

Comp sci majors increase by 12 percent

BY JEREMY BUDD
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

It was the path of Sergey Brin and Larry Page, Mark Zuckerberg and Bill Gates. And now, the wave of computer science majors is gaining momentum at Columbia: This past year, the number of declared computer science majors jumped 12 percent, reflecting a renewed student interest in the discipline.

The number of computer science majors has steadily increased since 2007, peaking this past year with almost 200 students declaring their major as computer science.

It's not a phenomenon unique to Morningside Heights. Nationally, the number of majors in computer science increased by 7.6 percent from 2009-10, according to data from the Computing Research Association.

GROWING INTERESTS

The increase is most prevalent in introductory classes. Professor Adam Cannon, who teaches Introduction to Computer Science and Programming in Java, said that he has noticed a sizable increase in student enrollment in his class over the past few years.

"It's increased significantly, just in the last couple of years—this year, between the fall and spring semester, somewhere between 500 and 550 students are taking the class," he said. "The numbers have grown just



LILA NEISWANGER FOR SPECTATOR

TECH WIZARDS | Computer science students work on an assignment with their teaching assistant. At Columbia, the number of computer science majors has increased by 12 percent over the last year, reflecting a national trend.

in the last year or two."

Cannon said that students are excited about learning computer science and that the increase has not had any negative effects on the class.

"The students I'm seeing in class are very motivated, which is very positive to me," he said. "There's not much of a difference between teaching a class of 100 and 300 in terms of delivering material—the difference is more TAs and more emails."

Toni Ma, CC '12 and teaching assistant for the introductory computer science course, said that she has also noticed increases in the course's enrollment.

"Between the first and second semesters, the number of

TAs jumped from nine to 12," she said. Typically 20 students are assigned to each TA, but now the number is closer to 25, she said.

Ma, who has been a TA for the course twice before, said that most of the TAs from previous semesters stick around and new ones are assigned when the enrollment jumps.

"It's fun—a lot of the students haven't done computer science before, and it's cool to see them improve over the semester," she said. "They come out able to write code."

Will Brown, SEAS '12 and a computer science major, said he was attracted to the field because it synthesized science and creativity.

"There are very few fields in

which you could come up with an idea and then sit down and make it," he said. "Then you can instantly have it—it's this awesome, creative science."

Computer science majors are required to pursue their degree with a specialization in foundations, systems, artificial intelligence, applications, or vision and graphics, or in combination with another field. Brown is pursuing his degree on the graphics track but recently switched from artificial intelligence after taking a graphics and simulation course.

"I just switched my track," he said. "If you make something with graphics, it's very easy to show it off to your friends. If you say, 'Look at this awesome

demo of this 3-D gravity simulator,' it's satisfying to you, too."

Logan Donovan, SEAS '12, added that students who are not majoring in computer science might still be interested in using code to design.

"I know tons of people who have no interest in computer science, but they want to write an iPhone app," she said. "Technology is everywhere and computer science is so applicable."

While Columbia students have shown increased interest in the computer science department, outside companies have as well.

"We have some really great

SEE COMP SCI, page 2

NY Times editor to speak at Barnard

First female exec editor Abramson to address grads

BY SAMMY ROTH AND EMILY NEIL

Spectator Senior Staff Writers

New York Times executive editor Jill Abramson will deliver the keynote at Barnard's commencement this May, the college announced on Monday.

Abramson became the first woman to hold the top editorial position at the Times in September, when she replaced Bill Keller. Abramson has spent 15 years at the Times, previously serving as managing editor and Washington bureau chief.

"From her early days as a reporter to her current post as the paper's executive editor, she has been unfailing in her convictions and a true inspiration," Barnard President Debora Spar said in a statement. "I am certain that our graduates will be energized by her words and personal story."

Abramson has also worked at the Wall Street Journal, where she was the deputy Washington bureau chief, and Time magazine, where she covered the 1976 presidential election.

Barnard students said it would be exciting to have

SEE ABRAMSON, page 3

Harlem charter school fights closure, gains DOE renewal

BY AVANTIKA KUMAR
Spectator Staff Writer

A West Harlem secondary school once slated for possible closure by the Department of Education has gotten a second chance.

Opportunity Charter School, located on 113th Street between Frederick Douglass and Adam Clayton Powell Jr. boulevards, was added in November to a list of schools at risk of being closed by the DOE, along with two other West Harlem schools on the same block.

But after a public hearing, Opportunity was granted a two-year renewal of its charter in December 2011. According to Dean of Students Anthony Jones, losing the school—which was founded in 2004 to serve academically struggling students and students with special needs—would have been "a tremendous loss for our community."

"The community as a whole deserves this school," Jones said. Leo Goldberg, Opportunity CEO, said that he was grateful for the renewal.

Inclusion on the list of schools to be closed "was obviously a mistake and we're very happy to have received a two-year renewal," Goldberg said. "We had 100 percent commitment from staff, students, parents, community, union leaders, and elected officials."

The Wadleigh Secondary School for the Performing Arts—on the same block as Opportunity—is also slated for closure, drawing the ire of local residents and politicians. The vote determining Wadleigh's future is scheduled for Thursday.

Over 50 percent of students at Opportunity receive Individual

Education Plans for diagnosed disabilities. According to Goldberg, the remaining students "come to us with many struggles, and having, for the most part, failed to pass state math and state reading tests in their prior elementary schools."

Goldberg said that the school's special-needs students graduated at double the rate of special-needs students city-wide and, given this success, he was "shocked" at the DOE's initial decision. He said that the DOE had not provided special support to the school, and in a recent DOE report Opportunity had met most school standards.

"All schools should be held to high standards, including the Opportunity Charter School," Goldberg said. "But

we believe that the measures that are used to judge student progress ... show that we make tremendous progress with the most struggling students."

According to parent coordinator Elise Williams, community support was instrumental in getting the renewal.

"A lot of parents realize and they recognize that Opportunity Charter School is not like other charter schools," Williams said.

Williams explained that, if a parent couldn't show up for a rally, he or she wrote a letter or sent another family member instead. This May, 11 Opportunity parents and nine students are planning to attend Advocacy Day, a chance for charter school families to

meet lawmakers in Albany.

"We need to get the Opportunity Charter School story out there," Williams said. "I think they [parents] recognize that they must fight in order for us to continue on."

The day of the hearing, the school had a rally with student cheerleader and band performances and speeches from parents, students, and officials, including the founder of the Children's Aid Society and the vice president of the United Federation of Teachers.

"It was completely evident that the Opportunity Charter School is a sound and important institution serving the needs of the Harlem community and the

SEE CHARTER, page 2



YAN CONG FOR SPECTATOR

SECOND CHANCE | Students at Opportunity Charter School in West Harlem will still be able to play basketball after the Department of Education chose to renew its charter.

After principal leaves, MoHi school looks for new leadership

BY AVANTIKA KUMAR
Spectator Staff Writer

Administrators at P.S. 165 are searching for a new principal after Brett Gallini, who was credited with dramatically improving the school, resigned last month.

P.S. 165, on 109th Street between Broadway and Amsterdam Avenue, gained attention when its Department of Education ranking soared under Gallini's leadership. But Gallini quit on Jan. 13 to help start the Neighborhood Charter School of Harlem, a new school that will open this summer.

