

INSIDE

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Wang pays up for unfair labor practice

To compensate for mistreating his employees, Tsu Wang—owner of Ollie's and the now-closed Tomo—will pay the largest amount ever collected in a state Department of Labor case.



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An innovative union: Islam and philosophy

Souleymane Bachir Diagne uses a philosophic lens to interpret Islam and posit a new religious identity in his new book, which hopes to recapture a spirit of inquiry.

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Bromance hits the big screen in new movie

While romance is surely not a new theme in movies, the leads of *I Love You, Man* discuss the love between an ordinary guy and his best friend with one *Spec* reporter.

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Metacommentary

Columnist Eric Hirsch discusses the implications of hateful anonymous comments posted on blogs and warns us of the threat they pose to rational discourse.



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Baseball drops nine in break campaign

Columbia baseball faced 10 tough adversaries in California, including two nationally-ranked teams, but only picked up one win, 10-1, against Cal State Northridge.

Sports, page 10

Softball successful on the road, falls at home

Despite achieving a 7-5 record at the Rebel Spring Games in Kissimmee, Florida over spring break, the Light Blue fell in its home opener against Boston University.

ONLINE

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Courtesy of Miao Na

GLOBAL UNIVERSITY? | University President Lee Bollinger was among a number of faculty and administrators present at the opening of Columbia's first two international agencies in Beijing, China and Amman, Jordan this past weekend.

CU introduces global centers

Centers in China and Jordan address internationalization

BY SCOTT LEVI
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

As part of its response to the growing internationalization of higher education, Columbia University launched its first two Global Centers, hubs meant to foster interdisciplinary research on global topics, in Beijing, China and Amman, Jordan this weekend.

The University plans to expand on these two centers in coming years via the construction of more low-budget regional offices that bring University resources face-to-face with problems around the world. The inaugurations of the first offices, which occurred in China on Friday and in Jordan's Middle East Research Center on Sunday, demonstrated efforts to concretize the "global university" rhetoric often touted by administrators, and symbolized a shift from the expensive satellite campus model—for example, New York University has campuses



Photo Courtesy of Columbia

in Florence, Madrid, and Abu Dhabi, among other places—implemented by peer institutions.

These offices "are to make for Columbia an interconnected global presence," University President Lee Bollinger said in an interview in February.

The development seeks to surpass the confines of academic research constrained to a Hamilton Hall office or a SIPA Institute. The two ceremonies, which featured talks about

SEE GLOBAL CENTERS, page 8

Changes to housing process yield mixed reactions

BY KIM KIRSCHENBAUM
Spectator Staff Writer

For Columbia students 110 years ago, spring-time was the harbinger of humiliation.

It was a time when students from other schools made their housing selections, leaving Columbia students to face the reality that the College had no residential buildings. "Columbia, hey? Sort of a day school, ain't it?" Cornell students would quip, according to an article by Herbert Howe in the Columbia University Quarterly's 1932 edition.

A far cry from the "day school" it once was, Columbia's residential system has evolved over the century, and continues to change as the University currently addresses a dearth of dormitory space and flaws in the housing-selection process. Students will experience these changes this week as they line up in John Jay Lounge and, across Broadway, Barnard's James Room to make their housing selections under revamped systems, and they will continue to experience them as they move into newly furnished buildings next fall.

Confronting a Spacing Situation with Housing Renovation

In light of an economic climate that has taken a toll on the housing market, increasing numbers of students have opted for on-campus housing. Due to an increase in demand that exceeded housing space in the fall of 2008, several dozen Columbia students were housed in Barnard and University Apartment Housing. For the

2009-2010 school year, new layouts creating 30 doubles—and eliminating 30 singles—in Watt, McBain, and Ruggles will be made in order to address this problem.

"There's no reason to pay the extra money," said Scott Wright, vice president of student auxiliary services, explaining the increase in students registering for on-campus housing. "There's no reason to lease a place for 12 months versus somewhere for nine."

But for those who expect to be living in these dormitories where there will be more rooms, the change is not necessarily welcomed.

"I think the major problem is going to be bathroom usage," Román Rodriguez, CC' 10, said, who is a current McBain resident. "Putting more people on each floor is only going to make waits longer and increase student dissatisfaction."

