

## Columbia professor and alum confirmed as federal judge

### Celebrated and ‘thoughtful’ Greenaway approved to fill long-vacant New Jersey seat

BY ELIZABETH SCOTT  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

Professor Joseph Greenaway, Jr., CC ’78, was confirmed Tuesday as a federal judge in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in a unanimous Senate decision. Judge Greenaway is an adjunct professor of English and comparative literature at Columbia and taught a seminar on the history of the Supreme Court in the American studies department this fall.

Greenaway was nominated by President Barack Obama in June and approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee on Oct. 1, but without a final confirmatory vote from the Republican Party, his confirmation was stalled. On Tuesday, he was confirmed by the Senate with 84 yeas and 0 nays to fill a seat that has been empty for almost four years. Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito previously held the seat. Greenaway was formerly on the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey.

Brittani Kirkpatrick, a teaching assistant for Greenaway’s Supreme Court seminar, says that Greenaway’s dedication to his students will be something that will make his tenure as judge unique. Kirkpatrick says she considers him a mentor. She has been working with him for over a year, and has also interned with him. “He really tries to reach out and be there for the students and that is something that is very special,” she said.

Greenaway is also an adjunct

professor at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in Manhattan, where he teaches a seminar on the Supreme Court and a trial practice course.

Kirkpatrick notes his passion for teaching. “It’ll be great to see him continue to give back, he’s invested in giving back to students and going to schools to teach students and spread his love of the law and the topics he teaches,” she said.

In 1997, Greenaway was the recipient of the Columbia University Medal of Excellence

and in 2003 received the John Jay Award. He also delivered Columbia College’s Class Day speech at the Class of ’98’s commencement ceremony.

According to Kirkpatrick, Greenaway’s thoughtful nature will prove to be an asset on the Circuit. “He’s a very thoughtful person about the law. He takes the time to really consider the issues and really unpack the research. ... I think there’s a lot on the horizon.”

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**YOUR HONOR** | Professor Joseph Greenaway now holds the seat vacated by Justice Samuel Alito.

## Harlem gears up for retail week

BY NICHOLAS BLOOM  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

Now that New York City’s Restaurant Week has ended, businesses in Harlem are gearing up for a similar event specific to their neighborhood.

The first ever Harlem Restaurant and Retail Week will begin Feb. 15 and last until March 15. It will feature \$20.10 prix fixe meals from participating restaurants and \$20.10 specials at various stores ranging from bakeries to bike shops.

The event, which will last one month, is the third major initiative put on by Harlem Park to Park, a merchant association formed in September 2009. Nikoa Evans-Hendricks, one of the association’s founders and owner of N Boutique, said that the idea for the event came from what she perceived to be New York City Restaurant Week’s snubbing of Harlem.

“I think you can count the number of Harlem restaurants in New York City’s Restaurant Week on your fingers,” she said. “So we decided to create our own.”

Evans-Hendricks said that the Harlem week will largely follow the model of the citywide Restaurant Week, except that dinners will be \$20.10 as opposed to \$35, to reflect varying average prices in the areas.

But Evans-Hendricks said the goals for the week go beyond mimicking the upscale culture of other parts of the city. These plans, she said, figure into a broader re-defining of the area.

“When people think about Harlem, they tend to think ‘soul food and church,’” she said. “We want to show that Harlem is actually filled with really young, hip, progressive residents and businesses. People tend to think of Harlem as just a place to live—we’re trying to market ourselves here as an alternative means of entertainment to downtown.”

Participants acknowledged that any publicity is good for business. “We want to give people a value, so that they can see the changes in Harlem that are going on,” said Brian Washington-Palmer, the owner of Native restaurant on Lenox Avenue and 118th Street, which will participate in Restaurant Week. “I hope all the newer people in the neighborhood will begin to discover us.”

Paula Coleman, the director of the Renaissance Fine Art gallery and a member of Park to Park, said that there is something of a divide. “I think it’s mainly the newer restaurants that are participating in this event. I know a lot of the restaurants on 116th Street, the West African restaurants, aren’t involved, probably



ANTHONY YIM FOR SPECTATOR



JOSE GIRALT FOR SPECTATOR



JOSE GIRALT FOR SPECTATOR

**SNOW DAY** | With classes canceled for the afternoon, students took to sledding their way across the frozen campus. Columbia’s Ski and Snowboard Club held an impromptu meeting on Low Steps, where they packed on snow for a jump. See page 2 for more.

## Students celebrate first snow day in more than five years

BY LEAH GREENBAUM  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

On any other Wednesday afternoon, Micha Thompson, BC ’13, would have been hunched over lecture notes in class, but yesterday she spent the afternoon with friends, skidding down Low Steps on a wood plank.

“It’s so exhilarating!” she said. “It goes so fast.”

Yesterday, in the midst of the city’s blizzard, Columbia canceled all classes and activities following 3 p.m. for the first time since 2003.

While some professors decided to hold class regardless of the severe weather alert that left many commuters stranded, most followed the University’s recommendation

or taught to near-empty classrooms.

Thompson said she hadn’t heard from her professor yet about whether class would be held.

“I have a class at four, so I don’t know if my professor’s gonna go, but I can assure you none of us will be there,” she said, gesturing to the hordes of students pitching snowballs across College Walk.

A few feet away on Low Steps, about 15 members of Columbia’s Ski and Snowboard Club began packing snow onto the steps—skis, old lift tickets pinned to their jackets, and all.

Raphael Graybill, CC ’10 and the club’s president, said they were building a jump.

“This is a Ski and Snowboard tradition that the War on Fun

thwarted last year, but we’ve been doing this a long time and we actually have a lot of snow this year,” he said.

Last year Public Safety had asked the club to move off campus, so they built their lift in Riverside Park, member Brianna Morgan, CC ’12, said. She said that is this year’s back-up plan if they meet with resistance from the university again.

“The University’s closed, so there’s no one we can really petition to,” Graybill said jokingly.

Eliot Wycoff, SEAS ’11, said he spent the afternoon building an eight-foot snow tower on College Walk with other students after he heard his 5:40 class was canceled.

“At first I wasn’t so excited that class was canceled,

because I have a lot of studying to do for exams next week, but getting out and playing in the snow has changed my mind,” he said, before running off to pitch a snowball at a friend across the Sundial.

Despite the merriment outdoors, Butler was bustling yesterday afternoon.

Snowball fights and sledding didn’t stop Tanya Braun, CC ’12, from keeping her usual study hours in Butler.

“I’m just catching up on work, I guess,” she said, adding that even though she wasn’t interested in playing in the snow, she was glad classes were canceled.

Columbia and Barnard classes are back on for Thursday

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#### Resolving unrequited love in the digital age

In time for Valentine’s Day, the new website Columbia GoodCrush asks students to submit the names of their campus crushes to the online database and matches them up when their crush likes them back.



#### Sports, back page

#### Schneider, Spear represent CU at worlds

The Lions sent two athletes off to France and Hungary this past weekend to compete in the fencing World Cup. The duo will take off yet again next weekend, jetting to Moscow to represent Columbia and the U.S. in the Grand Prix.

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#### Isn’t she lovely?

Hillary Busis contemplates what will change and what will stay the same in American pageants.

