple matter of the suite offending a group of women, and certainly should not have been dealt with, as it was initially suggested, as an issue rele-
vant only to the two women who signed the original letter. If the dignity and integ-
ity of women is to be respected by the community, actions such as the display and manipulation of the mannequin must be recognized as sexist, not merely as presenting the boundaries of acceptable be-
havior and challenging the values of the community. The letter demanded that the act be condemned and the men held accountable for it.

The disruption of the mannequin, and the fact that the community had not previously issued a statement recognizing sexism as wrong, was not a matter of society which has never been explicitly articulated in a com-
munity forum. The position taken by the Council on the matter has been one of concern about the awareness of the Council mem-
bers and the community in general. The failure of the Council to act according to community values carries serious implica-
tions about its role at the College. While I realize that discussion and dialogue are

I the dignity and integrity of women is to be respected by the community, actions such as the display and manipulation of the mannequin must be recognized as sexist, transgressing the boundaries of acceptable behavior...

The repeated criticism that the women had not followed the Council’s procedures must be rebuked, not only because it de-
fects attention from the content of the issue, but also because the Honor Code’s procedures will not result in a rape case being treated by any state body to seek out support. These connect-
ions are not in the imaginations of the woman who confronted the Lunt residents. They are real, frightening connections that must be acknowledged and faced directly so that the possibility of such crimes can truly reflect care and concern for the safety and dignity of women in the community.

Workshop raises questions on racism

by Karen Sullivan

Last Wednesday’s Women’s Alliance meeting on “Racism: A Workshop” began with an uncovering of the participants’ earliest memories of racism and ended with an articulated concern with what is perhaps the most blatantly racist situation at Haverford—the preponderance of black maids and custodians in a white-controlled institution.

As moderator of the workshop, Amy Villarejo followed the format suggested by the book All the Women are White, All the Blues are Black (Barbara Smith, ed., et al.) in structuring the evening’s discussion, whereby first one woman of one race would be asked if she had been oppressed as a woman, and then another woman of another race. The focus was on racism, and the sequencing was such as to eradicate one’s racism.

For many of the women present, busying brought them together with blacks at school, while the distance of black and white communities severed them from

one another. Several of the participants recalled the uneasiness they had felt because the black children they met in their classes lived in such distant neighborhoods which they could visit only with extreme precaution.

One woman described the conflicting messages she received from her mother who had worked as a maid in a black suburb of Los Angeles; the excursion was at once a “great idea” and a dangerous undertaking.

Another woman related this divided atti-
tude towards segregation to the popular discussion of black and white class labels: “M Martins and black "whom it was absurd to oppress" and "bad" lower class blacks who are “unworthy” of the “baby.” As the woman pointed out, this schismatic por-
trait of blacks is encouraged by television, with white men in authority roles and Asians, like Sesame Street characters or the gangsters of Hill Street Blues.

"What did you learn at home about black people? What terms did your parents use in describing them, and how did that make you feel?" A

Lunt mannequin offends women

by Margi Clarke

It is not often that the issues of sexism, racism and other forms of the institutional-
Rape: a crime of violence, not sex
by Michele Rubin

On February 12 at 4 p.m. in Stokes Auditorium the Coalition For Action in Women's Issues is holding a film and panel discussion on the most prevalent violent crime against women, rape. This panel discussion will include a showing of the film "Rape," a 20-minute film that explains rape and answering questions. Rape is often hushed-up, frequently trivialized and much ignored, both in the bi-College community and the "real" world. It is, contrary to some common beliefs, a crime and a federal one.

The purpose of this panel is to raise consciousness regarding rape, both in women who are the potential victims and men who misunderstand or commit the act of rape.

One of the most volatile subjects that will be discussed is the subject of date rape. Date rape occurs with much greater frequency than one would dare to assume. A woman who is raped by a man she knows is a rape victim regardless of background. Most women, regardless of background, may be raped by a man they know--not just those who are the potential victims and men who misunderstand or commit the act of rape.

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A woman is raped every three minutes and a woman is battered every eighteen seconds.

One of every three women will be raped—whether they define themselves as feminists or not. Most men will have someone they know or love raped within their lifetime.

Rape is everyone's problem but it's women who are the victims and it's women who must bear the brunt of the burden that must be raised in order that they can be aware and protect themselves. Our society demeans women. It is a rape society and only women can change that.