Aracelis Castellano, who previously served as assistant principal, is currently "handling day-to-day things" at the school, Esther Friedman, the superintendent of Community School District 3, said.

Parents said they were pleased with Castellano's leadership so far. While Tanya Gonzalez, a second-grade parent, acknowledged that parents were "shocked" by Gallini's departure, she said that she was very happy with Castellano's efforts.

"She knows the culture of this school. She knows the community," Gonzalez said. She added, "I don't think any outsider would do a better job than she's doing."

Juan Ramirez, a parent of a kindergartener and a P.S. 165 graduate, said, "I know her for a long time. ... I like the program."

Friedman, who is currently listed as the school's principal of record, said she was hopeful that an interim principal for P.S. 165 would be announced within a few weeks.

But the search for a full-time principal is underway. Representatives from both the United Federation of Teachers and the Council of School Supervisors and Administrators, as well as at least one parent, will be present on the initial hiring team. Friedman will make the final decision, in addition to a review at the central office.

"Parents are watchful to see the transition."

—*Esther Friedman, District 3 superintendant*

She added that, although the process could take a few months, it could take even longer if she decides there is a "lack of quality" in the current applicant pool and reopens the pool to new applicants. She added that Gallini's time of notice was unusually short—usually, for a change in principal, there is several months' notice provided.

"I think that a change in leadership ... you can't help but notice it," Friedman said. "Parents are watchful to see the transition."

But she said that the district was trying to make the change as seamless as possible by keeping parents informed, adding that the teachers, who remained consistent, have far more impact on students' experience than principals.

SEE P.S. 165, page 2

A&E, PAGE 6

Cocreator of "Shit Girls Say" tells all

Graydon Sheppard, the principle star and cocreator of "Shit Girls Say," talks about the making of the YouTube hit and who inspired the quotable catchphrases.



OPINION, PAGE 4

United as individuals

We are all Columbians, but we are not all the same.

Say yes to less stress

Columbia students should stop competing to overextend themselves.

SPORTS, BACK PAGE

Jankova starts first full Ivy season

Agata Jankova begins her first full season for the women's basketball team after her 48-game suspension from the NCAA two seasons ago.

EVENTS

Jennifer Egan: Rewiring the Real

Hear from an award-winning author about her work and the intersection of literature, technology, and religion. 1501 International Affairs, 6:30 p.m.

WEATHER

Today



49° / 32°

Tomorrow



40° / 31°

NEWS BRIEF

Man shot at Grant Houses, recovering in St. Luke’s

A man was shot early Saturday morning in front of the General Ulysses S. Grant Houses, a housing development in Manhattanville that police have said is one site of the violence generated by teenage “youth crews” in the area.

A Police Department spokesperson said that the victim, a 21-year-old black male, was shot in the right leg shortly after midnight on Feb. 4. He was taken to St. Luke’s Hospital and is in stable condition.

There have been no arrests in the ongoing investigation.

In September, 18-year-old basketball star Tayshana Murphy was fatally shot inside Grant Houses, located south of 125th Street between Broadway and Amsterdam. Murphy’s murder has been attributed to an ongoing feud between youth crews from Grant and the neighboring Manhattanville Houses, north of 126th Street.

The NYPD spokesperson was unable to say if the shooting was related to local youth crews.

According to residents of the two housing projects, the youth crews are made up of teenagers around 16 to 17 years old.

Captain Kevin Williams of NYPD’s 28th Precinct said in December that visible foot and car patrols will increase in West Harlem, especially around schools, to combat the rise in local crime.

“I would like my officers to be more attentive,” Williams said. “One, it deters crime. Two, it makes people feel safer. Three, it’s the right thing to do.”

—Jillian Kumagai



YAN CONG FOR SPECTATOR

GONE | The search is underway to replace Principal Brett Gallini, who brought P.S. 165 to A grades from the Department of Education but left last month to head up a new Harlem charter school.

School searches for principal replacement

P.S. 165 from front page

“We try to keep them in the loop,” Friedman said. “Teachers have a consistent, safe, and predictable environment that they offer to the children ... and I believe that they are absolutely doing so.”

Lissette Senquiz, a fourth-grade parent, agreed that the teachers and parents have continued to work hard.

“I see the school is running the same way as it’s always been,” she said. “The parents are always behind the students.” But Senquiz acknowledged

that there have been changes, at least for her daughter, who was used to seeing Gallini greeting students and parents outside every day.

“She said she misses his presence,” Senquiz said.

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YAN CONG FOR SPECTATOR

GROWING PAINS | Administrators at Opportunity Charter School say that their school suffers from colocating with two other schools. Despite having the most students, it has the least space.

Charter hopeful despite space limitations

CHARTER from front page

greater New York City school district,” Goldberg said.

But Goldberg acknowledged that Opportunity shares its building with both Harlem Success Academy and P.S. 241, and, as Harlem Success Academy has expanded, Opportunity has lost space for student services.

According to Goldberg, some classes, including speech therapy, had to be moved into the hallways because of space reallocation.

“We currently have to provide some of our special needs services in the hallways and out by the elevator,” Goldberg said. “It’s

distracting and it’s noisy.”

The colocation may speak to a larger issue. Jones, the dean of students, believes that Harlem Success Academy has infringed on Opportunity’s space and that the closure may be part of a “political agenda.”

All three West Harlem schools recently placed on the closure list are co-located with Harlem Success Academy branches.

Although Opportunity has the largest number of students out of the three schools sharing the building, it has the smallest amount of space available, Jones said.

Williams agreed that space was a problem and that the school would have to continue

fighting to maintain itself.

“I think that our students fully see the restraint,” Williams said. But she added that the teachers and support staff “ensure that students get the amount of time and the services ... in the allotted amount of space.”

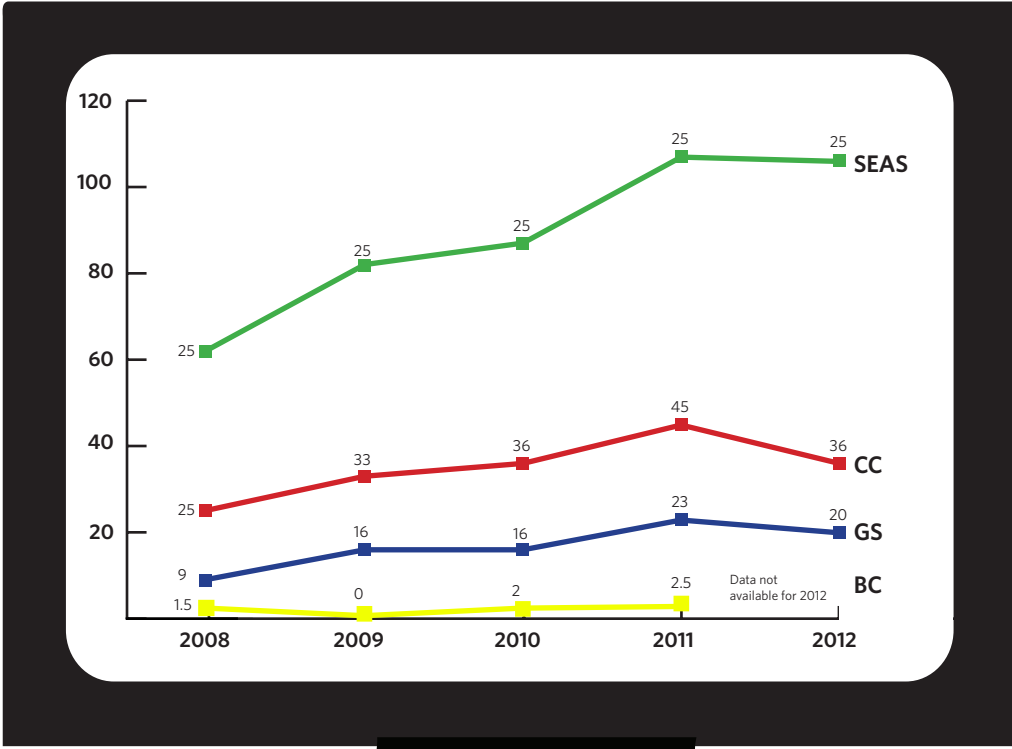
“We do our best, truthfully,” Williams said.

