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1984

The College News 1984-4-11 Vol. 6 No. 9

Students of Bryn Mawr College

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No unity in South Africa

by Natalie Sacks

Feminist and Marxist arguments on the solidarity of oppressed peoples fail to explain the current situation in South Africa, explained Swarthmore lecturer Fatima Meer in her talk last Wednesday. Introduced as one of the most knowledgeable people on the situation in South Africa from both a scholarly and personal perspective, Meer summarized the assumption that as the emergence of black consciousness and women's consciousness concur in time, so is anti-racism an inalienable part of feminist philosophy. She should follow that as victims of patriarchal oppression in South Africa there would be an affinity between white women and black people. Wrong, says Meer, pointing out that both the Immorality Act of 1927, which forbade sexual relations between whites and Africans, and the Act of 1950, which applied the prohibitions to Coloureds and Asians, were supported by white women.

The second assumption that Meer explored is the Marxist idea of an inherent solidarity among all members of the working class, and hence a natural alliance between black and white workers in South Africa. Meer illustrated the fallacy of this concept with a historical example: in 1921 white workers were striking against mining magnates because black workers were being hired at one fifth the wage. The Communist Party ran the strike with the slogan, "Workers of the World Unite and Fight for a White South Africa." Meer responded by again looking at history, saying, "white women have throughout South African history participated with white men in ripping off black people of surplus labor." She used her own study in suicide, in which white women had the lowest rate and white men the highest to support her conclusion that white women enjoy the "benefits of domination without suffering the drawbacks.

Mondale packs Thomas for policy speech

by Kris Anderson

"The escalation of the arms race reveals a President who, to put it mildly, doesn't know what he's doing," says Walter Mondale. "Mr. Reagan has plunged ahead with his Star Wars fantasy, opening up the heavens for war."

The former Vice President and candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination spoke to an estimated crowd of over 1000 Bryn Mawr and Haverford students who packed into Thomas Great Hall Saturday morning at 9:30. Mondale delivered what was billed as a "major foreign policy speech" in which he criticized President Reagan's foreign policy and outlined several major goals for arms control after he would work toward if elected, including reducing the deployment of missiles in Europe and blocking the production of new arms in the U.S.

Mondale was introduced by U.S. Representative from Pennsylvania's 7th Congressional district, Bob Edgar. Edgar, a Democrat from Drexel University, lauded Mondale's support of him in 1974 when he was running for Congress in the "suburban, Republican, conservative area" of Delaware County. "This individual had faith in me ten years ago," said Edgar, "and I have faith in this individual 1984 to be the next President of the United States."

Woman president

Both Edgar and Kathy Roth, head of the Coalition for Action on Women's Issues (CAWS), a co-sponsor of the event, urged students to get involved in political activism. "We all must vote," said Roth in her introduction, "Work for the future. Perhaps one day you will be presenting a woman up here ... perhaps she'll be one of us."

The crowd erupted in cheers and applause at Roth's speech. At that, the former Vice President stepped up to the podium and said, "Thank you. It's an honor to be introduced by the next Vice President of the United States."

Walter Mondale, candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, spoke to a standing room only crowd in Thomas Great Hall on Saturday morning.

Mondale, who arrived half an hour later than anticipated from his early morning visit to Philadelphia's Criminal Justice Center, quickly relieved any tension among the crowd by remarking that he was greatly pleased to see such a large audience. "I must say I'm astonished... as I recall from my student days, only an international crisis could turn students out voluntarily on a Saturday morning," he remarked.

Arms race crucial question

With his eye on the yesterday's Pennsylvania primary, Mondale used his speech to strengthen his contention that he is the only candidate with concrete ideas and experience, particularly in the area of foreign policy. "The arms race is the most crucial question of our time," he said. He seems to be the one who needs the "goal control of the Godawful nuclear weapons before they destroy us all."

Mondale sharply criticized President Reagan's argument that Congress should support the President's foreign policy, and he said that "the idea that somehow the public process should be suspended and paralyzed in the most important issue of our time is absurdity... I hope the Congress to be heard from. I expect the American people to be heard from."

Mondale stressed his commitment to ending the arms race, and outlined his approach in his remarks. First, he proposed annual summit conferences with the Soviet Union. Repeated, intense business-like negotiations between the President of the U.S. and the head of the Soviet Union" would he maintained, aid in freezing the nuclear arms race.

Secondly, so he said he would "begin nego- tiating for a unilateral and verifiable nuclear freeze." Mondale said he has consistently supported such negotiations for the past three years.

The former Vice President also supports negotiations toward a treaty stating that each nation agrees to discontinue development and testing of new weapons. He would also like to see "deeper cuts in American and Soviet arsenals."

Reduce missile deployment

Two important points Mondale noted were his commitment to negotiations to "reduce deployment of Soviet and American missiles" and his determination to "terminate the M (Continued on page 8)

Sexual harassment complaint raises procedural questions

by Julie Herman

About three years ago, President Mary McPherson received a sexual harassment complaint. "I was not enlightened," it is hoped that he will no (Continued on page 6)
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The crowd erupted in cheers and applause at Roth's remark.

At that, the former Vice President stepped up to the podium and said, "Thank you for the honor of being introduced by the most knowledgeable people on the situation in South Africa. The men and women have no travel experience, particularly in the area of foreign policy."

Mondale, who arrived an hour later than anticipated from his early morning visit to Philadelphia's Catholic University, quickly relieved any tension among the crowd by remarking that he was greatly pleased to see such a large audience. "I must say I'm astonished... as I recall from my student days, only an international crisis could turn students out voluntarily on a Saturday morning," he remarked.

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Reduce missile deployment

Two important points Mondale noted were his commitment to negotiations to "reduce deployment of Soviet and American missiles" and his determination to "terminate the MX missile—the most dangerous, destabilizing weapon ever deployed in the American arsenal." Students applauded and shouted approval at the latter statement.

