



FILE PHOTO

**HONORING SERVICE** | Veterans from the School of General Studies rode on a special float in a parade on Veterans Day in November.

## With rent regulation set to expire, millions may be affected

BY CHELSEA LO AND  
GINA LEE

*Columbia Daily Spectator*

Low and middle-income renters say they're worried about being edged out of their homes in June when rent regulations are set to expire, bringing a million households across New York State up to

market-rate rental prices they may not be able to afford.

State Senator Adriano Espaillat has proposed a bill to extend and strengthen rent-control laws, but supporters said his ambitious agenda—which includes re-regulating almost 300,000 apartments and repealing legislation that has been in place since 1993—is

threatened by the interests of powerful landlords and the real estate industry.

### DRIVING RESIDENTS OUT

Cynthia Doty, a Democratic district leader on the Upper West Side, has lived in a rent-controlled building for the past 32 years, but she said about half of the building has

been converted to market-rate rentals.

If rent regulations are not renewed before they expire on June 15, the tenants still occupying rent-controlled apartments—about half the building—will have to find new homes, she said.

**SEE RENT, page 3**

## Park West tenants upset about rent increases

BY KATIE BENTIVOGLIO

*Spectator Staff Writer*

Tenants of Park West Village said that while management neglects problems with mold, mildew, and leaks, they are also trying to raise rent prices.

The Division of Housing and Community Renewal recently notified residents in Park West Village buildings 784, 788, and 792 that the landlord had applied for a Major Capital Improvement rent increase based on "pointing and related engineering services" performed on each building between 2006 and 2009.

But Maggie Peyton, president of the Park West Village Tenants' Association, said she questions the impact of those services. "We're questioning the amount of work done, we're questioning the quality of the work done," Peyton said, adding that pointing, a process used to upkeep the mortar in brickwork and masonry, may not have been performed on all sides of the building.

Residents said there are other damage issues that have been left unresolved, including mold, mildew, and leakage problems, which have been exacerbated by recent snow and rainstorms.

"We have so much interior damage from the exterior that it's unbelievable," said resident Lucille Donte, a building representative to the Tenants' Association for Park West 792.

**SEE PARK WEST, page 2**



FILE PHOTO

**LUNCHTIME** | Some complain that Ferris Booth has been getting too much traffic on weekends.

## John Jay has twice as much food waste as Ferris

BY FINN VIGELAND

*Spectator Staff Writer*

Some students may think the long line for made-to-order pasta at Ferris Booth Commons is unsupportable, but according to Dining it is the most sustainable dining hall.

Approximately 70 pounds of food per meal are wasted in Ferris, compared to 140 pounds in John Jay, according to Director of Dining Services Vicki Dunn.

"In Ferris, you're not producing it all and hoping kids show up," she said, explaining that in John Jay, where food is served buffet-style, more is wasted.

This week, the Columbia College Council and Engineering Student Council are surveying students about which dining hall they would prefer to see open on weekends:

Ferris or John Jay. Currently, Ferris is the only dining hall that accepts the meal plan open on weekends, but students have complained of its limited space capacity and sometimes hour-long lines, according to CCSC president Learned Foote, CC '11.

**"In Ferris, you're not producing it all and hoping kids show up."**

—Vicky Dunn,  
Director of Dining Services

While a vote for John Jay might mean shorter wait times,

Zak Accuardi, SEAS '11 and a member of the Green Umbrella said Ferris might be the environmentalist's choice.

Currently Ferris does not have a dishwasher, so diners use paper plates and plastic utensils, whereas the dishwasher in John Jay uses about 16,000 gallons of water per day, according to Director of Communications Heather Tsounopoulos.

When Ferris was converted to a meal plan-accepting dining hall this year, Dining worked with EcoReps to get the "greenest, most compostable items," Dunn said. "Everything there has been blessed by the Biodegradable Products Institute, so we got bowls made of starch and compostable plates."

Hard china, vis-à-vis

**SEE DINING, page 3**

## GS looking for other ways to fund vets

After changes to GI Bill, veterans will have to pay more tuition

BY ELISSE ROCHE  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

Following revisions to the post-9/11 GI Bill that will decrease federal aid for veterans currently attending Columbia, the School of General Studies is looking for money to make up the difference. But GS Dean Peter Awn said the school likely won't be able to increase financial aid for veterans next year.

"We're out fundraising like crazy but that has long-term implications not short-time implications," Awn said. "Because yes, we're trying to deal with the dilemma of having the rules changed on students already here, but we want to be able to continue to recruit veterans."

But while GS will not be able to substantially increase its financial aid to veterans, the school is working to help its 150 veterans find more opportunities for outside aid.

"What we're trying to do is engage all of the veterans to try to come up with financial plans that would alleviate whatever additional funds [they need], like loans, grant money," Awn said.

For instance, Awn said, the school has identified a New York state grant that some veterans might be eligible for, but which they might not have applied for when the Post-9/11 GI Bill was already meeting their needs.

Between the original Post-9/11 GI Bill and the Yellow Ribbon Program—in which the Department of Veterans Affairs matches tuition contributions from a University—eligible veterans at Columbia currently receive \$1,010 per credit through federal aid along with \$14,000 from the YRP. Additionally they receive \$2,700 per month living stipend.

But on Aug. 1, "GI Bill 2.0," which was passed in December under the lame duck Congress, will implement a \$17,500 annual cap on aid.

Curtis Rodgers, dean of enrollment management at GS, said the school would maintain Columbia's previous financial commitment of \$7,000 per semester to each veteran.

"When we originally looked at \$7,000 as the maximum contribution that we'd make, we modeled that out based on what's a fair award in our financial aid system across all GS students," Rodgers said. "But we realized at the time that based on the funding level in the original post-9/11 GI Bill, that \$7,000 would be more than enough grant money to cover basically every single student."

Under the new GI Bill a veteran's financial burden will depend on the number of credits he or she takes—a veteran taking between 12 and 17 credits per semester would be on the hook for somewhere between \$5,000 and \$10,000 per semester, Awn said.

Brendan Rooney, GS and president of the Military Veterans Educational Foundation at Columbia University, stressed the burden that this would place upon veterans.

"It will be a very negative impact for a few reasons," he said. "I mean, one, what are people going to do as far as the rest of their finances go? What are we going to do with veterans who have families, veterans who are married?"

Rich Baldassari, a GS freshman, said he decided to redeem his GI Bill benefits before he settled down.

"I didn't want to go to school while I had a child or a family," Rich said. "I decided that this was

the right time after five and a half years. I wanted to use the benefits that I had worked for."

The GI Bill revisions did not include a grandfather clause to exempt students currently enrolled in school from the changes. Dan Lagana, the vice president of finance on the GS Council, said many are worried about what the changes will do to the veteran community on campus.

"Now they have to make decisions, that's what I'm concerned about," Lagana said. "We're going to lose guys and we're afraid that we're going to see a decrease in enrollment."

Baldassari and Lagana are currently lobbying Congress to enact a grandfather clause. Baldassari said he is leading the lobbying campaign.

**"We're out fundraising like crazy but that has long-term implications not short-time implications"**

—Peter Awn,  
dean of General Studies

"Our primary goal is to get the grandfather clause put into the actual bill," Baldassari said. "Currently we're reaching out to senators, congressmen, schools, fellow students, and all of our veterans."

Rooney said he would prefer a complete revision of the bill.

"I would like to have the bill changed entirely, or to have a two-tier system for public and private schools so that people could continue to go where they want to go," he said.

Awn, too, said he hopes for changes to the bill—whether the addition of a grandfather clause or a complete revision—but stressed that they cannot rely on this when making plans for the 2011-2012 academic year.

"We have to plan for the worse-case scenario, which is the current bill," Awn said. "Again, I think two or three years ago a grandfather clause would have been possible given the mood in Washington. But now it seems very unlikely."

Awn, Rodgers, and other GS administrators are currently focusing on initiating a series of meetings and informational sessions with veterans at Columbia. In these meetings, they will review the consequences of the bill and go over outside financial options for veterans.

"Our hope is that with very careful planning and working closely with our office of educational financing that our student vets will be able to plan for this effectively," Rodgers said.

But regardless of any new funding they might be able to secure, veterans must decide whether a private institution is worth the cost, Awn said.

"It is a different world and one hates to put it in these crude terms, but it's absolutely true of GS students, and parents of college students have to go through this as well," Awn said. "You have to do a cost-benefit analysis: Is the real academic benefit of a Columbia education worth the financial burden that I will have to assume?"

*news@columbiaspectator.com*

### OPINION, PAGE 4

#### Feminist protest characters

In Egypt, Wisconsin, and New York, women are fighting for rights.

#### Hipster identity

The dangers of generalizing about a vaguely defined group.



### SPORTS, PAGE 12

#### Spring training

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Management at Park West requests rent increase

PARK WEST  
from front page

Donte said that water in one woman’s apartment leaked through the ceiling and into the hallway, causing her lights to go out.

But as of now, these problems remain unaddressed, tenants said.