Jones acknowledged that the school is still struggling but said he remains hopeful about its future.

“We have a lot of work to do, but I’m pretty optimistic that we could get the work done,” Jones said.

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INCREASE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE MAJORS



Students turn to computer science

COMP SCI from front page

professors who run very cool labs—our graphics lab frequently consults on movies,” Brown said. “Disney couldn’t get the hair right for ‘Tangled,’ so they called our lab, and we worked on it.”

PROGRAMMING AND PRACTICALITY

Professor Augustin Chain-treau said that while computer science is engaging and rewarding for students, it also addresses important, real-world issues.

“There are new problems—security, beyond just the real tools of building computers,” he said. “You have some core, fundamental problems that very big groups are working on.”

Professor Alfred Aho said that even though the number of students majoring in computer science is increasing, soon-to-be graduates should not fear: The demand for computer scientists and engineers will remain high.

“President Obama iterated this in his State of the Union address, and there are a number of studies that show there will be great shortages,” he said. “Being a person who can create new ideas and products is absolutely essential.”

As a senior, Brown said he’s not worried. “The job market for CS majors is really, really good right now,” he said. “I get emails from recruiters maybe once a week—if you have computer science skills, it’s easy to find a job and they pay very well.”

Donovan agreed. “There’s something to be said for having a really applicable skill,” she said. “If you’re a computer science major, you always have a very specific skill you can market. Wherever you go, you’ll be able to find a job.”

The multifaceted appeal of the field pushed Donovan away from her original aspiration to be a doctor. Had she pursued a pre-medical curriculum, she said, “I realized that I wouldn’t get a job until I was 30, and I’m basically locked into this one track.”

With computer science, Donovan said, her options multiply.

“A lot of people in our generation are not looking to have one career, which was commonplace 20 years ago,” she said.

As someone who started programming at a young age, Donovan pointed out that many students discover their passions in computer science years before college.

“Things like chemical engineering or biomedical engineering may be interesting to people, but it’s difficult to get exposure to those fields,” she said. “Computer science is one of those things that you don’t need to take classes in to get started.”

INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

Despite a national trend of increasing numbers of computer science majors, the program at Columbia may be gaining traction for other reasons. Columbia’s major distinguishes itself from other universities’ because of the Core Curriculum’s ability to help students learn crucial skills in communication, professor Kathy McKeowan said.

“One of the advantages that you have because of the Core is that you have a greater exposure to the humanities, to writing, to communication,” she said. “When you get out into the real world, being able to write and speak well is something that employers are really looking for.”

McKeowan also said that the field of computer science

is overlapping more with other fields, something that the department considers in determining its curriculum for students.

“Computer science has become very interdisciplinary, and we offer several majors that tap into that,” she said. “We offer the combined major where students can take some courses in computer science and relate it to another discipline and build a major that combines their interests.”

Aho said that students who complete his course about programming languages and translators learn valuable skills outside of computer science, even though they create new programming languages during the class.

“They’ll say things like, ‘Project management is a real bitch,’” he said. “But in all the years I’ve taught this course, no team has ever failed to deliver a working compiler. It’s a very popular course.”

Since being technologically literate is quickly becoming a prerequisite for many jobs, some Columbia students are realizing that a background in computer science may benefit them in other field.

“It’s just a realization by students that if you don’t have some rooting in information and computer science, no matter what your field of endeavor is, you’re not going to be competitive,” Aho said.

McKeowan said that as computers continue to have a larger presence in every field, basic knowledge can only benefit students.

“Even if you’re in another area it helps if you have exposure from computer science,” she said. “Computer science plays a role in pretty much every area.”

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YAN CONG FOR SPECTATOR

CRACKING THE CODE | In Mudd, students deliberate with teaching assistants over computer science problem sets. They represent nearly 200 newly declared computer science majors this year.

BC students impressed by Abramson, speaker choice

ABRAMSON from front page

Abramson at commencement, especially as a woman who has reached the pinnacle of her profession.

“I think it will be interesting to hear what she has to say about being a young woman in the city and how to make it all the way to the top,” Ellen Watkins, BC ’14, said. “Because she’s really at the top.”

Emma Goidel, BC ’12, was not familiar with Abramson before receiving the email announcing her as commencement speaker. But Goidel said she liked what she read about her.

“I’m excited. I’m glad that it’s someone who is successful but is not a celebrity, and I think that’s a job a lot of Barnard students might aspire to,” Goidel said. “Hearing her thoughts about how to move through a career path as a woman in New York is probably going to be interesting. I think she’ll be really inspiring.”

“I’m sure there’s so many women here who feel, ‘That’s the job I want,’ and to see her speak and get her advice, that will be really special,” Goidel added.

“It says a lot for Barnard that she accepted the invitation.”
—Natalie Jung, BC ’14

Natalie Jung, BC ’14, said that getting the Times’ top editor as a commencement speaker was impressive.

Ancient Eight women’s field begins to spread in second full weekend of conference play

ATL from back page

home with a win and a loss. Brown lost to Princeton 57-45 on Friday but recovered nicely in a tight match against Penn, edging the Quakers in overtime, 59-55. The win brought Brown back to .500 in Ivy-League play and dropped the Quakers to 1-4 in the standings. Even though the Bears out-rebounded Penn 59-43 and shot 76 percent from the free-throw line, the Quakers remained resilient until Brown finally put them away after regulation. The Bears will play on Friday against Columbia.

PENN

Penn (8-11, 1-4 Ivy) was unsuccessful each of its two matchups this weekend, falling to both Yale and Brown, 72-60 and 59-55 respectively. The Quakers led at the half against the Bulldogs, but were victimized by Yale’s 13-0 run after halftime and never recovered. Against the Bears, Penn saw eight lead changes, a disappointing overtime and an eventual loss. The Quakers look to redeem themselves against Harvard on February 10.

DARTMOUTH

The Big Green (3-16, 1-4 Ivy) went 1-1 away from home this weekend, winning 59-44 against a struggling Columbia squad before losing to Cornell in a close game, 49-45. Dartmouth’s triumph over the Lions marked its first Ivy League win this season and also ended a 13-game losing streak for the team. Dartmouth will return home to play league-leading Princeton on Friday.



ALYSON GOULDEN/SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

RACING TO WIN | Dartmouth’s junior guard Faziah Steen posted double figures against the Lions.



