Bi-Co efforts to get out the vote

There was no escape. The excitement of the century's closest election crashed through the bi-college bubble last Tuesday, sending an unprecedented number of Bryn Mawr and Haverford students to polling places throughout the area.

Election Day also saw the culmination of one of the most aggressive get-out-the-vote campaigns in bi-college history, without which most of the estimated 750 students who voted would not even have been registered, let alone gotten transportation to and from the polls.

At the Bryn Mawr Campus Center, van drivers making their scheduled stops often were confronted with tens of students looking for a ride in the 13-seat van.

Kolapo Abimbola

Multi-faceted. Few descriptions befit Haverford Visiting Professor of Religion Kolapo Abimbola better. A New Oyo, Nigeria native, Professor Abimbola (pronounced ah-BEEEM-bo-la) was hired by the Haverford College religion department this fall to fill the void left by Professor Tracey Hucks, who is on leave this academic year.

Abimbola, a soft-spoken, congenial 33-year-old with interests ranging from law to the history of science to African religions, boasts a number of academic credentials from universities in Africa and England. These include two bachelor's degrees— one in philosophy and one in law — two Ph.D.'s — one in law and one in the philosophy of science — and a one-year degree in Ifa. And just this year, Professor Abimbola became ordained as an Ifa priest (a "Babalawo") after 28 years of study.

Israeli Defense Forces Visit Haverford

The Swarthmore Room of the Haverford Dining Center was filled with college-aged people last Thursday night, gathered around a table of intense and, at moments, heated discussion. Most of the people were, in fact, college students. But sitting in front of the group of about 30 tri-co students, a young man and a young woman in their early 20s and dressed in full military attire, were decidedly not.

Oren Chefetz, first lieutenant in the Israeli air force, and Ora Peled, second lieutenant in the Israeli navy and the first woman to serve as an officer on an Israeli missile ship, are members of the Israeli Defense Forces. The mission of the Forces is to "defend the existence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of the state of Israel, to protect the inhabitants of Israel and to combat all forms of terror that threaten the daily life," according to their website.

Pink Mold and Drunken Possums

Floyd Butler: Seeing it all

Joel Warner

Let's Enjoy Galvin FUWA FUWA Japan

Yes, Galvin's Back

Galvin Chow

Calling Shots

BrynHaverMawrFord

Meredith Lewis

Israeli Defense Forces Visit Haverford

Annie Karni
Third Millennium was founded in 1993 to raise generation about and find solutions to long-term problems facing Generation X in the United States. Thau was a columnist for this publication and author of Age Power: How the 21st Century Will Be Ruled by the New Old (Tarcher Oct. 19) a senior at Bryn Mawr from Katonah, N.Y. His interests in international studies and theatre inspired a particular interest in the culture show.

The Era of Generational Profiling by Richard Thau p.10

Sara Gibson ("Diversity Week Culture Show" p.19), a senior at Bryn Mawr, from Katonah, New York, spent her junior year in France, first in Paris, then later in Avignon. She is pursuing the Bryn Mawr B.A./M.A. program in French. Her interests in international studies and theatre inspired a particular interest in the culture show.

Dining Services offers a taste of the 1920s by Heather MacClintock

Breast cancer awareness by Lauryn Wheeler

Improvapalooza by Nicole Foulke

Mainstage production Honey transcends the mundane by Abby Mathews

Saran documentary at BMC by Abby Mathews

Diversity Week Culture Show by Sara Gibson

Diversity Week Poetry Slam by Sara Gibson

Beer by Sean Armour

Real World Sports by Dan Silver

Getting into the Swing... by Emily Teel

BMC basketball gets ready for new season by Barb Litwinski

Cam Scribner: master of his own domain March Robert

Making Sense of 5:30 a.m. by Emil Moos

Sports Briefs

The Bi-Co is interested in publishing opinion pieces, academic papers, illustrations, creative writing, profiles and features writing from the community at large. To submit material for publication, please contact the editor of the section to which you wish to contribute.

The Mail

Crime Blotter

The Last Word

RABIA YASMEEN QURESHI

Rabia Yasmeen Qureshi ("Deconstructing Truth: The Mideast Peace Process from a Palestinian Perspective" p.25), a Bryn Mawr junior, is a Political Science/Spanish double major. Her particular area of interest are peace and conflict issues of the Middle East and Latin America, as well as global political economy. She is president of Amnesty International, Speaker’s Head for Muslim Student’s Association, and a member of the Ethnic Studies Committee and Model UN. She hopes to attend law school after graduation to pursue a career in international diplomacy.
Bi-co efforts get out the vote
Over 700 BMC, HC students turn out to local polls

Ryan Carr  Staff writer

There was no escape. The excitement of the century's closest election crashed through the bi-college bubble 1 p.m. Tuesday, as a throng of students converged outside the 13-seat van to get a ride in the 13-seat van. Students were confronted with tens of students looking for a ride in the 13-seat van.

At the Bryn Mawr Campus Center, van drivers making their scheduled stops often were confronted with students looking for a ride in the 13-seat van. "We got a lot more people than we expected," said Julie Zaebst, a Bryn Mawr BMC junior and Head for the BMC Community Service Office. "It got a little crazy."

Fortunately, there was a community-wide, non-partisan cadre of politically active students who anticipated Tuesday's craziness, with some shuttling students between the campuses and the polls in college vans or their own cars. At Haverford, a network of "dorm captains" bargained students with phone calls during the days leading up to the election. Bryn Mawr's Community Service Office carried out phone banking as well, calling each registered Bryn Mawr voter on Election Day as to where students should vote. Originally, the local election board informed Bryn Mawr that its students would be voting at the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. After that the school was informed that the campus was actually divided, with half the students to be voting at the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, and then told once again that everyone was to vote at the fire station. Finally, Heather Moss, a BMC junior and head of the Bryn Mawr College Democrats, realized that nearly everyone would be voting at the Presbyterian Church because nearly all of the students registered at the fire station had graduated.

The reasons for this confusing information remains unclear. "The Democratic officials in the area have told us that it's somewhat of a Republican area, and that people don't enjoy high turnout from college students in local elections since most students aren't from the area," Moss said.

Once Mawrters had figured out where they were voting, transportation to and from polling places posed no problem. Moss posted a list in the Campus Center Tuesday morning telling students to which polling place they should go, and Bryn Mawr used its vans to make several scheduled runs between the Campus Center and the church, which was close enough for many students to walk to. Other students were transported in cars driven by Berg, Zaebst, and other students. "We had a really good turnout. I don't know anyone who wanted to vote who wasn't able to," said Moss.

Many of the students most involved with politics besides Moss attribute the division of the campuses in part to the conservative agenda of the state legislature. "It's very partisan," said Berg. "They draw the districts in such a way as to neutralize whatever demographic is on the other side." Berg pointed out that this gerrymandering is not restricted to states. College state legislators often will split up districts with opposing agendas so that one demographic group will not exert significant political power.

Logistically, the partitioning of the campuses results in a major hassle every election year, leading many to wonder why polling shouldn't take place right on campus. "How can it be that one of our polling places is in someone's garage?" Robert Donati, co-president of the Haverford College Democrats, wondered aloud (one of the polling stations was indeed in a small garage in the back of a private residence). "It would be incredibly easy to have a polling place here, but we've been individual, isolated votes." This run-up registration for students trying to vote, these obstacles are frustrating both logistically and emotionally.

The refusal of the local bureaucracy to allow Bryn Mawr and Haverford students to vote on campus has only added to students' suspiciousness of conservative ill will. "In the absence of the resistance, the resistance may have as much to do with general non-partisan red tape in the local bureaucracy as any sort of party conflict. "It's not a vast right-wing conspiracy to keep people from voting," pointed out Donati, "but it leads someone to believe that there's something up there. Either way, it's a very difficult thing to deal with."

One solution that get-out-the-vote campaigns implemented was registering as many people as possible at the same address. Early on during their registration efforts, Berg, Donati, HC Democrats Co-President Janet Bunde and other volunteers urged students to register at Haverford College's Lancaster Avenue address rather than at the street addresses of the individual residential halls. One of the themes of early meetings between political organizers was coalition-building, the unification of the student voice into one agenda that would attract a politician's attention. "We talk a good game at Haverford," said Donati, referring to the various political activities that happen every year such as death-penalty vigils and last year's sweatshop protests. "If you want those issues to be on the politicians' agenda, you've got to tell them something to think about... votes."

Most politically concerned students agree that the best way to get through the obstacles is for local politicians to have as many students as possible vote locally rather than absent from their home state. "Politicians can't listen to blocks of voters," explained Berg. "Two thousand, four hundred votes spread out across the country doesn't have much in the way of power."

Still, most also agree that an absent voter is better than no vote at all. "The argument is: 'Look. I've lived 18 years in my hometown, Tennessee. In the future, those who headed the get-out-the-vote campaign hope that this year's high local turnout will convince local politicians that Bryn Mawr and Haverford College has been active in the campaign as a dorm captain, as were other campus organizations and members of opposing parties, most notably the Green Party. "When it came to mobilizing voters, we were able to tran­send party lines and come together as members of a democracy," said Indelicato.

Inevitably, though, the atmosphere leading up to Election Day was a liberal one. Publicly televised debates were marked by mass mobbing and bashing of George W. Bush, often in front of anti-monopoly conservatives who were simply trying to watch. In what may have been the get-out-the-vote campaign's biggest partisan slip-up, Democrats bluntly used the bi-college viewing of the first debate in Stokes Auditorium as a stump for Democratic candidates such as Al Gore and Joe Hoeffel. There was no Republican representation.

One explanation is that the local Democratic party offered to supply pizza and soda for every student who showed up. "I realize that that made some people uncomfortable, and I'm sorry for that," said Bunde of the stumping. "But [the Democrats] were footing the bill."

For conservatives on campus, many of whom ended up supporting Gore, the intervention of the local party hasn't been as much of a problem as the general hostility towards conservatism. "As soon as you put the name 'Bryn Mawr' before conservative is immediately stigmatized as being an ultra-conservative," explained Indelicato. "My main complaint is that there wasn't really an intellectual discussion between conservatives and Demo-
Kolapo Abimbola:
A man of many interests (and diplomas)

Marc Robert
Staff Writer

Multi-faceted

Kolapo Abimbola, the professor of Religion at Haverford Visiting Professor of Religion Kolapo Abimbola Visiting Professor of Religion at Haverford Visiting Professor of Religion at Haverford College, is no stranger to Haverford. A New Oyo, Nigeria native, Professor Abimbola (pronounced ah-BEEM-bo-la) has been a faculty member at Haverford College since 1997, and has taught courses in African religions, philosophy, and law. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy from the London School of Economics and his Master of Arts degree in philosophy from the London School of Economics and Political Science. He also holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree in philosophy from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Abimbola's expertise is in the study of African religions and philosophy. He is a scholar of Yoruba traditional religions and has published extensively on the topic. His research focuses on the interplay between African religions and Western thought, and he has contributed to the field of African American religious studies.

Abimbola is also a respected scholar of African legal history. He has written extensively on the history of African law and its influence on contemporary African societies. He is a leading authority on the history of African law and its impact on modern African societies.

In addition to his work as a scholar, Abimbola is also a respected teacher and mentor. He has taught at many institutions, including the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of Pennsylvania. He has received numerous awards for his teaching, including the Excellence in Teaching Award from Haverford College.

Abimbola's teaching excellence is recognized throughout the academic community. He is a sought-after speaker at conferences and workshops on African religions and philosophy. He is also a sought-after speaker at conferences and workshops on African religions and philosophy.

Abimbola's contributions to the field of African religions and philosophy are significant and ongoing. He continues to publish extensively and to mentor new scholars in the field. His work is respected and influential, and he is a leading authority on African religions and philosophy.
Israeli Defense Forces visit Haverford

The Swarthmore Room of the Haverford Dining Center was filled with college-aged people last Thursday night, gathered around a table of intense and, at moments, heated discussion. Most of the people were, in fact, college students. But sitting in the front of the group of about 30 tri-co students, a young man and a young woman in their early 20s and dressed in full military attire, were decidedly not.

Oren Chefetz, first lieutenant in the Israeli army, and Ora Peled, second lieutenant in the Israeli navy and the first woman to serve as an officer in an Israeli missile ship, are members of the Israeli Defense Forces. The mission of the Forces is to “defend the existence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of the state of Israel, to protect the inhabitants of Israel and to combat all forms of terrorism that threaten the daily life,” according to their website.

Chefetz and Peled visited Haverford as a part of a tour of East Coast colleges, where they have been leading a discussion entitled “IDF - Same Age, Same Gender, Different Life.” Although the purpose of their visit was not to discuss the current situation in Israel, but rather their own personal experiences in the army, the conversation inevitably turned toward the near-complete disintegration of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

The two young soldiers came prepared. After showing a video of Palestinian children learning how to handle firearms, and disconcerting images of Palestinian men with bloodied hands dragging the body of an Israeli in the street, they turned off the television and informed the audience, made up of solemn faces, that Israel was not using excessive force in dealing with the Palestinians. “It is very hard to be a soldier these days in the territories,” commented Oren Chefetz, a tall, blonde Israeli, who was not able to watch the video but rather turned his head to the side, until it was over, and were not allowed to do anything unless your life is in extreme danger.”

Although the soldiers were not optimistic about the future of the peace process, they do not think a full-out war is possible since Arafat does not have an army large enough to viably challenge Israel, and Israel will not initiate a war with the Palestinians.

They were pleased with the role America has played in the Middle East, "Clinton puts pressure on both sides," commented Peled. They seemed unconcerned with the outcome of the presidential election since they felt confident that the United States would continue to play a positive and powerful role in the Middle East, regardless of who wins the presidency.

The conversation turned from issues of politics to issues of gender and religion, and then to questions about Israeli-Arab relations. All men and women are required to serve in the Israeli army at the age of 18. The only difference in training between men and women is the amount of weight they would have to carry during runs. Side from very minor differences, men and women in the army are treated the same and expected to perform at the same levels.