Another aspect that will be discussed is what happens to rape trials and legal recourse. Women have in the event of rape. The panel will examine federal and state laws pertaining to rape and discuss what needs to be changed in the American legal system regarding rape. For example, a woman cannot request a restraining order on her rapist separated from him, for rape in 40 out of 50 states in our country. There are many laws on the books which hinder and prevent rape prosecution and even more attitudes which do the same.

Rape victims often become victims of the court system, of doctors, of their families and of their friends due to sexism and ignorance of the criminal rape victims. These attitudes can change only with the elevation of social consciousness and the changing of societal attitudes.

The panel will discuss how we can "un-teach" rape in our culture and see how popular culture can reinforce rape. These attitudes can change only with the elevation of social consciousness and the changing of societal attitudes.

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Peace Mission travellers convene

by Julie Herman

Whirled from one continent to another, the three Bryn Mawr Peace Studies Mission spent a hectic eighteen days in January interviewing members of the British government, political leaders, and other groups about their attitudes on foreign policy and disarmament. 

The three members of the mission were Joseph Mason, Haverford senior William Reno, and Bryn Mawr sophomore Sara Hamlen. They left for London, from where they proceeded to Bonn and to Ottawa, before returning to the United States on January 22. The three mission members gave their first public account of their adventures at a dinner at the home of Bryn Mawr President P.p., on January 31. 

Reno, Hamlen and Mason each presented the highlights of their stay in one city, and then responded to questions from their audience.

Perhaps the most striking aspect of their talk was the theme of opposite questions which seemed to appear and disappear when least expected. For example, although HATO briefings in each capital drew the same hard line between East and West, rhetoric in public statement, as characterized by William Reno, was far less concerned with a Soviet threat than with the concept of a unified Germany. This issue, though long forgotten in the United States, was felt to remain pertinent to the lives of Germans who have friends and relatives still living in East Germany.

Because of President Ronald Reagan's perceived tendency to view the world through the framework that these only dichotomies of good and evil, East and West, the United States is often seen as unseasoned, and ill-informed on Europe's political realities.

Joe Mason reported that many Germans "question the United States' "intelligence" and doubted his "grasp of complex issues."

Sara Hamlen explained that while many German citizens understand English and can thus read Reagan's statements in the original, they do not understand that American campaign rhetoric is geared to home issues and not world opinion.

In contrast to the United States' cold attitude toward the confrontation, West Germany conducts a series of talks every four months on small problems which need airing. As Hamlen put it, this constant communication lessens East-West tension and diminishes the need for the landmark agreements that are required for rare summit meetings to seem successful.

Mason added that European politicians had been hoping for the same sort of communicative opening to be opened between Reagan and Soviet head of state Yuri Andropov, who was viewed as versatile and sophisticated.

"Europeans saw Andropov as one of the best opportunities for breakthroughs" in communication between Russia and the United States, Mason said. The present U.S. administration's failure to see that was perceived as a major blunder.

While the opposition between East and West seemed to diminish in importance in Bonn, differences within all three governments over arms and disarmament were very sharply defined. The military and NATO representatives based their view of world politics on the historical tally of nuclear capability, whereas politicians serving in ministries of State lacked to Soviet invasion as a gauge of possibilities for peace.

Hamlen implied that this division between warhead-counters and diplomatists is slightly less sharp in England than in Germany or Canada. The reason behind this is the rising public outcry against missile deployment in that country, sparked by the feminist protesters at Greenham Common and fanned by the less radical church and political groups whose members fear war protests frighten hardliners in the British government. Mason believed that it is the activism by groups such as the Greenham Common women that forced the British government to strengthen its position. "As the governments have to defend NATO, Hamlen said, "they have to assume everything it says is right. They can't question themselves."

While Canada's NATO military has presented the same views as military allies elsewhere, the Trudeau government recently announced a peace initiative to facilitate talks between the Soviet Union and the United States. Hence, Canada currently sees its role as one of moderator, rather than military ally.

Hamlen encounters increasing tension over arms

by Sara Hamlen

To describe everything we learned, and all the meetings we attended would take a very good many hours, so let me summarize some of the things we learned, and encourage you to read the above citations which are just the tip of the iceberg.

In Canada, however, the debate is wider, and has an odd twist to it. Trudeau's initiative is opening up with questions. In London and Bonn, the debate seemed very focused on cruise missiles and nuclear warheads, and many Canadians were deployed. Until recently, there has been no chance of suffering a nuclear attack, and the political leaders of both countries have pursued similar defense strategies.