#### But fear itself

When it comes to joining clubs, you must do the thing you think you cannot do.

#### Today’s Events

#### Chowdah Valentine’s Day

Join the sketch comedy troupe for their V-day Sextravaganza.  
Lerner Black Box, 8 and 10 p.m.

#### Obama Era Discussion

The International Socialist Organization wants to bring change.  
405 Kent, 7:30 p.m.

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#### WEATHER



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PATRICK YUAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



JOSE GIRALT FOR SPECTATOR

School was out Wednesday afternoon as a blanket of snow sent students sledding, skiing, and building snowmen across Columbia’s campus. Spectator photographers documented the festivities.



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CORRECTION

Due to several serious mistakes made when quoting subjects in Wednesday’s story “Chowdah gets sex-travagant for V-Day,” and questions regarding its veracity as a whole, the online version of the article has been taken down. Spectator regrets the error and is working towards a revised story.



# ‘Vagina Monologues’ opens up gender discussion on campus

BY ISHANI MITRA  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

**THEATER** While the name is indeed unusual and may even be a turnoff for some people, “The Vagina Monologues”

by Eve Ensler is one of the most performed plays on college campuses, mainly due to how it addresses pertinent modern-day gender issues. As such, each year a crew of Columbia and Barnard thespians present the play.

The show tackles a number of women’s issues through a series of monologues designed to celebrate the vagina and, on a deeper level, what it means to be a woman, which makes the play a landmark within the feminist art world.

“In the society we live in, I think there is a lot of shame associated with being a woman and having sexual pleasure, with talking about our vaginas, with accepting and loving our bodies,” Kimberly Mackenzie, the producer of the production, said. “Despite all the leaps and bounds feminism has made for women’s rights, we still have a culture that isn’t comfortable with women’s enjoyment and pleasure for their own sake.”

Such discomfort justifies how often the show is performed around the country, though some schools are not as open to the monologues as others. “The monologues didn’t really happen in my undergraduate college, and I knew when I came to Columbia, I wanted to get involved,” Mackenzie, a Columbia graduate student, said.

As the title suggests, it can get graphic. One monologue depicts the

comic orgasmic moans—the “triple orgasm,” to be specific—of a dominatrix, while others describe horrific rape scenes that are based on true stories.

Colette McIntyre, BC ’12, who plays a southern lesbian in the production, said, “It will make people feel uncomfortable, since we are talking about genitalia in front of a large audience. But it will also engage them in conversation. We are lucky to live in an environment where people do listen and take these issues seriously.”

But this particular production is not just about starting conversations. Since a huge portion of the play deals with sexual violence, the proceeds from ticket sales will go to the Center for Anti-Violence Education. “The play is definitely about combating sexual violence against women while also celebrating them,” director Gita Deo, BC ’12, said.

Another aspect that sets this production apart from those of other years is the involvement of Barnard President Debora Spar, who will introduce the Sunday performance.

“I saw the play last year for the first time and was extremely impressed with the acting,” Spar said. “I think it tackles a lot of issues that are important to address in our community.”

WHERE IT’S AT

Time: Friday, Feb. 12 and Saturday, Feb. 13 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 14 at 3:30 p.m.  
Place: Roone Arledge Auditorium  
Cost: \$7 with CUID



JACK ZIETMAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
**V-DAY** | The 12th annual performance of Eve Ensler’s “The Vagina Monologues” is coming to Roone Arledge Auditorium Valentine’s Day weekend. Barnard President Debora Spar will introduce the Sunday afternoon performance.

## First-year Postcrypt veteran brings back the folk

BY ISMAEL GARCIA  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

**MUSIC** Out of a crowd of first-years, one wouldn’t expect to find a 19-year-old with the musical talent of a 40-year-old man. Yet, among the 2,496 first-years, one voice sings with a wealth of ages most artists can’t seem to find.

Anthony da Costa, CC ’13, will be taking his folk stylings to Postcrypt Coffeehouse in the basement of Saint Paul’s Chapel this Saturday, Feb. 13. Da Costa, a John Jay resident and potential music major, has been performing at Postcrypt since before he was accepted to Columbia.

Da Costa’s musical roots reach back into his childhood. He started singing at age three and playing guitar at age 10. “I grew up with music my whole life. My mom always walked around the house singing, while my dad played music all the time. I heard everything from Elvis Presley to Joni Mitchell,” da Costa said.

Da Costa cited greats such as Bob Dylan and Neil Young as influences, but also confessed to listening to the Backstreet Boys. “Black and Blue” was a great album,” he said. Da Costa also mentioned other influences in his music, artists like Ryan Adams and the late Elliott Smith. But he also said that he found musical inspiration in some unexpected places.

Da Costa stressed the importance of writing down what he experiences and mentioned friends, family, and day-to-day interactions as songwriting inspiration. When asked if unrequited love was the catalyst for any of his works, da Costa jokingly said, “No comment.”

Da Costa, who hails from Westchester, N.Y., cited Postcrypt as one of his favorite venues. “It has such a long history and it’s one of the first places I played at,” da Costa said. “I try to play every month, and it’s a great place to perform.”



NOMI ELLENSON / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
**WHAT THE FOLK** | Musician Anthony da Costa, CC ’13, played Postcrypt Coffeehouse since before he was a student, and returns to the venue on Saturday.

It may be surprising that da Costa chose Columbia over a career in music. His decision wasn’t based solely on the school’s academic merits.

“I applied to a bunch of musical schools, and I got in. But what I would experience at a music school and what I wanted to experience at Columbia University are two totally different things,” he said. “Columbia is a huge melting pot with differing views, but with the same general objective: learning, growing, and appreciating life. That’s what I wanted.”

Da Costa mentioned majoring in music management or another music-

oriented major, but when asked about where he saw himself in 20 years, he said that musicians “hope to have huge sell-out concerts with millions of fans, but I just want to keep on playing and enjoying music, and hopefully all the other stuff follows.”

WHERE IT’S AT

Time: Saturday, Feb. 13 at 8:30 p.m.  
Place: Postcrypt Coffeehouse, basement of St. Paul’s Chapel  
Cost: Free

## Bistro Ten 18 brings New Orleans spice to Morningside for Mardi Gras

BY JASON BELL  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

**FOOD & DRINK** Beyond beads and tawdry parades, Mardi Gras offers an opportunity to sample the best of New Orleans-style fare.

Luckily for Creole and Cajun aficionados, Mardi Gras makes an early appearance at Bistro Ten 18 (110th Street and Amsterdam Avenue) from Feb. 11 to Feb. 16. Featuring a menu of “Mardi Gras specialties” in the days leading up to the holiday, Bistro Ten 18 serves authentic dishes that satisfy, if not astound.

Typically highlighting dark flavors and subtle spice, New Orleans cooking merges French culinary techniques with a pastiche of regional Louisiana ingredients and foodways. In particular, seafood, rice, and rich, butter-based sauces characterize this portmanteau cuisine. Ultimately, the predominance of thick broths and stews translates into heavy food, which is especially appropriate for the winter months.