“Their response to any complaint is nothing so far,” Donte said of Village Park West LLC, which owns the building.

The management of Village Park West declined to comment.

“We’re given a certain amount of time to respond, so we have a lawyer and an architect to look at our apartments and the work they have done,” she said. “Now we just have to wait and see what happens.”

Such rent increases are not unusual, said Flora Davidson, a professor of political science and urban studies at Barnard.

“MCI increases are a legal means of raising rents, but also often essential for the maintenance of buildings,” Davidson said, noting that repairs such

as pointing repairs are crucial for preventing masonry or brickwork from deteriorating, falling off, and injuring pedestrians. “Landlords can legitimately claim that with limits on rent increases, they do not have sufficient funds to make these repairs without filing for legal MCI rent increases.”

James Plastras, the DHCR director of communications said applying for MCI’s don’t require tenant consent and that pointing is one of many services that qualifies for rent increases of this kind.

Park West tenants, however, said pointing costs should not be passed on to them. David Folk, who has lived in Park West Village for 40 years, said he hasn’t had any issues but that he still thinks paying for pointing is not the responsibility of residents.

“It’s a rip-off,” Folk said. “My sense is that structural maintenance is their problem.”

Fellow resident Eileen Kafka, who has lived in the building for 30 years, agreed.

“I wouldn’t think they

would charge us, considering it’s their property,” Kafka said. “They should be able to maintain it without incurring another surtax.” She said that though she doesn’t think the rent increase will threaten her ability to stay in the apartment, it will affect her spending power .

Davidson, however, said that MCI rent increases may lead to better living conditions in the long run.

“While MCI repairs do lead to rent increases, they are often better than the alternative, which is for landlords to disinvest in properties and let them deteriorate and pose a danger to health and safety,” she said.

Still, tenants said they worry that the proposed increases are part of an attempt to slowly push out people living in rent-stabilized apartments so they can then be converted to market-rate or luxury residences.

“They try to move them out so they can redo the apartment and then charge a luxury rate for the apartment,” said Peyton.

“That’s really what’s going on.”

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## Locals, politicians worry about rent regulation

**RENT from front page**

“Without rent regulation at all, the remaining tenants in the building would have to move,” Doty said. “It would feel like a huge tax. People would be paying ... 75 percent of their income to rent.”

Mary Tek, an organizer with the advocacy group Tenants & Neighbors, said that the city has one million rent-stabilized units, which means that if one presumes these units have an average of two to three people occupying them, these changes could affect two to three million people.

Ibrahim Kahn, a spokesperson from Espaillat’s office, said that this is what’s driving the Senator—who has the highest number of rent regulated apartments in his district, which covers much of northern Manhattan.

“If Senator Espaillat does not get this done, so many of those families could lose their homes,” Kahn said.

**STRENGTHENING THE LAW FOR RESIDENTS**

Mario Mazzoni, the chief organizer for The Metropolitan Council on Housing, a tenants’ rights advocacy firm, said that widespread public support for the bill doesn’t ensure that it will get passed in its current form, which includes measures to re-regulate housing formerly under the state-subsidized Mitchell-Lama affordable housing program.

“The landlords want to exempt apartments that are currently regulated from being covered, and they can do that in any number of ways,” Mazzoni said. “Our main goal is to preserve all of the apartments we currently have and to recapture all of the apartments that were lost.”

Tek said she has faith the rent regulations will be renewed, but hopes the laws will be strengthened for tenants.

“The laws are on the table,” she said. “You have tenants on one side who have very strong interests, and then you have the landlords on the other

side who are very powerful and wealthy. We fear that weakening amendments could be added to the law.”

Vacancy destabilization, which became part of state law in 1997, though it has been in City Council law since 1993, is one such provision. Under vacancy destabilization, over 300,000 apartments have been converted to market rate. Emily Margolis, a member of the Park West Village Tenants Association, said that she hopes vacancy destabilization will be repealed, but that there are those who would like nothing better than to see it continue.

“New York City is becoming a place where young college graduates are no longer able to afford renting apartments,” she added, noting that renewal of current rent-control laws—which she calls “very detrimental”—isn’t enough to protect tenants.

Tek said that her group wants the new rent-control bill to guarantee lease renewal.

“A lot of tenants are afraid to complain because they face eviction,” she said, adding that though threat of eviction is not legally permitted, landlords can make residents’ lives difficult. “It keeps long-term New Yorkers who have dedicated a lot of energy to the city living in the neighborhood.”

**‘MAKE-OR-BREAK YEAR’**

Mazzoni said it’s going to take a collective effort from residents, the city’s 150-plus housing organizations, and state politicians to get the bill passed.

“This is a make-or-break year,” he said. “A lot of people say ‘Oh, my Assembly member always votes the right way.’ But people who support those bills are going to have to do more than vote, they’re going to have to play hardball.”

Mazzoni added that it’s up to residents to show their representatives that they support such strategies for getting the bill passed.

“We’re fighting an uphill battle in terms of the

mainstream media,” he said, noting that many real estate companies advertise in major papers. “People need to tell their senator, ‘We want you to do whatever it takes, and we’ll back you up if you do that.’”

Doty said Governor Andrew Cuomo’s public support of the bill doesn’t hurt.

**“Without rent regulation at all, the remaining tenants in the building would have to move.”**

—Cynthia Doty,  
Upper West Side resident

“It’s possible that it’s going to be a harder fight there,” she said of the State Senate. “But the fact that the Governor is for it means that he’s going to put a lot of pressure.”

Doty added that rent regulation, now a fiscal matter, will probably be resolved as part of the state budget due in April.

With a strong partnership between grassroots activists and legislative leaders, the bill has a fighting chance of getting through, Kahn said.

“We feel pretty good about it. We think that we have the momentum to make it happen,” he said of Espaillat’s office.

Still, tenants have a long way to go in the fight for affordable housing, said Paul Bunten, president of Westsiders for Public Participation.

“I’m in favor of any legislation that might extend and strengthen the rent-stabilization law, but such legislation can only stem the tide of loss of affordable housing in New York City,” he said. “It does not address the critical need to increase our stock of affordable housing.”

news@columbiaspectator.com



FILE PHOTO  
RUSH HOUR | Ferris Booth uses disposable plates and bowls made from biodegradable cornmeal.

## Less food getting the boot from Ferris Booth

**DINING from front page**

recyclable dishware and cutlery, can also be problematic for Dining because of students who steal cups for themselves or take their meals outside and don’t bring their plates back in. “Every year, I probably pull maybe 20 percent of our hard china out of the garbage outside or from benches,” Dunn said. “People don’t bother bringing it back in.”

Foote said that comparing the two halls’ sustainability outputs is “not something we [CCSC] have looked at

specifically.” Instead, the flash polls the council has conducted so far have focused more on food preference, space to sit down, and wait time in lines. Members of the class of 2014, for whom a meal plan is mandatory, have voted “overwhelming in favor of John Jay.”

But Ferris is able to open at 8 a.m.—a time Foote said he feels is much more appropriate than John Jay’s opening time of 10 a.m.—and “if Ferris is indeed more sustainable, that would be another reason in favor of keeping it open,” Foote said.

Dunn and Tsounopoulos said

that Dining works hard to be environmentally friendly—using locally grown produce and making its own jam and salsa—but that there are physical barriers. “At Ferris, the limitations are space and no dishwasher. At John Jay, it’s heat and air conditioning and power. Both dining halls try to be as sustainable as they can,” Tsounopoulos said.

She added that Dining is in the process of researching a new dishwasher for John Jay next year that is 30 to 40 percent more energy efficient.

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# PRE-CALENDARING FOR LERNER HALL

## Columbia & Barnard Undergraduate & Graduate Student Clubs & Organizations...


### Pre-Calendaring for Fall 2011 begins Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 am

Recognized student groups who would like to reserve space in Lerner Hall for the period Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> through Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> must submit completed space use applications, signed by their student activities advisor, in person to UEM on the 7th floor of Lerner Hall or on-line, at [www.columbia.edu/cu/lernerhall](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lernerhall) by 12:00 PM, April 4<sup>th</sup>.

Applications for recurring meetings and rehearsals cannot exceed one per week and will be handled on a “first come first served” basis beginning on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Confirmations for space will be available on-line at [www.columbia.edu/cu/lernerhall](http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lernerhall) on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

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# A response to “Zionist speak”

BY ERIC SCHORR

Time and again the debate over the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has manifested itself on campus in a war of words, with the Spectator acting as the proverbial battlefield. And time and again, our campus is relegated to the defensive, left to dispel C-SJP's un-evidenced and propagandist accusations against the state and people of Israel. Whether you are for, against, or simply ambivalent on the issues of this debate, you deserve better.

