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LionPAC and Hillel Israel Committee take issue with a new Palestinian student group's accusation of an Israeli Apartheid.

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The YouTube Symphony Orchestra, comprised of musicians from all corners of the globe, auditioned its members by video and allowed YouTubers a say in the decision.



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Junior Alex Rudnicki has suffered three major injuries over his career as a fencer, including dislocating his shoulder in a match that he eventually won.

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Dartmouth's No Longer Undefeated

Dartmouth finally lost its first Ivy League game against Cornell amidst an exciting past weekend of women's basketball. The Big Green drop to a 10-1 conference record.

ONLINE

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THURSDAY

Bollinger to Chat With Grad Students

On Thursday evening, President Lee Bollinger will host a fireside chat specifically for graduate students at his residence.



Joey Shemuel / Senior Staff Photographer

GIRL POWER | At the opening reception of Women's History Month Tuesday night, panelists Ashima Dayal, CC '89, Leslie Gittess, CC '88, and Mariana Metalios, BC '85, spoke about their experiences at Columbia when it first became co-ed.

Old Marine Station to Gain New, Green Life

BY MAGGIE ASTOR
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

In the latest step along a lengthy quest for green redevelopment of a former marine transfer station on West 135th Street, the Waterfront and Economic Development Committee of local Community Board 9 met Tuesday to finalize and approve planning recommendations to the board at large.

The committee estimated that a retrofitting project would cost \$26 million but would create jobs, localize food production, and make the West Harlem neighborhood more sustainable.

Savona Bailey-McClain, committee co-chair, said their goal isn't just to make the facility itself go green. "We're trying to have green jobs in the facility and increase income for a lot of local people for different types of jobs they might not otherwise get the opportunity for."

The marine transfer station that once stood on the lot closed in 1998. Since

then, its walls and panels have been heavily vandalized, but the structure remains intact.

The plan to redevelop the station includes construction of a "detached vertical greenwall" at the entrance, a "green roof with solar panels and room to harvest rainwater," interior space for a restaurant that will support a small aquafarming and hydroponic program, "space for an ecology center," and other environmental features. Committee members emphasized that the proposed changes will also have economic benefits for the community.

The resolution distributed at Tuesday evening's meeting states that CB9 "sought to pro-actively examine the possibilities of water related and environmentally based job opportunities, which would further advance our community's desire to be self-sustaining and sufficient."

The approved resolution will now go to the New York City Economic Development Corporation for a feasibility study.

Committee members say they intend to call upon Mayor Michael Bloomberg to support the project, as the station is city-owned property.

Bailey-McClain said of aquafarming and hydroponics—two related, environmentally-friendly resource production systems—that the projects are "budding and could possibly work for us since we are a waterfront community." Aquafarming is a process by which fish and shellfish are raised under controlled conditions, and hydroponics is a process of growing plants by substituting mineral nutrient solutions for soil.

Both methods are relatively new and still in experimental stages. They are also expensive, so the committee emphasized that the plan would be a pilot program and subject to revision.

Bailey-McClain said the bulk of the project's funding would likely come from the Upper Manhattan Empowerment

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New Legislation Says Don't Let the Bedbugs Bite

BY LIZA WEINGARTEN
Spectator Staff Writer

They say one person's trash is another person's treasure. But in New York City, that treasure can be a whole lot more than you bargained for.

Though bedbugs were once a pest of the past, reports of infestations today are approaching the levels known in the 1950s, before they were largely wiped out by the powerful pesticide DDT. According to city officials, bedbug complaints reported to the 311 hotline doubled between 2006 and 2008, with 9,200 calls in 2008 alone. With these insects' numbers on the rise, New York City Council officials are taking a firm stand, recently introducing various bills to fight back against the bites.

Within this legislative package are proposals that would require anyone who discards a mattress to display a sign that says, "Used Mattress—For Disposal Only," to discourage people from bringing these street-finds home. The system is similar to one recently implemented in Boston to stave off the threat of bedbugs. Another proposal, which is being reintroduced after three years of inactivity, would ban the sale of used mattresses altogether.

According to the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, a common way homes become infested with bedbugs is when a resident brings in a piece of furniture already hosting the insects.

Other parts of the legislation include the creation of a task force focusing on disseminating information, a training program for property owners, and a resolution calling upon the state to promulgate these new rules.

In an effort to push the bills through, the city-council committees on consumers affairs, hygiene and sanitation, and safety and health held a joint hearing Tuesday on the legislative package. The hearing earned support for the proposals, which have already garnered Mayor Michael Bloomberg's backing.

A co-author of the legislation, Councilwoman Gale Brewer, has taken an active hand in pushing this legislation through. While Shula Warren, chief of staff for Brewer noted that it is "hard to say what the time line is [for the bills]," she also said that council members are "hoping that that support translates."

While many wait for this legislative protection from infestation, others are in combat with the bugs on a daily basis. In a city where housing consists primarily of large, multiple dwelling buildings and where tourism thrives, an infestation left alone will likely continue to worsen. Warren noted that bedbugs are often found "in all places where people come together," from five-star hotels to college dormitories.

In 2006, John Jay Hall had a bedbug problem on the 13th floor that forced three floors to be put into temporary housing in Hartley Hall.

"The thing we've been noticing is a pattern that bedbugs can be transported by individuals that travel," Mike Morin, one of the owners of Bed Bug Finders, a pest-control company, said. "You might have the cleanest hotel, but sometimes it's the people that come."

Though the legislation is still pending, Morin expressed his belief that, in the meantime, people can still work to confront a pest problem. According to Morin, sometimes tackling an infestation can be as simple as getting rid of host items, such as phonebooks or clock radios. Or, in the case of mattresses, it often comes down to disposing of them. Morin recommends cutting the infested mattress in half so that nobody will attempt to reuse it, bagging it so that no bedbugs fall off, and placing a warning sign on the mattress.

Meanwhile, it seems that no neighborhood is safe. "We've been getting calls from people of all walks of life," Warren said, adding that bedbugs "don't discriminate."

The Bed Bug Registry, online infestation

SEE BEDBUGS, page 2

ISRAELI COMMITTEE



Joey Shemuel / Senior Staff Photographer

FRESH PERSPECTIVE | On Tuesday, Zeidan Atashi, an Israeli Druze discussed the history of the Druze in the Middle East, their relationship with Israeli society, and coreligionists outside Israel.

