

TA charged with sending sexual pics to minor

BY CHELSEA LO
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

A Barnard teaching assistant was charged Wednesday with attempting to meet someone he believed to be a 14-year-old girl for sex.

Igor Sorkin was arrested on Tuesday afternoon after meeting a female undercover police officer in Queens for what he thought would be a sexual encounter.

According to the criminal complaint, Sorkin also exchanged explicit instant messages and photos with a detective.

“The defendant is accused of sending to a person whom he believed to be an underaged female sexually explicit messages and webcam images of his genitals,” District Attorney Richard Brown said in a press release.

Sorkin, who has been a TA for Barnard’s Intermediate Macroeconomics and Introduction to Economic Reasoning classes, used the screen names condor3097 and firetiger11235 during his interactions with a detective online, sending numerous instant messages between Oct. 5, 2010 and Jan. 25, 2011.

Sorkin, 31, is currently being held at the Anna M. Kross Center on Rikers Island on \$75,000 cash, bail, or bond. He faces up to seven years in prison if convicted on charges of first-degree attempted dissemination of indecent material to minors—a felony—and attempted endangering of the welfare of a child.

According to the City of New York Department of Correction, Sorkin will appear in the Queens Criminal Court Feb. 9.

Barnard officials declined to comment on the charges due to the ongoing police investigation.

Sonalee Rau and Sammy Roth contributed reporting.

chelsea.lo
@columbiaspectator.com



TERESA SHEN FOR SPECTATOR

SHELTER SPACE | A women’s shelter will remain on 107th Street until June, after neighbors reached an agreement with the city.

City, neighbors agree to extend 107th shelter’s contract

BY KATIE BENTIVOGLIO
Spectator Staff Writer

A women’s transitional shelter on 107th Street has extended its contract until June, a decision neighborhood leaders are praising despite early criticism of the building that now houses 80 homeless women.

“It’s a real success story,” said Community Board 7 Chair Mel Wymore. “The program will come and go peacefully and will serve the needs of the community.”

The controversial homeless shelter opened last February and was expected to shut its doors this past November at the word of Robert Hess, the former commissioner of the city’s Department of Homeless Services. Wymore said much of the controversy stemmed

from the failure of DHS—which can create emergency homeless shelters without notifying or working with the neighborhood—to conduct a public review process in its selection of the shelter’s location.

“No one knew the shelter was coming in initially,” said Reverend John Duffel of the Church of the Ascension next door to the shelter. “We found out almost by accident.”

Elizabeth Bergreen, who lives across from the shelter, said locals agreed to let the women stay through June, despite their vocal protest when the shelter first moved in.

“We decided as a neighborhood that it would benefit all of us to allow them to stay another few months,” Bergreen said, declining to give specifics.

Despite the short notice

when the shelter originally moved in, neighbors quickly formed a community advocacy group that included CB7, Duffell, DHS, the West 107th Street Block Association, and the Department of Health and Human Services to negotiate the shelter’s terms and ultimately, its extended tenure.

“Because we moved so quickly and cohesively as an entire neighborhood, we were able to start meeting and negotiating with DHS,” Bergreen said. Original plans called for a permanent shelter with 130 beds, but after negotiations, DHS agreed to reduce the number of beds to 80 and to make the shelter temporary.

“It has worked out well,” Duffel said. “There have been no problems with the shelter during this time.”

The plans for the shelter after the women move out in June, however, remain undecided.

“Ultimately, we would like to keep the mix of the neighborhood, which would be keeping the building as low-income, permanent housing,” Bergreen said.

Wymore echoed Bergreen’s hopes.

“Though I don’t know future plans for the building, we hope it becomes affordable housing,” she said.

But achieving that goal might not be easy. The 107th Street homeless shelter is among many single room occupancy buildings—better known as SROs—on the Upper West Side that have been converted into homeless shelters, a trend that lawmakers appear to have

SEE HOMELESS, page 4

CB9 chair encourages cooperation in M’ville meeting

BY ROBIN SIMPSON-MCKAY
Columbia Daily Spectator

At an open house meeting on the University’s planned expansion into Manhattanville, community leaders said residents should look toward the future now that the state has given Columbia a green light to move forward with the project.

“We’ve taken a position that the courts have ruled on Columbia’s expansion, that the project is happening,” said Larry English, chair

of Community Board 9, which represents West Harlem and Manhattanville. “Reality is setting in ... the next step is how do we now, as a community, work with Columbia to get the most out of the arrangement.”

The open house was hosted by the University and CB9 as part of the University’s “continuous effort to communicate, clearly, consistently and effectively with the community,” according to a statement from University spokesperson Victoria Benitez.

Columbia representatives from Integrated Pest Management; Minority, Women and Local Businesses and Jobs Initiatives; and the Columbia University Employment Information Center, which maintains an office on Broadway just south of 125th Street, tabled at the event and answered questions about job opportunities for local residents. Others displayed diagrams of construction plans.

SEE M’VILLE page 4



MEGAN BAKER FOR SPECTATOR

OPEN HOUSE | Senior project manager for Manhattanville development, Keith Pettey, discusses construction plans at an open house hosted by the University and Community Board 9.

Facebook COO chosen as Barnard Class Day speaker

BY RAKHI AGRAWAL
Spectator Staff Writer

Barnard poked Sheryl Sandberg, chief operating officer of Facebook, to speak at Barnard’s 2011 Class Day.

Sandberg, a Harvard graduate who was recently named one of the 50 Most Powerful Women in Business by Fortune magazine, oversees Facebook’s business operations. Prior to joining the popular social networking website, Sandberg helped launch Google.org, Google’s philanthropic arm.

“As COO of Facebook, Sheryl Sandberg is at the helm of one of the most innovative and influential businesses of our time, one that has reimagined human interaction and entirely changed the way we think about the world,” Barnard President Debora Spar said in a statement.

“Her career, in both public and private sectors, represents that rare combination of bold creativity, sharply-honed business and political skills, and a profound commitment to women’s issues that I know will resonate with the class of 2011. I have no doubt that her words will inspire our graduates as much as her work has already influenced

SEE SANDBERG, page 4

NEWS BRIEF

Key vote on Baker Field delayed two weeks after Jackson letter

Columbia officials will have to wait two more weeks to hear back from New York’s City Planning Commission on its Baker Field construction plans.

City Planning was scheduled to vote Wednesday morning on whether or not to allow Columbia to partially waive the waterfront zoning laws that currently restrict new construction at the Baker Athletics Complex but instead adjourned the decision to a public review session on Feb. 14.

According to a spokesperson from the Department of City Planning, DCP received correspondence from Council Member Robert Jackson requesting that the commission not vote on Boathouse Marsh at the Jan. 26 public hearing.

Susan Russell, chief of operations for Jackson, confirmed that their office sent a letter last week to DCP but stated they did not explicitly ask for the vote not to take place.

“We asked them to address all the concerns and to delay the decision if the questions raised by the community were not answered to the satisfaction of the commission,” Russell said. “We just wanted to make sure everyone was on board.”

The letter referenced continued constituent concerns

Students, profs talk grade inflation

4.0 GPA leak sparks debate

BY ABBY MITCHELL
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Students and professors were split over Columbia’s grading policies on Thursday, following the leak of a document that showed that about one in 12 Columbia undergraduates earned at least a 4.0 last semester.

The spreadsheet listed 482 students in Columbia College and the School of Engineering and Applied Science who earned perfect grade point averages. Whether the numbers reflect grade inflation, the criticism often aimed at universities giving higher grades than in years past, remains unclear.

Stuart Rojstaczer, a retired Duke professor who has written widely on grade inflation, said that since the data only includes students with a 4.0 or higher, the numbers were difficult to compare specifically to other schools.

“As for being comparable to other selective, private institutions that have seen their grades go up since the mid-1980s ... their [Columbia’s] grades are very comparable,” he said, adding that engineering-based schools like MIT generally have lower average GPAs than liberal arts-focused schools.

“Certainly, people graduate with GPAs in excess of 4.0 at Stanford and probably at Columbia as well,” Rojstaczer said.

A spokesperson for the

SEE GPA, page 4

OPINION, PAGE 2

Stay convicted

Kathryn Brill thinks we’re entitled to our own opinions.

Citizens, naturally

The 14th Amendment protects our civil rights, so we should protect it.



SPORTS, BACK PAGE

After Cornell sweep, Harvard is next for CU

The Light Blue’s biggest test of the season will come against the undefeated Crimson, which is the favorite to win the Ivy League this year.

EVENTS

CU Dance Marathon

Dance till you drop at Columbia’s biggest philanthropy event.
Lerner Party Space, 1 p.m. on Sunday

Eric Alexander Quartet at Smoke

Head south to 106th Street for dinner and jazz from local favorites.
2751 Broadway, 8 p.m.

WEATHER

Today



36°/24°

Tomorrow



34°/22°



The 135th year of publication
Independent since 1962

CORPORATE BOARD

SAMUEL E. ROTH
Editor in Chief

MICHELE CLEARY
Managing Editor

ADITYA MUKERJEE
Publisher

MANAGING BOARD

LEAH GREENBAUM
Campus News Editor

SARAH DARVILLE
City News Editor

GABRIELLA PORRINO
Editorial Page Editor

REBEKAH MAYS
Editorial Page Editor

ALLISON MALECHA
Arts & Entertainment Editor

JIM PAGELS
Sports Editor

MRINAL MOHANKA
Sports Editor

MIKEY ZHONG
Spectrum Editor

AMANDA CORMIER
The Eye, Editor-in-Chief

ASHTON COOPER
The Eye, Managing Editor

CINDY PAN
The Eye, Art Director

ALEX COLLAZO
Head Copy Editor

JASPER L. CLYATT
Photo Editor

ANN CHOU
Design Editor

JEREMY BLEEKE
Design Editor

JAKE DAVIDSON
Online Content Editor

HANNAH D'APICE
Staff Director

ANDREW HITTI
Alumni Director

MABEL MCLEAN
Sales Director

SPENCER DUHAIME
Finance Director

DEPUTY BOARD

News Editors
Chelsea Lo, Abby Mitchell, Sonalee Rau, Sammy Roth
Arts & Entertainment Editors
Claire Fu, Claire Stern
Copy Editor
Zuzanna Fuchs
Design Editor
Rebecca Schwarz
Photo Editors
Zara Castany, Maria Castex, Alyson Goulden, Aaron Kohn, Phoebe Lytle, Christina Phan
Sports Editors
Zach Glubiak
Infrastructure Editor
Amrita Mazumdar
Multimedia Editor
Thomas Elustondo
Sales
Alex Smyk
Finance
Gabriela Hempfling, Noah Kolatch, Daniela Quintanilla
Alumni
Rob Frech, Rex Macaylo

ASSOCIATE BOARD

Editorial Page Editors
Anabel Bacon, Andrea Garcia-Vargas, Krishna Hegde, Leo Schwartz, Lanbo Zhang
Arts & Entertainment Editors
Ian Erickson-Kery, Maricela Gonzalez, Melissa Haney, Joseph Pomp, Katy Tong
Copy Editors
Maggie Alden, Jack Dickcey, Abigail Fisch, Jessica Geiger, Emily Handsman, Michelle Lappen, Hannah Laymon, Gina Lee, Emily Neil, Emily Sorenson, Sean Wong
Page Design Editors
Maya Fegan, Joe Girtan, Tanvi Gupta, Lella Lin, Geetika Rudra, Finn Vigeland, Isaac White, Laura Ye
Graphic Design Editors
Stephanie Mannheim, Yuma Shinohara
Photo Editors
Arvin Ahmadi, Hannah Botkin, Phoebe Brosnan, Kate Scarbrough, Henry Willson
Sports Editors
Rebeka Cohan, Robert Wren Gordon, Molly Tow, Ryan Young
Sales
Katherine Estabrook, Aurora Lende, Ross Lerner, Jamie Yu
Finance
Brendan Barry, Shivrati Chhabra, Michelle Lacks, Jiaqi Liu, Zhaoan Ma, Bruno Mendes, Gedion Negash, Kimmari Norojono

EDITORIAL BOARD

Sarah Ahmed, Yohana Beyene, Ryan Gallagher, Sam Klug, Vignesh Subramanyan

THURSDAY NIGHT STAFF
Design
Hilary Udow

ADDRESS & EMAIL
Columbia Spectator
2875 Broadway, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10025
info@columbiaspectator.com

PHONE & FAX
Daily Spectator (212) 854-9555
Editorial Fax (212) 854-9611
Business (212) 854-9550
Business Fax (212) 854-9553

EDITORIAL POLICY
For more information about the Columbia Daily Spectator and editorial policies, visit <http://www.columbiaspectator.com/about>.

