



DOUGLAS KESSEL / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**COMING SOON** | A new Westside Market will open on Broadway between 97th and 98th streets, probably sometime next month.

## New Westside Market coming to Upper West Side

**BY CASEY TOLAN**  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

Westside Market is opening a new 24-hour location on Broadway between 97th and 98th streets.

Owner George Zoitas said he is targeting a “soft opening”—with no advertising or promotion—during the first week of April, followed by a

grand opening about two weeks later, “as soon as we feel comfortable with the new store.”

Zoitas described the new location, which has been in the works since June, as a “\$6 to \$7 million investment.” There are two other Westside Markets—one on 77th Street and one on 14th Street.

The new location was a bustle of activity Tuesday

afternoon as employees stocked shelves and set up the store. At about 18,000 square feet, the new store is similar in size to the 110th Street store, but its aisles are noticeably wider, giving it a more spacious feel.

The checkout lanes have been reconfigured, with new scanners that Zoitas said will speed up checkouts. The departments have also been

rearranged, and a “straight line” serving area will allow employees to move more easily between different areas—such as the salad bar and the deli—which Zoitas said will mean shorter lines.

Additionally, the store will use LED lights that are just as bright as those at 110th Street,

**SEE WESTSIDE, page 2**

## USenate drafting rules for student/faculty relationships

**BY MARGARET MATTES**  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

A policy being crafted by the University Senate would create new rules governing romantic or sexual relationships between students and their instructors.

A draft of the legislation obtained by Spectator states that “no faculty member shall have a consensual romantic or sexual relationship with a student over whom he or she exercises academic or professional authority,” but most of the draft explains how the administration and the involved parties should handle such relationships if they are formed.

Student Affairs Committee co-chair Alex Frouman, CC ’12, described the policy as discussing “ways for people to remove themselves from positions of academic authority.”

“These relationships are definitely not allowed, but the purpose of the policy is to help everyone come into compliance so that SAC members and students feel comfortable dealing with possible scenarios,” Frouman said.

The policy draft outlines a procedure through which a faculty member who forms a sexual relationship with a student “shall promptly act to recuse himself or herself from all academic and professional decisions and activities affecting the student.” The faculty member “must promptly alert his or her chair, dean or other head of unit to the existence of that relationship and co-operate in making alternative instructional and supervisory

arrangements necessary to protect the student against academic, professional or financial hardship,” the draft reads.

Faculty members are defined in the document as “all officers of instruction, research and the libraries, including students with appointments as student officers of instruction and research and graduate and undergraduate teaching assistants.”

**“The purpose of the policy is to help everyone come into compliance.”**

—Alex Frouman, CC ’12,  
*Student Affairs Committee co-chair*

The resolution draft emphasizes that romantic relationships between students and faculty members pose a threat to Columbia’s academic environment, noting that they could lead to preferential treatment by instructors toward some of their students. The document does not describe specific consequences for breaking the proposed rules, stating only that “if a faculty member fails to disclose a consensual romantic or sexual relationship, the University will, on discovering it, take all necessary steps to ensure compliance with this

**SEE USENATE, page 2**

## 3333 management to meet with tenants over new security policy

**BY GINA LEE**  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

A day after residents of 3333 Broadway rallied against new security procedures, building management agreed to meet with tenants and the local politicians who have supported their protests.

Under a new policy, which has so far been implemented in two of the building’s five towers, residents are required to use picture identification cards to swipe into the building. The building’s management company, Urban American, has said that the policy will make the building more secure, but many residents have expressed privacy concerns and questioned the policy’s legality.

Tenants’ Association President Alicia Barksdale said that before the Monday rally, Urban American had been unresponsive to her attempts to

reach out to it. But after the rally—which was organized by the Tenants’ Association and the Harlem Interfaith Commission for Housing Equality—Urban American contacted the Tenants’ Association and some elected officials, including state Sen. Bill Perkins, offering to meet with them.

The offices of City Council member Robert Jackson and Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer offered to facilitate a meeting between Urban American and the Tenants’ Association, Barksdale said.

The building is located on 133rd Street, where it overlooks the site of Columbia’s Manhattanville expansion.

At a Community Board 9 housing committee meeting on Tuesday night, Annette Robinson, a member of the committee and a 3333 resident

**SEE 3333, page 2**

## SGB picks new board, recognizes 8 groups

David Fine elected president, Wellness Project recognized

**BY LILLIAN CHEN**  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

The Student Governing Board elected David Fine, CC ’13, as its president and voted to recognize eight campus groups at a town hall Tuesday night.

Fine is an SGB representative and editor-in-chief of The Current, Columbia’s undergraduate journal of politics, culture, and Jewish affairs. He replaces Barry Weinberg, CC ’12, as SGB chair.