Jankova hopes to make the most of her playing time

JANKOVA from back page

games were international games so we were playing different teams from different countries who had different styles of play, so in that sense it was a really good experience.”

Jankova’s experience at the Europe Under-20 Championships after her freshman year helped her cope with a frustrating start to her Lions career. Upon her arrival in New York, Jankova was deemed ineligible to play by a now-rescinded NCAA rule. Since an athlete who had played on her amateur club team had also played professionally, the NCAA suspended Jankova for the first 48 games of her college career.

“It was really tough—at first I came here and everything was fine, and then somehow it came out of nowhere that there was this big problem,” Jankova said. “It was really unexpected, and it was tough at the beginning because I had to sit out six weeks with no practice, and I just had to watch my teammates practice and play.”

very much, but she’s opened up a lot since freshman year, and I love being around her. When she first got here her English was a little shaky, but now she loves to tell stories about things going on in class and basketball and makes jokes with us.”

Jankova hasn’t completely assimilated to college play, though—she is averaging 1.6 points and 8.9 minutes of action in 10 games so far this season.

“Agi’s performance this season has been much like our team’s overall—very inconsistent, particularly on offense,” Nixon said. “She has looked great on the court at times, and other times she’s looked like a player who lacks confidence.”

According to Nixon, though, Jankova’s statistics don’t fully show the potential of a player who is strong on both the offensive and defensive ends.

“We as a coaching staff have great confidence in her ability to help us for the rest of this season and next year because she can score in a variety of ways, and she can defend both in the post and on the perimeter,” Nixon said. “If Agi can ever accept how good a player she has the potential to be, and not play timid and passive, she will really make an impact for us.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF GO COLUMBIA LIONS

FIRST START | Jankova looks to compete in her first full Ivy season after suspension.

“She will really make an impact for us.”
—Paul Nixon
head basketball coach

Despite the setback, Jankova powered through and maintained a positive outlook, according to head coach Paul Nixon.

“She did not do anything wrong, but she had a very good attitude in serving out the 48-game suspension the NCAA ruled she had to do and worked very hard in practice for us,” Nixon said.

The humorous outlook on life that brought her through the suspension also helped her adapt to living in the United States.

“She’s a very funny person,” junior guard/forward Tyler Simpson said. “She doesn’t talk

Pay revenue-producers their due

KLUG from back page

athletes is the best way to accomplish this goal. The NCAA, through the collusion of colleges and universities and with no representation from the athletes themselves, has imposed universal amateur rules on college athletes across the country. No one would think it fair if the Ivy League’s policy of providing no athletic scholarships was mandated in every conference. Yet the NCAA expects us to have no problem with the imposition of the same rules on Kentucky basketball players and Wichita State golfers (go ... Shockers? That’s awkward). I’m hardly a fan of Reaganomics, but what the NCAA needs is some old-fashioned American deregulation. Colleges should not be required to pay their students who play sports, but they should also not be prevented from doing so.

You won’t see any money now, but hey, don’t you want to be a pro? This is what the pros do.

This solution would allow us to preserve the scholarship athlete model as well as the Ivy League and Division III models for the vast majority of the country’s true student-athletes. But for those select few athletes already on the higher level of the pyramid, who create billions in revenue that they never see, it would represent a major step away from exploitation and toward fairness.

Sam Klug is a Columbia College senior majoring in history. He is a Spectrum opinion blogger. sports@columbiaspectator.com

Music at St. Paul's

Spring 2012

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MARK VALENTI, CLASSICAL PIANIST
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INSPIRATION FROM SUCH DIVERSE SOURCES AS JOHN COLTRANE, BAHAI FAITH, CHRISTIANITY AND HINDUISM.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 27
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Reassessing engineers

BY HILARY MOGUL

At a meeting for an activist group I participate in, we had to go around the circle introducing ourselves. “Hi, my name is Mark, CC junior, studying international politics.” “Hey, I’m Laura, Barnard sophomore, studying linguistics.” Everyone nods along, instantly forgetting the name they just heard. Then their eyes fall on me: “Hi guys, my name’s Hilary, SEAS freshman, studying electrical engineering.” Now, not only are eyes fixated on me, but mouths are agape. “Really? You’re a SEAS kid?” one asks.

Once more, I’ll say, “Yeah. Really. I’m a SEAS kid.” The SEAS kid archetype. More jokes are made about us than about the Barnard women, but they are less-addressed and protested. There’s this expectation that every engineering student fits a certain model of the engineering student who only attends preprofessional clubs and is considered “nerdy.”

Is it that entirely unbelievable that someone like me could perhaps be interested in something besides getting a job? Maybe I’m someone who is not up all night working on a Java program, but on a University Writing piece I really care about, or stage-managing a musical.

Before my junior year of high school, my career goals

included being a film critic, a novelist, a musician, and a Latin teacher. Then, when I took physics and calculus in high school, it became clear my career path was engineering. Some confusion and dull pangs of anger came upon me when, after complaining about how my schedule didn’t allow me to take Lit Hum, my friends would say: “Wow, SEAS kids can read?”

There’s this expectation that every engineering student fits a certain ideal of the engineering student who only attends pre-professional clubs and is “nerdy.”

Of course it’s just a joke. But the joke implies that there is this consensus among non-SEAS students that engineers are not interested in the humanities. They seem to forget that many of us have other uses for our brains. They find it completely irrational that we could have an interest in anything besides the applied sciences.

Sometimes, the jokes are funny, though in small doses. I know that I have left a few of the many informal debates

that occur in my floor lounge in good humor by saying, “What do I know, I’m just a SEAS kid, and I need to go program a text-based poker game. See you guys.” Yes, we do have a huge workload that we can lose ourselves in, but we’re not alone in that respect.

Premed students and other non-SEAS science majors have just as many requirements, but they get little of the flak directed at SEAS students. They take the dreaded organic chemistry exam that brings the marching band into the library right before finals. I have premed friends in CC who pull so many all-nighters that I worry whether they are getting enough REM sleep. I happen to see CC physics majors in many of my classes. And when we attend club events together, they get no questions; no one wonders what they are doing out of lab.

However, what makes the least sense to me, and vexes me the most, is when people are shocked to see an engineering student in an activist club.

We’re not just walking, talking TI-89s. Surprisingly enough, we have lives outside of the library that don’t have to do with Matlab. A little less shock when someone who takes Gateway instead of Lit Hum happens to be active in the Columbia Democrats would be greatly appreciated. All it takes is the understanding that we are people with many dimensions to our lives.

Hilary Mogul is a School of Engineering and Applied Science first-year.

Many shades of Light Blue

Going by the admissions statistics for the class of 2014, roughly 17 percent of our undergraduate population is either international or was schooled outside of the United States. Fifty-seven percent of undergraduates represent over 50 countries self-identify as students of color. In the language of tortured metaphor, Columbia is the umbrella under which a good number of peoples come to rest. Yet, having made it into Morningside Heights, our differences evaporate; as our experiences dovetail, we end up as Columbians who say some funny shit (“Shit Columbians Say,” Jan. 29). But what does this mean?