CORRECTIONS
The Spectator is committed to fair and accurate reporting. If you know of an error, please inform us at copy@columbiaspectator.com.

COMMENTS & QUESTIONS
For general comments or questions about the newspaper, please write to the editor in chief and managing editor at editor@columbiaspectator.com.

A mind ajar

Each time I come back to campus after a break, I think about my arrival as a wide-eyed first-year and about all the ideas I had about college back then. When I first came to Columbia, I dreamed of meeting a whole range of exciting new friends, each with his or her own world-view or opinion, and that my friendships with them would melt away my old stereotypes and prejudices. Although it hasn't worked exactly the way I imagined it—I'm pretty sure it only works that way in movies—if you took out the hyperbole, you'd still have a pretty accurate description of my college experience. I don't think I'm alone in this. Almost everyone comes to college with the expectation of being changed in some way, and for many people, this change comes about by encountering new ideas and views, using them to shape their own thinking. The possibility for this kind of change gives rise to what might be the most common advice given to students about college: "Keep an open mind." This little phrase was uttered by almost everyone I talked to about college, from relatives to counselors.

But there's a problem with this phrase: It can be used to mean two different things. In one sense, it means, "Listen well, and don't automatically reject different opinions—you never know what you'll learn from people you don't agree with." If I talk about open-mindedness, this is usually what I mean. But there's another meaning, one that I've encountered most often in the Columbia classroom. Professors have told me to "keep an open mind," by which they mean, "If you hold any sort of conviction, you need to permanently forget about it in order to properly appreciate differing points of view."

This definition of open-mindedness bothers me for a few reasons. First of all, keeping your own convictions at bay is difficult, and if it's not, it proves not so much that you're a paragon of open-mindedness as that you weren't really convinced of them in the first place. Second, this definition only allows for productive conversations in certain situations. If the aim of hearing about a given opinion or world-view is simply to learn what principles or tenets it's constructed of, then it might be helpful to put aside gut reactions and individual beliefs in order to focus on familiarizing oneself with the view at hand. But if you wanted to compare and contrast your views and someone else's, if you wanted to refine your existing principles by adding elements of other views, if you simply wanted to get better at articulating your beliefs by having it out with someone who believes the opposite—the second definition of open-mindedness would prevent it. You might as well try to fist fight with a pacifist.

But beyond all that, my main issue with the second definition of open-mindedness is simple: It's unnecessary. I believe it's possible to have genuine, thought-provoking dialogue that respects opposing viewpoints while still maintaining conviction. Uncritically rejecting others' views is an unhelpful position, to be sure—but so is uncritically accepting others' views. The truly thoughtful person is one who takes others' views, places them next to his or her own to see the differences and similarities, and decides whether to accept them as true, reject them as false, incorporate parts of them, or adopt them wholesale. The second sort of open-mindedness is often touted as a panacea for the human race's tendency towards intolerance—for instance, as a way to more fully respect another person's convictions. If you aren't hung up on your own beliefs, the argument goes, you can more easily see why other people believe theirs. But in my experience, it hasn't worked that way. I've attempted to understand others' convictions by putting aside my own, but I'm more empathetic to conflicting viewpoints if I remember, "This person believes y as strongly as I believe x." The second sort of open-mindedness, though purported to be kind and helpful, really does us a disservice in this situation—and in others as well.

Instead, maybe we should practice what I would call "keeping our minds ajar"—not closing our minds off from other ideas but also avoiding the second kind of open-mindedness. It may be tricky at times, but I believe it's the most effective way to learn from others while staying true to ourselves. And where better to do that than the gloriously opinionated place that is Columbia? In this new semester, I challenge us all to accord each others' viewpoints the ultimate respect—the respect of taking them seriously as belonging to people of conviction.

Kathryn Brill is a Barnard sophomore majoring in English. She is a member of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. We Should Talk runs alternate Fridays.



**KATHRYN
BRILL**
**We Should
Talk**

Earning our equality

BY GARY Y. OKIHIRO

As Columbia undergraduates, your lives spin around your daily web of study, work, play, and, in moments of sheer boredom or exhaustion, sleep. I suspect that the prospect of my article, the Fourteenth Amendment, has your eyes wandering across the page to a cartoon or advertisement, anything of relevance and hence, importance.

Alas, most of you who are U.S. citizens have not earned that status, which was given to you by birth. And if you subscribe to and claim equality under the law, a guarantee you might want to possess, the Fourteenth Amendment assures you that protection. I have a personal regard for the Fourteenth Amendment; please indulge me.

The Fourteenth Amendment (1868) of the U.S. Constitution is back in the news—a welcome development. Its equal protection under the law is a bulwark for civil rights, which were routinely denied to people of color, women, queers, aliens, and others deemed unworthy of the constitutional guarantees of life, liberty, and property.

But the Amendment's newsworthy appearance emerges from its assault sired by a Supreme Court justice's reading of the U.S. Constitution and the debate around immigration. In an interview published in the January 2011 issue of California Lawyer, Justice Antonin Scalia declared that the Constitution does not prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex (gender), contrary to past Supreme Court rulings against gender discrimination rendered on the basis of the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

And, according to commentator Andrew Zarowny from www.rightpundits.com in his polemic against "anchor babies," politicians like Representative Jon Kyl (R-AZ) and Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC) agree that "simple birthright should not be the standard for U.S. citizenship." Zarowny goes on to charge that China issues visas to women in advanced stages of pregnancy to visit the U.S. to have their babies there to acquire citizenship by virtue of the Fourteenth Amendment's provision that persons born on U.S. soil are U.S. citizens. China, feared in the West historically and in the present for its large population, is the familiar villain in Zarowny's allegation, which was once called a "peaceful invasion" by those who warned of a "yellow peril" or inundation by Asian hordes.

Precious for all Americans are the Fourteenth Amendment's Equal Protection Clause and its citizenship by birthright. Since 1790 to the 1940s and '50s, the U.S. denied Asian migrants citizenship by naturalization, and the only means by which Asians attained that status was through the Fourteenth Amendment. I am indebted to that provision and its allies, the Thirteenth and Fifteenth Amendments, which abolished slavery and ensured voting rights in disregard of "race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

My grandparents migrated from Japan (my father's side)

**After
Office
Hours**

Each Friday, a professor will share scholastic wisdom readers won't find in lectures. Suggestions regarding which professors to feature are welcome.

and Okinawa (my mother's side) to Hawai'i in the early twentieth century. They could not become U.S. citizens because of the 1790 Naturalization Act, which restricted naturalization to "free white persons." Both sets of my grandparents were recruited by and labored for sugar plantation masters, mainly white Americans who had illegally seized power from a formerly independent Hawaiian kingdom.

My grandmother on my mother's side, Kakazu Kame, like most of today's undocumented, worked in her home and sweated in the cane fields for a pittance. She committed no crimes, as far as I know, except for brewing awamori, an Okinawan liquor, during Prohibition. To concoct her brew, my grandmother built a still, which federal agents smashed.

My grandmother was like the lehua blossom, which is the body of Hi'iaka, patron of the hula and protector of the people.

The Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution is back in the news—a welcome development.

But U.S. law prohibited her citizenship until 1952, when Japanese migrants finally received the right of naturalization. My grandmother refused that late gift though her husband, my grandfather, swore to uphold the U.S. Constitution on a hot summer's day I recall vividly. Unlike my grandfather, I gained U.S. citizenship by virtue of birth.

And now, some have proposed removing that part of the Constitution, which was read in its entirety by the new majority in Congress this month. I am opposed to that proposal, both as an individual and as an American in solidarity with "anchor babies" and those classed as "illegal."

Having to earn and justify my citizenship has particular meaning to me as a person of color in the U.S. During World War II, Japanese Americans were denied equal protection under the Constitution and were directed to prove their loyalty to earn their civil liberties, while in the West some 120,000 of them were forcibly confined in concentration camps and Hawai'i was subjected to martial law. My father and tens of thousands of his comrades, men and women, shed their blood on battlefields in Europe, Africa, and the Pacific to earn what their fellow white citizens possessed by birth.

The Fourteenth Amendment as currently constituted, I know, was and is a vital instrument of civil rights and an emphatic declaration of our common humanity as women, as migrants, as Americans.

Gary Y. Okihiro is professor of international and public affairs and the sole member of the department of social formations.

Yes, we can do big things

BY KALEY HANENKRAT

At times over the past year, it has been really difficult to believe in our political process. But to be a progressive and still engage with our political system, you need a sense of humor, a strong stomach, and a miraculous faith in democracy.

Last year, the chief justice of the Supreme Court, Justice John Roberts, complained about being in the House Chambers during the State of the Union address. He explained that the speech has "degenerated into a political pep rally." While Justice Roberts and I probably disagree on who made the speech this way, it is a bad sign when even a Supreme Court justice doesn't want to watch the State of the Union address.

Yet on Tuesday night, somewhere among laughs and applause, cheers, and occasional snarky comments, I sat with nearly 100 of my peers watching President Obama speak about the state of our union. During the hour-long speech—which included motivational rhetoric and anecdotes—President Obama peppered his comments with support for "clean coal," the recently passed tax cuts, and other policies that don't reflect progressive Democratic ideas. Unlike some progressives, however, I continue to hope for the change that I helped campaign for in 2008. And I will continue to hope, whether or not Obama shares my sentiment.

I realize that may sound naïve, but we have seen what engaged students and citizens can achieve when we work together. And so long as we maintain that potential, I will always have hope. Though never easy, it is never impossible to change our country for the better. Whatever political beliefs we may hold, we live in a democracy that depends on citizen engagement. It requires more than just voting once a year, more than just checking the news a few times a week, or watching the State of the Union address—being engaged requires real effort.

Undoubtedly, we don't all have the time to be political activists and lead issue campaigns. After juggling hundreds of

Whatever political beliefs we may hold, we live in a democracy that depends on citizen engagement.

Find out what issues are affecting our community, and make an effort to help solve those problems. Attend a community board meeting or another local political meeting, and learn about what is happening in our neighborhood. Talk to activists, and find small ways you can contribute to causes you support. Write an op-ed, or start a petition for something you want to change. Call your member of Congress or senators when an important bill is up for debate. Discuss and debate issues that are important to you with people you disagree with. And if you find something you are really passionate about, don't be afraid to put your heart into it.

It could have been the free pizza that brought so many people to the Piano Lounge on Tuesday night, but I know at least some were there because we still haven't lost faith in our political system. We still believe in the change, in the progress that we can create. Make a commitment to getting your voice heard, and help create the country you want to see. There will always be celebrations and disappointments in politics, but you've only truly lost when you let apathy win. In the words of a candidate who eloquently spoke of the ideas that I still believe in, "Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek."

The author is a Barnard senior majoring in Political Science. She is the president of the Columbia University College Democrats.



AMALIA RINEHART

V&T

PIZZERIA & RESTAURANT

Italian Food at Its Best

FULL MENU • PRIVATE PARTY ROOM

WE DELIVER • OPEN 7 DAYS

SIDEWALK DINING

Order online at: **VTPIZZERIARESTAURANT.COM**

TUESDAY NIGHT • 15% OFF W/ CUID

(DINE-IN ONLY)

1024 Amsterdam (betw. 110-111 Sts.)

663-1708 • 666-8051

STUDY FOREIGN LANGUAGES

at Teachers College, Columbia University!