SGB—which oversees political, religious, activist, and humanitarian groups—also elected the rest of its 2012-13 executive board, choosing outgoing SGB Secretary Maryam Aziz, CC ’13, as vice chair. Following the recommendations of the outgoing executive board, the new board voted to recognize eight of nine groups up for recognition, including the Student Wellness Project and the Columbia International Relations Council and Association.

Fine ran for SGB chair unopposed, stressing the governing board’s “vibrancy” in his speech at the town hall.

“I believe that SGB is the core of student life at Columbia. It is ... your ability and willingness and your stubbornness that makes Columbia what it is,” Fine said. “It’s my goal as SGB chair to make sure that that continues and that that thrives.”

The eight groups that SGB voted to recognize are SWP, CIRCA, Columbia Faith and

Action, Grupo Quisqueyano, CU-Public Service Initiative, Students Against Mass Incarceration, and Students Promoting Empowerment and Knowledge.

SWP, which focuses on trying to create a healthier and more supportive environment for Columbia students, was formed out of dialogues that started last semester after the suicide of Tina Bu, CC ’13.

Two of the newly recognized groups, Grupo Quisqueyano and CIRCA, were previously recognized by the Activities Board at Columbia, which oversees performing arts groups, cultural groups, publications, and other special interest groups.

Representatives for both groups cited a shift in their organizations’ identities as the main reason for switching governing boards. Grupo Quisqueyano President Maria Lantigua, CC ’12, said that her group has moved from mostly cultural activities to greater political engagement, and CIRCA President Rhonda Shafei, CC ’12, said that her group made the decision to become more politically conscious in 2007.

Weinberg said that several other ABC groups have raised the possibility of switching to SGB recognition.

“I’d be interested to see if other groups that were multicultural find themselves identity-conscious,” Weinberg said. “I don’t know if that’s a trend.”

**SEE SGB, page 2**



HENRY WILLSON / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**DOING FINE** | David Fine, CC ’13 and editor-in-chief of The Current, was elected Student Governing Board chair Tuesday.

## CSA launching peer advising program next semester

**BY ABBY ABRAMS**  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

Students who go to the Center for Student Advising will soon be able to get advice from their classmates.

CSA is launching a peer advising pilot program this fall. In its first year, the program will include eight CSA peer advisers—four from Columbia College and four from the School of Engineering and Applied Science.

Rising juniors and seniors in CC and SEAS can apply to be CSA peer advisers through March

30. Applications are available on the CSA and Columbia College Student Council websites.

Jared Odessky, CC ’15 and president of the class of 2015, said that he initially had the idea for a peer advising program last semester, “amidst the discussions of community-building on campus” that led to the creation of groups like the Student Forum and the Student Wellness Project.

Columbia is “a place where people come and nobody holds your hand,” SWP co-chair Wilfred Chan, CC ’13, said. “I think as a freshman there’s a

feeling of being lost and confused, and if we can have upper-classmen provide a helping hand, then that can change.”

Peer advisers will be trained in academic areas such as the Core Curriculum and major advising, but they will also offer advice on broader topics like extracurricular activities or how to take advantage of the city, Odessky said. Odessky—who is currently running for vice president of communications of CCSC—added that the program “needed to be something that was supplementary to the Center for Student Advising, not replacing it.”

The peer advisers will receive salaries comparable to what they would earn at other on-campus jobs and will hold office hours Monday through Thursday from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Most nights, they will be in the CSA office on the fourth floor of Lerner Hall, but they will hold Wednesday hours in John Jay Dining Hall.

In November, Odessky proposed a peer advising system in a Spectator column, and Dean of Student Advising Monique Rinere reached out to him. Together they formed a

**SEE ADVISING, page 2**

### OPINION, PAGE 4

#### Talk the walk

Emily Tamkin explains why doublespeak isn’t double cool.

#### Bridging the gap

African and African-American students need to come together.



### SPORTS, BACK PAGE

#### In preseason play, Cornell shines above all

The Big Red is the lone Ivy League team that has found success in the preseason, as the rest of the Ancient Eight has stumbled mightily.

### EVENTS

#### Live at Lerner

Live at Lerner presents the musical stylings of Juilliard Opera.  
*Lerner Piano Lounge, 12 p.m.*

#### Israel and the Arab Spring

LionPAC hosts a panel discussion on Israel and the Arab Spring.  
*Kraft Center 3rd floor, 7 p.m.*

### WEATHER

#### Today



74° / 54°

#### Tomorrow



78° / 57°



## New Westside, located two avenues from Whole Foods, to compete with other high-end markets

WESTSIDE from front page

but which use 75 percent less energy.

“We’re trying to go green here,” Zoitas said. “We pride ourselves on not taking any shortcuts.”

The new store’s prices will be the same as prices at 110th Street. It will also have a larger beer selection and more refrigerator space.

The Upper West Side is already home to several high-end grocery stores, including Trader Joe’s, Fairway, Citarella, and Whole Foods, which is located at 97th Street and Columbus Avenue, just two avenues away from the new Westside. But Zoitas said he isn’t worried about the competition.