Every night during Bistro Ten 18’s Mardi Gras Celebration, the restaurant will present a chicken, shrimp, and sausage gumbo. Replete with tender shreds of chicken and cubes of andouille sausage, the smoky, salty broth hits the diner somewhere deep in the gullet.



JASON BELL FOR SPECTATOR  
**MARDI GRACIAS?** | Bistro Ten 18 is offering a special menu for Mardi Gras that makes it a standout from other local destinations.

Unfortunately, the few shrimp gasping for air on the soup’s surface merely fall apart under pressure, texturally inconsequential in the hearty mixture of rice and protein. Not surprisingly, the shrimp’s sweet flavor disappears under the gumbo’s succulent heat, a regrettable symptom of cooking the crustaceans for too long in the gumbo itself. Even the

faint murmur of filé powder, ground saffras leaves essential to any bona fide gumbo, plays too quietly next to the sausage’s aggressive roar.

On Thursday, Feb. 11, Bistro Ten 18 will prepare a shrimp étouffée special—shrimp smothered with Cajun-style seafood sauce. Here, the use of dark roux, a thickening agent crafted from browned

## GoodCrush gives CU dating scene a digital kick in the butt

BY ALLISON MALECHA  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

**STYLE** Still without someone to share a box of overpriced chocolate with on Valentine’s Day?

GoodCrush, a college matchmaking website, is coming to the average Columbian’s rescue.

Just in time for Valentine’s, Jonah Liben, GS/JTS ’11, launched the Columbia chapter of GoodCrush on Sunday. Liben said, “It’s a cute throw-back to middle school pre-Valentine’s Day romance, reappearing in the form of a social-networking site.” Not his “normal extracurricular activity,” Liben got involved through a brother at the fraternity Alpha Epsilon Pi who went to high school with the site’s founder, Josh Weinstein, Princeton ’09.

The Columbia/Barnard GoodCrush extension—at <http://columbia.goodcrush.com>—directs the user to a page of utopian blue that features an adolescent cartoon guy and girl in front of a red country schoolhouse.

The process is simple: Students enter their names, UNIs, and the UNIs of up to five crushes, and an anonymous connection is instantly made with an email to the crushes’ CubMail accounts.

Whether it turns into a love connection is up to the crush. The hope is that each person who is “crushed on” will then sign up for GoodCrush. With any luck, one (or more) of the crushes will align. Then, an email is sent to both parties revealing the name of the other person. The rest is in their hands.

Liben’s roommate has already made a connection. “They knew each other, so they kind of figured they would do it, but there was a chance they might not [get together otherwise].”

Weinstein started GoodCrush in 2007 as a student government experiment. Almost overnight, a quarter of the student body signed up with crushes. Since then, chapters have been created at colleges along both coasts. Ironically, Princeton is not even listed among the site’s top 5 “most crushed schools,” which is instead topped by Yale, University of Pennsylvania, and Oberlin.

Piggybacking on the main mode of crush-stalking, Liben also created a “Columbia GoodCrush” Facebook page. The page, which has over 80 members, has direct links to the GoodCrush website and the Columbia Directory.

Another feature of the GoodCrush website is the “Top 10,” which offers an ego boost to whoever garners a Top 10 crushed-on position. Sadly, Columbia is still 73 sign-ups short of being allowed a Top 10.

Another tab called “Missed Connections” offers random posts, like “Butler 209: I love our matching red scarves ... maybe we match in other ways,” from a male seeking a female. Oh, how Butler always manages to cultivate love.

Liben pointed out one of the site’s potential drawbacks. “People ask, ‘What if I do it seriously and someone else doesn’t?’ But that’s a risk that I’m willing to take for a match.”

For those interested in more than just matching UNIs, there is a Columbia launch party on Thursday at 9:30 p.m. at Gallery Bar (120 Orchard St. at Delancey). While GoodCrush may not incur a wave of true love across campus, if the site catches on here as much as it has elsewhere, there might be fewer dateless singles come Valentine’s Day next year.

Bistro Ten 18’s étouffée—pleasant pepper quickly devolves into bitterness on the palate, battling against the superbly cooked shrimp for dominance.

Dessert seems reason enough to visit this eatery during Mardi Gras. Sweet potato pecan pie served with a Grand Marnier chantilly cream and caramel sauce feels rustic and wholly pleasurable. Supremely flaky and perfectly baked pie crust, unexpectedly light filling, and meaty pecans play a jazzy funeral march for the end of a Mardi Gras meal. And the whipped cream’s distantly alcoholic vapor only cries out to the already stuffed diner for one more bite.

Inside Bistro Ten 18’s candle-lit cloisters, diners yearning for a classier Mardi Gras than that provided by the stereotypical college experience will find solace. One might find this generic restaurant space while wandering the streets of Paris in winter or in New Orleans’ French Quarter. But with the food so easily standing above other neighborhood establishments in Morningside, savvy diners will spend their bead money within this restaurant’s gracious walls.

WHERE IT’S AT

Time: Feb. 11 through Feb. 16  
Place: Bistro Ten 18, 110th Street and Amsterdam Avenue



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# America’s Next Top Miss America

HILLARY BUSIS  
**And Another Thing**

I love Olympic figure skating and “America’s Next Top Model” more than almost anything, chiefly because watching each of them helps to satisfy two of my most basic impulses: the desire to look at pretty things and the desire to judge other people.

But since the women’s short programs won’t air on NBC until Feb. 23 and the 14th (!) season of Tyra Banks’s masterpiece doesn’t premiere until March 10, skinny ladies prancing around in silly costumes have been regrettably absent from my TV screen lately. (I suspect that this might not be so if I could bring myself to watch “The Bachelor.” Fortunately, I do have some standards.)

I tried to fill the void this weekend with another, more overtly shallow competition: the 2010 Miss America pageant. The contest actually aired on Jan. 30, but thanks to the magic of the Internet, I had no trouble tracking it down a week later—and thanks to the pageant’s near-total irrelevance, I had no idea going in which contestant would eventually be awarded the iconic crown and sash.

Though 85 million people saw Nancy Fleming of Michigan win Miss America in 1961, only 4.5 million watched former Miss Virginia Caressa Cameron snag the same title 50 years later. By comparison, “The O’Reilly Factor” attracted 4.8 million viewers on Jan. 28. The one-two punch of feminism and a more diverse entertainment landscape have conspired to make the modern-day Miss America pageant nothing but a sparkly shadow of its former self.

The show’s producers are aware that their once mighty franchise is rapidly becoming as obsolete as bloomers and bathing costumes. So they’ve done their best to inject some life into the pageant, chiefly by trying to make it less like an old-fashioned beauty contest and more like an example of the most popular genre on television: a reality show.

While Miss America once aired on network TV, its current home is TLC, the cable channel best known for unscripted, rhyming fare like “Say Yes to the Dress” and “Jon & Kate Plus 8.” In 2008, the first year TLC broadcast the pageant, the channel premiered a new series called “Miss America: Reality Check,” in which the 51 contestants lived together in a mansion and competed in challenges for fabulous prizes. Sound familiar?

That program wasn’t renewed, but this year’s “Miss America” broadcast was still rife with connections to reality shows. Mario Lopez took a break from overseeing the antics on “America’s Best

Dance Crew” to host the pageant for the third time. In a shameless bit of cross-promotion, Clinton Kelly, co-host of TLC’s “What Not to Wear,” made appearances as a “special correspondent.”

