The Bryn Mawr and Haverford Bi-College News

Cultural Studies - coming soon to a course guide addendum near you

Golden Graham
Staff Writer

Toasted Graham
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Butterscotch Graham
Staff Writer

Today Bryn Mawr College took a step into the 21st century and the Third World in one big bound. At 9:00 this morning President Vickers and the provost proudly announced that Bryn Mawr College will now have a Cultural Studies department and major. All of the College Seminars will now have readings that will include cultures other than that of white America or Europe. Overcome with the new opportunity to be open-minded, the French department will now offer courses on French-speaking peoples outside of France.

In the same spirit, the history department will be offering a course entitled "The History of Welfare: From the 1950s to the Present. One student commented, "Like, I think this will be really awesome. I would love to learn more about black and Latin American history. It would help me to relate to my Black friends here." One faculty member told the Bi-Co News that all of the departments that previously included courses primarily on Europeans and Euro-Americans "will now extend their scope to include coloreds." Another course in the Political Science department is entitled "From Haile Selassie to Fidel Castro: Comparative Politics of Anti-Capitalist Hatemongers." The philosophy department will offer a course entitled "Philosophy of Third World Thought: the Development of the "Developing" Mind." The college will offer JYA programs to places like Ethiopia, Haiti, Indonesia, Rwanda, Nicaragua, Mozambique and Ecuador.

The similarly inspired biology department will offer a course on the genetics of nappy hair. This course will include a fieldwork component of four hours per week in which students will get hands-on experience with an ethnic head of hair. No longer will black and Latino students have to endure the endless questions of how often they wash or how they comb their hair. In another department students will have an opportunity to take "Latin America - Beyond Jennifer Lopez, Ricky Martin and the Macarena." Lower Merion Township, in response to the College's actions, has altered the course of his personal life and professional career, "to many Fords this is an award overwhelming. It is not only an academically competitive college that was hand-chosen by students to post a personal ad." Of the award, one student said, "I am excited that the College will now have a Cultural Studies major that will give me the opportunity to learn more about non-white cultures all year round! With all of these changes, Bryn Mawr's rank is estimated to increase from 18 to 1. Retention and enrollment are expected to go up as well, resulting in a Bryn Mawr that is not only an academically competitive college but filled with students with more liberal minds.

Haverford comment board named national historic landmark, added to U.S. News listings

Curly, Larry and Moe
Columnist(s)

Last Wednesday Haverford's own Comment Board became the latest addition to National Treasury of Historic Landmarks to a nationwide registry of places of cultural and historical significance. The registry belongs to the American National Treasure Foundation and Rational Mitigation (ANT FARM) Committee, which made the announcement.

Spokesman I.M. Hairy, in a press conference before the ad hoc committee on Separating Cattle And Milk (SCAM), spoke glowingly of the famed comment board, saying "Who knows where this great nation would be were it not for the wonderfully insightful conversations of the Haverford Comment Board?"

After the 13 minute standing ovation and curtain call that followed, he finally quieted the crowd and continued, "Everything important that gets done in this country starts on the hallowed cork substrate of the comment board. It is where Clinton first announced his presidency... how the Middle East Peace process began." He continued, "It is where the source of the impetus for changing the Honor Code article 321, section 12a, line 3, word 60 from "Sacred to "Honorable?" coded our "A" and the "P" to "A".

"How not to treat people of color like cultural sideshows for the sole purpose of amusement and entertainment; and -The truth about affirmative action: Is it possible that people of color got into Bryn Mawr because they are qualified?"

Another major change on campus will be the hiring of more Asian and American faculty members to reflect the numeric diversity of the student population (20 percent Asian). On the social scene, there has been an amendment to the SGA constitution that ensures that students of color will not have to fight for free, uncensored speech in publications such as the Bi-Co News and the Mawr Side. Students have also decided to extend diversity week to the entire school year instead of limiting it to a week. Now students will have the chance to learn about non-white cultures all year round! With all of these changes, Haverford's rank is estimated to increase from 18 to 1. Retention and enrollment are expected to go up as well, resulting in a Bryn Mawr that is not only an academically competitive college but filled with women with more liberal minds.