Reading and Complaining Go Hand in Hand With Heavy Syllabi

BY MADINA TOURE
Spectator Staff Writer

Though many come to Columbia to hit the books, by the time midterms roll around, a number are ready to hit their heads against a wall.

"This is how much reading I have. I have so much reading that I run out my print quota for one lecture," said Veronica Hylton, CC '12, who added later, "Completely honestly, I don't give a shit about French tax structure in the 1920s."

Yet despite the din of complaints that fills Butler's hallways, students and professors generally agree that while readings can often be dense, "it's important in college to read and it's important to learn how to read," as Lorraine Minnite, Barnard assistant professor of political science said.

Addressing concerns about reading-intensive courses such as political science, history, and English, professors insist that

students should develop their ability to filter out important concepts in the texts. "It means that students have to learn how to read that material and they have to develop strategies for how to tackle the ideas," Minnite explained.

Still, said Columbia Professor of political science Nadia Urbinati, the volume of reading all depends on the content. "Sometimes the reading is so narrative, sometimes it's very dense and it's expected of them to read less," she noted.

Though many, like Hylton, bemoan their overwhelming amounts of reading, others acknowledge that there may be a positive side to doing their homework.

"I became a faster reader since I came here and I know how to pick out what the important things are," Nicole Donnachie, BC '09, said.

"I'm in a political science colloquium

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Dressed To Kill

The Arnold A. Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies presents a talk on the trend of female suicide bombers, featuring Farhana Ali, a Senior Fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies on Terrorism.

1512 International Affairs, 12:15 p.m.

Unwell Book Signing

Leslie Lipton, BC '08, will read from her new book, *Unwell*, a novel portraying the world of a teenage girl plagued by anorexia. Lipton will also be signing copies.

302 Barnard Hall, 8 p.m.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“It’s important to learn how to read.”

—Lorraine Minnite, Assistant professor of political science

GENERAL CONTACT INFORMATION

Columbia Spectator
2875 Broadway, 3rd Floor
New York City, NY 10025
info@columbiaspectator.com
Daily Spectator (212) 854-9555
Editorial Fax (212) 854-9611
Business (212) 854-9550
Business Fax (212) 854-9553

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Israel, Gaza Student Groups Clash on Issues of Divestment and Apartheid

BY KIM KIRSCHENBAUM
Spectator Staff Writer

On Monday, one group of students demanded that the University divest from companies that profit directly from the Gaza conflict. On Tuesday, another group did just the opposite, calling divestment a way to deliberately single out the state of Israel.

LionPAC, a pro-Israel campus group, and the Hillel Israel Committee—both of which are sub-groups of the Columbia/ Barnard Hillel—directly responded to the newly formed Columbia Palestine Forum campaign by fliering campus in an effort to express their opposition to student calls for divestment from Israel. The Hillel also released a statement on apartheid and divestment, in which it stated its opposition to “the concept of Israel Apartheid and calls for divestment”

and called the labeling of Israel as an apartheid state “wholly inappropriate.”

The Columbia Palestine Forum—a campaign launched yesterday by organizers of the Columbia Community in Standing with Gaza—caused the pro-Israel groups to express the belief that divestment is a malicious attempt to associate Israel with some of the world’s most evil regimes.

“The idea of divestment is that it associates Israel with South African apartheid,” Brandon Hammer, Hillel’s Israel Coordinator and CC ’10, said. “When you hold divestment events during Israel Apartheid week, anyone can see the implications,” he added, referring to the fact that the Columbia Palestine Forum formed during Israel Apartheid Week, an annual series of events used “to educate people about the nature of Israel as an apartheid system,” according to the event’s official Web site.

In stating their case, LionPAC and the Hillel Israel Committee have referred to University President Lee Bollinger’s opposition to divestment from Israel. The group recalled a 2002 statement in which he opposed student calls for divestment from Israel, asserting, “As President of Columbia, ... I want to state clearly that I will not lend any support to this proposal. The petition alleges human rights abuses and compares Israel to South Africa at the time of apartheid, an analogy I believe is both grotesque and offensive.” Representatives of the University could not respond to calls by press time.

LionPAC has also questioned what prompted the Columbia Palestine Forum to launch its initiatives in the first place. Columbia Palestine Forum group members said that their decision to release a list of demands to the University was spurred by the successful actions of Hampshire College students to move

their administration to divest from Israel as a model for their own efforts. But members of LionPAC have countered the Columbia Palestine Forum’s premise by making reference to a letter signed by the Hampshire College president in which he stated that the college’s divestment was entirely unrelated to Israel’s relationship with Palestine.

“We’re attempting to educate the campus community about the facts on the issues,” said LionPAC president Jacob Shapiro, GS/JTS ’10, who is also an editor in *Spectator*’s sports section. “I think that’s important given the leniency that’s been given towards checking the facts and towards presenting the facts.”

But Columbia Palestine Forum group members maintained that Israel is an apartheid state, referring to recent actions in the conflict between Gaza and Israel.

“One need only to look at Israel’s brutal attack last month and the ongoing economic

siege of Gaza, which is literally starving people,” said Matt Swagler, a first year GSAS student and member of the International Socialist Organization. “And even though Palestinians and other Arabs inside Israel have the same legal rights on paper, in practice they face intense amounts of racism and discrimination in employment, housing and daily life.”

Aaron Winslow, also first-year GSAS and an organizer of the Columbia Palestine Forum agreed, stating, “There are pretty clear parallels to apartheid and we’re not the first people to make that claim.”

Columbia/Barnard Hillel president Sarah Brafman, CC ’10, also reflected on the language used by the new group. “When it comes to using terminology like apartheid and divestment, and divestment links a country to being a kind of regime, that’s something that crosses the line.”

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First Female Alumnae Recall Early, Co-ed, CU

WOMEN’S HISTORY from front page

practice on the courts at Baker Field. Underfunded, the women’s tennis team bonded through t-shirt sales and other necessary fundraisers, she said. Nonetheless, they remained frustrated by the discrepancy between how male and female varsity athletes were treated at Columbia.

Dayal echoed Gittess’ thoughts on Columbia athletics of the 1980s. Dayal, currently a partner at a New York law firm, became captain of her varsity crew team during her time at Columbia. She called the boathouse a beautiful building, describing the men’s state-of-the-art changing facilities and juxtaposed them with what she described as the cramped, moldy showers and changing area provided for women. “I’m sure it was a health hazard,” she said.

Gittess said she is pleased with the progress Columbia has made in the area of athletics. Today there are 14 female varsity sports teams and 13 male teams.