This past Monday, Spectator published a column that stereotyped and generalized the entire pro-Israel movement on campus. The author decontextualized quotes from unnamed individuals, replaced key words with ellipses, and manipulated the quotes' meanings to support her narrow perspective. In mischaracterizing F.H. Kisch's quote, for example, the author slandered Columbia's pro-Israel movement, and instead falsely painted Zionism as a racist form of colonialism. In reality, Kisch articulated his classification of Zionism as a reconstitution of Jewish peoplehood in their homeland, writing, “The word [colonialism] is not appropriate from our point of view since one does not set up colonies in a homeland but abroad.” In claiming that “the Zionist project was, from its inception, a colonial one,” the author forgets or simply denies any Jewish connection to the land of Israel.

On this shaky foundation, the author went on to “support” her sweeping argument using no fewer than three unnamed students who represent nobody but themselves. A few alleged quotations taken out of context demonstrate nothing about an entire community's voice, let alone its character. Surely members of the C-SJP would chafe at being quoted in such an unprofessional manner in these pages. The quoting game could easily work both ways, but engaging in such back-and-forth tactics would be an insult to this publication and its readers.

Put aside the unprofessional and academically disingenuous use of quotations by the author, and you are left with an emotionally driven tirade, baseless in its evidence, and dangerous in its implications. The author's demeaning and deliberate use of “Zionism” therefore connotes a disturbingly hateful tone. Her argument ceases to attack policies and instead targets people. Deeming the voices of individuals as “Zionist-speak” is not only distasteful, but seems to be a covert attempt at dehumanizing a group of Columbia students that share a common history and religion.

Still, the fact remains that Spectator, on a professional level, permitted the publication of a loose collection of hearsay and incendiary accusations. As Sam Kerbel, editor-in-chief of The Current has written, “But for the Spectator, a newspaper dedicated first and foremost to issues pertaining to the Columbia and Morningside Heights communities, to publish extraneous pieces that rely on empty phrases and unfounded generalizations illustrates not merely poor judgment and editorial deficiency. It reveals a lack of intellectual discipline.”

History has shown that extremists exist on all sides of debates. Diatribes such as those written by Yasmeen Ar-Rayani, author of Monday's column, only fuel the flames of mistrust and hatred that she herself claims to scorn. While we at Columbia strive to maintain an open and healthy dialogue on tough issues, it seems that the columnist simply wished to fill and close the minds of those around her. It is our goal to never take the easy road of false quotation and thinking, but rather to embrace the much harder, but ultimately more realistic, approach of considering the full context of information. It may not be black and white, but as the author stated herself, we want to see the “true colors” of the situation.

*The author is a junior in the joint General Studies and Jewish Theological Seminary program. He is the vice president of LionPAC.*

STAFF EDITORIAL

# A space of our own

The past month has been a dynamic one on campus with heated dialogue on ROTC, discussions about the administration's brownstone decision, and debates surrounding Israeli Apartheid Week. While all of these conversations are valid—and even crucial—the University campus seems especially divided as a result of the never-ending dialogue and protests. What is needed is space—space that will allow the campus, in all of its diversity and activism, to enjoy a respite from schoolwork.

Within their first semester here, most students notice the lack of a place to simply relax with friends and enjoy themselves. Lerner, with its cumbersome ramps and tables full of student groups, is an awkward, bland place to do anything but study or work with others on school projects. JJ's Place used to be a vibrant and accessible place for students who wanted to eat or hang out with friends. Now they have to pay just to get in the front door. To make matters worse, dining is planning to shut down the dutch door, the only remaining option for students to buy items à la carte. The truth is that students don't just want to eat greasy food. They want to eat greasy food, surrounded by their buddies, while watching a basketball game or playing Scrabble.

The inability of Barnard and GS students to swipe into Columbia dorms, and vice versa, further prevents our campus from being unified. The administration is moving forward on a tentative pilot program that would allow Barnard and GS students to swipe in electronically to the East Campus building—but these students would still need to be accompanied by a resident of the building in order to enter the dorm. This pilot program is long overdue, and a swipe-in system that truly afforded Barnard and GS students access to Columbia's dorms would permit students to enter the dorms on their own. Currently, campus dorm life is separated by school, but improvements in the swipe-in system would make it easier for students to mingle with each other, and it would strengthen bonds across campus.

This is not to say that Columbia has not provided any space for students to relax with friends. Postcrypt, Joe the Art of Coffee, Brownie's, Low Steps (when the weather is pleasant), and Columbia sporting events are all places that students should take advantage of to make the most of their time here. In the meantime, though, it's the University's job to find ways to make campus more inviting and to bring students together, whether it's by providing a student space that isn't so hard to walk through, or by letting us sit on the lawns for more than three days a year.

# Take to the Streets

As we embark toward home or to the far-off beaches that are our spring break destinations, it will be difficult to relax knowing that pandemonium and protests are sweeping across the world and through the nation. In Egypt, Libya, and Tunisia, oppressed people are fighting for their basic freedoms under regimes that sought to repress Internet use and assert control through violent military tactics. In Wisconsin, teachers battle the crippling school budget cuts that severely threaten the public education system as a whole. And closer to home in Washington, D.C. and New York, pro-choice supporters have marched in the streets to show their solidarity with Planned Parenthood since the organization has been threatened with significant defunding by House Republicans in their 2011 budget proposal. The Columbia students I know who marched downtown last week for Planned Parenthood reported that the crowd was large and lively in spite of the bitter cold. But what connects these demonstrations across the globe and unites them in a common spirit of protest?

Certainly there are several answers to this question, though one in particular applies directly to the majority of the Columbia community: the issue of women's rights. Though Egypt used to be considered one of the most forward-thinking nations in its region on the issue of gender equality, its society became more devout in recent years, and women suffered from an increase in sexual harassment and prosecution for not wearing a veil in public, as well as a resurgence in the practice of genital mutilation. The World Economic Forum discovered that 42 percent of Egyptian women are unable to read or write. Women's political activity has been sharply limited by low voter turnouts and few seats in the parliament are held by women. But Mozn Hassan, executive director of the Egyptian organization Nazra for Feminist Studies, expressed hope and optimism that the spirit of activism among women—veiled and unveiled—at the protests in Tahrir Square will lead to structural changes in women's rights legislation. The New York Times quoted Ms. Hassan, who said, “The same men they were afraid to talk to in the streets were saying, ‘Bravo, the girls’ revolution!’”

Though the voices we hear on the news from Wisconsin are often those of male lawmakers or heads of teachers' unions, there is a real potential for another “girls’ revolution.” If the proposed school budget cuts are put into practice, many schools in the state will be forced to shut down or consolidate. Considering the contraction of the payroll, there will be massive layoffs of public school teachers. Not only does this threaten students, families, and teachers at large, but also it



AMANDA GUTTERMAN

## The Far Side of the Familiar

particularly targets women. According to statistics from the U.S. Department of Labor in 2009, the third most popular occupation for women is teaching in middle or elementary school. These schools employ nearly 2.5 million American women. Furthermore, women comprise 82 percent of all middle and elementary school teachers. The budget cuts will disproportionately affect the female working population, which is perhaps mistakenly seen as less than vital to the economic solvency of the family unit. Women, who make up over three quarters of America's teachers, have had the most reason to protest in Wisconsin and fight for important jobs that Governor Scott Walker would rather dismiss as “women's work.”

## What connects these demonstrations across the globe and unites them in a common spirit of protest?

The protests in New York and Washington, D.C. against what is essentially the gutting of Planned Parenthood are explicitly in defense of women's reproductive rights. Representative Mike Pence (R-I.N.) attached an amendment to a budget plan that assaults women's health and freedom by barring any funding for Planned Parenthood. Even with the current bill, Title X—a government program that provides family planning services—would lose its federal support. Columbia students might well be affected by this loss, and the low-income neighborhoods in Harlem and Morningside Heights would be some of the first to suffer. In an article titled “The War on Women,” the New York Times editorial board wrote that the budget would remove programs “for low-income women that provide birth control, breast and cervical cancer screenings, and testing for H.I.V. and other sexually transmitted diseases” which would “result in some 400,000 more abortions a year.”

Since their successful storming of the Bastille at the start of the French Revolution, women have had a distinct place in the culture of revolutions and protests. Furthermore, with the spread of peaceful protests in the latter half of the 20th century, women have been able to be even more active and visible. Now, women's rights issues are at the heart of the most important conflicts going on across the city, the country, and the world. So what better activity to do on spring break than take to the streets?

*Amanda Gutterman is a Columbia College sophomore majoring in English with a French concentration. The Far Side of the Familiar runs alternate Wednesdays.*



AMALIA RINEHART

# Tolerating difference

BY BIJAN SALARI

I am writing in response to Stephen Wu's column titled “A hipster manifesto.” First, I applaud his effort towards understanding the meaning of the word “hipster.” It seems as if everyone has his or her own interpretation of the word's meaning, and no two people, even perhaps within the hipster community—if indeed it has a concrete existence—can come to any sort of consensus in defining this word. But it seems that Wu believes his arduous journey from the Oxford English Dictionary to Urban Outfitters, of all places, provides him with the necessary justifications for his claim that “the hipster soul is void and empty.”