“We’re all for healthy competition. It’s what keeps everyone honest,” he said. “But we’ll just do our thing and listen to our customers. We’re not going to go to the other supermarkets and look at what they’re doing.”

Andy and Joan Dowling, who were checking out the new Westside location Tuesday afternoon, said they were intrigued. The couple lives on Riverside Drive, and Joan Dowling said that the new location will be convenient, especially because it is so close to a subway stop.

“We usually go to Whole Foods, but it’s far away,” she said.

“We really like Westside Market,” Andy Dowling said. “I think we’ll shop here a lot when it opens—we’re really looking forward to it.”

Zoitas expects that the new location will draw some business away from the 110th Street location. As a result, he said, the often-crowded 110th Street store will be “less busy and easier to shop—there’ll be less insanity.”

Zoitas plans to hire 100-130 new employees, all of them from nearby neighborhoods, for the new store.

“We treat all our employees like family,” Zoitas said. “We’re S to create opportunities for employees.”

Westside is a family business. Zoitas’ father John, who moved to the United



**GETTING READY** | At Westside Market’s new location, a “straight line” serving area will allow employees to move more easily between different areas, such as the salad bar and the deli (top left). On Tuesday, an employee set up the new store (right), while customers continued to shop at the current location (bottom left).

States from the Greek island of Lefkada, opened the first Westside Market—the one on 110th Street—in 1965.

Zoitas’ family runs several other food-services businesses as well. His sister Anna

is in charge of the Artisanal Kitchen food product line, and his brother Peter works at the 110th Street Westside location. The family also owns Vareli, a restaurant on Broadway between 111th and 112th streets.

“My mom cooks in all the kitchens,” Zoitas said. “When you see on the label it says, ‘Made by Maria,’ that’s my mom’s recipe.” Maria Zoitas is currently in the process of writing a cookbook of her

recipes.

George Zoitas said that his family has another new store in the works, which could open by late 2013. Their goal in expanding, he said, is “not as much about the money.”

“It’s about how many employees we can employ,” Zoitas said. “It’s about putting food on people’s tables. That’s what my dad taught us.”

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## Fine wants to tackle “simple” issues as SGB chair

SGB from front page

SGB chose not to recognize Styleta, a nonprofit group dedicated to raising funds for women’s initiatives. Styleta did not have any representatives at the town hall, and Weinberg said that its programming seems inconsistent with SGB’s mission.

Also at the town hall, outgoing Vice Chair Daniel Bonner, CC ’13, spoke on behalf of newly elected vice chair Aziz, who is currently studying abroad. In a speech read by Bonner, Aziz wrote that serving as SGB secretary has taught her a lot about how the governing board works.

“I’m more than prepared to team up with newly recognized groups as they sift through their first term,” Bonner said on Aziz’s behalf. “My knowledge of how SGB functions can help guide our new brothers and sisters more fluidly into

our folds.”

Maliha Tariq, BC ’13 and vice president of the Muslim Students Association, was elected SGB’s treasurer, and Isaiah New, CC ’14, was elected secretary.

Tariq said that she can empathize with student groups because of her involvement with MSA.

“I understand being on a student group, how frustrating it is to really look for co-sponsorships and funds to support a lot of your events,” Tariq said, adding that she is passionate about cultivating religious life on campus.

The new SGB representatives are Danielle Arje, BC ’14; Kanak Gupta, GS; Shaynah Jones, CC ’14; Mel Meder, BC ’14; David Offit, GS/JTS ’13; Nita Ponnaganti, CC ’14; and Adam Wilson, CC ’14. Arje, Gupta, Meder, and Wilson have previously served on SGB.

Fine said he wants to focus on tackling “simple” issues, like creating electronic forms and managing co-sponsorships more effectively, and to continue advocating for student groups.

“The NYPD surveillance revelations really ... revealed our ability to act effectively as a group,” Fine said, referring to an Associated Press report that the New York Police Department had monitored MSA’s website as recently as 2007. “And what I want to do is improve that community spirit, improve our ability to act as effective advocates for SGB groups.”

SGB’s general body also voted Tuesday night to change the name of the Sikh Student Association to CU Sewa, and to fund STRIVE, which was previously recognized as an unfunded group.

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## CSA to select 8 peer advisers who ‘people can connect with’

ADVISING from front page

committee which worked with CSA to start the program.

The eight-member committee was made up of CCSC and Engineering Student Council members, as well as some non-council students. The students worked with three advising deans to design and publicize the program.

“We wanted to enhance community, build leadership on campus,” Advising Dean Monica Burnette said. “Students sometimes feel more comfortable in speaking with their peers, and this way they can get more input about student experiences.”

Alex España, CSA’s director of community outreach and an advising dean who has worked with the committee, said that “students will play a vital role” in selecting the peer advisers.

“We want to make sure that the students selected are students who people can connect with,” España said.