Additionally, certain floors within dormitories will experience a facelift. Several floors in Broadway will be redone, a change that Wright says is "purely centered around aesthetics and comfort." Floors 10 through 12 in Wien will go from having a single bathroom to having three per floor—a men's, women's, and a unisex bathroom. All suites on one floor of East Campus will be redone, including new kitchens, flooring, and furniture. Overhead lights will be placed in all Watt rooms, as it currently remains one of the only buildings that doesn't have them. A few dormitories, including Carman and Furnald, will require the use of student id cards instead of Swiss keys to open rooms.

These renovations will make already-coveted dormitories even more desirable,

SEE HOUSING, page 2



ST. PATTY'S DAY PARADE



Andra Mihali / Staff Photographer

GO GREEN | On St. Patrick's Day, thousands flocked to Fifth Ave. in green garb for New York City's 248th annual parade.

SEAS picks James Albaugh as Class Day speaker

BY JOY RESMOVITS
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

James Albaugh, SEAS M.S. '74 and executive vice president of the Boeing Company, has been selected as Class Day speaker for the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, according to a release sent by the administration to *Spectator* on Sunday evening.

On May 18, 2009, Albaugh, known for his innovation in aeronautics, will address the nearly 650 candidates for the Engineering School's various undergraduate and graduate degrees, according to the release.

"He'll be a great speaker because a lot of times SEAS students think that the engineering school leans towards consulting or finance," said Peter Valeiras, SEAS '09 and Engineering Student Council president. "The choice shows that we have a lot of alumni who are in the engineering world and have done great things to change the world in a positive way. SEAS students think that the school caters towards finance, and not towards pure engineering, but this goes to show that we do have engineering alumni who have gone into the engineering field."

Albaugh will follow last year's Class Day speaker Armen A. Avanesians, SEAS '83, who is a University Trustee and a high-level director of Goldman Sachs. The engineering school's speaker choices in recent years have varied among financial mavens, engineers, and an architect.

SEAS Class Day speakers are chosen by deans, unlike the student-driven process at the college. But Valeiras said that the council is looking into "different possible ways to choose the Class Day speaker. We haven't really discussed the details about it yet, we're just starting the process."

Albaugh, recognized with awards by organizations such as the Aerospace Historical Society and the Southern California Aeronautic Association,



Courtesy of Boeing

CLASS SPEAKER | Albaugh, SEAS M.S. '74, will speak at this year's SEAS Class Day.

completed his SEAS degree in civil engineering before working as a project engineer at Rocketdyne Propulsion & Power. Twenty years later, he became president of Rocketdyne—which was acquired by Boeing in 1996—when he was named president of Boeing Space Transportation.

"Among the myriad of initiatives that Mr. Albaugh oversees, none is more compelling than space exploration," SEAS Dean Gerald Navratil noted in the release. "Boeing (formerly Rocketdyne) space exploration has been a vital part of this nation's journey into space, from Gemini, Apollo and Skylab to the space shuttle and International Space Station (ISS). Boeing is now working on NASA's Constellation project that will help astronauts return to the moon by 2020."

SEE CLASS DAY, page 8

MTA expected to approve proposed fare hike

As deadlock between the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and state politicians persists and proposed alternatives dwindle, it appears to be nearly certain that the MTA will approve a significant fare hike as early as this week.

According to MTA CEO Eliot Sander, riders should expect a \$2.50 base fare—up from the current base fare of \$2, which has stood since 2003—along with increased unlimited MetroCard prices and potentially a reduction in the bonus structure, which currently adds 15 percent extra value to MetroCard purchases of \$7 or more.

An MTA committee will vote to approve or reject the fare hike today, and the full board will vote on Wednesday.

Significant service cuts have also been proposed. These include the elimination of overnight service on the M96 and M104 buses and the reduction of overnight service on the 1 subway line.

The M10 bus line, which runs along Frederick Douglass Boulevard and Central Park West and is the primary public transportation route between Harlem and Penn Station on 34th Street, would be eliminated entirely—a proposal actively opposed by several local politicians, including City Council members Robert Jackson and Inez Dickens, State Assemblyman Danny O'Donnell, and State Senator Bill Perkins.

A commission led by former MTA chairman Richard Ravitch released a report in December

2008 that proposed an increase in state funding to mitigate the need for the fare hike and service cuts. According to the MTA's Web site, adoption of the Ravitch report recommendations would make the fare hike smaller and the service cuts "largely unnecessary."