Golden Graham

U.S. News and World Report ranked it among the top 10 boards in the nation in the category of "Overall" board character. The much-awaited issue of the magazine, which hit newsstands on Monday, accorded this "most selective" honor to only 24.73 arbitrarily selected schools in the United States. Such status grants the top-ranked schools a charter of "prestige" that allows them the right to charge $32,000 for a year's tuition, increasing at a modest 10 percent per year.

Other image-enhancing lists also feature the Haverford the prized campus comment board. The Board earned a No. 3 showing in the category "Best place to voice parking concerns."

Other lists brought in much more surprising, if not shocking, results. Haverford's Comment Board placed at No. 6 in the ranking of "least attractive comment board-goers amongst small liberal arts colleges." (in conjunction with the No. 2 slot for "most dangerous places to post a personal ad").

To many Fords this is an award overwhelming. It is not only an academically competitive college that was hand-chosen by students to post a personal ad (with a close second place given to another Haverford locale, the walls of the men's bathroom in Stokes). Highlighting the significance of this award to the college at large, President Tom Trotton spoke movingly about the awards in a recent speech to prospective students. Appealing to the pre-freshmen in a tearful address on how the Board has altered the course of his personal life and professional career, he told the pre-freshman that, "above all, you want a comment board like the Haverford Comment Board working for you in the years ahead."
New science fiction department to work at BMC

Juliana Rosati
Staff Writer

Bryn Mawr College President Nancy J. Vickers announced this week that as part of her Plan for a New Century, Bryn Mawr is developing a new Science Fiction Department.

"I believe that this is an extremely important undertaking," said Vickers. "We live in a world in which science fiction is every day becoming science fact. Therefore, if our students are to be prepared for the future, it is essential that they engage in the study of science fiction."

Vickers views Bryn Mawr as assuming an important leadership role in this "new frontier" in education. "I hope," she said, "that colleges and universities across the country will follow Bryn Mawr's example of affirming the significance of science fiction studies.

A planning committee made up of faculty, administrators, and students will begin work on the new department, which is scheduled to be up and running for the 2001-2002 academic year. Possible course titles include "Exploring the Future in Star Trek Films," "From Kirk to Janeway, a Classic Star Trek Series," "Captain's Log" and "Star Wars Epilogue I: Necessary Explanation of Unpredictable Deviation."

It appears likely that concentrations in the Science Fiction major will be offered in Star Trek, Star Wars, and X-Files, although ardent Trekkers and Whovians are arguing for the possibility of a major in Star Trek alone, with concentrations available in The Original Series, The Next Generation, Deep Space Nine, and Voyagers. Nevertheless, it is clear that the Science Fiction major will provide students with the tools and techniques to immerse themselves in the major, similar to what Helfer is doing in the English Department. Director of Residential Life Angie Sheets reported that "We've been considering building a new dorm on the site of a space ship, to allow students to experience the dynamic of a crew life. There would be a captain instead of a dorm president, and every student would have a rank—commander, ensign, yeoman, etc. The dorm's design would also include a bridge, where the captain would send uncooperative students.

However, Sheets' planning has caused some controversy. Pro-Star Wars students have raised the question of whether Sheppers has allowed a personal preference for Star Trek to influence her design. "Every element of the dorm concept comes from Star Trek," pointed out one sophomore. "I mean, why can't we have housing that would allow us to focus on Jedi Knight training?"