Mariana Metalios, BC ’85, adjunct lecturer at SIPA and project director with the Urban Homesteading Assistance Board, was in her second year at Barnard when Columbia College accepted its first class including female students.

Metalios said that when Columbia College first began admitting women, people were quick to question whether there was any place for Barnard in the University anymore. “I wasn’t worried because I knew there was something different and special and withstanding [about Barnard], and still is.”

About the prospect of Barnard merging with Columbia College, Metalios said, “I don’t know if Barnard could have been offered anything to lose its Barnard-ness. There was some stubbornness involved, and there was a risk involved because Barnard could have tanked. I personally didn’t have this concern.”

“I’m glad she [Barnard] is still around,” Metalios said.

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City Bites Down on Rising Bedbug Problem

BEDBUGS from front page

tracker, shows that bedbug reports continue to be filed in buildings up and down the Upper West Side.

While infestations fall under the public health category, a bedbug problem can quickly escalate into more than a slight disturbance. “Bedbugs may not

be a medical health issue, but their presence causes a mental health problem. Being bitten by bedbugs at night impact’s a person’s job performance by day, and is often a financial hardship,” Brewer said, adding that she will “stand ready to continue to fight these frightening pests.”

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Fencer Turns Attention to NCAA Championships

FENCER from back page

year, earning him Second Team All-Ivy honors, a feat he repeated this season. That included an 11-4 mark at the league tournament, blemished only by a 0-3 finish against conference champion Penn in the first part of the championships. It was part of an all-around disappointing performance for the men’s team against the Quakers, a let down that Rudnicki admits still bothers him.

“It’s disappointing,” he said. “I take blame. I didn’t wake up for that match against Penn. They just jumped on us. They came out ready and just overwhelmed us. They wanted it more.”


There is still a chance that Columbia could face off against Penn once more this season, this time on the national level at the NCAA Championships in two weeks. But though Rudnicki is positive about the Light Blue’s chances, he still feels hampered by his multitude of injuries this year. The junior fractured his foot at the start of the season and then sprained his right ankle soon afterwards. Even his

separated shoulder still bothers him almost a month later—resetting the shoulder himself and continuing with the match, Rudnicki says, was “a terrible decision because it’s been hurting for a while and I still don’t have the same mobility.”

Regardless of how this season turns out, Rudnicki is, in some ways, already looking forward to life after Columbia fencing. A civil engineering major, Rudnicki has thrown himself into his work; he even admits that his personal interest in fencing has waned over time as he begins to formulate his career plans. Rudnicki is undecided about how far he’ll go with fencing, but says that he’d like to try his hand at coaching. For now, however, Rudnicki continues to train, both for the NCAAs and for the tournaments he will take part in over the summer. Foremost on his mind is the chance for Columbia to go far against the nation’s best.

“If we’re all together, if the entire team’s together at NCAAs, I think we can win it,” Rudnicki said.

Although he’d probably like it if he didn’t handicap himself again in the process.



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West Side Stories

For Goodness’ Sake

BY AKIVA BAMBERGER

They say we live in an age of narcissism. It can be easy to get sucked into that current, especially when you see it in heroes like Howard Roark and Achilles. Yet it is the little actions that people commit, out of compassion or kindness and without any expectation of reward, that helped me regain a certain faith in mankind this past winter.

While reading *The Fountainhead* in Florida this past winter vacation, I was pretty sure that Howard Roark, the hero of the novel, was a good model for an ambitious student. Roark, an uncompromising architect who finds greatness by meeting his own high expectations, seemed to display the same qualities as the Greek heroes, from strength to self-conceit. Ayn Rand’s novel made me believe that pursuing individual greatness or kleos was not only a good thing, but was the only thing that led to human progress. A few weeks later, in an abandoned K-Mart parking lot in the frozen depths of Pennsylvania, I found out that the virtue of selfishness might not be as great as Rand led me to believe.

It was right before spring semester was to start. I was in Pennsylvania, driving to a friend’s wedding in Toronto with a car that had 90,000 miles on it. With me were two other guys; the first drove while the second discussed his job. Rand sat in the back of my mind as I looked out the window at the snow-covered woods beside the road. Soon, I felt a draft. The heater was spewing cold air. I asked the driver about it, and he said the engine was overheating. We decided to pull over.

Steam poured out from under the hood at the Sheetz gas station that we pulled into. The driver, it turned out, didn’t have a AAA card in his own name, so we’d need to fix the car on our own. When we asked a man at the gas station what the problem might be, he guessed that the antifreeze might be low (he was really looking at the windshield wiper fluid reservoir). We drove to a K-Mart parking lot up a hill in Scranton as the engine coughed fitfully. Though the K-Mart was closing up, one high school employee agreed to drive us to the local Walmart, a ten minute walk from our car, for \$20. We got to Walmart, bought the antifreeze, and went back to the K-Mart parking lot, at which point the high school kid took off.

Stranded at an empty K-Mart parking lot, we were totally screwed. The driver didn’t know how to open the antifreeze, and tried biting it off with his teeth. Then, after realizing that it was not a twist-off top, we

opened it and found that we had no idea which reservoir to put the antifreeze in. The entire time, the wind was blowing harshly on our exposed faces, and hypothermia was all I could think about. Nobody would be able to find us in that K-Mart parking lot, I thought. We were atop a hill, in the middle of nowhere. I hated the other passengers more and more as one tried to liken our situation to Harold and Kumar’s.

Just then, as we were ready to pour the antifreeze into some unknown container under the hood, a car pulled up. It was a high school boy named Chad with a friend in the car, and he asked if we needed help. He got out and checked our engine, telling us he worked in a mechanic’s shop. After figuring out that our busted engine was the problem, he offered to drive us to a nearby hotel. We agreed, though I was wary of help from strangers. Chad then drove us away from our abandoned car. He passed the Motel 6 and the Best Western, saying he knew of a nicer hotel. Damn it, I thought, he’s not taking us to any hotel. He’s going to steal all of our stuff and leave us on top of an even colder hill. And then, surprisingly, he stopped at a nice hotel. He walked out, helping us take our stuff out, and even bargained with the concierge for a large reduction in the price of the room.