Part of being a Colombian—or a member of any community—involves embedding ourselves within an institution’s myths. You have an answer to the question: Reference Room or 209? Harmony’s just too far away. Westside, too, is too far away. You can’t go with someone on a Starbucks run—too far away. You’re SEAS and unable to study abroad. You’re CC and need a higher printing quota.

The wonderful thing about the Columbia narrative is its commonality: as with the Core Curriculum, there’s a shared body of knowledge that connects you and me. We encode our belonging with acronyms, abbreviations, and slang. Wherever we may have come from, after a year or two, we end up speaking the same language. That unity in diversity is marvelous, but it operates under the assumption that even if we don’t come from the same place, we’re all moving in the same direction.

Accordingly, the nonresident alien living under

The desire to identify as “Colombian” instead of “alien” should not be underestimated.

Columbia’s auspices is ostensibly welcomed into a world of shared opportunity. Academic success, social assimilation, access to internships, and networks and happiness—all of Columbia’s resources are open to everyone. All Columbians are equal. This is the Columbia bubble. The dangerous extension of this bubble is this: because all Columbians are equal, all Columbians are the same.

This is not to say that diversity is dismissed on campus. Far from it: divergences—whether in opinion, creed, color, life experience or otherwise—are what make our interactions valuable. It is, however, easy for “diversity” to become just another word in the Colombian dictionary. Outside of our generally homogeneous religio-ethno-cultural club groups, we are beyond diversity now.

As an international student, I am often presented with a choice between either highlighting my alienness or concealing it. This is not an easy choice. Not being American, I don’t belong to the common cultural backdrop and am furthermore not obliged to buy into it. I keep my British English, thus driving my editors mad as they delete my u’s and revert my s’s to z’s. But to some extent, downplaying my foreignness is a necessary coping mechanism for studying here. It’s easy, however, to go too far in the opposite direction and displace myself from my own culture.

The desire to identify as “Colombian” instead of “alien” should not be underestimated. It’s easy for us to buy into stereotypes of diversity. It’s easy to go from being “Singaporean-Chinese” to being “Asian.” Then, from “Asian” to being mistaken for an “Asian-American.” Then from “Asian-American” to “Colombian” as I lose the energy and will to correct classmates’, professors’, and coworkers’ misconceptions. It’s easier to be Colombian—sans race, ethnicity, color—than to have to think, over and over again, about how different you are from the American next to you, assuming (of course) that “American” is a unitary concept.

Whether American or alien, many of us come from more than one place. After four short years, many of us will go in different directions. Having to think actively about the deep divisions within ourselves—those areas where no common understanding can prevail—is emotionally exhausting. It’s hard to communicate differences, but we should never shy away from that difficult task. We are not our universities or our majors or our class years. The diversity of Columbia’s student body, arguably its greatest asset, can persist only if we break out of the bubble.

Po Linn Chia is a Columbia College junior majoring in East Asian studies. She is chief of staff for CMUNNY and a member of the Global Recruitment Committee.

Ever the Twain runs alternate Tuesdays.

Stop the complain-brag

It’s only the third week of school, but the daily grind is already all too normal for us. Gone are the days of first classes, when there was a chance the professor would just hand out the syllabus, introduce the class briefly, and let you leave. No, now things have gotten real, at an alarmingly rapid rate. As a consequence, the libraries are starting to fill once more with all types of studiers, from the earnest to the desperate. The halls of Butler echo with the sounds of students talking about how much work they have to get done and how little they have slept. As Maren Killackey hilariously illustrated in her op-ed last week (“Think away the stress,” Feb. 1) these conversations have a tendency to become competitive rather quickly. They’re tinged with an odd sort of pride and triumph—no one would converse like this were there not a feeling that staying up all night or having a multiplicity of problem sets is an accomplishment.

This strange sort of rationale seems to infect our conversations at Columbia, leading us to engage in something I call the “complain-brag,” where things like lack of sleep or too much work are whined about in a strangely self-congratulatory way. These things are unpleasant and awful, but we treat them like awards or accolades. Why do we do this? Logically speaking, we know that not sleeping is really not something to brag about.

Maybe it’s a symptom of our status as high achievers. Whenever we have any sort of accomplishment, no matter how unpleasant it was to attain it, we naturally want to brag about it. But I think it goes deeper than that. It’s not so much that we brag about losing sleep because it led us to write an excellent paper. It’s the sleeplessness itself that we treat as an achievement, the bags under our eyes like some perverse badge of honor. I believe the real reason we complain-brag is because there’s an unspoken assumption among Columbians that the more stressed we are or the harder we push ourselves, the better we are as students and the more we’ve done. We complain-brag about our stress because we feel it proves we’ve earned our right to be here. We’re competing with each other, all



KATHRYN BRILL

We Should Talk



JASMINE MARIANO

The Columbia Daily Spectator accepts op-eds on any topic relevant to the Columbia University and Morningside Heights community. Op-eds should be roughly 650 words in length. We require that op-eds be sent exclusively to Spectator and will not consider articles that have already been published elsewhere.

Letters to the Editor should be no longer than 350 words and must refer to an article from Spectator or The Eye, or a Spectrum post. Submissions should be sent to opinion@columbiaspectator.com. Please paste all submissions into the body of the email. Should we decide to publish your submission we will contact you via email.

‘Inadmissible’ a successful satire on university dynamics

BY DAVID FROMKIN
Columbia Daily Spectator

In the world of higher education, cutthroat competition isn't only limited to the application process. D.B. Gilles' new play, "Inadmissible," an off-off-Broadway production at the Canal Park Playhouse, presents the politics behind the university admissions process from the perspectives of professors on the admissions committee.

Consistently dramatic and darkly funny, the production presents a highly entertaining glimpse into the perversity of the admissions process and the professors behind it.

Charise Greene, an adjunct lecturer at the Barnard and Columbia theater department, stars as a young adjunct professor. The cast of three succeeds in portraying the realism of the play, without sacrificing the comedy. The actors time each joke perfectly and the theater's intimate space provides the perfect setting for facilitating the audience's connection with the characters.

The play is ideally cast. The actors' fully-formed characters are familiar and charming, and they play off each other wonderfully.

Elaine, played by Kathryn Kates, is the aging and hard-driving graduate admissions committee chair of the performing arts department at the fictional Piedmont University of San Francisco. Kates gives a strong performance, capturing and reveling in Elaine's toughness and dynamism. Kates is at once ruthlessly calculating and compelling.

Martin, another tenured professor in the department, joins her on the committee. Richard Hoehler's Martin brings the bitter sarcasm of middle age to the stage. Hoehler plays up Martin's theatricality to just the right level, never quite verging on caricature, and tempers it with a keen recognition of the character's cunning and intellect. His air of self-deprecating resignation makes Martin a surprisingly sympathetic character.

When one of their colleagues suddenly falls ill during the last few days of the decisions process, Elaine and Martin must quickly find a replacement for him, as the committee needs three members. After a lengthy discussion about possible candidates (one is "too pushy," another "too fat"), they settle on Joanna, played by Greene.

Joanna is a young adjunct professor in the department, still bright-eyed with enthusiasm, in stark contrast to Martin's nonchalant ennui. Greene seems to bring her experience at Barnard to the role, giving a highly compelling and convincing performance, with a nuanced juxtaposition of Joanna's strength and seeming frailty. Greene reveals Joanna's combination of disillusionment and courage progressively, giving the character a convincing and delightful development through the play.