Mondale also received cheers for his remark that he will "block the production of poison nerve gas." He would, in addition, "work toward a verifiable ban on anti-satellite weapons," and he reaffirmed his commitment to the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, calling the ABM Treaty "the most successful arms control treaty of our times."

Mondale's other suggestions included the establishment of "nuclear risk reduction centers" in Washington and Moscow to lower the chances of a war through accident, and the strengthening of U.S. NATO forces to "raise the nuclear threshold."

In place of Mr. Reagan's 'inept gestures,' I offer a realistic approach to arms control," Mondale stated. "By contrast, Gary Hart offers an ever-shifting policy of confusion," he maintained in an attack on the candidate's voting record on arms control. "Look at our records. Look at our commitment," Mondale urged. "I can get the job done."

Woman as running mate

Following his prepared remarks, Mondale accepted questions from the audience. The first came from a woman who...

Sexual harassment complaint raises procedural questions

by Julie Herman

About three years ago, President Mary Dolores Brien told her colleague and friend, Dolores Brien, about sexual harassment in the College's Physical Plant department.

In an attempt to follow up on the disturbing news, President McPherson asked these students with complaints to come forward so that a thorough investigation could take place. No one did so. McPherson spoke to Paul Klug, Louie's superior, to communicate her concern, and, presumably, to effect a change in his behavior if necessary.

Last year a student authored a formal statement after Louie's proposition for him. "He told me that if I would 'spend an evening with him, he would give me a raise,'" she told the College News in a recent interview.

Upon complaining to Dolores Brien, BMC's Equal Opportunity Officer, the student was asked to file a complaint. She was assured that the matter "would be taken care of."

She was no longer harassed. But other students were.

Early last month, a group of students finally did present a formal and public complaint of sexual harassment against Dave Louie to McPherson. The complaint took the form of letters relating individual experiences.

Meer responded by again looking at women and minorities are oppressed in South Africa. Meer responded by again looking at...
EDITORIAL

Sexual harassment

While we applaud the administration's substantial efforts to educate the Bryn Mawr community about sexual harassment and to publicize the College's grievance procedure, we find certain aspects of the handling of the Dave Louie case and Bryn Mawr's grievance procedures disturbing.

First, if Louie had been warned three years ago about the undesirability of certain behavior, as an article in this issue indicates, he can reasonably be held accountable for such behavior today. The idea that he had no prior knowledge of what constitutes harassment seems less than credible. We have evidence that at least one formal complaint was filed last year, and that Louie must have been made formally aware of his position at that time. The possibility of his attitudes remaining "really changed," as Libby Mellow puts it, seems unrealistic given his past inability to maintain a low profile for any substantial amount of time.

Second, the emphasis on confrontation between the victim and the harasser ignores the very real possibility that the student may feel emotionally incapable of dealing with such a situation. That the student involved in the Louie case was willing to meet with him and that she was reassured by the presence of supportive administrators should not by any means create a precedent to pressure other students into similar action.

Although Bryn Mawr does have an apparently low incidence of sexual harassment, it is certainly in the administration's best interest to proceed "with as little hoopla as possible." It should be seen that this quiet does not become a hush-up, and that solutions presented to students as reasonable and desirable are not merely tools of administrative expedience.

It seems possible that a group of students not come forward to make a public statement about Louie, the administration could easily have continued its "divide and conquer" method. Any individual student complaint can be kept "discreet," with the student herself believing her story represents an isolated occurrence. Evidently, in the current situation, nothing could be further from the case. We are forced at this juncture to question the administration's articulated commitment to a harassment-free community in light of this information.

The possibility of harassment on the part of female professors should not be overlooked; nor should the reality of student-student harassment be ignored, although this matter is under the Honor Code's jurisdiction.

Finally, poor attendance at the employee harassment seminars is an important issue which should be addressed seriously. According to Equal Opportunity Officer Dolores Brien, the turn-out for the seminars has been "very disappointing. Men seem reluctant to attend Equal Opportunity Officer Dolores Brien, the turn-out for the seminars has been "very disappointing. Men seem reluctant to attend Equal Opportunity Officer Dolores Brien, the turn-out for the seminars has been "very disappointing. Men seem reluctant to attend Equal Opportunity Officer Dolores Brien, the turn-out for the seminars has been "very disappointing. Men seem reluctant to attend Equal Opportunity Officer Dolores Brien, the turn-out for the seminars has been "very disappointing. Men seem reluctant to attend Equal Opportunity Officer Dolores Brien, the turn-out for the seminars has been "very disappointing. Men seem reluctant to attend Equal Opportunity Officer Dolores Brien, the turn-out for the seminars has been "very disappointing. Men seem reluctant to attend Equal Opportunity Officer Dolores Brien, the turn-out for the seminars has been "very disappointing. Men seem reluctant to attend Equal Opportunity Officer Dolores Brien, the turn-out for the seminars has been "very disappointing.

This letter is directed to the woman who, in the closing issue of the College News, shared her feelings regarding the experience of mastectomy and her associations to the "Rock Ammons" shirt which reads over the right breast "No Breast Here." We sincerely regret that this design revived painful memories and are grateful to this woman for raising our community's consciousness of the rarely discussed realities of breast cancer.

This t-shirt is intended solely as an expression of our regard for a cultural prototype within which women can be strong and respected without conforming to a male-defined standard of behavior and beauty. Amazon mastectomy is a myth of choice; medical mastectomy for cancer is a reality of one choice—the choice of life. We, women, respect life and do not make light of that which threatens it.

Those of us who have not experienced the anguish of cancer cannot claim to fully understand its pain. However, as strong women we have felt the pressure to feel shame for our failure to conform to a norm of feminine modesty with regard to our actions, choices, and appearance. We can appreciate the insidious feelings of inadequacy and shame that a woman who has undergone mastectomy may against her will experience in addition to her physical pain.

