

Harlem apartments retrofitted

BY WILLIAM JACOBS
Columbia Daily Spectator

With a boost from federal stimulus funds, 135th Street is going green—in more ways than one.

At the end of January, the Obama administration awarded its first stimulus grant for green retrofitting—apartment renovations that increase energy efficiency—to a row of apartment houses on 135th Street between 7th and Lenox avenues in Central Harlem.

The \$3.6 million federal housing loan is part of a larger national effort by the Department of Housing and Urban Development to renovate apartment facilities so that they are greener and more affordable.

This week, Jonathan Rose Companies—a local developer committed to green affordable housing—is breaking ground with the 135th Street apartments, a 198-unit, 10-building complex, which Rose analyst Clay McPhail says is around 98 percent occupied.

The units are assisted by project-based Section 8 vouchers, which are government subsidies for low-income residents, with the vouchers tied to specific units.

Rose Companies acquired the properties about a year ago through its Rose Smart Growth Investment Fund, which allows the developer to buy existing buildings and green them. And, in May 2009, Rose began a lengthy application process to get federal funds for the project, ultimately receiving the award in January. “It was extremely competitive,” McPhail said.

Now, Rose is converting some of the vacant properties into “hospitality suites” for residents who need or request to be temporarily relocated during the redevelopment process.

Ultimately, the entire complex will be retrofitted, hopefully by the end of 2010.

Nathan Taft, director of acquisitions for Rose, said that the renovation will be on a

SEE RETROFIT, page 3



EMBRY OWEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

MOBILE CONSTRUCTION | The MTA is redeveloping its 96th Street 1 train station with a new station house, above, which will make entrances easier and include a mobile sculpture.

96th St. station under construction, to open in fall

MTA builds new station house for the 1 train, with flower sculpture mobile

BY CLAIRE LUCHETTE
Columbia Daily Spectator

96th Street and Broadway is currently a crowded, ripped-up construction site. But by the fall, 180 sculpture flowers will hang from the ceiling of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's newest station house for the 1 train.

This large redevelopment project with an artistic component

has transformed Broadway between 95th and 96th streets into a construction zone for over two years, and is on track for completion by September 2010, according to Deirdre Parker, an MTA spokesperson.

The contract was awarded in May 2007, Parker said, and now the project is 70 percent complete.

The 96th Street rehabilitation project, which includes a large

above-ground station house extending from 95th to 96th, will feature staircases and elevators leading directly to platforms, and will also provide handicap accessibility for the first time on the site, as per the Americans with Disabilities Act.

According to Sandra Bloodworth, the director of Arts for Transit, the MTA's arts division, the MTA also

commissioned a large sculptural design for the center of the above-ground station house.

One hundred and eighty flower forms will hang from seven beams in the ceiling as a three-dimensional mobile in the center of the completed station, she said. The design is a tribute to the history of the neighborhood, which was once called Bloomingdale, meaning “vale of flowers” in Dutch.

“It is an iconic project of this time frame ... It has this very contemporary image, it is very edgy and current, yet at the same time it represents this vale of flowers,” Bloodworth said.

She added that MTA art projects are typically limited to two-dimensional mosaics. Though these projects are reliable, she

SEE 96TH STREET, page 3



PHOEBE LYTLE / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

LIGHT READING | With the textbook season coming to a close, students and professors say they choose either Book Culture, above, or the Columbia Bookstore, while others say the cheapest buys are online.

Textbook vendors compete

BY PAUL HSIAO
Spectator Staff Writer

As the textbook-buying season comes to a close, students and professors are completing their search for the cheapest books in the neighborhood and on the Internet.

The textbook wars, locally between Book Culture, the longtime independent on 112th Street, and the Columbia University Bookstore on 115th, part of the Barnes & Noble chain, kick off at the start of each semester, when sellers compete for academic clients.

On campus, many students and professors say they like to support the local independent. But others say they are just looking for convenient shopping and affordable prices. It is unclear which store is ultimately more successful, though anecdotally, many say Book Culture is the way to go.

Wendy McKenna, a professor of psychology at Barnard,

SEE BOOK WARS, page 3

Bored@butler returns, simplifies operations

BY GABRIELA HEMPFLING
Columbia Daily Spectator

At the revised bored@butler website, democracy is preserved.

This is what the web team said of the recently relaunched version of bored@butler—the online forum for anonymous student commenting on campus since 2006—which now has new safeguards put in place. One such measure allows users to temporarily ban another user from posting if a comment receives enough “dislikes.”

Despite issues of “trolling” last semester—students posting slanderous and racist comments—B@B founder Jonathan Pappas, CC '06, said he is confident that these minor changes could revive the website.

He took the site down in December for a few weeks, saying in an open letter, “People troll the site with the purpose of killing the community with slanderous and racist comments ... Service has been temporarily suspended until we can develop the right codes for it to take care of itself.” Comments on the site can cover any topic, from procrastination and Harry

Potter, to sexual topics and drunken remarks.

Now, an improved version of the site is up and running again, Pappas said, after it came back online the first week of January.

“Since the life of bored@butler, it's gone through a bunch of revisions—some failed, some succeeded. Today, it's back to the 2006 look and feel, the original code,” Pappas said.

