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Employment for Both Sides of Broadway

The Student Governing Board is hosting a career fair with help from the career development offices of Columbia and Barnard on Wednesday evening.

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Curing the Pre-med Ailment

Columnists Adrian Haimovich and Vedant Misra call on Columbia to take the lead in overhauling the undergraduate curriculum for future doctors.



A&E, page 6

From Blue and White To Green

Barnard alumna Jeanine Tesori, BC '08, made her musical theater debut contributing the Columbia's own Varsity Show, but now finds herself in a more fairy tale situation—a composer for *Shrek the Musical* on Broadway.

A&E, page 6

Food and Drink on The Cheap

The recession may be bad for your job prospects, but it's good for your stomach. Several restaurants, both around Columbia and in the city, offer recession specials that could take your tummy out of any depression.



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Whitaker, Cox Look To Defend Ivy Title

Sophomore pitcher Geoff Whitaker and centerfielder Nick Cox both made dramatic impacts last season and are determined to continue their success.

Sports, page 10

Four Teams Sweep in Women's Basketball

Dartmouth, Harvard, Cornell, and Columbia won both games they played this past weekend. The Big Green still lead the Ivy League with a 9-0 conference record.

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Car Crashes, Flips Over on Broadway After Striking Passing Pedestrian

BY JAMES TYSON
Spectator Staff Writer

A female pedestrian was injured on Tuesday afternoon when she was hit by a car, which then struck a barrier and overturned on Broadway at 120th Street.

The car was traveling southbound on Broadway just after 1 p.m. when it struck the woman, slammed into the median and flipped, eventually coming to a stop in the center of the road.

“I heard this loud crash and I went over to the window and looked out and there was a car that was flipped over,” Jonah Meyerhoff, GS/JTS '10 said. “It had hit the median, and there was this woman kind of just lying out in front of the car.”

Police, firemen, and emergency medical personnel arrived and blocked the southbound lanes of Broadway for approximately 30 minutes while they attended to the victim and cleared the wreck.

An officer at the New York Police Department's 26th Precinct confirmed that a female pedestrian was hospitalized following the crash.



Jacob Shapiro for *Spectator*

CAR CRASH | On Tuesday afternoon, a car struck a pedestrian and then crashed into a barrier at 120th Street and Broadway. Police and firefighters arrived on the scene.

CourseWorks System Has Flaws, Some Say, Despite Growing Popularity Among Profs

BY SCOTT LEVI
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Seven years after its inception, Columbia's CourseWorks system, the online portal for most academic classes, remains a double-edged sword that will stay in use for longer than expected.

CourseWorks permits students to access most course materials, faculty to update their pupils on grades and syllabus changes, and entire classes to simulate discussions in written form. Yet when CourseWorks' functions shift toward dysfunctional, progress is hampered. Administrators had intended to replace CourseWorks with a system called Sakai soon. But in order to help save money during the economic crisis, the update has been deferred indefinitely.

Recent statistics from the Center for New Media Teaching and Learning reveal that faculty use of

CourseWorks is on the rise, as depicted by intermittent increases over the past three years. Whereas only 2,800 professors took advantage of CourseWorks in 2005, the number jumped to 3,641 by the next year. Last fall, 4,223 made it a part of their regimen.

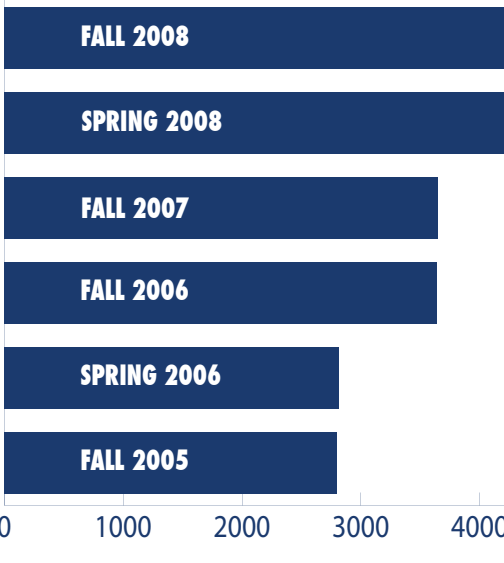
“Just as the growth of technology adoption by the masses is making more and more people feel comfortable utilizing technology for all kinds of things, Columbia faculty are seeing the real value.

CourseWorks brings to the teaching and learning environment,” Robert Litvak, senior communications director for Columbia University Information Technology, said in an e-mail.

The hike in usage is likely not the result of changes to the internal framework.

While CUIT has added new features and expanded older ones, CourseWorks' success is more closely linked to larger efforts by Columbia to build up an infrastructure that

NUMBER OF UNIQUE FACULTY LOG INS



Graphic By Jin Chen

SIGNING ON | Over the past six semesters, the number of faculty members using CourseWorks has increased significantly.

fosters the adoption of emerging technology as a daily tool. Since the birth of CourseWorks in 2002, the University has recruited new technologists to help with development and has promoted programs that acquaint faculty with pedagogical media.

SEE COURSEWORKS, page 3

Students Petition for Floridita

Coalition Seeks to Halt Eminent Domain

BY MAGGIE ASTOR
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The Student Coalition on Expansion and Gentrification submitted a petition to University officials Tuesday evening, criticizing recent conduct regarding the Manhattanville expansion and calling on officials to issue a guarantee that eminent domain will not be invoked on the property of Ramon Diaz, who operates Floridita Restaurant & Tapas Bar.

Approximately 90 people signed the petition by the time it was submitted, and SCEG member Andrew Lyubarsky, CC '09, said the group will continue to solicit signatures.

Last December, following its approval of eminent domain in the campus expansion zone, the Empire State Development Corporation released a “statement of determinations and findings” in which it listed Manhattanville properties that may be subject to eminent domain in order to transfer control of the land to Columbia. Diaz's property is among those named in the memo.

Columbia owns the building in which Floridita is located, and, even though Diaz's lease is good until 2015, eminent domain could effectively terminate it early so Columbia can develop the land there. But University officials maintain that negotiations with Diaz are ongoing, and that as long as he remains a tenant in good standing, Columbia will work to relocate Floridita without state invocation of eminent domain.