Two of the pageant’s seven judges had ties to reality TV as well: Shawn Johnson, Olympic gold medalist and “Dancing with the Stars” champion, and Brooke White, a finalist on season seven of “American Idol.” Rush Limbaugh was also a judge. I’m not sure what this might prove, except that whoever staffed the show should be fired immediately.

Those judges selected 11 semifinalists at the very beginning of the telecast, right after each state pageant-winner introduced herself with a quirky quip. (Said Miss Alaska: “Born and raised in America’s snow globe—and no, I can’t see Russia from my house!”) TLC invited viewers to choose three more semifinalists by voting online for their favorites. The show’s producers further complicated the selection process when Lopez announced that the contestants would pick the 15th contender by voting amongst themselves, live, onstage. Cue commercial break. The girls acted shocked when they heard about this twist, but anyone who follows “Project Runway” or “Survivor” could have seen it coming from miles away.

By the end of the first act, though, Miss America’s resemblance to unscripted series faded—and only then did the pageant actually get interesting. As I watched the contestants unironically parade in their swimwear and perform their meager talents with gusto—two sang Puccini, one danced to a song from the musical “Legally Blonde”—I found myself grinning. They were so utterly earnest, like every wannabe Miss America who had come before them, and unlike their cynical counterparts competing on reality shows.

In the end, the most appealing thing about Miss America is its timelessness: The evening gowns will always be gaudy, the girls’ interview answers will always be corny, and the moment when Miss America is finally crowned will always be surprisingly affecting. Messing with that formula may not ruin the integrity of the pageant, but it does make the competition much more generic.

If they want to attract more viewers, the pageant’s overseers should consider embracing the retro nature of their product instead of trying to make it resemble “Rock of Love Bus.” The innocence at Miss America’s core is what truly makes it appealing to viewers like me. At least, unless it airs opposite a “Top Model” marathon.

Hillary Busis is a Columbia College senior majoring in English and history. She is the former managing arts editor of *The Eye*. And Another Thing runs alternate Thursdays. [opinion@columbiaspectator.com](#)

# Testing waters: On leaving your niche at CU

BY BELINDA ARCHIBONG

I have never been afraid of the unknown, which is why my first clear memory involves a near drowning experience at the age of five. It’s a vivid memory, so clear—I can see myself run toward the white foam on the waves, feel the bite of water at my ankles, taste the salt forcing its way down my throat and recall the exhilaration drowning my senses even as the water slams down my eyelids and clogs my nostrils, drowning my body. I even remember myself coming to with hands pushing down on my chest, the anxious face of my mother hovering over me, crowds of people watching and whispering in mixtures of Yoruba and pidgin, “whetin happen, shay de pickin fine?” But most of all, I remember the feel of fine Bar Beach sand digging into my back, the texture of vomit in the back of my throat and one single triumphant thought—“ocean water tastes like salt!” This would be the first of many idiotic, even life-threatening acts I would commit in my childhood, proving my original assertion.

So when people give the excuse of “fear of the unknown” as a reason why they don’t attend meetings for unfamiliar cultural groups—e.g. why the Nigerian/Ethiopian/African students don’t attend meetings for the Chinese/Korean/Asian students—I tend to disagree. After all, I’ve had a moronic lack of fear of the unknown from a very young age. So to explain why I personally, as a senior, have spent the last three years of my Columbia experience sticking more or less with the African Students Association at the University, I need to relay some brief background on my experience in the United States.

When my family and I arrived from Lagos, Nigeria to Ann Arbor, Michigan, I was excited. Things went well, at first. Then I started high school. It was a very homogenous school, small and made up of mostly white American students, so understandably they were curious about the novel entity that had arrived. And at first, this was all well and good. Pretty quickly though, the reactions became tiresome. Every time I opened my mouth to speak, I would receive a blank stare, followed by an uncomprehending “huh?” It quickly became apparent that my accent was “too strong,” making regular conversation a chore as I struggled to put less emphasis on certain syllables, etc., in order to sound coherent. Eventually, I more or less

me,’ at least on a basic accent level. And so I threw myself into the ASA, found African friends, and finally found my niche in school. But the story doesn’t end there. Over the next three years, I would find things that caught my interest—the Columbia College Student Council, for example, was having a particular meeting, or the French Cultural Society were having a certain discussion, and in a Freudian battle of consciousness type of scenario, my fearlessness of the unknown side would venture toward it, only to be reined in by that same new fear of being uncomfortable. And so it happens, that three years later, I look through my Facebook friends list, and check my list of attended campus events and make a shocking discovery: my circle of contacts has become almost as homogenous as the high school I attended. Thinking I was expanding my experience by moving to New York and Columbia, I have merely traded one homogeneity for another, a trap too many of us fall into and should be wary of on campus.

I prefaced this entire story by stating that this was a result of my own personal experiences, but if the discussions I often hear and participate in on campus are any indication, this fear of the uncomfortable is not something that is unique to me. We all harbor that fear, every time we see an event hosted by a cultural group unfamiliar to us and think, “well that sounds interesting,” but never attend. I wish I could end this article by saying something conclusively triumphant but I can’t. I’ll say this: this semester I’ve joined the Columbia University Tae Kwon Do club and I intend to attend at least one meeting from a different cultural group. It’s nothing radical and I still can’t say I don’t dread feeling uncomfortable, but well, it’s a start.

The author is a Columbia College senior majoring in economics and philosophy. She is a member of the African Students Association, the Columbia Women’s Business Society, IDAYA Magazine, and Columbia University Tae Kwon Do.

ILLUSTRATION BY CINDY CHEN

abandoned attempting to strike up conversation, speaking mostly only when spoken to, and placing deliberate thought into every word that came out of my mouth. The result was that, on the upside, I became an admired member of the student body, earning the labels “poised” and “intelligent.” On the downside, I acquired a new fear—the fear of being uncomfortable.

It was partly this fear that drove me to New York and Columbia as I sought desperately the company of people who were ‘like

# Bed rest and unrest in Nigeria

RHONDA SHAFEI

## The Politics of Hummus

For the past two months, Nigerian President Umar Yar’Adua has been missing from Nigeria. On Nov. 29, 2009, the president was flown out of the Nigerian capital Abuja and rushed to a hospital in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, after suffering from acute pericarditis, the inflammation of the thin sac surrounding the heart. The heart condition, paired with Yar’Adua’s longstanding kidney problems, has kept him in an incapacitated state to this day. This past Tuesday, Nigerian senators and congressmen decided that Vice President Goodluck Jonathan would become the acting president of the nation during Yar’Adua’s absence.

Over the past two months, a series of debilitating developments have plagued Nigeria: More than 400 Nigerians were killed and 4,000 injured from ethnic violence in the city of Jos , and a ceasefire was called off by a militant group in the Niger Delta. A dying president, a rotting unity between Muslims and Christians, and a reinvigorated militant movement in the south have all surfaced in Nigeria, seemingly out of the sight of most Columbia students and Americans.