Some of us, out of respect for your feelings, will choose not to wear this shirt. Those of us who do wear it wish it to be understood as a statement for a womanhood of our own creation—one which lies in our minds and souls and not in the definitions of others. We apologize to any who interprets it otherwise.

Margi Clarke '84
Devin Harben '86
Pracilla Isee '84
Ingrid Leverett '84
Lanie Nelson '87
Rebecca Raham '84
Laura Sackerman '87
Karin Schwartz '86
Elaine Shizowski '84

Rockefeller residents reply

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Smith College homophophic

23 Smith College students occupied the outer offices of President Jill Ker Conway to protest the closing of Hover House, an unofficial but well-known lesbian co-op. The sit-in followed a month of student opposition to the closing and a meeting with Conway in which she refused to reverse the decision. According to a Smith spokesperson, the administration is not closing Hover House but rather is considering it another co-op to traditional dorms because they do not attract enough students to justify maintaining them. But the students claim that the main issue is not closing Hover House but rather is the reputation of Hover House as lesbian. "It seems clear that [the closing] is homophopic," says one Hover resident. "(Conway) can't even bring herself to utter the word lesbian." The students also are demanding that Smith College revise its "sexual preference" to its anti-discrimination clause, include the Lesbian Alliance and the "Women's Resource Center" in admissions office literature on student groups, and provide full descriptions of Hover and Tenney House, the other alternative dorm in the housing catalog. (Gay Community News)

Reprinted from the April issue of Sojourner, Smith College women's newspaper, April '84. Submitted by Sharon Gershel '84.

Editor's note: Bryn Mawr has added "sexual preference" to its anti-discrimination clause at the request of students.

Where's the constitution?

It's a big student association. It's a big, diverse student association. But where's the Constitution?! For more than 25 years, students have proposed constitutions to replace a 23-page document which, to our realistic, must for the most part be ignored. All proposals have failed. Self Government Association officers have gone on their way.

Enter this year's proposed constitution. It's short, it's sweet, it runs three and a half pages long. This lean machine consists of a purpose, statements of jurisdiction, a list of elected officers and their organization.

The lat which has been pared from other proposed constitution consists of job descriptions of elected officers and procedures (example: election rules). Should the proposed constitution be passed, these topics would become the bylaws and be considered part of the constitutions.

Editors note: Bryn Mawr has added "sexual preference" to its anti-discrimination clause at the request of students.

(Continued on page 3)
**Student will tour Tahiti with concert funds**

by Amy Friedman

A Friedman c/o Tahitian Leisure Culture Research Foundation Hut #117 Tahiti

You see, it all started when I began... to think about Tahiti... The leisure culture of Tahiti...

Back in dreary February, when I was wearing sweaters and struggling to get my arms to lie flat at my sides, my thoughts turned unavoidably to summer. From summer it didn't take long to get to summer jobs. "Summer," I mused, "Oh, Summer. Better get a job." And shortly I strolled—arms at 45° angles—over to the Career Planning Office, in search of gainful summer employment.

They were most helpful there and directed me to a fascinating publication entitled "Announcement No. 414, Opportunities in the Federal Government." We in the trade call this document a "hot sheet," and I eagerly paged through and, creature of whimsy that I am, decided to apply for several at the U.S. Information Agency for the following reason: they all required a complete background investigation, "Swell," I thought, "what could be better than a complete background investigation?" I filled out some of those 3-foot long official forms and waited for the agents in trenchcoats to appear at my door.

"What can they really uncover, anyway?" I said to my neighbor, as I unlocked my door. "It isn't as if they'll find out about anything really important.

"You may be right about that," she said. "But I think I ought to tell you that about an hour ago I saw two men leaving your room..."

with a pile of your travel brochures. I confronted them, of course. They said they were with the CIA.

"They're your room? They weren't by any chance wearing...?"

"Yup. Trenchcoats.

I looked and, indeed, there had been nothing had moved except for the pile of travel brochures kept on my desk. The entire Tahiti section was missing.

"Oh no!" I gaped. "They've taken the entire Tahiti section."

"Is anything wrong?" asked my neighbor, who had followed me into my room.

"No, just that they've gotten my Tahiti brochures. They're getting close and are bound to find out any day now. I guess there's nothing left to do but write an article for the College News.

So here it is; if the CIA is on the trail, the whole story is bound to get out sooner or later. It's best to come clean now, spill the beans, break the news. I'm sorry, John..."

"Sorry about the truth, but the truth is that from the first time I had the courage to think and speak it, I thought you'd agree it's better this way.

You see, there never was going to be any tri-College Concert. Nope, no tickets, no music, no lights, no action, no Madness. The whole thing was a ruse. I cooked it up because, frankly, I had to get the money somewhere.

The plan was simple. First, with John as front man, get a commitment for a grand. Raise some hopes. Get the three colleges used to throwing that kind of money around. Then cancel the concert. Dash the hopes. Next, get a commitment of 24 grand. Next, abolish with it to Tahiti. You'll have to admit it was beautiful in its simplicity.

It all worked like clockwork. It was John's final performance at last Sunday's SGA meeting really that clinched the thing. Enjoy, John, getting Bryn Mawr to toss in its third grand. A fine and noble thing.

"The plan was simple. First... get a commitment for 15 grand. Raise some hopes. Get the three colleges used to throwing that kind of money around. Then cancel the concert. Dash the hopes. Next, get a commitment of 24 grand. Next, abolish with it to Tahiti. You'll have to admit it was beautiful in its simplicity."

**Kendrick denied rehiring**

by Michele Rubin

Professor Christopher Kendrick of the Bryn Mawr College English department has not been rehired this year by the Bryn Mawr Appointments Committee. He was, however, supported by the English department.

At age 31, Kendrick is one of the youngest members of the department, and some believe that his denial of reappointment illustrates the increasing trend on the part of the administration to deny reappointment and tenure to young and promising scholars. Many people in the community feel that the loss of Prof. Kendrick is a serious one and is detrimental to the English department.