“It is our opinion that if Columbia wishes to resolve this conflict ... there is a relatively simple solution,” a letter accompanying the petition reads. “If the university is willing to send him [Diaz] an official letter or make an official statement to the effect that ... the University guarantees that it will not seek to terminate the business's lease early except in the context of a mutually agreeable relocation deal within a reasonable distance from the expansion area, we are confident that this issue has been resolved.”

“There have been a number of claims made over the years about various details of the long-term campus plan in Manhattanville,” University spokesperson Victoria Benitez wrote in an e-mail. “All we can do is provide factual information about the University's efforts and trust that the facts will speak for themselves.”

SEE PETITION, page 3



File Photo

FLORIDITA | At a recent rally, students and local activists came together to criticize the University's expansion.

USenate Grants Lamont Researchers New Titles

BY AARON KIERSH
Spectator Staff Writer

To Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory Director G. Michael Purdy, a simple name change could mean improvement in the recruiting and retaining of researchers.

At its February plenary meeting, the University Senate voted to distinguish research officers at the Columbia-affiliated LDEO as “Lamont research professors,” acting on a recommendation put forward by Purdy this past October.

LDEO, which specializes in a variety of earth sciences such as geology and climate physics, has struggled to retain researchers in recent years, losing 27 since 2001. In order to compete with the universities and corporations that lured these researchers away, Purdy devised the “research professor” title to provide Lamont's 64 officers of research with new prestige and extra financial support.

Though he first submitted the proposal to the senate in October 2008, this sort of reform has been on Purdy's mind for years.

“This was extremely satisfying,” said Purdy, a specialist in marine seismology who has led the observatory since 2000. “Bringing the proposal before the full senate was the culmination of considerable effort and close consultation with faculty and administrators.”

The senate voted unanimously to approve the policy change, which is also supported by University President Lee Bollinger and Provost Alan Brinkley. Though the depth of support for the measure seems to indicate a wide consensus, the senators united only after a lengthy process of debate and amendments. One group of faculty, including Executive Committee co-Chairs Paul Duby and Sharyn O'Halloran, insisted that the measure refer only to the observatory as opposed to also

SEE SENATE, page 3

HILLEL BLOG



Angela Radulescu / Senior Staff Photographer

SHALOM | Hillel unveils its new blog, Andthoushaltblog.blogspot.com, which will include event listings, internship opportunities, videos, and information on where to get free food on campus.

WEATHER

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Fighting Leukemia



Giving Hope

Science For A Better Life

The word "leukemia" is Greek for "white blood." This is because leukemia patients have extremely elevated levels of white blood cells. Every year about 300,000 people worldwide are diagnosed with this serious and complex form of cancer.

Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals already offers a broad product portfolio of successful therapies for treating various forms of cancer including leukemia and renal cell carcinoma, helping patients to live longer and improving the quality of their lives. Still, research in this field remains one of the greatest challenges in medicine. www.BayerUS.com



Bayer: CropScience MaterialScience

HealthCare

West Side Stories

Celebrating the Stoplights

BY ANNA ARONS

In my first-year seminar at Barnard, I was asked to describe myself in one word. My classmates said things like, “Jewish,” or “student,” or “me.” I said “rural.”

I’m from Winters, California, a town of 5,000 that has been fighting to stay the same as everything else changes. It’s a town built on apricot orchards and rice paddies, part of a county proudly billed as the “Tomato-Growing Capital of the World.” It’s a town that, until recently, had only one stoplight—a flashing red light, at that.

It’s also a town so confounding to outsiders and so frustrating to its young residents that its Facebook group is called, “Winters — Explaining It Is As Complicated As Explaining Why Time Goes Forward.” Starting in elementary school, my friends and I vowed that we would flee Winters as soon as possible and enter into the so-called real world. Of course, having lived in Winters our whole lives, we had no idea what this “real world” entailed, but it had to be more exciting than a town with no movie theatres, no fast food, and no malls.

I personally had settled on New York as my escape. This decision was based not on direct knowledge, but on hearsay from my father, a Long Island native, and a conviction that New York was as far from Winters as I could get. My sister and I would play games imagining our lives as New Yorkers—taking taxis to piano lessons instead of walking, eating pizza instead of peanut butter and jelly. I built up New York so much that when I finally visited at age 12, I was a little disappointed—not with the city itself, but rather with the fact that I didn’t feel an instant connection to it. Of course, it fascinated and awed me, kept me enthralled for the length of my visit. But it didn’t feel like home. Despite that disappointment, New York persisted as my dream college destination. My classmates forgot their vows to escape and applied to schools close to home, but my determination to get out grew stronger.

When I got into Barnard, I broke the news to my mother by telling her, “Guess where I’m not going to school? California!”

I couldn’t wait to pick up and leave, and I was determined to remove from myself all hints of rural-ity. I wanted to immerse myself in New York and become the typical city dweller. When friends from home asked how I was adjusting to New York (Isn’t it such a shock? So loud, so bustling?), I assured them, “No, actually, it feels natural. It’s like I’ve always been here.”

I believed those assurances, too. I was convinced that I had erased all traces of Winters and that I was fully acclimated to the city.

But when asked to give that one—word description of myself, I thought of Winters: of the almond orchards that surround my house, the fact that the smell of pesticides makes me feel at home. I thought of the people with whom I had grown up, whom I’d known since we were in diapers and who already had children in diapers of their own. I thought of the mix of Mexicans and Anglos who make up my town, working and living side by side. And I thought of all the times I had rolled my eyes at my parents, thinking: “Why would they ever choose to live here? Why do they force me to live here?”

So I chose the word “rural.”

In the midst of this first of many existential crises brought on by college life, I enrolled in an urban studies class. I signed up for the class because it entailed playing SimCity, but I found myself fascinated by the study of cities — the intricate social structures, the ordered chaos of urban formation, the relationships between ethnicity and class and race.

Initially viewed my interest in urban studies as another rejection of Winters. But as I took more classes, I began to turn the lens of urban studies on my hometown—to examine it logically, instead of emotionally.