He added that the format is also more user-friendly.

His team has implemented safeguards to preserve “democracy” on the site. If anyone posts a comment that many users “dislike,” that person will not be allowed to post for 30 minutes from that location.

“Your stuff will be automatically trashed,” he said. “Take a room full of people having a conversation: if someone walks in and starts screaming, then he will be kicked out.” The website also has closer monitoring from a current student on staff.

The “bored@” trend has spread to many other Ivy League Schools, which have adopted similar sites, but Pappas said he

SEE BORED@BUTLER, page 2

INSIDE

A&E, page 3

Laughing along with ‘Infinite Jest’ exhibit

The LeRoy Neiman Gallery's latest exhibit, “A Failed Entertainment,” draws inspiration from David Foster Wallace's novel “Infinite Jest,” using the mediums of film and painting to question popular entertainment values.



Sports, back page

Disappointing defense dooms Light Blue

Over the weekend the Lions saw two strong offensive performances go to waste as their defense let them down. Their normally effective full-court pressure did not slow down opponents, leading to a long trip home for Columbia.

Opinion, page 4

Dressed to impress

Amanda Gutterman decries the growing trend of college branding by commercial clothing companies.

Separate but equally important

Daniel Amzallag explains that students need access to the opportunities of Morningside Heights and NYC at large.

Today's Events

Happy and moral children

Can parents be too nice? Author of “The Parents We Mean to Be” speaks on the issue.

Sulzberger Parlor, Barnard Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Latinos in the U.S

Does national survey data show that Latino immigrants have experienced assimilation or transnationalism?

James Room, Barnard Hall, 7 p.m.

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WEATHER



Today

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Tomorrow

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Bored@butler returns after shutdown

BORED@BUTLER from front page

is no longer interested in expansion or advertising. For him, the site is just a hobby.

“It’s there to exist. I don’t care about increasing traffic. It’s bored@butler ... Go there if you are bored,” he said.

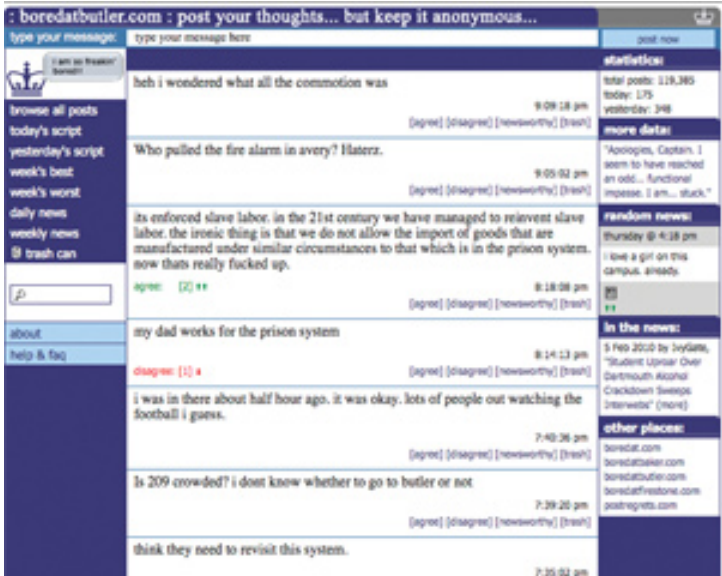
Pappas, since the switch, has also given some oversight of the website to Frederick Havemeyer, CC ’13.

“He owns the website, so I’m just going to do what he wants,” Havemeyer said. “It’s not terribly a lot of work.”

But who is actually using the site on campus? Havemeyer said he wasn’t sure who goes to B@B these days.

“I don’t really want to know. I don’t know if anyone does. It’s entirely anonymous,” he said.

Kevin McDonald, SEAS ’12, who works at Butler’s second floor reserves desk, said he never sees people use B@B. “I don’t think people really know much about bored@butler,” he said, adding that he thinks mostly older people or alumni are interested in the site. He said there are other blogs designed for procrastination, such as Texts from Last Night and FMyLife, that are much more



COURTESY OF BORED@BUTLER

popular. “It’s a lot more entertaining, and you get more content on there, too,” he said.

But Pappas said that the site was gaining popularity at the Dartmouth branch, bored@baker, where the activity is tenfold of Butler’s.

“It’s a fraternity-centric community where everyone knows everyone,” he said. “Say a first name and everyone knows who that is.”

Still, on Columbia’s campus, students know of the site, though few admit to using it.

“I’ve seen people use it. I don’t know if you’re going to get anyone to admit it, though,” Evan Drewry, SEAS ’13, said.

Others say they have no interest in it.

Constance Boozer, CC ’13, said she doesn’t think B@B isn’t funny, and prefers to procrastinate on Facebook.

Elizabeth Munroe, CC ’12, said she has only seen B@B once or twice but thinks it is too crass. She added, “I try not get bored at Butler.”

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135th Street apartments retrofitted

RETROFIT from front page

large scale. “It is an integrated design process,” he said. “It is a comprehensive green strategy, and a whole capital renovation that looks at the building holistically.”