Elaine and Martin reveal that this year's selection process particularly important, as they want Piedmont's 13th- or 14th-ranked department to break into the top 10. The audience quickly discovers, however, that Martin and Elaine are pushing hidden agendas. The retiring Elaine's reputation is in jeopardy after a recent drop in fund-raising, and she wants to "go out with a bang." Martin, who has been passed over for

SEE INADMISSIBLE, page 7



PHOTO STILLS COURTESY OF GRAYDON SHEPPARD

“TWINSIES” | Graydon Sheppard's YouTube series quickly got views by playing off of common stereotypes and popular phrases and clichés.

The man behind YouTube sensation ‘Shit Girls Say’

BY KATY TONG
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

In an age where popularity is measured by page views and virtual subscribers, Graydon Sheppard has quickly risen though the ranks. Cocreator of "Shit Girls Say," the popular Twitter feed and YouTube video series, Sheppard finds inspiration in mundane but devilishly funny girlisms—one-liners like "Twinsies!" and "Get these chips away from me."

The Toronto-based filmmaker, photographer, and, most recently, funnyman, studied at the MFA film program at Columbia's School of the Arts from September 2009 to May 2010. "And then I ran out of money," he said, laughing. "So that's why I left. It's hard to get funding to go to school in the U.S. from Canada."

Sheppard said that while he would have loved

to have completed his degree, he wouldn't have life any other way in light of his recent Internet success.

The idea behind the Twitter account occurred to him and his boyfriend Kyle Humphrey spontaneously. "We were sitting around one day watching TV or something and one of us said, 'Can you pass me that blanket,' and it kind of struck us as something a girl would say."

They started tweeting in April 2011, and within a day or two, had accumulated over 200 tweets. Now, the first installment of "Shit Girls Say" has 14 million views.

While their spitfire aphorisms are far from politically correct, the sayings are colored by a reality that is stranger than fiction. "We started thinking about the complexities and layers of what might be said and what might be funny about it, and we tried to go beyond things like, 'My butt looks fat in these jeans,' and those kinds of clichéd jokes."

Much of that knack for complex observational humor is rooted in his and Kyle's relationships with the women in their lives. "We grew up around strong women, with single mothers and sisters and grandmothers and aunts, and our ears were tuned to these things," Sheppard added. "It just dawned on us that there was something funny in that."

His intention, though, is not to tell specific stories, but rather to document "what people say en masse."

Not surprisingly, Sheppard admits that most of the comedians he looks up to are women, particularly those who are "unapologetic and willful and strong and funny."

He also prefers comedy with strong female leads, and takes inspiration from sitcoms like "Strangers With Candy" and "Nighty Night."

Out of a desire both to direct and perform—and

SEE SHEPPARD, page 7

Imprisoned CU alum, renowned activist pens evocative memoir

BY CAROLINE CHEN
Columbia Daily Spectator

How does a grassroots revolution come into being? What would motivate someone to commit his or her life to revolution? Activist David Gilbert, CC '66, answers these questions in his new memoir, "Love and Struggle: My Life in SDS, the Weather Underground, and Beyond."

Gilbert, who helped organize the 1968 protests and founded the Columbia chapter of Students for a Democratic Society, was sentenced to life in prison for his 1981 attempted robbery of a Brink's armored truck.

Reflecting upon his experiences as a revolutionary both at Columbia and after, Gilbert wrote his memoir in prison with encouragement from his son Chesa and as a response to the issues raised by a new generation of activists.

But his involvement in the socially and politically turbulent protests of 1968 as a student at Columbia is only mentioned briefly in his autobiography. Instead, he focuses on his life as an activist post-graduation, describing his work in the anti-Vietnam war and civil-rights movements.

Gilbert structures his memoir thematically, ranging from the sectionalism of the Weather Underground organization, a radical faction of SDS formed in 1969, to the perceived gender discrimination within SDS. Each theme connects to a specific narrative moment in Gilbert's personal history, and through his deep criticisms and reflections, he expounds upon the organization's mistakes and conflicts that impeded its collective goal of fighting oppression.

Although Gilbert's book is categorized as a memoir, it reads more like an analysis of his own political socialization and his transformation into a revolutionary, independent of an autobiographical time line.

It is not meant to be narrative page-turner, but an informative and sincerely thoughtful perspective on a tumultuous period of American history.

The most illuminating excerpts of Gilbert's book lie in his assessments of how his own ego impeded his activism.

Gilbert admits to the "ways I had undercut

[women's] strengths and contributions as revolutionaries, the ways I had stunted my own growth by not learning more from women." In his admission of his underlying sense of male superiority, he renders an honest picture of the internal issues of the activist atmosphere of his time.

In pointing out the divisional problems of Weather Underground, he writes: "We way overemphasized the role of individual genius ... and we forgot the core value of revolutionary humility."

In the end, Gilbert speaks with humility through his confessional analyses and demonstrates the necessity of collective spirit for modern activism.

arts@columbiaspectator.com



PHOTO COURTESY OF PM PRESS

IN ACTION | Controversial activist and inmate David Gilbert's new memoir examines modern politics and revolutionary movements.



CHABLI BRAVO / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ART OASIS | Students and other Columbia affiliates can sketch for free with the Artist Society at Dodge Hall every Friday and Saturday, or engage in other events like "Models on the Sundial."

Sketching sessions draw diverse crowd

BY JULIEN HAWTHORNE
Columbia Daily Spectator

On a Friday evening, in a cool artist's studio on the fifth floor of Dodge Hall, a nude woman, arms folded and head turned slightly to the right, sits on a white platform beside a bouquet of brightly colored flowers. The room is quiet, with the exception of a Radiohead song playing softly in the background and the sound of charcoal gently grazing the sketchbooks of the artists surrounding the platform.

This is one of the weekly figure-drawing sessions, offered Friday nights and Saturday

mornings, and the core of the Artist Society. The Artist Society, founded in January 2006 by a group of undergraduate students, aims to offer visual artists both from the University and the city the opportunity to foster their craft in a peaceful, low-stress environment.

The club also cosponsors student exhibits with Postcrypt Art Gallery and offers larger outdoor figure drawing sessions like "Models on the Sundial" during the spring.

Many who attend the figure-drawing sessions are not students but other University

SEE SOCIETY, page 7



HANNAH CHOI / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

IN STYLE | Styleta campus directors Bora Kim and Liz Sciortino, both SEAS '13, try to bring philanthropic values to the fashion world, holding fashion shows and clothing drives.

New club Styleta ties philanthropy, fashion with fundraising initiatives

BY EMMA STEIN
Spectator Staff Writer

First there was CU Couture, then there was Hoot, and now there is Styleta, Columbia's newest fashion-philanthropy club. The group, a branch of a larger organization founded at Harvard, came to campus last spring and is already giving new members the chance to work with fashion companies. The organization was started when Columbia founder Bora Kim, SEAS '13, read about Styleta's efforts to establish a chapter at Columbia in a weekly email from the Columbia Women's Business Society. "I was really interested because in high school I was involved in fashion ... but I found myself not having enough time in college, but then this opportunity came along. I thought it would be the perfect opportunity for me to mix philanthropy with my interest in fashion," Kim said. Styleta aims to promote philanthropy through the lens of fashion by hosting fashion shows as well as clothing drives where students donate or resell clothing with proceeds going to a philanthropic organization of the club's choice. During its first semester, the group hosted a successful kickoff event downtown, "Style Fusion on the Runway," which sold out front-row tickets. Clothing was donated by a variety of designers and retailers,

including the popular shopping site Shopbop. The show raised \$1,189 for charity: water, an organization that seeks to provide clean drinking water to those without access. This year Styleta want to bring the focus back to Columbia.