After being questioned as to whether or not Israel should have mandatory army service, Chefetz answered that it was a moot point, as the policy would never change. "If it wasn't mandated, fewer people would serve. But Israel can't afford to lose fine soldiers. We need everyone we can get." Peled agreed with his assessment of the situation and, although she voiced her jealousy at seeing the serene lives of her American counterparts, whose biggest worries were how they would fair on their next set of exams, said that serving in the army "gives you a good feeling of doing something motivated by ideals."

Carol Joffe speaks to Second Wave Feminism

In an effort to vanquish all doubts confronting the Feminist movement in America, Bryn Mawr Professor Carol Joffe argued in a talk last Thursday that Feminism is not lost, but rather has a long way to go.

Joffe, who spoke in the Eliy Room of Wyndham, previously was a professor at Bryn Mawr in the Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research. She now is a visiting professor of sociology and women’s studies from the University of California at Davis.

Focusing on the changes in the feminist movement and the changes still needing to be made, Joffe began her speech by stating the purpose of her recent election. Noting that Al Gore won the popular vote with an 11 percent gender gap, Joffe said, “[A]fter women had the vote in 1920, a lot of male politicians were terrified about such a gender gap. But it did not happen for about 60 years or so,” Joffe commented.

Focusing on the difference between First Wave Feminism of the 1920s and Second Wave Feminism of the 1960s, Joffe said, “In some ways, of course, a continuity of these two [existed and] in some ways very profound differences [existed]. Differences that are captured by the phrase, ‘the personal is political.’ “

Second Wave Feminism, explained Joffe, encompasses a far broader array of issues that First Wave Feminism, which mainly focused on women’s suffrage. At first, First Wave Feminists were concerned with birth control as a medical issue because it distracted the government from granting Women’s Suffrage. That is where Second Wave Feminism stepped in.

Joffe began by questioning why some agendas are easier to change than others. "I am a feminist reflected on the Women’s Rights of the National Organization for Women (NOW), a Second Wave Feminist activist group founded in 1968. Joffe noted that many of the rights described in the bill have been affirmed, such as enforcement laws banning sexual discrimination in employment, maternity leave rights and employment and security benefits, and tax deductions of child support. Because of class patriarchal thinking, "the entire Bill of Rights was not a success, however. "If we look back at NOW’s original agenda, in 1968, we can see that both the issues of reproductive rights and social welfare were very much there on the table."

Both that the changes on these issues have not been addressed equally. In 1965, birth control was only available to married couples, but now teenagers can get the medication without parental permission. “There has been an enormous success with respect to reproductive rights, not that by any means the battle is over, in fact there is a permanent war in this country about that state of abortion,” Joffe said.

In contrast, thinking about the issues of women in poverty, one could argue that nothing has changed...there has been no progress at all. "I have argued, arguably it has become worse, much worse," noted Joffe. The Welfare Reform Act of 1996, known as the Personal Responsibility Worker Opportunity Act, abolished a money entitlement for all poor, especially women.

But the Feminist movement is not dead, contrary to what much of society thinks, expressed Joffe. Women did not protest the Welfare Reform Act with the vigor of the 1989 protests in Washington when George Bush was thinking of overturning Roe vs. Wade. Joffe advanced that “legal changes are easier to achieve than economic ones.” While Feminists are inspired, the economic situation of women does not have the coalitions surrounding poverty driving the government to change its policies. Women are in need of better job training and inequality, issues still unmet with the passage of equal access, explained the Bryn Mawr professor.

“Legalization of abortion was won by both feminists and reproductive rights activists and many other organizations,” said Joffe. Even so, said the last 12 years have been “a tortuous path,” said Joffe, as the abortion drug RU-486 and all other abortion medications were commented.

In the end, she was not dissuaded by the lack of change in regards to women in poverty. She sees the future generations changing with time in the changing feminism itself. Finally Joffe noted that, “Policy achievements are only one way to measure development; transformations in cultures and individual consciousness [are] equally if not more profound [than the previous judgment standard].”

The 2nd Wave

“...If we look back at NOW’s original agenda, in 1968, we can see that both these issues of reproductive rights and social welfare were very much there on the table.”

Carol Joffe

Dining Services offers a taste of the 1920s

Eating dinner by candlelight to the strains of jazz music, students at Bryn Mawr Dining Services enjoyed a throwback to the 1920s. Roaring Twenties Night, sponsored by Dining Services, began on both campuses with a special menu including Seafood Pastry shell, roasted pork loin, green beans, glazed carrots, and dill bread. Later, with Bryn Mawr’s Campus Center turned into “Tex’s Speakeasy,” student employees in Dining Services, adorned with feathered headbands and strings of beads, operated various casino games.

Chris Nevelle, Bryn Mawr’s associate director of Dining Services, said that this was one of four special dinners planned in addition to the International Dinner Series for this semester. Last spring a survey was distributed asking students to rank their choices for the themes of the dinners, and, according to Nevelle, the Roaring Twenties idea received many votes.

Fake money was placed in student mailboxes on Thursday for use at the games. Students were encouraged to engage in games of black jack, roulette, poker, and craps while enjoying their choice of chocolate cake or caramel cake.

Briefs continued on next page
February, and April will bring a Renaissance dinner. A large number of students attended the event, and responses were generally very positive. “It’s fun, interesting, and something to do,” said Bryn Mawr freshman Sasha Karlins, who attended the event, and responses were noted that she liked the 1920’s theme.

According to Nevele, two special theme dinners remain, scheduled for the spring semester. A Black history dinner, now an annual event, will happen in February, and April will bring a Renaissance dinner.

Jewish Student Union discusses directions for future

“We’re a student organization and we want to be serving students,” said a Bryn Mawr junior at last week’s Jewish community town meeting. The student, Emma Haddad, was attending the once-per-semester event, which is held to generate ideas for future events for the bi-college Jewish Student Union (JSU). Haverford sophomore Andrew Hollander, who like Haddad is a member of the JSU’s five-person board, likewise explained that “students want some different things—something that we [the board members] can’t think of.” Students considered several possibilities at the meeting held Wednesday night in the Campus Center Main Lounge, such as organizing a Purim carnival next semester, engaging in community service projects in cooperation with other institutions such as the University of Pennsylvania, and co-sponsoring events with other religious groups on campus. In addition, Haddad discussed the idea of forming a social committee to organize events such as a Hanukkah party and group trips, and also asked students to suggest ways that the JSU might increase its visibility on both campuses.

In attendance besides Haddad and Hollander were several Bryn Mawr students, one Haverford student, JSU board member Joseph Soltero (HC ’03), and Hillel Jewish Advisor for Haverford and Bryn Mawr College Tania Granfield.

One Bryn Mawr student pointed out that in addition to the religious aspect, “Jewishness also has a huge culture.” Haddad concurred that JSU is cultural as well as religious, although “that doesn’t tend to be the way we’re seen” on campus. In response, Granfield suggested that the group could organize an event with more of a cultural focus, such as a Jewish food fest. Another Bryn Mawr student expressed a desire for JSU to educate the campuses about the situation between Israel and Palestine, sparking a discussion about the possibility of holding some type of peace vigil. Haddad reported that JSU held similar meetings a few times last year on Haverford’s campus, and had hoped this time to increase Bryn Mawr attendance by holding the meeting there. Given the low Haverford attendance at this meeting, however, she said that the next one will likely be there. Soltero concluded the meeting by saying, “I was very stimulated by this discussion.”

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MEASURES TAKEN AT BRYN MAWR

Breast cancer awareness measures taken at Bryn Mawr

According to the National Health Service, 180,000 women per year are diagnosed with breast cancer in the United States alone, and breast cancer is the second most common cause of cancer death among women. These statistics become especially disturbing given that many of these lives could have been saved had the women been aware of the causes and prevention of the cancer.

Of the lives claimed by breast cancer, 95 percent of the lives could have been saved if the women had been found to have cancer during its early stages. A recent study conducted by a breast cancer awareness campaign in the United States reported.

Although Breast Cancer Awareness Month is October, Bryn Mawr measures are being taken to inform women about the cancer and its prevention this month. On Monday, Nov. 6, the Health Center sponsored a promotion tabling. The Center’s staff set up pamphlets and literature concerning the singling-out of cancerous cells when examining breasts, including many displays to help the women of Bryn Mawr learn how to perform self-examinations.

Also last week the Dean’s Office, the Community Service Office, and the Women’s Center sponsored a film, Rachel’s Daughters, “Search and cause of breast cancer.” This film looked at the causes of the cancer and explained how many environmental factors such as pesticides and DDT cause cancer in women today. It also examined the issues of self-awareness and cure research.

Anyone interested in viewing the film can borrow it from the Community Service Office at Bryn Mawr.

According to Julie Zaebst, BMC ’03, who is involved in the awareness programs at Bryn Mawr, student awareness on the bi-college campus about breast cancer needs to be greater. She noted that although right now this is the only awareness program in place, the acknowledgment of the cancer and its prevention have an important place all year. Zaebst explained that the Dean’s Office is continuing to support prevention measures by trying to place examination cards in the showers of the dorms at Bryn Mawr.

She concluded by expressing her gratitude towards all of the organizations and people that joined her in the efforts to educate. Zaebst also mentioned that the Bryn Mawr Health Center is always open to students for examinations, questions, or concerns.
Would You Like to Lose Weight?

The University of Pennsylvania, in conjunction with Cabrini College, is offering a 2-year weight loss program (to be held at Cabrini College) that combines behavior modification with different types of physical activity. No medications will be prescribed.

You may be eligible if you are:

- 21-65 years old
- 35% or more over your recommended weight
- Free of significant cardiovascular disease and Diabetes
- Have controlled blood pressure
- Do not exercise on a regular basis

For more information, call Stephanie at 215-898-7314
Or log on to: http://www.med.upenn.edu/weight

Essays, photography, articles, watercolors, poetry, cartoons, shampoo reviews, anything!
Email Nicole at nfoulke@brynmawr.edu for more info, and contact her by this week if you are interested.
On Election Day California passed a referendum that will sentence non-violent drug users to treatment instead of prison. California currently has the largest prison system in the Western Hemisphere, with more than 162,000 inmates, almost a third of which are serving time for a drug-related crime. The measure, Proposition 36, promises to radically change that prison system. It comes at a time when many states are beginning to re-examine their anti-drug policies.

Proposition 36 was passed by 61 percent of voters, despite strong opposition from almost all of California’s law enforcement agencies and judges, as well as some health organizations. Under the law, first-time drug offenders would automatically be placed in a treatment program. Those who fail treatment twice could be sentenced to prison if they are found to be untreatable, and those who fail three times get an automatic jail sentence. The law excludes those caught manufacturing or selling drugs, as well as those also arrested on non-drug-related charges.

One argument in favor of the proposition was that it would decrease costs for the state. According to California’s nonpartisan Legislative Analytic Office, the law would divert as many as 36,000 drug users per year from prison into treatment. For each individual in treatment, the law allocates $4,000 in treatment costs, far less than the $20,000 per year it costs to incarcerate an individual.

**PALESTINIANS SET NEW TERMS FOR PEACE**

As violence escalated in Israel last week, the Palestinians reaffirmed their commitment to peace, but set out much tougher guidelines which would have to be met in order for them to return to the negotiation table. These terms, announced Friday by a senior Palestinian negotiator, were that Israel would have to declare a settlement freeze; the United Nations, the European Union, Russia, China, Egypt and Jordan would have to be brought in as mediators along with the United States; both sides would have to reaffirm that talks are based on U.N. resolutions calling on Israel to withdraw from war-won land; and an international force would have to be deployed to protect Palestinians against Israeli troops. Yasir Arafat, in meetings with President Clinton on Thursday and with the United Nations on Friday, emphasized his desire for a U.N. force in the West Bank and Gaza strip to protect Palestinians. Such a force is opposed by Israel.

These demands came on the heels of the assassination of a West Bank military commander on Thursday. Hussein Abuayat, a regional commander of the Tanzim militia, was killed in his car by a missile fired from a helicopter gunship. Two middle-aged female Palestinian bystanders were also killed by the blast. Abuayat was suspected of planning many shooting attacks on Israeli soldiers and civilians. According to an Israeli Army spokesperson, the attack was mean to convey the message, “ Beware you who hurt us. You will be hurt.”

Massive demonstrations and protests occurred in response to the assassination, resulting in the deaths of four Palestinians, including a 14-year-old boy.

**PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YIELDS INCONCLUSIVE RESULTS**

As of pre-strike, the outcome of the presidential election still has not been decided. However, most of the results of the Nov. 7 election have been called. In what was probably the most visible Senate race in the country, Hillary Rodham Clinton defeated Rick Lazio to become a senator from New York. Overall, Democrats now hold 49 seats in the Senate, with Republicans holding 50 and one seat still undecided. This is a gain of three and potentially four seats by the Democrats, and it will leave the Republicans with a very slim majority. In the House of Representatives, Democrats now hold 211 seats, up one from the last Congress, and Republicans hold 220 seats, a loss of three. Two seats are held by independents, and two are still undecided.

Democrats won seven of 11 gubernatorial races, including one where a Democrat defeated a Republican incumbent. Democrats now govern 19 of 50 states, a gain of one.

**SMITH COLLEGE PRESIDENT NAMED AS FIRST BLACK IVY LEAGUE PRESIDENT**

As president of Smith College, the first African American president of a Seven Sisters college, Simmons sought to make higher education accessible to people of all races, cultures and economic backgrounds. She also founded the first engineering program at a women’s college, and began a program to provide college-funded internships to any Smith student who requests one. Under her tenure, selectivity and admissions yields have increased at Smith, and minority applications have risen dramatically.

In accepting the presidency of Brown University, Simmons said, “I am delighted to have the opportunity to lead this outstanding University in this exciting time in history. It gives me enormous pride and joy to think that I will serve as president of an institution that not only has ideals I can share, but also earnestly seeks to live those ideals.”