Another primary function of the peer advisers will be to help direct students to appropriate campus resources.

“This institution is really devoted when it comes to resources,” Odessky said. “I think the problem with our institution is that you really just have to reach out and find those resources, and this should hopefully make that easier. It will be a way to connect those resources better to students and that’s what we’re hoping to do.”

Chan said he has “high hopes” for the program, and that as a leader of SWP he is “going to try to work with them [CSA] and promote this, because it’s important for our campus.”

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## Tenants waiting for management to set up meeting

3333 from front page

for the last 34 years, said the lack of dialogue between the tenants and building management has been a big problem when it comes to the new security policy.

“No one can say we don’t want to be safe,” Robinson said. “You have to give the information. You have to get the people prepared.”

## “We shouldn’t have come to this.”

—Alicia Barksdale,

3333 Broadway Tenants’ Association president

Barksdale said that 3333 tenants have realized the “importance of sticking together” and that attendance has increased at tenant meetings.

At the Tuesday housing committee meeting, residents expressed several concerns about the ID cards. Some, for instance, argued that lost ID cards would reveal too much important personal information, and others said that “lockdown” areas would pose further security concerns during emergencies such as fires.

Barksdale said she is waiting for Urban American to set a date for the meeting, which might be held in the Adam Clayton Powell State Office Building during the next few weeks.

She added that although the Monday rally seems to have worked in the tenants’ favor, “we shouldn’t have to come to this.”

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HENRY WILLSON / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**FAREWELL** | Outgoing SGB chair Barry Weinberg, CC ’12, speaks at the town hall Tuesday night.



# Cornell soaring in preseason as Ivy opponents struggle to notch single win

ATL from back page

face Richmond, going 2-1 in three against the Spiders. After losing 15-5 Tuesday night on the road to North Carolina, Princeton will play UNC Greensboro tonight before facing Navy later this week.

YALE

Of all the Ivy teams, Yale has thus far played the most games and currently holds a record of 4-10-1. After going 0-4 against Virginia Tech, the Bulldogs participated in the RussMatt Invitational in Polk County, Fla., going 3-2-1 against

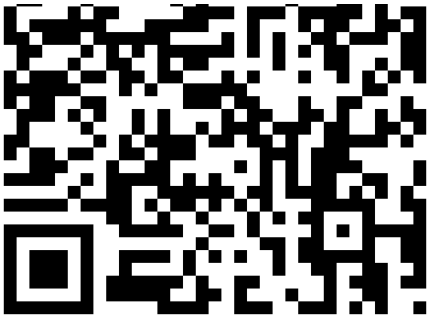
their opponents. After losing to the University of South Florida in Tampa, Fla., the Bulldogs came back up north to face Stony Brook, going 1-3 against the Seawolves. Yale is back in action this afternoon against Connecticut before it plays Hartford later this week.



**BIG THREAT** | The Big Red's hot start to the season is its best in more than a century. Cornell is the only Ivy League team above .500 so far, supported by strength both in the field and at the plate.

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(<http://tinyurl.com/spec-survey136>)

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

WINSTON LIN



**WINS-A-TON LIN** | Freshman sensation Winston Lin helped the Lions cruise to a 7-0 defeat of Sacramento State over the weekend, extending Columbia's win streak to eight. Lin had an 8-3 doubles victory with teammate Haig Schneiderman, and a 6-3, 7-5 win in the singles competition.

## Pulling for the underdogs amidst the Madness

SHAPIRO from back page

an underdogmist.

Take, for example, our basketball team's nationally televised season-opener against fourth-ranked UConn. We were clear underdogs entering the contest—UConn was bigger, faster, and more skilled. It even had home-court advantage. The Lions lost 70-57, but they kept pace with the reigning NCAA champs. Since experts predicted much wider margins, we underdogmists commended the Light Blue for its heart, hustle, and resilience.

Ivy League students should be the biggest proponents of underdogs because we truly understand what it means for a sports team to be at a disadvantage. While it is simplistic to support a team just because it is expected to lose, supporting the underdog should have a special place in our hearts.

We should also embrace underdogma for the excitement these matchups yield. Three underdogs—Ohio (No. 13), N.C. State (No. 11), and Xavier (No. 10)—will compete in the Sweet 16 over the next two days for a spot in the Elite Eight. Let the Madness continue.

*Michael Shapiro is a List College senior majoring in history and modern Jewish studies. [sports@columbiaspectator.com](mailto:sports@columbiaspectator.com)*

## In Ivy showdown, CU faces first top 20 opponent

LACROSSE from back page

and rescheduled due to lightning. Princeton eventually won 18-10—led by Pyle's seven points—to begin a five-game winning streak that concluded in a loss in the NCAA quarterfinals to No. 1 Maryland.

Tonight's match is at 7 p.m. at Robert Kraft Field.