McPhail said that because the buildings are over 100 years old, and have not been updated since the late ’70s, the renovation will include an upgrade of infrastructure and appliances, including fire alarms, flooring, elevators, refrigerators, and the lobby—all with green implements such as LED lights.

McPhail said the renovations include using paint that helps improve air quality, replacing the 15-year-old boiler with an energy-efficient one to save gas, and utilizing solar energy for support.

Nilda Mesa, Columbia adjunct professor of environmental stewardship, said that certain aspects of this project could make a big difference.

“Not only will the heating and hot water costs go down but there may also be fewer particulates emitted into the surrounding neighborhood, especially if the boilers will be dual-fuel or able to use natural gas,” she said in an email, adding that the shift could help combat high asthma rates—a major health problem in Harlem.

Direct federal funds here are also important, Mesa said, because the up-front costs are often the biggest challenge in energy-efficient retrofits. “This sort of program helps remove that hurdle. It’s a winning solution for everyone,” she said.

Congressman Charles Rangel, who represents northern Manhattan, said that the design will help green the neighborhood and also provide jobs.

“The idea is that it’s an award that, by helping the landlord green retrofit the buildings, will be a way to maintain the cost of the building and the cost of living in the buildings, and keep the cost low,” Elbert Garcia, a spokesperson for Rangel, said.

“The plan could save us up to 25 percent on energy costs relative to other buildings, mostly through replacing old systems with newer and more efficient ones,” Garcia said.

Some think this development could be a citywide paradigm. “This is the first one of these efforts, so other projects and other landlords will take a look at how things go, and maybe follow,” Garcia said.

“It is the critical strategy going forward,” Taft said, adding, “This is a tremendous opportunity ... Real estate can play a meaningful role in combating climate change.”

Current residents agreed that the apartments have been deteriorating, and they are hopeful that the retrofit will address serious issues with the buildings—though some are skeptical.

“I’m all for it [green retrofitting], if it’s going to reduce lead poisoning, if it’s going to bring about more affordability in housing. I’m all for it—why not?” said Ron DeShields, a member of Community Board 4 in Brooklyn and a resident of one of the apartments. “Due to the fact that this is a housing area, and people are coming home here and living here, the buildings should be safer, and there should be adequate lighting. And if they can keep the costs low, then that’s great.”

Resident Lynette Phillips said that she is looking forward to it, but is not optimistic.

“I have very little faith ... I’ve been here for 30 years, and when I first saw it [the neighborhood], it was great, but it just seems to deteriorate year after year.”

She added of the proposed renovation, “It’s a great thing that’s going to happen, but my attitude is ‘wait-and-see.’”

Sam Levin contributed reporting.
news@columbiaspectator.com

MTA to open new station house, flower sculpture project at 96th

96TH STREET from front page

said, “You want to push that which you know and do different things. This was an opportunity to do something different.”

The current station is not currently handicap accessible, and requires commuters to walk down two flights of stairs from the street level and then up another flight to reach the platforms.

This inefficient up-and-down, and the accessibility issues, will be eliminated with the new design, said Andrew Albert, co-chair of the Community Board 7 transportation committee.

He said the new station’s more practical, accessible entrance points will help the flow of traffic.

In terms of aesthetics, he added, “I think it’s going to be beautiful ... There will be a lot of natural light.”

Albert added, “This was a station that cried out, because of the lack of handicap accessibility ... It’s a major transfer point.”

Neighborhood residents said they are ready for the station to open after dealing with the hassles of construction.

“It’s been a long three years. I can’t even remember when it started,” said Jon Sage, an Upper West Side resident who commutes from the station.

Large new developments in the area have been increasing the number of people who rely on the 96th Street station, said CB7 transportation committee member Paul Fischer.

“The MTA is forced to pay for the expansion of that subway station,” he said. But the crowds at rush hour show that there’s no question of its necessity, he said, adding, “We need it.”

The construction process did require shrinking the sidewalks on Broadway, which was concerning for some nearby businesses.

Emily Kaya, manager of F clothing store at Broadway and 95th, said, “I can tell that people are scared to walk around the



EMBRY OWEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DON'T ENTER | The 96th Street 1 train station is undergoing a massive reconstruction. The street is currently crowded with construction work, and inside the station restricted areas are blocked off to commuters as the MTA finishes its project to build a new station house.

sidewalks, and it’s dusty and noisy, and it’s not easy to breathe.”

Albert acknowledged that the sidewalk issue had been controversial, but said otherwise, he has only heard support for the project from local residents.

“We really haven’t gotten any complaints about this project. This is a neighborhood that speaks its mind. The fact that there have been little or no complaints really says something,” he said.

And some commuters insisted

that a new station would make their lives easier and bring more people to the area.

Khara Emmanuel, a saleswoman at Mandee, a clothing store on Broadway between 95th and 96th streets, said, “I’ve seen a lot of

progress, and it looks like it’s really coming together. ... We’re expecting a lot of business after the construction’s over.”

Sam Levin contributed reporting.
news@columbiaspectator.com



NAOMI ELLENSON FOR SPECTATOR

GOING GREEN | The 135th Street apartments in Central Harlem are becoming greener and more affordable.