(Brown University News Service, 11/9/00)


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**CRIME BLOTTER**

**Haverford College**

**SATURDAY, NOV. 4**

1:00 a.m. An officer observed a student pulling on a broken gate arm at the north end of the HCA trail, trying to remove it completely. The student denied knowing who had originally broken the gate arm. Within an hour, the gate arm was completely off and gone. It was later found at 42 HCA.

3:46 a.m. During a routine security check, officers found a Port-a-Potty overturned and Plexiglass partially pulled away from the construction site bulletin board.

11:50 a.m. A student reported the theft of a debit card from a wallet inside a backpack.

Police were notified.

**SUNDAY, NOV. 5**

4:35 a.m. A student reported that between 8 p.m. and 4 a.m., someone entered his apartment. The student found a bedroom window open, which had previously been closed, and items on the windowsill were knocked off.

5:30 a.m. A resident student reported having a debit card stolen.

10:33 p.m. Unknown persons cut out part of the site bulletin board.

1:00 a.m. An officer observed a student pulling on a broken gate arm at the north end of the HCA trail, trying to remove it completely. The student denied knowing who had originally broken the gate arm. Within an hour, the gate arm was completely off and gone. It was later found at 42 HCA.

**MONDAY, NOV. 6**

1:19 a.m. A student reported that between 8 p.m. and 4 a.m., someone entered his apartment. The student found a bedroom window open, which had previously been closed, and items on the windowsill were knocked off.

8:41 p.m. An officer transported a resident student to the Health Center after she fainted inside her residence hall.

9:00 p.m. A resident student reported that her car was egged while parked on Merion Avenue near Carref.

Tuesday, Oct. 31

3:16 p.m. A member of the Shipley School staff reported that he had struck the vehicle of a Bryn Mawr College staff member the previous evening while parked in Bettws-y-Coed. There was minor damage, and the report was forwarded to the owner of the parked vehicle.

11:18 a.m. A Shuttle Van driver backed into a Verizon truck parked outside Glenmede Main House. No injuries and only minor damage were sustained.

3:48 p.m. Officers transported a member of the staff to Bryn Mawr Hospital with a severely cut finger.

**Friday, Nov. 3**

6:26 a.m. A resident student was taken to Bryn Mawr Hospital after falling and injuring her shoulder.

**Saturday, Nov. 4**

12:01 p.m. A resident student reported having observed a nude male in the field behind Brecon. The subject ran off when seen by the complainant. He was described as a thin, white male and could not be located by officers upon their arrival.

1:55 p.m. An officer transported a resident student to Bryn Mawr Hospital.

2:41 p.m. As a result of a complaint from a neighbor, five parking tickets were issued to cars belonging to members of the Bi-Co community, which were parked on Millbank Road.

12:50 a.m. A resident of Erdman Hall reported a suspicious male walking around looking in windows. He was located by responding officers and it was confirmed that he was attempting to locate a resident he was visiting.

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**Compiled by Ben JC Allen**
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I would be pleased to attend “A Women’s Day At Goldman Sachs”

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Attention: Claudine Fino Bazinet
The Era of Generational Profiling

Richard Thau
HC '97

With the candidates spending so much time during Election 2000 focusing on Social Security, Medicare and prescription drugs, how appropriate it is for the entire national outcome to possibly hinge on just a few thousand elderly voters in Palm Beach. These are the ones who are in the majority of senior citizens, and unintentionally voted for Pat Buchanan.

These seniors may have mistrusted the ballot, but you shouldn’t mistrust this election. It was about you. It was mainly about your grandparents. During the Presidential and Vice Presidential debates, the candidates were asked about racial profiling. Yet another type of profiling, similarly troubling, was in full force during this presidential campaign: generational profiling.

This type of profiling is not determined by skin color, but by age. And it was referenced by a collection of professors at the final Presidential debate, when, in a question to the candidates, he said, “I hear a lot of apathy amongst young people who feel that there are no issues directed to them and they don’t plan to vote.”

Candidates are keenly aware of the fact that only one-third of young adults, one half of middle-agers, and two-thirds of seniors vote. As a result, young people are virtually ignored in the political process. In fact, when asked to address this professor’s concern about re-engaging young adults, neither candidate offered a compelling reason for young people to cast a ballot on November 7th. Considering their unpreparedness for the question, the candidates might as well have asked how to convince Canadians to vote in our election.

It has become standard procedure for presidential campaigns to spend the overwhelming majority of their resources on paid TV. What is less well known is that both Vice President Gore and Governor Bush are targeting these resources generationally. By cross-referencing TV advertising and viewership data from July 1st to October 15th, Third Millennium’s “Neglection 2000” project was able to determine the candidates’ ad buying priorities in nine politically competitive media markets (Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Detroit, Milwaukee, Philadelphia, Seattle, and Lexington, KY). The data show a profoundly disturbing dynamic. Campaigns have decided to focus their message disproportionately on older adults. While Americans ages 50 and older comprise only one-third of the adult population in these eight areas, they were targeted with a whopping 64 percent of the ads. In stark contrast, adults ages 18 to 34, who also represent about a third of the voting-age population, were targeted with only 14 percent of the total advertising purchased by candidates.

This type of age-biased campaigning is hardly what our founding fathers had in mind. Presidential campaigns should be about more than just amassing sufficient votes to win an election. They also serve to educate citizens and reinvigorate democracy by highlighting the critical issues of the time, clarifying the differences between candidates’ proposals and ideologies and seeing to it that all constituents’ needs are being addressed fairly.

Moreover, by ignoring youth, politicians are increasingly inclined to skew national priorities and future commitments disproportionately toward the demands of older voters. This would not matter if the concerns of older Americans were the same as everyone else’s. But they are not. One might think that young adults would be seething with generational resentment and eager to vote on Election Day to demand their fair share. But no. The Xers, having viewed one instance of governmental malfeasance and ineptitude after another during their formative years, place little faith in voting. Skeptical of the political system and long ignored by candidates, most have chosen instead to remove themselves from the national discussion.

To make matters worse, rather than aggressively persuading these young Americans to get more involved, both campaigns have apparently concluded that a dollar spent attracting an older voter to the polls is a better investment than a dollar spent to convince a new voter to get involved. Thus campaigns make only the most cursory attempts to expand and renew the pool of voters each election cycle.

What is the long-term impact of this myopic thinking? First, it feeds a vicious cycle of mutual neglect, where politicians ignore young adults and focus on others because they don’t vote, and young adults ignore the candidates because campaigns don’t focus on them and the issues seem irrelevant.

Second, by disproportionately targeting older voters, today’s campaigns run the risk of transforming our democracy into a gerontocracy—ruled by and for the aged. We’re almost there—for /Continued on page 12
Election Day stirs up hopes, fears, and politics
Mixed reactions to a strange night

Ariel Hansen
News editor

The excitement was palpable among those who waited to board the shuttle vans to vote on Tuesday, and was reflected in the record-high turnout of Haverford and Bryn Mawr students at the polls. For many, it was their first time casting a ballot. "I'm very nervous about it," said one Haverford student, "I've been following it so closely...but apparently there are a lot of absentee voters on the West Coast, so if they don't really tally those for another day or so, we may not even know the winner until Thursday, so that's kind of scary to me."

At the Presbyterian church where most BMC students were registered, the space around the voting booths was small and at times crowded, with people maneuvering around each other as they prepared to vote or left the booths. Outside the church, Sara Wolf, Haverford '03, was marking registered students off a list as they entered to vote. "We have close to 200 people," she said at around 2 p.m. She mused, "I think it could go either way."

Leslie Miller, a woman working for the Democratic campaigns in Pennsylvania, also speculated on the outcome of the election. "I think we'll have a really good idea once we see how Florida and Pennsylvania go. If Bush can just lose Florida..." she trailed off, chuckling quietly. Miller noted that she has "been down here for 14 years now, and this is the most extraordinary turnover of college students." She went on to note that the Party was running out of literature, due to the high student turnout. "Either way," she said, "we're going to all adjust to whatever happens."

Some students expressed how they would react to the election results with a different tone. "If Gore wins, I'm marrying a straight friend so that I can get working papers in the [European Union]." She said that she had left offerings to Athena, the statue version of the Greek goddess, in Thomas Great Hall. Several other students also participated in this Bryn Mawr good luck ritual, including Lauren Hannan, BMC '03, who put a Gore sign on the statue Tuesday morning.

Throughout the day, there was definitely awareness of how close the race might be, and the volatile nature of the broadcast coverage as the returns filtered in Tuesday night only added to the tension. Students at the returns breakfast in Erdman reacted as each candidate led and trailed in the electoral college count. When Al Gore won Hawaii at 11 p.m., with the electoral vote 230-217 for Gore, the Bryn Mawr cheer went up: "Anassa kata kale kale, ia ia ia nika, Bryn Mawr, Bryn Mawr, Bryn Mawr—AL GORE!!!"

Watching the television screen, Rebecca Perkins, BMC '02, seemed slightly nervous, saying of the electoral returns coming in for Gore, "I don't want to rely on a slight mathematical possibility" or, as her friend and fellow junior Emily Elstad quipped in response, "Fuzzy math."

Despite the occasional lighthearted reaction, the overall response of Bryn Mawr and Haverford students to the election seemed to be one of serious reflection on the candidates and the issues, along with appreciation of the bi-college campaign to get out the vote.

With reporting by Laura Montgomery, Rachel Nielsen, and Bi-Co staff

Find us on the web at:
biconews.haverford.edu
or
biconews.brynmawr.edu
We have been as busy as a one-legged man in a butt-kicking contest!

Butler's 16 years in the carpentry department, where he has done everything from repairing student dorm rooms to refurbishing faculty housing, has always appealed to his artistic side. "Most carpenters like to take a dream and make it into a reality," he says. But when he asks him to talk about what this fall has been like, you find that he has a second creative tendency. For, as he pulls down his camouflage hat and strokes his graying beard with his dusty fingers, his youthful eyes begin to shine and a big grin takes over his face, and you discover that Butler knows how to tell a good story.

Butler's troubles started late in the summer, midway through a large construction job, when the maintenance department was contacted by a very distressed house sitter. "It came in as an emergency call," notes Butler. "The ceiling was on the floor." While a student was looking after the home of a vacationing professor, the upstairs toilet broke, soaking the ceiling below so thoroughly that it collapsed completely. While luckily no one was hurt, the same cannot be said for all of the furniture on the first floor, including a grand piano that had definitely seen better days.

Another call came in, two days later. There was mold growing in the basement of the music building. Pink mold. And since no one had seen pink mold before, an environmentalist from Philadelphia was called in to determine whether it was toxic. Unfortunately, the only information the expert could contribute was, "I have never seen something like that before."

In a set of dilemmas confronted Butler once the school year started. For starters, there was the "Edgar Allen Poe effect" on the professors and staff. They sit in the solitude of their secluded office, and think of how they can slay a perpetrator of "a complete re-painting of the surface." Despite the seemingly constant onslaught of outlandish situations, Butler takes it all in stride. "Even though the work is demanding, it is relaxing to do," he calmly explains. Relaxing? Such a depiction seems to be the last remark Butler would make about his adventures. To this, he smiles knowingly and replies, "If I can find something to laugh about, it makes the day a little easier."
I would like to start out my Column this week by announcing to all my loyal readers that I am from Florida and sent in an absentee ballot voting for George W. Ok, maybe I'm lying. I was actually performing an experiment on you. If your reaction to my opening statement fell along the lines of, "Damn, why would I ever want to read a column by such a fool," I know two things about you. One, you fell into the category into which 99% of the Haverford population falls: you are a raging liberal. And two (perhaps most importantly), you must be lacking in perceptual ability if it has taken you so long to realize that I am a fool. If, however, after reading my statement you said to yourself, "Wow, this Silver kid really has good taste in presidents, I love Bush too," you obviously don't go to Haverford College, so I would appreciate it if you would stop reading the Bi-Co.

Ok, enough with the political babble, this week I will feature all the regulars, plus commentary on the hot-white Philadelphia 76ers and ramblings about a Japanese baseball player. And since I imagine many of you stayed up and watched the election coverage on November 7, I would be remiss not to include at least one (or two) Dan Rather quotes in the Column.

The Mariners already have the Suzuki; now they want Suzuki. In one of the oddest developments that I can remember ever happening in the MLB off-season signing period, the Seattle Mariners won the rights to negotiate with Ichiro Suzuki with a high bid of $13,125,000. Yes folks, they spent $13 million just so they could be allowed to negotiate with Suzuki. He is a thirty-year-old outfielder who has a .353 lifetime batting average in Japan with 118 home runs and 529 RBIs. If he decides not to sign with the Mariners, the 13 million dollars will go back to Mariner ownership. Forget the Mariners fans, I bet the most excited about the possibility of Suzuki signing with the Mariners are the local Suzuki car dealerships. I can see the slogan now, "Our cars may suck, but at least there is a baseball player named after us."

Dennis Miller quote of the week: About the Baha Men and their song, "Who Let the Dogs Out," "This is the new Gary Glitter song. These guys are down in the islands cashing heavy residuals, like Robert Vesco down in the Caymans." For those of you who don't know, Gary Glitter is the writer of the amazing "Hey" song that is played at sporting events around the globe. For those of you who don't know who Robert Vesco is, I don't either. So does anyone find this song to be the most annoying song ever created (with the possible exception of YMCA)? I really can't take it anymore.

Dan Rather quote of the week: "For those of you who chose to watch Tom Brokaw for most of the election, wow did you miss out!" Dan Rather just got wackier as the night went on, and by midnight he was saying things like, "This election is as close as two dogs tied to the same stump." But, undoubtedly his wackiest comment of the night was after one of his associates told him what would happen if Gore won a particular state. Rather responded, "Yeah, and if a frog had side pockets it would carry a hand-gun." Dan, I think I speak for everyone else when I say, what the hell are you talking about?