My love for New York continues to grow, but in looking at Winters as an urbanist, I’ve recognized that it has positives too—like its mix of immigrants and natives, Spanish and English, its sense of community and connectedness, and the safety and freedom it provides for the children who grow up there.

By accepting and observing Winters, I gain a greater understanding and love of New York. Now, when I travel around the city, I see reminders of Winters in neighborhoods like Woodside in Queens—where languages mix on signs and in conversation and where regular people work hard to support their families and adjust to a new country—and in the playgrounds across the city where children play, worry—free, as their caregivers look on and gossip. Of course, I note the countless divergences between Winters and New York, and I appreciate the city for its unparalleled diversity: its museums and stores, its ever-changing scenery, and its multiple stoplights.

It may not be practical to cancel school and bring out the high school choir to honor the installation of each of these stoplights in New York. But in Winters, where new stoplights come once in a generation, maybe the ceremony is worthwhile—it does, after all, epitomize the Winters ethos. And for that reason, if another light ever goes up, I’ll be out there watching the ceremony with everyone else in town.

The author is a Barnard College junior majoring in urban studies. She is an associate copy editor.

ILLUSTRATION BY WENDAN LI

West Side Stories is a feature that uses the personal essay to showcase the diverse backgrounds of members of the Columbia and Morningside Heights community. It takes an intimate look at the journeys that have led individuals to this school and city. By drawing upon stories of family, culture, childhood, past travels and adventures, the essays seek to illuminate how people’s experiences both influence their relationships to the community and shape the opinions they hold.

The Stakes of Modern Slavery

BY LAURA MILLS

Human trafficking, the sale of people within and across international boundaries, now ranks second only to the drug trade as the world’s most profitable illicit activity. Every year, 600,000 to 800,000 people are trafficked across international borders, and the estimated number of people in slavery today is around 27 million. They are sometimes coerced, sometimes lured by tempting and fictitious job offers, and sometimes sold into slavery by family members or loved ones. Slave trading is a market, and it generates huge profits for their traffickers, who typically employ violence to generate the lucrative profits of forced labor or sexual exploitation. The U.S. Department of Justice estimates that the sale of people alone generates over \$9.5 billion annually, with easily three times that much being made from the products of modern—day slave labor.

This brazen violation of human rights should not be so far removed from the thoughts of the average American. Approximately 15,000 people are trafficked annually into the U.S., and the CIA estimates that over one million people remain enslaved in the country today. To bring this closer to home, in March of 2008, a Queens resident named Corey Davis was convicted of bringing two underage girls

into the country for sexual exploitation. Davis’ conviction demonstrates the lucrative nature of sex trafficking: Among his confiscated property were a Mercedes Benz and over \$110,000 worth of jewelry. The issue of trafficking, both domestic and international, must be acknowledged as significant and addressed with greater zeal. Inaction can’t be excused: you are never too young, too old, too rich or too poor to exercise the democratic privilege of making your voice heard and pressuring your government and its ambassadors to push for change.

According to the U.S. Department of State, human trafficking is defined as the process of transportation and the coercive means of subjugation, with the resultant goal of exploitation. This means that there are three stages and multiple illicit means within these stages for which traffickers can and must be prosecuted. The first issue of transportation must be addressed with preventative measures, by disseminating information and curtailing the false advertisement campaigns that attract potential victims to traffickers. Most victims turn to traffickers unwittingly, in an effort to escape a lack of educational or employment opportunities at home. Prevention of sex trafficking aligns with our democracy’s fundamental goal of combating global poverty and lack of education abroad.

Human trafficking is a highly lucrative activity which, in its various forms, violates every right enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Its legal ramifications should reflect this fact. Both nationally and internationally, the present punitive action taken against those who

participate in trafficking is not strong enough and often poorly enforced. The U.S. Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (reauthorized in 2003 and 2005) sets the punishment of those involved with human trafficking to an imprisonment of up to only twenty years, and the average imprisonment term for those convicted by the law thus far has only been 9.4 years. Nine years is not enough to account for the indignity, the physical abuse, and the loss of opportunity that hundreds of thousands of trafficked victims suffer every year. Judiciary systems should more rigorously prosecute traffickers and ensure that the consequences of such gross human rights violations outweigh the monetary benefits. By promoting more transparent legal system and a more dynamic civil society abroad, the United States would both curtail the rapid growth of the trafficking industry and become a more active and responsible member of the international human rights community.

Human trafficking, both domestic and international, is an undeniable concern for the U.S. Much-needed progress is bound to be shafted by the economic problems and security fears that understandably loom larger on the minds of most Americans, but this is not a waiver to ignore the ongoing though farther removed tragedy of human trafficking. You may be young and idealistic, you may be only a college student, but you can still write or even sign an e-mail or a letter that will remind politicians and diplomats that immediate problems by no means erase others.

The author is a Columbia College first-year.

National Atrocities And Collective Punishment

RUDI BATZELL

HISTORY AND POLITICS

Israel’s 23-day war on Gaza from December 2008 to January 2009 provoked outrage among many. Campuses worldwide, from the UK to New York City, were convulsed with competing responses. To many it was clear that Israel was collectively punishing the Palestinian people, and yet Zionists succeeded in portraying the conflict as a defensive action against an inhumane, terrorist enemy. While Israel’s actions are shocking, placing Zionism within the long European tradition of violent nation-making sheds light on brutal practices the underpin all national homelands constructed on a racial, ethnic or religious collectivity.

During the early days of the conflict, the U.N. Security Council, European Union, League of Arab States and others called on Israel to immediately halt its operations in Gaza. But with the support of the United States, Israel continued the massacre for weeks. By mid-January, the U.N. Human Rights Council condemned Israeli attacks as “massive violations of human rights of the Palestinian people.” Although the Israeli military hides behind other figures, the most complete report by the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights identifies 1,284 Gazans killed, of which 894 were civilians, including 280 children and 111 women. In comparison, 10 Israeli Defense Force soldiers and just three Israeli civilians died during the war, and the year of pre—combat casualties includes a dozen more Israelis.