Kendrick plans now to put himself out on the job market. He is, however, determined to continue the process and do more. "It is a good thing that Bryn Mawr is moving into a trend that teaches more literary theory and American courses as well. Kendrick was hired by conservative and traditional English department.

He continues to mention that "the political effects of the young professors being fired are hard on those professors become coerced to think in a certain way and conform because of the intense job insecurity."

"Though the job market is tight, there are some encouraging signs. According to Kendrick, jobs in state schools that were non-existent 5 years ago are opening.

"The cross section of students and faculty [here] is appealing," he says, and he is sorry to leave Bryn Mawr. As Prof. Kendrick is one of the most progressive and radical thinkers in the department, the students may miss him as well.

**Constitution**

(Continued from page 2)

Assembly will vote on the details.

The vote on the proposed constitution will be a part of academic prerogative for next semester. Students, 13. Seniors will receive ballots through campus mail. Each dorm will meet and discuss this proposed changes with their representatives and Association and dorm subjects.

There is a new and exciting idea in the proposed constitution. Dorm representatives and other officers with direct constituent responsibilities will meet every other week to discuss student life. The Students' Representative Council is proposed to add a louder voice to Assembly where all voting takes place.

Please vote. Please vote yes. Please vote yes for the proposed changes when you register for next semester.

The Assembly of the Self Government Association
Differences in students' background often detect

Urban public school more diverse

by Dominique Parker

The "Bryn Mawr experience" is in many ways unique and made up of indefinable elements, but it is still possible to identify certain characteristics. The things that went into making Bryn Mawr my number one college choice—its small size, its location, etc.—are the opposite of the things that make my high school distinctive. Jamaica High School, unlike Bryn Mawr College, is a public school located in Queens, N.Y.

Also unlike Bryn Mawr, the student body is quite large, numbering about 3,000 (my graduating class had over 800 people). Though it was possible to form close friendships, class solidarity or student body cohesion did not exist: "school spirit" was an elusive thing at best. For the most part, size also prevented close interactions with the faculty, though this was somewhat offset by a system of required "service credit" which a student could earn either through participation in a team sport or by working for the faculty, at any level. At Bryn Mawr, the size facilitates the possibility of close interaction with the faculty and administration, though this interaction is by no means guaranteed.

Actually, to be more systematic, it is possible to point out striking differences or adjustments I've had to make in coming from a large public school to a small private institution on the Main Line. Jamaica High is a very large N.Y.C. public school, so that "freedom" is possible only within definite boundaries.

Here at Bryn Mawr the Deans are academic advisors, while at Jamaica they serve a purely disciplinary function. If a student received a pink slip, for cutting class or improper behavior, she or he was sent to the appropriate Dean's office. Girls' and Boys' varsity teams were non-existent.

Like Bryn Mawr, which has certain requirements such as divisions, Jamaica has graduation requirements including a certain number of years of English, social studies, science, math, languages, physical education, art, and music. In addition to these requirements there were also the infamous Board of Regents exams along with the Regents Competency exams which one had to pass.

Although I didn't really have the same kind of freedom to decide what courses I wanted there as I do at Bryn Mawr, I did have some leeway. Jamaica is fortunate in that it has a large number of special course and program options such as Honors classes. Extra Honors classes, science and math, foreign languages, music, intensive courses, Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate program and Internships for credit.

At Jamaica there is no Honor Code; instead, there is the expectation that students will try and get away with as much as possible. Everyone from security to the faculty seemed to constantly demand official permission: a program card to prove one really belonged in the building or a hall pass to prove that one wasn't cutting a class.

All the things that I remember about Jamaica are not negative. I miss the kids who were very close friends and who I have no qualms about tossing into the building. They were more than just people but seems receivable. At Jamaica the minority population makes up over 50% of the student body. Jamaica's diversity was not only racial, it was also religious and economic.

In the end, I think the biggest difference between Bryn Mawr and Jamaica High School is Bryn Mawr's population. While the people here are different from the people at Jamaica, among themselves (racially, economically, and culturally) they are much more alike than those at Jamaica. My hardest adjustment has been to the people.

Bryn Mawr unfriendly to rural resident

by Kristen Steiner

At first, Lancaster Avenue terrified me. My friend stood on the double line and laughed while I stood on the curb and panicked. In my experience up to that time real roads were many more but less never more than two lanes. Two lanes each direction of whistling cars were divided by a grassy median strip (a highway) or found in an urban area—a city—nobody goes there. I grew up in a rural area in eastern Ohio, one and half hours west of Pittsburgh, the upper-most part of Appalachia (for the cognoscenti, pronounced ap-uhlatch-uh).

This is the point where many people start smiling and cooing. "The poor dear, isn't she cute!" Many people cannot grasp that I'm no mirage, I'm no fairy tale, I'm no Biblical figure, I'm no Native American primitive, I'm no Semitic woman, I'm no goat herd either. Mark me as different than everyone, but I'm not isolated. Mark me as different, but I'm not isolated.

I was an offsetting girl. I have some leeway. I was an offsetting girl. I was an offsetting girl. At Jamaica they were treated so differently. (At some dinner table girls had lifted their forks; teachers referred to them as 'students' and 'ladies'.)

by Karen Sullivan

Before I arrived at Bryn Mawr, I had never really known anyone my age who did not attend a private school. I had glided from a private elementary school to a private boarding school where I graduated a year early so I could spend a year in France under the aegis of the most elitist and well-known of private schools. Phillips Andover and Exeter Academies.

I had a vague sense that the mass of Americans my age were educated in large, concrete institutions where they had lockers, cars and cheerleaders, but my experiences were so limited to a self-enclosed group, all of whom attended the same boarding schools, belonged to the same country clubs, and wore the same clothes that the concept of public school seemed unreal to me. When I was ten and a child in my neighborhood asked me where I went to school and then "Are you rich?" I was puzzled: I had always thought of my family as poor because we didn't own our own horses.