The hottest team in the NBA: After the Philadelphia 76ers lost in the second round of the playoffs last year, the common sentiment around Philly was that they had reached the limit of their potential. They were one of the only teams in the Eastern conference that was relatively inactive in the free agent market. But, of last Thursday, the Sixers were the hottest team in the NBA, winning their first six games. In my estimation this hot start is a combination of two factors. First, Allen Iverson may have found that he can do everything himself, and has decided to integrate his teammates into the offense more. And second, standing pat in their personnel, this team has built up quite a bit of chemistry that is finally paying off with big dividends in the win column.

continued on next page...
Cam Scribner: master of his domain

Cam Scribner doesn’t like it when people enter his house.

Of course, the 6’9” sophomore center for the Haverford men’s basketball team is a perfectly good host when guests visit his home in Basking Ridge, NJ. But when it comes to his home on the court - the lane, that is - and the invited guests of the opposing team, it’s a different story altogether, and Scribner’s conference leading marks in both blocked shots (57) and blocks per game (2.38) last year can attest to that.

Scribner, however, was a bright spot in a relatively dismal ’99-’00 season for the Fords, one which included records of 2-11 in the Centennial Conference and 4-21 overall. "Our record last year was disappointing," says the 19 year-old Scribner. "We had that inevitability of defeat, which made it hard to stay motivated for games. One of my goals for this year is getting our team to win some games."

Indeed, Scribner believes this season will different. He says this year’s squad, "has a more positive attitude," and is, "definitely taking it more seriously." As evidence he cites the team’s daily pre-season, 7 a.m. workouts and strict weight-lifting regimen. The Ford coaches have also overhailed the offense, which now resembles that of Princeton, (who are known for their many back-door cuts and emphasis on sharp, frequent passing). Scribner thinks these changes should make a difference and help the Fords establish themselves as formidable opponents in the Centennial.

As for his personal goals, Scribner is looking to improve both his offense and rebounding. Last season, he averaged a solid, but not outstanding 4.5 rebounds per game, and while his offense (5.6 points/game), "came as a surprise," he thinks it can still be honed and is currently working on his passing and post-up game.

Although you wouldn’t know it from his fierce and ferocious play on the court, off the court Scribner is quiet, studious and humble. "I’m not an eccentric guy," admits Scribner. In fact, one of the reasons he came to Haverford over Oberlin, his other top choice, was that the students there were a bit too "far out" for him. Needless to say, the Fords are glad he chose black squirrel country.

Scribner and the rest of the men’s basketball team kick off their season this weekend in the annual Equinox Classic. The Fords will first play host to Bates College Friday night at 8 p.m. and then travel to Swarthmore to do battle with La Verne College Saturday at 1 p.m.

If either of these teams knows what’s good for them, they’ll stay out of Scribner’s house.

Making Sense of Five-Thirty A.M.

Kyoto Yamamoto
Ashley Bronzan
Guest Writers

“Tough conditions make for tough oarswomen” has been the mantra of the Bryn Mawr varsity crew coach Carole Bower since the first racing season in 1997. These words embody the attitude that has enabled the program to become a varsity sport in just three years.

This season, the team physically grew, adding 14 new members and racing three full boats of eight rowers and a coxswain. This autumn has been one of the most demanding racing seasons that the varsity boat has experienced. They traveled to the Head of the Connecticut, Head of the Charles, and the Seven Sisters Regatta in Boston, as well as competing in three races on the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia. The varsity eight held their own against powerhouse teams such as Drexel, Temple, and Villanova during the Navy Day, Frostbite and Bill Braxton Regattas.

Bryn Mawr’s second year of competition at the Head of the Charles Regatta, the varsity eight placed thirty first out of seventy-two boats, defeating Wellesley and placing only ten seconds behind Mount Holyoke, the top Seven Sisters boat.

Although not theoretically proven, practicing together five days a week at five-thirty in the morning creates a strong bond and camaraderie among varsity, JV, and novice alike. Rowing is described as the “ultimate team sport” because the individual shines only through matching and working with the other rowers and coxswain in the boat. It takes one rower to ruin the balance and destroy the speed of the boat, but it takes all eight rowers to bring it back together.

This season, the members of the varsity and JV boats have been sculling in quads and doubles, which has heightened their sensibility to balance and work together because a sculling shell is more vulnerable to flipping than an eight. Sculling has brought a new level of rowing to the program because as Carole Bower has noted, “good scullers make good sweep rowers.

As the team continues to grow, both captains, Ashley Bronzan and Kyoto Yamamoto believe that, “the fundamental essence of a team, the need to communicate and the desire to continuously challenge our minds and bodies carries through in the program even though the founders have graduated and we begin to bring in new members.” Both captains agree that “in crew you constantly push yourself beyond what you believe you are capable of because of the trust and expectations you have in your teammates and the trust and expectations we have in you.”

As Bryn Mawr crew enters its winter training, it looks forward to a successful spring racing season.

Sports Schedule (Home events only)

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Bates
Lesley (Haverford Classic)
Swarthmore (scrimmage)
Washington & Lee or Coe

8 p.m.
8 p.m.
11 a.m.
1 p.m. or 3 p.m.
6:30 p.m.

Write for the sports section
biconews@haverford.edu

continued from last page

Pathetic box score of the week: The honor this week must go to Terrell Brandon of the Minnesota Timberwolves. Last Thursday, in an 84-82 loss to the 76ers, Brandon was 2-15 from the field, 0-1 from the line, and had a game-high 4 turnovers. Bravo Terrell! Here is my question: Isn’t there some point at which you decide that it’s just not worth it?

Greatest catch of all-time? In case you missed it, last Monday night Antonio Freeman made one of the most amazing catches in NFL history to vault the Packers to a thrilling 26-20 overtime win over the Minnesota Vikings. In overtime, Packers quarterback Brett Favre launched a ball downfield in the direction of Freeman. However, while the ball was in the air, Freeman slipped and fell on the wet turf. Vikings defensive back Chris Dishman deflected the ball, but it bounced off the back of Freeman’s left shoulder as he rolled over, and he tipped it into his chest with his right handbefore it could hit the ground. Freeman’s left hand has a dead weight on it. Per the rules, the ball was caught. Freeman slipped and fell on the wet turf. Vikings defensive back Chris Dishman deflected the ball, but it bounced off the back of Freeman’s left shoulder as he rolled over, and he tipped it into his chest with his right hand before it could hit the ground. Freeman: "I got an early Christmas gift. I fell right into my hands. I knew I didn’t hit the ground."

Cover Story of the Week: Because there were two people kicked off the island last week, (Toniya Harding and John Daly), the remaining four survivors decided that no one would be kicked off the island this week. But, just between you and me, my opinion is that Mike Tyson, Gary Payton, and Martina Hingis have just wanted an extra week to spend with Anna Kournikova. But, next week someone will absolutely get the boot. E-mail me at dsilver@haverford.edu and let me know who you think it should be. I’m outta here like Vladimir Putin.

Making Sense of Five-Thirty A.M.

Ashley Bronzan

Guest Writers

“Tough conditions make for tough oarswomen” has been the mantra of the Bryn Mawr varsity crew coach Carole Bower since the first racing season in 1997. These words embody the attitude that has enabled the program to become a varsity sport in just three years.

This season, the team physically grew, adding 14 new members and racing three full boats of eight rowers and a coxswain. This autumn has been one of the most demanding racing seasons that the varsity boat has experienced. They traveled to the Head of the Connecticut, Head of the Charles, and the Seven Sisters Regatta in Boston, as well as competing in three races on the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia. The varsity eight held their own against powerhouse teams such as Drexel, Temple, and Villanova during the Navy Day, Frostbite and Bill Braxton Regattas.

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Although not theoretically proven, practicing together five days a week at five-thirty in the morning casts its shadows after a day of competition. cam Scribner ‘03 was the leading shot-blocker in the Centennial Conference last year.
Haverford Volleyball

F&M 3, Haverford 1
LANCASTER (Nov. 4) — First-year hitter Jelyn Meyer had 13 kills and three blocks last Saturday, but Haverford could not overcome host and top-seeded F&M in the Centennial Conference semifinals, 15-0, 15-12, 15-12.

Until Game 3, the Fords (30-6), ranked sixth in the Mid-Atlantic region coaches’ poll, had not taken a game from the fourth-ranked Diplomats (32-5) since 1995.

First-year hitter Jen Constantino had eight kills and a team-high 15 digs for Haverford, and sophomore setter Steph Frank added 28 assists.

Three Fords Named All-CC

Haverford’s Jen Constantino became only the third freshman ever named to the All-Centennial Conference women’s volleyball first team Thursday. The outside hitter from Ridley High was second in the conference in both kills per game (4.44) and hitting percentage (.307). She led the Fords to three regular season tournament titles, a Centennial Conference final and a #6 ranking in the region.

First-year hitter Jen Constantino had eight kills and a team-high 15 digs for Haverford, and sophomore setter Steph Frank added 28 assists.

Haverford’s Jen Constantino became only the third freshman ever named to the All-Centennial Conference women’s volleyball first team Thursday. The outside hitter from Ridley High was second in the conference in both kills per game (4.44) and hitting percentage (.307). She led the Fords to three regular season tournament titles, a Centennial Conference final and a #6 ranking in the region.

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HC Women’s Soccer

Three Fords Repeat on All-CC Women’s Soccer

Senior defender Dani Metzger (Morganville, NJ/Rutgers Prep), who helped Haverford College to a 6-3-1 conference record that included five shutouts and just seven goals allowed in 10 games, led a trio of Fords named All-Centennial Tuesday.

Metzger, who was honorable mention All-CC last year at forward, was a first-team selection in 2000. Ford midfielders Liz Young (Macungie, PA/Emmaus) and Margaret Neri (Williamsville, NY/Williamsville South), who were second team All-CC in ’99, were also repeat selections.

Despite injuries, Young repeated as a second-teamer this season as a junior, while junior Matt Duques opened the scoring with a first-half goal for the Fords.

HC Field Hockey

Herlands Named 2nd Team All-Conference

Haverford field hockey captain Robin Herlands (Annandale, VA/HS) was named a second team All-Centennial performer Thursday, and has been selected to appear in her sport’s 2000 NFHCA Division III North/South Senior All-Star Game at Old Dominion University on Saturday, November 18.

HC Men’s Soccer

Haverford 2, Swarthmore 0

SWARTHMORE (Nov. 4) — Senior Dave Michel finished his career in style, scoring a second-half goal on an assist by freshman John Heacock, to cap a Haverford shutout of archival Swarthmore (3-12-0-9).

The game was the 78th men’s soccer meeting of the two schools since 1921. Haverford (10-7-4-5) now leads the all-time series with its Centennial Conference finals, 40-30-8.

Junior Matt Duques opened the scoring with a first-half goal for the Fords.

HC Men’s Fencing

The Haverford Flatball Tribe: Silent Warriors

Adam Bernstein

Guest Writer

The Haverford Flatball Tribe, aboriginal to this area, has been struggling this fall in its valiant effort for equality. The Tribe, small and primitive as it is, has been trying to compete with its fellow indigenous peoples in the modern world. The Tribe, with its limited resources, has been trying to rise above its past and embrace the future.

The Tribe is a group of students who practice the sport of Ultimate Frisbee. Ultimate Frisbee is a sport that is played on a field and is similar to football. The Tribe is trying to prove that they can be a successful team and that they can compete with the best of the best.

The Tribe is made up of students from various schools, and is coached by Jesse Willard and Andrew Kerr. The Tribe has had a lot of success this season, and is looking forward to another strong season next year.

The Tribe is also a part of the Haverford Flatball Team, which is a group of students who practice the sport of Flatball. Flatball is a sport that is played on a field and is similar to baseball. The Tribe is trying to prove that they can be a successful team and that they can compete with the best of the best.

The Tribe is made up of students from various schools, and is coached by Jesse Willard and Andrew Kerr. The Tribe has had a lot of success this season, and is looking forward to another strong season next year.
Submit

The Bi-Co is looking for submissions to all sections

Opinion pieces: mhesse@brynmawr.edu
academic papers: mcclusk@brynmawr.edu
illustrations, comics: jbadtkeb@brynmawr.edu
profiles: rmatchan@brynmawr.edu
reviews: nfoulke@brynmawr.edu

Be brave.
Improvapalooza: sketchy fun for everyone

Nicole Foulke
Art & Living Editor

November 3, 2000 AD: the Lighted Fools said let there be the first ever Improvapalooza fest, and there it was, and they were loved forever and ever because something happened on campus that was actually funny.

The Fools invited seven other student comedy troupes, as well as Comedy Central's famed Upright Citizens Brigade (UCB), to come to Haverford's Marshall Auditorium for the sold-out two-night festival. The troupes performed their own mixes of sketch or improv, some even wowing the audience with song, video infomercials, glitter-flinging and rock climbing sex. Everyone cheered when Ralph Nader got Ebola.

Friday night, Haverford's Sketchy Players, Swarthmore's Vertigo-go, Yale's last Add Water and Skidmore's first sketches performed. On Saturday, Montclair State's Possible Side Effects, Cornell's Skills-O-Phrenics, George Washington's Recess, Haverford's Lighted Fools and Upright Citizens Brigade had their turn.

But "We felt that it was a very positive experience for us," said Fool Nick White (HC '01), who, pre-fest, was a little concerned that people wouldn't come to both shows. Most of the audience did, however, and did not seem to take issue with spending more than five hours sitting still; they were at a comedy fest, after all. "It was like just sitting there, vegetating," affirmed Jeph Gord (HC '04).

Haverford's relatively new Sketchy Players had a great time interacting with so large an audience, and appeared on a Saturday show which UCB held with other troupes, too. "I think we learned more in those two hours than we would learn in a week of practice, just because Matt [Besser, from UCB] was really knowledgeable," said Sketchy Player Alejandro Miyar ('03).

Said Recess member Molly Adler ('01), "we were excited to come - it's good to see other groups, if they didn't do kinds of improv or sketch. And Upright Citizens Brigade is here. They're Gods."