**LAX LEADERS** | Offensive stars Taylor Gattinella and Kacie Johnson will lead the way for the Lions.

## Improvement across the board for Light Blue golf

GOLF from back page

went into the last day with an 18-stroke lead before falling into third place behind the Light Blue and champion Wichita State. With most of the Light Blue playing its best golf in the final round, the Lions missed first place by a mere three strokes.

Sophomore Jane Dong finished in a tie for sixth, earning her first top-10 appearance of the season. Classmate Michelle Piyapattr performed below her usual stellar showings, scoring a 2-over 74 in the final round. The sophomore golfed three strokes more than Dong but the difference was not enough to close the gap between sixth place and her 12th-place finish. She earned her seventh appearance in the top 20 for this season.

Senior co-captains Lynda Kwon and Robin Lee also posted top-20 scores. Lee tied for 16th place, while Kwon matched her second round, going 4-over 76 yesterday to post 85-76-76—237 (+21) for No. 20.

Freshman Lisa Combs finished 25th, tying in her best-ever final round of 7-over 79. Starting at the 10th tee yesterday, teammate Joanna Henry improved by five strokes in the final round. Henry took 63rd place competing as an individual.

The Light Blue will host the ROAR-EE Invitational April 13-14 at Spook Rock Golf Course in Suffern, N.Y.





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# Ties that bind

BY KAMBI GATHESHA

During Black History Month, someone in the African Students Association posed a question: Is BHM relevant to us as Africans?

It spoke to a politics of identity that I felt informed the fragmented nature of the social movements waged by students of African descent, and, more broadly, students of color here on campus. It reflects a lack of awareness of the history of African and Diaspora unity that has defined our social movements. While it was considered in the context of BHM and posed within the ASA, it is not a problem specific to our group nor is it confined to the month of February. Rather, it is powerfully reflective of the fact that we often plan, organize, respond, and create dialogue within our groups instead of across our groups. While this is valid, it is not complemented by student groups of color at Columbia coming together to engage each other politically and intellectually.

However, this fragmentation is not the students' fault but is in fact the tragic consequence of institutional practices that work to divide communities of color. Interestingly, our fragmented mobilization eerily mirrors intellectual practice at Columbia, whereby Ethnic Studies is taught separately from African-American Studies, which is in turn separated from African Studies.

Our challenge, then, as we continue to confront the status quo, is to transcend these practices which foster and reproduce division. African and African-descended students must operate in the tradition of intergroup solidarity that informed the earliest incarnations of African and African-American studies and enabled African and African-descended people, and, more generally, students of color, to construct the countercultural spaces at institutions like Columbia. This allows us to continue to fight to decolonize the university by defending affirmative action, challenging attacks on campus safe spaces, condemning the efforts to transform and marginalize our fields of study, critiquing the “western-centric” nature of the Core Curriculum and its consequences, and posing questions that speak to racism, sexism, and classism.

Fragmentation became clear during BHM. The discussion on ethnic studies, African-American studies, and social movements left out the parallels between the challenges those fields faced and those that African studies faced. There was mention of the hunger strikes that led to the creation of Ethnic Studies, but no mention of the same student activism that resurrected African Studies. There was a panel that discussed the University's efforts to radically transform the field, further marginalize it, and create distance between it and African-American Studies, but it did not mention the same effort waged against African Studies. The conversation would have been richer had we been in dialogue with each other.

We must engage with our history, then use it as a guide moving forward. Indeed, what I propose is not unique but is inspired by the examples of our forebears who built institutions where African people from both the continent and its Diaspora engaged ideas critically in contexts like the Pan-African Congress of 1919, which brought together Africans to address European colonization, to the African and African-American Studies departments at historically black colleges and universities like Howard and Lincoln University. Thus, a dialogue to facilitate knowledge, understanding, and political and social action between Africa and the Diaspora is not novel, but has been undermined.

It is necessary to resurrect this tradition because we need to understand the universal as well as particular issues facing people of color globally, and then engage our many political and intellectual traditions. Thus, African-Americans must engage with the African thought of B.A. Ogot and Cheikh Anta Diop, while Africans must critically engage with Leo Hansberry and W.E.B. Dubois. Caribbeans must find the intersections between Mau-Mau and the Black Panthers, and we, in turn, must know the legacy of Maroon communities, C.L.R. James, and Eric Williams.

Crucially, we must study comparatively: Ethnic studies and African-American studies majors must also critically study Africa and vice versa. Moreover, we must participate more actively in each other's student groups by consistently supporting each other's events and by listening to the multitude of perspectives informed by geography that exist in our communities.

BHM provided a rich opportunity to begin a discussion. Now we must turn that discussion into a prolonged, unified political project beyond BHM.

*The author is a General Studies junior majoring in history and Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African studies. He is the political chair of the African Students' Association.*

# I speak Columbian, and so can you

I went to a preview weekend for admitted students at a law school over spring break. I was surprised by how much I didn't understand. I don't mean that I couldn't comprehend the place itself. I mean I literally did not know what people were talking about.