Book Culture, University Bookstore compete

BOOK WARS from front page

said she has her students purchase textbooks from Book Culture, and wouldn’t have it any other way. “I believe in supporting independent bookstores, period,” she said.

Chris Doeblin, the owner of Book Culture, said that his store has an important role in Morningside Heights. “Having an independent bookstore adds a lot to the atmosphere of the college. Everyone recognizes ... that we’re an asset to the area,” he said.

Management from the Columbia Bookstore declined to comment.

English professor William Sharpe made the choice to go independent years ago. “I have always ordered my books at the non-CU bookstore, going back to BookForum in the 1970s,” he said.

Matthew Connelly, a professor of international and global history at Columbia, said he has no real negative feelings toward the chain, but still supports Book Culture. “I’m not against Barnes & Noble, but I think it’s more critical to support independent bookstores.”

But Elizabeth Bauer, who teaches neuroscience, said she prefers Barnes & Noble because it is convenient. “Once you set it up with them, they know what books you need every semester. They also send me e-mails to remind me,” she said. She also said that the Columbia Bookstore can estimate how many students are enrolled in the class and predict book quantities, which makes her job easier.

Justin Guilfoyle, CC ’10, said that Book Culture feels more accessible. “Book Culture is convenient. It’s right there and it’s reasonably priced,” he said.

And Connelly agreed that, ultimately, price is most important—even if the best deal lies outside of Morningside Heights.

“More and more students are buying from Amazon,” Connelly said. Danielle Rizzini, BC ’12, said she prefers to buy her textbooks online. “They’re much cheaper online, and I wouldn’t even think of going to the Columbia Bookstore.”

Rena Greenfield, GS, said of the local sellers, “They’re both really overpriced.”

James Basker, president of the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and a professor of English at Barnard, said that he sends students to the independent, because employees treat customers better there. “I want good service for my students. Years ago, when I first came to Barnard, we had really miserable service at Barnes & Noble ... I really haven’t ever felt like going back.”

Doeblin added, “Having only a university bookstore makes your university life indistinct. That’s the fundamental difference. We’re independent, we’re distinct, and we do things better.”

Book Culture builds a relationship with Columbia, he said. Emily Hill, an employee at Book Culture, said that professors who have recently authored books like to see their texts featured in the store. “A lot of them autograph their own work,” she said.

Some professors, though, simply use Book Culture as a diversion. Lytton Smith, a teaching assistant in the English Department, said, “I go to Book Culture for both work and play, and it is more fun.”

Elizabeth Scott contributed reporting.
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8	4	7	6	5	2	1	9	3
7	3	5	8	1	6	4	2	9
6	2	1	9	7	4	5	3	8
9	8	4	5	2	3	6	7	1
4	7	3	2	8	5	9	1	6
1	6	8	4	3	9	7	5	2
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14 Nobel Peace Prize winner
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16 Entre (between us)
17 Using a treadmill, e.g.
20 29-Down, for one
21 The Beatles' ".... Loser"
22 Relating to flight technology
23 Laurel and Getz
25 Medicine amount to take
26 Regional air travel brand since 1984
31 Either Bush, e.g.
32 Round-buyer's words
33 Baker's meas.
36 Leftover bits
37 "I don't think so!"
39 ".... boy!"
40 On the authority of
41 Friend
42 Vietnamese, e.g.
43 Aviator who said "the lure of flying is the lure of beauty"
47 Corp. heads
48 Hospital staffer
49 Beer unit
52 Former telecom giant
53 Former Pakistani president
56 Movie DVD special feature, perhaps
59 Encircle
60 Fiber-rich food
61 "Dog the Bounty Hunter" network, and a hint to the theme in this puzzle's four longest answers
62 Many MP-3 player batteries
63 Game with six colorful characters
64 Google alternative

2 Land O'Lakes product
3 Run out of gas
4 "I've got you now!"
5 Add insult to injury
6 Major or Minor tarot card group
7 So-so mark
8 Perla- plus one
9 Mr. Fuji statistic
10 Dweebish
11 Leaves for the holidays?
12 Sleeping girl in an Everly Brothers hit
13 "Hang on"
18 All-in-one Apple computer
19 Crest
23 Mmes., in Madrid
24 Kids' outdoor winter project
26 Resting on
27 Trilling
28 Old-time breaking news cry
29 Bambi's aunt
30 Actress Adams of "Enchanted"
34 Marquee name
35 Gasp

37 Org. with Senators and Capitals
38 Québecois's approval
39 Queens tennis stadium
41 Civil rights activist
42 Chávez
44 Bermuda rentals
45 University of Oregon city

46 Museo hangings
47 Eyelashes
49 The Star Wars films, e.g.
50 "Squawk Box" network
51 Bush advisor Rove
53 Brass component
54 Prefix with China
55 Awfully long time
57 Fraternity letter
58 Word before break or care