Audience members did seem to appreciate the method and intellect behind UCB's improv technique (a convoluted, interactive-scene-based kind that is dubbed the Harold) but the New York troupe was not necessarily Improvapalooza's highest point. Though they enjoyed themselves, two Brian Maw Jr. juniors were a little disappointed with UCB: "their humor was based on knowledge of cultural events that were pertinent to when they were teens, rather than those that are pertinent now."

Added one, "My parents were there, too, and they thought they, [UCB] were funny.

For one improv exercise, the Fools asked the audience for a theme. "The Ayn Rand presidency?" yelled Jeph Gord from the balcony.

"Ayn Rand..." peopleittered contemplatively.

Unfortunatel, the Fools were able to circument the actual subject matter and run with it, but the issue of why such an asinine and (arguably) esoteric suggestion was shouted out remained a mystery.

Haverford's Marshall Auditorium was packed.

Art & Living

Upright Citizen's Brigade is funny

Zack Phillips
Guest Writer

Though dwarfed in media coverage by more famous diseases like Leukemia and Cerebral Palsy, a relatively unknown ailment is affecting many of today's youth. Known as "Little Donny Disease" for the little boy who is most his famous sufferer, magnusitmus obilifiophallocytis is an ailment that leaves victims with an extraordinarily large penis - and complete ignorance of their affliction.

Is this story really true? Of course not. But the joke's authors - Upright Citizens Brigade - would have you believe it, the way they pull it off with dead-pan sarcasm. The New York-based improvisational comedy troupe even fooled the likes of Today Show weatherman Al Roker, whom they duped into an on-camera interview outside the studio at one point last year.

And just last weekend, UCB was at Haverford College to headline Improvapalooza, a weekend-long comedy festival set up by the bi-college improv group, The Lighted Fools. After eight other college troupes performed within the span of two days, the Brigade took the stage late Saturday for almost two hours of seemingly effortless adlibbing, showing only minor dissipate.

"It's not like - it's really the purest form of comedy." Poehler continues, "but it's actually a huge - an allegory" - he pauses, looking for the gesture for them to show our videos tonight," Poehler chimed in, right on cue. "It was also about the Middle East a little bit," she reminds him, taking their story in a new direction.

"There was some stuff going on in the Middle East," Walsh agrees, the duo having reestablished their on-stage rapport, now playing off each other quite naturally. "It's very much a comment on that..."

"And about child pages," chirps Poehler, smiling. "There's a lot of Jon Benet stuff in there."

Walsh concurs, sticking a straight face. "Yeah, the Benet thing had just broke so it was very much heavy-handed. We were afraid people weren't going to laugh because it was very much about that whole Boulder [Colorado] scene."

"People think [Little Donny] is a big joke," Poehler continues, "but it's actually a huge political statement as well as a spoof."

"It's satire wrapped in an allegory" - he pauses, looking for the right word - "divided by a parody ... inside a spoof."""

The sarcasm is so straight-faced, it's difficult to know if anything they've said is true. But then again, "That's the big question; we don't know."

What the Brigade clearly does know, however, is how to make you laugh. Walters said it plainly: "They make the truth funny."

"Take the Little Donny joke, for example - was there any truth behind that?"

"That [character] was in the middle of the OJ trial," remembers Walsh, while standing outside Marshall Auditorium. His eyes drift sideways, slightly betraying his creative intentions, and Poehler, at his side, begins to chuckle knowingly.

"It's sort of an allegory for what was happening in the OJ Trial, he continues, seemingly earnest. "It was very much about Marcia Clark" - he pauses, searching for words - "but it's really more about the fact that right wing politics are generally..."

"Ayn Rand..."

"Drama is emotional, comedy is intellectual." Poehler replies.

"I think we're able to..."

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Mainstage production *Honey* transcends the mundane

**Abby Mathews**
Assistant Arts & Living Editor

"Theater is a weird art form," says Whit MacLaughlin, director of *Honey* and visiting professor in Bryn Mawr’s theater department. "While other art forms are free as birds to find expression that’s abstract, theater audiences expect a certain pedestrian reality." His goal with *Honey*, is to "glance off the pedestrian." And he certainly succeeds; *Honey* is anything but mundane. *Honey* does not adhere to the strict stylistic inhibitions by which most productions seem constrained. Indeed, MacLaughlin approached the performers at the beginning of the semester with no set plot and no script for the play. In -

Saran brings spirited documentary to BMC

**Abby Mathews**
Assistant Arts & Living Editor

Coming out to family is rarely easy, so it’s not difficult to imagine how much harder it would be to film one’s coming-out experience and then show it to a roomful of strangers over and over again. But this is precisely what filmmaker Nish Saran has done.

Saran came to Bryn Mawr the Thursday of Diversity Week for the first collegiate showing of his film *Summer in My Veins*, followed by a question-and-answer session and reception. A 40-minute documentary-style film, *Summer in My Veins* recounts Saran’s trip across the country with his family while he tries to tell them of his sexuality. Since Saran is holding the camera for most of the film, the viewer comes to identify with his situation and witnesses, through his eyes, his struggle for acceptance, and the simultaneous internal turmoil caused by his fear that he could be HIV positive.

Despite the serious subject matter, Saran treats the experience with levity and wit, something he seemed as proficient on film as an adept character actress; this was most noticeable in the emotional reality of becoming a woman, in a compilation of experiences that MacLaughlin deems "very girl." Trying to keep his mental frame separate from the piece was a challenge for MacLaughlin, a male director working with an all-female cast. He tried to "understand how I long to see things and the influence that has on the people who are in the piece," and incorporate what could be a conflict into the text. Perhaps MacLaughlin envisions himself as the bee-keeper who appears at the end of the piece, dividing and controlling the hive, separate from, but ultimately responsible for the health of the hive and the play.

The stage design harkens back to the works of Giacometti and Arbus. The performance space is dominated by a large, bronzed-colored, lightly textured platform, which bears a striking resemblance to chocolate cake. This structure played the same role as the heavy metallic platforms that Giacometti constructed as bases for his creations, but in this case, the sculptures were actors. Says MacLaughlin, "the set is designed as a platform for the ideas of the piece rather than an environment."

Other features of the set were based on Arbus’ work. Hiroshi Iwasaki, theater professor and designer of the set, explains that he wanted to create the "open landscape and twilight of Diane Arbus ... but didn’t want to give it just a straightforward look." So, he created "a world upside-down," the floor covered with puffy clouds, trees suspended from the ceiling.

Wearing long dresses suggestive of the royalty associated with bees, and sometimes donning yellow rain jackets, the actors strutted, danced, crawled, jumped and buzzed across the stage, their generally deliberate motions occasionally punctuated by violence, as one or another erupts in a fury of movement.

Though MacLaughlin apparently intended the formal wear as a bit of a joke, it is interesting to watch the actors’ relationship to their costumes. Indeed, the idea of dress/undress becomes something of a theme, with performers hitching up parts of their clothing to reveal ‘scars’ in the form of letters. Clothing becomes as representation of the gendered self, as the dignified, almost dance-like demeanor usually assumed by the performers contrasts with the emancipated selves the actors occasionally don, baring their skirts and sprouting through the performance space.

*Honey* could easily have fallen victim to problematic pacing, especially considering the deliberate, slow beat of the score that accompanied the piece, cycling monotonously in the background. Luckily however, the cast surmounted this obstacle, pushing the play forward while infusing each movement with emotional impact.

And, in the end, the forceful emotions provoked by *Honey* are what make the play strong. Appreciation of the piece does not stem from the interpretive skills of an audience, but rather, from a willingness to accept emotions and images as reality.

Other performance dates: November 16th & 17th at 7:30 p.m., November 18th at 6 p.m., and in Goodhart Theater at Bryn Mawr. Admission is free with tri-co ID, $5 for others.
Diversity Week Culture Show brings "Unity through Sisterhood"

Sara Gibson Staff Writer

Cheers rose as the lights went down last week in Thomas Great Hall, where an enthusiastic crowd gathered to watch students perform in Bryn Mawr's annual Diversity Week culture show.

Organized by members of several student organizations in conjunction with the Office of Institutional Diversity, the show is the culminating event of a week-long examination and celebration of diversity on campus. Though there are several culture shows throughout the year, this is the only one which is coordinated between the different groups. The Nov 4 program, appropriately subtitled "Unity Through Sisterhood," included performances by BACASO, SAW, Sisterhood, Half and Half, Mujeres, ASA, Rainbow Alliance, and The Association of International Students.

After a few opening remarks by emcee KaSandra Rogiers, the Night Owls ushered in the evening with a Zulu version of the South African national anthem. They were followed soon after by members of BACASO, who danced to a variety of African and Caribbean music and Half's piece, "Unity," subtitled, "Several members of the biracial, bicultural group each composed and performed their own monologues, relating their personal experiences of having two or more cultural, racial, and/or linguistic identities. Some touched upon the humorous, others were much darker. As Leila Hall (BCM '02), a performer and founding member, commented, "the diversity of the pieces reflects the diversity of the group." This year, for the second time that Half and Half has participated in the program, having been formed as recently as 1999.

"I'm always amazed by the level of talent," remarked Cynthia Chalker, Associate Director of the Office of Institutional Diversity, who credits the show as being primarily "student-run, student-motivated." Audience members seemed to agree. "I like the shows a lot," commented Laura Kim, BCM '02, reflecting on the show's impact. "I have a lot of respect for their support. I think it says a lot." Many people who were there that evening, in fact, had also attended other Diversity Week events. When asked by an emcee if they had gone to at least one additional performance, workshop, or lecture related to the week, a little more than half of the audience raised their hands.

Nimmia Barrera, BCM '03, a member of Mujeres who participated in the group's dance piece, expressed the hope that the performance would raise students' awareness of the Latino presence on campus, and that they might also realize that there is "more to us than Taco Bell." Aside from increasing consciousness of student diversity on campus, the program's organizers also hoped to encourage interaction and understanding between the different cultural groups. Previous shows have been criticized for being "too long," as one student commented, or allowing some groups more performance time than others. Alimchandani, BCM '01, responsible for much of the organization of the show, reported that there were several changes made this year which may have contributed to the production's success. Each group was limited to two short acts or one long act, and no emcee introduced her own group. Performers were also asked to sit together and watch the show from the side of the stage, rather than disappearing backstage or into the audience. There were, however, mixed feelings about the timing of this year's program. The Diversity Week culture show is usually held in the spring, but due to scheduling conflicts was not able to be held last year, and was shifted to the first semester this year. The consensus among many is that the performance would benefit even more from being put off until the second semester.

Alimchandani expressed hope that the show's message of "unity through sisterhood" might "reach out to everyone on campus and celebrate diversity as a whole...[and] create a sense of unity and sisterhood between groups." She would also like to see it become, ideally, "a tradition as important as Pallas." The show's finale—"a continental catwalk"—perhaps best embodied the wishes of those involved. As members of each group took turns showing off a costume of their respective culture, they also joined together in a final bow, hugging and congratulating each other on their performances.

I, too, would like to congratulate the show's organizers and performers on a job well done.

Sean Armour - Beer Drinker - Patriot

Welcome back, beer connoisseurs! This week we will cautiously immerse ourselves in a world of absolutely pitiful beer. Manufactured by Miller Brewing Company in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Miller High Life exudes all of the traits a good macrobrewed beer should have, like being inexpensive, tasting like water and requiring almost no skill or materials to produce, while simultaneously subsisting as an absolutely repulsive beer.

Miller bought the Plank Road Brewery for $8,000 dollars in 1855, and began brewing what was known as Miller Lager. In 1904 Miller Brewing thought their beer needed a change, and upon sending old Uncle Emil Miller around the country, he happened upon a Cigar company in New Orleans called High Life Cigars. Miller then paid $25,000 for the factory and the rights to the name. After a long time as Miller's flagship, also known absurdly as the "Champagne of Beers," Miller High Life truly has become the dregs of the dregs.

Open the can or bottle at your leisure (you probably would rather not do so at all) and look at the massive carbonation and flabby white head that rises, only to fall again within the first minute. The aroma is not full of joy, rather, it is a pestilence that one should not attempt to inhale. Weakly malted and hopped, Miller High Life has a less than lackluster yellow appearance, and a weak flavor.

The Phillip Morris company, which owns both Kraft and Miller Brewing, is a behemoth, a juggernaut if you will, that no longer needs to manufacture quality products to turn a profit. Miller High Life is no exception. Typical of American Macrobrewed beer, High Life is tasteless, relies on advertising to sell mass quantities, and is a vile liquid not worthy of the can, bottle or glass it is filling.

Although not the complete and utter bottom of the barrel, High Life does an excellent job of coming as close as humanly possible. It is manufactured with corn grits, an adjunct not normally used by responsible brewers, because it is inexpensive and provides an extraordinarily cheap way to brew beer. The web site does not even give decent information about the beer itself, rather they indulge the observer in "fun stuff" and gimmicks to keep you from asking questions.

The bottles and cans containing High Life are gold, to signify royalty and an impressive product. Honestly, what were they thinking? The current commercial, if you haven't been enlightened, is of a man making a middle aged white man, either cooking bacon or cutting hardboiled eggs to make devilled eggs. They only show the man's hands, as he slowly cuts each egg in half, then reaches for a beer from his old style refrigerator. And the line at the end, in a very rough voice, he proclaims, "That's living...[dramatic pause]...The high life."

This seems preposterous to me, as drinking their beer and cutting eggs is some-how helping you enjoy life more. However, in some unknown way this advertisement is helping to sell more Miller High Life, and for that, the advertisers deserve some credit.

This beer is cheap and terrible. The Terrible, Terrible stuff...oh yeah.

Cheers.