However, WNYC reported on March 20 that negotiations between Governor David Paterson and the MTA on a "rescue plan" that would enable adoption of the Ravitch proposal "are at a standstill." And in light of Sander's announcement that the final vote will take place this week, it appears increasingly unlikely that a state bailout will be possible.

"Obviously I was more optimistic weeks ago," Sander told WNYC. —Maggie Astor

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EVENTS — MARCH 23

Interreligious Relations
Professor Daniel Madigan will speak about Jordan and Saudi Arabia's efforts to promote interreligious dialogue in an event sponsored by the Middle East Institute.

1110 International Affairs, 12:30 p.m.

George Galloway on Gaza
British politician, author, and talk show host George Galloway will share his thoughts on the conflict in Gaza in a lecture followed by a question and answer session with the audience.

391 Uris, 5:30 p.m.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Nobody wants to dine in a sweatshop.”

—State Labor Commissioner
M. Patricia Smith

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Students face benefits, drawbacks amid changes

HOUSING from front page

tion might be further intensified as a host of new housing selection policies are introduced, benefiting some students at the expense of others.

All Is Fair in the Housing Score?

Columbia housing has instated a number of new rules in an effort to make what housing administrators hope will be a more “fair” process. 30-point groups of all seniors can pick before a group selecting a 30-point East Campus exclusion suite. Groups of five seniors also have the option to pick into a 30-point East Campus suite during their appointment time.

Yet some policies intended to benefit seniors have caused controversy. The Same Room/Same Suite policy has been eliminated, prohibiting students from holding onto favorable dorms from one year to the next. Orthodox Jewish students, who had benefited from this policy because it allowed them to retain East Campus suites that would accommodate their dining and Sabbath observance needs, must now relinquish these suites pending success in the lottery. Though Wright said he was addressing the issue with Columbia/Barnard Hillel Rabbi David Almog, many students say they are still dissatisfied with the housing administration’s response.

“Housing was not really responsive, to say the least,” president of Yavneh, Hillel’s orthodox group, Jordan Katz, CC ’11, said. “They just didn’t seem to have any idea what to do about it, and that was very disappointing.”

Rising sophomores, too, will be experiencing changes in the selection process. Sophomore groups in Suite Selection can participate in Sophomore Pair Up, which will give students the option to split into groups of two and pick into corridor-style doubles or drop to General Selection.

“It’s always nice to have a plan B in your back pocket,” Erik Nook, CC ’12, said. “But I guess the only con is that people with really low lottery numbers could be disadvantaged.”

“These changes in room selection—Sophomore Pair Up, 30 point groups—it’s more conducive to what students want,” Brian said. “We’re listening to what they want so that we can serve them as best as possible.”

And on the other side of Broadway, administrators, too, are following some students’ calls for changes in housing policy.

Barnard’s Housing Is a-Changein’

Following a room selection survey, suggestions made by Barnard’s Housing Advisory Board, and a Student Government Association Town Hall meeting, changes will be implemented in Barnard’s housing selection process that reflect a desire among students for increased flexibility in suite selection.

Under the new system, students register individually, receiving a lottery number independent of that of their potential suitemates. After groups form, each group’s lottery number will be the highest number of anyone in the group. If the available housing options at the time of selection do not match a group’s size, the group will then be able to reform on the spot. In the past, students were not allowed to change the size of their groups after registering.

“I think that it does add for flexibility by anticipating the possible and sometimes likely change in the members of a housing group,” Rachel Abady, BC ’12, said.

But some students have remained skeptical, questioning the insecurity that the policy causes, in that no group is certain until it has officially made its housing choice.

“I think that the new group formation policy, while convenient in some cases, can be contrived as messy and complicated, and has the potential to create stressful or weird group dynamics among friends,” Jane Handel, BC ’12, said.

Another change is the introduction of new housing registration technology. In the past, students lined up according to the building they wished to lived in and registered by paper. This year, students will line up at stations, where they can register on laptops and track housing availability on an external monitor.

“I think it’s great that students have given us a lot of feedback and have made their voices heard,” Barnard’s Associate Director for Housing Operations Matt Kingston said. “Our department hopes that they’ll be patient as we try to iron out bugs as we make changes for the very first time.”