A group of students has proposed a dorm to create a facsimile of Dagobah, Yoda's planet in Star Wars. Others have suggested a dorm that would be a complete model of the crew behind Brecio. The dorm would consist of a series of suite-like structures, and students would be elected to play the roles of Yoda and Obi-Wan Kenobi. But the idea faces opposition from students and administrators alike. "We just can't see student life in a space ship arrangement like that," argues Brecio, "Professor of Public Safety John Maloney, and, as one freshman complained, "Students can't show each other the ways of the force. It's something that has to be taught by a mentor, not by a peer."

Another source of controversy has been the inevitable question of what one can do with a Science Fiction Studies major after graduation. "I firmly believe that this course of studies will prepare students for whatever life has to offer them," says Dean Tilman. Professor Beckmann concurs. "You show me a science fiction major, and I'll show you a student who is equipped to handle any situation."

"We are indeed very lucky to have a complete record of the beginnings of one of the great buildings on this campus in the words of the architect himself," said President Nancy Vickers.

Head of Residential Life Angie Sheets pressed similar mode. "I hope this makes students appreciate the history of this great dormitory more," she said.

"Bakin's Backsmoker Diaries" have been given to the Archives in Canaday Library, where they can be seen by appointment.

Kahn diaries found in Erdman

Holes in walls have no meaning, papers reveal

Christine McCluskey

Until last week, no one knew that Louis Kahn, the famous architect who designed Bryn Mawr's Erdman Hall dormitory, kept a record of his thoughts during the building's construction in the early sixties. While tearing down a wall of Erdman's backstair room, though, construction worker James Abboud found three small brown leather notebooks stacked inside the wall on the floor. They were labeled 1960-61, 1962-63, and 1964-65—the years Erdman was designed and built. "No one had ever found anything like that in a wall before," Abboud said.

"Dead mice, yes. Journals of famous architects, never," Abboud said.

Abboud said he had known a little of the building's history, and so he knew when he opened the journals and started reading that they must have been written by Kahn. "This has since been confirmed by handwritten correspondence."

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The material in this section is partially false, deliberately malicious, and foul. All quotes are quite fabricated, unless they are real and are employed for the purposes of causing mild to extreme embarrassment. The Editors.
Tele-Tubbies, the musical: Eh-Oh!
Mark Lord, aka "Mr. Sunshine" directs this yummy, feel-good romp

Nicolette Foulke-Dancing
Art & Living Editor

When news of Theater Director Mark Lord's (aka Mr. Sunshine) collaboration with the BHC to have the world premiere of Eh-Oh! Tele-Tubbies – the musical in Bryn Mawr's Goodhart auditorium caught wind, frankly, I was disgusted that the bi-co theater would take on such a shallow project.

But that disgust was to be proven unfounded; it was truly ex-cellent!

I am deeply impressed by the script. It is so tight and to-the-point, yet the actual dialogue has a precise menacing quality; the fluttered-up words and crude at-temps at full sentences seem to hang lightly in the air, surrounding one with a aura of a pure and childlike stupidity, Jong-forgetten.

Eh-Oh has been lifted straight from the actual TV show and it had a profound effect on the audience members, who slumped, slack-jawed in their seats, sucking the ground dry, swizzle toast and making hand puppets. We found ourselves eagerly repeating each line of dialogue over again after the actors would repeat individual lines and pause so that we could practice our vocal skills, I personally found that if I tried hard enough, I could even regress to my fetal state.

The scenes blend into each other, seamlessly. The musical consists of five acts in which the four Tubbies get up and play together and then get tired so they sit down and eat pudding. It just really makes sense and it's so fulfill-ing.

Bryn Mawh sophomore Mayumi Nakamura certainly enjoyed herself. "I could follow it really well! They all got up and played together and then they got tired so they sat down and ate pudding. It just really makes sense and I feel so fulfilled!"

McBride student Reverend Jerry Falwell (BMC '03) issued Tubby Winky with an unabashed playfulness, and the rest of the Tubbies characters were well-played by veteran actors Geoffrey Melada (HC '00), Char-lie Ford (BMC '02) and Ben Henckell (HC '00). (Kudos to those souls who wore those padded Tubby costumes.)