Helmut Schmidt, we heard many times, was the one who requested the cruise and Pershing missiles in the first place. Yet, now Schmidt's party maintains that it opposes deployment of the missiles; the German chancellor is opposed to participating in any unilateral disarmament in their election platform.

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What is Greenham Common?

by Priscilla Isser

On August 28, 1981, a group of women from Wales walked 10 miles to the United States Air Force Greenham Common, about 50 miles southeast of London. Later that week, four women chained themselves to the fence surrounding the base, demanding a televised debate with a Ministry of Defense (MOD) representative on the proposed deployment of 96 Cruise missiles at Greenham Common. That demand was never met, and since then, women have lived on the Common to protest the deployment of Cruise missiles in particular, and the buildup of nuclear arsenals in general. Citizens throughout Great Britain have started similar peace groups at various military installations to activate the opposing the nuclear threat. Greenham Common, formerly an area of truly common ground which was freely accessible to all British subjects, was first used as an air force base by the MOD during the Second World War. After the war, the airbase fell into disuse, but control of the land was never returned to the public. In 1981, despite opposition by local authorities, the MOD purchased the land, and later leased it to the American military. In 1975, the British government announced that the U.S. military would deploy 96 Cruise missiles at Greenham Common in December of 1983.

Cruise is part of the deadly and expensive new breed of first strike nuclear weapon--because the missiles fly close to the ground, they are undetectable by radar, and U.S. Global Positioning Satellites over Europe can change their flight patterns continuously, thus assuring pinpoint accuracy. Small enough to be transported by van, each missile nevertheless has a destructive force fifteen times more powerful than the hydrogen bomb used to decimate Hiroshima.

Throughout the past two years, the women of Greenham Common have par - (Continued on page 9)
Hyman integrates feminism and Jewish history

by Natalie Sacks

For the twenty-five people in Thomas 110 last Tuesday, Paul Hyman’s lecture on “New Light on the History of Jewish Women” served largely as an impetus to integrate Jewish and feminist identities. Her lecture was the first of a series on Jewish Women: Ancient Dreams, New Visions speaker series.

Paula Hyman, dean and teacher at the Jewish Theological Seminary, charmed with an enthusiastic audience three case studies of Jewish women’s history to “serve as a survival tactic.” 

“Women” served largely as an impetus to integrate Jewish feminism and religion made the lecture interesting to all women, Jews and non-Jews alike.

The next lecture will be by Evelyn Torton Beck on “A Jewish Perspective on Feminist Literature of Nice Jewish Girls? A Lesbian Anthology” (Persephone Press, 1982). The lecture is on February 13 at four p.m. in Thomas 110.

The lecture series is sponsored by the Bryn Mawr Dean’s Office, the Commission on Women, Project/JAC, Pennsylvania Hillel, and Hillel.

Feminism creates poetry from new canon

by Amy Villarejo

Rachel Blau DuPlessis, a member of the English department at Temple University, stunned an overflowing crowd at English House last Friday with her discussion of “Reading of Feminists—The History of Poetry.”

DuPlessis, both a well-known critic of women’s poetry and a poet herself, gave a moving reading of her own work, a book-length essay, poems and excerpts from her “History of Poetry.”

In “women” as defined as history of men,” a phenomenon held up by Hyman, DuPlessis has suggested a “lower culture” compared to the Hebrew literature men studied.

Hyman suggested that the contents of this literature reflect the women’s experience, and that studying it illustrates how the women made themselves central to a survival tactic, “to enhance their own self-esteem” in a rigidly defined subordinate role.

Hyman pointed out that until recently, Hyman described the phenomenon of Jewish assimilation in Germany, which is commonly viewed in terms of the male Jewish elite. She suggested that the pattern of assimilation was different for Jewish women because they had far less access to education and business, and were therefore not in a position to measure success in terms of the modern world, as men were. Though Hyman felt unsure about the implications of the gender gap in this instance, she stated that at this time women were “serving a preservative role for Jewish culture.”

The third case brought to light the experience of Jewish women immigrants on the Lower East Side of Manhattan in the early 20th century. Hyman said that these women “made the neighborhood the locus of their communal Jewish identity.”

In opposition to the general assumption that the married women were politically inactive, Hyman described the Kasher Meat Boycott of 1902, which occurred in response to price hikes. These organizers used class-conscious rhetoric in their leaflets, raised a strike fund for bail-outs, and the women continued to use their strong neighborhood network to organize against gangsters.