"I was really interested because in high school I was involved in fashion ... but I found myself not having enough time in college, but then this opportunity came along."

—Bora Kim, SEAS '13

Last semester, the club held a clothing drive at Columbia. Members placed bins throughout dorms and sorority houses. Most collected clothes were donated to the Salvation Army, though some will be used in Styleta's runway show and sale this term. Elizabeth Sciortino, SEAS '13 and campus codirector with Kim, said that the first event

for this semester will be a trunk show in which Styleta will sell clothing from the clothing drive as well as clothing donated by a number of designers and boutiques. Aside from the trunk show, the directors hope to host another runway event—this time closer to campus. "Time and resources permitting, we will also have a fashion show displaying selected pieces—everything is on sale after the show and we're hoping to generate interest in the club from students as well as from local boutiques, designers, bloggers while raising money," Sciortino said. The money they raise this term will go to the NYC-based Council of Fashion Designers of America, which raises money for causes such as breast cancer research. The collaboration with the NYC fashion industry is another key feature of the club. Kim recounted what the business director of the CFDA told her in a meeting last year: The CFDA, she said, mostly looks to "FIT [Fashion Institute of Technology] and Parsons [The New School for Design] for interns and they say they've never looked to Columbia, which is why I think it's great we've contacted them and shown them we have a lot of students involved in fashion." arts@columbiaspectator.com

‘Shit Girls Say’ creator explains inspiration

SHEPPARD from page 6

with past drag experience to boot—he shot and cut three videos in December, featuring cameos from actress and singer Juliette Lewis. Sheppard still has a fourth video in the works. As the YouTube uploads acquire Internet meme status, copycats in the style of the original videos crop up daily—including Spectator's "Shit Columbians Say"—slicing and cataloguing the online and offline populations one video at a time. "It's nothing but flattering,"

Sheppard said. "We haven't seen them all, obviously, but some of them are quite good. The way the Internet works, I think it's really exciting to have." Out of those viewed, he finds "Shit Monks Say" and "Shit Nobody Says" to be particularly clever. Beyond the world of "Shit X Says," Sheppard designed the album art for Feist's most recent release, "Metals," and has directed selected music videos and short films. But rather than detaching his side projects from his more serious work, Sheppard remains optimistic that he can integrate his visual skills and past experience as a filmmaker into comedy. "This opens up so many doors for me," he said. "I've always wanted to do comedy, and I didn't know if I was allowed, I guess you could say." Despite his self-proclaimed "freedom to be funny," Sheppard hesitated before replying when asked to say something representative of the typical Columbia student. "I don't go below 96th." arts@columbiaspectator.com



PHOTO STILL'S COURTESY OF GRAYDON SHEPPARD

‘I KNOW RIGHT?’ | To make the popular series work, Grayson Sheppard and boyfriend Kyle Humphrey drew on past experience and their friends and family to develop the taglines.

Artists and newcomers welcome at Society

SOCIETY from page 6

affiliates who want to relax and hone their technique. Scott Jefferson, a swim instructor at Dodge Fitness Center, says that though he has been to other figure-drawing sessions, the Artist Society sessions are his favorite. "The sessions are quite relaxing, very mellow, non-competitive and pleasant," he said. "I think it's a great way for undergraduate and graduate students to come together and speak and have some kind of communication," said Artist Society president Amy Chen, SEAS '13. "If you're interested in talking to people and socializing you can do that, but there are also people that come every

week and don't say a word and just draw." The Artist Society has no official membership process and has no studio or material fees. Instead, it comprises some 200 unofficial members, drawn from all corners of Morningside Heights. The club invites participants at all levels of artistic experience. Those without experience, or spending money, can help themselves to the communal pastels, charcoal, and paper, next to the communal cookies up for grabs. Visual artists at Columbia have few outlets for their creative pursuits outside of the classroom. The Artist Society is one of the three undergraduate arts organizations on the

Columbia campus, along with Postcrypt Gallery, which focuses primarily on curating works of art, and the Columbia University Photography Society. The Artist Society provides a much-needed space for people who value drawing as a necessary part of their lives. "When I was in high school I was really involved with art," vice president Christine Hsu, BC '13, said. "So when I came to college, it was a little bit of a shock at first. When I went to my first Friday night session it was amazing. College-life-changing." The Artist Society meets Fridays from 6-8 p.m. and Saturdays from 10-12 a.m. arts@columbiaspectator.com



PHOTO COURTESY OF JIM BALDASSARE

MAKING THE CUT | The stars of "Inadmissible" bring strong performances and a wonderful script to a complicated yet familiar process for Columbia students: university admissions.

Compelling cast of ‘Inadmissible’ delivers

INADMISSIBLE from page 6

promotion, wants to impress the dean in order to secure the position after Elaine retires. Unfortunately, Joanna, who wants desperately to secure a full-time teaching job, is in a vulnerable position. Her colleagues, thinking they can easily manipulate her, try both bribery and blackmail to convince Joanna to expedite the admissions process. To make matters worse, she

discovers that a particularly talented applicant is unlikely to be admitted. Joanna, torn between her career and her commitment to excellence, has to decide whether or not to support her colleagues' machinations. The play uses this situation to raise pressing questions about the impact of personal connections and diversity in admissions, and to satirize the academics whose ulterior motives get in the way of their professional responsibilities. The subject matter is highly relevant to anyone who has faced the anxious and harrowing university admissions process, and the play's treatment of its subject is both engrossing and cathartic. The play accomplishes its task elegantly and entertainingly, remaining highly satisfying from beginning to end. And the play goes out with a bang. "Inadmissible" runs until Feb. 18 at the Canal Park Playhouse. arts@columbiaspectator.com

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ATHENA CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP STUDIES AT BARNARD COLLEGE

NCAA’s place in sports pyramid remains unclear

Millions of Americans watched the Giants and the Patriots face off in the Super Bowl last Sunday night, and I would be willing to bet that a large percentage of those viewers, at some point in their lives, considered themselves athletes.



SAM KLUG
First Touch

The world of sports is shaped like a pyramid. A broad base of people play sports in their childhood and adolescence. A smaller group plays club or intramural sports in college. A yet more exclusive group gets to don the jerseys of their colleges and universities to compete in intercollegiate athletics. A talented and lucky few ply their trade semi-professionally or professionally at some level, most of them never seeing their names in lights. A more talented and even luckier few may make it to the NFL, the NBA, or the MLS. These athletes at the very top of the pyramid might, once in their lifetime, play in a game as momentous as the Super Bowl.

One of the problems facing the NCAA right now is that it doesn’t know where it fits into this pyramid—or, rather, it represents so many different parts of this pyramid that it has failed to develop rules that adequately reflect the diversity of the student-athletes it supposedly represents.