Religious tensions between tribes and clans in the predominantly Muslim north and Christian south are embedded in many of Nigeria’s problems. The ailing president, Yar’Adua, is a Muslim, as are the Hausa and Fulani tribes of Nigeria who occupy most of the Nigeria’s north. Jonathan is Christian, as are the Igbo tribes who occupy most of Nigeria’s south. Southern leaders have supported the transfer of power to Jonathan, while Northern leaders have expressed dismay at losing the crucial presidential seat to the Christian vice president, especially ahead of national elections in 2012. Clashes in Jos make religious strains all the more visible. It is believed that violence broke when Christian youth protested the building of a mosque in a predominantly Christian area. But ethnic conflicts in Jos

may have less to do with religion and more to do with a battle over resources and jobs. Nigeria implements many government policies that discriminate against “non-indigenes”—people whose ancestry can’t be traced to original inhabitants of a given area. For example, in Jos, Hausa are classified as non-indigenes who can’t compete for government jobs or scholarships in that region despite the fact that many have lived there for several generations.

A similar battle for resources substantiates claims by the militant group, Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta. MEND operatives attack oil rigs and tanks and take hostages hoping to disrupt or shut down foreign oil companies which extract Nigerian resources. On Jan. 30, just when relations between MEND and the govern-

and fair distribution of resources throughout Nigeria needs to be achieved to allay ethnic and extremist anxieties. When the poor in Nigeria are presented with viable employment opportunities and a welfare system that supports their education, health, and safety, terrorism will no longer be considered a legitimate option for survival.

The third and arguably most important reason we need not forget about Nigeria is that an ethnic catastrophe is unfolding in front of our eyes. We must avoid a wide-scale ethnic disaster comparable to that of Yugoslavia or Rwanda by assisting in mediation. We undoubtedly have an obligation to prevent the exacerbation of an ethnic crisis, especially if we have all the warning signs glaring in front of us.

## This isn’t simply about Nigeria and its domestic problems. It’s about how we approach news in general.

ment were said to have improved, MEND ended a ceasefire and warned all oil companies operating in the Delta to be prepared for an “all-out onslaught” from which “no one will be spared.”

There are three primary reasons why we should pay more attention to Nigeria and create policy suggestions for leaders in Abuja. The first—and perhaps the most narcissistic—is oil. Nigeria is the fifth largest exporter of oil to the United States—the security of southern Nigeria’s fields and its inhabitants should be of the utmost importance to the U.S., especially noting the recent discovery of fields in the south estimated to hold up to two billion barrels of oil. A tumultuous political landscape in the Middle East coupled with natural resource limitations in Arab oil fields will only continue to put extraction at risk in the years to come, further underscoring the need for Nigerian oil.

The second reason is terrorism. Areas of great poverty and ethnic strife are breeding grounds for terrorism, as we’ve seen with the Christmas Day “plotter.” The equitable

This isn’t simply about Nigeria and its domestic problems. It’s about how we approach news in general. The reason we haven’t heard about Nigeria is because we have a tendency to view regions in their entirety—like West Africa—with an Orientalist glimmer in our eyes. We view the African other through easily contrasted categories: good or evil, terrorist or non-terrorist, with us or against us. Seldom do we approach West African nations as individual entities consisting of diverse cultures, languages, and ethnicities, since it has always been easier to describe West Africa as an aggregate territory of one people, one race, and one group to be dealt with. The intricacies of nations like Nigeria, which juggles ethnic conflict, geopolitical imperatives, and terrorism, are lost when we view regions of the world as monolithic blocks differentiable only by lines of latitude and longitude.

We need to start looking closely at nations individually, regardless of their size, GDP, or any other indicator. A close look would reveal that the delicate threads assumed to hold many of these nations together are actually the same ones working to tear these nations apart.

Rhonda Shafei is a Columbia College sophomore. She is the publisher of the Columbia Political Union and the director-general of CMUNCE. The Politics of Hummus runs alternate Thursdays. [opinion@columbiaspectator.com](#)

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## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

**ACROSS**

1 Holy pilgrimage

5 Kids' getaway

9 "Gimme a break!"

14 Nobelist West

15 "This looks like trouble"

16 Leonard Marx, familiarly

17 "Get going!"

19 Peyotes, e.g.

20 She played Donna in the film "Mamma Mia"

21 Sinus specialist, briefly

23 Baseball Hall of Farmer Speaker

24 "1986 Pulitzer-winning Western novel

28 Feel the heat

31 Food critic Sheraton

32 "Bingo!"

33 X-Games bike, briefly

35 Rum at a red light?

38 1968 Troggs Top 10 hit, and a hint to the hidden puzzle theme in the answers to starred clues

44 Jeans joint

45 Yield to gravity

46 Sportage maker

47 Fresh response

50 Serious-and-funny show

53 "Gunpowder, e.g.

57 They're not returned!

58 Boxes great

59 Comforting comment

63 Parts partner

65 "Duffer's thrill

68 Native Alaskan

69 Treator's words

70 Persian Gulf land

71 \_\_\_ and all

72 Prime minister before Rabin

73 Ancient British Isles settler

**DOWN**

1 Bridge position

2 Burn balm

3 Fashionable

4 Stevenson physician

5 \_\_\_-de-sac

6 Yellowfin tuna

7 Changes places

8 Rising star

9 N.C. State's conference

10 "Who, me?"

11 Tiny

12 When Brutus sees Caesar's ghost

13 Hula-hoop

18 Big-time

22 "I didn't need to know that," informally

25 Birds' bills

26 Humorist Bombeck

27 Islamic leader

28 \_\_\_ soda

29 Grinch victims

30 Place for Christmas lights

34 Tee choices

36 Gospel writer

37 Camelot lady

39 Removes germs

40 Eye-opening thriller

41 Fellows

42 Rural prefix

43 Beatles' "A \_\_\_ in the Life"

48 Security threat

49 Course for weavers?

51 Fired up

52 Like some weights

53 Bochoo series

54 City NW of Orlando

55 Brand on a patio, maybe

56 Hole site

60 Foal's parent

61 Rink, often

62 Canterbury's county

64 Some NFL linemen

66 Feature of a two-lr. monogram

67 Neighbor of Aus.

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

W	A	D	E	A	W	L	S	B	A	D	G	E
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xwordeditor@aol.com 02/11/10

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MINJI REEM FOR SPECTATOR

**DON'T ASK** | John Power Hely, Law '10, urged an end to the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. "The most important thing to ensure is that DADT is removed," he said.

## Panel tells all at Law School's discussion on military policy

BY MINJI REEM  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

Late afternoon classes were cancelled yesterday due to snow, but Columbia Law School still held a heated panel discussion at the Columbia Law School that called for an end to the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy.

The discussion was co-hosted by the Columbia Law School Solomon Amelioration Committee and Columbia OutLaws, an LGBT-ally organization at the law school, and featured former Marine John Power Hely, Law '10. He shared his personal experience in the military under DADT, while other panelists urged for the policy to be repealed.

DADT mandates the discharge of openly gay, lesbian, or bisexual service members. It was passed by Congress in 1993, and more than 13,500 service members have been fired under the law since 1994. There have been ardent movements to end this ban—President Barack Obama reiterated in his campaign a promise to repeal DADT, and 187 members of the House of Representatives have signed on to the Military Readiness Enhancement Act, which proposes to replace DADT with a policy that would not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation. Nonetheless, progress has been slow.