Newcomer Huang Dong (BMC '02) gave quite a physical performance as the smiling Tele-tubby sun; constant l y sus­­pended 20 feet above the stage, it gurgled happily and drooled on occasion, after which, the Tubbies would gather around to examine it.

Actor Carrot Top (Young Einstein) made a special appearance as a stalk of albino broccoli that meandered through scenes at random, "I have a shy, mineral flavor" under its breath. Like the dialogue, the scen­ery was congruent with that of the TV show, in which the back­ground consists of gentile, rolling hills and periscopes popping from the ground. Said Technical Director Hiroshi Iwaski, "Setting up the stage in the basement Asbestos Room was a challenge; we needed the cozy stage atmosphere but the fear of asbestos fibers getting lodged in our lungs ... made everyone (the tech workers and actors) less efficient. The pizza delivery man refused to come."

See TELE TUBBIES over there.

The Blue Bicer Diner: yum yum yum, a whole lotta fui:i (and squirrel pie too)
Charlotte Ford (BMC '02), Jerry Falwell (BMC '03), Ben Hicknell (HC '00) and Geoffrey Melada (HC '00) at play.

Nicolette Foulke – Tap Water Drinker – Anarchist

Something else comes out of the Bi-Co Newsroom

Lord is pleased with the out­come and sees the success as proof that his approach to main­stream theatre is validated: "I guess I'm thinking of myself in terms of film director Fritz Lang, when he moved to the States dur­ing Weimar Germany; he got sucked by Hollywood yet he still managed to finish his voice. I feel like this piece has finished, I feel so fulfilled." All in all, Eh-Oh was a truly enjoyable half hour, one that I will not soon forget. I congrat­ulate the cast and crew on this mord and impressive move to bring the concept of regression to the bi­co, a concept that cannot truly be felt because in order to recognize it you must have mental progress, but since you are regressing you cannot even beg – or ... aarg.

Eh-Oh ran from Thursday, 5th to Saturday, April 1st in the Asbestos Room of Bryn Mawr's Goodhart Auditorium. Call (666) 666-6666 for more info.

The Blue Bicer Diner: yum yum yum, a whole lotta fui:i (and squirrel pie too)

Catherine Song
Staff Writer

Last week, a friend of mine and I went out to dinner.

First, we wanted to go to Bertucci's, but it was way too crowded. We tried to go up to places to dine, but nothing good came up. (McDonald's was out of the question – my friend's one of them vegetarians). Still hungry, we talked and walked a bit, and lo and behold, there was the Blue Bicer Diner right in our faces.

Let me tell you about this place: it's this little blue bus with a little diner inside, and little seats, and little waiters, and – oh heck, you got it.

We were seated adjacent to the emergency window, which was a good thing if you want to stick your big head out (or something else). While my friend dined on hamburger and carrots and chestnuts (courtesy of the squirrels), I, satisfying my voracious hunger, downed some Snapple, humus, and squirrel pie (apologies to the squirrels).

During our meal, the owner/ driver of the Blue Bicer diner took us on a tour of the bi-co college community ("...and on your left is Pen fried rice!""). President Nancy Vickers ... let's take a right turn here, and crossing the intersection you can see Harcum College, which is not part of the bi-co community ... here we are, at Haverford ... on the right is the Stokes Auditorium, and facing us in the Dining Center ... ")

Dining at the Blue Bicer Diner is like killing two birds with one stone: you get two deals (meal and tour) for the price of one (just pay for dinner). It also offers good prices for their meals – I spent only $5.02 on mine. I also learned that every Wednesday is "Happy Hour": you receive a free Snapple pie and a peanut to go with it (by College, L.D. (Sorry, Swaties, Nons, and Univer­sity)...

I give this diner 10 forks out of 11. Meanwhile, if you will excuse me, I'll just go and try to get rid of this hairy aftertaste in my mouth.