Despite these stark realities, reporting on the conflict reflected a skewed sense of proportionality. Stories of the suffering of Palestinians were paired with depictions of Israelis living under the threat of rocket attacks. Much coverage would conclude with an agnostic intonation against the violence on both sides. More often, media outlets vilified Hamas as barbarous terrorists deliberately targeting innocent Israeli civilians, and praised Israeli’s restraint. Israel’s Zionist supporters dramatically succeeded in shaping the conflict using some of the oldest tactics of state formation, conquest and empire.

Thus Israel’s tactical violence must be understood within a long tradition of European nation—making. In examining the English conquest of Ireland from the late sixteenth to early seventeenth century, it is striking how the colonizers deployed tactics remarkably similar to those of Israel. In both the English conquest of Ireland and Israel’s attack on Gaza, the occupying state succeeded in decisively shaping the discourse surrounding the conflict. The actual use of violence was grossly disproportionate, but focusing attention on acts of “barbarism” and the inhumane cruelties of their adversaries obscured the actual distribution of violence and destruction obscured, enabling both the English and Israelis to carry out their brutal nationalist projects with moral immunity.

The history of England’s conquest of Ireland may seem eerily familiar to those acquainted with Zionist occupation and annexation. Encroaching on Irish autonomy, Queen Elizabeth supported a policy of colonization that carried 100,000 Englishmen to Ireland. In the occupied territories, growing religious tensions and the pressure of English settlers sparked a bloody Irish rebellion in 1641 that was not suppressed for over a decade.

The Irish rebellion was linked to revolutionary transformations in England. The obstinate Long Parliament led to regicide, and Oliver Cromwell became Lord Protector of the revolutionary Commonwealth. The new militantly Protestant regime planned to remake Ireland as a Protestant homeland. To this end, Parliament passed the Act of Settlement creating an Irish reservation in the Connacht province. Irishmen who remained east of the Shannon River were ordered to be executed, thus preserving the bulk of Ireland for Protestant settlers. However, the push towards reservation was mediated by labor shortages, and thus many Irish were allowed to remain outside Connacht, but only as servile labor for the conquering English landlords.

Beyond this parallel history, English and Israeli propagandists deployed similar tactics to legitimize their crimes. A campaign rehearsing the “barbarous cruel murders” of innocent Protestants during the 1641 rebellion secured support for Irish collective punishment. Stories of Irish inhumanity were widely publicized, including the frequently repeated image of Irish soldiers plunging their bare hands into the wombs of pregnant Englishwomen and ripping out the unborn as trophies. Perhaps this image drew from one real atrocity, but it came to stand for the barbarity of the Irish in general, and legitimized the collective punishment, deportation, relocation, and execution of the Irish. When news of Cromwell’s plans reached New England, the Puritans applauded the “execution of his just vengeance upon those bloody monsters of mankind.”

Groups like the American Israel Public Affairs Committee pursue a similar campaign to legitimize Israel’s aggression in Gaza. In press releases and other propaganda, AIPAC emphasizes the “indiscriminate” brutality of faceless Hamas terrorists. In a slideshow under the heading “Hamas In—Depth,” carefully selected AIPAC imagery depicts Hamas soldiers as a faceless enemy, wearing black masks and launching missiles at Israeli women and children. The evocative faces of Israeli civilians are filled with fear and anguish, while images of Palestinian militants are either masked or reveal cold, unfeeling expressions, deliberately obscuring the humanity of Palestinians in Gaza. Pro-Israeli sources omit references to Palestinian casualties, but rather emphasize the thousands of missiles Hamas launches murdering, “wounding and traumatizing” countless Israelis, according to an AIPAC memo. In a trope relentlessly reiterated by Zionist propagandists, Israeli had shown incredible “restraint” against a barbarous and inhumane foe, and Israeli actions in Gaza were predicated on every nation’s right to self defense.

Deportation, removal to reservations, targeted murders, violently enforced boundaries—the Zionist project reiterates the brutal process of nation-making in Europe, not just in the British Isles. National “homelands” for any people, ethnic group or religion always involved some brutal crime against humanity. This is not to normalize Israeli violence, but to call into question the ideal of “nationhood” as a viable ethical and political end. Until we are willing to advance to a more searching critique of nationalism itself, protests against Israeli brutality skirt uncertain terrain. Repeating an ugly narrative, the conflict was effectively framed by Zionist propaganda. The opinion prevailed against overwhelming evidence that Israel was once again enacting “just vengeance upon those bloody monsters of mankind.”

Rudi Batzell is a Columbia College senior majoring in history and sociology. He is an editor for El Participante, a member of Lucha, and the editor and chair of Columbia Undergraduate Journal of History. History and Politics runs alternate Wednesdays. opinion@columbiaspectator.com

ARTS&ENTERTAINMENT

Theaters Are A Reminder Of Cinema’s Wonder Years



JENNIE ROSE HALPERIN
ANOTHER DAY OLDER AND DEEPER IN DEBT

“Going to the movies just isn’t the same,” my mother always says as we climb the escalator to the top floor of the multiplex, stale popcorn in hand, to shiver through a 90-minute flick. My mother, who grew up in the Bronx, was a bit spoiled by the movies she saw as a child. The closest cinema to her home was the Loews Paradise Theatre, located on the Grand Concourse. Opened in September 1929, only a month before Black Friday, the opulent theater contained 1500 seats and was designed to resemble a 16th century baroque garden.

The fixtures were plaster and painted to resemble gold and marble. There were reproductions of paintings of Marie Antoinette, a painted curtain of a Venetian garden scene, and busts lined the walls of the “atmospheric” theater, one of the last of its kind. The pièce de résistance, though, was the twinkling representation of the New York City skyline, which glittered above moviegoers inset in the colossal, midnight blue, domed ceiling. “When the movie would get boring,” my mother said, “we would stare at the ceiling.”

This theater was actually one of five flagship theaters, called the “Wonder Theaters” after the Robert Morton “wonder organ” contained within. The other theaters, in Jersey City, N.J. and every borough except Staten Island, have become a topic of relatively recent interest among historians and urbanists. Each one had a theme—Queens housed a theater in a Spanish colonial style, and Jersey City’s was built in the rococo style.