At fourteen, I entered a boarding school listed in the Atlantic Monthly, as one of the ten "preppiest" secondary schools in the country during the first year of coeducation. I reacted to the six-to-one male-female ratio by writing editorials in the school newspaper examining the administration's struggles with the girls' dress code in terms of a historical emphasis on what women should wear; I wrote editorials criticizing the exaggerated courtesy with which girls were treated. At some dinner tables boys were forbidden to eat until the girls had lifted their forks; teachers referred to the student body as composed of "students" and "ladies." I objected to the all-male summer reading list and eventually wrote a supplement of works by women.
mine their reactions to Bryn Mawr environment

Jew notes culture gap

by Beth Leibson

Little did I know what I was to myself in for when I left Akiba Hebrew Academy, located in Merion, for Bryn Mawr College. Akiba is a small high school: it is so small, in fact, of not well-likedly uncomfort- able on a 90 degree day to fit the entire up- per school (ninth through twelfth grades) in which I was located in a very small room. (The building itself is an old converted house.) Akiba is so Jewish that Student Association meetings began with a "Dor Torah," a reading from the Bible, yet it of- fered such a well-rounded education that in eleventh grade I knew more about church history than my friend attending Catholic high school. And, Akiba is so "college prep" that the college attendance rate was 99 percent, with a graduating class of 50 people, that means that every other year one person doesn't attend.

I suppose what I found most jolting here was the attitude towards money. Last year, my roommate went home to Chicago spending in one weekend what it took me all semester to earn. I still have difficulty with the notion that a person can "not like taking buses," it seems an audacious if not downright silly attitude to take.

I also find that, thought I have lived in Philadelphia all my life, my knowledge of the city is still quite incomplete, I cannot tell people the best way to drive to Penn ("just take the train..."), nor can I provide any assistance in finding the airport, hav- ing never been terribly concerned with that in school. There were a small number of people at Akiba who went to Japan over winter break, nearly half commuted the same hour-long bus ride from a middle school to fit into a Harvard admit- tances application. I first thought of this atmosphere where grades were posted on a 90 degree day than go to a dance. My dorm- room was full of students from the one person doesn't attend.

The names and dates have been changed to protect the innocent. I am an ex-debutante, Some of my best friends are also ex-debutantes, including my mother and my two sisters. I have decided to come out of the boudoir. I made my debut in two cities, both in the true southern tradition of lily-white virgins and good-boys. The term "Virginia" was last called "a dis- crimation for the well-need," as in the "marines, training is necessary to avoid". "Faux pas" and to also prepare for the numerous parties. Faux pas are like the Germans in World War II: they lurk around every corner and with one false step you are worse than dead. You are ostra- cized and your family name ruined for life. The "bubbling circle," family is key. Money is everything, for you will buy you spot on the "deb line." Good family means good breeding and unfortunately also means good training in the top levels -- to such an extent that most genetic biologists would if they heard it. This is why the southerners are a bit kooky: you can be traced back to Aunt Mildred's second cousin twice-removed who eloped to Pitts- burgh with Frank Willow's son whose legitimacy had not yet been established. Or it may be that they are more desolate, even ridiculous by their classmates because I preferred to read philosophy alone in my room on a Satur- day night than go to a dance. My dom- master and Exeter advisor constantly lec- tured me on the dangers of being too aca- demic, of not being well-rounded.

Upon visiting Bryn Mawr I was amazed that the women all looked different from one another, since at my boarding school everyone wore the same type of clothing, spoke the same way, had the same manners. I was also struck by the lack of sports facilities, as compared to my secondary school's acres of playing fields, hockey rink, six squash courts, etc. -- I was relieved to see a whole new discipline that sports were not of central focus.

My first hesitation over Bryn Mawr had been traditions, which I associated with shoes whitening and wearing a tuxedo to a night chapel or accepting a team letter from the headmaster. Needless to say, my premonitions were destroyed by Eastern Night, which promised both support and unity without the obligation to conform as in high school. However, there were many ways the differences in the traditions reflect the differences between a private secon- day school and a Bryn Mawr experience.

Furthermore, I must admit I was con- fused the first time I saw people walking around with something like dirt deliber- ately smudged on their faces. Ash Wednes- day was a concept with which I was intellec- tually familiar, but which I had never really seen. And it was considered the "Judaica expert," I never really fit that role at Akiba. But here I am the "good family," a descendant of his greatness Robert E. Lee, and then you find out that certain person is af- fected my adjustment to Bryn Mawr. It is a terrible thing to find out that certain person is af- fected my adjustment to Bryn Mawr. It is a terrible thing to think that you have to be a Southern gentleman and that you have to drink water? Alcohol training for southerners begins young, for not only must you drink a lot but you cannot show that you are drunk. You can become "good natured" but if you crawl underneath the table and start singing Dixie to the passers-by you are off the list. I was at a party once in a hotel that had just been renovated but had been there in existence for 80 years, and the night I was there we broke all the previous liquor inake records by about 3 more drinks per person. This is something to be expected by all party throwers as common and natural, and there are even chauffeur- driven limousines for those who are a little too good-natured.

Now to the actual event: the presenta- tion. "Girls" wear virginal white, carry a dozen red roses, courtesly at the top of a run- way and then walk down with their distin- guished father in tails. Every good southern father owns his own "tails" hanging in the closet waiting anxiously for little of Emma Mae to make him proud. Your escort is to wait you a good time for in between their alcohol and chat training they have been going to cotil- lion for five straight years and have finally reached the point where they do not leave sweat marks on the back of your dress.