It was an act of goodness that I didn’t understand right away. Chad and the concierge would not hear from us again. Rand would argue that the concierge had little to benefit from reducing the price. Chad had no idea who we were, and though many might have picked up stranded college kids on a freezing night, few would have haggled for a deal at a nice hotel on behalf of those kids. The practical heroism of Chad was maybe not like the idyllic heroism of Achilles, but I preferred it that night. Though he risked nothing by picking us up, Chad had done something special by helping us, and I was grateful for that.

Chad helped loosen Rand’s grip on my psyche. Rand made me believe that humans were isolated beings, and value was given according to a formula: those who achieved the most were the greatest. But Chad helped me understand that humanity shines when we forget about those formulas and neat equations, and act without expectation of reward. It was something Rand was not ready to concede, but it was simple and sweet, and it was able to make me want to do good more than any book by Ayn Rand.

The author is a Columbia College sophomore.



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.

Better Teachers With Online Education

BY EDWARD KIM

The entire country is suffering from a shortage of teachers that are qualified and rigorously trained to effect real change, in particular within high-need and urban school districts, according to the National Commission on Teaching and America’s Future. The good news is that great teachers can be found anywhere—a physics major, a stay-at-home mom, or a Wall Street trader. However, how do we ensure that we are producing a new generation of high-quality teachers?

It is clearly time to consider new options for educating, training, and preparing future teachers. This country needs to employ a new generation of learners, wherever they are. The teacher shortage coupled with the current economic crisis makes a great case for the possibilities of an online degree program, especially considering the major advances in interactive technology and online learning platforms in the past decade.

Although Columbia University’s Teachers College is ranked No. 4 in the country for best education programs, according to *U.S. News & World Report*, the fact that it does not offer an online option for students overlooks a huge and rapidly growing population. The University’s School of Engineering and Applied Science does offer a wide selection of classes online that are videotaped and uploaded for students who want to take courses from home. The Columbia Video Network, as it is called, also allows students to take the same exams as on-campus students and do the same homework. Teachers College, however,

does not offer any such program and, as more students turn to online learning programs, those pursuing a Master’s degree in education may find the University lacking and be discouraged.

Recently, I came across a new program from the University of Southern California called MAT@USC. Offered by the school’s Rossier School of Education, the program is an online Master of Arts in Teaching program that not only educates new teachers—even those without an undergraduate degree in education or previous teaching experience—but also provides the tools and resources students need to achieve certification in whichever state they are teaching.

By using familiar social media tools and interactive lectures using streaming video, animation and Web 2.0 technologies, MAT@USC has the potential to produce new, talented teachers by enabling students to attend the school’s program without having to relocate to southern California. The program offers a chance to specialize in language arts, mathematics, science, and history, or to get a general certification in all of them to teach in elementary schools. The curriculum includes online courses and field-based teaching experiences in each student’s current location, from New York to Los Angeles.

All lectures, exams, assignments and course materials are made and taught by USC professors—ensuring that students are getting the same education from their home as they would from inside the classroom. The program also has job placement, mentorship, and tuition reimbursement options for students upon graduation. Furthermore, MAT@USC students have to meet all USC standards to enter the program. The students are of the same caliber as those sitting within the brick-and-mortar university buildings, removing the stigma that online learning is a second-rate degree.

Of course, teachers learn to teach not only by watching others teach, but by teaching in a classroom. They need those practical, hands-on experiences that cannot be found on the Web. MAT@USC also

provides field-based experiences and a mentoring program for all students to ensure there is a face-to-face, human element to the program.

One might think the online experience would still not be as deep or interactive as it would be for a student physically sitting within a lecture hall, but in this case one would be wrong. A recent Carnegie Mellon study, “French Online: Supporting Hybrid Instructional Models,” suggested there is no significant difference in either achievement or satisfaction between classroom and hybrid course models. In some cases, students actually did better in hybrid course models because they had better teacher-student relationships due to regular one-on-one meetings (albeit online ones).

We, as the future generation of potential teachers, have a responsibility to be more aware of the growing options for top education degrees across the U.S., as well as the changing face of online learning programs. No longer is online learning second-rate or just an alternative program. For some students, online learning will be the best option for an advanced education degree and will better prepare them to relate to and meet the needs of young students today—something I think we can all agree is well worth the investment.

Online degrees are convenient and accessible for students based anywhere in the country. Those who graduated from Columbia as undergraduates and want to move away or those who cannot make the move to New York City are currently missing out on the potential for a Teachers College education. Today’s current economic environment has created less financial freedom than ever for students to relocate to the university of their choice. An online learning program is a compelling and necessary alternative, and one that, in the 21st century, is in Columbia’s best interest to explore.

The author is a junior in the School of Engineering and Applied Science majoring in mechanical engineering.

Divestment From the Israeli Occupation of Palestine

BY AARON WINSLOW

This week, a coalition of Columbia University students released a series of demands that clearly and forcefully lay the groundwork for the divestment of the University’s endowment funds from those corporations currently profiting from the illegal occupation of Palestine. This step is long overdue. The recent assault on the people of the Gaza Strip by the Israeli Defense Forces—condemned by nearly all major international human rights organizations—has only increased the urgency of this campaign. Last month, Hampshire College became the first American university to divest from the occupation. Columbia should be next.

Israel’s attacks on Gaza, which included the bombing of schools and university facilities, is only the latest episode of brutality in the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, an occupation that has lasted for more than forty years. Looking at the separation walls, barbed-wire fences, settler-only roads that criss-cross the West Bank and Gaza, and the highly restricted access of Palestinians to such basic regional resources as water, it is increasingly difficult to ignore the parallels to apartheid South Africa.

The United Nations defines the crime of apartheid as “an institutionalized regime of systematic oppression and domination by one racial group over any other racial group or groups ... committed with the intention of maintaining that regime.” People and organizations as diverse in their political standpoints as former President Jimmy Carter, former U.S. National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski, South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and Israeli human rights organization B’Tselem have all arrived at the conclusion that Israel’s denial of Palestinian human rights and expropriation of Palestinian land amounts to apartheid.


In 2005, over 100 Palestinian civil society organizations called for “international civil society organizations and people of conscience all over the world to impose broad boycotts and implement divestment initiatives against Israel similar to those applied to South Africa in the apartheid era ... for the sake of justice and genuine peace.” An apartheid regime cannot exist in isolation. By divesting from companies that do business with the occupation, we can put global pressure on the Israeli government to end it. Students, faculty members, and workers at Columbia are participating in a global movement for justice for the people of Palestine. In the past year, dozens of divestment efforts have sprung up at universities across the United Kingdom, and labor unions in Canada, Ireland, and South Africa have endorsed divestment from the occupation.