The current law students used terms like “cold call” (a phrase that here refers to the moment when a professor calls on a student without warning) and brought out the legal jargon whenever they saw fit, while my fellow admitted students, who had immersed themselves in the online community of law school applicants more than I, referred to “TSL” (Top Law Schools, a popular blog), “LSN,” (Law School Numbers, another), and “ASW” (apparently law school applicant shorthand for Admitted Students Weekend). At first, I was frustrated—I could have understood what people were talking about had they not wrapped themselves up in terminology. But then I realized that the only reason that I noticed the doublespeak was because it was, on this occasion, in a tongue I didn't speak. At Columbia, and, more problematically, when speaking about Columbia, I use jargon all the time. But I—we—shouldn't.

I could write this column in defense of jargon. I could say that people use it as a sort of shorthand, because it is easier to say “cold calling” than “calling on someone in class unexpectedly,” and “ASW” is composed of fewer syllables than “Admitted Students Weekend.” Because we all, of course, know what Lit Hum, CC, and CULPA mean, and so why should we take the time to spell them out when talking to visiting students or friends from other schools or people we meet beyond the gates at 116th and Broadway?

But I am not going to write that column, because I do not really believe that that's the whole, or even the main, reason that we are so quick to proclaim ourselves fluent in doublespeak. I think we do it, at least in part, because it demonstrates that we've assimilated



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TAMKIN  
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into this culture that we want to seem somewhat mysterious and beyond the immediate comprehension of outsiders. We speak this strange language because we want to show that we can.

How we speak in and about Columbia matters. How we speak out of and about Columbia matters still more. We can choose to say “Music Hum” to prospective students when they visit campus as though they should already know what that means. But that will say more about us than anything we can rattle off about Hume.

## I would much prefer speaking like a Columbian to mean speaking without condescension.

Yes, we should be proud of learning how to speak like a Columbian, just as those law students are justly proud of having learned how to speak like law students. But I would much prefer speaking like a Columbian to mean speaking without condescension, inclusively, in a way that tells students who hope to come here one day that they, too, can learn about Columbia. That it does not have so hard a syntax, after all. And we can choose to graduate and speak to others as humans first, and students who learned the language of Columbia second. Speaking like a Columbian can mean tossing references around, or it can mean speaking intelligently and inclusively.

Should we be cold-called on to answer which of the two it means to us, I can only hope that we will say the latter.

*Emily Tamkin is a Columbia College senior majoring in Russian literature and culture. She is the general manager of the Columbia Political Union, vice chair of the Senior Fund, literary criticism editor of the Birch, and a former Spectator editorial page editor. Back to the Future runs alternate Wednesdays.*



JULIA GARRETT

STAFF EDITORIAL

# Administrators, will it get better?

“You can come out on the other side,” said General Studies Dean Peter Awn in the recent “It Gets Better” video about the Columbia LGBT community. “It really can get better over time if you really work at it.” Awn was accompanied by other prominent administrators, including Dean of Student Affairs Kevin Shollenberger. They shared heartfelt stories of their own trials and experiences as gay individuals, ending with a resonant theme: It gets better.

In the video, administrators made an effort to connect with their students on the nationally controversial issue of gay rights, providing reassurance and support. As Awn said later in the video, “The faculty, the administration, the students don't just tolerate the LGBT community, but they actually celebrate the community.”

We applaud the administrators who appeared in the video for their courage and sincerity. Yet, although “It Gets Better” deals with an internal issue that has overwhelming support on campus, other administrative leadership has been significantly lacking of late. Where are the administrators on controversial issues that the Columbia community faces in the larger public sphere? At Columbia, during times of true controversy, the administrators often wait too long to offer their support, and when they do, they come off as insincere and corporate.

When news broke of the New York Police Department's surveillance of the Columbia Muslim

Students Association, many were disappointed with University President Lee Bollinger's response to students, which came four days late. In his email to students, he wrote that reports of government monitoring “raises deeply troubling questions that should concern us all.” Yet before he explicitly condemned the NYPD, Bollinger—in a very corporate move—reassured students that the University was not aware of the NYPD's actions and did not condone them.

The MSA felt that Bollinger's response was distant and unsupportive. Kahlil Abdur-Rashid, Columbia's Muslim religious life adviser, stated his displeasure in plain terms: “President Bollinger, I need you to pick up the phone and call Commissioner Kelly and call Mayor Bloomberg.”

Likewise, many were dismayed by Barnard President Debora Spar's response to the scandal following the announcement that President Obama would speak at Barnard's commencement. While many Barnard students felt attacked by the misogynistic response to Obama's announcement, Spar brushed off the sexist comments as “19-year-olds writing at 4:30 in the morning.” As the scandal made national headlines, Barnard students felt abandoned by their president. Only today, two weeks after the scandal broke, did Spar send an email that showed genuine support.