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

NANA	ROLO	ROLFE
OXEN	ABED	ALIEN
NEWT	ISEE	TAMED
MINNESOTA		
ABE	ABS	NUT
MIX	MOSES	MALONE
OTIS	WEB	STEPIN
ETCH	DOC	GENT
BEAUTY	OOP	ONEA
ANNIE	OAKLEY	SRI
EGG		
EGG	EGG	EGG
SHOOTING	STARS	
CORGI	ELLE	OAST
ALARM	WEAR	CMON
RENEE	SEWS	KENT

DOWN

1 Honeydew liquor

By Julian Lim
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02/09/10



LEFT AND BOTTOM RIGHT: XUELI WANG FOR SPECTATOR, TOP AND CENTER RIGHT: COURTESY OF NICK OBOURN

WHY SO SERIOUS? | David Foster Wallace’s “Infinite Jest” inspired the exhibit “A Failed Entertainment: Selections from the Filmography of James O. Incandena” at the LeRoy Neiman Center for Print Studies.

‘Jest’ reigns at LeRoy Neiman

BY SARA CLEMENTE
Columbia Daily Spectator

ART Often described as a work of hysterical realist genius, “Infinite Jest” by David Foster Wallace took readers by storm in early 1996. Now—almost 15 years after its publication—at Columbia’s LeRoy Neiman Gallery, “Infinite Jest” continues to challenge the idea of what a novel can do and what it can inspire.

In the novel, James O. Incandena is a recently deceased filmmaker. For the exhibit, titled “A Failed Entertainment: Selections from the Filmography of James O. Incandena,” artists and filmmakers created some of the shaping pieces of Incandena’s body of work. His film ‘Infinite Jest’ is a work so thought-provoking that its viewers supposedly no longer care for anything that occurs outside the film.

The atmosphere of the Neiman exhibit is sterile. The viewers first enter a white room with only two small works of visual art on the wall. Two screens play films—one is a standard

television and the other a projection onto the wall, an arrangement which distracts and mesmerizes the observers.

The audience is able to choose which film to watch, by turning a doorknob to the left or to the right. The ability to turn the knob freely provokes the visitors to question who decides what they are exposed to, and what it means to be able to choose what to see.

The screen shows one of 25 films from Incandena’s career as described in the novel. Many of them document aspects of everyday life—such as sex, drugs, war, loneliness, news, music, and discussion—but the content feels unfamiliar and surreal. Most of the films lack conversation between their subjects, and the only sounds are cacophonous sound effects. The subject’s face is frequently the main focus and emphasized by extreme close-ups. Thereby, the films stress the aspects which make an individual human, which is also a major theme of the novel that inspired the exhibit.

Apart from the films, the exhibit displays two paintings. An oil painting called “Referencing

the Original” by Van Hanos hangs on the wall perpendicular to the projected screen. The painting depicts Sierpinski’s Triangle, in which a finite number of symbols is presented within an infinite pattern. Only once the viewer gazes at the painting long enough does he realize that there is an absolute number of triangles within the one capacious triangle. In comparison to the films, the painting provokes a heavy feeling of insignificance.

The most thought-provoking aspect of the exhibition lies below the projected screen, in the form of a rough, wooden door with a lone, golden doorknob spinning evenly on it. The only light in the room is focused on it, entrancing its viewers. The doorknob spins without influence from the audience, evoking the question central to the exhibit—do people really chose what entertains them?

WHERE IT’S AT

Time: Runs through Feb. 19

Place: The Gallery at the LeRoy Neiman Center for Print Studies



Winter Restaurant Week goes Rouge in midtown

BY LAUREN LEPOW
Columbia Daily Spectator

FOOD & DRINK Few would expect that a three-course meal at a trendy, new restaurant with a shiny Michelin star could be as wholesome as a trip to Whole Foods.

From the moment the red velvet curtains blow open to the front door of Rouge Tomate (10 E. 60th Street between 5th and Madison avenues), the restaurant attempts to pamper its clients on every level. Though at full capacity on a Saturday night during Restaurant Week, Rouge Tomate seems spacious enough to maintain an appropriate level of quiet comfort.

Rouge Tomate’s philosophy revolves around an approach to food known as “Sanitas Per Escam,” or “Health Through Food,” that employs special gastronomic techniques intended to contribute to well-being. Both eco-minded and health-oriented Columbia students will be impressed by the local and seasonal ingredients which executive chef Jeremy Bearman and an in-house nutritionist prepare. Yet, the average customer would never know that his hearty meal was made with no butter and accounts for 40 percent of the recommended

daily nutrients.

Showcasing a nice diversity of dishes, ranging from risotto to flank steak, the menu never overwhelms but offers something for every taste and diet. The waiter happily explains the nutritional value of each dish, as well as the origins of the ingredients. The affordable wine list includes non-alcoholic fruit juices and uncommon treats, such as Brazilian wines and red-rice beer from Japan.

Meals begin with a whole wheat and sourdough breadbasket, served with a spreadable carrot purée in lieu of butter, and continue with a complimentary taste of warm, powerful parsnip soup to set the tone. To those who have a fear of exotic vegetables, this refreshing palate-cleanser tastes like a sweeter version of cream of potato soup. The Restaurant Week menu features three appetizers. The curried cauliflower apple has an unanticipated sweetness and kicks with the perfect kind of spice, leaving a lasting impression of chile oil without making one’s eyes water. The baby beet and mâche salad with ricotta delightfully showcases local produce.