FRENCH CLASSES

FEBRUARY 14 - APRIL 29
Tues & Fri • 12:45-2:15 pm • Cost: \$200

ARABIC CLASSES

FEBRUARY 7 - APRIL 21
Mon, Wed & Thurs • Level: Beginner • 10:00 am-12:00 pm • Cost: \$300

CHINESE CLASSES (Intensive)

FEBRUARY 7 - APRIL 21
Mon, Wed & Thurs • Level: Beginner • 10:00 am-12:00 pm • Cost: \$300

CHINESE CLASSES (Non-Intensive)

FEBRUARY 7 - APRIL 21
MORNING CLASS
Mon & Wed • Level: Beginner 2 (2nd semester of study) • 10:00 am-11:30 pm • Cost: \$200
EVENING CLASS
Mon & Wed • Level: Beginner 2 (2nd semester of study) • 7:00-8:30 pm • Cost: \$200
WEEKEND CLASS
Sat • Level: Beginner • 10:00 am-1:00 pm • Cost: \$200

Community Language Program
525 West 120th Street, Horace Mann 46E • 212.678.3097

Classes are non-credit.
Instructors are teachers in training supervised by TC's applied linguistics faculty.

http://www.tc.edu/communitylanguage/

You can sell just about anything with a

Spec Classified

854-9550

Solutions to Previous Issue's Puzzle

4	8	1	3	2	6	5	7	9
6	3	9	7	5	4	2	1	8
5	2	7	8	9	1	3	4	6
7	9	4	1	8	2	6	5	3
3	6	5	4	7	9	1	8	2
2	1	8	6	3	5	7	9	4
1	4	3	5	6	8	9	2	7
9	5	6	2	4	7	8	3	1
8	7	2	9	1	3	4	6	5

ADVERTISE • 854-9552

su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9. That means that no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

1			3	6				5
		8	2		5			4
5				4		1	7	
4								9
	9	7		1				2
2			8		6	7		
6				9	7			1

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED AD RATES:
\$8/00 per first 20 words.
25¢ each additional word.
Ad in all boldface \$4.00 extra.
All ads must be pre-paid.
2 business day deadline.
Call 854-9550 for information;
or fax ad to 854-9553.

APARTMENTS

2 BR CO-OP APT FOR SALE
\$375K for recently renov 5-room, 2 BR apt with hardwood floors in a well-maintained walk-up bldg. The apt is near the 96 St & Lexington Ave subway station and 3 blocks from Central Park. Income restrictions apply, all offers will be entertained. Please contact Brian (212) 831-1368 or brianresales@gmail.com for more info.

1 BR RENTAL—CU AREA
Well maintained 1 BR 4th floor walk-up rental blocks from CU. Windowed eat-in-kitch, lots of closets. Bdg has live in super, new laundry facilities and bike room. Wonderful opportunity to rent an affordable 1 BR apt close to the University. \$1600/mo. Call Fred at (917) 538-9674.

MANHATTAN REAL ESTATE
Buying, selling or renting a Manhattan apt? Work with a top-rated broker and CU alum (CC '94, SIPA'99). Contact Josh for all of your Real Estate needs. www.joshnathanson.com; (212) 875-2970.

7-ROOM CO-OP FOR SALE
\$599K for 1275 sq ft, 3 BR, 1 bath co-op located on 137 St betw Riverside Dr & B'way. The apt is spacious and provides charming accommodations, 10-foot high ceilings, hardwood floors, and is close to public transp, CU, and Riverbank Park. Please note income restrictions apply and all offers will be entertained. To view, please call Brian (212) 831-1368 or email at brianresales@gmail.com

EDITING & TYPING

PROFESSIONAL EDITING by Columbia Ph.D. Dissertation and academic style expert (APA, Turabian, MLA, etc.). Typing services available. (877) 922-9422.

HELP WANTED

WANTED—SUDOKU PUZZLE solvers, novice to expert. Solve 8 puzzles online during one month period for neuroscience researcher. Email name, age and zip code to mnemonicshouse@hotmail.com (write "neuro-Sudoku-online-study" in subject line).

STUDENT MOVER NEEDED
Need help loading boxes, suitcases into a vehicle. Jan 31. One hour. \$60. Chelsea. (917) 865-0569

PSYCHOTHERAPY

PHYLLIS LOWINGER, LCSW
Experienced, sensitive, empathetic clinical social worker for help with relationships, school, career - w/specialties in infertility, adoption, 3rd party reproduction and parenting issues. Flexible fee. Located on the UWS. Call (212) 666-3400; email Phyllow@gmail.com

RESEARCH

TROUBLED EATING? St Luke's Hosp (114 St/Amsterdam). Overweight individuals, 18-65, weekly individual or group counseling. Low fee. (212) 523-4180 or stlukes.group@gmail.com

SKI RENTAL

BERKSHIRE SEASONAL RENTAL
3 BRs, family room, kitch, large dining room, living room with brick fireplace. In Egremont, 5 miles from Great Barrington; near Catamount and Butternut Ski Resorts. Avail from Dec-May. Contact Phyllis (212) 666-3400. E-mail: phyllow@gmail.com

SPERM DONOR

\$\$\$SPERM DONORS WANTED\$\$
Earn up to \$1200/mo and give the gift of family through California Cryobank's donor program. Convenient Midtown location. Apply online at: SPERMBANK.com

TUTORING

FRENCH LESSONS—Improve your French with a native speaker with university experience in French teaching! Individual or small group lessons, preferably at intermediate or advanced levels. Focus on academic or business French upon request. I am available on weekdays after 7 pm and on weekends. \$25 per hour. Email: antoine.comps@sciences-po.org. Phone: (917) 513-110

MISCELLANEOUS

PAPER SHREDDING SERVICES
Will shred documents, papers, credit cards, CDs/DVDs. Door-to-door, on-site. Superior Cut. Serving apts, offices, stores. Inexpensive. Call (646) 241-1633.



HUNGRY?

CLICK HERE

Oops! - That won't work...

Go to:

columbiaspectator.com

Check out the new

ONLINE DINING GUIDE

Contact Information

The Columbia Daily Spectator, the nation's second-oldest college daily, is an independent, student-run newspaper published by the Spectator Publishing Company, Inc. for the Columbia University community.

The Managing Board of the Columbia Daily Spectator has sole authority for the content of the newspaper. All inquiries or complaints concerning that content should be directed to the Managing Board at the address below.

The Columbia Daily Spectator welcomes opinion submissions and letters to the editor from readers. Submissions and letters must include the author's name, telephone number, and Columbia affiliation if any. Readers may submit submissions and letters electronically, by e-mailing specopinion@columbia.edu, or by sending hard copies to 2875 Broadway New York, NY 10025.

Opinion submissions may not be less than 600 words and may not exceed 800 words; letters may not exceed 300 words and may not be signed by more than four persons. All submissions and letters may be edited for length and content.

Opinion submissions do not reflect the views of the Editorial Board.

The Columbia Daily Spectator is published Monday through Friday during the academic year except during examination and vacation periods.

Acceptance of an advertisement does not imply approval of policies of the advertiser. All rights reserved.

Spectator is free on campus. Limit one copy per reader please.

Office & Mailing Address:
2875 Broadway, Third Floor
New York, NY 10025

Advertising Director:
Dan Smulyan (212) 854-9552

Office Manager/Classified Advertising:
Ellen Lannon (212) 854-9550

Controller:
April Wong (212) 854-9550

Publisher: (212) 854-9549
News: (212) 854-9549
Editor-in-Chief: (212) 854-9549
Editorial/A&E: (212) 854-9549
Sports: (212) 854-9549
Fax: (212) 854-9553
E-mail: info@columbiaspectator.com

©2011 Spectator Publishing Company, Inc. Spectator is published by the Spectator Publishing Company, Inc.

Aditya Mukerjee, President

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

- Plain type?
- I'm just ... waylating
- Company whose name is quacked in ads
- Finishing nail
- Work
- Sporty Mazda
- Slick
- Where to sleep off a bender?
- Ad. republic since 1944
- Aurora's counterpart
- Smart guy?
- Pivoting points
- Anxious campus society?
- La ... Tar Pits
- Yankee nickname
- Worked with horses, in a way
- 2008 Libertarian presidential candidate
- Like some rugs
- Pool shade
- Hair styling prodigy?
- Off the mark
- Abbr. followed by a year
- Part of the dog days of Dijon
- Fund
- Friend of Dali
- Asterbury Street gallery
- Talented jazzman?
- Dag Hammarskjöld's successor
- Cramming method
- Disturb, as the balance
- Frost, say
- "Airport music so early?"
- Regarding
- Dino's love
- Uhass
- Headlights staler in a '70s-'80s sitcom
- Flurky

DOWN

- Planet Hofmann
- Diner option
- Dhabi
- Incininating record, maybe
- Footaraw
- Kareem, at UCLA
- Competitive missile hurlers
- More than ready
- German article
- Big name in tea
- Missile-shooting god
- Is, when simplified
- "Sleepy Hollow" address
- Olds that replaced the Achieva
- Singer/songwriter born Robert Zimmerman
- Spoke uncertainly
- Card game with a pre-victory warning
- Stays afloat, in a way
- Fateful card
- MS. enclosure
- Operations ctrs.
- Make restitution
- "Ta-dia"
- Town on the Firth of Clyde
- Emulate Scrooge
- Playground retort
- Watch from the trees, say
- Feature of a two-tr. monogram
- "The Gold Bug" monogram

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

ACCT	MARSHA	AMC
NORM	UNITED	BRR
GRIZZLY	BEAR	SMU
MOIL	PLYWOOD	
EVENT	COPT	ARTE
BALTIMORE	HARBOR	
OLAV	IMA	FRY
NED	EMOTION	FBI
MOE	OVO	GOAD
REGISTERED	NURSE	
AIRS	RAYS	OMAHA
FLUSHOT	LOSS	
FED	MUSIC	CONHOLD
LEG	OPINED	ONEA
ENE	SENSEI	EGAD

xwordeditor@aol.com 01/28/11

By Don Gagliardo
©2011 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

01/28/11

Professors explain A-plus policies after GPA leak

GPA from front page

Division of Student Affairs declined to provide school-wide grade distributions from last semester. Rojstaczer said that Columbia declined to provide statistics for his research about a year and a half ago—something he said was not unusual, though Harvard and Princeton have provided grade distributions in the past.

But in 2006, Columbia College Dean of Academic Affairs Kathryn Yatrakis said that approximately 52 percent of grades in Columbia College for the 2005-2006 school year were A-minuses or above, compared to 47 percent in 2000.

Minutes from a 2007 meeting of the faculty of Arts and Sciences note that 70 percent of grades were in the B-plus to A-plus range, the percent of A's given in Core classes had risen from 45 percent to 55 percent in the previous 10 years, and that A's given in science classes had increased from 40 to 45 percent.

Susan Elmes, director of undergraduate studies in the economics department, which had 39 students on the list, said that the large number of students with 4.0 and higher GPAs in her department is due to its size. Economics has 25 percent more students than political science and 50 percent more than history, she said.

“It is not surprising that the largest number of students are from economics,” Elmes said.

Elmes added that while her department does give A-pluses, there is a limit. “The recommendation is that no more than two percent of any class should receive one, and it should be reserved only for students who do exceptional work in a class.”

According to Elmes, the

real problem with grading at Columbia is grade distribution, claiming that many teachers are reluctant to give grades lower than a B-plus.

“If you look at your official transcript and see the percentage of A grades awarded in classes, you might be surprised to see the number of classes in which the percentage is well over 50 percent and in some cases, 80 to 90 percent,” Elmes said, referencing the percentages of A-range grades that have been included on most classes on Columbia College transcripts since 1996.

However, Jack Snyder, director of undergraduate studies in the political science department, isn't sure that such high achievement is a bad thing.

“Columbia and the other Ivies are like Lake Wobegone, where all the students are indeed above average in their basic capacities, so why shouldn't many of them do well and get good grades?” Snyder said in an email.

“We need to have some grade spread so that we can distinguish truly exceptional performance from merely solid achievement,” he added.

Some see the issues as more black-and-white. Archie Archibong, SEAS '12, maintained that grade distribution depends on the nature of the subject matter.

“There's no ifs, ands, or buts with science. If you don't know the material, you don't know the physics, the math, the chemistry—you're not going to get an A—whereas I feel like there's a little bit more leeway in CC to fudge your way into a higher grade,” Archibong said.

The next two majors with the most students on the list were political science, with

20 students, and English with 17—higher than chemistry's six and biology's eight students, but not far from computer science's 15.

But the humanities-versus-science claim ignores the grading curves common in science classes, said Columbia College Student Council Member Ryan Mandelbaum, CC '13. A physics major, Mandelbaum said that department-wide grade inflation does help students in the hard sciences.

“Though grading is more objective, the teacher will often place the ‘average’ grade at a B-plus, so almost half of the class is receiving grades in the A-range,” Mandelbaum said.