The role of an administrator is to be a leader of the school—and the leaders of the students within the school. In times of crisis, scandal, or uncertainty, vocal

and personal support from administrators is meaningful to the student body.

Why are our administrators so unwilling to publicly show support for their students?

The obvious answer is that the administrators have two roles—as internal heads and public faces. They must often play the role of the politician for the University, doing what is in the best interest for Columbia's public relations. President Bollinger shouldn't want to get on the wrong side of the NYPD or Mayor Bloomberg, and the last thing that President Spar needs is national headlines picking up a statement where she addressed rampant sexism within the University. At the same time, the question must be asked: Which should be our administrators' first priority? Our answer is, of course, the students. First and foremost. We should always feel that the administrators have our interests in mind.

Just as the LGBT community benefited from the explicit, intimate support of administrators in the “It Gets Better” video, so would the Muslim student community have benefited from the support of President Bollinger, or Barnard students from the support of President Spar. The priority of the administrators should be to make their sincere support to the students clear, and to reinforce the notion that Columbia is a safe, caring community.

Administrators serve as the University's leaders. We ask that they show more leadership.

*The Columbia Daily Spectator accepts op-eds on any topic relevant to the Columbia University and Morningside Heights community. Op-eds should be roughly 650 words in length. We require that op-eds be sent exclusively to Spectator and will not consider articles that have already been published elsewhere. Letters to the Editor should be no longer than 350 words and must refer to an article from Spectator or The Eye, or a Spectrum post. Submissions should be sent to [opinion@columbiaspectator.com](mailto:opinion@columbiaspectator.com). Please paste all submissions into the body of the email. Should we decide to publish your submission we will contact you via email.*







## CU fandom brings out love for underdogs

And the Madness has begun. The tournament is not even a week old and there have already been a slew of historic upsets, including the first-round defeat of two No. 2 seeds by No. 15 seeds and No. 11-seed N.C. State's unprecedented trip to the Sweet 16. Upsets are a large part of what makes March Madness so exciting—it gives underdog teams the chance to compete against the best programs in the country. Unless you are a Duke or Mizzou fan, chances are you were ecstatic to see those teams fall. Sure, it probably destroyed your bracket, but c'mon, it destroyed everyone's bracket. Whether we realize it or not, we gravitate to the underdogs—in March Madness and elsewhere. If being a fan of the Columbia Lions—the quintessential underdogs—has taught me anything, it's that we should root for the little guys.

Not everyone agrees. Michael Prell's 2011 book "Underdogma" posits that people irrationally favor underdogs while demonizing favorites. He presents numerous case studies to argue that we should resist our human instinct to succumb to "underdogma," even when it comes to sports. That also means you should have no qualms about rooting for perennial overdogs like the New York Yankees, the Miami Heat, or the Green Bay Packers. But is rooting for the little guy really such a bad thing?

For all the heartbreak and headaches, I love being a Columbia sports fan, and I think underdogma is partially responsible.

Well, maybe, at least if you put money on the line. If you're smart, a majority of your brackets should favor top seeds to last deep into the tournament—these teams are overdogs for a reason. Those who fill out their brackets strictly based on seeding usually finish near the top. This "strategy" may not yield much satisfaction, and it is certainly anathema to devout fans, but nobody can argue with the results.

"You picked three No. 1 seeds to go to the Final Four? Pshhhhhh." We've all been on the receiving end of comments like this—I know I have. Yet seeding, for all intents and purposes, actually tells us more or less who is going to win. The numbers speak for themselves: A No. 1 seed has never lost to a No. 16 or No. 12 seed, no team seeded below No. 8 has ever won the tournament, and No. 1 seeds make the Sweet 16 over 92 percent of the time.

These numbers don't surprise most of us, but we still love picking upsets. Pundits spend more time speculating which teams are potential Cinderella stories than considering who will actually win the tournament. Sure, sometimes we pick underdogs because we genuinely think they are underrated and are the true favorites, but in most cases we choose long shots to satiate our craving to see David defeat Goliath. Even if underdogma isn't reflected in our brackets, we still love when the upsets occur. I didn't pick Lehigh to beat Duke, but, like most people, I was happy to see the Blue Devils collapse.

For all the heartbreak and headaches, I love being a Columbia sports fan, and I think underdogma is partially responsible. We attend a college whose athletics teams are at times mocked by students, faculty, newspapers, and even our own marching band. Since we are expected to lose, at least when it comes to sports like football, winning is extra sweet. Watching our humble teams, comprised of student-athletes not on athletic scholarships, compete against much larger, sports-oriented schools, is enough to make anyone



MICHAEL SHAPIRO

### Turn Up the Mike



FILE PHOTO

**SENIOR SLUGGER** | Cornell outfielder Brian Billigen has been a key component to the Big Red's success in the preseason with his tremendous offensive abilities.