I don't claim to be a hipster. My reasoning for this is quite simple: As mentioned before, I don't understand the colloquial use of the term, and, perhaps more importantly, I don't believe the definition is important. I, however, do believe that many like Wu construct misguided and perhaps ironic generalizations of the people who they claim are hipsters.

Wu speaks of the ironic hipster as one who “apparently takes great pains to do nothing and seemingly care for nothing.” He extends this idea to make the rather bold claim that hipsters contribute very little, if anything, to the progression of society. But the evidence upon which Wu draws this conclusion, which in his column amounts to the pains of squeezing into tiny clothes and reading a couple of outdated essays, is not only as innovative as drinking coffee on a Monday morning, but more importantly reveals the prevailing and misguided notion that being different is somehow wrong and, in a sense, not useful to society. This, I would say, is ironic.

It is worth mentioning that associating tight clothes with hipsters is irrelevant and should be disregarded—after all, are we to assume the vast majority of today's women who wear tight pants should also be considered hipsters? To say women contribute nothing to society

is quite ridiculous, so clearly the tight clothing issue shouldn't have contributed to the formulation of Wu's argument. Unfortunately, his devotion of an entire paragraph of his column to this issue only highlights his personal bias against that which doesn't suit him—or in other words, that which is different. As for the outdated Mailer article, other than stating that the conclusion of the article conveniently matches his own conclusion, Wu mentions no basis for representing hipsters as non-progressive peoples. Similarly, his claim that “The Catcher in the Rye” is likely to be a modern hipster's manifesto not only has no basis, but is again quite ironic. Try Googling “Catcher in the Rye hipster”—the first words you will see are “Stuff Hipsters Hate.”

## Many construct misguided and perhaps ironic generalizations of the people who they claim are hipsters.

So my advice to Wu is to actually communicate with these curious creatures. Perhaps it would be useful to understand who really is this double-layered store clerk at Urban Outfitters—does he have opinions on important matters? Maybe this idea of being nonchalant is misrepresenting the person who is trying to be different. Surely these people, like all people, care about something. The choice to be different is meaningful, whether or not that choice exhibits itself as a form of apathy. We must all communicate and respect the choices made by others, even when expressed in a different way than we are used to. Indeed, this is how society progresses.

*The author is a senior in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences majoring in chemical engineering.*







# Queen of French cinema, Deneuve, waves students to BAMcinématek

BY CHRISTIN ZURBACH  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

Now through March 31, BAMcinématek will honor Catherine Deneuve, the Meryl Streep of France, with her own film festival. The emotive and charming blonde has been making her mark on French cinema for several decades. The Deneuve retrospective, at Brooklyn's BAM Rose Cinemas (30 Lafayette Ave., at Ashland Place), celebrates 25 of the star's films.

In addition to her older movies, the festival features Deneuve's most recent film, the 2011 "Potiche," which showed last Friday, March 4—with Deneuve there in person. The comedy, directed by François Ozon, opens at the Angelika Film Center and other select theaters on March 25. Ironically, "Potiche," the only new film in this retrospective, is set in the past.

In the film Deneuve, at 67, plays Suzanne, a trophy wife, or "potiche ." Suzanne is forced to temporarily replace her workaholic and inattentive husband as manager of her father's umbrella factory. The film transitions well from portraying Suzanne as the passive wife, who jogs with curlers and sings while washing the dishes, to Suzanne the manager, who balances assertiveness with fairness—then, more intriguingly, to Suzanne as a woman with a past.

Between "Potiche," a new film set in the past, and older films that resonate in the present, the retrospective blurs the meaning and role of time.

Gerard Depardieu plays Babin, a politician who works with the factory's union, who turns out to have had a brief tryst with Suzanne twenty years before. Babin then expresses his still-present love for Suzanne. As they sweetly reminisce over their youthful affair, followers of Deneuve's career see a matured reincarnation of Depardieu and Deneuve's well-established romantic pairing. Even without the context of their previous films together ("The Last Metro," "Changing Times"), the screen palpitates with the underlying energy of the duo's ever-potent chemistry. Themes of female empowerment, economic crisis, outsourcing, and abortion all fit into the film's '70s-era setting but also allude to many present issues.

In contrast, "The Umbrellas of Cherbourg," which will be screened March 10 at 7 p.m., showcases Deneuve in her breakthrough performance. She plays a young girl forced by circumstance to marry someone she does not love while her true love serves in the military, only to discover that he returns early.

"Umbrellas of Cherbourg" is a musical. Movies like High School Musical and Mamma Mia make it easy to forget that the musical format can be equally effective in romantic dramas, and this film serves as a refreshing reminder. The film also flows with beautiful imagery that manages, in its grace, to dodge cliché. Trains pulling out of stations, the radiant Deneuve running through dark drizzle into the arms of her love, two lovers gliding through quaint Parisian cobblestone street—all could easily seem predictable and not powerful, but the expert execution of the film brings a purity and poignancy to the love story.

Between "Potiche," a contemporary film set in the past, and older films that resonate in the present, BAMcinématek's Deneuve retrospective blurs the meaning and role of time in its wide-ranging selection. This seems to fit the festival's overarching intention: to demonstrate that some art, and some women, are timeless.



COURTESY OF MUSIC BOX FILMS

**TROPHY WIFE** | Deneuve plays a "potiche," or trophy wife Suzanne in her latest film—one of 25 in a Deneuve retrospective at BAMcinématek.



IAN ERICKSON-KERY FOR SPECTATOR

**SOUL FOOD** | The title of Tiravanija's latest exhibit, "Fear Eats the Soul," is spray-painted across the Gavin Brown's Enterprise white gallery walls.

## Real life and art blend in Prof. Tiravanija's work

BY IAN ERICKSON-KERY  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

Art has always been a reflection of life, yet when art imitates life directly, it raises eyebrows. The work of Rirkrit Tiravanija, a professor of visual arts at Columbia, has always blended the distinction between art and life and forced viewers to think deeply about the nature of each. Tiravanija's most recent show, "Fear Eats the Soul," at Gavin Brown's Enterprise (620 Greenwich St., at Leroy Street) continues this career trend. The show opened on March 5 and will remain on view until April 16.

Tiravanija's first New York exhibition, "Pad Thai," which took place in 1990, involved cooking a meal for gallery-goers. The work placed an artistic frame around the process of food preparation and consumption, casting a fundamental element of human experience in new light. While we tend to associate visual art with sight, the work brought the perceptions of taste, smell, and sound to the forefront.

In 1999, Tiravanija created a plywood replica of his apartment in a gallery space and lived in it

for two months. Here, the life of an individual in a space he knew intimately became the art object, calling into question the perception of time in relation to events placed in an artistic frame.

**Tiravanija's grounded work is refreshing in a market so dictated by sales to wealthy collectors. The object of collection in this show is not an object, per se.**

For Tiravanija's current show, the gallery's large garage-style doors are left open into the gallery space, whose white brick walls are spray-painted with the words "Fear Eats the Soul." In the interior of the space, two enclosed storefronts have been constructed out of plywood, one containing a soup kitchen, the other a small T-shirt factory.

On Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. until the show closes, the public can go to the gallery to get a bowl of soup or have a T-shirt screen printed. A different soup is featured each day—recipes and historical contexts are posted at [www.soupnosoup.com](http://www.soupnosoup.com). Viewers can select from 24 different textual statements, such as "Less Oil More Courage" and "Rich Bastards Beware," to have printed on their shirts.

Tiravanija's grounded work is refreshing in an art market so dictated by sales to wealthy collectors. The object of collection in this show is not an object, per se, but the bowls of soup, the T-shirts, and the experiences dispensed to viewers.

"It is not what you see that is important but what takes place between people," Tiravanija said. His work is indeed imbued with an invigoratingly democratic quality. One wonders if the artist's aestheticized soup kitchen and T-shirt factories will inspire meaningful conversations about poverty and sweatshop labor. At a minimum, they will bring people together for a unique experience.

## Postcrypt Art Gallery hoards found objects for one-night exhibit

BY ALEXIS NELSON  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

Near an old, stained mattress, a jumble of objects lay strewn on the ground. The image at first appeared as an overwhelming heap of junk. "I wanted to make a show about hoarders," Rachel Valinsky, the director of Postcrypt Art Gallery said.

"Shelf Life" was an art exhibit presented for one night in the gallery portion of Postcrypt, beneath St. Paul's Chapel, on Friday, March 4. Valinsky was the exhibit's chief curator.

**"Questioning the ways you contextualize an object changes the way you think about it."**

—Rachel Valinsky,  
Postcrypt Art Gallery Director

The show turned the premise of a conventional art gallery or museum on its head by presenting objects without context, order, or frames.

The show's organizers strove to place extremely eclectic, disparate objects side-by-side. "Juxtaposition is really important. Questioning the ways you contextualize an object changes the way you think about it," Valinsky said.

The large group of found objects in one part of the exhibit included everything from plastic bottles to an old blue book from a math exam to underwear to an intricate turquoise scroll chamber.

A laptop in the center of the room played itemizing voice recordings of every object present. A grid of pictures depicted the found items, as well, each contained in a separate photograph.