All built in 1929 and 1930, shortly before the stock market crash, they were vaudeville and film houses that catered to all-day entertainment. For a small price, audience members could sit in the huge space all day for dancing, vaudeville, and a film. This kind of entertainment died with the Depression, but many of the spaces converted to film houses or theaters—for example, the Paradise added seats over the orchestra pit.

Almost all of the theaters have been at least partially restored to their former glory, and I had the opportunity to tour the Loews Paradise Theatre a few years ago. Due to the changing neighborhood, a series of fires, and the unfortunate mistake of turning the space into a multiplex in the 1990s, the space lost much of its former glory. Walking up the gilded staircases and into the cavernous theater, though, I grew nostalgic for a time I never knew.

While many of the fixtures and the original curtain are missing, the narrow seats, the long, deep stage, the turrets of molded plaster, and the balcony remain. Inside, the lights are no longer twinkling, due to electrical problems with the old circuits.

When I visited, they were turning the space into a community performance center, and the once charred curtains had been replaced with new, red curtains, much like my mother remembered. The organ was moved to Santa Barbara, Calif. and played again in November 2007. The other theaters are churches and entertainment venues, including the fully restored 175th Street Theater, where Björk played two years ago.

This month, Film Forum hosted a month of depression-era films called *Breadlines and Champagne*, where they screened the films that made the last Great Depression unique. On a story about the event on *CBS Sunday Morning*, they quoted *New York Times* columnist David Carr. He said, “I think certain things happen when we are in manifestly dark times. And I think when darkness is intruding from every direction, people like to go in a room and hold hands and stare at a little campfire in common. It’s a way, number one, to forget about what’s out there, and it’s also a way to experience community.”

By remembering the lessons of America’s most famous depression during which community entertainment was a fixture, maybe the Wonder Theaters won’t seem so antiquated after all. At the very least, they could bring back the double feature.

Jennie Rose Halperin is a Barnard College junior majoring in American studies. Another Day Older and Deeper in Debt runs alternate Wednesdays.

THEATER

Monstrous Success for Barnard Alum

BY LAURA HEDLI
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

“Ogres are like onions,” proclaims Shrek, played by Brian d’Arcy James, “We both have layers.” Not unlike the big green hero, this same depth of character applies to Barnard alumna Jeanine Tesori, BC ’83, composer of the mega-musical that parallels the DreamWorks blockbuster.

Though she’s been living in the kingdom of Duloc for the past few years, Tesori wasn’t always so concerned with writing songs that would convey the back stories of a princess locked in tower or a little lord in search of respect. In fact, the composer of award-winning musicals *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and *Caroline, or Change* got her start as a pre-med student at Barnard. She made the switch to music after having spent two years on the medical track.

Describing herself now as a “mad layman scientist,” Tesori believes that “when you study music, and when you study great classical work, you realize that it’s a science, it’s a math.” Choosing to take classes at Columbia because Barnard did not yet have a music major, Tesori wanted to be tested compositionally when she didn’t yet have to contend with the pressures of paying rent or providing for a family. To her, music is “a beautiful combination of what is known and what is not known.”

And while solving for X doesn’t immediately lead to a cohesive score on the first go-around (she’s composed nearly 30 songs that don’t appear onstage in *Shrek*), Tesori relishes in the mystery and the process. “Rigor,” she explained, “doesn’t guarantee success or money, but it does guarantee a certain journey.”

Writing lyrics for the first time, David Lindsay-Abaire, author of the 2007 Pulitzer Prize winning play *Rabbit Hole*, accompanied Tesori on her compositional journey. While Tesori calls herself a “mid-career”



Courtesy of Dreamworks Theatricals
GREEN GLORY | Jeanine Tesori got her musical theater start with the 1984 *Varsity Show*, but has moved to bigger stages, with several of her works—including the new *Shrek the Musical* and *Caroline, or Change*—having become Broadway hits.

SEE *SHREK*, page 8

FOOD & DRINK

Recession Specials Offer Good Food for Bad Times

BY HOLLY SHARPLESS
Columbia Daily Spectator

Does Milano Market know your order by heart? Do they have your address on file for delivery at Ollie’s and Thai Market?

If one of these statements is true, it may be time for a cuisine makeover. Luckily for the Ham Del-weary, recent economic conditions have given students a new reason to eat out. In order to attract business as neighborhood residents feel tight on cash, local restaurants have begun to offer “recession specials.”

Campo (Broadway between 112th and 113th Streets) offers a plethora of deals. Their Sunday Feast is a perfect way to end a long weekend and celebrate finishing (or beginning) your homework. It includes a five-course dinner for \$19.90.

On Mondays, thirsty and thrifty students alike can enjoy a half-price bottle of wine with purchase of a meal. Campo also serves all-you-can-eat pizza with salad and dessert for \$19.90 on Tuesdays. On Wednesdays, their

spaghetti and meatballs with salad and dessert for \$14.90 is the perfect way to enjoy the almost-weekend. Campo’s capitalization on current bad times means great food for great prices almost every day of the week.

Other locations throughout the city, from haute cuisine restaurants such as Le Cirque to street food venues like Gray’s Papaya, are slashing prices and offering deals to keep their tables full as customers tighten their purse strings. Le Cirque (East 58th Street at Lexington Avenue) has extended its Restaurant Week prix-fixe deals through February, meaning if you missed your opportunity in January, you still have another week to get a three-course prix-fixe for \$24.07. Gray’s Papaya (Broadway and 72nd Street) serves two franks and a small drink for \$3.50, a great deal for on-the-go dining.

For those who want to sample fine wines and Italian cuisine without the hefty price tag, try ‘Cesca (164 West 75th Street). Only a short subway ride from Columbia, ‘Cesca offers great Italian fare, and on Mondays,

they slash prices on wine by the bottle. A three-course prix-fixe is also available for \$31 before 6:30 on weekday evenings.

Slightly closer to campus, Jamaican-French fusion restaurant A Café and Wine Room (973 Columbus Avenue at 108th Street) continues to maximize quality of food for every dollar. Bring your own alcohol and enjoy the cozy setting for a nice but price-efficient dinner. Patrons who arrive before 8:00 p.m. can also enjoy a \$20 two-course prix-fixe menu.