Terrible, Terrible stuff...oh yeah

Wednesday 11/15: HC's Stokes Auditorium - Sunset Boulevard, 8 p.m.
Friday, 11/17: Stokes: HC's Stokes Auditorium - Coyote Ugly, 9 p.m.
Friday, 10/18-17: Antigone. HC's Founders Common Room, 8 p.m. Free tickets available at door; email jllworth@haverford.edu for advance tix.
Friday, 11/17: The Haverford-Bryn Mawr College Orchestra performs under the direction of Heidi Jacobs. The program includes Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 and excerpts from Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet. HC's Marshall Auditorium, 8 p.m.
Saturday, 11/18: HC's Sharpless Auditorium - The Usual Suspects, 8 p.m. The Sixth Sense, 10 p.m.
Saturday, 11/19: SAW's 7th annual Culture Show. BCM's Thomas Great Hall, 7:30 p.m.; After Party in Erdman, 11 p.m.
Friday, 11/17: The BMC Alternative Concert Series presents Bright Eyes, Britt Daniel, and Sorry About Dresden. The concert will be held in the campus center main lounge beginning at 8 p.m.

Christian Fetterhoff
Slam brings passion, humor

Reggie Cabico

Catherine Song

Staff Writer

The first annual Diversity Week Poetry Slam featured artists Reggie Cabico, Kristin Wyzga, Yolanda Wilkinson, Dazé Rustin Grego and Marty McConnell. Kierstin Gray (BMC ’02) organized the slam, which played for a full house in the Campus Center and was sponsored by the OID, Rainbow Alliance, and Half.

Cabico, the emcee for the evening, described himself as the “Brian Boitano of Slam,” an allusion to the figure skater’s alleged queerness. Proclaiming “I don’t want to be stir-fry for an Asiaphile’s kitchen,” and that it was about time “a queer Filipino male should seduce a white male” on network TV, Cabico joked fun at how Asian stereotypes affected his relationships with others.

“Do you know what kind of men are interested in me?” he asked. “Anthropologists!” One of the highlights of the evening was Cabico’s poem in two voices, containing the reading between the lines of a letter in which he comes out to his mother.

Wilkinson illuminated the little quirks that make life interesting, such as getting crushed on gay men “people have been calling me a ‘bitch’ since I was four years old!”), and negotiating the evils of TV trays (“TV trays are a primary factor in causing domestic violence.”

Her more serious poem, From T scraper to T bomber, addressed the audience with “penis envy is bullshit; ‘I’m envious of what you are given, not what you have!’”

Rustin Grego’s gently moving, sometimes quietly humorous poem, personalized libertarian topics such as domestic violence and AIDS. One that stood out was “when we thought the world was mighty,” full of respect and love for a man, now dead of AIDS, who had a profound impact on Rustin Grego’s life.

Wygal poured forth lyrical words of passion and righteous outrage. A poem from her “flirtation series” addressed a lover with “if I could hear you one more time I would dance delicate harmonies down your sultry melody.” Being harassed while out for a snack with her partner prompted the poem “But I just came for the chocolate cake,” expressing her frustration at the hostile environment at Denny’s.

In the amateur slam that followed, Shannon Kelso ’04, Thaly Germain ’OJ, and Kierstin Gray (BMC ’OJ) collaborated to build a slam community in the bi-co. While some participants expected a writing workshop, the event turned out to be more of a conversation. After showing the documentary Slam Nation, Imarisha and Olson answered questions from the participants, and played videos and recordings of their work and others. The following were some of the questions asked.

So how do you get your inspiration? While inspiration can come in bursts, it doesn’t have to. Writing poetry often involves a lot of background work. Imarisha, who was a history major in college, “used to be one of those inspired people” who would wake up with an idea for a poem. As she realized she needed more poems in order to compete, she started taking notes on whatever fascinated her, and making an outline for each poem. She then went back to writing with a pencil, reworking the words on paper first, and then evolve as multiple readings bring out the rhythm.

Did you notice the participants that “the most important thing is not to be like, ‘what’s going to sound good,’ but go with what you’re feeling.” She had started writing songs with her guitar, then gradually stopped using the guitar. Olson writes from her own journals, from “reading Elle and laughing at the articles,” and from watching people go about their everyday lives. For “America’s On Sale” a brightly cheerful commentary on everything wrong with American consumer society, Olson spent time in department stores listening to the PA systems (“hello K-mart shoppers”) and writing down neat phrases from car commercials (“blue-light special,” “restrictions may apply.”).

Poetry can come from all sorts of inspiration. Dazé Rustin Grego wrote his first poem on his burger wrapper, “on Valentine’s Day 1994, sitting in the parking lot of a Burger King ... sad because I didn’t have a valentine.”

And when did you get your inspiration? Olson and Imarisha pointed out; one could be “harassed for one second and come up with an entire poem right there.” Sometimes poems, or pieces of poems, can be therapy, never meant to read aloud.

What do you do with a really cool line that goes into your head? How do you take it further?

One workshop participant brought out her own “perfect line,” describing her own verses as if they could wear clothing. Asking “what do the poems look like? Who do they look like?” Imarisha and Olson demonstrated ways to bring out all the nuances in a particularly vivid image.

Where is slam going? Is it getting commercialized?

National slams have gotten bigger, from 41 teams to 65 teams in the past three years. MTV and Def Comedy Jam stood in danger of “leaching all the energy and grassroots basis” out of the artform. At the same time, poetry and activism go well in the hands of both politically minded and poetry-minded people. During her time as a Portland State University student, Imarisha hosted slams to raise money for freeing Mumia Abu-Jamal, protesting police brutality and the prison-industrial complex. Speakouts, poetry-outs, “election slams,” and reading poetry to passing folk in big urban centers can be effective ways to educate and mobilize people. Slam, as described by Reggie Cabico, has a “truth, depth, range, and reallness” that makes it one of the more accessible forms of art, and an important vehicle for social change.

Rules of the game

What are the rules of slam poetry?

Three-minute poems can be performed individually or in teams. Judges and a timekeeper are chosen from the audience. Scores can range from 10-0 to 0-30. Musical instruments or props, except for the microphone, are off-limits.

How can we keep people from being scared off by the scoring?

Baby steps toward introducing people to slam format might include starting with an open mic (no scoring), then introducing scoring at the end; or asking people before they perform if they’d like to be scored.

How can we make our venue a safe space for all slammers, not be censoring people?

Just as audiences are free to loudly cheer work that they like, they are also free to declare their own boundaries of a “safe space” by booping or refusing to clap for work that offends them.

For more information about slam, try:

www.alifolson.com

Poetry Slam, a book, ed. Gary Glazner (lit- Williams, written by slam, famous entirely by poets- slam poets, how-to’s)
Icebox.com... Enter at your own risk

Catherine Song
Staff Writer

Icebox.com is a website featuring original animated short films by various indie animators, writers, voice actors and producers. The first time I heard about it, I was featured in an article in online.com, a website for Asian American culture. The article involved a controversy over Mr. Wong, a cartoon about an elderly, toadyic Chinese "houseboy" and his white socialite employer. The cartoon was full of "racially inflammatory material," (as listed in the cartoon's warning) which refers to the title character's stereotypical physical characteristics, such as yellow skin, buckteeth and a bad accent. The article also stated that icebox.com insisted on keeping Mr. Wong, and the filmmakers claimed that it was a cartoon that mainly focused on the relationship between two different people.

After watching a few Mr. Wong cartoons (in which I thought the lead character was rendered in very poor taste), I wasn't offended by it as much as I thought I would be, since the situation of the cartoon is amusing itself. Curious, I checked out some of the other titles and found them to be diverting in an offensive way.

Here are some memorable samples:

Meet the Millers: This is a satire of a 1950's generic, happy-go-lucky, white bread, all-American middle class family. Yes, they are able to pull off such parody, yet they poke fun at misogyny, racism and anti-Semitism by making the characters obviously offensive in an innocent way. Maybe they were mocking the problem-free generic white families by mocking racism.

In one of the episodes, The Music Man, the mother, Betty suggests to her teenage son's rock band that they change singers (replace Leroy, the stereotypically named African-American friend with the son, Nicky), since Leroy's singing reminds her of African shamanism.

Another low point of Meet the Millers occurs when Betty reads Little Black Sambo to her youngest son with a stereotypical "black" accent, prompting her son to say, "Wow, Mom! You sure talk like a real darky!"

Shades of sexism are layered over some episodes, which also involve mocking of domestic violence. Betty befriends her friend, who is being abused by her husband: "Of course it is [your fault]. You just need to try harder."

When her friend considers leaving him, Betty scolds, "Only whores get divorced. Are you a whore?"

No, whores get a new dress once in a while," her friend replies.

I really got a sick feeling at the bottom of my stomach due to the derision of battered women. Come on - domestic violence is a huge problem in society, and along with racism, it is definitely no laughing matter.

Some of the episodes show a mockery of Jewish people, such as one concerning a father's Jewish golf partner. "I wonder what they wear for that?" asks the little brother, questioning why some Jews wear yarmulkes. Replies his older brother: "To hide their horns, ya dope."

Yes they are making fun of how racist some people can be, but I think that this series goes overboard with derogatory references. Probably the filmmakers wanted to get a reaction out of the audience by shocking the hell out of them.

Queer Duck: The title character is a walking gay cliche, except that he is a green mardall duck with a rainbow colored vest.

"Queer duck, he's an intellectual. Queer duck, he's a homosexual," sings RuPaul (yes, RuPaul) during the opening of every episode.

Yes, this cartoon is rather lightweight, and so's to say, the least offensive. They do rely on stereotypes of gay men, such as flamboyancy, a penchant for Barbara Streisand films and waking up in bed with a total stranger.

In an episode titled Fiddler on the Roofie, Queer Duck wakes up in bed with his paramour, Openly Gator (yes, a pun) and another bedmate, a hippo. His nephew gets a hold of his pornographic Poke-a-Man tape, believing it to be the popular children's cartoon. "What are these two doing?" the nephew asks.

This series is quite new, since there are only four episodes out on icebox.com. It's quirky, and draws attention to today's queer issues, such as coming out to parents and the "ex-gay" movement initiated by the religious right.

I did watch episodes of other series, such as Jesus and His Brothers, and Starship Regulars, and I would have to say that they were rather bland and forgettable.

Overall, I think that icebox.com has a lot of material that is shockingly amusing to some, and the material would definitely get some reaction. Instead of following the trends to accommodate the mainstream audience, its animated shorts are meant for those who can deal with controversial humor and issues.

Missing something?

Submit to the new bi-co magazine and reclaim it. Essays, articles, photography, watercolors, poetry, cartoons, anything.

But do it now! This week!

Email Nicole at nfromke@brynmawr.edu for more info.

Karate: Unsolved

Joniitha Keymoore
Staff Writer

I have never seen Karate perform live, but listening to their new, jazz-influenced album Unsolved conjures visions of three men clad in all black with little berets perched on their heads, performing in a smoke filled club, à la So I Married An Axe-Murderer. And when the set is over, the audience would snap their fingers in approval instead of applauding. Though I am guessing that that isn't exactly what Karate's performances are like, given the band's unique sound, it's very difficult trying to picture them at just any old venue.

In any case, Karate, which originally consisted of guitarist/vocalist Geoff Farina, drummer Gavin McCarthy and bassist Eamonn Vitt (who was later replaced by Jeff Goddard of Moving Targets fame) formed back in 1992. Two EPs and five albums later, they have released Unsolved.

Over the past eight years, Karate has evolved from yet another emo-band to a jazz/rock hybrid. Despite the constant comparison between Karate and Fugazi, they have little in common, musically. The bands share, however, a commitment to uncompromised music, Karate continually putting out albums that do not fall into a particular genre.

Unsolved is the band's most heavily jazz influenced album to date. It is a truly remarkable collection in which the members have drawn from their own formal training in jazz, classical, and blues to create an original brand of rock. In fact, Unsolved is probably more of a jazz than a rock album. Farina's slow rambling guitar, Goddard and McCarthy's play of shifting rhythms and stop-and-starts make Unsolved refreshing in comparison with the sea of derivative albums that come out each year.

One song that stands out is "The Roots and Ruins," a beautifully composed song with bluesy riffs and gracefully exploding crescendos. While the songs initially have an aimless, almost wandering sound, upon closer listening, every instrument is actually very carefully controlled. However, there is not a complete absence of rock in this album. Songs such as "Seven" are reminiscent of Karate's old emo days with loud drums, dominating guitar, and drums.

The tightly woven musical compositions of Unsolved are so impressive that they initially overshadow the lyrics, which are written in paragraph form, and read like an open diary, as opposed to the commonly used poetry format. Also, there is almost a complete absence of chorus in the songs, which is not only a nice break from the typical construction of a song, but also seems to give the words more strength. Farina's singing alternates between speech and song, which, contradictory to what one might expect, does not grow tiresome or sound corny.

On the whole Unsolved is probably one of Karate's best albums. Fans of bands such as Van Pelt, Yo La Tengo or even The Lapse, are guaranteed to like it. But I think this album will appeal to a wide variety of listeners who like anything ranging from experimental music to jazz.

Rating: ★★★★★

Rockwell Church Coffeehouse

The 6th annual Charity Ball for the American Cancer Society is hosting a Coffeehouse with Rockwell Church

Saturday, 8 p.m. in BMC's CC

A Silent Auction will be held the 14th, 15th and 16th in HC's DC, 5-7 p.m. and on the 16th, 17th and 18th 9 a.m.-4 p.m. in BMC's CC

For more info contact Tina Chen (tchen@brynmawr.edu, x7601) or Pragya Rustagi, (prustagi@brynmawr.edu, x7786).
Translation of "Verse of the Throne" from the cover.

Chapter 2, Verse 255, the Quran

Allah! There is no God but He, the living, the self-subsisting, supporter of all, no slumber can sink upon Him. His are all things in the heavens and on earth. He is the Most High, the Most Great in His presence except as he permiteth. He knoweth what appeareth to His creatures as before or after or behind them. Nor shall they compass aught of His knowledge except as He willeth. His Throne doth extend over the heavens and the earth, and He giveth no fatigue in guarding and preserving them for He is the Most High, the Supreme in glory.