With this example, Hyman pointed out the need for further investigation “of local grassroots organization to define community.”

Hyman concluded by challenging the audience to see history with a “wholeness previously unavailable.”

Feminism in the In-Between, the 1991 volume of DuPlessis, contains “Songs of Songs.” This text is dissolved into other forms. Tactics other than citation are at work in the History of Poetry,” for the themes and use of language at work and play in her poetry is perhaps less accessible (or more literally self-evident) in much of contemporary feminist poetry. Yet despite the difficulty of her work, “The History of Poetry” presents an insightful, honest, highly-skilled example of the possibilities for women’s expression.

The next lecture will be by DuPlessis and Friday afternoon were two Gypsies, “Ode to Psyche,” “Killing Me,” and her longer and “The History of Poetry” as well: vagrant poetry. DuPlessis has suggested is to “forge a self out of the tradition of Otherness.” In her “History of Poetry, DuPlessis takes control of the signifiers to develop her powerful, “precious poetry” from DuPlessis’ “Crowbar.”

In her work, DuPlessis relies on citation from male and female poets alike (Keats and Dickinson, for example): “in a deep, wounding dialogue with already written poems, [I] call attention to some distance between those two traditions.” Therefore, DuPlessis uses the form of the canonical text is dissolved into other forms. Tactics other than citation are at work in the “History of Poetry” as well: vagrant wanderings, use of dialect and mistaken verb tenses. All serve to “destroy the unarticulated how” (from DuPlessis’ “Crowbar.”)

Impressions of Greenham

by Priscilla Bear

We’re talking about life and death. We’re not talking about images. I mean, it won’t matter when you’re dead whether you’re living your life and what you do.

And beyond the green wire, first the rolls of barbed wire, then the British are there to divide us, but cannot; women are strong, our actions can influence, we are strong, our actions can influence, and we are empowered, restored, made to feel once again ready to fight.

Doom—what can we do to destroy the beast that has already been given life, and has devoured, and has grown too large for us to comprehend? So we turn outward, and find life, hope and purpose once more; we are strong, our actions can influence, and we are empowered, restored, made to feel once again ready to fight.

American and British troops laughing and glaring, and the silos, low and flat and terrible, which hide the sacred agents of death; the Cruise missiles, some already deployed and ready for destruction. Women’s faces, determined and resilient and transformed by fury and rage, others joyful and vibrant. Laughter, tears, screams, moans, and music, throughout it all the sounds become like music, one song which we all sing, and we are one.

Greenham Common is a place of sharply保

side US Air Force Base Greenham Common to protest the deployment of Cruise missiles. Masses of women collected, all strong in strong spirits and anger, cofﬁed together. The fence covered with triumphant banners, pictures of children, ﬁngers on a cross, collared ribbons woven in and out. Mud all over, climbing up and down hills covered with the women. The fence is there to divide us, but cannot; women are strong, our actions can influence, and we are empowered, restored, made to feel once again ready to fight.

“Let us not dwell on the seeming of the thing, but on what we are doing.”

verse in familiar language and sounds. Some rewrote well-known male poems; others tackled the previous work of women poets. Becoming “fictive collaborators” with previous women poets. The women created a new language. The women created a new language. The women created a new language. The women created a new language.

Common

Continued from page 8

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Common

Continued from page 8

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In any case, Rachel Blau DuPlessis is a name to remember; “The History of Poetry” is a collection to eagerly anticipate.
Figaro Project seeks new talent

by Sara Snyder

Did you know that the arts are alive at Bryn Mawr? Honest. In recent months, Goodhart Hall has been jumping with activity and excitement, primarily because of the Figaro Project. More than 100 people have become deeply involved in the Project in some capacity. The Figaro Project is actually an experiment for Bryn Mawr: it is designed to test the potential for the arts on this campus. Anne Kish, the director of the Figaro Project, is the musical director, and David Ostwald, Opera-Theater Director at Juliard and now at SUNY-Purchase, is the director of this production. The cast is comprised of Bryn Mawr and Haverford students and faculty members, and students from Philadelphia’s Curtis Institute and Academy of Vocal Arts.