The exhibit disallowed passive observation—viewers were forced to contemplate what



HENRY WILLSON / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**HOARDER HEAVEN** | At Postcrypt's "Shelf Life," students look at other students' found objects.

makes an object valuable, or more than that, what makes it art.

"We wanted to set some things on pedestals to see how it affected viewers' perception of their value," Valinsky said.

In addition to the found objects, student artists submitted interesting works relating to the show's hoarder concept.

These submissions included a shark cast in epoxy resin by School of Continuing Education student Stephen Abbott. "Artists are natural hoarders," Abbott said. His multimedia shark

embodies this concept, having begun life as a taxidermist's fish found in an old antique shop.

Allison Cohen submitted two works, which are part of a series of drawings and paintings. The works all illustrate a sculpture of packing peanuts in very different manners.

Each artist responded to the exhibit's theme in a different way—effectively contributing to the investigative nature of "Shelf Life." The show demanded mental and imaginative participation. But it also probed for reactions to art that exists outside of frames.



# Spring break to-dos that don't belong in a school planner

The best part about midterms is that they end in spring break. To get students in the mood, A&E has put together some different takes on how best to make use—or fun—of a week free of school.

Try out a new recipe for size

This spring break, beat the post-midterms Ferris Booth blues, and say au revoir to flimsy tortilla wraps and cardboard-tasting pizza for a week. Calling out to both veterans in the kitchen and those hardly capable of picking up a spatula: It's time to invoke your inner Julia Child. Try out a new recipe to share with friends and family on a rainy mid-March afternoon indoors.

Food Network programming staples like the celebrity chef-studded “The Best Thing I Ever Ate” and “Throwdown With Bobby Flay” are inspiration enough to get those creative juices flowing. The more tech-savvy can check out food blogs like “Smitten Kitchen” and “Gourmet or Gourmand” for recipes that run the gamut from the sweet to the savory to the bizarre—think cauliflower and parmesan cake.

Students staying in the city over the break might want to take up casual cooking classes, available for rookie and advanced chefs alike. The Social Table (306 W. 51st St., between Eighth and Ninth avenues) offers BYOB classes in a relaxed setting, with culinary creations ranging from “Pizza Making” to “Dim Sum & Asian Apps.” For hands-on experience with refreshing, organic recipes, schedule a group lesson at Karen Lee's Cooking Classes (142 West End Ave., at 66th Street). Bonus points for those who keep up with the DIY cuisine once classes resume.

—Katy Tong



ILLUSTRATION BY ANN CHOU



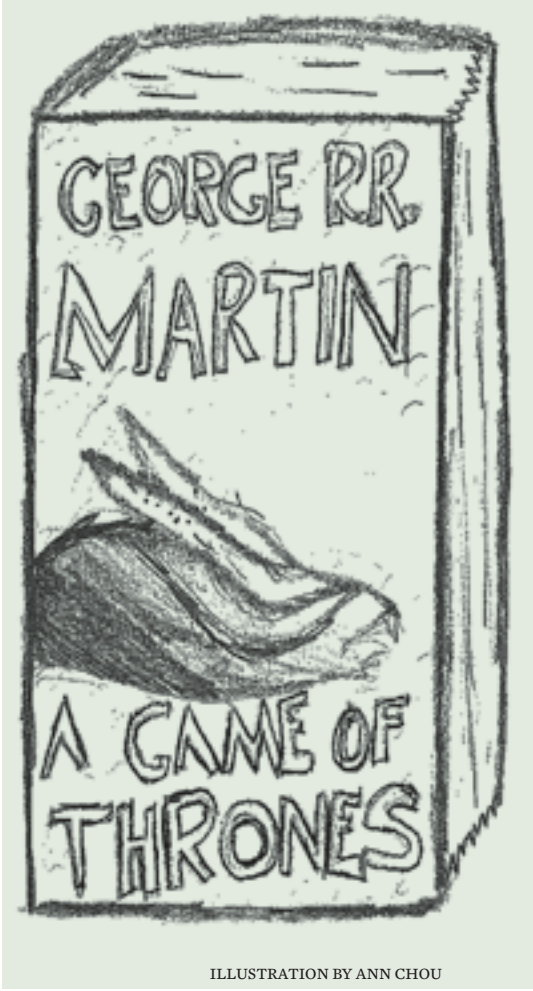
## Drink a tropical drink, here or anywhere

- SEX ON THE BEACH**—a college favorite for obvious reasons. And the drink version doesn't involve getting sand caught in undesirable places.
- 1 part peach Schnapps
  - 1-2 parts vodka (depending on desired strength)
  - 2 parts cranberry juice
  - 2 parts pulp-free orange juice
  - garnish with a maraschino cherry and an orange slice
- MAI TAI RECIPE** (on T Magazine)—with two types of rum and more than one exotic ingredient, Mai Tais might not be the most budget-conscious drink, but they are delicious.
- 1 part orgeat syrup (almond-flavored) or 1 drop pure almond extract
  - 1 part orange curacao or Cointreau
  - 2 parts light rum
  - 2 parts dark rum
  - juice of one lime
  - pinch of granulated sugar
  - optional: orange juice
  - garnish with slices of lime and pineapple
- SPIKED LEMONADE**—more Cap Cod in the summer than white sandy island beaches, but this drink still offers a little bit of sun in a cup.
- 1 part cucumber vodka (or, if that cannot be found, vodka + cucumber)
  - 1 part lemonade
  - 1 part club Soda

- MELON MOJITO**—a sweetly refreshing take on the traditional poolside mint cocktail.
- juice of one lime
  - 5 mint leaves (crush together at bottom of glass with lime before adding liquid)
  - 1 part Malibu Melon rum
  - 1 1/2 parts club soda
  - pinch of granulated sugar
  - garnish with a sprig of mint and a slice of lime
- Allison Malecha

## Catch up on hot new media while stuck at home

- After the obligatory exchanges with friends and family, those heading home for break can fill the rest of their downtime with the latest in movies, TV, music, and books.
- Summer break is still a couple months away, but “Battle: Los Angeles” fills the void for those impatient for their summer blockbuster fix. Starring Aaron Eckhart (“The Dark Knight”) and Michelle Rodriguez (“Avatar”), the film follows the experience of Marines deployed in LA as they fight out humanity's last stand against an alien threat.
- For those craving a new epic romance—“Pride and Prejudice” can only be watched so many times—the Victorian classic “Jane Eyre” receives the big screen treatment with Mia Wasikowska (“Alice in Wonderland”) in the titular role. Michael Fassbender (“Inglorious Basterds”) stars alongside as the brooding Mr. Rochester.
- Escape the doldrums of assigned readings into George R.R. Martin's fantastical Seven Kingdoms in “A Game of Thrones.” Not just a silly fantasy series, “A Song of Ice and Fire” is a complex saga of intrigue, lust, and greed. Stay up-to-date with the soon-to-be even more massively popular book series—it's being adapted into a new HBO series for April.
- Though approaching the publicity saturation point, Adele's album “21” isn't getting a lot of attention for nothing. Adele's passionate, angry songs shine brightest, including the album's first single “Rolling in the Deep” and the soulful “He Won't Go.”
- Catching up on reality TV offers total mental relaxation. Instead of mourning not being on vacation, tune in for the “Top Chef” season finale set in the Bahamas or the latest “Jersey Shore” to enjoy the tropical sun and beachside antics—all from the comfort of the couch.
- Maricela Gonzalez