In the recent past, the University has held shares in Lockheed Martin, maker of F-15 and F-16 Fighter Jets, used by the Israeli Air Force; Boeing, maker of Apache helicopters, used by Israel to perform extra-judicial targeted assassinations of Palestinian leaders; General Electric, maker of engines for the Apache helicopters; Caterpillar, whose D9 bulldozers are used to ‘widen streets’ to allow tanks to enter urban areas, as well as to destroy homes and raze olive groves to make room for illegal Israeli settlements. These common investments directly support the most brutal aspects of the occupation.

While Columbia does not currently hold stock in these particular companies, only 10 percent of its operating budget and endowment is transparent. It is because of the difficulty of accessing our university’s budget that we are asking for greater disclosure of its finances. As students, we have a right to know where our money goes, especially if that trail could end with the destruction of a Palestinian family’s home, or the death of a young child during an IDF air raid.

Hampshire College was also the first university to divest completely from South Africa in 1979. But in the fight against South African apartheid, Hampshire did not stand alone—one year earlier, in 1978, Columbia University began to sell off the stocks of companies associated with South Africa. That initial step followed a year-long protest and awareness campaign organized by a student coalition with support from many faculty members. The Columbia coalition’s victory helped spark a nationwide movement on college campuses, and today the University’s early decision to divest from South Africa appears not only wise and ethical, but also necessary. Our university’s principled stance on divestment from South African apartheid is a legacy we are proud of—and one we should both learn from and build upon today. Thirty years later, divestment from the Israeli occupation is just as ethical, just as wise, and just as necessary.

The author is a student in the Graduate Schools of Arts and Sciences studying English and Comparative Literature. He is a member of the Columbia Palestine Forum.



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A Symphony Orchestra for The Digital Age



CATHERINE RICE
BREAKING DOWN CLASSICAL

The winners of the YouTube Symphony Orchestra's American Idol-style audition contest were announced online yesterday. With the news came an influx of congratulations amongst the competitors and others tracking the project, which launched in December 2008. The nearly instantaneous buzz surrounding the announcement is a testament to the rapid modes of collaboration and communication available to music-lovers worldwide—the same avenues of communication that established the creation of the first online collaborative orchestra.

The project required amateur and professional musicians to upload two videos to YouTube: a recording of an excerpt from Tan Dun's new composition "Internet Symphony No. 1 'Eroica,'" which will be performed by the YTSO at Carnegie Hall on April 15th, and a video showcasing the technique and musicality of the musicians with standard repertoire.

Using the talent videos, a panel of prominent musicians from the London Symphony Orchestra, the Berlin Philharmonic and other professional orchestras narrowed the 3,000 applicants down to about 200 finalists. YouTube users then voted online for the winners, a decision that was finalized by the music director of the San Francisco Symphony, Michael Tilson Thomas, who will conduct the winning orchestra at Carnegie Hall.

After months of posting YouTube videos associated with the project—including London Symphony members giving master classes, pianist Lang Lang commenting about the project's progress, Tan Dun explaining the inspiration for his piece, and various prominent musicians discussing the implications of the YTSO—organizers finally selected the winners. They include more than 90 performers from 13 states and 29 countries, spanning the ages of 17 to 55.

The musicians range from a teenage girl smashing cymbals for 15 seconds to an oboist in his late forties with no musical training whatsoever. Among the pages of conversations between this oboist and his admirers was this exchange: "I just heard you and I must tell you that I think your playing is a very good one. Are you a professional player? I am principal oboe player in a professional orchestra and also participate at YouTube contest. I am indeed honored to have such a competitor!"

The winning oboist, from Japan, replied, "You honored ME with your excellent words! To be honest with you, I am not a professional player. I graduated from an ordinary university (not a music school) and am an employee of an IT company now. I have never got any education nor training for professional player." There was never any response from the competitor.

Comments under the videos, in myriad languages, range from "bravo" to "mazel tov." Recordings took place in living rooms, dormitories, hallways, and classrooms. Background noise included cell phones ringing and other instrumentalists practicing. Some of the musicians were dressed in suits, while others looked like they just fell out of bed and decided to record on an impulse. Some musicians gave both written and oral introductions to their recordings; others just awkwardly stared at the camera for a moment and then began playing.

It will be interesting to see how these musicians, who come from so many different countries and educational backgrounds, will collaborate when thrust together to perform a brand new piece. One can't hope for too much blending in sound and style given the amount of time they have to prepare and the diversity of their training. Although the musicians' abilities seemed uniform online, playing in person will no doubt shed light on certain discrepancies between the videos and the winners' live performance skills.

The language barrier might add an additional challenge, yet the YouTube Symphony Orchestra will no doubt lay new foundations for musical communication around the world and bridge the gap between professional musicians and amateurs, allowing aspiring musicians to glimpse a potential future that otherwise might not have been possible.

Catherine Rice is a Barnard College sophomore majoring in music. Breaking Down Classical runs alternate Wednesdays.

FOOD & DRINK

Instant Cures for a Foodie's Homesickness



BY ADRIENNE PENALOZA
Columbia Daily Spectator

It's a hard-knock life for a noodle snob at Columbia. Coming from Hong Kong, home of the most perfect little bowls of wonton noodle soup, I have scoured the city but have found no soups that can compare. Nonetheless, New Yorkers should not be forced to endure the limp, bland, noodly nonsense that sets the standard here.

Naturally, there is little that upsets me more than bastardized Asian cuisine. But this fall, when I discovered Café Swish, I was surprised to find their kimchee udon pretty good. So imagine the disappointment when Swish, a Hong Kong international student's only nearby salve for homesickness, closed, leaving only Ollie's and M2M as noodle soup options.

Photo Illustration by Jin Chen

Let's not even talk about Ollie's, because anyone thinking of spending money on their insipid bowls of wonton noodles will be bitter the rest of their Columbia career. While M2M's vegetable udon soup is no winner either, their extensive instant noodle section makes up for their utterly disappointing udon.

Students looking for good noodles should head to Westside Market and pick up an instant pack of Thai Kitchen Mushroom Rice Noodle Bowl. The packets inside have a dried carrot bit or desiccated kernel of corn in sight—instead, the soup is filled with meaty pieces of shiitake mushrooms and a small packet of garlic oil, both of which impart a deep, earthy flavor to the soup.