Margaux Groux and Liza Weingarten contributed reporting to this article.
news@columbiaspectator.com

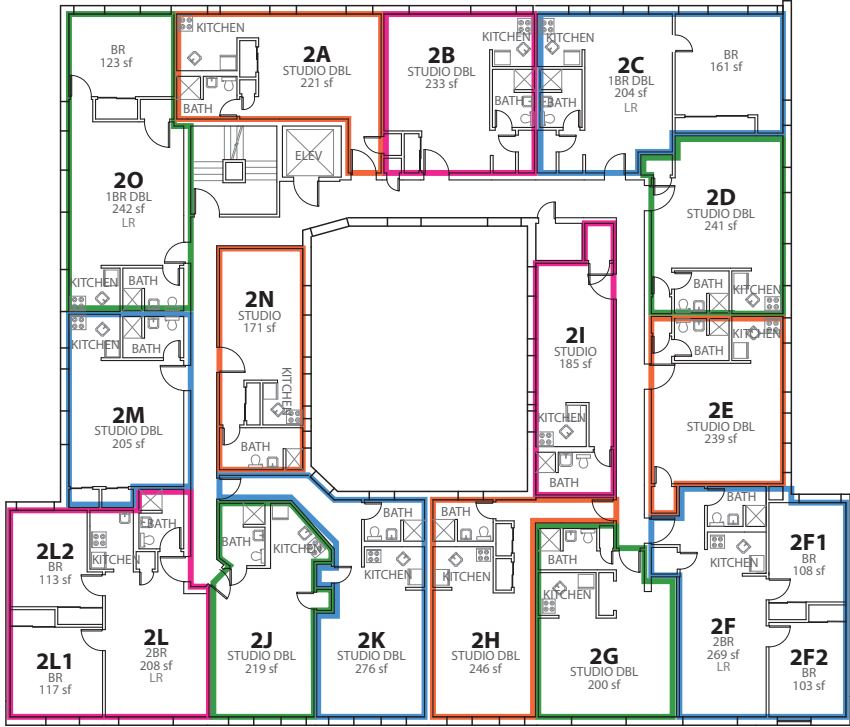
POLICY CHANGES TO ROOM SELECTION

- Elimination of same room/same suite option: students who want to live in the same room must pick in through the room selection process.
- EC Exclusion Suite changes: within 30-point groups, groups of seniors will pick in before Exclusion Suite groups. In addition, suites of five seniors can pick into EC Exclusion Suite during their appointment time.
- Addition of Sophomore Pair-Up rule: Sophomore suites of more than two students can participate in Sophomore Pair-Up during their appointment time. The suite may break up to groups of two to pick into corridor-style doubles during Suite Selection or drop to General Selection. In an odd-numbered group, a student without a partner will drop to General Selection.
- RA Riders limited to one person: RAs can only bring in one rider instead of an entire suite.

—Yipeng Huang

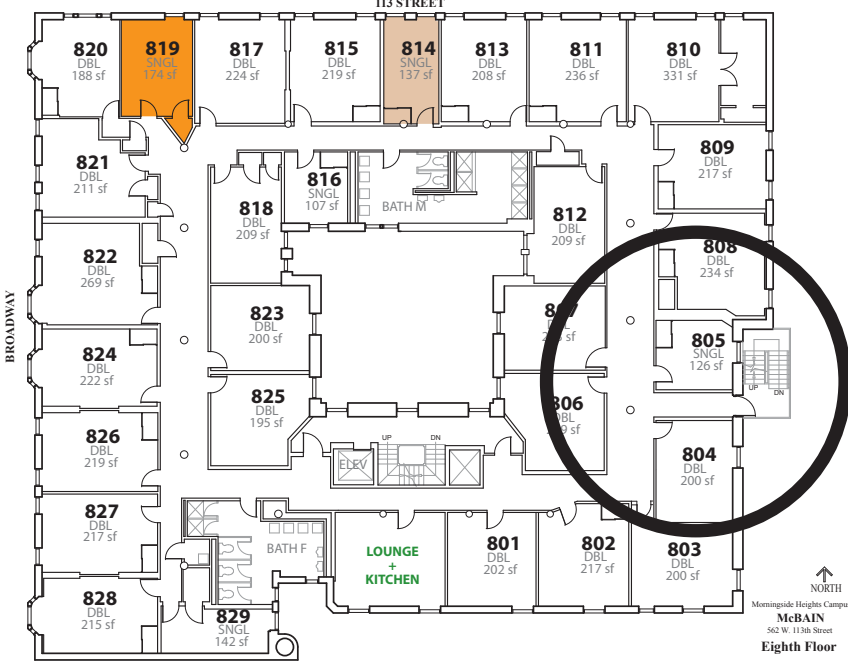
CHANGES TO HOUSING

Columbia Housing and Dining will be renovating and changing floor plans for a number of dorms this summer