We have been very lucky to have the opportunity that The Figaro Project has afforded us, but unfortunately, few people are aware of any of it. The project has been plagued by poor publicity and the insidious isolation of the Bryn Mawr community:*

*Figaro is played by Thomas Carson, a graduate of the Academy of Vocal Arts, who recently won regional auditions for the Metropolitan Opera in New York. Carson is also the only black member of the all-white cast. Other artists from outside the community include Stephen Smith as the Count, Karen Noteboom from Curtis as Susanna, Richard Liberty as Bartolo, and Steven Albert as Don Curzio. Bryn Mawr music professor Ty Cunningham will appear as Basilio, and Haverford music instructor Nancy Brocklin plays Marcellina. Members of the production returned from vacation early in order to rehearse rigorously for a full week. With less than two weeks to go now until production, everyone is working furiously to bring it all together. Anne Kish, who is only at Bryn Mawr as a part-time employee, feels like she is doing "three jobs" right now.

The Mozart opera, albeit consuming, is not the only work in progress within the project. For the first time, a student technical work, and assume "general responsibilities with both Haverford and the Pembroke Studio." With this in mind, the proposal suggests the necessity of a real nician to design, supervise student technical work, and assume "general responsibility for building management" of Goodhart. Scrutiny of the proposal raises questions about the continuing nature of bi-College cooperation with respect to the arts programs of the two colleges. Despite the provision for "harmonious and cooperative relationships," the proposal does not clearly address the relationship between Haverford’s offerings (including majors in both Fine Arts and Music) and the offerings at Bryn Mawr. Similarly, there is no indication of whether or not Bryn Mawr will continue to make joint appointments in the arts with Haverford. In addition, the proposal is vague on the question of how many lecturers will be appointed, when these appointments will be made, and in what areas.

Finally, with this series of appointments really make a difference in the opportunities for students at Bryn Mawr? Perhaps a dynamic and energetic Coordinator, aided by similarly devoted Lecturers can reverse the effects of the College’s decades-old policy of benign neglect of the arts. Only time will tell, and with this proposal in the draft stage, the amount of time needed may be considerable.

by Sasha Torres

The seriousness of Bryn Mawr’s commitment to the arts has been a topic of discussion for several years. The bi-College appointments of Andrew Lichtenberg, and Steven Lipstein, the review of the dance program, and the appointment of Anne Kish have been attempts to remedy the inadequacies of the arts program. Now, with the advent of the new position of Arts Coordinator and of Lecturers in the Arts, the serious consideration of the question of how many lecturers will be appointed, when these appointments will be made, and in what areas. Finally, with this series of appointments really make a difference in the opportunities for students at Bryn Mawr? Perhaps a dynamic and energetic Coordinator, aided by similarly devoted Lecturers can reverse the effects of the College’s decades-old policy of benign neglect of the arts. Only time will tell, and with this proposal in the draft stage, the amount of time needed may be considerable.
Vermey discusses publications

(Continued from page 3)

overlap between the schools as we had pro-
ected. We never compare applications be-
tween different schools with a clear under-
standing that the two colleges are very en-
twined, and our literature must reflect that.

The next game brought one of Bryn Mawr's familiar foes, Swarthmore, to Schwartz Gymnasium. Having already faced Swarthmore at the Seven Sisters Tournament, Bryn Mawr knew what to ex-
pect. Unfortunately, that knowledge didn't help very much, as Swarthmore's combina-
tion man-to-man and zone defense was as sharp as ever. Even if the offensive produc-
tion was below expectations, Bryn Mawr had to be pleased with its defense, which
forced Swarthmore to take several less per-
centage shots as the 30-second clock ex-
pired. In fact, the sole difference between the
teams was Michelle Fowler, Swarth-
more's highly talented guard-forward,
who, to put it simply, scored when it counted.

The junior varsity teams of Bryn Mawr and Swarthmore also squared off in a con-
test that, if the truth be told, was more ex-
citing than the varsity game. Beth Work-
master handled the squad masterfully

Bryn Mawr lost to Haverford in a well-played contest.

Lady Cavaliers parlayed turnovers forced
by their half-court press into enough fast
break buckets to build a 22 to 2 lead. At
that point the Mawrtys dug in their heels
and played Cabrini even for the remainder of the
half. Cabrini, however, proved too
deep for Bryn Mawr, who eventually suc-
cumbed by 31 points.

Again at home, the Mawrtys tipped off
against Montgomery County College,
which dressed just five players. Hoping
to exhaust Montco while utilizing her
talented bench, Coach Leigh Donato instructed
the team to pick up the pace of the game.