## Cornell dominating preseason as other Ivies falter

BY ROBERT WREN GORDON  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

With warm weather comes spring, and with spring comes baseball. Although the Ivy League season has yet to begin, every team in the conference has already played at least seven games—while some teams are shining, others are already stumbling.

### AROUND THE LEAGUE

#### BROWN

Every team in the conference has won at least one game with one exception: the Bears. Brown (0-7) began its campaign back on March 2 in the Sunshine State with a series against Florida International in Miami. After being swept, the Bears came back up north to face Northeastern, losing 4-3. Then Brown, heading back down to take part in series against Tulane in New Orleans, lost all three games

against the Green Wave. The Bears will play their first home game tomorrow against Maine before heading back out on the road to face Pacific.

#### CORNELL

The Big Red leads Ancient Eight teams with an impressive 9-2 record against nonconference opponents. Cornell began play with a four-game sweep of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. It next played a series against George Washington University, going 3-1 before taking two out of three at Delaware State. The Big Red is currently in the midst of a pair of road games at Virginia Tech—it hopes to rebound from Tuesday's loss in tonight's second game.

#### DARTMOUTH

Dartmouth (2-6) began the season against No. 13 Louisiana State in Baton Rouge and was swept in a three-game series. The Big Green then headed out west to play Sacramento State in a five-game

series, going 2-3 against the opposition. The Big Green continues its California road trip this week, facing Cal Poly tonight and UC Irvine later this week.

#### HARVARD

The Crimson (1-12) has had its hands full this season, facing two ranked opponents in No. 7 Arizona and No. 19 Stetson. Harvard faltered against the stiff competition, losing all three games it played against Arizona and going 1-3 in a four-game stretch against Stetson in DeLand, Fla. Harvard stayed in the Sunshine State to play Bethune-Cookman and Central Florida, losing all six games against the two opponents. The Crimson comes back up north later this week to play a four-game series at Army beginning on March 24.

#### PENN

Penn (4-8) started the season in Florida, participating in the Brighthouse Invitational at Stetson

University. After losing to the host in the first game, the Quakers also fell to Georgia State and Southern Illinois. Penn stayed in Florida for the RussMatt Tournament in Polk County, going 3-2 before returning to Pennsylvania for its first home game against Temple. After losing to the Owls in 11 innings, the Quakers headed back down south for a three-game series against Charleston Southern, going 1-2. Penn continues play today back in Pennsylvania with Villanova before a pair of home games against Lafayette.

#### PRINCETON

Like rival Penn, Princeton (4-6) also began its season in Florida, splitting a four-game series against Florida Atlantic. The Tigers stayed down south for three games at No. 2 South Carolina, going winless. Following its losses to the Gamecocks, Princeton traveled farther north to

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## Columbia secures second place in Monterey Bay

BY LAURA ALLEN  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

The women's golf team competed from Sunday to Tuesday at the Monterey Bay Invitational at the Del Monte Golf Club in California.

The Light Blue held fifth place following a rainy first round of play but remained 18 strokes behind first-place

Missouri State.

Sophomore Jane Dong tied for 11th place with a 6-over 78, on the par 72 course.

Monday's second round saw the Lions climb to third place in the field of 14 teams. It was a 12-stroke improvement from the first round, and it moved Columbia into a tie with Winthrop, just behind second-place Wichita State.

Like the Lions, Dong bumped up three positions in the second round, tying for eighth place.

At the end of the third and final round on Tuesday, Columbia finished in second place, posting a 321-309-300-930 for the tournament. Tournament host Missouri State

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COURTESY OF COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

**SWINGING INTO SECOND** | Sophomore Jane Dong tied for sixth place in the tournament, leading the way for the Lions.

## Lions look for historic win against Tigers

BY MUNEEB ALAM  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

Columbia (1-4, 0-2 Ivy) will face No. 16 Princeton (3-2, 1-0 Ivy) tonight, looking to secure the program's first-ever victory over the Tigers as the season approaches its midway point.

Columbia is coming off a 14-11 loss to Vermont on Saturday. Junior attacker Kacie Johnson had another strong performance with three goals and three assists, and now has 25 points in five games this season. Sophomore midfielder Paige Cuscovitch scored five times and is second on the team with 16 points, including a team-leading 15 tallies.

"We proved that we can fight. We proved that we know how to play hard," Lions head coach Liz Kittleman said. "Now we just need to clean up our mistakes moving forward."

Princeton came into the game after a 16-10 win over No. 10 Virginia. Senior Tigers midfielder Cassie Pyle scored a hat trick and freshman goalkeeper Annie Woehling made 16 saves.

Junior attacker Jaci Gassaway leads the Tigers with 23 points and 17 goals this season. Princeton showed it could compete with the nation's best earlier this year with a narrow 12-9 loss to current No. 4 Duke.

Last season, Princeton led Columbia by a single goal before the teams' only meeting was abandoned

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