In fact, one of the students who earned a 4.33 last semester was in SEAS and attributed his success to the SEAS policy of basing the entire class grade on midterm and final exam grades.

Others objected to putting much weight on a few weeks of a college career at all.

“Sometimes, people taking four classes in a semester or aren't doing that much outside classes, like working, so things can really change from semester to semester,” said Jeremy Spencer, SEAS '13. “If they had a 4.0 for their entire time here, then I'd be like ‘wow’ ... but I don't think its that big of a deal.”

Justin Seek, CC '14, said he's not concerned about anyone else's GPA.

“Whether they have a 4.0 or a 4.3 and I have a 3.3, I don't feel inferior in any way,” he said, then paused. “OK, maybe slightly.”

Sonalee Rau and Sarah Darville contributed reporting. abby.mitchell@columbiaspectator.com

Harvard, Dartmouth pose a threat

MEN'S BASKETBALL from back page

down. If there is over-concentrated coverage on Agho or Barbour, they have other options in freshmen Lyles and Dyami Starks. “We'll go to our little two-guard front set and just see if they put Curry on ... say Brian is out and they put Curry on Noruwa, we'll let Meiko or Dyami bring it up. It keeps us better defensively. We're better when we stay big with bigger guards on the perimeter.”

As far as Dartmouth is concerned, Smith sees them as just as much of a threat but wants to take it one game at a time. “They look a little bit similar in the sense that they are outside in offensively and they play a down-sized power forward,” Smith said.

“All the clichés are true. Your next game is your biggest game because it's the next one,” he said. “You want to stay in the moment and get better.”

Columbia will need all of its players to step up this weekend in order to be victorious. Taking it one game at a time, the Lions look to come out of this road trip as a force to be reckoned with in the Ivy League. Both Friday's and Saturday's games are scheduled to start at 7 p.m.

Lions look for second league win

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL from back page

Their focus this upcoming weekend, he says, will be on playing “their game” against two teams whose versatility makes it difficult to prepare for them.

“There's just no one area that you can focus on in preparation for these two teams, so the focus is really staying on ourselves,” Nixon said.

Harvard, which was picked to finish second in the Ivy pre-season poll, has been strong thus far this season at 11-6, 1-0 Ivy. They finished second to Princeton last season with an 11-3 conference record and retained all five starters from last year's squad. Standouts include senior forward Emma Markley, a first team all-Ivy pick, and junior guard Brogan Berry, who led the league in assists and free throw percentage last season.

“Her senior year, she's obviously very hungry to get Harvard back to the NCAA tournament,” Nixon said of Markley.

For the Dartmouth game, Columbia has its eyes focused on freshman point guard Nicola Zimmer, who has scored 8.3 points per game over 13 starts and is second on the team with 32 assists. Zimmer was heavily recruited by the Light Blue before deciding to play in Hanover.

Defensively, Nixon said, Columbia has executed well the last few games, and it is now just focusing on staying solid. On the offensive side, improvement in some crucial areas could be its key to victory.

“From last weekend's game, we gotta do a better job on executing offensively—taking care of the ball better, not turning it over so much, making sure we get good shots,” Nixon said.

Starting freshman guard Taylor Ward agreed, saying that Columbia's first-half turnovers were a critical factor in letting Cornell get in a position to win the last time out. “If we would have kept those down a little bit, I think it would have been a different game,” she said.

After a very tough start, the Light Blue has shown an ability to compete in the conference. This weekend's games will be an important test of its newfound resolve.

“We're only one week into Ivy season, so obviously we just want to make an impact—show what we're capable of over the next two weeks,” Barry said.

Columbia plays Harvard this Friday at 7 p.m. and Dartmouth on Saturday at 7 p.m., both at home in Levien Gymnasium.



ALYSON GOULDEN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

STRONG SHOWING | Sophomore John Yetimoglu, who played No. 2 singles, won his match last weekend in straight sets.

Columbia to play tough first match vs. No. 13 in nation

TENNIS from back page

nation in singles. Despite having a strong presence in the national singles rankings, Louisville does not have a doubles team ranked in the top 60 nationally, but that hasn't seemed to be much of a problem, as the Cardinals have won all three of their spring dual matches 7-0.

Columbia is coming off a strong showing against Boston College on Jan. 22. Junior Haig Schneiderman won a tough match at No. 1 singles, beating an opponent who was ranked No. 60 in the nation in the fall in straight sets. Sophomore John Yetimoglu, who played only one singles match as a freshman,

played No. 2 singles after a strong showing in practice the week before and rewarded head coach Bid Goswami's confidence by delivering a straight set win over his opponent. Senior Kevin Kung, who had the most consistent fall season of any Columbia singles player, didn't play last weekend due to an injury, but could be back in action at the Kick-Off event. The matches are scheduled to be played indoors, which should help Columbia, since the team practices indoors year-round.

The Light Blue's first match against No. 13 Louisville is scheduled to kick off at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 29, at the Bass Rudd Tennis Center.

Men's basketball standings not clear cut in conference

SHAW from back page

regular seasons because, well, he has only been to the NCAA Tournament once as a head coach (and that was more than a decade ago). For those who forgot, he had three National Invitation Tournament appearances at Michigan (and one title), but when it came to the big dance, he put up a bagel.

This year, everyone seems to view his return there as almost preordained. However, if Amaker is going to lead the Crimson to the tourney for only the second time in school history, his team has to excel in the back-to-back gauntlet that is Ivy League basketball.

It may not be as difficult as playing a top-25 team every week in the Big East, but any coach will tell you that it is a unique experience. That struggle begins in earnest this weekend since it is the first time that every Ivy team will be playing a league game.

Even if it is only the beginning, this weekend will go a long way in revealing where teams actually stand. Is Harvard the team that beat Boston College, killed Colorado, and won at Dartmouth by 15? Or is it the team that trailed Dartmouth by double digits at one point last week?

Is Columbia really a contender after sweeping Cornell? Or is Cornell just a shade of its former self?

Is Yale's Greg Mangano the second coming of Kevin Love? Or is Brown just as soft as the other side of the pillow? Sorry for the terrible use of an idiom, but the answer to all of the above could easily be both.

The Ivy League is entering Year 1 A.C., as in “After Cornell.” Cornell's three-year reign came out of nowhere in many respects, as the Big Red capitalized on dips at Princeton and Penn to dominate the league in a way like never before.

Now, Princeton is back, and most expect Penn will join the Tigers at the top of the conference soon.

Dartmouth looks like the perennial doormat we all know and love, but who knows what to expect beyond that?

Facebook COO chosen for Barnard Class Day speech

SANDBERG from front page

their lives,” Spar said.

Sandberg has been described as Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg's “most valuable friend” by The New York Times.

Following Wednesday night's senior toast, when Sandberg's choice was announced, Barnard seniors had mixed reactions to the decision.

“I think that a lot of women may seem to appreciate more liberal arts-based speakers, but it's great to see one of the most powerful companies in the world's COO coming,” Lara Chelak, former Spectator online editor and BC '11, said.

After last year's speaker Meryl Streep and the previous year's choice of Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, some expressed regret at the lack of name recognition.

“Although they don't have

the glitz and glamour of the last speaker, it's going to be interesting to see what they have to say, especially because of the lack of women in business and in technology,” Alexandra Voss, BC '11, said. “I think there is something nice about having recognition for the person that is going to be speaking at commencement, but I think in the bigger picture, it will be interesting to see what she has to say.”

For Freesia Levine, BC '11, the announcement was the first time that graduation's approach hit home.

“It was nice to be together as a class and have Dean Denburg ... begin us off during our convocation and now sort of end it. During convocation, she sort of made the big speech and brought us into the Barnard community and today, she kind of released us out into the world,” Levine said.

At the toast, President Spar

also announced the four recipients of the 2011 Barnard Medal of Distinction, the college's highest honor.

The recipients are Sandberg; Sylvia Rhone, president of Universal Motown Records; Roberta Guaspari, advocate for music education in public schools; and Jenny Holzer, who has been recognized for her contributions to the American conceptual art movement.

Kate Sacks, president of Barnard's Senior Fund, also announced that the senior class gift will be a contingency fund for the financial aid office, to provide students receiving financial aid with items not covered by their aid packages. The Fund began collecting funds at the toast.

“We're hoping to raise \$10,000 to give to the financial aid office by spring break,” Sacks said.

rakhi.agrawal@columbiaspectator.com

Residents look for answers at M'ville meeting

M'VILLE from front page

New York State Assembly member Keith Wright attended the event to discuss potential benefits for residents.

“As the local elected official, I have to make sure that the community is not railroaded, bombarded, or steamrolled by Columbia,” Wright said. “I represent the community as a whole.”

When asked about his opinion on the expansion, Wright replied, “If my constituents can make some money off of it, it is good. If my constituents can benefit, it is good.”

Kevin Johnson, a local

Manhattanville resident, said he has become more optimistic about the expansion, since the Supreme Court decided not to reconsider the legality of the University's use of eminent domain in December.

“I came to see how everything was going; I think it's a good project,” said Johnson, who said he found the open house informative. “I got some material on construction, and you know, that's my field, that's my interest.”

But Marisol Alcantara, a Community Board 9 member, said she remains uncomfortable with the project.

“I think the job center is just a show,” Alcantara said. “This whole thing is just a way to appease us.”

English said his constituents have long mistrusted the University and that he considered the open house to be “another opportunity to pull down those walls, to help people get to know each other.”

He said that despite the years of antagonism between the two parties, his interactions with University officials have been very positive, and they seem to be genuinely concerned with doing the project well.

news@columbiaspectator.com

Shelter to remain on 107th Street until June

HOMELESS from front page

unintentionally encouraged after passing a law that bans SRO landlords from renting to tourists. Effective last spring, the law—intended to preserve scarce space for affordable housing—has led landlords to search for tenants to make up for lost revenue, including DHS.

“The city provides lucrative contracts, which creates huge incentives for owners to empty their buildings,” said Marti Weithman, project director at the Goddard Riverside

SRO Law Project. Bergreen said the annex on 107th Street was originally intended to be a nine-year contract, such as the \$7.9 million-per-year contract to move another shelter into the Hotel Alexander on 94th Street.

Mark Hersh, the landlord of 237 107th St., where the homeless shelter is located, could not be reached for comment. Weithman said using SROs for shelters exacerbates the lack of affordable housing on the Upper West Side by leaving the original tenants without affordable housing and even pushing

them into homelessness.

“We're sympathetic to the pressures that the city is under,” Weithman said, “but I don't think the answer is taking affordable housing from those in need.”

Neighbors said they hope they can continue to negotiate with city agencies to reach an agreement that meets all of their needs.

“We are working on it as a cohesive neighborhood group,” Bergreen said. “We are positive and we want to move forward.”

katie.bentivoglio@columbiaspectator.com

Lucas Shaw is a Columbia College senior majoring in political science. sports@columbiaspectator.com

PIXBOX

week # 2

- 1: Columbia at Harvard (-7.5)
2: Yale at Princeton (-5.5)
3: Cornell at Dartmouth (+5.5)
4: Brown at Penn (-4.5)
5: Louisville at Connecticut (-4.5)
6: Knicks at Hawks (-4.5)
7: Magic at Bulls (+7.5)
8: Over/under 70 points in NFL Pro Bowl



Kunal Gupta (6-2)

Columbia
Princeton
Dartmouth
Penn
UConn
Hawks
Magic
Under

The view from the top is incredible.

It's a jetpack, Michael. What could possibly go wrong?

Columbia
Princeton
Dartmouth
Penn
Louisville
Knicks
Magic
Under

Jacob Levenfeld (6-2)



Myles Simmons (6-2)

Columbia
Yale
Cornell
Penn
Connecticut
Hawks
Magic
Under

1 week down. Hopefully I'll get better at this.

Vote Monta Ellis into the All-star game.

Columbia
Princeton
Cornell
Penn
Connecticut
Knicks
Bulls
Under

Bart Lopez (5-3)



Michele Cleary (4-4)

Columbia
Princeton
Cornell
Penn
UConn
Knicks
Bulls
Under

Harvard bound.

Mediocrity never felt so good.

Mufasa
Princeton
Big Red
Quakers
UConn
Hawks
Bulls
Under

Zach Glubiak (4-4)



Mrinal Mohanka (4-4)

Columbia
Princeton
Dartmouth
Penn
Connecticut
Hawks
Magic
Over

The curse of Glubiak kept me from being on top.