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**Let's Enjoy Galvin FUWA FUWA Japan!**

Galvin Chow
Foreign Correspondent

Yeah, yeah, I know. I said I wouldn’t write this year, since I’m, well, abroad at all. But partly due to the urging of the mysterious “Subcommittee on Solipsism” (who ARE those guys?), and partly due to the wild egotistical need to make my presence felt in a college newspaper half a world away, I’ve reluctantly accepted the position of Official Foreign Correspondent (Japan Branch) here at the Bi-Co. But if anyone asks, they BEGGED me. At any rate, it’s good to be back!

It’s referred to in its native land. For those not in the know, this concoction for free samples has quickly become a favorite starvation-college-student-abroad activity of mine. Even though, as it turns out, this free sample thing is a double-decker.

But seriously folks, Japan is truly wonderful, a land of magic. The history has left it rife with countless cultural high points, such as McDonald’s. ( Pronounced “MAH-KUH-DO-NA-RU-DOO” in Japanese) Anyone who spends 10 seconds in a Japanese McDonald’s, provided he/she is not bludgeoned to death by the onslaught of sincerely jovial greetings, will marvel at the politeness, cheerfulness, and overall strong work ethic of McDonald’s clerks conduct themselves in TV commercials in America—multiply the cheeriness factor by 10, and that’s more or less how the Japanese do things. This friendly, inviting atmosphere is, I hear, created through the ancient Japanese secret of Keeping All the Ugly and Unhappy People in the Back. Innovative strategies like these are what keep Japan ahead in the work!

Another curious Japanese phenomenon is the rampant proliferation of a mutated form of English that can only be described as “blas­tantly incorrect.” English words can be found EVERYWHERE in Japan, but apparently, frequency in no way facilitates proficiency. For instance, on the underside of my favorite cooking pan is inscribed the mysterious message of “Let’s Wonderful Cooking Scene,” which besides being grammatically incorrect, sounds like the type of thing one would utter if consuming psychedelic mush­rooms on one’s deathbed. Another fine example of this is the label on my Funwari brand margarine which proudly proclaims, and I quote, “The new FUNWARI spread will take you to a tasty FUWA FUWA world.”

Okay, so my questions with that are twofold:
1) Would someone PLEASE explain to me what on earth a “FUWA FUWA” is, because it’s certainly not in my dictionary; and
2) Whatever it means, is it supposed to be some kind of actual selling point? Are there Japanese families all over Japan excitedly eating bowls of Funwari margarine in the false hope of somehow reaching this magical land? Perhaps housewives are rushing home with bagfuls of the stuff, excitedly explaining to their husbands, “Look honey, I picked Funwari brand since it’s watching my over my knees or on top of a T-shirt, for jogging or for movie watching, and regard for on earth. For hundreds of washings, it retained the familiar fragrance of Preferred Stock cologne and Old Spice. It was my comfort object.

I used to refer to it as a “grown-up version of a security blanket.” But that isn’t quite right. These articles are more than the blankets any Teddy bears of childhood, for their value extends far beyond their tangible existence. We do not reach for them only to ward off nightmares and monsters under the bed. We seek them to feel grounded. To reclaim that which made us strong and happy. Comfort objects are an affirmation of our past, and a reflec­tion of our experiences. They are measures of progress, reminders of our defeats, and rewards of our success.

And they become parts of us. My relationship with the ex ended shortly after my arrival to Bryan Mawr, but my relationship with his shirt was constant and consistent until I packed it away with the rest of my winter clothes last May.

I wandered the halls of Rhoads last week, with the vague notion of this column. I timidly mentioned the idea of comfort objects, expecting stares of confusion. Instead, the words scarcely left my lips before I was presented with faded photographs, worn jackets, antique bracelets. My ballmades’ faces lit up with pleasure at the idea of sharing their secret treasures. Some used to drink daily out of the same ceramic mug. When it broke, she cried for hours, to the bemusement of her parents. Surprisingly enough, I find myself without a tapestry pillow that her family sent her from the Philippines. Jessica will not part with a sweatshirt whose origin she has long since forgotten.

I cleaned my room yesterday, in the vigorous manner that is only necessary two or three times a year. I emptied drawers and sorted old papers, old exams, old letters. And at the bottom of an over­looked bin, I came across the Magic Shirt. After a moment of hesitation, I put it on, and waited for the feeling of security and peace to wash over me. To my surprise, it didn’t come. In other words, I was simply without a security blanket.

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Objects that Feed the Soul

Monica Hesse
Perspectives Editor

The sweater that you wore for your first kiss. The socks that scored the winning goal in the big game. The first thing purchased with your own money, saved from your own part time job. These are the items that you cannot throw away. They break the rules of Spring Cleaning, and defy the laws of changing tastes. They are timeless: old friends, permanent fixtures, defendable and dependable. They are comfort objects.

An ex-boyfriend gave me his prize-possessions: Pearl Jam shirt as a “Remember Me” present when I left for Bryan Mawr. I still have his old ratty socks, and past my fingertips. It was not my color, not my style, and not my music. And yet, that shirt was my haven, my parents. Surprisingly enough, I find myself without a tapestry pillow that her family sent her from the Philippines. Jessica will not part with a sweatshirt whose origin she has long since forgotten.

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**Perspectives**


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Being Touched

Erika Straus-Bowers

Empathy is a mysterious thing. Are we full of it as children, only to lose it bit by bit as we are individualized by the world? Or does it come to us gradually, ripening with age’s expansion of self? I have very few answers, just lots of persistent questions. Like this one: With whom does empathy choose to pair us-and why them before others? As I grow older, I consciously push my empathy to expand. Sometimes it works better at first in my head than in my heart. Other times my heart works with no pushing at all. The heart just seems to do what it wants to do.

I think that my first memory of noticing another animal comes in a flash of an image from nursery school. I was four— or maybe three — and I went to the Brunswick Recreation Department three days a week for mornings of story and snack and the Fisher-Price plastic kitchen. We had a guinea pig in our classroom. I don’t remember her name; in fact, I don’t remember being particularly interested in getting to know her. I think maybe she scared me a bit, being the first guinea pig I’d ever met and all. She was a pinky kind of yellow and had funny lips that split in the middle when she drank from the clicking metal tip of her special guinea pig water bottle.

In my flash of an image, I am sitting with several of the other kids, clustered around her aquarium. One of the kids picks her up, and in his excitement and desire at touching this wonderfully live creature, holds her tightly in both hands. I watch him squeezing her, his fingers clamped around her belly. It hurts her and she’s scared—I can tell. So many eager hands, so many big bodies, so many loud voices. I hang back and decide I don’t really want to hold her. I watch Mrs. Knight release her back into her aquarium, where she scurries to a corner, too old to be surprised anymore at these big animals touching her all over, and too young somehow not to still look for shelter.

Hermit crab CPR

Meisha Kun

Looking back on my childhood, I realize that three main themes run throughout it. One of which was the inseparable trio of friends my sister and I formed with our neighbor Robert. The other was aquariums. The third is animals, mainly the ones that you find around water. That all changed when I went to sleep-away camp. We had decided to go bike riding. We spent half an hour riding across the driveway in our version of tag. That was when we noticed that the hermit crab (in the bike’s basket as usual) was blue. This was not good. We rushed it back inside, and found Robert’s mom. She cupped it in her hand, and blew some warm air into their enclosed area. The hermit crab’s color returned to normal, and he was fine.

He lived happily ever after—at least for another couple of years. Then he went to live with a friend of Robert’s, that’s that’s another story.

Eating Well

Diana Fruchtmann

I was never very sympathetic to animals as a child—I mean animals in general. I would cry over dogs and cats out stranded in the snow, and one of my favorite fall activities was collecting acorns with my brother and sister for the squirrels in our backyard, but then, if a spider dared stick his hairy little foreleg into my bed, I would reach down to grab the animals, and then hold them up for everyone to see. My friends never seemed to get used to the idea that I could actually pick up a crayfish without losing my fingers. Even though these things with claws seemed monstrously huge at the time, they never really frightened me. I would grab them behind what I would call the armpits, and knew that they couldn’t reach back to hurt me. So, it makes sense that when Robert took a trip to the shore one weekend, he came back with a pet hermit crab. Ok, this was a tree hermit crab, supposedly meant for dry land, but we knew better than to listen to silly suggestions like “stay dry.” (My shoes were wet from April to October).

The hermit crab would love joining us on adventures. This we knew. When we explored further up the creek, he came with us. When we found a frog, he got to extend our welcome as ambassador to the amphibians. He rode in the basket of Robert’s bike when we rode around the neighborhood. And twice, we saved him with CPR. The first time happened in July, when we decided that he would like to try sailing. We spent the morning building boats out of sticks, and by afternoon, his vessel was ready to launch. Robert placed him on the bow, and released the ship. At the first set of mini rapids, the hermit crab lost his balance, and fell overboard. We fished him out, hoping he hadn’t drowned, and quickly spilled the water out of his shell. But he wasn’t moving. So Robert blew on his head from a couple of inches away. We considered this CPR.

The second time happened in early November. We had decided to go bike riding. We spent half an hour riding across the driveway in our version of tag. That was when we noticed that the hermit crab (in the bike’s basket as usual) was blue. This was not good. We rushed it back inside, and found Robert’s mom. She cupped it in her hands, and blew some warm air into their enclosed area. The hermit crab’s color returned to normal, and he was fine.

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Deconstructing Truth: The Mideast Peace Process from a Palestinian Perspective

Rabia Yasmeen Qureshi
Guest Writer

We define truth as that which we know to be fact or reality, but what happens when that reality is false? This is to a certain extent the exact problem with the Israel/Palestine conflict. A new wave of violence, sparked by the Sept. 28 visit of Israeli opposition leader Ariel Sharon to Temple Mount, or Haram al-Sharif, in the West Bank, continues to threaten the future of peace talks between Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat.

The conflict does not have its roots only in violence and aggression, but in truth as well. What much of the world has heard up to this point is the story of rock-throwing terrorists, otherwise known as Palestinians, and peace-making Israelis, otherwise known as Palestinians, and peace-making innocent Israelis. The media has played a grossly biased role in this whole situation, and no doubt it will continue this way. But the value of all of this one-sidedness is lost to those of us who contend that there are two sides to every story. The side the media has portrayed reluctantly, if at all, is that of the Palestinians. Theirs is a story overworked in anguish and suffering, a tale of dispossession of a people, the systematic genocide of a culture, and ultimately the assurance of a continent of pain.

This is no tale, however; it is based wholly on facts. In 1917, the Balfour Declaration endorsed the idea of a Jewish homeland at the request of Zionist leader David Ben-Gurion. But this homeland was not to come at the expense of the Palestinian Arabs who had lived there for over 2000 years. The original agreement was a Jewish state within the confines of Palestine and establish both a Palestinian state and a Jewish one. Thirty years later, the United Nations reviewed the situation and voted to partition Palestine into Jewish and Arab states with Jerusalem acknowledged as an international city, as it is home to the Old City, which contains holy sites sacred to Jews, Christians, and Muslims. What actually resulted was a refusal on the part of the Zionist lead-ship and a subsequent vie for independence. Thus, Israel was created in 1948.

What immediately followed is what history has purposely left out: the displacement of Palestinians from their homes; the forcible extraction of families from their towns and mosques; the systematic killing of thousands of Palestinian obnissates who were ordered to dig their own graves; and of course, the influx of Jews from all over Eastern Europe and the USSR so that there was an immediate Jewish majority in many parts of formerly Palestinian land; the establishment of synagogues and parliamentary structures; and the groundwork for a development of a strong, formidable military ultimately financed some $280 billion by the Security Council alone.

This is not a tale in the horrors of humanity, but a reality check. It speaks to the fact that this is simply an evacuate; situation whose end is nowhere in sight. The conflict between Israelis and Palestinians originated at the time of the creation of Israel, and it is not directly perpetuated by any longer; today; what feeds the fire is not just a war; but violence committed by Israelis against Muslims versus Jews in the case of the West Bank, to a certain extent. It does not comprise a universal belief in the religion that is to say that neither Israel nor Palestine are mono­theistic entities, and because each does have a spectrum of beliefs and interests represented, the cause of the tension is multifaceted. One dimension can point to Israelis' violation of UN Resolutions 242 and 338, passed by the Security Council.

I have always been afraid of the dark. Only recently have I gotten to the point where I can sleep in a nightmare-free, completely dark room without any lights at all. My mother has told me tales of her very early experiences of darkness. Before I could walk, I propelled myself around in a seat that had wheels and a circular table and belt, and squeakers surrounding me. My mom remembers one day when I accidentally propelled myself underneath the kitchen table. Looking up and seeing only dark underside of the table, I cried out and sounded my squeakers in distress. It didn't take long for my mother to find me, and as soon as I was retrieved from the dark depths underneath our kitchen table, my faith was restored in the brightness of the world around me. Later in my life, when I protested to sleeping in a baby seat with wheels, my mother said, "It's the easiest way down there." I thought of the display by the window, and of course, the influx of Jews from all over Eastern Europe and the USSR so that there was an immediate Jewish majority in many parts of formerly Palestinian land; the establishment of synagogues and parliamentary structures; and the groundwork for a development of a strong, formidable military ultimately financed some $280 billion by the Security Council alone.

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Toward the light

Emily Moos
Columnist

I've always trusted almost everything my mother has said, and grown to realize that she is almost always right. In fact, it wasn't until last week that I seriously doubted my own judgment.

A list of books in hand, I journeyed to Canaday on Saturday, determined to find every piece of sought-out reading material. I had grouped the call numbers into similar categories for easy access: a group of P148's, a group of P149's, etc. I was returning from the second floor, determined to find every piece of sought reading material. I had grouped the call numbers into similar categories for easy access: a group of P148's, a group of P149's, etc. I was returning from the second floor, having just made out, "Copyright 1896." I thought of the display by the window, and of course, the influx of Jews from all over Eastern Europe and the USSR so that there was an immediate Jewish majority in many parts of formerly Palestinian land; the establishment of synagogues and parliamentary structures; and the groundwork for a development of a strong, formidable military ultimately financed some $280 billion by the Security Council alone.

