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FIFTEEN CENTS

Morningside Park could get a facelift

By LISA FAILER
and ANNE KORNHAUSER

Park officials last night presented to a community advisory panel plans to improve recreational facilities in Morningside Park, which local residents have said must be upgraded in order to draw more people into the unused tract.

The sketches presented to the Parks and Special Projects Committee of Community Board 9, proposed the removal of two tennis courts, the creation of a "passive recreation" area for picnicking and senior citizen use and the re-location of three of the park's four basketball courts. They also called for the

demolition of the Columbia-built fieldhouse, the construction of two small "natural" playground and the addition of two new entranceways to the park.

The entranceways and proposed renovated pathways will not only provide more direct access to the park and its facilities, but will help restore the aesthetic quality of the area, according to Suki Ports, an official from the West Harlem Coalition—a group that has fought to restore the park for two decades.

The parks and Special Projects Committee must now review the

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SPECTATOR PHOTO

RECREATIONAL: New City parks officials last night outlined a plan to spruce up Morningside Park by upgrading recreational facilities.

Coed revives admissions

Women make up over half of early admits

By HOWARD J. BASHMAN
and RICHARD FROELICH

More than half of the College's early decision acceptances last month were women, one of several recent indications that coeducation is boosting the school's applicant pool even more than admissions officials had expected.

James McMenamin, director of admissions, said that in addition to the high portion of women in the early acceptance total, applications increased by several hundred more than predicted. Furthermore, this rise was generated in part by an increase in male applicants, confirming a central argument of coeducation supporters—that the admission of women would also attract more men.

Fifty-five of the 105 early decision candidates the College accepted were women, even though they made up only 40 percent of the applicants, according to McMenamin. "The quality of women was very encouraging," he said. "These women accepted early could write their tickets anywhere."

McMenamin, who as recently as two months ago predicted that the applicant pool would be about 5,000, now believes that the figure will by February reach 5,500, a 51 percent increase over last year. This, he added, may eventually reach 6,000 due to late applications.

"A 51 percent increase is just amazing," McMenamin exclaimed.

The presence of women was not the only reason for the rise in applicants. The fanfare surrounding the Colleges coeducation move has also given it the greatest increase in male applicants in the Ivy League this year with the exception of Brown. Although the increase will only be about 3 percent, most schools are not increasing at all because of hard economic times and rising tuition, he explained.

Coeducation has also brought an improvement in

the quality of all the applicants. Although the Scholastic Aptitude Test scores of early decision candidates stayed about the same as last year, the students performed better academically, according to McMenamin. "One can certainly expect a strong class," he said.

Nevertheless, McMenamin said the College still "won't be as selective as five of the other Ivies (Brown, Dartmouth, Harvard, Princeton, Yale)." This may be in part because the class size is being increased by 40.

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Hard times driving local stores under

By AARON FREIWALD

Two businesses along Broadway near Columbia closed during the last few weeks, and two others are experiencing serious financial problems.

Whelan Drug Co., at 2836 Broadway, and Drive Spirits, at 2903 Broadway, both shut their doors forever during the semester break.

An employee of the Magazine Emporium, at 2862 Broadway, said the shop would close "next

Monday or Tuesday," and a waiter at Crepes and Cappuccino at 2939 Broadway said his employer's business is "going through rough times."

He said Crepes and Cappuccino would go out of business "if it keeps going this way."

None of the store owners could be reached for comment.

Larry Dais, director of community affairs, attributed the

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□ **OUT RODE THE 600:** Response of tenants of 600 and 620 dorms to Barnard's request to move. Page two.

Booze and boogie to join FBH books

By JULIUS GENACHOWSKI

The basement of Ferris Booth Hall will be re-outfitted to provide a lounge that will serve alcohol, a dance room with a DJ, a video system and a new game room, if the university signs an agreement with Barnes and Noble to move the bookstore into the remaining area of the FBH basement, Charles Price, director of Student Activities, announced last night.

"I think we'll wrap the deal up this week," said Glen Waggoner, the university official who has been negotiating with Barnes and Noble since last summer.

Waggoner, assistant vice president and director of administrative services, added that the bookstore's move has been held up by "administrative Columbia details." These include arrangements for the Rifle Club, which will be evicted from its range in FBH's

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Community leaders split over Carlton strategies

By KATE SCHAEFER

Community leaders, angered by Columbia's refusal to reserve a percentage of the rooms in the Carlton Arms Single Room Occupancy hotel for unaffiliated tenants, now appear divided about whether to demand a smaller percentage of rooms or halt negotiations on the SRO entirely.

Councilman-at-large Ed Wallace has asked Columbia to set aside 28 rooms for non-affiliated residents in exchange for an agreement from community leads to back down from further criticism of Columbia for its purchase of the

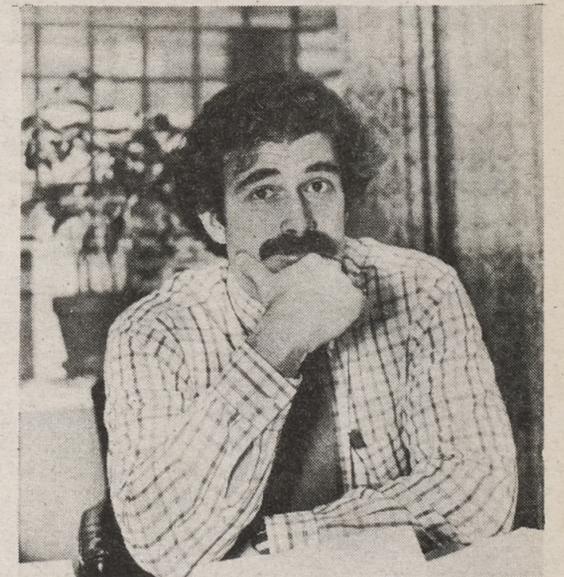
Carlton last November.

"I can't tell you I have my commitment from them (Columbia) because I don't," he said, but added he was optimistic that the university would agree to this proposal if all community groups and elected officials supported it.

Wallace said the university would probably come to a decision on the Carlton within the next few weeks.

But Paul Seldon, a member of the SRO Tenants Right Coalition, said Sunday that his group had

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SPECTATOR/IAN O'BRIEN

James McMenamin
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