In big colleges’ football and men’s basketball programs—called “revenue sports” because they actually bring in money to the university—the NCAA blatantly exploits the dream that so many college athletes have of making that next, big leap up the pyramid. You want to be a pro? You can act like a pro right now! Just let us sell your body as an advertising space for Nike. Let us use your likeness to get a fat contract from EA Sports. You won’t see any money now, but hey, don’t you want to be a pro? This is what the pros do.

The NCAA must figure out how to serve the athletes on every step of the sports pyramid.

Regardless of talent, sheer math dictates that most of these revenue-sport athletes will never make the pros. In the Bowl Championship Series conferences alone (a small proportion of the total Division I football universe), there are 66 colleges and universities represented, many of which carry over 100 football players on their roster. There are only 32 NFL teams, though, and the maximum roster size is 53 players. Each step up the pyramid is steeper than the last.

The NCAA, however, does not only serve large colleges’ football and men’s basketball programs. Most of the teams and athletes under its umbrella do not produce large sums of money for their schools, conferences, or the NCAA itself. This two tiered system within the college sports world complicates every question for the NCAA, making it harder to come up with uniform rules to cover both the Alabama football team and, say, the Bard College women’s volleyball squad (go Raptors!). The major problems that infect the revenue sports, such as recruiting scandals, low graduation rates, and blatant exploitation of athletes for others’ monetary gains, do not, for the most part, face non-revenue sports, or schools like Columbia.

The NCAA’s current model for revenue sports in which conference administrators, athletic departments, and coaches share the profits while the players themselves make nothing is clearly not sustainable. The decision to allow conferences to offer \$2,000 annual stipends on top of scholarships illustrates that even the NCAA recognizes this fact. More and more commentators and former college athletes are making convincing arguments that college athletes should receive a fair share of the wealth they create. But the solution for these sports may not fit the smaller, non-revenue sports in which a much larger percentage of the NCAA’s athletes actually participate. The NCAA must figure out how to serve the athletes on every step of the sports pyramid.

Paying salaries to a few collegiate

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FILE PHOTO

LOOKING FOR NET | The former Slovakian national team member hopes to become an impact player for the Lions.

Dartmouth earns first Ivy win, Princeton holds on to first place

BY MELISSA CHEUNG
Spectator Staff Writer

In the Ancient Eight’s second full weekend of Ivy League play, Princeton continued its domination in the standings despite three weeks of inactivity, while Yale missed a golden opportunity to take control of first place. Harvard went undefeated, and Cornell, Brown, and Dartmouth each posted both a win and a loss. With under 10 games left in the season, the race for the Ivy League title is shaping up to be tighter than expected.



PRINCETON
The Tigers (15-4, 5-0 Ivy) played and won two games at home this weekend,

extending their outstanding win streak to eight and maintaining their position atop the Ivy League. Princeton’s first win came on Friday over the Bears, 57-45, after it returned from a three-week break. Princeton had difficulties finding its offensive rhythm early on, but Brown failed to capitalize on the home team’s slow start. The Bears managed only one lead in the game. Princeton followed with another win over Yale, defiantly pounding the Bulldogs 72-47 in a battle for first place in the standings. The Tigers will be back in action on Friday, when they play Dartmouth in Hanover.

HARVARD
Harvard (11-8, 4-1 Ivy) added to its three-game win streak this weekend, going 2-0 on the road. The Crimson posted similar scores in both games, defeating the Big Red 67-57, and the Lions

68-56. Harvard’s win over Columbia marked the fifth straight win on the road for the Crimson. Harvard also set a program record that night, going 21-for-21 at the free throw line. It will return home to face Penn on Feb. 10.

YALE
The Bulldogs (12-8, 4-2 Ivy) will remember this weekend as their first opportunity to snag the No. 1 ranking in the Ivy League this season and as their first missed opportunity. Although they notched a 72-60 win against Penn on Friday, the Bulldogs were no match for a relentless Princeton team the next day. This cost both first place in the Ivy League and head coach Chris Gobrecht’s 500th career win. The Bulldogs were out-rebounded 61-30, made just two of 15 three-point attempts, and shot just 17-for-68 overall from the field. Yale looks to

Slovakian star finally on court for Columbia

BY JOSH SHENKAR
Spectator Staff Writer

While most college athletes only dream of one day representing their countries in their respective sports, Lions’ junior guard Agata Jankova has already played for her native Slovakia in a major women’s basketball tournament—twice.

Jankova first competed for her country in the Europe Under-16 Championships in Košice, Slovakia. She was selected for the tournament based on her prior performance at a regional basketball camp in Slovakia.

“They established a center for really good players for each region, and they chose players to go there,” Jankova said. “We were like 50 girls together and from there the coach was able to pick whom he wanted to take.”

In a tournament field that included major European powers such as Spain and France, Jankova averaged a solid 9.9 points and 3.3 assists per game. While host Slovakia did not manage to win a medal at the tournament, Jankova found the experience beneficial.

“I got to work on my game in a different environment with a different coach. It was a big boost for my confidence—and I still have it,” Jankova said.

Jankova next played for Slovakia at the Europe Under-20 Championships in Morocco in 2010. Jankova had just completed her first year at Columbia and relished the challenge of playing with some of the best players in Europe.

“It was awesome since I was only playing with girls I had played with before, so the chemistry was there,” Jankova said. “Also, there was a lot of playing time in practice, and the

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bounce back from its poor performance this Friday against Cornell.

CORNELL
The Big Red (9-10, 3-2 Ivy) went 1-1 this weekend, losing to Harvard 67-57, and winning a defensive game against Dartmouth, 49-45. The Big Red was boosted by a stellar performance from sophomore guard Allyson DiMagno, who contributed 16 points and 13 rebounds for her third double-double of the season. Cornell will head to New Haven to play Yale this weekend.

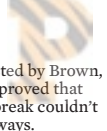
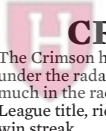


BROWN
The Bears (12-8, 3-3 Ivy) were on the road this weekend and returned

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PHOTO COURTESY OF YAN CONG

GOING FOR IT | Sophomore guard Christine Clark helped Harvard best Cornell with 23 points on Friday.

RK (IVY)	TEAM
1 15-4 (5-0)	PRINCETON TIGERS  The Tigers were tested by Brown, but they ultimately proved that even a three-week break couldn't stop their winning ways.
2 11-8 (4-1)	HARVARD CRIMSON  The Crimson has been flying under the radar but is still very much in the race for the Ivy League title, riding a three-game win streak.
3 11-8 (4-2)	YALE BULLDOGS  The Bulldogs are creeping up on Princeton, although they fell in their first test against the Ivy League powerhouse.
4 9-10 (3-2)	CORNELL BIG RED  The Big Red squeaked by with a win against a weak Dartmouth team. Cornell will face the Bulldogs this week.
5 12-8 (3-3)	BROWN BEARS  The Bears returned to .500 in Ivy League match-ups with their win against Penn.
6 8-11 (1-4)	PENN QUAKERS  The Quakers fell in both games they played last weekend, including one overtime loss.
7 3-16 (1-4)	DARTMOUTH BIG GREEN  The Big Green won its first Ivy League game last weekend, but will face a tough opponent in Princeton this week.
8 2-17 (0-5)	COLUMBIA LIONS  The Lions have yet to defeat an Ivy League opponent.