I must admit I can go on and about the life of a deb, not that mine was par- ticularly exciting, but that one of these days I want to understand what it all meant, and to answer the big question of it is this tradition that defies description, for if it is a

by Snoozer Archer

"Good family means interbreeding"...
Wellesley conference participants gain perspective

by Sasha Torres

On Friday, April 6, Annie Avery, Maria Bruehwiler, Katherine Dixon, Jenny LeSar, Caryl Libman, Suzanne Pelletier and Sasha Torres piled countless sleeping bags into the back of the physical plant department on Chevy suburn, put a tape of Ferron's "Romnay into Libman's tape player, and set of singing for the New England Women's College Conference sponsored by Wellesley College.

When they arrived at Wellesley, eight hours later, their enthusiasm was hardly dampened, despite the fact that they had missed seeing Meg Christian in concert on the Wellesley campus by only three hours. The members of the Bryn Mawr delegations, who stayed with Wellesley students, went to sleep with visions of single-sex institutions dancing in their heads, and awoke ready for a day of creative exchange on that topic.

While they may have been prepared for such discussion, the reality did not always meet expectations. The conference began with a panel presentation by deans and presidents of the nine colleges represented (Barnard, Mount Holyoke, Wellesley, Smith, Smith, Wellesley, Wheaton and Bryn Mawr), and many of the participants made statements more appropriate as research statements than as contributions to an effective analysis of the challenges faced by women's colleges today.

Instead, acting president of Mount Holyoke Joseph Ellis spoke of the future of women's colleges as "closely connected to the" of the feminist movement," and of the necessity of such institutions as Mount Holyoke making an "avowed commitment to" "women's" "sentiments shared by most of the panel members. Unfortunately, the problem of translating this rhetoric into support for feminist activity on women's college campuses was not effectively addressed.

Mondale speaks

(Continued from page 1)

asked if he would consider Barbara Jordan or another woman as a running mate, if he were nominated. Mondale maintained that he also has a "deep commitment" to "those issues" and said that he will "very carefully consider" having a woman as a running mate if nominated. He said he "wasn't making that decision yet."

A male student questioned Mondale concerning his position on aid to El Salvador. Mondale said that he was opposed to the manner in which aid has been voted to El Salvador by Congress recently, as it "was not as tough as it should have been on political reform, ending the death squads, and land reform."

He believes that the U.S. must also terminate covert activities in Nicaragua. He objects to the "Americanization" of other countries' defense systems.

On the question of the Solomon Amendment, Mondale responded quickly, "I'm opposed. I don't think we need draft registration."

In response to a question about international environmental policy, Mondale joked about the current administration's policy, particularly with regard to those who "create and carry out such policy." She said Mondale, "I've got a two-part plan. First, I'm going to fire everybody they hired, and second, I'm going to hire everybody they fired." He then cited acid rain as an international environmental problem that he would work on if elected.

He responded to another student that he was in favor of trade with eastern European countries—if it is "peaceful trade, we might as well compete with other countries to get it."

Media much in evidence

At the conclusion of the question and answer period, when Mondale visited a microscopic women's college nalled by his aides to depart, Bryn Mawr students shouted an "Anassa Kata"—the College cheer—to "Election '84." Mondale left Thomas Great Hall flank ed by his aides and Secret Security men as well as the news cameras of NBC, CBS, ABC, and photographers from Time magazine and other national publications. Outside the Great Hall, camera operators and photographers strained for shots of Mondale working his was through the sizeable crowd, shaking hands and even kissing a baby.

Students seemed a bit awed by the motorcade of limousines, cars, police escorts and the press bus, but took Mondale's remarks in stride. Sanaa Kavoutzis '85 said she was "glad he was here, but it lacked a little substance, particularly on the Middle East. Bob Edgar was wonderful, though." Jenny Sayre Ramberg '87 commented that "at this point I'd say I'm voting for Mondale because the nuclear issue is the most important to me."

Rachel Goldsmith '85 said after a mo- ment's hesitation that she was "impressed. He dealt with a lot more issues than I expected. I think he will have convinced a lot of people here. He's more concrete a candidate."

This was particularly evident in the state- ment made by Wellesley president Nannerl Keohane recently made when she stressed the importance of opening up communication among all women's colleges, including sectarian institutions. In order for women's colleges to maintain an impact on higher education in America, a "critical mass" of such colleges must survive, so that students know that they exist.

During the question period following the panel's presentation, Mayhew reminded participants that our thinking about women's colleges must take into account that a broad spectrum of women's educa- tion exists. "We must start connecting with other kinds of women's education, or we will become dinosaurs."

The perpetuation of the "Sisters" as "wonderful, flourishing" institutions, she continued, "just isn't good enough."

After lunch, conference participants were divided into small discussion groups in which they tried to address such questions as "Are women's colleges represen- tative of women?" and "what do you perceive to be the role of alumnae connec- tions in women's colleges today?" Though most of the groups seemed to come up with the same conclusions, the discussions were lively and interesting, and the students tended to address issues more directly than administrators had.

One such issue was sexual preferences. The members of one group noted that "women at women's colleges are forced to examine their sexual feelings about other women earlier than they might at a co-ed institution." Other groups talked about homophobia and the connection often in- ferred between feminism and lesbianism. After "Happy Hour" at Oakey's, which is a popular gay bar in Boston, members of the delegation enjoyed pizza and pastries in Boston's North End, spent another night at Wellesley, and returned home feeling that they had gained some perspective on Bryn Mawr, the kind of perspective only of- fered by distance.

Kathy Roth, head of the Coalition for Ac- tion on Women's Issue, introduces Mondale. "Perhaps one day we will be presen- ting a woman up here," Roth suggested.

Meer discusses South Africa

(Continued from page 1)

Labor Bureau to seek employment in ur- ban areas. The pass allows a person 72 hours to find work, after which he or she is nalled by his aides to depart. Bryn Mawr students shouted an "Anassa Kata"—the College cheer—to "Election '84." Mondale left Thomas Great Hall flank ed by his aides and Secret Security men as well as the news cameras of NBC, CBS, ABC, and photographers from Time magazine and other national publications. Outside the Great Hall, camera operators and photographers strained for shots of Mondale working his was through the sizeable crowd, shaking hands and even kissing a baby.