## Tunes to keep up the spring break beat

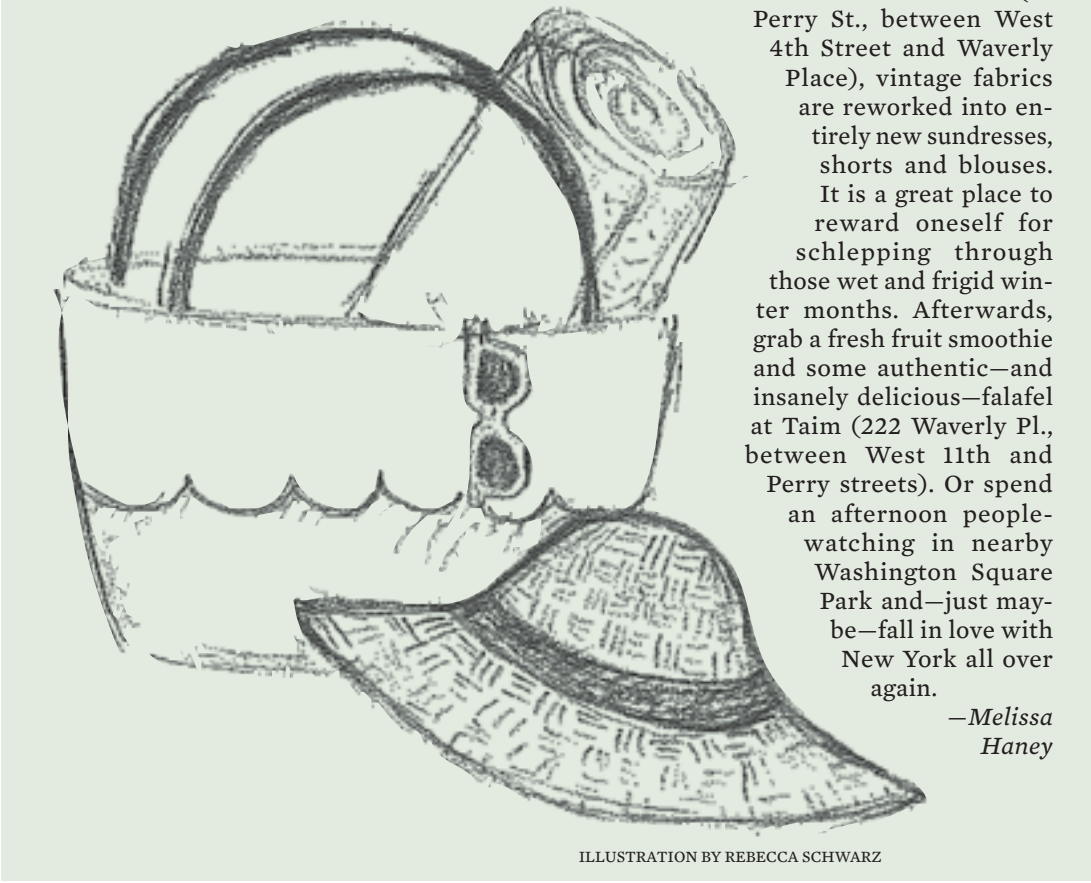
- One needn't look further than Low Steps to see that Columbia students like to hail spring in early. Likewise, few iPods around campus are likely to be currently playing bleak, wintry tunes. Those that are a little lost can look to these jams to usher in the warmer weather (hopefully) right around the corner.
- The synthpop band Cut Copy is from Australia, which has been basking in summer rays for the last several months. The group's third album “Zonoscope” is as dance-inducing as the two before it, and the track “Pharoahs & Pyramids” is sure to bring out enough grooves to make students forget that jacket they're still toting around.
- Korallreven hails from Sweden, which doesn't evoke swimsuits and beach balls, but the Swedes need their imaginary escapes to warm weather, too. The track “Shine On” has a layered, atmospheric, and slightly bittersweet sound capable of bringing about a blissful state even if the sun is masked by a layer of clouds.
- The South Carolina-based band Toro y Moi imbues chillwave tunes with that playful sensibility most attainable during the footloose summer months. The band just released its second LP “Underneath the Pine.” It isn't a summer album per se, but the track “How I Know” has an expansive Brian Wilson-esque sound that makes the perfect soundtrack for spring break escapades and shenanigans.
- There are ways to beat back the late-winter gloom, and good, mood-shifting music is certainly one of the best.
- Ian Erickson-Kery

## Pick up a flick at an indie video store

- Everyone is talking about the home video apocalypse, but rest assured that the last frontier for the indie video store will undoubtedly be New York.
- Although the once-great Morningside Heights video store Kim's Video, went out of business years ago, it lives on at 124 First Ave. (at St. Mark's Place). Rentals are long gone, but their selection of movies for purchase is still excellent and as idiosyncratically organized as ever: first by country, then by director. Of equal importance, their clerks are still snobbish and aloof, warranting comparisons to employees of the fictional Championship Vinyl.
- For a more off-the-beaten-track adventure, visit Naghma House (131 Lexington Ave., at 29th Street), which caters to its surrounding mini Indian neighborhood with an array of Indian and Pakistani TV serials and Bollywood musicals. Another store that warrants a trip to a not necessarily student-gear neighborhood is New York Video (949 First Ave., between 52nd and 53rd streets). Although the DVD selection leaves something to be desired, the VHS collection is excellent. The shop's clientele includes Edgar Wright (“Scott Pilgrim vs. the World”) and Woody Allen.
- Joseph Pomp

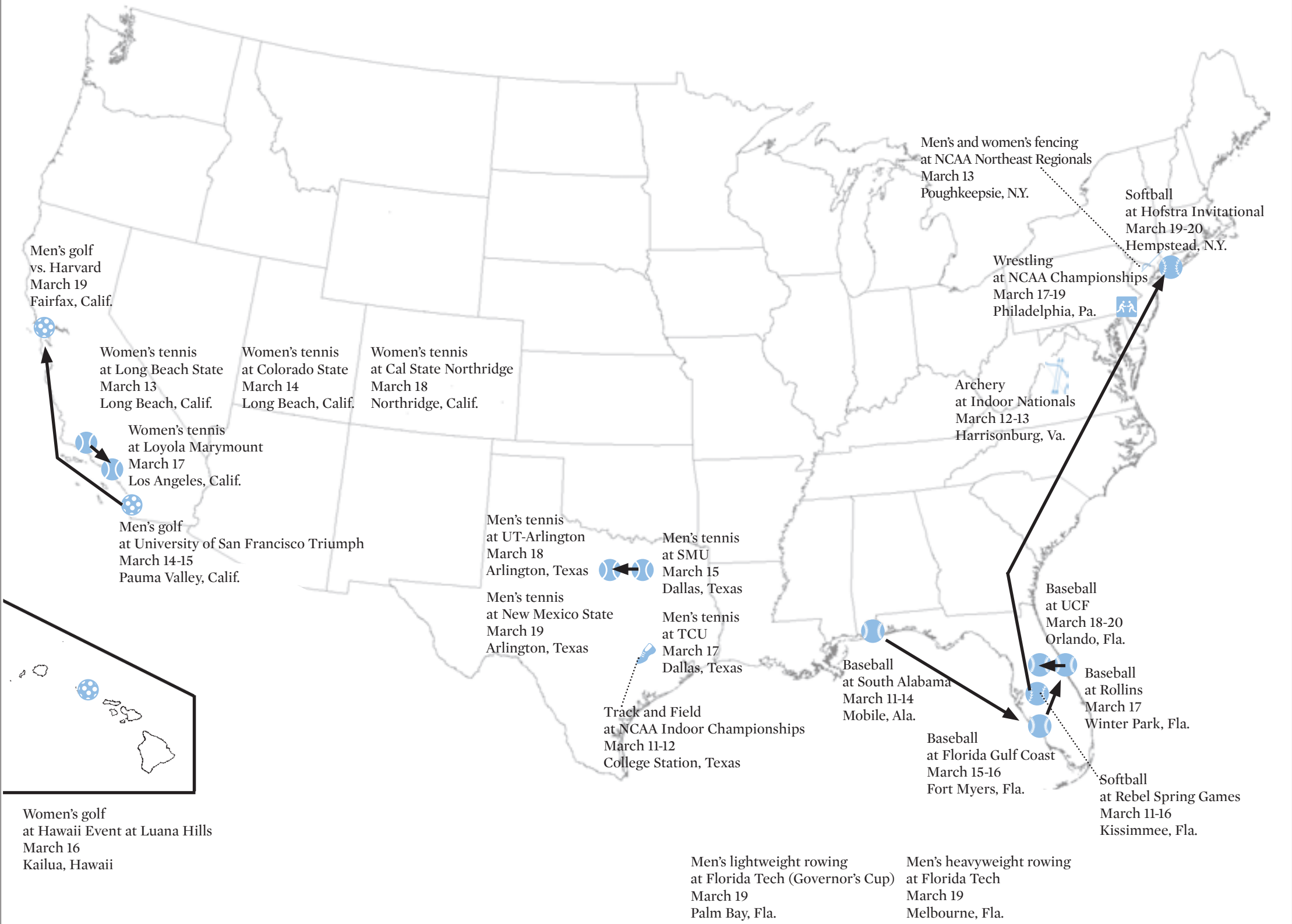
## Take advantage of free time and spring weather to shop

- There is nothing quite as uplifting as that first spring morning, when students wake up to the sun's rays pouring through the window and find that the doom and gloom of winter has finally disappeared. But there is nothing quite as disheartening as then walking over to a closet full of heavy sweaters, wool scarves, and muddy rain boots. Over-worn, cold-weather wardrobes do not suffice for students suffering from a case of spring fever.
- To sprinkle a little sunshine over the depressing piles of black and grey sitting in dorm room drawers, take advantage of the newly warm air and head downtown to some of the city's cutest and brightest boutiques. At the whimsical Geminola (41 Perry St., between West 4th Street and Waverly Place), vintage fabrics are reworked into entirely new sundresses, shorts and blouses.
- It is a great place to reward oneself for schlepping through those wet and frigid winter months. Afterwards, grab a fresh fruit smoothie and some authentic—and insanely delicious—falafel at Taim (222 Waverly Pl., between West 11th and Perry streets). Or spend an afternoon people-watching in nearby Washington Square Park and—just maybe—fall in love with New York all over again.
- Melissa Haney





COLUMBIA ATHLETICS’ SPRING BREAK PLANS



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## Important lessons in Derrick Rose’s preseason statement

LOPEZ from back page

the Big Red and be the best? I know from experience that it is easier said than done to believe that one can overcome an opponent that seems unbeatable, and then pull off the upset. Doubt is a mental barrier that 90 percent of athletes—or people for that matter—are not able to overcome. I, for one, didn’t have that drive in high school, which is probably why I’m writing instead of playing. Those who do believe in their core what Rose believes, the Jordans of the world, end up being described as greats. Their greatness does not stem solely from their natural ability—although it certainly doesn’t hurt—but from their drive and their desire to sacrifice whatever it takes to be the best. It sounds corny and overly optimistic, but it’s true. I have no doubts that some athletes at this school have a similar drive that Rose has, but some is not enough. Columbia can compete for a title in every sport, every year. Why not?