To meet an increase in demand for rooms in fall 2008, Watt, McBain, and Ruggles are being renovated to convert 30 singles to doubles. To the left, the new floor plan for the second floor of Watt shows the new layout with mostly doubles. Renovation plans also call for new lighting in the rooms.

To the right, room 804 of McBain, originally a single, will be a 200 square-foot double in the next academic year.

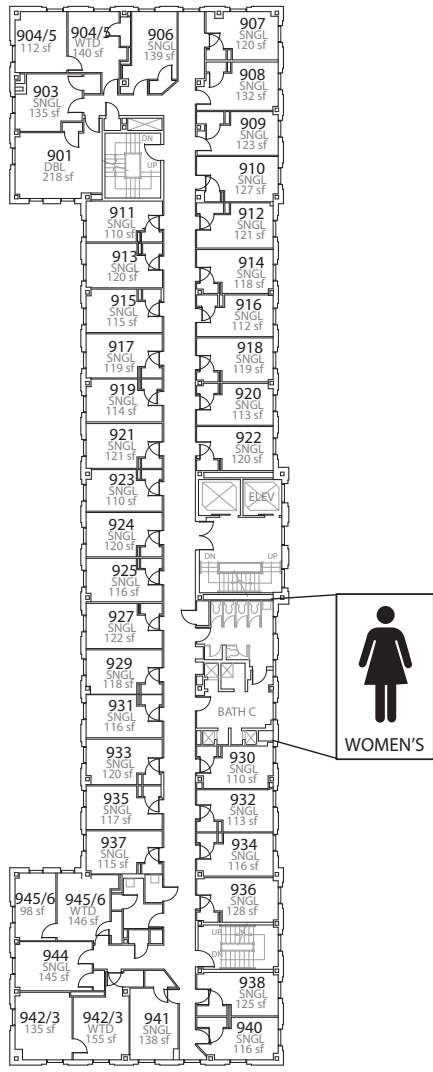


To the left, the current floor plan of the ninth floor of Wien Hall shows the setup with just one single-sex bathroom, with the gender alternating by floor. Housing and Dining will significantly renovate all twelve floors of Wien so there will be three bathrooms per floor—one men’s, one women’s, and one unisex.

Additional changes to buildings include:

Floors six through nine of Broadway are being renovated with new carpet, furniture, lounges, and paint.

One floor of East Campus is being renovated with new kitchens, flooring, furniture, and paint in all suites.



Information and floor plans courtesy of Columbia Housing and Dining / Graphic by Yipeng Huang

UPCOMING ROOM SELECTION DATES

CC / SEAS lottery numbers posted.	CC / SEAS Suite Selection appointment times posted.	Barnard lottery numbers e-mailed to students.	CC/SEAS Suite Selection begins. Barnard Room Selection day one: Senior Selection	Barnard Room Selection day two: Open Selection	CC/SEAS Suite Selection ends.	CC/SEAS General Selection appointment times posted.	CC/SEAS General Selection begins.	CC/SEAS General Selection ends.	Barnard Room Selection day three: Open Selection
March 24	March 26	March 27	March 30	April 2	April 7	April 9	April 15	April 24	May 15

ARTS&ENTERTAINMENT

🎬

FILM

I Love You, Man takes bromance to the next level

BY JENN MAYER
Columbia Daily Spectator

Sick of romantic comedies? Thanks to Paul Rudd and Jason Segel, stars of the forthcoming film *I Love You, Man*, the future of movies lies in the bromantic comedy.

I Love You, Man centers on the engaged Peter Klaven (Rudd), who has gone through life without close male friends, and is now driven to remedy the situation when he realizes he has no one to serve as his best man. When his unconvincingly gay brother (Andy Samberg) sets him up on some “man dates,” hilarity ensues. Eventually, Peter meets Sidney Fife (Segel), which sparks the beginning of a passionate and all-consuming bromance. Rudd and Segel sat down for a conference call last month to discuss the absurd hilarity of the new genre of bromantic comedy.