Speakers at the discussion addressed the difficulties when

individual military commanders apply the law differently. Hely said it was unfair for soldiers when "what was acceptable on Tuesday gets you dismissed on Wednesday."

When asked how this specific matter fits into the greater agenda of LGBT activists, Hely said that efforts are being made to separate the issues. "The most important thing to ensure is that DADT is removed," Hely said. "We are not discussing marriage in order to focus on helping those who are serving in silence."

Rachel Wolkowitz, co-president of the Columbia OutLaws and Law '11, urged the participants to "help us try to get this law repealed." According to

Wolkowitz, despite the fact that there are a lot of veteran family support networks, "because of DADT, all the close family members of LGBT service members are completely cut off from all these service members. There is a huge stress in having to hide yourself and hide your family members."

Hely pointed out that repealing DADT would be a big step, but not the end of the struggle. "We are facing an uphill battle in every way, shape, and form," he said.

But speakers said they found service members to be generally supportive of their LGBT colleagues. According to a student who spoke who did not wish to be identified because he hopes have

a career in the military, when he came out to his peers, they "were all very supportive. They didn't care—they would still take a bullet for me. All the Marines who worked for me they felt the same way."

Jeannie Chung, Law '10, from the Center for Gender & Sexuality Law, said that study results have shown that in other countries, transitions into open military service have by and large "usually not been an issue, or actually even enhanced cohesion and performance."

"It is insulting to the military as a whole," Hely said. "The fact that people think this kind of negative, arbitrary control fixes the situation is quite ludicrous."

*news@columbiaspectator.com*

## New lecture series aims to include more CC attendees

**LECTURE SERIES** from front page

other one-third will be distributed via lottery to students of the other University schools as well as faculty, staff, and alumni. According to Evelyn Phan, CC '10 and vice president of the 2010 class council, it is undecided whether the council will be paying an honorarium to speakers, but if the council were to charge in the future, it would be an

affordable fee. Phan says the cost will be minimal, "because we hope that with each succeeding year the HLS will grow in prestige and serve as an effective platform for the speakers to gain publicity, hence negating the need for an honorarium."

Brandon Christophe, CC '12 and a CCSC representative for the class of 2012, hopes this will allow Columbia College students to participate in events that

had previously been exclusive. "Unfortunately many of the events are not open to undergraduate students or are restricted, only allowing a small undergraduate population to attend, such as the visit of Gates and Buffet or World Leaders Forums. As a result, we are seeking to create an event that caters to undergraduate students and their interests," he said.

Adam Valen Levinson, CC '10 said it's a nice change for Columbia College students who

have had less success with other limited events at the University. "It's a great opportunity for students to recover from the rejection of fireside chats and Urban New York," he said.

Students who are left out of the mix are less excited. "Personally, I understand logistically there are more students at CC, but that being said, it makes me uncomfortable. Why only let in one-third of the rest of the University?

It's kind of hypocritical," Daly Franco, BC '12, said.

Philip Drake, a graduate student in strategic communications, disagreed. "It sounds fair to me," he said. "Columbia College is the majority of the student body."

Jeff Schwartz, CC '10, is reserving judgment. "I think how exciting it is will depend on what speakers they get," he said.

*elizabeth.scott@columbiaspectator.com*

## Retail week struggles to publicize

**RETAIL WEEK** from front page

because they are already established," she said.

Employees at the Africa Kine restaurant and La Marmite restaurant said they had no comment regarding the Restaurant and Retail Week.

Some members of "Old Harlem" established landmarks don't seem too concerned, as shown by the well-known Sylvia's Restaurant decision to participate.

"I'm proud of our iconic status, but I also like that it's still 'cool' to go to Sylvia's," said Trenness Woods-Black, president of communications for Sylvia's and granddaughter of the restaurant's founder. "Sylvia's now is becoming a good blend of nuevo and traditional, so I think we're very much in our league here with Harlem Park to Park."

The biggest challenge for the business alliance appears to be spreading the word that such an event exists at all. The event's original posters directed readers to a nonexistent website, and it is still unclear exactly which businesses are participating.

A list of participating restaurants can be found at [www.harlemparktopark.com/participant](http://www.harlemparktopark.com/participant), not at the [www.harlemrestaurantandretailweek.com](http://www.harlemrestaurantandretailweek.com) site advertised on the poster advertising Harlem Restaurant and Retail Week. The advertised website provides a link to the Harlem Park to Park site, which contains the list of participants.

This week, many Harlem residents and other business owners said they hadn't heard about the event.

"I have never heard of it before," said Diamond Oliver, a Harlem resident. "I think it's a good idea though, giving people a value in this economy," she added.

Samuel Hargress, owner of the Paris Blues Bar & Club on Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Boulevard, said that he wasn't contacted to be a part of the restaurant week. "I haven't talked to anyone about it, and no one came to tell me about it," he said. "I don't have a problem with it though."

Many of the stores participating in the Restaurant and Retail Week were particularly excited by the inclusion of businesses other than restaurants.

"Harlem Park to Park is a really eclectic alliance, and I think this event really puts on a different spin on a 'restaurant week,'" said Aliyyah Baylor, owner of the "Make My Cake" bakery on St. Nicholas Avenue and 116th Street, also a participant in Restaurant Week.

Oye Carr, the owner of MODSquad Cycles on Frederick Douglass Boulevard, said that he hopes this event will allow his neighbors in Harlem to see the quality of their own local businesses. "I think that this event will show Harlem that if they want good quality and selection, they can find it here now."

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# CU fencer contributes to gold medal for US in women’s sabre

**FENCING** from back page

competition, which will be invaluable in the upcoming matches. Spear was not the only Columbian in Budapest over the weekend. Also competing was Light Blue alum James Williams, CC ’07, who defeated the 2004 Olympic Champion Aldo Montano of Italy.

The team competition did not go as well for the men’s team as it did for the women’s. The U.S. men’s squad finished in sixth place with 30 points, just two points behind fifth placed China. Romania took home the gold with 64 total points and a commanding 14 points lead over second place Italy.

While the men’s team fell short of the goal, the experience of competing in international competition is invaluable for Spear.

“It is my first year traveling extensively with the US senior team, so for me, this tournament is still about building experience integrating myself with the culture of the team,” Spear said.

The experience of travelling abroad to face tough international competition is certainly rewarding as an athlete, but it also comes with a price, especially for

a Columbia student. For Spear, who is writing his thesis and completing his assignments in Budapest, the life of a student disconnected from campus can be challenging.

“Sometimes it almost feels like I am living a different life over here and that can make it difficult to keep up as a student,” Spear noted.

Despite the challenges, the opportunity to represent the United States in events such as the fencing World Cup is worth the cost.

“The opportunity to represent the U.S. and Columbia to the rest of the world is an experience for which I will always be grateful. All student athletes play a role as ambassadors for their school, but to have the opportunity to take that to the next level, and to represent the U.S. and Columbia abroad, is something very special for me,” Spear said.