Charlotte Ford (BMC '02), Jerry Falwell (BMC '03), Ben Hicknell (HC '00) and Geoffrey Melada (HC '00) at play.
Proposal to move Schwartz Gym to Merion Green underway

Stacey Galusny
Sports Editor

As a means of integrating athletics with the rest of campus, a proposal has been developed to move the Schwartz Gymnasium, currently located at the far end of campus all the way at the bottom of the hill, to a more central location - namely Merion Green in order to make access easier for students.

How to integrate Bryn Mawr Athletics with the rest of the campus has been a growing concern on the minds of many for quite some time. "Already there is a physical separation between the gym and the rest of campus," says Athletic Director, Amy Campbell. Abolishing this physical separation is first on the agenda.

One thing the distant location of the gym does is discourage students from going down there. "I'd go to my gym class, but it's just so separation between the gym and the PE class because it was "too far to walk." said another.

Students are expected to walk down to the gym and back up at least three times per week. For those who are unfamiliar with this procedure, there will be a half semester long introductory course involving thorough instruction from one of six certified PE instructors. The hopes are that this class will get more students down to the gym and also suffice for those who have complained about the lack back up to the main campus from the gym.

For more information, visit www.brynma.org/athletics/courses/sports/summer2000.html.

In just one week, sophomores Sarah Norieka and Shannon Philip have achieved what few would manage to do in their entire Bryn Mawr career. The two of them have not moved from their sluggish position in their beanbag chairs, situated directly in front of the television, save to use the bathroom or eat our snacks. Convinced they won't lose, the two exuberant strawberries have combined consecutive hours of TV watching to achieve a grand total of 196 hours in just one week. Both achieved personal best times of 14 consecutive hours per day sleeping throughout the process. Norieka also holds the distinction of being the fastest TV clicker among strawberries, 200.5 channels per minute, while Philip is acclaimed for her ability to eat her weight in gummy-bears. Keep up the good work girls!

This week's winners will not receive a certificate for the Bryn Mawr Cafe upon presentation of this coupon.

Haverford track runner posts shocking victory at Widener Invitational

Superfly" Jimmy Snuka and "Hacksws" Jim Dugan
Sports Editor

In an amazing upset, Haverford racer Matt Spigelman won the 1500 m at the Widener Invitational Saturday, beating out his fellow Goats and even Olympic hopeful Jason Bermen in a record-breaking time of 3:52.46. This is a world record over by a minute. How did he do it? "I don't know, I'm usually not that fast," said Spigelman. "In all honesty, I think I'm going to have to chalk this one up to the 2000 horse-power Cessna engine that I had strapped to my back."

Spigelman said he obtained the engine from his Uncle Richie, a former pilot for ValuJet who was fired in 1995 citing "irreconcilable differences concerning not crashing."

Never the swiftest Goat, Spigelman's best in the 800m was a mediocre 4:35.24, nearly twice his record-breaking time. Other Goats were dumb-founded by his incredible performance.

"Spigelman was flying today," said Chris Johnstone, the bald faced new man at the gym. "I had to running right with the Pimp and then I hear this deafening whirring sound and see a Thorah whizzing past us like 20 feet over our heads."

Bernstein echoed Johnstone's bewilderment. "I've never seen Matt race like this," said another. "I have to give him credit, strapping up on a Cessna is genius. To think, I've been training all this time, with my legs I, too, could have enjoyed the fruits of a plane engine."

Tom Donnelly, Haverford's ilustrious coach, was proud of Spigelman while at the same was expressing some unease. "While I applaud the man's spirit in 'The Right Walk-In,' I'm just not sure he's aiming at the competition."

Spigelman plans to obliterate the long-jump record, currently at 29'4", by making the first trans-Tasman Sea jump from Sydney to Auckland. New Zealand's tallest structure is now marked in the high jump with a leap that should be, according to Spigelman, "very, very, very, high."