I can't believe I have to watch the Steelers or Packers win on the Cowboy's turf.

Columbia
Princeton
Dartmouth
Brown
UConn
Hawks
Magic
Under

Jim Pagels (4-4)



Lucas Shaw (3-5)

Corumbia
Le tigre
Big Red
Quake show
Kemba
Atl
Bulls
Over

Repeat after me: Chris Bosh is not an all-star.

Pitchers and catchers report in two weeks... thank God.

Columbia
Princeton
Big Red
Brown?
UConn
ATL
D-Rose
Under

Michael Shapiro (2-6)

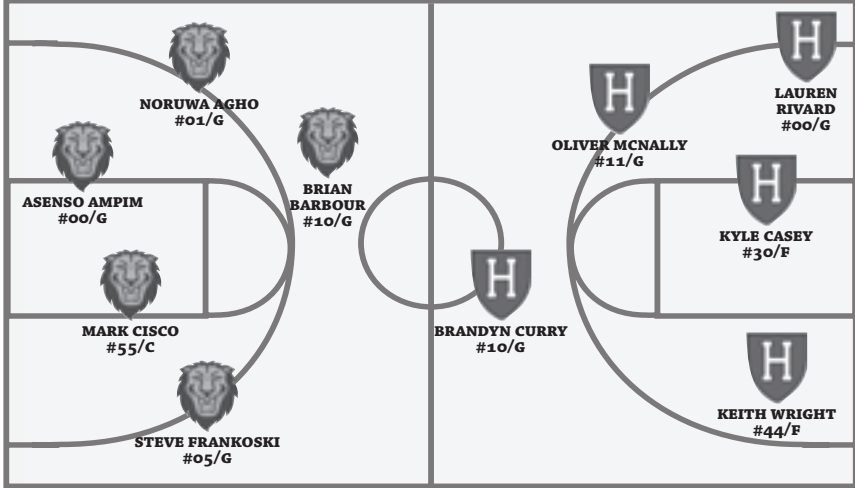
FRIDAY FAST BREAK

STARTING LINEUPS

GAME 1:



AT



KEYS TO THE GAME

1

Spreading the ball

Brian Barbour must keep an eye on the basket at all times. Harvard will pay most attention to Noruwa Agho, so Barbour—as well as Mark Cisco, Steve Frankowski, and others off the bench—need to be ready to take what defenses give them and always be looking to shoot.

2

Rebounding

The Lions need strength on the defensive boards without losing track of Harvard's outside shooters in Laurent Rivard, Christian Webster, and Oliver McNally. The Light Blue is expected to dominate the offensive boards but needs to box out the Crimson's big man, Kyle Casey, who has great ups and long arms.

3

Outside shots

Harvard has a strong defender in point guard Brandyn Curry, and he will probably stick to Noruwa Agho. In that case, Meiko Lyles and Dyami Starks need to stay at the top of the key because the Lions have more success with bigger guards around the perimeter.

BY THE NUMBERS

POINTS PER GAME



REBOUNDS PER GAME



POINTS ALLOWED



FIELD GOAL PCT.



KEY MATCHUPS

Brian Barbour



Asenso Ampim

Brandyn Curry



Keith Wright

In what looks to be a battle of the point guards, sophomore Brian Barbour will need to keep his passes crisp and clean as well as make sure he handles the ball well. Success for the Lions lies in Barbour forcing sophomore Brandyn Curry—who is averaging 5.6 assists per game—to turn the ball over. Curry currently averages 2.9 turnovers a game.

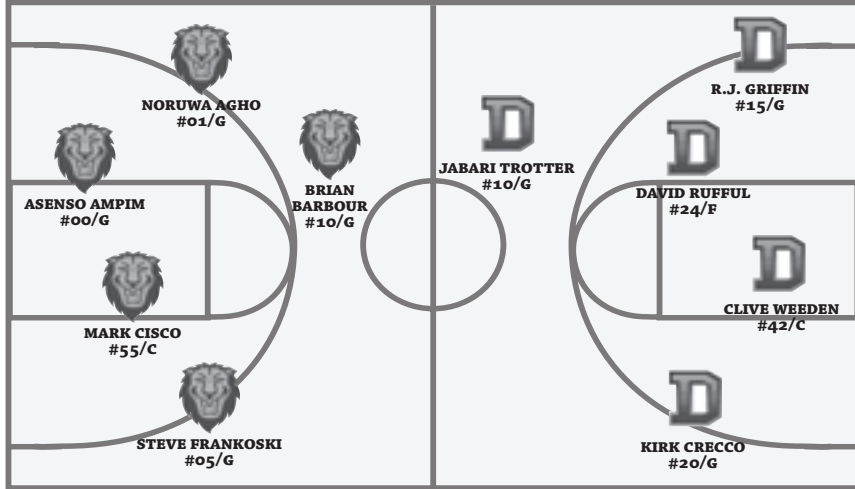
Senior forward Asenso Ampim, who only scored six points in 13 minutes of play time in the game against Cornell last week-end, needs to step up and defend Harvard junior forward Keith Wright in Friday's competition. Wright is currently the leading scorer and rebounder for the Crimson, averaging 14.3 points and 8.3 boards a game.

STARTING LINEUPS

GAME 2:



AT



KEYS TO THE GAME

1

Staying sharp

After what will surely be a grueling game against a tough Harvard squad, the Lions will immediately get on a bus for a late-night two-hour ride to Hanover. Meanwhile, the Big Green will be sleeping easy at home following a Friday night game against 0-2 Cornell.

2

Reversing tradition

The Light Blue has lost its past two games in Hanover, even in seasons in which the Big Green were 9-19 and 5-23. The Lions could easily take Dartmouth for granted again, especially with the competition coming one night after the huge Harvard matchup.

3

Turnovers

Columbia averaged 17 turnovers per game in its first two games against Cornell. It won't be any easier against Dartmouth, which provoked 13 giveaways per game in its first two Ivy matchups.

BY THE NUMBERS

POINTS PER GAME



REBOUNDS PER GAME



POINTS ALLOWED



FIELD GOAL PCT.



KEY MATCHUPS

Noruwa Agho



John Daniels

Jabari Trotter

The Big Green's leading scorer, junior guard Jabari Trotter, currently averages 9.1 points per game. If the Lions can shut him down with the help of junior guard Noruwa Agho, Dartmouth will have trouble finding the basket and winning the competition—especially if Agho continues to put up the big numbers he has had before last weekend.



David Rufful

Junior forward David Rufful is leading the Big Green on the boards, averaging 4.9 rebounds—including 11 in his first two Ivy games. If sophomore forward John Daniels, who averages 3.9 boards a game, can out-rebound Rufful and prevent the Big Green from getting second chances at scoring, the Light Blue should be able to seal a victory.

GAMEDAY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28 • PAGE 6



COLUMBIA (11-5, 2-0 Ivy) at HARVARD (13-3, 2-0 Ivy)

FRIDAY, 7 P.M., CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

RADIO: WKCR 89.9 FM, WWDJ 970 AM • SPECTRUM.COLUMBIASPECTATOR.COM



COLUMBIA (11-5, 2-0 Ivy) at DARTMOUTH (4-12, 0-2 Ivy)

SATURDAY, 7 P.M., HANOVER, N.H.

RADIO: WKCR 89.9 FM, WWDJ 970 AM • SPECTRUM.COLUMBIASPECTATOR.COM



Unpredictable Ivy play leaves door wide open

“I’ve been an assistant at Duke and a head coach at Seton Hall and Michigan,” Tommy Amaker told me earlier this week. “That’s the Atlantic Coast Conference, Big East, and Big Ten, but I still say the Ivy League regular season is the toughest I’ve encountered.”

OK, so I made that quote up. Amaker is notoriously difficult to get an interview with (especially if you don’t work at ESPN). He also might never say that because one can only assume he’s angling for a job at a big-time program.

But he might have a lot to say about



LUCAS SHAW

In the Refrigerator

SEE SHAW, page 4

THE SLATE



MEN’S BASKETBALL
at Harvard
Cambridge, Mass.
Friday, 7 p.m.



MEN’S BASKETBALL
at Dartmouth
Hanover, N.H.
Saturday, 7 p.m.



WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
vs. Harvard
Levien Gymnasium
Friday, 7 p.m.



WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
vs. Dartmouth
Levien Gymnasium
Saturday, 7 p.m.



MEN’S TENNIS
ITA Division I Kickoff
Louisville, Ky.
Jan. 28–30, all day



WOMEN’S TENNIS
vs. Fairleigh Dickinson
Dick Savitt Tennis Center
Saturday, 1 p.m.



MEN’S SWIMMING & DIVING
vs. Brown
Uris Pool
Saturday, 4 p.m.



WOMEN’S SWIMMING & DIVING
vs. Brown
Uris Pool
Saturday, 12 p.m.



MEN’S SQUASH
at Vassar, vs.
Northeastern, vs. Bard
Ithaca, N.Y.
Saturday, 10:30 a.m.



MEN’S SQUASH
vs. Middlebury
StreetSquash Facility
Sunday, 6 p.m.



WOMEN’S SQUASH
at Vassar, vs.
Northeastern
Poughkeepsie, N.Y.
Saturday, 10:30 a.m.



WOMEN’S SQUASH
vs. Middlebury
StreetSquash Facility
Sunday, 6 p.m.



WRESTLING
vs. Millersville
University Gymnasium
Saturday, 11 a.m.



TRACK
Penn State National
University Park, Penn.
Saturday, all day



JASPER L. CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

LIONS PRIDE | The Light Blue needs junior guard Noruwa Agho to have a great game in order to have a successful campaign against Harvard this Friday.

Men’s tennis heading to Kentucky

BY KUNAL GUPTA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

With its first win of the season in tow, the men’s tennis team will travel to Louisville, Ky., to participate in the ITA Kick-Off Weekend for the second straight year. The Lions, two-time defending Ivy League champions, are in a group with Louisville, Mississippi, and Tulsa. The Ivy League placed two teams in the prestigious national tournament, with Cornell earning a place in a group with No. 1 Virginia.

The Kick-Off tournament is split into 15 groups of four schools, each with a host school. The teams are seeded one through four, and the winner of each of the 15 groups will be invited to play in the ITA National Team Indoor Championships hosted by the University of Washington from Feb. 18 to 21. In the Louisville group, the host school is seeded No. 1, followed by Mississippi, Tulsa, and then Columbia. The seeding for the groups was done based on the most recent ITA Team rankings, which had the University of Louisville at No. 13, Mississippi at No. 18, Tulsa at No. 35, and Columbia at No. 48.

The Lions didn’t have much success at the tournament last year, losing 2-4 to No. 50 Indiana and then dropping their consolation match to No. 54 Arkansas.

They will need quite a performance in their first round match against the Cardinals to change that tradition. Senior Austen Childs plays No. 1 singles for Louisville and is undefeated in three dual matches this season. Childs reached the quarterfinals of the ITA All-American Championships in the fall and is ranked No. 8 in the nation in singles. Viktor Maksimcuk plays No. 2 singles and is ranked No. 75 in the

SEE TENNIS, page 4

Columbia takes on Harvard, Dartmouth at home

BY TREVOR COHEN
Columbia Daily Spectator

The women’s basketball team continues its Ivy League schedule this weekend with home games against the two winningest programs in league history—Harvard and Dartmouth.

Of the 34 Ivy League championships awarded, Harvard has won the second-most with 11, trailing only Dartmouth’s 17. It has been 25 seasons since neither school finished in one of the top two spots in the league.

The two-time defending league champion coming into last season, Dartmouth has struggled this year with the loss of senior forward Brittney Smith, who was the Ivy Player of the Year as a sophomore and led Dartmouth in every major statistical category last season. Smith suffered a season-ending injury in December, and the Big Green is 1-7 without her. Her absence certainly showed when Dartmouth opened its Ivy season on Jan. 16 with a lopsided 82-49 loss to Harvard, falling to 4-11 on the season.

While the Light Blue faces its biggest challenge in a strong Harvard team this weekend, head coach Paul Nixon said the team certainly won’t underestimate its matchup against Dartmouth.

“This team is definitely in the mindset where we’ve gotta focus on one game at a time,” Nixon said. “We have not really earned the right to overlook anybody.”