The waiter asks if the trout, also from the Restaurant Week

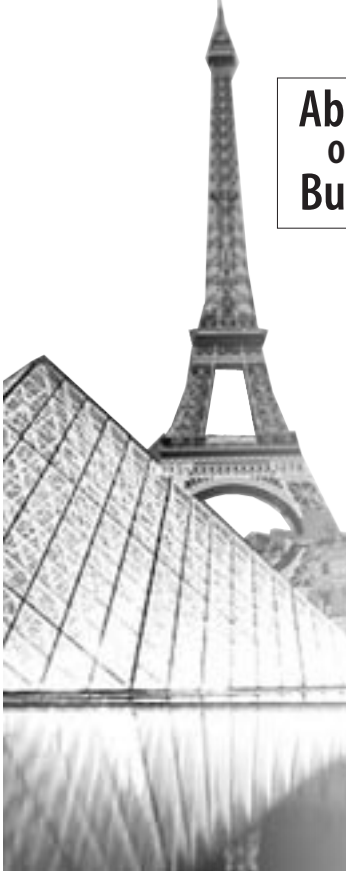
SEE ROUGE, page 6



COURTESY OF ROUGE TOMATE

TOMATO, TOMATE | With Restaurant Week’s extension, students can enjoy tasty and healthy eats at a reasonable rate at Rouge Tomate.

Getting schooled by free wine in the city of lights



Abroad on a Budget

BY JULIA HALPERIN
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

There are few things more exciting for a college student on a budget than school-sponsored drinking.

At Reid Hall, Columbia’s campus in Paris, the options are both far classier and far more educational than Lerner Pub.

It didn’t take long to discover that cocktails in Paris, particularly in the more centrally located (read: touristy) neighborhoods, are a relatively unaffordable extravagance. After a few drinks, it’s tempting to ignore the exchange rate and convince oneself that spending 10 euros on a mojito isn’t that different from spending \$10. The unfortunate truth, however, is that it is, and that \$10 is too much to spend on a cocktail anyway.

But, fortunately for me and many other strapped-for-

cash students, Reid Hall has incorporated enough booze into its free extracurricular activities to satisfy even the thirstiest of foreigners.

Indeed, three out of four of the program activities I’ve participated in have involved multiple glasses of wine or champagne. The Reid Hall sponsored wine tasting—complete with rosé champagne, chardonnay, cabernet sauvignon, merlot, and accompanying cheese pairings—was perhaps the most obvious way to gain access to free drinks.

But our day trip to Reims, a small city two hours outside of Paris that is home to the medieval Cathedral of Reims, also concluded with a tour of and champagne tasting at the Pommery Winery.

At the end of our atelier cuisine—French for “cooking class”—we indulged not only in a homemade zucchini and goat cheese tart, Basque

chicken, and crème brûlée, but also had a bottle of wine with dinner and boxed sangria while we waited for the chicken to cook.

(The fourth activity, a conversation exchange between French students from the Sorbonne and Reid Hall students, could have incorporated alcohol as well, I suppose, but seeing as it took place at one in the afternoon in between classes, Coke and chips were probably a better choice than wine and cheese.)

As these are school-sponsored activities, Reid Hall made an effort to make the drinking educational. We learned about the long and complicated process of making champagne in the caves at Pommery Winery, and I came out of the dégustation du vin with various fun facts that actually make shopping for a bottle of wine at the grocery store a bit easier.

SEE WINE, page 7

Hansen takes temperature of climate policy with book

BY CLAIRE FU
Spectator Staff Writer

BOOKS Green is the new black.

In “Storms of My Grandchildren: The Truth About the Coming Climate Catastrophe and Our Last Chance to Save Humanity,” James Hansen writes of global warming and its perilous consequences, urging the public to take heed before it’s too late.

As adjunct professor at Columbia’s Earth Institute and director of the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies, Hansen brought attention to global warming when he testified before Congress about climate change in the ‘80s. Since then, he has been known as the “grandfather of global warming” and has conducted extensive research on climate change.