While recent weeks have seen notable closings in the restaurant scene, the time has never been better for students to take advantage of affordable deals to dining out. Enjoying some of the great food New York has to offer also helps support the city’s battered restaurant industry—because happy diners mean happy restaurateurs.



Photo Illustration by Yufei Liu

FILM

Filmmaker Exposes Poverty, but Gives Vague Solutions

BY VICTORIA FOX
Columbia Daily Spectator

“We are going toward a major explosion,” Philippe Diaz warns, “unless we change something drastically.”

In a phone interview about his film *The End of Poverty?*, currently playing at the Best of the African Diaspora Film Festival, writer-director Diaz was adamant that unchecked poverty plagues not only the developing world, but will also eventually crush the economies of developed nations. Diaz’s film takes a sweeping historical perspective to substantiate this claim, explaining poverty’s roots, current implications, and future effects.

To achieve its massive scope, the film relies principally on the testimonies of economists, scholars, and politicians, as well impoverished individuals in Africa and Latin America. Diaz’s film was a logical addition to the festival, which strives to highlight films that are not only conscious of African diaspora themes, but also risk being overlooked in conventional film circles.

Though relevant to the current economic landscape, Diaz encountered difficulty bringing his film to screen. “They tried for a long time to do a movie on the true historical and political causes [of poverty], but of course in Hollywood, no one is interested in doing that,”

Diaz said. It was only through his own production company, Cinema Libre, that Diaz finally brought his film to fruition.

To explain poverty today, Diaz turns to the history of colonial exploitation and violence against resource-rich regions, beginning in 1492. “I was trying to explain that poverty is not something which happened recently,” he said.

Despite the end of mass colonialism, Diaz argues that nothing substantial has been done to reverse the patterns of exploitation that began centuries ago. “The more we consume the more we have to plunge people into poverty to [maintain] balance,” Diaz remarked. He claims little has changed in 500 years, as developed nations are still dependent on cheap natural resources to dominate economically. Violent conquest has simply given way to a subtler neo-imperialism. While developing nations have independent governments, they are still subjugated by unfair treaties and insurmountable debt.

Though the film is detailed in its assessment of the historical causes and effects of poverty, it becomes disturbingly abstract when it begins to search for a solution. “We have to change the system,” Diaz stated. “These natural resources come from nature and therefore should be benefiting everybody, not just a few



Courtesy of the African Diaspora Film Festival
POSITIONS ON POVERTY | Phillippe Diaz’s film *The End of Poverty?* focuses on the history and persistence of poverty in Africa and Latin America and calls for change.

people or corporations.”

General as the solution “change the system” may seem, Diaz argues that it is necessary for developed nations to find tangible ways to overhaul their economic practices. Since resources are currently being consumed faster than the earth can replenish them, Diaz urges developed nations to act now, if not to aid the impoverished out of philanthropy, then to simply avoid their own economic collapse due over-consumption.

“You can’t dig a hole for generations

and hope that one day you won’t fall in it,” he cautioned. “You can find tricks and play games to make it sound like it still works, but one moment it will not work anymore.”

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

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 John Ellis Bush, familiarly

4 Unresponsive condition

8 Mine passage 13 "Enchanted": 2004 film

15 Nicholas II was the last

16 Friend of Rex 17 Ersatz

18 "Maupassant forte

20 Speedy

22 R&B's India

23 Adjusts to create a mood, as lights

24 College QB, e.g.

26 "This is too much"

28 Sporty Toyotas

31 Spew

32 "Series of missed calls

34 Get steamed

38 Latin 101 word

39 Animal's mouth

41 Wood of the Stones

42 Western evergreen

46 "Fan of a "Grateful" band

50 Refinery inputs

52 Basic ed trio

53 Piano bar petitions

57 Dietary no-no, sometimes

58 Race place

59 Author Bombick

61 Obscen of "Wuthering Heights"

64 "Sissy

67 Nantes right

68 Albert of "Green Acres"

69 Avian warbler

70 "Domini

71 Harvests

72 Three-handed card game

73 Level of comprehension

DOWN

1 Bridges of "Seabiscuit"

2 Midwest carrier

3 "Aristocrat

44 Fury

45 Adjust, as a hem

47 Tonsil-checking sounds

48 Wee weight

49 Capital near the Great Divide

51 They're often stuck in lds

53 Rodeo performer

54 Get away from

55 Press conference format, briefly

56 Dynamite relative

58 Cruising, maybe

62 Queue, and word that can follow both words in the answers to stamned clues

63 Thames school

65 Hoped-for proposal response

66 Dynamic relative

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

C	A	T	S	T	A	L	K	H	O	S	T
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kworreditor@aol.com 02/25/09

Pressure Not a Problem for Whitaker

WHITAKER from back page

some of my pitches and started throwing a change up,” Whitaker said. “I think overall I’m just much more comfortable when on the mound.”

Not only will he have to step into the large shoes of a more important slot in the rotation, but Whitaker will also be more responsible for helping the Lions defend their

championship title. Nevertheless, he believes that maintaining composure is the key to another successful season.

“We definitely have a target on our backs this year,” Whitaker said. “At the same time, if we press all year thinking about defending our title, we’ll have a tough time winning games.”

As for personal goals, the sophomore wishes to continue to do what

ever possible to get his team wins.

“I hope to continue starting games on the mound,” Whitaker said. “I’d just like to be a consistent force on the mound and put us [Columbia] in a position to win games whenever the ball is in my hands.”

The Lions first game of the 2009 season takes place Feb. 27 against Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas at 7:30 p.m.

Rookie of the Year Returns to Field

COX from page back page

When asked what game from last season really stuck out in his mind, Cox was quick to answer. “The first championship series against Dartmouth.”

Nevertheless, the preceding game

against Cornell was his best statistics-wise.

“Maybe Cornell was my best game, but Dartmouth was way more important to the team,” Cox explained.

It is distinctions like these—between personal gain and collective

success—that draws the line between winning and winning the Ivy League Championship. Hoping to maintain a level of “consistency” for the oncoming season, Nick Cox may be just what Columbia needs to maintain its championship recognition.