Bart Lopez is a Columbia College senior majoring in economics-mathematics. sports@columbiaspectator.com

## Experience will be key to Hale’s success at NCAAs

TRACK AND FIELD from back page

Hale attributed much of her success to her coaches, God, and her mother. “Of course, [I’d have to thank] my mom, who is there through the injuries, losses, wins and every other aspect of my life,” Hale said. Head coach Willy Wood believes that this time around, Hale really feels like she belongs with the best, and that will help her this weekend. While the Ivy League record will be within Hale’s reach, Wood says this weekend is about winning. “At the NCAA National Championships, it’s all about place,” Wood said. Hale noted that her experience will be a big factor in her upcoming performance. “I feel like I have more experience and I know what to expect with this level of competition,” Hale said. “So I feel more prepared to achieve the goals I have set for my indoor season.” That does not mean there will be no nerves, as expected when facing such high level of competition. Right now, Hale feels that the 400m is her best race, but she has always struggled when asked which event she prefers between the 200m and 400m. “I love the 200m because I never feel tired, but I know how good I am in the 400m, and I feel like it takes a special type of runner to take on the demands of the event,” she said. Moving forward, Hale is nowhere near finished. With three more seasons of track still remaining (one indoor and two outdoor), the junior hopes to improve her own school and league records. Her graduation from Columbia will not mark the end of her running career. “Sharay has already established herself as one of the nation’s premier college runners,” Wood said. “Next on the list is competing against the top professional runners.” ESPN2 will show a tape delay of the event on March 16 at 2:30 p.m., and the event will also stream live on ESPN3.com.



ALYSON GOULDEN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

HAIG 10 | Haig Schneiderman has performed well as the Columbia men’s tennis No. 1 tennis player this year.

## Lions will face tough UCF team at end of long road trip

BASEBALL from back page

the University of South Alabama in Mobile, Ala. The Jaguars are already 7-4 on the season and are 4-2 at Stanky Field. Senior Jake Overstreet has already gone yard twice this season, and nearly broke former major leaguer Luis Gonzalez’s single season school RBI record last season. The Light Blue will then travel to Fort Myers, Fla., to compete in two games at Florida Gulf Coast

University on March 15 and 16. Senior Zach Maxfield is the best hitter for the 6-5 Eagles, batting .372 with two homeruns and 10 RBIs. Relief pitcher Austin Gaines will be a challenge for the Lions to solve. He is 2-0 in four appearances this season, striking out 10 batters in 11 innings pitched. Next, the team will make a quick pit stop in Winter Park, Fla., for a game against the 12-5 Rollins College Tars. The 10-day, 10-game stretch will finish with a three-game series against

the University of Central Florida in Orlando on March 18-20. The Knights (9-2) will undoubtedly be the toughest competition of the trip. As a whole, the team is batting .342 and slugging .510. It has hit six homeruns this season and has amassed 91 runs in 11 games. UCF players are not slouches on the mound either, currently throwing a collective 2.70 ERA. The Lions will return home for a four-game series against Holy Cross, March 26-27.

### GOLF

#### Columbia teams headed to California, Hawaii for first tournaments of season

Columbia’s men’s and women’s golf teams begin their spring seasons this coming weekend with competitions in California and Hawaii, respectively. The men—winners of three straight Ivy League titles—will travel to Southern California’s Pauma Valley Golf Club, near San Diego. They will take part in the Triumph at Pauma Valley Tournament, hosted by the University of San Francisco. The course is 7,077 yards and the par is 71. Freshman Jordan Lee from Tarzana, California looks to show off his golf pedigree (his brother, Justin, is a senior on the team) as he has already proven himself to be one of the team’s

most valuable players. His scoring average so far this year is a 72.7, which is just 1.4 strokes above par. Senior Clark Granum, who has the third-lowest scoring average on the team, has earned first team all-Ivy honors three times. A San Diego native, Granum will be close to home when the team travels to Pauma Valley. Granum has a scoring average of 74.2 this year and currently holds the low score on the team with a 67. The women will head even farther west, as they make their way out to Kailua, Hawaii to compete in the Hawaii Event at Luana Hills on March 16. Luana Hills Country Club

is a relatively short, but difficult Pete Dye-designed course with a par of 72. Freshman California native Michelle Piyapattrra hopes to continue her strong performance as she holds the lowest scoring average on the team by several strokes (75.91). Piyapattrra has also posted the lowest individual round score with a 73. Junior Lynda Kwon is the team’s second-lowest scorer with an average of 80.55 strokes per round. This weekend will provide an important gauge of what to expect from these teams, and will help determine whether the men have a chance to make it four in a row. —Jeremiah Sharf

### ARCHERY

#### Light Blue archers to take part in Nationals this weekend in Virginia

This Saturday, the archery team will compete in the Indoor Nationals tournament in Harrisonburg, Va. This will be the last indoor competition for the Light Blue in what has been a very successful season. Although they all compete at the same time, the scores for indoor tournaments are all individual. Still, a Columbia archer has won the gold medal in each event where the team has participated. In the team’s first indoor competition of the year, the Eastern Seaboard held on Jan. 17, All-American junior Sarah Chai took the

top spot in the recurve division. This was her second year in a row winning this particular tournament. The Eastern Seaboard also saw the debut of senior Gillian Kemmerer shooting in the compound division, which she won over her teammates sophomore Emily Genatowski and freshman Mary Quien. The only senior on the team, this is Kemmerer’s first season shooting with the compound bow after switching over from recurve, and she has clearly had success with the change. In the team’s second tournament, the Cupid Classic held on Feb. 12, it

was junior Sydney Shaefer taking top honors in compound while freshman Sara Lavenhar won the recurve. Other standouts from this competition include Quien, who improved her score in the Eastern Seaboard by over 100 points to win second place in compound, and junior Aaqilah Chambers, who improved her previous score by 90 points en route to winning bronze in recurve. After their final tournament for the indoor season, the ladies’ outdoor season will begin just under a month later on April 8. —Myles Simmons

## Much needed break allows tennis to focus on playing

TENNIS from front page

“We play three really good teams that are ranked, and then Arlington is probably like us, on any given day we can beat them or they can beat us,” Goswami said. Goswami is looking forward to having the chance to practice without schoolwork and exams getting in the way. “Without any midterms and schoolwork, it will be nice to get out onto the court and hit a lot of balls,” Goswami said. The first match for Columbia will be on Mar. 15 against SMU in Dallas, Texas.

## Led by young class, Lions have had strong season

FENCING from front page

to keep its momentum going this weekend. The Lions are coming off a second-place finish at Ivy League Championships, in which three women were named First-Team All-Ivy and two to the Second Team. At last weekend’s United States Collegiate Squad Championships at NYU, the women’s epee and sabre squads returned with gold and silver medals, respectively. The struggles this season for the men have resulted from a lack of depth and inconsistent performances from the second and third fencers in each weapon. “We have a strong core group of fencers that are able to consistently win bouts,” Rodriguez said. “In every weapon we have at least one fencer who is capable of winning bouts against the strongest fencers in the country.” If the men’s top fencers perform as they have all season, there is no reason to believe they won’t be representing the Light Blue at Ohio State. It wouldn’t surprise anyone if Columbia sent multiple fencers from the women’s squad to Nationals. The competition is scheduled to begin at 8:00 a.m.

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## CU athletes can learn from attitudes of pros

I'm going to be honest—I can count the number of truly insightful and praiseworthy comments by an athlete or coach on one finger. Even the greatest players in the game tend to say the same old rehearsed lines about giving 110 percent to win the game. Yes, LeBron, I understand you only care about helping the team win. However, Derrick Rose, in a media day interview in September 2010, gave the greatest response to a reporter's question that I have ever heard. In fact, it is so great that every athlete, including those competing in Morningside Heights, should be forced to watch the clip every day.



BART LOPEZ

### The Tailgating Tales

## Derrick Rose's answer gives me chills every time I watch the clip.

Wearing his Bulls home jersey, Rose was answering question after question when one reporter brought up the upcoming season. After prefacing the question by saying that Rose had already won Rookie of the Year and was an all-star, the reporter asked what Rose's expectations were going into his third year. Rose's answer gives me chills every time I watch the clip. "The way I look at it within myself, why not?" he said. "Why can't I be the MVP of the league?" Rose continued by saying that he works hard, sacrifices a lot of things at an early age, and that if he does what he has to do good things will come. His answer is so good I don't know where to begin.