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Feminist bookstore an experience

by Karen Sullivan

On any Saturday afternoon the usual Philadelphia pedestrian, strolling past 1006 Pine Street, will find the Woman's Book Connection to be bustling with activity. As she enters to innocently glance at the books displayed on a folding table, she hears the sound of marching bands, and three women jump out. Before she knows what she's doing, she finds herself helping these women drag in a stack of boxes, which they set in the main room of the store. "As our friends get richer, we get more furniture," says Judy Milenboch, who opened the bookstore with her daughter last June.

Such an experience, where the distinction between owner and customer is blurred, is typical of the atmosphere of the Woman's Book Connection which aims at being "not just a bookstore, but an experience." According to Milenboch, "We see ourselves as a place for women to be comfortable, to get support for being a woman in our culture. We see ourselves as a total woman's space."

Indeed, while traditionally a bookstore, the categories of books and the other services provided are unlike those of any standard bookstore. Six shelves are dedicated to novels by women, six to works by and about lesbian women. Other categories include feminist theory, herstory, women's spirituality and violence. Of the four bookcases of non-sexist children's literature, Milenboch masterly comments, "We have been told that we have the best selection of children's books in Philadelphia. To which her daughter added 'And we believe it.'"

In addition to books, the store's bay window is filled with pamphlets and leaflets from Au Courant to the Delaware Valley Women's Newsletter to box for a coupon swap. Posters of women composers, such as Holly Near and Meg Christian, cover the walls, along with smaller, two-dollar-nine-teenth century drawings with quotations from Sarah Grimke and Abigail Adams. Women's music and tickets to women's concerts are sold along with a wide variety of buttons.

Finally, the Book Connection holds lectures and other events with the help of a grant from the Pennsylvania Humanities Council. Judy Grahn, Alex Dobkin, Sue Hole, Beth Barash about Hart's position favoring the MX missile and the B-1 bomber. When asked by Sophomore Salil Barash about Hart's position favoring the sub-minimum wage for 14 to 18-year-olds in non-permanent positions, she was unable to answer the question and referred Barash to Hart's book on tax reform. Andrea Hart also said that her father is 'very supportive' of gay-lesbian rights bills, though she could supply no concrete details. When asked about the Solomon Amendment, Andrea Hart replied that her father does not support this bill for he feels that education and the military "should not go hand in hand."

Guide for Perplexed Women

Thursday, April 12, 11 a.m.
Gest 101, Haverford

Thursday, April 12, 4:15 p.m.
Bond, Swarthmore

Sunday, April 15, 2 p.m.
Thomas 110

Thursday, April 19, 4:15 p.m.
Dorothy Vernon Room, Haffner

Saturday, April 21, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Bryn Mawr Room, Haverford Dining Center RSVP

Saturday, April 28, 2-5 p.m.
Friends Meeting House, 4th and Arch Streets, Philadelphia

Saturday, April 28, 3 p.m.
The Woman's Book Connection 1006 Pine Street, Philadelphia

With practiced and polished phrases, Andrea Hart relished her father's campaign slogan of new ideas. "What people are looking for in the '80s is someone who is not afraid to accept change. People in this country want change, expect change." She illustrated her point with two examples of Hart's new ideas: military reform ("we need personnel who are educated and trained") and tax reform ("Hart wants almost total restructuring. He advocates weeding out unnecessary programs and adding new and more beneficial ones.").

During the informal question and answer period that followed, Andrea Hart recapitulated her father's stand on arms control, describing how the Colorado senator fought against first-strike weapons and said, "l'd like to drop a bomb on the B-1 bomber." When asked by sophomore Salli Barash about Hart's position favoring the sub-minimum wage for 14 to 18-year-olds employed in non-permanent positions, she was unable to answer the question and referred Barash to Hart's book on tax reform. Andrea Hart also said that her father is "very supportive" of gay-lesbian rights bills, though she could supply no concrete details. When asked about the Solomon Amendment, Andrea Hart replied that her father does not support this bill for he feels that education and the military "should not go hand in hand."

by Vivion Vinson

May first, the traditional date for the College's May Day celebration, falls on a Tuesday this year, with no cancellation of classes. Mild controversy is stirring the campus as a result. In most school years classes end before the first of May, or the date for festivities falls on a weekend. This year, however, neither is the case, and, as in the past when the calendar has proven uncooperative, students will have to plan their activities carefully.

Traditions mistress Marie Bruhwiler says that suggestions to move May Day a few days ahead in order to prevent conflict met with "much opposition" among seniors and SGA members. The May Day schedule will not be adjusted to accommodate those who must attend classes. Tuesday, said Bruhwiler, is a relatively light day for most students in any case.

Members of the student body are threatening to skip classes, which has been the standard reaction in the past to conflicts of schedule on May Day. Individual professors have generally been lenient where this is concerned; some rescheduled their classes at the students' request and, as mains a student issue nonetheless, and a petition is the only format available for those students who must attend classes.

The department of history presents a centennial tribute to the importance of M. Carey Thomas. ABUM's candidate Cynthia Brown will speak on "Deliberate Revolution: M. Carey Thomas, Bryn Mawr and Women's Emancipation."

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Born in Flames: "Oppressed peoples have the right to violence..."

by Sherryl Statland

The revolution has come, my friends. You know, the socialist democratic revolution that is taking place in Lizzie Borden's (no relation to the ax woman) film "Born in Flames" takes a look at revolution in its purest form. Controversy and classism are still part of American life.

In the film, which is set in New York City, there are two women's radio stations: one is composed of black women, the other of white women. The black women of Phoenix radio station are part of a radical Women's Army. They are described by the Socialist Party as being "counter-revolutionary." The white women from the Regatta radio station do not want to help the Women's Army, at least not at first.