“When we play Dartmouth, we’re gonna have an attitude,” said senior guard Kathleen Barry. “We’re gonna come out wanting to dominate that game at home. Dartmouth’s kind of in a tough position ... so I think we just need to come out with an aggressive mindset.”

Columbia, which went winless through all of non-conference play, seems to have finally figured things out at just the right time. The team beat Cornell in its Ivy opener at Levien Gym on Jan. 15 and following a home victory

Tough weekend on the road lies ahead for CU

BY MOLLY TOW
Spectator Staff Writer

The Columbia men’s basketball team (11-5, 2-0 Ivy) is headed back on the road this weekend for a doubleheader in Ivy League play. On Friday, the Lions first take on Harvard, who is currently sharing first place with Columbia. Both teams are undefeated in the Ancient Eight. The Light Blue then travels to Hanover, N.H., on Saturday to play Dartmouth (4-12, 0-2 Ivy) to finish the weekend.

“Doubleheader—haven’t done this in a while,” coach Kyle Smith said.

The Lions started conference play off strong with a series sweep against a physical Cornell team and hope to carry this positive energy into a tough weekend in enemy territory. The Light Blue only managed to edge out the Big Red by four in each matchup, sticking to its normal trend of small-margin victories. Guards sophomore Brian Barbour and freshman Meiko Lyles each had impressive outings last Saturday, with Barbour scoring a season-high 23 points and Lyles showing skill off the bench with 10 points.

Coach Smith sees the Crimson as a test for Columbia. “They have no glaring weaknesses,” Smith said. “They handle the ball well. They shoot the ball well from the three. They’re athletic in the frontcourt ... they play with a purpose. They are going to pump it inside and go inside out. They’ll take what the defense gives them.”

The Crimson is led by well-rounded sophomore point guard Brandyn Curry and junior big man Keith Wright. Harvard is second to Columbia in rebounding, but Wright will pose a threat for the Lions on the glass.

“Wright is one those guys that is a big, wide-armed guy that you have to keep out of there too. That’s on the defensive glass,” Smith said.

Smith sees the Lions as having more of an advantage on the offensive boards, but nothing is for certain. The Light Blue will have to be careful not to clog the lane too heavily on defense, however, because

Harvard has significant shooting talent in junior Oliver McNally and freshman Laurent Rivard. The two Crimson guards have proven to be threats from the outside, with McNally shooting almost 46 percent from the field.

Aside from success on the glass, Columbia will need to be quick in recognizing Harvard defenses and matchups as well as with capitalizing on missed coverage. Up to this point, Agho has been Columbia’s main scorer and therefore the player that opponents have been concentrating on. Barbour, freshman guard Steve Frankowski, and sophomore center Mark Cisco have all shown to be scoring threats in the absence of Agho’s high point totals.

Although Agho did not demonstrate his usual domination last Saturday, chances are that the opponents will still focus on containing him. Smith recognizes this and hopes he can rely on Barbour to have another shining performance.

“I think the more success he has, the more defenses will adjust to him,” Smith said. “He probably hasn’t been getting the best perimeter defender because obviously they put him on Noruwa. That’s why he’s had success. People have made a conscious effort against Noruwa, and Brian has recognized it, at my urging too.”

Despite success in many areas of its play, the Light Blue has yet to resolve its issues with turnovers. Over the last two games, the Lions have lost the ball 34 times. Luckily, Cornell threw a multitude of defenses at Columbia one after another, helping the Lions improve their ability to adapt to many different types of matchups. From what Smith has seen, the Crimson will not be as hard to handle on the defensive end. “I don’t think Harvard will be as hard a pressure, but they are really hard to score on the basket against. We’ll be OK handling the ball”, Smith said.

Columbia is also fortunate to have depth in all areas on the court, which is why Smith isn’t too nervous about Harvard’s defense shutting the Lions

SEE MEN’S BASKETBALL, page 4



JASPER L. CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

STRONG SCORER | Freshman guard Taylor Ward was the Light Blue’s second highest scorer with 12 points against the Big Red in last weekend’s loss.

over St. Francis, the Light Blue narrowly missed a season sweep of Cornell when Barry’s last possession shot went long off the glass.

Although they fell short of a win, Nixon was happy with the way his team orchestrated its comeback against Cornell and is confident that, given another down-to-the-wire situation, it will be in a good position to come out on top.

“We executed the play pretty well, got one of our best players a very good

shot with about two seconds left, and the ball just rolled out,” Nixon said. “We’ve been in a number of close games this season, and it’s given us an opportunity to work through a lot of those late-game situations in practice—so I’m very confident if we get in another close game that our team’s gonna know what to do.”

SEE WOMEN’S BASKETBALL, page 4



ILLUSTRATION BY THUTO DURKAC SOMO & RENATA MITTNACHT

Haute cuisine is a Restaurant Week reservation away

BY HARRY FLAGER
Columbia Daily Spectator

During the summer of 1992, approximately 15,000 reporters arrived in New York for the Democratic National Convention—only to be welcomed by Tim Zagat and Joe Baum’s four-day event that offered discounts at a selection of Manhattan’s finest restaurants.

The concept was a hit and now occupies two full weeks each winter and summer dubbed Restaurant Week.

Both the prix fixes \$24.07 lunch and \$35 dinner offered at the participating restaurants consist of an appetizer, entrée, and dessert.

The deal does not include beverages, sides, tax, and tip, which are where restaurants make most of their profit during Restaurant Week. “Almost every guest will order additional items like wine or cheese to help compensate for any difference in our usual business,” Scott Stamford, general manager of The River Café, said in an email.

Restaurant Week aims at drawing new diners, such as college students, to restaurants they wouldn’t normally try because of the prices. For example, the restaurant One if by Land, Two if by Sea normally serves a \$78 American-inspired, three-course prix fixe dinner that

would repel most students. The goal is to excite visitors enough to return even after Restaurant Week is over.

At The Modern, a Danny Meyer restaurant connected to the Museum of Modern Art, general manager Dino Lavorini agrees that Restaurant Week attracts the fringe crowds. “We see a lot of college kids—the week is well marketed toward universities—who have moved to the city but don’t have the disposable income it takes to eat out in New York,” he said.

Younger customers, though, mean younger tastes—something Sarah Linebarger, a bartender at The Modern, has noticed. “During Restaurant Week we sell more mojitos, more vodka drinks, more drinks that aren’t on the cocktail list,” she said.

How do chefs feel about working under such restrictions? “You have to be more innovative to work around the price,” Garrett McMahan, sous chef at Perilla, said. “You gotta be positive, because, at the end of the day, it gets people in the door that normally wouldn’t get to see your food and who could potentially be returning customers.”

At One if by Land, like at most restaurants that participate, substitutions are made to the regular menu. “The Beef Wellington we normally serve costs more than the entire Restaurant Week menu,”

Rosanne Martino, general manager of One if by Land, said. “We offer different cuts, like a bavette steak instead of a filet, then use sauces and accompaniments that elevate the dishes.”

This year, that bavette steak is grilled and served with Swiss chard, pearl barley, roasted cipollini onions, and a beef jus.

Even with the cheaper proteins, Restaurant Week is not profitable for many restaurants. “It’s not money making, it’s morale making—no one wants to work in a slow restaurant,” Martino said. “During Restaurant Week, many people make a reservation online, which we are charged \$1 for. It costs us \$2 to wash the tablecloth, \$1 per napkin. So already that \$35 dinner is down to 27, 28 dollars.”

Steve Charron, the general manager at David Burke Townhouse, believes that the event is important for getting through the season. “Sure, it’s not as profitable as selling a 1982 Opus, but the promotion drives the significant revenue that helps offset fixed costs in a historically lower post-holiday month,” Charron said. “It stretches the ‘busy season’ out another month and edges you to Valentine’s Day. Before you know it, it’s spring—one of our busiest times of the year.”

SEE RESTAURANT WEEK, page B3

Best of

Restaurant Week

During NYC Restaurant Week, the Big Apple transforms into a foodie paradise. Hundreds of restaurants offer \$24.07 prix fixe lunch menus and \$35 dinner menus that feature both staples of and exciting new additions to the restaurants’ traditional menus. Three particularly noteworthy participants are Toloache, Rosa Mexicano, and Chinatown Brasserie. —BY KIMBERLY TOPILOW



COURTESY OF ROSA MEXICANO

Rosa Mexicano

Just off Columbus Circle, Rosa Mexicano (61 Columbus Ave., at 62nd Street) is a restaurant awash in pink and orange hues that instantly put customers in a joyous mood. This week, Rosa gives diners a chance to experience select dishes from its regular menu at much-discounted prices. Again, for an appetizer, guacamole is the way to go. The smooth avocado pairs marvelously with the acidic chopped tomato and herby cilantro. Rosa’s Restaurant Week entrées include a perfectly grilled salmon filet sweetened with pineapple that is served over black beans with a chili-fruit mole. There are also chicken enchiladas smothered with addictive tomatillo green sauce and salty Chihuahua cheese. It would be sinful to leave without tasting the Pinguino, Rosa’s chocolate cupcake on steroids. With a hazelnut mousse concealed at its center and an “espress-piloncillo-chocolate” lake flowing underneath, this decadent dream will make all sorrows disappear.



COURTESY OF BULLFROG & BAUM

Toloache

Toloache (251 W. 50th St., between Seventh and Eighth avenues) is not the average cantina. Mexican favorites are given fun, creative twists—think brisket tacos with horseradish cream. Their riff on the traditional guacamole features chopped avocado, pomegranate seeds, mango, apple, peach, basil, onion, and habanero pepper, which together yield a dip at once spicy, sweet, crunchy, and creamy. Of the two taco varieties sampled, the carnitas—pork—is preferable over the carne asada—steak. The carne arsada is well-cooked but bland without a squeeze of lime. The pork, however, is succulent and well-seasoned, creating a beautiful contrast with the juicy, sweet pineapple mixed in. At Toloache, it is absolutely necessary to go the chocolate route for dessert. Once one’s fork gets past a thin layer of dry cake on top, dense chocolate heaven awaits. Finish a meal with this “pastel,” and the night is bound to be a successful one.



COURTESY OF CHINATOWN BRASSERIE

Chinatown Brasserie

Does all this starch and beans induce a feeling of “meh”? Then head down to Chinatown Brasserie (380 Lafayette St., between East Fourth and Great Jones streets), one of Manhattan’s dim sum temples. If Ollie’s were a beer, Chinatown Brasserie would be a mango martini—the Chinese food here is far more vibrant and upscale. During Restaurant Week, diners can choose from starters like fresh corn, lobster, and egg soup before proceeding to the dim sum. The menu’s Assortment A focuses on seafood (think lobster dumplings), Assortment B is meat-centric, and Assortment C provides vegetarian options like bok choy mushroom dumplings. For dessert, indulge in a bao—a bun filled with custard similar to that found in Chinatown bakeries.

Post-bac student lets listeners step behind the music scene in unplugged ‘Track 14 Sessions’

BY KATY TONG
Spectator Staff Writer

Antioniette Costa, a singer-songwriter and School of Continuing Education post-baccalaureate student, knows how to take musical collaboration to an unplugged extreme. In her most recent project, titled “Track 14 Sessions,” Costa invites the public into her Times Square studio for an intimate recording session that strips the creation process down to the raw vocals and bare instrumentation. The second installation of the series will take place tonight, Jan. 28, at 8 p.m. at Legacy Recording Studio (168 W. 48th St.) with guest performances by Nikki Jean, who was featured in Lupe Fiasco’s song “Hip-Hop Saved My Life,” and Khari “Ferrari” Mateen, producer of The Roots.

The practice of recording music professionally can be a mystery to those removed from the industry, so Costa positions herself just steps away from her listeners. Free of vocal filters and editorial tricks, her delivery is spontaneous and filled with unrestrained passion. “I think that with music, every time you perform a song, it’s a little bit different,” Costa said. “Sometimes, even if your voice were to fluctuate or crack or the guitarist plucks the wrong note, sometimes that adds to the particular flavor of the moment.”

As she performs, her audience is free to move about the studio, navigating between the control room and the recording booth.