Rose, in two words, exhibited the type of confidence and drive that every athlete should have and that all great athletes must have. Why not? It is so simple but it speaks volumes. Rose believes to his core that there is no outside force capable of stopping him from being the greatest player on the court every night. This is evident in a very important omission. Not once in his entire response does Rose mention his own abilities or those of perennial MVP contenders. He believes that being the best isn't about natural talent, it's about work ethic. If you want to be the best, you have to work harder than everybody else. Rose has done just that. Over the offseason, he improved every aspect of his game, from his handles to his three-point shooting, and as a result is among the top two players mentioned in the MVP conversation (Rose has my MVP vote).

This idea of hard work trumping all else is used so often that it has become a cliché. Players, coaches, and fans alike don't believe it. It's too easy to dismiss individuals or teams because of a seemingly insurmountable gap in talent. It happens everywhere, especially here at Columbia.

The entire Columbia campus could learn a lot from Rose's comment. Sit in the bleachers at a football or basketball game and you will undoubtedly hear a least a half dozen fans voice their doubts and low expectations. Unfortunately, it's not just the fans, but players as well. Players know, or at least they think they know, when they're outmatched. Take swimming and diving, for example. Every year at the Ivy League championships, the teams that aren't Harvard or Princeton essentially compete for third place. The Crimson and the Tigers are so much better than the rest of the league that they battle for first while the third-place finisher ends up at least 300 points behind. It's been happening for so long that swimmers from the other six Ivies know that their team won't take first or second. They resign themselves to that fate. There's nothing wrong with taking third against such tough competition (Congratulations to the Lions for a great third-place finish this year), but why can't Columbia finish first in the future? A similar situation occurs in wrestling, where Cornell, one of the best wrestling teams in the nation, has a stranglehold on the Ivy League. I know Cornell will most likely win the league every year—but why not? Why can't the Lions upset

SEE LOPEZ, page 10



FILE PHOTO

INTO ORBIT | Senior Nick Cox was named Ivy League Player of the Week and is off to a monstrous start this season.

## Baseball off to Florida for 10-game trip

BY JEREMIAH SHARP  
Spectator Staff Writer

Columbia's baseball team will be on anything but a vacation over spring break, as the next two weeks will feature a tremendous number of games and travel in the Southeastern U.S.

Led by senior outfielder Nick Cox, who was named the Ivy League Baseball Player of the Week on Tuesday, the Lions managed to go 2-1

last weekend in Florida. Their only loss was a 10-inning thriller against Stetson, with the Hatters coming out on top, 7-6. In the three games, Cox batted .375 with three doubles.

The team is very confident in its ability to compete with the best in the country. "I think we have a positive bunch," head coach Brett Boretti said. "I think they know that we can compete with anybody on our schedule."

Sophomore Dario Pizzano looks to make a profound impact during this trip and hopes that it will be a good gauge for where the Lions stand in the national scene. "We want to see what we can do against some of the powerhouses and the southern teams we usually won't play," Pizzano said.

The road trip begins on March 11 with a four-game stint against

SEE BASEBALL, page 10

## Men's tennis to take on top competition in trip to Texas

BY KUNAL GUPTA  
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The men's tennis team will travel to Texas for its annual spring break training trip, where it will take on four teams, including some that are nationally ranked. Columbia (6-4) has won its last three dual matches since falling to Brown at the Eastern Conference Athletic Championships on Feb. 20. In Texas, Columbia will face Southern Methodist University, Texas Christian University, UT-Arlington, and New Mexico State.

One of the main challenges facing the team is playing in outdoor conditions, something the Lions haven't done since the fall.

## "Without any midterms and schoolwork, it will be nice to get out onto the court."

—Bid Goswami,  
men's tennis coach

"It's always a challenge for us, we haven't played outside since October," head coach Bid Goswami said. "It will again be a challenge. We'll just try to remember last year, we had a good trip."

First up for Columbia will be No. 64 SMU, which enters the match at 5-5 on the season. The Mustangs have played almost exclusively ranked teams this fall and are coming off a win against No. 61 University of Memphis. SMU has had mixed results against teams ranked near them. The Mustangs beat No. 67 UNLV 4-3 and No. 71 Utah State 7-0, but fell 5-2 to No. 72 Arkansas. SMU comes into the

match having won its last two matches. The Lions played the Mustangs last spring, prevailing 4-3 in a tight outdoor match.

TCU, ranked No. 68 in the nation, has also played a tough schedule but has had worse results, going 3-7 so far this spring. The Horned Frogs have lost each of their six matches against ranked teams, with their wins this spring coming against UT-Arlington, Texas-Pan American, and Wichita State. TCU had a six-match losing streak earlier this spring, but split its two most recent matches. The Horned Frogs have struggled at the top of the lineup, as Emanuel Brighiu has gone 2-8 this spring, and the team has gone a combined 7-13 at the No. 2 and 3 singles spots. Last year, Columbia beat TCU 4-3 in a match that was the team's biggest nonconference win in years.

UT-Arlington has gone 3-3 this spring, but has won three of four matches at home. Arlington lost 6-1 against TCU in its first match of the season and has not faced any other ranked competition this season. Mindaugas Celedinas started out the season playing No. 1 singles, but has been replaced by Yauheni Yakauleu, who was gone 2-0 in his last two matches after going 1-3 at No. 2.

Finally, the Lions will play New Mexico State, a team they have not faced in recent years. New Mexico State is actually the highest ranked team Columbia will play on the trip, coming in at No. 56 in this week's rankings. The Aggies are 7-5 this spring, but are coming off a 6-1 loss to No. 42 Arizona. Their top singles player is Arthur Surreaux, who is ranked No. 77 in the nation, but lost 6-1, 6-1 to the No. 107 player over the weekend. The match will be played in Arlington, Texas, as New Mexico is also on a spring break training trip.

SEE TENNIS, page 10

## Fencers look to make mark at Northeast Regionals

BY SPENCER GYORY  
Spectator Staff Writer

This Sunday, the Columbia men's and women's fencing teams will travel to Vassar College to compete in the NCAA Northeast Regionals. The results of this tournament determine which fencers have the chance to attend the NCAA Championships at Ohio State University on Mar. 24-27.

The format of the tournament is both unique and challenging. Fencers are placed in pools based upon their performances throughout the season. Each pool is then reduced in four rounds, the bottom portion of each pool is eliminated. Because the Northeast has so many fencing schools, this elimination process continues until there are only eight or nine fencers left in each weapon who earn a ticket to Nationals.

The Lions will be sending a number of fencers to Vassar. Sophomore epeeist Lydia Kopecky, freshman epeeist Katya English and Gabby Strass, sophomore foil D'Meca Homer, junior sabre Sammy Roberts, and sophomore sabres Lowe and Essane Diedro will be in attendance.

On the men's side, freshman epeeist Magnus Ferguson, freshman epeeist Alen Hadzic, junior epeeist Sean Leahy, freshman sabre Mel Rodriguez, junior sabre Billy Fink, freshman foilist Bo Charles, and freshman foilist Alex Pensler will all be competing at Regionals.

"It requires a lot of endurance," Rodriguez said about the intensity of the tournament. "Being able to lose a bout and move on to the next bout is a crucial skill."

Kopecky echoed the sentiment. "If you are out of focus for two of three bouts, you are out and you don't qualify for NCAAAs," she said. "It's really just a matter of endurance. You have to look at every bout as a new chance. You need to look at every bout with a completely new perspective."

"The pressure to do well can just freeze you," head coach George Kolombatovich said. "The real key is being in the moment and focusing on what they're going to do. That's one of the reasons why I think our people are better prepared than many others."

The women's squad is looking

SEE FENCING, page 10



JOSÉ GIRALT / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ALL HALE | Junior sprinter Sharay Hale (right) will look to continue her success when she competes in the 400m dash at this year's NCAA Indoor Championships.

## Junior Sharay Hale heads to Texas for NCAA Indoors

BY JEREMIAH SHARP  
Spectator Staff Writer

The indoor track and field season will wrap up this weekend with the NCAA Indoor National Championships at Texas A&M University in College Station, Tex.

Despite tremendous success this season—breaking numerous school and league records—the lone representative for the Lions will be junior sprinter Sharay Hale. Senior Jeff Moriarty narrowly missed qualifying for the mile.

Hale, who holds the league record in the 200m dash and school record in the 400m, has already competed in the NCAAAs three times, finishing in ninth place on each occasion. This year, she qualified for the 400m with her time of 53.02 seconds—the ninth fastest in the

nation this season and second best all-time in the Ivy League.

At the Iowa State University NCAA Qualifier last weekend, Hale and three teammates broke the Ivy League record in the 4x4 relay with a time of 3:37.67, but it was not enough to bring them with her to Texas.

However, Hale will be joined down south by her coach Gavin O'Neal, who on Monday was named the named the Northeast Region Women's Assistant Coach of the Year by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

SEE TRACK AND FIELD, page 10