This weekend, Schneider and Spear will meet up in Moscow to compete in the Grand Prix, similar to a major in tennis. With sabres in hand, Schneider and Spear look to build on their experiences in Orléans and Budapest, while also capturing the gold.



ALYSON GOULDEN / FOR SPECTATOR

**ATTACK!** | Despite missing a key competitor at the NYU Invitational, the women’s fencing team still managed to top the charts.

# Federer continues to impress followers with on and off court performances

**GUPTA** from back page

and is one of only six men to do so. In an era of the best and deepest competition that the game has ever seen, Federer has dominated the sport unlike any other player in the history of the game.

This is probably the right time to admit that I am a big Roger Federer fan. I mean, a really big fan. I’ve watched all 16 of his major championships, and I’ve admired him since he burst onto the tennis scene as a temperamental but tremendously talented teenager. When he won each of his major championships, I raised my hands as if I was the one who had just won. When he lost the epic 2008 Wimbledon final to Nadal in the greatest match ever played, I thought his reign was over. I had a tear in my eye during that trophy presentation, seeing my hero fall from so high back to earth, to mortality. When he lost the 2009 Australian Open final in five gripping sets, and cried during

the trophy presentation, I cried right alongside him—not because I was sad that he lost, but because it was hard to see someone who seemed superhuman do such a human thing like cry.

Federer on the tennis court is a sight to behold. The late writer David Foster Wallace wrote a brilliant piece in 2006 that compared watching Roger Federer play to a “religious experience.” The angles he creates, the shots that he hits, and the calm with which he does everything is truly breathtaking. But for all that Federer does exceptionally well on the court, it is what he does off the court that makes him a hero, not only in the tennis world, but in the sporting world as a whole.

I’ve learned a lot of things from watching Federer, and I think it would be beneficial for all sports fans to take some time to watch him. Watch how he carries himself, on and off of the court—one can observe his passion for tennis, his love of the

game, his calm under pressure and seeming lack of nerves, his grace, humility and most importantly, his burning desire to win. The fact that, after more than 12 years on the professional tour, I’ve never seen him sweat or look nervous or tired is a testament to his commitment to tennis—despite the sport’s laughably short off-season—as well as to his grace under pressure. Whether Federer is playing the first game of the first round of a major, or going for a career Grand Slam in the final game of the 2009 French Open final, his facial expression and body language never change. Federer’s unflapability may be the most underrated aspect of his game, if that’s possible.

Off the court, you won’t find a more humble athlete than Roger Federer. After every match, he does his press conferences in three languages (English, French and Swiss-German) and often stays for over an hour to meet all the media obligations. He organized a “Hit for Haiti”

event at the Australian Open this year, which raised over \$600,000 for earthquake victims. He’s so well liked by his peers that when he beat Andy Roddick for the second time in the Wimbledon final in 2005, Roddick said that he wished that he could hate Federer, but that Federer was simply too nice.

But most of all, Roger Federer wants to win more than anything else in the entire world. We’ve seen this since 2008, when Nadal knocked him off his perch of number one in the world. Some would have simply retreated, content with 12 majors. Not Federer: the inner competitor took over and he began making small changes in his game and his scheduling that allowed him to become the second man in history to regain the No. 1 ranking after losing it. And he is showing no signs of slowing down. Early on, a complaint against him was that he made it look too easy, that there was no fight in him. Well, we’ve seen in the past two years that


there is plenty of fight left in Roger, and that at the ripe age of 28, he is playing as well as he ever has.

For all of his greatness and his relentless pursuit of the record books, Federer has never quite caught on in the American public’s eye. I think that’s unfortunate. There’s a lot that we can learn from Roger Federer, a lot of things that we can take from him on the tennis court and attempt to reproduce in our own lives, whether they be relentless pursuit of a goal or staying humble as we begin to achieve success. Luckily for us, it looks as though we still have a couple more years to appreciate his genius, his talent, his sportsmanship and his heart.

Greatness doesn’t come around very often, and we’d be wise to appreciate it while it’s right in front of us.

*Kunal Gupta is a junior in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences majoring in operations research. sportseditors@columbiaspectator.com*

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Men's basketball prepares to travel to Princeton and Philadelphia this weekend to take on the Tigers and Quakers in conference competition.

TOMORROW



# SPORTS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2010 • PAGE 8



Columbia's women's basketball team invites undefeated powerhouse Princeton to Levien this weekend, and then will have to turn around and face Penn.

TOMORROW

## Fencing duo travels to France, Hungary for World Cup

In Europe, Columbia's Schneider, Spear each face off against the world's top competitors in sabre



EN GARDE | Daria Schneider (back, third from left) and Jeff Spear of the Columbia fencing team traveled abroad this past weekend to compete in the fencing World Cup. Schneider stood atop the podium with fellow Americans to accept the gold medal for sabre.

COURTESY OF DARIA SCHNEIDER

BY BART LOPEZ  
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

This past weekend, while the University's fencing team had a break from competition, a duo of Columbia fencers continued the duels halfway around the world. Seniors Daria Schneider and Jeff Spear traveled to France and Hungary, respectively, to compete in the fencing World Cup. Schneider, a Russian literature major from Massachusetts, was the 2007 NCAA champion and currently is ranked 15th in the world. As a member of the 2009 Senior World team, she made the trip to Orléans, France. Individually, Schneider did quite well, defeating a Venezuelan fencer 15-14 to make the round of 32 before losing to a Chinese fencer 15-13. Despite finishing a solid 22nd in the individual competition, Schneider said she is not entirely happy with her results. "I would have liked to do better," Schneider wrote in an email. "It is just about having the right strategy going into the match." In the team competition, the United States took the gold with 64 total points, 12 above second place France. The team was comprised of a Notre Dame fencer, a St. John's fencer, Schneider, and Emily Jacobson, CC '08. For Schneider,

teaming up with Jacobson again was a wonderful experience. "Emily Jacobson was a great role model for me when I first came onto the team. Now that she has graduated, it is great for me to still be able to compete alongside her." The U.S. women's team first edged out Romania 45-44 to make the round of eight. It then went on to beat Italy 45-29 and 2008 Olympic Championship team Ukraine 45-39 before facing France for the gold medal. In front of the French home crowd, the U.S. team beat France 45-44. "It was great for us to beat France in France. Also, Italy beat us at World Championship last season, so it was nice to set the tone for this year by beating them decisively," Schneider said. Just 800 miles east of Orléans, Spear competed in the men's World Cup in Budapest, Hungary. Spear, a 2009 second team All-American, won the 2008 NCAA individual championship in saber. In Budapest, Spear left the individual competition disappointed with his final results. "I struggled for most of the first round," Spear wrote in an email. "I lost my elimination bout to the Hungarian fencer Csaba Gall." But Spear was able to regain his confidence and composure during the rest of the