As one might expect, the best scenes in the movie are those between Rudd and Segel, who play off each other’s absurdity and whose

fast-paced dialogue should give audience members enough one-liners to last them until the next Judd Apatow film is released. In a conference call interview with *Spectator*, Segel described the ambience of filming by explaining his and Rudd’s “first date” scene: “The director told us, ‘Look, the goal is just to look like you guys are slowly starting to like each other—don’t really worry about a script.’ And then they just gave us four hours of fish tacos and beer and we just had to talk and be funny and enjoy each other’s company—it was very, very easy and very, very fun.”

Part of the duo’s easy and believable rapport is due to their history of work together. As Segel put it, “We made several boner jokes before we ever started this one.” Segel and Rudd’s lively dynamic outshines the lackluster performances of other cast members. Rudd and Rashida Jones, who plays his fiancé, don’t share much on-screen chemistry—another testament to the fact that the film is really about the bromance. “I think it’s a long time coming that you’ve seen a good male platonic comedy,” Segel said. “And that’s what we’re

going for and we got as close to the homoerotic line as possible without crossing it. Which I think we both found comedically satisfying.”

Rudd also pointed out that there is precedent for what he calls the “dick flick”: “It just seems to be the word of the moment, bromantic, because there have really been films throughout the decade that have fallen into that category, but we’re never called bromantic.” Until now.

Segel added that intense male relationships, such as the one portrayed in the film, harken back to antiquity: “From the Bible—Sodom and Gomorrah.” Rudd responded jokingly, “Oh, you know, have you read the Bible, right? It’s a script going around Hollywood right now—I’m hoping for Methuselah. They say I’m too young though.”

Ultimately, *I Love You, Man* serves its purpose with a proven formula for success: Showcasing funny dudes hanging out together. Granted, this foray into an explicit discussion of this type of relationship is sometimes over-the-top and redundant. But the point here is not the plotline—it’s in the bromance.



Courtesy of Dreamworks
TRUE LOVE | Paul Rudd and Jason Segel explore a different kind of true love in *I Love You, Man*’s comedic take on the idea of bromance.

BOOKS

CU prof examines Islam through philosophy

BY SAM KERBEL
Columbia Daily Spectator

Listening to Souleymane Bachir Diagne, one understands that philosophy involves not lofty contemplation, but rather self-motivated action.

Professor Diagne derives this notion of action specifically from his studies in Islamic religious philosophy. Nevertheless, he views the process of creating a religious identity in universal terms, and Islam is no exception.

Born in French-colonized Senegal in 1955, Diagne was raised in a devout Muslim family of philosophers. This environment greatly influenced his future path in academia. His father, a civil servant, was also a theologian and taught religion outside of his role in the government. He received a French-based education in Senegal and higher education at the École Normale Supérieure on fellowship.

Before coming to Columbia, Diagne returned to Senegal—after his stay in France—to teach philosophy at the University of Dakar. He also taught philosophy and religion at Northwestern University from 2002 until 2007. Since arriving at Columbia last fall, Diagne, a professor of philosophy and French, has taught Contemporary Civilization and two graduate seminars: The Oral and the Written, a seminar offered through the French department on African tale narratives, and Islamic Philosophy.

Throughout his academic career, Diagne has written extensively on the subject of Islam and philosophy. In his 2001 book *Islam et société ouvert: La fidélité et le mouvement dans la philosophie d’Iqbal*, Diagne discusses the modernist Islamic poet and philosopher Muhammad Iqbal’s use of poetry to express the relationship between Islam and modern society. Considered a founding father figure of Pakistan, Iqbal, in Diagne’s words, advocated for “pluralism and openness” in a new modernist milieu while advocating for a return to early Islam’s outlook on philosophy. “It was a matter of urgency,” Diagne added, “that these Muslim societies recapture their own principle of movement to Greek philosophy common in early Muslim culture.”

In his upcoming book, *Comment philosopher en Islam*, Professor Diagne explores similar topics but with a larger scope. He traces the development of Muslim philosophy from its earliest encounters with Greek philosophy until the present day. His argument validates Iqbal’s charge to rediscover an Islam that is open to contemporary philosophies and simultaneously emphasizes an active search for religious self-definition.