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The Presidential Circus

Regan Fitzgerald
Columnist

I just don't know what to say. There have been times when the popular vote and the electoral college have not coincided, but that's not really what has me baffled (although the fact that it's Gore who has the popular vote is quite surprising considering the polls in the days before the election).

The thing that has me shaking my head in disbelief is the way that all of this has come about, and the fact that, writing this on the Wednesday after the election, there is no definitive winner. And there probably won't be one when you read this. Between the flip-flopping coverage on Election Night, the inconsistencies in the media in Florida, and the Electoral College controversy, there is a lot to talk about here, but I don't know where to begin...

I guess the first question is: who's going to win? We know that Gore has the popular vote, and there is little that could happen in the recounts and still incoming ballots to change that. However, this means little, because the Electoral College has essentially dictated this year, that the state of Florida decides everything. In 1960, everything hinged on Illinois, and Chicago's Mayor Daley used his Democratic machine to deliver the state for Kennedy. Is Jeb Bush the Daley of this election, bringing in Florida for Dubya? I doubt it. There are too many people watching this race for any overt wrongdoing to happen. I'm not going to speculate who's going to take Florida. No one knows how long this is going to take, how long this is going to be fought. The problems in Palm Beach County, with people accidentally voting for Pat Buchanan when they meant to vote for Gore, mean that even if the Gore campaign doesn't contest it, the people who actually voted can contest it, and no one knows how long that kind of court battle could take.

The next issue is the Electoral College. With the popular vote looking like it could differ from the state tally, there are many who are justifiably calling for its abolition. All of you have heard the networks explain that which is that an odd number of delegates based on the number of members from that state in the House of Representatives (which is based on population), with two added for each Senator. This is why the Founding Fathers in part because they didn't fully trust the American people to elect a competent president (and the Electoral College may be doing that for us this time). It is important to remember that there is another reason for the College. The United States is not based on majority rule—it is a representative democracy that James Madison and the other authors of the Constitution set up to make sure that even the minorities were represented. When they were trying to figure out how the legislature was going to be constructed, the large states, most notably Virginia, wanted representation to be totally based on population. New Jersey and the smaller states wanted there to be a set number of representatives from each state so that all would be heard. The result is the bicameral legislature we have now. The Electoral College is based on the same system. Without it, candidates wouldn't bother to set foot in Iowa or Arkansas or any of the lesser-populated states that were crucial in this election. They would have split their time between California, New York, Texas, Florida and the other highly populated states. This year, with everything coming down to the last few hundred votes, the Electoral College is hard to defend. But in other elections, it was the only way that the small states could be heard. This is an important factor to consider when deciding whether the Electoral College is still viable in our times.

Finally, the coverage on election night had me laughing out loud. I will admit here and now that I was awake until 5 a.m. I tried to go to bed at least 3 times, but with everything too close to call, I couldn't sleep. I must admit, when the election was called by all of the networks at 2:30 a.m., I was writing an article about what we had to do now that the nightmare had come true. Then, everything just blew apart. It was incredible. Tim Russert was writing "Florida" over and over on his little wipe board which he insisted in calling a "magic slate." I've heard someone say that Dan Rather was acting like Jerry Lewis in the 3rd hour of his Labor Day telethon; he was talking about big wheels and calling Texas a taco and Florida a tamale. Then all the movement with Florida, first for Gore, then Bush, a toss up. That'll teach me to color in my electoral map when they're still just projecting!

Well, you faithful out there, just hold on. We'll know by January, don't you worry.

Al Gore Quote of the Week
"You don't have to be snappy about it!"

Jeff Kearns
Guest Columnist

The year is 2000, and the place is a college renowned for its emphasis upon the individual. Yet, this setting might as well be Birmingham, Alabama in 1962 when it comes to race relations. Despite the eight years of civil rights legislation on the local and national level, and a concerted effort by the college administration, the students at Haverford College seem determined to live in a racial time-warp. In this unfortunate little bubble, the students are not individuals but rather members of groups with homogeneous values and priorities. The criteria for these groups: the type and quantity of pigment in a sixteenth of an inch layer of skin. It can be easy to overlook or ignore the occasional examples of racial segregation around the tables in the Dining Center, or the fact that there is a need for ethnic minority students to find support in the tri-co program. It does not seem to bother anyone that some ethnic minorities feel left out of the community, or perhaps, through their disenchantment with the current state of affairs, choose to leave themselves out. Maybe this is the attitude today, but after an Honor Council trial in 1994 named Charter, the student body made the decision that it was imperative to make minorities feel more welcome. This manifested itself in the creation of the Multicultural Juror List (MJL), which entitled minority students a multicultural jury in Honor Code trials. The idea was that such students may feel more inclined to make an impartial decision. They believe that even if three or more of these jurors feel that they are multicultural and are on the MJL, this jury cannot necessarily be trusted. The Honor Council seems to inculcate that a jury can be considered diverse and non-biased with the sole requirement of varying skin tones. This opinion does not account for differences in the sexual orientation, upbringing, religion, class, or gender of its members.

How can Haverford claim to value the individual while dividing the student body by color lines? Why does Haverford believe that students of the same skin color will automatically come to the same conclusion in a trial? The student body and the Honor Council must rethink their position on the MJL. It has been shown time and time again in this country that segregating people into groups only increases tension and animosity. The MJL was the product of good intentions, but its day is over. For those concerned that there will be a minority student judged by an all-white jury, do the math and you will find that there is only a 2 percent chance of this happening, and that percentage has been dropping in the past 5 years. Statistically there is no further need for the MJL. But more importantly, in order for Haverford to continue to strive towards racial harmony in the community, it must cast aside this crusty. Every single member of the student body should be on the MJL because every single student has a unique set of values and priorities. Integration, not segregation, should be what Haverford strives for in its search for an inclusive community. Let's not think of ourselves as members of different ethnic groups when there is so much more we can learn from the lessons populating each other when we think of ourselves as individuals.

find us on the web: biconews.haverford.edu or biconews.brynmawr.edu
Dear Editor:

I am absolutely livid about the advertisement for Amnion in the November 7th Bi-Co. It was pointed out to me, though, that the editors can place any advertisement that they want in the paper and probably care less what the advertisements are for so long as they bring in money. However, I think it is important to draw attention to this particular advertisement and educate the Bi-Co community about such places.

Amnion is what is commonly referred to as a crisis pregnancy center or CPC. The advertisement in question reads, “Pregnant - or think you might be? Uncertain what to do about it?” Organizations such as Amnion are pro-life. They usually advertise free counseling and pregnancy tests. This counseling, though, is pro-life in nature and discourages women from seeking an abortion. False propaganda such as brochures and films are presented. Often this propaganda uses images of mutilated fetuses and depicts abortion doctors as murderers or bullying idiots. The free pregnancy test is often what gets a young woman through the front door. Although the results from pregnancy tests take just minutes, the “counselors” at CPCs tell a woman that the results will take half an hour or even an hour. It is then waiting anxiously for the results that the women are subjected to the false propaganda and anti-choice counseling. The goals of such places are often to scare women into carrying the fetus to term. CPCs do not refer women to abortion clinics but present only two options: parenting or adoption. Other typical tactics of CPCs include choosing a neutral name (i.e. Abortion Advice, First Resort, or Pregnancy Problem Center) and choosing locations near legitimate reproductive health clinics and schools.

For the past three and a half years, I have been a patient escort at Planned Parenthood. I have listened to “sidewalk counselors” and protesters for hours and I have seen the materials that they distribute to women entering the clinic. I am disgusted by the religious tactics and scare tactics that these people use. Crisis pregnancy centers are no different. The number of CPCs in the United States is huge and they significantly outnumber safer and legitimate abortion clinics. If you were to map out crisis pregnancy centers versus abortion clinics for my home state of Michigan, the entire state would be dotted with CPCs while only a few of the major cities would show locations of legitimate abortion clinics. I think it is wrong for the Bi-Co to allow advertisements from places such as Amnion and I hope that future advertisements will not be placed in the Bi-Co. If you are interested in more information about CPCs, check out the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League’s fact sheet (www.nara.org/meriaresources/fact/ crisis_pregnancy.html).

Most importantly, if you are in need of a pregnancy test or options counseling that will present ALL the options without forcing someone else’s morals on you, contact Planned Parenthood at 1-800-230-PLAN. This number will automatically connect you to the nearest Planned Parenthood clinic.

Jessica Jacobs

HC ‘01

Editor’s note: This week, in response to the voiced concerns of the community and of the newspaper’s staff, the Bi-Co is suspending publication of advertisements related to reproductive issues pending further discussion by the paper’s editorial board.

Dear Bi-Co Readers:

Kilian Kroell’s venomous, lengthy diatribe of the S-Chords (Arts Nov. 7) suggests that, as someone who devoted four years of his life to something as offensive and evil as a cappella group, I should be filled with a sense of embarrassment. And I have a confession for you: in reading “Die Hard A Cappella Torture,” I, Andy Beck, HC ‘00 and (dare I admit?) former S-Chord, was indeed overcome by the strongest feelings of embarrassment that I have felt in quite a long time.

“What exactly are you embarrassed by?” you wonder. Am I embarrassed for the dozens of S-Chords who spent the last 15 years singing “out-of-date and out-of-tune” songs? Am I embarrassed for all of those foolish, unrefined fans who’ve displayed such a moribund paucity of taste by wasting their Friday evenings at a cappella concerts? Am I embarrassed by the S-Chords’ shortcomings in matters of such crucial importance as a sense of fashion (at the core of which is my own shocking inability to part with my “little homo-chic thingy”)? Am I embarrassed for those men of color who, in the last 15 years, clearly betrayed their cultural identities by surrendering themselves to “the embodiment of the quintessential haverwhite-culture” by singing “Underground”?

OK, prepare for the kicker: No, I am not embarrassed by any of these things. I am proud of the songs the S-Chords sing and the way they sing them. I am more grateful that I can express for the enthusiasm that students show when they take the time to attend S-Chords concerts. I didn’t care less about how the S-Chords dress. And I might be going out on a limb here, but I think that the people of color in the S-Chords might know a little more about their relationships with their racial identities and cultural heritages than does an unqualified random observer.

I am embarrassed, however, for the time and energy it must have taken to write such a hateful, offensive article. Unless Haverford’s workload has slowed to a trickle in the year since I graduated, I would expect that students would want to milk their free time for all that it’s worth. Personally, I would be embarrassed to admit to anyone, much less the entire Bi-Co community, that I have nothing to do with my precious free time other than attend concerts that I despise and publish hurtful and presumptuous articles advertising my intolerance.

Respectfully Yours,

Michael L. Marsi Sr.
The Electoral College: stealing the vote

With the turmoil still cycling like a Florida tornado, the undecided 2000 presidential contest between George Bush and Al Gore continues to churn up disturbing questions about the Electoral College. Gore seems slated to win the popular vote but is perhaps doomed to lose the Electoral College, exposing the fact that it is possible to subjugate the power of the individual and the will of the people, all within the current context of the U.S. Constitution.

Whether by national referendum or Congressional action, it is time to abolish the Electoral College.

The negative effects of the Electoral College on individual empowerment, grass-roots politics, and national political dialogue all make clear why the Electoral College ought to go, and why the United States ought to follow its own precedent of amending the Constitution to allow for greater enfranchisement.

Historically the College has been a means of protecting one power from another: the small states from the large states, and the unified federal government from factionalized politics. Yet, in spite of the Electoral College, the country is nonetheless divided by state and region. Eliminating the College would result in the political outreach necessary to bridge the factional rifts with which the College has troubled the country. With the "there’s only time for the important states" mentality cast aside, the candidates would need to invest their time and money in all states and regions.

In trying to insulate the government from extremism, the Constitution, in having an Electoral College officially elect the president, attempts to create a system of checks and balances. In the case of Congress, and in the case of the College, the country is nonetheless divided by state and region. Thus, with the current system, the popular vote operates in conjunction with the electoral vote, as the House operates in tandem with the Senate. It is this Congressional model, in fact, on which the Electoral College is based. It represents the country proportionally by population, with each state receiving a minimum of two electors to correspond to each state’s two senators, and at least one to parallel the state’s House representation. The larger the state, the greater the number of electors, and the larger the significance of the state at election time.

The consequence is that given the weight of electoral votes from large states, the power of the popular vote becomes irrelevant as millions of votes are assumed by the mere 538 electors.

American voters should be able to choose their candidates without the interference of the Electoral College, as that of 1998. In that year, when George Bush and Michael Dukakis were competing for the presidency, a Massachusetts elector decided to switch the names on his electoral ballot, and he cast a vote for Michael Dukakis as vice president and Lloyd Bentsen as president.

There is no reason that there should be one person wielding the power to negate the popular voice with his individual preference.

Some argue that the United States is in need of preserving the so-called saving power of an Electoral College. But, as it was said earlier in the century, "a nation deserves the leader it tolerates." If the American people continue with the electoral system, which safeguards them from despotism but also prevents them from having an ideologically strong president, they deserve to wade through the murky modernism of Nixon’s "silent majority" and Clinton’s centrist tendencies.

What is happening is that while the Electoral College aims to protect Americans from a dangerous vote, and to counter small state with large state, it only ends up canceling political engagement and personal involvement on the part of voters.

Further, this year, the Electoral College might not complement but instead cancel the popular vote, as Americans naively would believe, but instead might outright cancel it. This is exactly what the Electoral College steals from American voters: a lack of a final say in the important matter of choosing a president because, it is reasoned in the end, the Electoral College knows better. But who would know better - an abstract body of party lackeys, or the actual people who have to live with the consequences of an election? Better that we live with our own choices than under the misguided hand of the Electoral College.
Keith Feigenson

Bob has an out-of-body experience.