“Track 14” refers to the train that Costa takes on

her regular commute between New York City and Philadelphia, since she divides her rehearsal and recording schedules between the two. Her musical connection belongs to Philly though, where she worked out of Larry Gold’s “The Studio” as an undergraduate at the University of Pennsylvania. Costa was brought under The Roots’ mentorship after Dice Raw of The Roots discovered her debut album “Breakthru,” released independently in 2005. “They [The Roots] are very big on live instrumentation,” Costa said. “Even though they’re a hip-hop act, there’s such great musicality to their songs; I think it forces you to appreciate the instrumentals and not just the vocals. Being around them has better trained my ears to appreciate the musical parts that are going on.”

“Even if your voice were to fluctuate or crack ... sometimes that adds to the particular flavor of the moment.”

—Antioniette Costa, post-bac student

Like her “Track 14 Sessions,” Costa’s approach to making music resists convention. “I’m afraid that by taking a music theory class, I’m not going

to be as creative,” she said. “Not knowing what’s right or wrong or what’s typical composition-wise makes my music more free in the sense that I’m not trying to assume an ABA-structure or something like that.” Although Costa knows how to read music, she prefers to learn by ear and more easily identifies with gospel musicians who perform through intuition than with classically trained musicians.

Her music is a candid extension of her personal experiences or what she likes to call “a window into her soul.” Costa was particularly drawn to songwriting after her Aunt Lilly passed away from childbirth in 2004, prompting her to set aside ambitions of medical school—at least temporarily—to pursue music more fully.

“She [Aunt Lilly] was a successful corporate lawyer in Philadelphia, but she was very talented in the arts—an incredible writer,” Costa said. “She wrote a lot of poetry when she was about 20, and then she put the arts on hold—she never came back to them.”

A gift for empathy and understanding not only inspired Costa to write the song “Murphy” through the lens of Chief from Ken Kesey’s “One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest,” but also encouraged a return to her briefly discarded pre-med track. She said that being able to interact with patients would give her a sense of daily purpose.

On top of her rigorous schedule of organic chemistry and biochemistry classes, Costa is considering an internship with an ENT (Ear, Nose, and Throat) physician whose work treating the



COURTESY OF ANTONIETTE COSTA

ON TRACK | Antioniette Costa stays true to her unique voice with unfiltered vocals.

vocal chords of recognized singers would interestingly combine her musical and medical interests.

“I believe that I can pursue both equally,” Costa said. “I know at one point you’re going to have to choose what you want to do, but I think I can do both. I don’t see why I have to make a choice.”



ANDRA MIHALI / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SMOOTH JAMS | Jake Snider, CC '13, and band will open for Chiddy Bang on Saturday, Jan. 29.

Jake Snider and his student band to jazz up free Chiddy Bang concert at Irving Plaza

BY LUCY SUN
Spectator Staff Writer

“We’re opening for Chiddy Bang—we’re going to have to bring the funk,” Jake Snider, CC ’13, said. Snider and his band are set to showcase their playful, jazz-soul style on stage Saturday, Jan. 29 at Chiddy Bang’s free concert at Irving Plaza (17 Irving Plaza, between East 15th and 16th streets). Tickets still need to be reserved and can be found at Textbooks and Tickets online. Singer, songwriter, and pianist, Snider will be jamming alongside guitarist Armand Hirsch, CC ’13, bassist Doug Berns, CC ’10, and Miles Arntzen, NYU ’13. Snider met Berns and Arntzen “through jazz buddies” on campus and serendipitously encountered Hirsch on John Jay 12, during “this wonderful moment, NSOP week, when everyone’s in my room, singing Beatles and ’90s songs.” The group opened for Parachute in October and generally shuttles between New York and Snider’s hometown of Philadelphia for performances. The band got the Chiddy Bang gig as a result of Snider’s entry in last year’s national College Battle of the Bands. After Snider and his then-band, the Morningside Collective, ended up in the top four, Snider was invited to play the Chiddy Bang show as a promo for College Battle of the Bands 2011. Musically, the gig catches Snider at a creative juncture. Those who have been to his gigs around campus over the past year know one side of Snider: the upbeat, punchy performer with a penchant for covering old favorites like the Jackson 5. Last year, Snider and his band played gigs that made people

want to dance, and Saturday’s Chiddy Bang concert should be no different. On the other hand, as Snider said, “I’ve been trying to walk slower.” For a new EP dropping in May, Snider’s music takes a more contemplative turn that is slower in tempo and lower-fi in recording method. “Real Life,” a piano ballad off the new EP, was recorded in Snider’s dorm room through live takes only. “It’s easy these days to autotune stuff,” Snider said, but he is “not be afraid to be simple.” Snider’s method of work has always had a certain simplicity, relentless though it is. Every day, Snider goes to the piano and pounds away, just as he’s done since middle school. “When you’re just playing, that’s very conducive to coming up with things,” Snider said. Snider files music under the category of learning and will most likely declare a music major with a concentration in philosophy. His approach to music is one part academic and one part little kid with a sweet mechanical gadget and hammer for taking things apart. “I love dissecting things and figuring out what makes them work,” said Snider. “If I hear something I like, I’ll figure out what’s going on—like if it’s a pop song, I’ll figure out what’s going on harmonically and how the melody’s moving.” Despite the demands of a budding music career, Snider is a full-time Columbia student and can’t stop talking about how thrilled he is to be here. He talks about the many times he has happened upon an informal jam, and “the room is filled with everyone you want to be making music with.” It’s a busy life, but when Snider says he is having fun, he means it.

On-campus film festivals and theatre performances spring into motion

BY CLAIRE FU
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Along with the Black Theater Ensemble’s “The Colored Museum” that opens tonight, Jan. 28, film festivals and theatre performances that address creative processes and femininity with a twist kick off the spring semester for Columbia film and theater organizations. Embodying the same tongue-in-cheek sentiment as the exasperating “chicken or egg” question, the King’s Crown Shakespeare Troupe’s sixth annual Egg and Peacock 24 Hour Theatre Festival returns on Feb. 5. Student theater enthusiasts write, cast, rehearse, and perform a series of short plays within 24 hours. This condensed version of play production is packed with comedy and wit sparked by the spontaneity of such a swift writing and acting process. The adrenaline-fueled festival invites viewers to revel at raw campus theater distilled down to its core. A newcomer to the New York film scene, the first Barnard-sponsored Athena Film Festival will feature films, documentaries, and shorts celebrating women and leadership and will take place from Feb. 10 to 13. Inspired in part by Kathryn Bigelow, SoA ’81—the first woman to win the Oscar for Best Director in 82 years of Academy Awards shows—this film festival highlights the wide range of female leadership, from striving closer to the glass ceiling in real life to overcoming challenges in fictional

scenes. Breaking the barriers of race, social status, and culture, audience members can expect both familiar Sundance favorites like “Winter’s Bone” and independent film premieres. The film screenings will be complemented by star-studded panels comprised of leading women in the media—including Leslie Bennetts, contributing editor for Vanity Fair , and Delia Ephron, the screenwriter of “The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants.” The “Vagina Monologues” from Feb. 12 to Feb. 14 also represent female empowerment—but in a completely different way. Since explosively making it to the foreground of off-Broadway repertoire, the production of playwright Eve Ensler’s most famous piece has featured celebrities from Cyndi Lauper to Oprah Winfrey. Perhaps the next generation of stars will be cultivated in the on-campus charity production sponsored by Barnard and Columbia’s V-Day, a campus organization that works toward ending violence against women. Women in the “Vagina Monologues” celebrate this symbol of femininity and individuality by sharing their personal stories about sex and love with the audience. Proceeds from this production will go to the Center for Anti-Violence Education. Students with tickets to see the Feb. 14 performance will have the opportunity to see Barnard President Debora Spar give an introduction. Columbians don’t have to step off campus grounds to watch these student performances that put a nontraditional spin on traditional themes.

A good night isn’t a good night unless spent with good people, even on New Year’s Eve

I’ve never liked New Year’s Eve. There’s so much expectation—a strange feeling somewhere between your genitals and your heart that says on that one night, you must have a good time. “Oh, nothing special,” you’ll say, pulling out Ovid’s “Metamorphoses.” “Ended up in a back room at Pacha snorting coke off a model’s ass. Passed out for a few hours and woke up half-submerged in the ornamental reflection pool of a Midtown penthouse with someone else’s pants and a crate of Veuve Cliquot. It was a damn good night.” You’d definitely have lost your phone, probably your passport and a couple of thousand dollars. Your dignity is long gone, but fuck it—it’s a good story, right? Coming back to school, you need a good story to tell. You want to be prepared for all the insincere small talk, the intermediate language classes, and the late nights in Butler reminiscing about happier times. This year I felt even more pressure than usual. It was the first time in New York for me and my older brother, Duke, who was visiting from Sydney—my home, too, until last August. New Year’s over there is often a sordid affair—a flurry of teenage binge drinking, tourist mush, and illegal fireworks. But Duke sure hadn’t come all that way to watch some ball drop. I needed to show him how we kick it over here. It was my chance to dispel two decades of little brother complex. We’d left behind our friends, the balmy Sydney nights and with them the usual rituals. The midnight toast, the midnight hug (the midnight token, the midnight plug), lost in the purple haze of NYC. The night lay before us, a blank canvas waiting for its thick gouache of spaced-out encounters, thumping techno music, a patient etherized upon a table. There was only one plan for the evening: two tickets—carefully printed out and folded into a pocket, checked and double-checked—for the biggest party either of us had ever heard of.



KEMBLE WALKER
Nocturnal New York

Organized by the New York underground techno promoter Blkmarket, the party was at District 36—the newest big boîte and a growing hotspot for all the city’s hip hoppers, doo whoppers, name droppers, and pill poppers. And it was a big party. Thirty hours of big party. From Dec. 31 ‘til Jan. 2, the DJ decks would be featuring names so German you could practically feel the über-efficient engineering of everything from their facial hair to their Low Frequency Oscillators. If this didn’t impress him, I didn’t know what would. This was going to be big. Quick, Duke, get the Veuve Cliquot. We arrived at about 2 a.m. Red felt banisters, sequined doormen, and a herd of beautiful people. Definitely intimidating. The mannequin crowd made me uncomfortably aware of just how far away from home I was. It was difficult navigating the line, the list, and, indeed, the stairwell. But past the body search (only a minor hitch), we were at last ready to roll. The party was outrageous. Everywhere I looked there was another perfect fringe, skinny-leg fit, and designer dress. And the music—the music! The best of Berlin techno did not disappoint. Mind-blowing would be an understatement. Shit was going off. This was the real deal. It was a success! I’d shown him the biggest party ever. My complexes should have disappeared, and yet the sight of Duke dancing until his mouth frothed wasn’t quite what I wanted. No, the best moment came outside, smoking a cigarette. Down the road, sitting on a pair of fire hydrants, we gazed numbly through an incoherent conversation into the night. “I really like going on these adventures with you,” Duke suddenly said, with a crazy grin. “Sometimes I look out for you, but... really we just look out for each other.” It was nice, as we hugged, to remember that even at the swankiest club in New York, there are bigger things than the biggest night ever. We stumbled back into the soupy room, and I heard my favorite song filtering through the crowd. “Oh my God, I’ve gotta go,” I yelled over my shoulder, running into the mush of sweaty, beautiful people. I smiled as I danced. It was a damn good night.

For students, haute cuisine is just a Winter 2011 Restaurant Week reservation away

RESTAURANT WEEK from front page

Because of small profit margins, many chefs bring out their second, even third-string dishes. The result: restaurants shuffling patrons through three courses of obnoxiously boring food. For example, Wall and Water, a restaurant in the Andaz Hotel—a Hyatt property—has constructed its Restaurant Week menu around a soup of the day, mac and cheese, steamed fish, and apple pie. Chefs at independent restaurants appear to have more creativity. “It’s about taking something simple like a carrot soup and bringing it to an interesting level,” McMahan said. “Awhile ago we were serving a beer on tap that I liked, so we ran an Aled Carrot Soup as a special.” McMahan has tweaked that dish, and the first item on Perilla’s Restaurant Week menu now reads, “Delirium Carrot Soup with fennel coriander froth and sunflower seed praline.” “I want guests to remember it,” McMahan said, “and return because they’ll say ‘I want to go back because of that great soup I had.’”