This openness naturally leads to religious introspection, which many radical believers conflate with doubt and sin. But Diagne, echoing Descartes, does not view such introspection as a sign of religious deviance, and Diagne maintains that Islam’s original philosophical precepts do not either. “Doubt,” he concluded, “can be used as a method to find truth that you can trust.”

This is precisely where religion and philosophy unite. As Diagne observed, “Religious faith is also about critical examination, which is truly the spirit of philosophy.” By opening up to contemporary ideologies, “this would be a way of recapturing the spirit of inquiry associated with philosophy.”



David Xu for Spectator
ISLAM AND PHILOSOPHY | Columbia Professor Souleymane Bachir Diagne reclaims an ideological openness through philosophic literature in his upcoming book *Comment philosopher en Islam*.

But is this intellectual discourse on religious philosophy actually practical for modern Muslim worshippers? Diagne believes it is. While an intellectual endeavor, “it insists on something which is normally internal to Islam itself, which is the spirit of interpretation.” He further asserts that this interpretive spirit, known in Islam as *ijtihad*, is not only a function of an evolving Islamic philosophy but also prevalent within Muslim observance on the most basic level.

Diagne’s work underlies a humanistic ideology that people of all religions, races, and creeds should absorb. With political Islam at the forefront and Iqbal’s philosophy pushed aside, Diagne asserts the need to reclaim ideological openness to the myriad cultures surrounding us, just as the Muslims of the ninth century did with classical learning. This is a credo that he hopes all of us, philosophy majors included, can embrace.

TV

You may win cash on your next cab ride

BY CHRISTINE JORDAN
Spectator Staff Writer

There may be 13,000 taxis in New York City, but there’s only one *Cash Cab*.

The premise of the Discovery Channel’s Emmy Award-winning series *Cash Cab* is simple: Host Ben Bailey picks up unsuspecting locals and tourists in a yellow taxi and surprises them with flashing rainbow lights, and the opportunity to answer trivia questions for cash as he takes them to their destination. Quite literally, the program has all the bells and whistles of a traditional game show with the streets of New York as its set.

The level of difficulty and dollar value of trivia questions increase as time passes, but if the passengers get three questions wrong they get kicked out of the cab and lose all of their earnings. Contestants can use “shout outs” at any point if they need assistance, either using their cell phones to call a friend or pulling over and asking the question to a random pedestrian.

Thanks to the show’s rapid-fire questioning style, I’m always on the edge of my seat, eager to scream out answers to no one in particular. The contestants always seem to get palpably giddy as the game progresses, because even if they walk away empty-handed, they still feel the thrill of being unsuspecting television stars. Add that to *Cash Cab*’s unusual style of finding contestants, its casual setting, and its no-nonsense questioning format and any viewer will get sucked into the cab’s daily route and start yearning to be the next lucky passenger.

But the best part, by far, is that this wish could become a reality. As *Cash Cab* revs up for its fourth season this spring, every Columbia student has a chance to be in the hot seat, making it just one more reason to skip the subway and treat yourself to a taxi ride.



WHERE IT’S AT

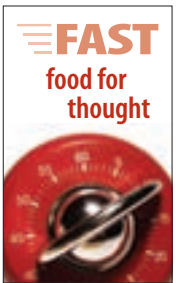
Time: Monday-Friday 6:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Channel: The Discovery Channel

FOOD & DRINK

Invite Spanish flavor into your home

BY KELICIA HOLLIS
Spectator Staff Writer

Wait for it, wait for it... now breathe. There has been a lot going on lately with midterms, internship and job applications, and for many students, busy spring break plans. But with the pre-spring break midterm and paper rush over, many students are settling



back into their day-to-day groove once more.

Many of us use spring break as a time to relax with family, catch up with friends, or visit one of the exotic places we’ve been dying to go. But if you didn’t get the chance to travel the world over spring break, there is still a chance to bring the tastes of the globe to your very own dorm room.

Northern Spain, specifically the Castilla y Leon region, is home to grand Gothic cathedrals, stunning landscapes, and beautiful beach towns. Not so well known, however, is the food. From the gazpacho to

the smoked cordero (lamb), the tastes are quite different from the every day American diet, and I think that everyone can find something to appreciate among the assortment of dishes this region has to offer.