However, when one of the Women's Army members is kicked out by the FBI and later reported as having killed herself, the white women join the light to make the American public aware of the situation. The film shows the women going to the beat of the guns and over the beating poles, flitting in and out the highlights of the evening.

The film concludes with the destruction of the main antenna on top of thearcy building by one of the Women's Army, rendering media communication impossible. "Born in Flames" is about women taking action. One of the best scenes in the film is the arrival of a dozen women, on bicycle, at the scene of a rape. They prevent the two men from committing the crime, and one feels uplifted by their sense of accomplishment, and their care for the would-be victim.

The women in the film are angry and violent, but as one of the women says: "All oppressed peoples have the right to violence... it's like the right to pee, it just has to happen in the right place, time and situation."

"Born in Flames" was shown at Swarthmore College as part of a weekend program: "Women and Revolution." There were various workshops, some for men and some for women, and a very powerful exhibit in the Women's Center called "Rape Culture." The exhibit was created by women students and displayed the attitudes toward women and sex through the various media of art, music, toys, clothes, literature, and out and out pornography.

International students perform for large crowd in Goodhart

by Hideko Secrest

On Thursday, April 5, international students representing 29 different countries dazied and charmed their Goodhart audience with a rare display of talent and exotic clothing in the course of a spectacular evening of music, dance and fashion.

The problem with such a grand and expansive performance is that as much as one was impressed, it cannot list all the events and performers. Though all of the acts were praiseworthy and thoroughly enjoyed, it is the Goodhart audience with a rare display of talent and one simply cannot list all the acts.

The other members of the panel were Maria Zacharias, wrote for Chase Manhattan Bank, Barbara Clarke, assistant editor at Farrar Straus and Giroux, and Beth Heinsohn, editorial assistant at Fawcett Publications.

How does one become involved with publishing?

Heinsohn began, "I love books." She added, "Unfortunately, I don't have a lot of influence about what I'd love to do."

Clark remembered that "when it came to graduation, I didn't know what I wanted to do. So I decided to write."

"I think it's important to have a personal stressor," Zacharias said. "I think that in order to be successful, you have to have some very specific skills and know your strengths."

What background is important? Take heart, philosophy and art history students. The major is not an important factor. In fact, the focus of her eyes created a particularly delightful dramatic effect.

Bolgian student Mariandi Cabell sang two Flemish songs, "Vhr kalamanden rok" and "Flaut de spiebiet," with great spirit and lover's touch.

The Tari Piring, a Sumatran dance celebrating the harvest, followed Dewi Win and Gun Lwin performed the intricate steps with a flaring candle in each hand. The effect was dramatic, as the moving flickering shadows which added to the mysterious mood of the dance.

The performance part of the evening came to an end with the Ramayan sound of the Bengali folk dance. Joya Ganguli delivered a sprightly execution of the lively and whimsical dance.

The evening came to a close with a fashion show. Fashion flowed upon nation in a breathtaking show of variety and brilliance of dress. From the simple lines of the Chinese chung sam and the East African sijinge to the elaborate and ornate formal Japanese kimono and bajur kurung and sarong of Indonesia, every costume served as a witness to the various faces and individuality of national characters presented during the course of the entertainment.

Public relations officials at the entrance took in the visual whirl of skipping and sashaying dancers under great pressure. Look to your instincts.

You get used to the money—it's a challenge. The subject of money came up repeatedly as Kagan explained that publishing is not a well-paid field. "It has a definite ceiling as to how much you will ever make." Zacharias switched jobs to work for Chase Manhattan Bank, noting that "doubling my salary was a very nice thing."

She added that corporate writing is an option to consider: "If you're a good writer, the job will apply."

Mellow also stated that "if you have a feeling you won't get along with the boss, think hard about taking the job. You will work together for long periods of time, and you need to work under great pressure. Look to your instincts."

In order to combat this ignorance, the committee on sexual harassment, which has as its head Equal Opportunity Officer Dolores Brien, is undertaking the education of every member of the Bryn Mawr community—employees, administrators, faculty and students—to explain what exactly constitutes harassment and that it's "no excuse" and that it's "only fair to give the accused a fair shake, too." She added that "if you feel uncomfortable doing that, she should look for another job."

Mellow said that if a student was unwilling to confront her aggressor and tell him to stop. If she feels uncomfortable doing that, she should look for another job. She added that "there was a high energy level, it felt really comfortable."

"Working Woman is smaller and was started by entrepreneurs. There's an entrepreneur approach to accomplish what we're small."

Kagan said, "There is a bias against journalism majors. It's easy to learn to write a love story, it's hard to learn research skills and analysis."

"It's very helpful to have done newspaper writing or editing," Zacharias said. "Though I think it's also good to have basic skills in layout and production."

Another important consideration is the corporate culture, Doubleday, the largest American entry, but in general, one came away from the show fairly saturated with inter-estent with the harasser. She added that "if you know two or three people who are very successful who type 35 words a minute, nothing that female employers tend to be more concerned with typing skills than males.

The world of publishing is remote from the Tower Tower, "I spent a lot of time underearning what I learned at Bryn Mawr. Employers don't care about your studies; they want you to see ideas and how they are supported," warned Heinsohn. Kagan reminded us, "If you are promoted every year. Not in the working world." People who have been working for three or four years have nothing on someone who's been in the business for twenty years.

Another important consideration is the corporate culture, Doubleday, the largest American entry, but in general, one came away from the show fairly saturated with interest in the future, from April 6-8. There were various workshops, some for men and some for women, and a very powerful exhibit in the Women's Center called "Rape Culture." "Things have really changed," Mellow said. "People are really happy that his behavior has changed, that's really what they wanted."

Mellow also stated that "it's only fair to employees. No. One knows exactly what harassment is. We hope because of the new educational program, there will be less harassment to begin with. And if something does happen, no one can say he didn't know; that won't be an excuse."