The Modern and David Burke Townhouse offer their entire menus during Restaurant Week with, according to Lavorini, “only a few subtle changes.” “I know a lot of restaurants are tempted to put out small portions or non-menu items,” Charron said. “That never made much sense to me. The whole idea is to educate new guests about your restaurant and your offerings. How do you do that by serving a four ounce piece of tilapia?” Other than removing the Jamón ibérico—a cured ham that runs \$80 a pound—from the menu, the Modern presents its regular spread, including foie gras and sweetbreads. “Danny Meyer taught us to approach Restaurant Week as an opportunity to give back to the community, and we don’t want to offer a diluted experience,” Lavorini said. “Do we make money? No. Do we cover our costs? Yes.” Choosing where to eat during Restaurant Week can be a precarious endeavor. To make the most of their evening, students should look for restaurants that embrace the week and eschew those that simply pull a bait-and-switch. Leave the mac and cheese up to John Jay microwaves.



COLUMBIA THEATER GROUPS CALENDAR	
1/28/11	BLACK THEATER ENSEMBLE’S “THE COLORED MUSEUM”
2/5/11	KING’S CROWN SHAKESPEARE TROUPE’S SIXTH ANNUAL EGG AND PEACOCK 24 HOUR THEATRE FESTIVAL
2/10/11	BARNARD-SPONSERED ATHENA FILM FESTIVAL Celebrates women and leadership Features Sundance favorites like “Winter’s Bone” and premieres of independent films
2/12/11 to 2/14/11	“VAGINA MONOLOGUES” Playwright Eve Ensler provides an off-Broadway scene

GRAPHIC BY STEPHANIE MANNHEIM

Flipside Guide

La Silhouette

Hell’s Kitchen restaurant is divine

BY CYDNEY HEDGPETH
Columbia Daily Spectator

Walking through the restaurant and bar scene in Hell’s Kitchen can be overwhelming, but La Silhouette’s presence near Ninth Avenue on West 53rd Street stands out by not standing out. La Silhouette’s exciting mash-up of a refreshingly casual style and a charming, French-American touch will go unnoticed to those who aren’t in the know. Unlike the ever-familiar Le Monde on Morningside Heights’ Broadway strip, La Silhouette has no large banner marking its territory. A simply designed window decal is the only thing one sees before stepping into this shotgun building. It is only after walking through the signless entrance that one can see the back of the restaurant where a sunken dining room is decorated minimally yet thoughtfully with earthy colors. “Ever since we came here [New York City], we’ve had the dream of owning our own restaurant, a place that expresses our personality—fun and cool,” Sally Chironis, co-owner of La Silhouette, said.

Chironis and her partner Tito Rahman took their “fun and cool” vision and created a beautiful collision of fine dining service and food quality with the comfort of jeans and button-ups. The two owners strove to create a multicultural, mini-representation of New York City. With a French executive chef, Italian-American chef de cuisine, Japanese sous chef, Chinese pastry chef, and German sommelier, the eating experience is truly a cultural roller coaster.

La Silhouette’s garlic-roasted bagel chips and smooth chive goat cheese are successful additions to the delicious assortment of breads. Less cutesy are the sensually stimulating appetizers such as mango chutney foie gras and duck prosciutto leek salad. The perfectly prepared foie gras is well worth the \$25 price tag and pairs perfectly with the simplicity of the leek salad. The duck prosciutto adds a subtle saltiness to the crisp salad that is topped off with soft artichoke hearts.

The black truffle potato soup is an experience of its own. Served in half of a potato, this earthy and delectable take on the comfort dish provides the perfect portion and palate pleaser before one indulges in one of the many entrée choices.

While La Silhouette’s strip steak with collard greens couldn’t possibly look and smell more appetizing, the veal cheek and kale menu item screams, “Love me or hate me, but definitely try me!” The creamy flavor of the veal cheek may be a bit too mild for its soft, brisket-like texture. However, veal cheek isn’t on every menu in New York City, so it’s worth the taste.

A recommended and nearly necessary pairing with the almost-bland veal cheek is the broccoli rabe. Crunchier and fresher than one might expect, this side adds immediate, vibrant flavor to any dish on La Silhouette’s menu.

If the above flavors don’t suffice, dive into the oozing caramel molten cake or warm orange crème-filled beignets. Or, sit and chat with La Silhouette’s amiable wait staff.

The laid back atmosphere, created by French indie music and contemporary décor, makes for the ultimate birthday, anniversary, first-date, or Family Weekend spot.

La Silhouette’s fine dining experience masked as a hole-in-the-wall in Hell’s Kitchen should not be passed up. Hop off the 50th Street subway station and take a three block walk to discover a new, casual twist on French-American cuisine.

Flipside Guide Food & Drink reviews are evaluated for: student-friendliness, price point, accessibility, quality, and cool factor.



WHERE IT’S AT
Time: Various times
Place: 362 W. 53rd St., between Eighth and Ninth avenues
Cost: Entrées \$26-\$38
Rating: ★★

CYDNEY HEDGPETH FOR SPECTATOR

SILVER LINING | La Silhouette, which serves French-American fare, has a minimalist yet elegant interior done in sepia tones.

events

MUSIC

Iron & Wine + Edie Brickell

—Radio City Music Hall, 1260 Sixth Ave. (at 50th Street), Saturday, 7 p.m., \$39.50.

Iron & Wine is the recording name of Indie darling Sam Beam, who has escalated into quiet stardom, thanks in part to the inclusion of his music in the “Twilight” soundtracks. Expect to hear from his newly-released LP, “Kiss Each Other Clean.” Supported by singer-songwriter Edie Brickell.

ART

Mouth and Foot Painting

—Gavin Brown’s Enterprise, 620 Greenwich St. (at Leroy Street), now through Feb. 19, free.

Witness the primitive side of human nature in New York painter Joe Bradley’s newest exhibit. Chaotic splatterings of simple colors and rudimentary forms on rough, untreated canvas are mixed with footprints, comic-book scraps, dust, and other unmentionables.

ART

Staging Action

—Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53rd St. (between Fifth and Sixth avenues), now through May 9, free with CUID.

Instead of watching a film, imagine a photographic exhibition of movie stills. The concept of both suspending and extending a slice of time is exactly what MoMA conveys in “Staging Action: Performance in Photography Since 1960.” Rong Rong’s body endurance feats and Bas Jan Ader crying in front of the camera are highlights.

WILD CARD

Fair for Knowledge: Hair

—Brooklyn Flea, One Hansen Pl. (at Flatbush Avenue), Sunday, Jan. 30, 2-6 p.m., free.

Snuggled between the regular stalls of chunky earrings and sequined dresses, panelists—from MIT historian Laurel Braitman to French essayist Cécile Guilbert—will discuss all things related to hair, a topic too ordinary for academia but worthy of whimsical contemplation.



COURTESY OF RON BATZDORFF FOR RELATIVITY JACKSON, LLC AND INTERNATIONALEFILMPRODUKTION

GRACE-LESS | Protagonist Matt (Topher Grace) and high school classmate Barry (Dan Fogler) have a disgruntling set of adventures.

‘Take Me Home Tonight’

An upbeat ’80s soundtrack can’t keep this Topher Grace flick from falling flat

BY JON EDELMAN
Columbia Daily Spectator

On paper, “Take Me Home Tonight” looks like an interesting comedy. It has car theft, an aborted threesome, and a giant metal ball encasing Topher Grace that rolls down a hill. But it all feels familiar. “Take Me Home Tonight,” which opens nationwide on March 4, takes a fun, comedy-adventure scenario and squeezes all of the fun and comedy out of it.

The problems start with Grace’s role as the blandly handsome Matt—surely the most boring character to ever have sex on a tram-poline. Matt, an M.I.T. engineering grad who hates engineering, has returned to his hometown to figure out his future while toiling away at a video store. When his high school crush, Tori (Teresa Palmer), stops by, Matt invents a banking career and scores an invitation to a Labor Day bash with his former classmates. Matt, his best friend Barry (Dan Fogler), and his twin sister Wendy (Anna Faris) then embark on a night of wild debauchery that just might promise to solve all their problems. Derivative high jinks ensue.

Although Matt is presumably smart, he doesn’t seem that way. He doesn’t seem like anything, really. The movie doesn’t make clear if its lead character is a desperate geek or cool and adventurous, so it’s difficult to care about his shenanigans or whether he ever scores with Tori. Furthermore, it’s hard to imagine why Matt is friends with

Barry, a vaguely Jonah Hill-ish presence. For the most part, Barry is tangential anyway—while Matt pursues love, Barry gets high on coke and has a dance-off. According to the film’s promotions, “Everyone knows ... a Barry.” That must explain it.

Curiously, the most conspicuous element of “Take Me Home Tonight” is its least essential one. The movie is drenched in ’80s nostalgia, from the slang—“Totally choice!,” “Cool out!”—to the soundtrack—“Come On Eileen,” “Straight Outta Compton.” But none of the ’80s overload has any impact on the plot or the characters. “Take Me Home Tonight” is set in 1988, but it could just as easily take place in 1978, 2008, or 2038. This is not because the movie’s themes are universal, but because they are generic.

The cast’s lone bright star is Demetri Martin in the role of Carlos, a wheelchair-bound high school classmate of Matt and Barry’s who hasn’t let his disability stand in the way of his becoming unbearably self-satisfied. Unfortunately, Carlos is relegated to two largely irrelevant scenes.

“Take Me Home Tonight” is actually a retro comedy in two senses: In addition to being set in the ’80s, it was shot in 2007 but for four years languished in corporate limbo. If only it had stayed there.

Flipside Guide Film reviews are evaluated for: storyline, quality of acting, originality, production value/spectacle, composition, and student interest.

Stacy Schiff: SoA Nonfiction Dialogue

Biographer Stacy Schiff discussed her latest endeavor “Cleopatra: A Life”

BY ELISSE ROCHE
Columbia Daily Spectator

Cleopatra presented herself as the reincarnation of the Egyptian goddess Isis, seduced two of the most powerful men of her time, and was the last pharaoh of the Ptolemaic dynasty.

Stacy Schiff, Williams College ’82, sets out to explore Cleopatra’s unclear and mythical narrative in her latest biography, “Cleopatra: A Life,” which she discussed in the latest installation of the School of the Art’s Nonfiction Dialogue series at Dodge Hall on Jan. 27.

Known for her Pulitzer Prize-winning biography of Vera Nabokova and contributions to The New Yorker and The New York Times Review of Books, Schiff seeks to liberate Cleopatra from legend and rescue her from the stigmas set by Shakespeare, Plutarch, and Elizabeth Taylor.

“This was a book I wanted to write for a long time before I figured out how to do it, and it was like a joke in our house: once Cleopatra’s diaries are found you can start work,” Schiff said. Her evaluative work stands out from the dearth of literary and cinematic coverage of Cleopatra in its astute navigation of the xenophobic, misogynistic, and politically biased accounts that essentially comprise the available knowledge of the monarch and her life.

“There was nothing in terms of relics or fairy dust. I didn’t have a voice,” Schiff said. “This was an exercise in frustration in that I didn’t have the usual sense that you’re living a double life in a way.”

In her writing process, Schiff supports nonfiction writer Catherine Drinker Bowen’s idea that biographers pick the subject that takes them where they want to go; the biographer must like the subject enough to take a trip with the subject. At the reading, Schiff revealed that she couldn’t answer a lot of Cleopatra questions but was able to raise new ones.

“Cleopatra was a frustration, she was a really bad roommate in the sense that she didn’t come home with me,” she said. “There is just an unbridgeable distance between us and the classical world.”

As a writer, Schiff is drawn to the idea of clear-cut biographies with a beginning, middle, and end. Yet, to write “Cleopatra: A Life,” she was forced to confront various inaccurate portrayals of Cleopatra and attempt to separate truth from legend. So Schiff steered clear of presenting the details of Cleopatra’s life as concrete.

With regards to the sources that she did use, Schiff said, “It occurred to me about two years into my research that I didn’t know who my sources were. You had to know who these sources were and



HANNAH BOTKIN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

KEY-TO-PATRA | Pulitzer-Prize winning Schiff revealed the revelations behind “Cleopatra: A Life” at Dodge Hall on Jan. 27.

where they were coming from in order to understand their view.”

At the end of the night, Schiff revealed that Angelina Jolie is interested in playing the Cleopatra portrayed in her book, which may be produced as a Hollywood film in the future. “Angelina is apparently attached to it. What does that mean?” Schiff asked amusedly, though she has clearly found plenty to be attached to in the character of Cleopatra, too.

Flipside Guide Book reviews are evaluated for: storyline, literary style, creativity, and student interest.