The rice noodles are silky and light, perfect for a quick lunch. Best of all, they are gluten-free and vegan—perfect for everyone to enjoy. Other flavors include Thai Ginger, Spring Onion, Roasted Garlic, and Lemongrass & Chili, all at less than \$2 a bowl.

Another good option is Shirakiku's Fresh Japanese Style Sanukiya Somen. I was skeptical when I read the word fresh—how fresh could convenience store instant noodles be? It was thus a nice surprise when, upon opening the package, I found a packet of vacuum-packed, still-soft (but not fully-cooked) fresh noodles. The noodles, made with tapioca starch, had a pleasant bounce and the mildly spicy, bonito-flavored soup was comforting. Had it not been eating from a large paper bowl, I would have thought I was at a street-side noodle stand back home.

Annie Chun's Korean Kimchi Soup also has a great, authentic-tasting soup—even the reconstituted kimchee has the same crunch as real kimchee. Though the noodles were gummy and stuck to my teeth with every bite, Annie Chun's is a good, vegetarian-friendly alternative to Thai Kitchen.

Lastly, Nong Shim Shin Bowl, though mercilessly spicy, is a delicious blend of flavors that makes up for the styrofoam-like consistency and taste of the noodles. Get this if you're congested, not if you're craving a good bowl of noodles.

At less than \$4 and no more than 240 calories per package, these noodles are great stand-by meals. Stock up on a couple of bowls for those times when you're just too busy to go out to eat or can't be bothered to do more than pour hot water and microwave for 3 minutes.

These instant fixes certainly can't replace a proper bowl of noodles in my heart, but, in the meantime, they're good enough.

TV

Don't Fear the *Reaper*, but Don't Laugh at Him Either

BY LILY CEDARBAUM
Columbia Daily Spectator

Speak of the devil—*Reaper* premiered last night for its second season in its prime 8 p.m. time-slot, and though the show's dark comedy has the potential to stand proudly apart from The CW's high school dramas, it went largely unnoticed.

Sam Oliver (Bret Harrison), employee of the fictional Home Depot, Work Bench, has a secret: his soul belongs to the devil.

Now Sam must serve as a bounty hunter of souls that escaped Satan's grasp and are hiding out on Earth. As Satan (Ray Wise) explains in the pilot, "It's a problem we've been having lately, you know, with the overcrowding and so forth."

Thus a cyclical journey develops. Just as Dr. House saves a patient in every episode of *House* and Carrie Bradshaw writes a column in every episode of *Sex and the City*, Sam Oliver sends souls back to Hell in each installment of *Reaper*.

In last night's premiere, Sam returns home after a sabbatical with best friends Sock (Tyler Labine) and Ben (Rick Gonzalez), both of whom are in on his secret. Normalcy abounds: the three of them get their jobs back,

Sam restarts his relationship with Andi (Missy Peregrym) after an episode-long tiff, and Sock continues his thinly veiled Jack Black imitation.

While the concept is imaginative, a static plot and characters cause weaknesses that will disappoint. It is difficult to watch the Devil's scenes knowing they could be so much more dynamic. At the end of the premiere, the audience sees a flicker of what potential the character of the Devil could have when he is surprised for the first time in the series and says, "I thought I was the one who was supposed to want to have fun." However, this dimensionality fades quickly.

There is one strong point that cannot go unappreciated. The comedic repartee between the friends stays snappy throughout the premiere of season two, whether they are discussing the pros and cons of dating a step-sister ("It's biologically safe.") or the wonders of a hair crimper ("It adds to my mystique!"). While others respond to each ridiculous plotline with utmost seriousness, they seem to realize that the only way to connect with an audience is to play them tongue-in-cheek.



Courtesy of Ana Maria Da Veiga

SOUL SEARCHING | Though in its second season, The CW's *Reaper* went largely unnoticed. This season's premiere showed little improvement over the last.

Based on this premiere, *Reaper*'s second season should not be on top of any to-view lists. However, it appears that CW will continue to explore the market of satanic themes—why else would they run both *Reaper* and *Supernatural*?

Even so, the Devil may care that this show runs another season—but most Columbia students will not.

Reaper airs Tuesdays at 8 p.m. on The CW.

THEATER

Russian Remake Dares to Interpret a Hollywood Classic

BY PETER LABUZA
Spectator Staff Writer

Cinephiles sick of American remakes of their favorite foreign films can have hope—other countries are fighting back. *12*, a Russian remake of the American classic *12 Angry Men*, which opens Wednesday at Film Forum, is just one of many recent foreign remakes of American films to counter the countless Hollywood remakes of foreign-language films.

Hollywood has often been criticized in recent years for 'Americanizing' many classic foreign films. A good number of American horror movies such as *The Grudge* and *The Ring* originated as Japanese horror flicks, but they failed to preserve the level of fright inspired by the originals. Horror, however, is not the only affected genre—unnecessary remakes like *The Lake House* from a Korean original, or *Wicker Park* from the French classic *L'Appartement*, show that no genre is safe.

The problem with these remakes is that they often fail to retain the cultural significance that is unique to the film's origin. When the film is remade here, it retains the plot, but too often loses both the aesthetic and thematic importance of the originals.

But that's where a film like *12* comes in. Students may find it hard to develop cultural theories from American films, but a foreign remake gives them a chance to see how another culture

perceives ours. In *12*, director Nikita Mikhalkov takes a classic American film and infuses it with a plethora of Russian cultural influences.

The plot remains the same—a group of 12 strangers must decide the fate of a young boy who killed his stepfather, as the case turns out to be much more complex than it first appears. But Mikhalkov expands both the narrative and the scale of the film to reflect important ideas about Russia's political sphere. Theories on historical identity, anti-Semitism, and relations with Chechnya are debated over the two-and-a-half-hour running time.

Though *12* may not be better than director Sidney Lumet's paranoid classic *12 Angry Men*, it is a film that reveals how a country like Russia understands the United States—and it is not alone. From Turkish remakes of *Star Wars* to a Nigerian take on *Titanic*, foreign remakes of American films may not necessarily be better in quality, but they certainly are much more revealing about national identity.

Possibly the best example is India's Bollywood cinema, which has remade everything from *Fight Club* to *Ghost Busters* by including song and dance numbers, both important components of Indian film. So while Hollywood continues to dominate the market by ruining classics from around the world, it is nice to know that foreign countries are interpreting our classics as well.



Courtesy of Sony Pictures Classic

FOREIGN EXCHANGE | Though many American remakes of foreign films prove inferior to the originals, *12*, a Russian take on *12 Angry Men*, does the classic justice while providing a new perspective on Russian culture and politics.