For BC Alum, It’s Easy Singing Green

SHREK from page back page

she has enjoyed writing with established playwrights like Dick Scanlan and Tony Kushner, CC ’78.

A graduate of the Juilliard School’s Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwrights Program, Lindsay-Abaire came into *Shrek* as a knowledgeable listener, but without any formal music training. After four years of extensive collaborations, however, he and Tesori have developed a musical filled with catchy tunes like Shrek’s confessional, “Who I’d Be” or the ritzy showstopper, “Freak Flag.” They’ve created an entirely original score, with Smash Mouth’s “I’m A Believer” being played by the orchestra only as an exit anthem following the final curtain call.

And yes, while *Shrek the Musical* does follow the same basic plotline of the cinematic

gem that garnered over \$200 million in box office sales, Tesori and co. spent a good deal of time inventing and improvising. For instance, the actors playing the fairy tale favorites that storm Shrek’s swamp spent countless rehearsal hours discovering just who their characters were and how they might act.

Tesori and Lindsay-Abaire encouraged this organic process. “When you start a show, you don’t really know what you’re doing,” said Tesori. She likened the creation of a musical to looking at a newborn baby, saying, “I love you, but I don’t know who you are yet.” It’s all new.

One of the few women who compose music for the theater—the only woman, in fact, to have had two new shows running concurrently on Broadway (*Thoroughly Modern Millie* and *Caroline, or Change*)—Tesori finds the pau-

city of female representation in New York theater disheartening. “It is very possible, very doable, and necessary that we have these [female] voices not just as playwrights and lyricists but also as composers,” said Tesori, who got her start writing tuners for the 1984 Varsity Show, *The New U*. “I know that they’re there, and I see them writing.”

At the center of a male-dominated profession, Tesori hopes to organize a free lecture series for students interested in music at Barnard. She aims to show that while there is no prescription for success, composing is in fact a viable career option. “It’d be lovely for kids to spend their energy just starting out knowing what will come their way from people who are older,” she said. The story of *Shrek* is one of inclusion and solidarity, and Tesori seeks to build camaraderie by giving back to the place where her professional life began.

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A self-portrait of Caravaggio as Bacchus. Honestly, he wouldn't last 10 minutes on *The Sopranos*.

young artist he struggled for years to make a living. He was a hustler. Yet the angry contrast between light and darkness in his work is the reason why it now hangs in countless museums around the world.

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TOMORROW



SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2009 • PAGE 10



Last season, Lions baseball won the Ivy League Championship, finishing with a 15-5 conference record.

TOMORROW

Returning Starters Primed for New Baseball Season

Rotation Counts On Whitaker to Carry Light Blue

BY MICHAEL SHAPIRO
Spectator Staff Writer

As a freshman last year, right-handed pitcher Geoff Whitaker was a major contributor to the Lions' championship season. Now a sophomore, Whitaker will have to carry the weight of serving as one of the team's top starting pitchers and help defend Columbia's Ivy League title.

At Cactus High School in his hometown of Peoria, Arizona, Whitaker excelled both on and off the diamond. Whitaker's perseverance on the mound earned him the role of team captain and in his senior year, Whitaker totaled 10 wins with a 1.50 ERA and 107 strikeouts. Additionally, he racked up numerous distinctions including four varsity letters and the honor of being named to the Arizona Republic All-State first team. Columbia seemed liked the perfect fit for the National Honor Society member and valedictorian.

"The combination of an Ivy League education and going to school in the city was something that was awfully hard to turn down," Whitaker said in an e-mail.

Whitaker wasn't timid about taking the mound in his freshman year at Columbia. He rarely missed an opportunity to prove himself worthy of a starting spot on the team. In the first game of a double-header against Liberty University, he struck out four batters and surrendered three earned runs over seven innings, marking his first career win.

"I just try to work as hard as I can on and off the field so I can perform to the best of my ability come game time," Whitaker said. "At the same time, I'm not the most intense guy so I try to have some fun when putting the work in."

In his first Ivy League game again Brown, Whitaker pitched 7 1/3 innings and struck out six while only allowing two earned runs. The win was his third of the season and capped a double-header sweep for the Light Blue.

Balancing a demanding baseball schedule and taking classes for some may appear to be a stressful, arduous task. Nevertheless, Whitaker appears to have found a remedy for the predicament.

"You constantly have a lot of work to take care of with little time so I just try to not stress about stuff too much," he said. "I try to stay pretty composed when I'm on the mound, and I think that can help in academics, too."

Entering the 2009 season, Whitaker will have even more pressure on his shoulders as he takes on a larger role on the team. After finishing last season leading the Lions in wins with six and starting 10 out of 13 of the games he appeared in, he will likely be placed in the number two spot in the pitching rotation behind senior captain Joe Scarlata. Whitaker seems confident that after polishing some of his skills over the past year, he has become a better pitcher.

"I'm a lot stronger this year and I've improved

SEE WHITAKER, page 8

NICK COX

YEAR: CC '11
POSITION: Centerfield
HOMETOWN: Lake Mary, Florida
IN 2008:
Posted a .355 Batting Average in 200 at bats
Named Ivy League Rookie of the Year
Earned second team All-Ivy League honors
Named Louisville Slugger Freshman All-American



Courtesy of Columbia Athletics

Cox Looks to Lead Columbia in the Outfield in 2009

BY JULIETTE DALEY
Spectator Staff Writer

With the golden locks and casual demeanor to match, Floridian Nick Cox has made his return to the Tri-State area anything but modest. A sophomore dabbling in a pre-med concentration and political science minor, Cox's recent contributions to the baseball team have made for a healthy turn of events.

Ivy League Champions of the 2008 season, the Lions are coming off a spectacular winning streak and looking to change close to nothing in regards to the preparation it took them to get there. In fact, the overall game plan seems to be just that. "Same thing as last year," said Cox when probed for the secret plan for the upcoming season. A strategic move for the mere observer, but easier said than done from the bona-fide player.

With both the secret plan exposed as well as the departure of seven integral seniors from the roster, Cox's plan seems all but impossible. Almost. Cox ranked first in hits, fifth in runs, eighth in total bases, and second in stolen bases last season, making him an all around offensive threat. He also has a Ivy League Rookie of the Year award to keep on his trophy shelf.