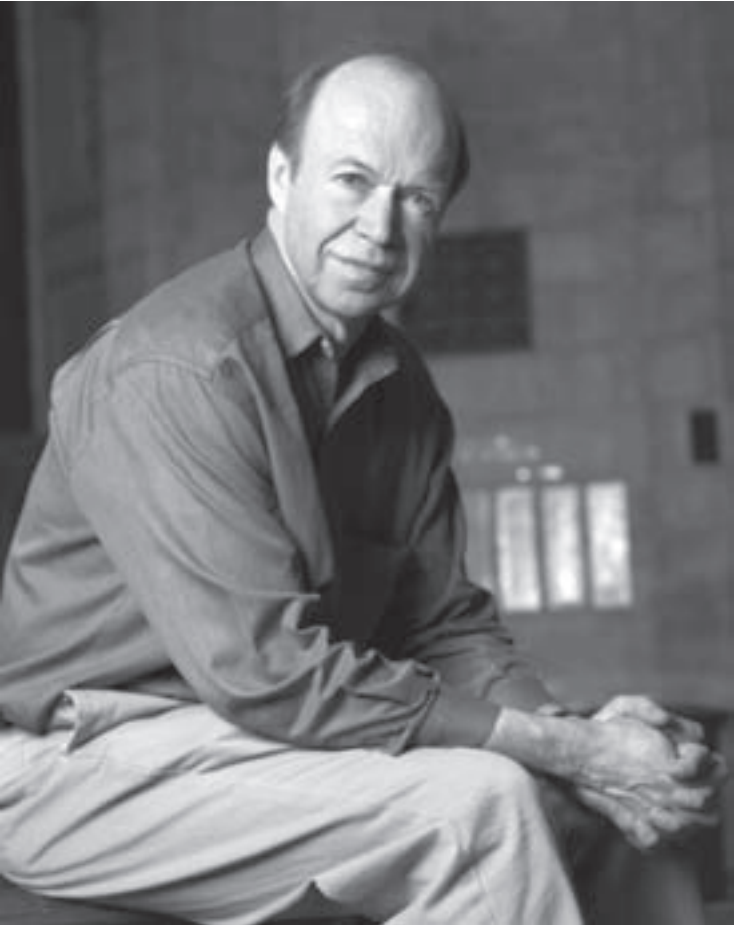
“It’s not a pretty picture for my children and grandchildren,” Hansen said, alluding to the title of the book. Hansen emphasizes

the urgency of global warming and its devastating environmental effects on future generations. Through informative graphs and personal anecdotes, “Storms of My Grandchildren” provides accessible scientific explanations on the dynamics of climate change.

Currently, the atmospheric carbon dioxide amount is reaching 390 parts per million, while an amount of 350 ppm is needed to restore the planet’s energy balance. “We’re coming pretty darn close,” Hansen said, when asked if he could predict the tipping point.

The earth is reaching the point of no return, Hansen believes. The growing intensity of droughts and heat waves also heralds heavier rains and storms, signifying an increase of both extremes through global warming. While the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere rises at a natural rate of 0.0001 ppm/year, the human-produced rate is two ppm/year.

SEE HANSEN, page 7



COURTESY OF JAMES HANSEN

EARTH ADVOCATE | The Earth Institute’s James Hansen warns against global warming in his new book “Storms of My Grandchildren.”

For more on men's basketball, check tomorrow's paper to find out how star Noruwa Agho can't go it alone if Columbia hopes to turn things around.

TOMORROW



SPORTS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2010 • PAGE 8



Sophomore Noruwa Agho has been a force to reckon with this year for the Lions. See tomorrow's paper for more on Columbia's leading scorer.

TOMORROW

Lions grapple with religion, sports



LISA LEWIS
That's What She Said

As sons, daughters, and students, we constantly feel like we're being pulled in one hundred different directions. Everyone wants us to be something, and more often than we'd like, those visions of our future tend to conflict. Sometimes we try so hard to reconcile those conflicting images of who we are expected to be, with who we want to be.

For religious athletes, this conflict happens in Division I proportions. In the Mormon faith, there's a social norm that young men will go on a mission for the church during college. It's a two-year commitment to missionary work, service, and very little physical activity. These athletes suddenly become a recruiting liability, and understandably so—coaches have limited resources and time to spend on their athletes, and their jobs depend on getting athletes that they can count on to perform and win.

"It's definitely something we need to think deeply about—as a coach, nobody wants anyone to take a two-year break—so a lot of it depends on what our needs are," said Columbia wrestling head coach Brendan Buckley. "Sometimes it can influence how much we recruit that person, because we may need that weight class really bad and may not have people in that weight class waiting in the wings to step up."

For Kevin Lester, a sophomore wrestler at Columbia and a Mormon, there was another layer of conflicting interests—he was a multi-sport athlete in high school, and was even recruited to Boise State to play football, but his dad was his high school wrestling coach.

"I started [wrestling] when I was eight, with summer leagues, and as I got into high school it got more serious and more competitive. With my dad there, I knew it was going to be something big in my life."

Kevin was very lucky that through his athletic career there was often someone else to fight the first battle for him, to set a precedent so that he could make his own decisions and feel the freedom to follow his own path. In high school, that battle was fought by his brother. As a multi-sport athlete himself, he and their father had a conflictual relationship because their dad had expected that the older Lester would go into wrestling in college. He instead chose football. He played, and left midway through his college career to do his mission. "When my brother left and came back," Kevin said, "he didn't have the desire to come back and play." Add another layer of complexity to the situation: what if Kevin came back from his mission and decided that wrestling didn't have a place in his life anymore?

"I have other friends who wrestle at other schools, and their coaches said that if they leave, not to expect to come back," he said. "I owed that loyalty to the coaches here."

Fortunately, the coaching staff at Columbia is not inexperienced with Mormon wrestlers. Alum Dustin Tillman paved the way years earlier. Tillman went on his mission after his sophomore year at Columbia and came back after two years to face an ugly reality—he had lost a huge portion of the physical abilities that he'd worked so hard to gain during high school and college. Buckley talked about the realities of the transition from athlete to missionary to athlete: "It's hard work on a mission. It's not like they have a lot of free time. The hardest part [upon returning] is getting your timing down—not even the cardiovascular shape, but getting back into sync."