WHERE IT'S AT

Place: Film Forum (209 West Houston St)
Cost: \$11

After a season-ending injury last year, wrestler Eren Civan returned this season and finished with a 15-9 record.

TOMORROW



SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2009 • PAGE 8



Spectator recounts the softball team's past season and previews the upcoming season, which begins Friday.

TOMORROW

A Tribute to The Hirsute



MATT VELAZQUEZ
THE X-FACTOR

As I sit here typing this, I am sporting a soul patch. Normally, this isn't a formation that my facial hair takes, but my suitemates and I threw a '90s party last Friday. Before the party I was hirsute, but I knew that I had the responsibility to try to form my whiskers into something definitively '90s. I decided on the soul patch, which everyone agreed was a good choice. Unfortunately—or fortunately, depending on how you look at it—I'm out of razors, so until I pick some up, the soul patch will stick.

The running joke in my family is that I was born with a moustache. At my high school, facial hair was not allowed, except for a neat moustache. Thus, for the better part of high school, I sported a moustache, that is, until senior year rolled around and I realized that I had spent the better part of the past three years looking cheesy as all hell.

After four years in high school where I was forced to keep my face relatively neat, I've developed a kind of aversion to shaving. I try to keep my beard trimmed, but sometimes trimming just takes too much effort and I shave it all off. Aside from important functions and job interviews, my friends would tell you that the primary time that I shave is when I'm going to see my girlfriend. She goes to school in the Midwest, so I don't see her often, but every time I do, I make sure to shave because I'd rather not deal with the results if I didn't.

I may not speak for every guy, but in my experience, females don't seem to be attracted to facial hair. In the past and in some other societies, facial hair is a symbol of virility and manliness, which I would expect to be attractive qualities. Somehow, here at Columbia in 2009, facial hair is something that is not predominantly seen as attractive.

My prior statements are either anecdotal or general in nature and you're probably wondering what my point is 350 words into this sports column. Well, over the years of watching Columbia sports—and sports in general, I guess—I've noticed that most athletes tend to be clean shaven. Beards still crop up from time to time, but moustaches have become almost totally obsolete, especially on campus.

Though I'm not a fan of the Yankees or steroids, I found myself quite pleased this summer when Jason Giambi created a buzz for growing a 'stache. It was definitely more formidable than the last moustache-slash-Fu Manchu that had become a pop icon—that of then Gonzaga star and current Lakers bench warmer Adam Morrison. Though neither of their upper lips come close to the great staches of all time—Rollie Fingers, Keith Hernandez, Hulk Hogan, Joe Namath, and Larry Birdn to name a few—at least they tried.

It may be true that there is something inherently intimidating about facial hair, but that fits perfectly into sports. There's nothing better than going into a game and having a unique advantage before it starts. That's why some players wear eye black in strange formations, teams devise pregame chants and cheers, and the home crowd can make a huge difference.

Facial hair was a big part of everything in the '70s, '80s, and into the '90s, especially sports, but since then the trend has died down. Here at Columbia, it's not too common to go to a game and see facial hair, but there are some athletes that buck the trend. A few football players, basketball players, and soccer players come to mind (I'm sure there are others), and I do not hesitate in saluting them.

Though these proud few are on the right path, I still await the day that a Columbia team bands together in facial hair growing unity. The San Francisco 49ers did it this past season as they all grew moustaches for their season finale against the Redskins—and won. The 49ers were not playing for the playoffs in that game, they were playing for fun and for pride (some can argue they were playing for money, but let's be idealistic). Fun and pride are at the heart of sports, and if facial hair doesn't fit into the equation, it just doesn't add up.

Matt Velazquez is a Columbia College junior majoring in history. sports@columbiaspectator.com




File Photo

AGAINST THE ODDS | Junior Alex Rudnicki has overcome a dislocated shoulder, fractured foot, and a sprained ankle during his collegiate fencing career. Nevertheless, these setbacks have not prevented him from posting an 11-4 record at the league tournament this season.

BY MICHELE CLEARY
Spectator Staff Writer

This past weekend, the Cornell women's basketball team did something no other Ivy team has done yet this season: beat Dartmouth. As the final weekend of the season approaches, the Big Green's overtime loss has made for an interesting title race, as Harvard is only one game out of first place.

The Big Red (10-14, 6-6 Ivy) was propelled to a 66-61 overtime victory by strong defense in the first half, as Dartmouth (15-10, 10-1 Ivy) scored only 22 points in the first half on 8-of-32 shooting. However, the Big Green was able to make 45.8 percent of its shots in the second, overcoming the eight-point deficit with which it had entered the locker room. The Big Green's shooting touch would fail them again in the extra stanza, as the team missed all six of its attempted free throws.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL STANDINGS		
	OVERALL STANDINGS	IVY STANDINGS
DARTMOUTH	15-10	10-1
HARVARD	17-8	9-2
PRINCETON	11-14	6-5
COLUMBIA	13-13	6-6
CORNELL	10-14	6-6
PENN	7-18	4-7
YALE	11-15	4-8
BROWN	3-23	1-11

Junior guard Lauren Benson led the Big Red with 10 assists and also added 12 points and seven rebounds. Another junior guard, Virginia McMunigal, led her team in scoring with 14 points. Two other Cornell players scored in double digits.

The Big Red were not as successful the next night against second-place Harvard (17-8, 9-2 Ivy), as they lost by a score of 63-56. The Crimson had just come off a 71-58 victory over Columbia and used this momentum to complete its second consecutive weekend sweep.

Senior guard and Ivy League Player of the Week Emily Tay led Harvard in scoring both nights. She posted a career-high 23 points against the Lions and added six assists and two rebounds. At Cornell, Tay had 16 points, nine rebounds, and five assists. She was helped by freshman guard and Ivy League Rookie of the Week Brogan Berry, who posted 12 points each night.

After losing to Cornell, Dartmouth's game against Columbia (13-13, 6-6 Ivy) became a must-win if it wanted to remain in first place alone. With 10 lead changes, the game was close, but the Big Green was able to pull away at the very end, defeating the Lions 63-61. This loss dropped the Light Blue to fourth in the standings.

Senior center Darcy Rose led Dartmouth with 17 points and 10 rebounds, while Danielle Browne led the Lions in scoring with 19 points and Judie Lomax led Columbia with 13 rebounds.