The road to success this season wont be an easy one as threats such as Cornell's Head Coach Bill Walkenbach and Princeton's veteran team look to be worthy challengers for the defending Ivy Champions. Nick's "Yes We Can" attitude, however, seems to propel the squad forward once more into the breach.

When Cox first arrived at Columbia, he wasn't fully decided on what sport he would pursue. Having earned four varsity letters in both baseball and football in high school, the choice was not an easy one.

"Football was more dominant when I was in high school, but that also meant it was much more intense. When it came down to it, I had to be realistic with the time commitment I was about to make," said Cox.

Cox's transition to the baseball team did not come without its trials, especially since he was the only freshman in the outfielding core.

"When we would all split up into our groups I was always the younger guy so I'd get somewhat of a hard-time, but the guys always wanted what was best for the team and we really learned to work together as a teams," Cox said.

Cox's admiration for the team stems from trust established between each player and their responsibilities.

"Everybody was able to trust in the other person and we were never waiting for one player to step up and be successful," Cox said. "We all equally depended on each other."

SEE COX, page 8

Graphic by Ben Cotton and
Rebecca Eis



Courtesy of Columbia Athletics

GEOFF WHITAKER

YEAR: CC '11
POSITION: Pitcher
HOMETOWN: Peoria, Arizona
IN 2008:
Led the Lions in wins with a 6-3 record
Achieved a 4-1 record in conference games
Started in 10 of 13 games he appeared in
Named Ivy League Rookie of the Week in March



File Photos

NEW AND IMPROVED | As freshmen, Geoff Whitaker (left) and Nick Cox played crucial roles on the Lions' roster on the team's road to the Ivy League Championship. This season, they will try to once again led Columbia to an Ivy Title.

Dartmouth, Harvard Remain Atop Ivy Basketball Standings

BY MICHAEL SHAPIRO
Spectator Staff Writer

Another exciting weekend of Ivy League women's basketball yielded an outcome reminiscent of the past few weeks. Four teams completed weekend sweeps including Dartmouth, which once again managed to defeat both of its opponents to extend its undefeated season to a remarkable 9-0 Ivy (14-9 overall). Nevertheless, Harvard picked up wins against Princeton and Penn and kept pace with the Big Green with a 7-2 conference record.

Dartmouth continued its dominant season starting with its match against Penn (3-6 Ivy, 6-17) on Friday night. The Quakers entered the game looking to extend a three—game winning streak, but were shutdown by the Big Green's stalwart defense and consistent offense. Dartmouth held its opponents to a 35.4 field goal percentage, while Penn failed to convert any of its 11 attempted three—pointers. Sophomore forward Brittney Smith led the Big Green in shooting, sinking seven of 11 field goals. Dartmouth won the contest by a 19-point margin, 55-36.

Following its victory over Penn, Dartmouth traveled to New Jersey to battle Princeton (4-5 Ivy, 9-14) on Saturday. The Tigers put up a valiant fight but ultimately fell to their first-place foe

in a nail-biter. The two teams remained even at 32-32 with just under 10 minutes left on the clock in the second half and neither was willing to go out without a struggle. With 1:41 left in the contest, Smith sunk a layup to put the Big Green on top 43-42. Princeton was unable to counter offensively and failed to become the first team in the Ancient Eight to defeat Dartmouth this season.

Harvard (7-2 Ivy, 15-8 overall) also enjoyed a weekend sweep, beginning with a narrow win over Princeton 54-50. Sophomore forward Emma Markley carried the Crimson with 16 points (7-12) and eight total rebounds. Forward Lauren Edwards kept the Tigers in the game, sinking six of 11 field goals, grabbing five rebounds, and snatching two steals. A huge three—pointer from Princeton's Addie Micir kept her team within a couple points of the Crimson. Nevertheless, Markley was fouled with under a minute remaining and sunk both free-throw opportunities.

The Crimson had an easier time pulling out a win against Penn on Saturday. Once again, Markley led Harvard and accomplished her seventh double-double on the season with 23 points and 14 rebounds. It was an impressive day overall for the Crimson's offense as senior co—captain Emily Tay and freshman Brogan Berry also totaled double digits in scoring. Penn's defense proved futile as Harvard rained baskets, shooting 46 percent overall on the day. The Quaker's lost their fifth conference game on the season by a score of 69-54.

In Ithaca, Cornell (5-5 Ivy, 9-13) also won both games it competed in this weekend. On Friday, the Big Red faced Yale (3-7 Ivy, 10-14) and mercilessly defeated the Bulldogs 80-62. For Cornell, freshman Allison Abt and junior Virginia McMunigal both racked up 20 points apiece, while junior Allie Fedorowicz also reached double-digits with 11 points. Overall, the Big Red shot an unbelievable 61.2 field goal percentage and 61.1 percent from three-point territory. The Bulldogs put up a worthy offensive performance



File Photo


TIGHT COMPETITION | While Dartmouth sits in first place, Harvard and Columbia are not too far behind after a tense weekend.

(with a 44.2 field goal percentage and 40 percent from behind the line) but were unable to match their adversary's power and fell 80-62.

McMunigal set the tone for the Big Red in its contest against Brown (1-9 Ivy, 3-21) on Saturday. The junior netted 24

points and collected four rebounds in the team's 68-58 victory. The Bears led 45-33 with 15 minutes remaining in the second half, but Cornell went on a 12-2 run to take the lead and never looked back. The Big Red proceeded to defeat the Bears 68-58.

Lastly, Columbia also won both games it competed in this past weekend. The Light Blue vanquished Brown 88-57 on Friday and Yale 77-61 on Saturday to improve to a 6-4 record and third place in the Ivy League. The Lions' Judie Lomax was named Ivy League Player of the Week.

IVY LEAGUE W. BASKETBALL STANDINGS		
	OVERALL STANDINGS	IVY STANDINGS
DARTMOUTH	14-9	9-0
HARVARD	15-8	7-2
COLUMBIA	13-11	6-4
CORNELL	9-13	5-5
PRINCETON	9-14	4-5
PENN	6-17	3-6
YALE	10-14	3-7
BROWN	3-21	1-9