Despite the drawbacks for the team chemistry and makeup of losing an athlete for two seasons, there was an upside: when both Tillman and Lester came back, they brought a

SEE LEWIS, page 7



ANGELA RADULESCU / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SOLVED | Both Yale and Brown found the answer for Columbia's trademark full-court pressure over the weekend.

SEE IN FOCUS, page 7

Princeton still perfect in Ivy League play as showdown with Columbia looms

BY MIKEY ZHONG
Spectator Staff Writer

The landscape for women's basketball around the league changed considerably last week. Princeton (17-2, 5-0 Ivy) swept its weekend matches against Harvard and Dartmouth to extend its impressive winning streak to 12 games. The Tigers (11-7, 3-2 Ivy) flattened the Crimson by a score of 73-54 and snapped a six-game losing streak to the Crimson in the process.

Harvard had no answer for Princeton freshman forward Niveen Rasheed, who scored 15 points,

grabbed 15 rebounds, and even had five assists in an effort which could have cemented her position as the frontrunner for the Ivy League Rookie of the Year. Shooter Addie Micir also made solid contributions, scoring 16 points and scoring six rebounds.

Perhaps even more impressively, the Princeton defense held the second-place Crimson offense to 29 percent shooting in the first half, which helped give Princeton a 34-23 halftime lead. Princeton did not relinquish this advantage and ended up knotting a huge win against one of the main contenders for the Ancient Eight title.

The next day, Princeton played against the reigning

SEE AROUND THE LEAGUE, page 7



ANGELA RADULESCU / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ON DECK | With Princeton perfect in the Ivies, the stakes will be high when the Tigers visit the Light Blue.

Light Blue defense falters

Strong offensive performances overshadowed

BY SARAH SOMMER
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

In its two games this past weekend, the Columbia women's basketball team displayed a powerful and balanced offense. The Lions (13-7, 4-2 Ivy) scored 65 points against Brown and 74 points against Yale. Three Columbia players scored in double-figures against the Bears, while four hit double digits against the Bulldogs.






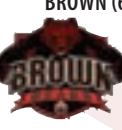


But the Lions still struggled, in large part due to ineffective defenses. While Columbia finished the road trip with a win over Brown and a loss to Yale, the Lions came close to suffering two defeats over the weekend.

Against Brown, Columbia trailed by nine points in the first half. A 3-pointer by senior guard Sara Yee with 32 seconds left in the period gave the Lions a 34-33 lead at the intermission, but Brown freshman guard Lindsay Nickel put the Bears back on top early in the second half with a trey of her own.

Columbia took a 41-36 lead with 15:13 remaining, but Brown tied the game at 45-45 with 10:28 to play. While the Lions led 57-49 after Yee made a trey with just 4:47 left, Columbia had to fight to the finish. Brown used a 9-0 run to take a one-point lead, keeping the game competitive down the stretch. But junior forward Judie Lomax and senior guard



In Focus

Rank	Ivy Power Rankings	Last Week
1	PRINCETON (17-2 5-0 IVY)  The Tigers remained undefeated this weekend after beating Harvard and Dartmouth on the road.	1
2	COLUMBIA (13-7, 4-2 IVY)  After losing a tough game to Yale, Columbia shares the second place spot with a big game against Princeton coming up on Friday.	2
2	YALE (9-11, 4-2 IVY)  The Bulldogs moved up the rankings this weekend with big road victories over Cornell and Columbia.	5
4	HARVARD (12-7, 3-2 IVY)  Harvard split a pair of games this weekend, but will look to move up the rankings after next weekend's two home contests.	3
4	DARTMOUTH (8-11, 3-2 IVY)  Like the Crimson, the Big Green split a pair of games, keeping them stuck in the middle of the pack.	3
6	BROWN (6-14, 3-3 IVY)  Brown was unable to get about .500 this past weekend, splitting games against Columbia and Cornell.	5
7	PENN (1-18, 0-5 IVY)  Two more losses this weekend means Penn is still searching for its second win of the season and its first in Ivy play.	7
8	CORNELL (5-16, 0-6 IVY)  Cornell maintains its spot in the Ivy cellar after losing both of its home games to Yale and Brown.	8

What to Watch

The editors' picks for the week ahead

COLUMBIA:

Columbia vs. Princeton, Friday, Feb. 12, 7 p.m., New York, NY

The women's basketball team hosts Ivy rival Princeton this weekend. Princeton, undefeated in league play, is coming off of two big wins over Harvard and Dartmouth.

NEW YORK:

Kings vs. Knicks, Tuesday, Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m., New York, NY

Tyreke Evans and the Sacramento Kings will face the New York Knicks tomorrow at Madison Square Garden in a matchup of young and talented squads.

NATIONAL:

Olympics, Friday, Feb. 13, 12:45 p.m., Vancouver, Canada

The 2010 Winter Olympics begin this weekend and last until Feb. 28. Ski jumping, alpine skiing, and ice hockey are the first three events scheduled on Saturday.