SEE FENCING, page 7

## Fan of tennis' Federer applauds the all-time great



KUNAL GUPTA

### Moving the Chains

According to me, tennis is the hardest sport to play, especially at the highest level. In the professional ranks, the best in the world combine unreal amounts of precision and force into each shot, and routinely make shots that the average person could not even think of hitting look ridiculously easy. In tennis, you can't run out the clock. You can't hold the ball and run down the shot clock like you can in basketball, and you can't run the ball to take time off the clock like you can in football. In tennis, if you take your foot off the pedal for one point, game, or set, the momentum of the match can change in an instant. In tennis, there is no specialization. In football, quarterbacks don't have to play defense, defensive linemen don't have to know how to catch and run, and kickers and punters have only one thing to do. Can you imagine an offensive tackle trying to throw the ball? Fat chance (pun intended). In basketball, gifted offensive players don't have to play any defense at all if they don't want to (see one Allen Iverson). In tennis, you can't be a specialist. You can't just serve big, or volley well. You have to be able to do everything. If you can't play defense or pick up a low volley, then, well, there's always the senior tour. Tennis at the professional level is really three different sports played throughout the season, as the professional game switches from playing on hard courts to clay courts, to grass courts, and back to hard courts. In fact, two of the surfaces, grass and clay, are so different that in the past 50 years, only four men have won the French Open on clay and Wimbledon on grass in the same calendar year, and two of them were Rafael Nadal in 2008 and Roger Federer in 2009. What other sport changes such a fundamental aspect so drastically this often? The answer, quite simply, is none. Tennis changes other variables constantly as well, ranging from the type of ball used, to the altitude and the time zone in which the match is played, often on a week-to-week basis. And then there's the final differentiating aspect of tennis. Tennis players must be some of the fittest athletes in the world. They need to be able to play for four to five hours at a time and to finish the match as strongly as they started, and they do all of this without the assistance of a coach during the match. To anyone that doesn't think that tennis is a physical sport that requires its players to be in peak physical condition at all times: See Nadal, Rafael. Taking all of this into account makes Roger Federer's reign at the top of the men's tennis world even more remarkable. Federer, whose latest win at the 2010 Australian Open brings him to a career total of 16 Grand Slams, has cemented himself in my eyes as not only the greatest tennis player of his era, but the greatest player to ever pick up a racket. He's won more Grand Slam singles titles than any other man. He also has won all four of the majors

SEE GUPTA, page 7

## Big Red continues to stand atop Ancient Eight rankings

BY MICHELE CLEARY  
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The biggest story in Ivy League basketball continues to be Cornell, as the Big Red swept its opponents this weekend en route to a No. 22 ranking in the ESPN/USA Today poll. Cornell (20-3, 6-0 Ivy) earned two double-digit victories this weekend, defeating Yale 90-71 and Brown 74-60. Cornell and Princeton are the only two Ancient Eight teams that remain undefeated in league play. Against the Bulldogs, the Big Red shot 47.8 percent from the field, slightly lower than Yale's 47.9 percent, but Cornell made 48.1 percent of its 3-pointers, resulting in 27 points from beyond the arc. On the other hand, the Elis made only 3 of their 16 shots from downtown. Four Big Red players finished with over ten points, with senior forward Jon Jacques leading the team with 17 points. Senior center Jeff Foote, current Ivy League Player of the Week, posted a double-double with 15 points and 13 boards. Senior guard Alex Zampier led Yale with 11 points, while junior forward Jordan Gibson had a team-high five rebounds. The next night, Cornell took on Brown, and had its first legitimate scare during Ivy play, as the Bears jumped out to an eight-point lead with just over ten minutes to go in the first half. By the end of the half, though, the Big Red had managed to claw its way back to a three-point lead, and would eventually go on to win by 14. Cornell again had four scorers in double figures, with Foote leading the pack with 17 points and nine boards. Senior forward Matt Mullery led the Bears with a game-high 21 points. This weekend, Cornell will face off against Penn on Friday before traveling to New Jersey to take on Princeton in a clash of undefeated squads. Yale (9-14, 3-3 Ivy) won its other matchup







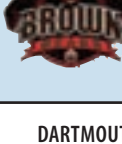



this weekend, defeating Columbia (8-12, 2-4 Ivy) 79-64 on Saturday. On the other hand, Brown (7-16, 1-5 Ivy) fell to the Light Blue the night before, 65-54. Yale and Brown will both host Harvard and Dartmouth this weekend. Harvard (15-5, 4-2 Ivy) lost its second Ancient Eight contest this weekend, when it fell to Princeton 56-53 at home. Against the renowned Tiger defense, the Crimson made only 36 percent of its field goals, while Princeton made 43.6 percent of its shots. Senior guard Jeremy Lin led Harvard with a game-high 19 points, while freshman forward and Ivy League Rookie of the Week Kyle Casey grabbed a team-high nine boards. Junior guard Dan Mavraides and junior forward Kareem Maddox led the Tigers with 14 points each. The Crimson recovered the next night with a 80-66 win over the Quakers. Though Harvard had four players score in double digits, Lin led his squad again with 19 points. Casey posted 13 points and six rebounds. Penn was led by freshman guard Zack Rosen's 19-point performance. In its other matchup this weekend, Princeton (13-5, 4-0 Ivy) crushed Dartmouth 54-38. The Tigers held Dartmouth to 36.4 percent shooting, resulting in the Big Green's second lowest point total this season. Mavraides led his squad in points again with 10 points, while senior center Pawel Buczak grabbed a team-high six boards. Dartmouth senior guard Robby Pride led his team with 10 points. The night before its loss to the Tigers, Dartmouth (4-16, 0-6 Ivy) fell to the Quakers (13-5, 4-0 Ivy) in a nail-biter, 53-51. Rosen again led Penn with 16 points, while junior forward Jack Eggleston posted a team-high nine rebounds. Big Green junior guard Ronnie Dixon and sophomore forward David Rufful both had 17 points in the loss. This weekend, Penn and Princeton will each host Columbia and Cornell.



FILE PHOTOS

FAKE OUT | Harvard guard Jeremy Lin's offensive skills place him among the Ancient Eight elite. Harvard currently joins Cornell and Princeton atop the conference standings.

Rank	Ivy Power Rankings	Last Week
1	<b>CORNELL (20-3 6-0 IVY)</b>  The Big Red is unquestionably the best team in the league, and is currently No. 22 in the Nation.	1
2	<b>PRINCETON (13-5, 4-0 IVY)</b>  With a big win over Harvard this weekend, the Tigers are the only team besides Cornell that is undefeated in conference play.	2
3	<b>HARVARD (13-5, 4-0 IVY)</b>  After back-to-back losses to Cornell and Princeton, the Crimson will have to improve if it still wants a (long) shot at the Ivy title.	3
4	<b>YALE (9-14, 3-3 IVY)</b>  After falling to conference-leading Cornell, the Bulldogs rebounded nicely against Columbia, defeating the Lions 79-64.	4
5	<b>PENN (8-12, 2-2 IVY)</b>  The Quaker's season got off to an abysmal start, but they have quietly gone 2-2 in league play so far.	5
6	<b>COLUMBIA (8-11, 2-4 IVY)</b>  The Lion's season started off rough, but consecutive victories over Dartmouth and Brown gave the Light Blue faithful something to hope for.	6
7	<b>BROWN (7-16, 1-5 IVY)</b>  The Bears' only conference win so far this season came in its first league game against Yale. Since then, Brown is 0-5.	6
8	<b>DARTMOUTH (4-16, 0-4 IVY)</b>  The Big Green is the only team in the Ancient Eight to remain winless in conference play so far this season.	8