Dartmouth and Harvard will both face off against Brown and Yale this weekend and will play each other next Tuesday. Both teams beat Yale and Brown on the road earlier this season, and if this is again the case this weekend, the title race will come down to

Rudnicki Perseveres Despite Injuries

BY JONATHAN TAYLER
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Alex Rudnicki knew that something was wrong. His right arm dangling at his side was proof enough of that.

It was the result of a move backwards to avoid a touch in his match against Harvard's Scott DiGiulio. Despite his best effort, Rudnicki was unable to dodge the blade of DiGiulio's saber, and the first point of the match went to the Crimson. The move did succeed, however, in completely dislocating Rudnicki's right shoulder.

With the point decided, Rudnicki retired to his end of the strip in obvious pain, unsure of what had happened. But it didn't take long for the junior saberist to decide that he wasn't going to retire, at least not in the middle of the Ivy League Championships. So after a few seconds of deliberation, Rudnicki simply popped his shoulder back into place and rejoined the fray.

He proceeded to win the match by a score of 5-4.

"At the time, I didn't really feel it," Rudnicki said. "I couldn't feel my fingers, but I trusted my hand was doing the right action."

"The trainer [Jim Gossett] actually looked at it later," he added, "and said there was no reason for it to happen, that it was a freak accident."

Chance, it seems, has been a large part of Rudnicki's fencing career. As a child, Rudnicki, unlike a majority of competitive fencers, had no connection to the sport. But that all changed one day at the age of nine when, while playing indoor soccer in a gym, he stumbled across a group of fencers sparring in a nearby room. From that moment on, Rudnicki was hooked.

"It was just something that I saw and

thought would be fun to try," he said.

It didn't take long for Rudnicki to discover that he had some talent in the sport. His first coach, a former Polish national fencer named Janusz Mlynec, pushed Rudnicki hard to learn and develop. By age 10, Rudnicki was competing in national tournaments—a big step for someone who, a year prior, had never held a fencing sword in his hand. Luckily for Rudnicki, his own inexperience in the sport didn't hamper him in his age group.

"My first tournament, I came in fifth," Rudnicki said. "I had no idea what was going on, and I thought that, if I'm pretty good for being this young, I might as well keep going."

Rudnicki continued with his newfound hobby, climbing the rankings and earning accolades in the under-17 and under-20 levels. The opportunity to come to Columbia, though, came about not through Rudnicki's prowess with the saber, but through a broken ankle and a second career.

"I broke my ankle in eighth grade and I still had to go [to a national tournament] because my family was going," Rudnicki said, "so I just decided to referee because I knew enough about fencing at the time that I could judge it. I actually refereed on crutches."

Rudnicki had been looking for a college with an engineering school and a fencing program. After a chance meeting with Columbia head coach George Kolombatovich at a national tournament that Rudnicki was refereeing, the New Jersey native made his choice.

"I got to talking to him about schools, and that's how it came to be," Rudnicki said.

Now in his third year with the team, Rudnicki has become one of the squad's most dependable members. The junior boasted an impressive 27-12 record in his sophomore

SEE FENCER, page 2

Big Red Dashes Dartmouth's Hopes for Perfect Season



Courtesy of Harvard Athletics

DRIVING THE LANE | Harvard's Emily Tay led her team in scoring in both of this past weekend's games, earning her the honor of Ivy League Player of the Week.

the game on Tuesday. If Harvard wins, they will share the title.

While no longer in the title race, Columbia's upcoming series against Penn and Princeton will decide its final standing. Currently tied for fourth with Cornell (who will also play Penn and Princeton this weekend), the Lions could finish third if they sweep.

This past weekend, the Quakers (7-18, 4-7 Ivy) were able to defeat Brown 55-48 in overtime after falling to Yale 61-51.

Against Brown (3-23, 1-11 Ivy), junior guard Caitlin Slover posted a double-double, leading Penn in both scoring

(18) and rebounds (13). In their loss to Yale, senior forward Carrie Biemer led the Quakers with 18 points.

Despite its success against Penn, Yale (11-15, Ivy 4-8) fell to Princeton the following night by a score of 61-53. The Tigers were led by freshman center Devona Allgood, who had a double-double with 17 points and 13 rebounds.

Before defeating Yale, Princeton triumphed over the Bears by a score of 61-38. The Tigers (11-14, 6-5 Ivy) took over the third place spot from Columbia by sweeping Brown and Yale this weekend.

Lacrosse Seeks to Extend Win Streak to Three Games

BY MICHAEL SHAPIRO
Spectator Staff Writer

The Columbia women's lacrosse team (2-0) enters today's match against the Wagner Seahawks (0-2) after winning its first two contests of the season against Monmouth and Lafayette. The Lions have fared well against the Seahawks in the past and will try to extend their 11-0 all-time record against them this afternoon. In the two teams' meeting last year, the Light Blue emerged victorious by a final score of 14-3.

Wagner will look to try and snap a two-game losing streak after having dropped matches to Bucknell and Saint Joseph's. While they have yet to ever beat Columbia, the Seahawks have acquired some promising young talent this year. Freshman Melanie Garces and senior Kelly Blundin are tied for the team high in points with four each, and freshman Carolyn Clark follows closely behind with three points. Additionally, Garces stands as the team leader in shot percentage (.600). Blundin also ranks first in shots on goal with eight and total shots with nine.

The Light Blue boasts stats superior to

Wagner's. Junior Brittany Shannon and senior Holly Glynn are the team's leading scorers with 10 and nine goals respectively. Glynn, who ranked first in the Ivy League with 2.93 goals per game last year, was named Ivy League Co-Offensive Player of the Week after her dominant opening weekend performances. Her nine goals and one assist in the first two games have boosted the Lions to their best start since 2006.

As a team, Columbia carries a .509 shooting percentage with an average of 28.5 shots per game into today's battle. Wagner shoots a .342 percentage with an average of 19 shots per game on the season. The Lions also best the Seahawks in forced turnovers 21-9, draw controls 25-18, and ground balls 38-26.

The Lions and Seahawks begin play at 3 p.m. today in Staten Island.

HOW THEY MATCH UP:			
	Goals	Shot %	Record
COLUMBIA	29	.509	2-0
WAGNER	13	.342	0-2



Philip Effraim for Spectator

THREE IN A ROW | The Lions will attempt to win their third consecutive game of the 2009 season against Wagner. A victory would improve CU's all-time record against the Seahawks to 12-0.