The strategy backfired, however, probably be-
cause Bryn Mawr lacked the poise and ex-
perience necessary to carry off an up-
tempo game successfully. Montco
opened up a twelve-point margin in the first half,
and they won going away.

The Mawrtys made their debut at the
Bern Schwartz Gymnasium against ever-
tough Cabrini College, which featured
some of the outside shooting Bryn Mawr
has seen all season. Actually, though,
the outside shooting was not the deciding factor in the game. The Mawrtys won
the game in the opening minutes as the
point position, while Alice Charkes
played a strong game inside. Actually, the whole team—Cavanagh, Workmaster, Susan Bickford, Emily Flisch, Tondala Cartwright, Emily Munase and Michele Ryan—took up the point position, while Alice Charkes
played a strong game inside. Actually, the whole team—Cavanagh, Workmaster, Susan Bickford, Emily Flisch, Tondala Cartwright, Emily Munase and Michele Ryan—took up the game in the opening minutes as the

Bryn Mawr's Jenny Ho shot well in the game with Haverford.
Mawrtyr gymnastics shows improvement

by Dwyn Harben

The Bryn Mawr—Haverford women’s gymnastics team is off to a very strong start this season. The average team score so far is 129.25, while last year’s season average was only 117.0. The increase is quite significant as the outcomes of many meets are decided by a very small margin. A victory over Back-nus College, who has spent the past year away. Hess has posted the highest score of the season. The team is off to a very strong start and is 129.25, while last year’s season average was only 117.0. The increase is quite significant.

Procrastination techniques reached the pinnacle of excellence... thinking of new ways to avoid placing one’s body in an ice-bath.

Swim team battles adversity, improves performance

by Snoozer Archer

What does the Bryn Mawr swim team and the teams of the Winter Olympics have in common? They are both striving to reach the pinnacle of excellence as the swimmers strain their minds, instead of their muscles, into thinking of new ways to avoid placing one’s body in an ice-bath. For simply finishing the race is not enough. Swim team results are decided by a very small margin. A victory or defeat is determined by .45 of a point. This season the team’s highest score is 137.4, achieved in the February 1 defeat of Division I competitor Princeton. Bryn Mawr has recorded five wins and three losses to date, with only one of the losses at the hands of longtime Division III team (Navy, on January 26).

Much of the team’s improvement can be attributed to Bryn Mawr freshmen Lori Hess and Rachael Felsniler, and Bryn Mawr senior Carolyn Friedman, who returned to the team after taking her junior year away. Hess has posted the highest floor exercise score of the season with a 7.5 at the home meet against Army and Navy.

Badminton superb, underrated

by Snoozer Archer

What is the similarity between the Bryn Mawr Badminton Team and Rodney Dangerfield? They both get no respect. The badminton team is the most underrated sports team Bryn Mawr has, and is this unfortunate for many consider it the best team we have (excuse me, Coach Novick). After you see a badminton match, you will never be able to think of it as a simple game for those birdies fly so fast and the amount of concentration needed is incredible. There are still plenty of opportunities to see the team in action, and if your father paid as much as mine did so you could not only learn about Greek vases but about the facts of life, must you stand the boat and find us. The rest of the team includes Shahuma Kallawala, Martha Mason, Mialeene Dawson, and Gussie Dahr, all of whom also placed in the top three as well.

There is no doubt that this team is not concealing its abilities. Against La Salle College, the team’s times showed continued improvement as they moved back into shape, but with the overall score being La Salle 74 and Bryn Mawr 55. Briscoe got a second place win in the 1000-Fly with newcomer Nicole Hishfield, overcoming all odds and finishing third. Annalis Crammell’s times improved with incredible rapidity and against La Salle she did her best. 100-Fly time of the season with a third place win of 1:03.97. Stuart improved her 200-Back time of the previous meet to get second with 2:34.41. She also finished second in the 50-Back and first in the 50-Fly. Janice Kamrin dove from the 1-meter board unchallenged and so was able to try new dives without worrying about the scoring and also did very well. Talent does not just lie with the swim team, but the diving team of Kamrin and Mellow have been leaping to new heights.

Overall the team’s performances have been very good but with another two weeks of practice before the Froshburger Invitational, Coach Wallington is sure of there being "top performances." Until then super-star swimmer Helen Collins will be keeping her yardage up so that she will be swimming tire at the meets but will be ready for the Division III Nationals in March. But the rest of the team is eagerly looking forward to a splashing success at the end of yet another season.