One quite easy and delicious dish is the Tortilla Espanola. Don’t be fooled—this is nothing like a Mexican tortilla. It is actually reminiscent of a much tastier and heartier omelet. Though I was skeptical of the dish at first, I found it makes a really good sandwich—no condiments necessary. So, no matter what you did for break, take a piece of Spain with you back to your dorm.

HOW IT’S DONE

Recipe: Tortilla Espanola

1/2 onion
Vegetable oil
6-7 eggs

6-7 medium potatoes
Salt for taste

Instructions:

Pour oil in nonstick frying pan, and turn on medium heat. Skin potatoes then slice in half. Slice width-wise in about 1/8-inch slices. Slice onion and add both onion and potatoes to pan. Cook until potatoes are translucent and tender.

While mixture is cooking, crack and lightly scramble eggs. Once potato and onion mixture is finished, drain the oil, and very slowly incorporate mixture into the eggs (make sure the heat does not cook the eggs).

Keep frying pan on medium heat and add mixture to pan. Watch closely, and when the eggs start to solidify throughout the mixture, flip the tortilla over with a spatula.

Do the same on the other side: should be done after 2 to 3 flips. Serve warm or cold, slice into pie portions, and enjoy!

COLLEGE AND BEYOND

This Monday, *Spectator* Opinion asks four alumni to reflect on experiences and lessons from Columbia that shaped a path in their lives. Allan Jackman recounts the enduring joy of a surprisingly triumphant final, Leyla Kokmen describes the value and excitement of braving unexpected roads, Bob Klapisch shares the experience of an unforgettable incident on the No. 1 train, and Daniel Tamkin celebrates the benefits of the Core.

Core values

BY DAN TAMKIN

Just to make one thing clear: contrary to the experience of my daughter, who was an expert on Columbia by eighth grade, and my dire warnings to applicants that they better be able to explain the Core, I did not have any real understanding of what was in front of me when I entered the College in the fall of 1977. I simply went to Columbia because my mother would not take no for an answer, having lost her own opportunity to attend Teachers College because of a nasty post-Depression financial situation. So the disgusting rainy day in April when I first visited Morningside Heights, combined with the strange elf that conducted my tour, Son of Sam, a bankrupt city, and my hate of all New York sports teams, was not going to divert me from my mother's date with destiny.

I had no interest in philosophy, the great works of western civilization, opera, etc. I was fascinated by politics, having grown up with a politician father, and I was a voracious reader of history, having spent every summer on some Civil War or Revolutionary War battlefield. That was it. Nothing else academic interested me.

I wasn't too convinced when I first sat in CC and met one student who claimed to be the grandson of Nietzsche and therefore thought he was entitled to the respect of his peers. Nor was I convinced when I encountered another who spoke so often

in class that one day I was moved to count the number of times that he spoke (87). Gradually, the opportunity to debate issues and analyses on a subject matter in which I had (or at least thought I had) no interest grew on me. Gradually, the natural contrarian in me found Columbia to be a fertile environment. I soon grew to love challenging the theories of the brightest students and world famous professors in a variety of diverse subjects.

The academics weren't all that required adjustment. Unlike today, when I attended Columbia we did not enjoy the support of a caring and dedicated administration that viewed the College as the focus of the University. Quite the contrary—we were treated almost as a necessary evil, a source of cash or whatever else. The efforts of President George Rupp, and later, President Lee Bollinger, Vice President Nicholas Dirks, and most of all, Dean Austin Quigley, have completely altered this dynamic and, of course, Columbia College now holds its rightful place within the University.

However, in some ways, getting thrown into a complicated situation with little support prepared me for jumping into a classic sweatshop New York law firm as a first-year associate. Today's students cannot imagine what it was like to deal with the Bursar or the Registrar—we would sleep out all night to secure suitable course registrations—or how difficult it was to figure out a career direction without any support from the formal College or University structure. However, working on my own and finding wonderful people like Professor James Shenton and Professor Henry Graff to guide me was very

much what I did that first year as a lawyer when I persevered and forced myself into the care and guidance of one young skillful partner with a very interesting securities and entertainment practice. This allowed me to avoid the damage that others suffered due to the absolute lack of a first-year training program or any knowledge of ethics in the partnership as a whole. Furthermore, the massive amount of reading and frequent “gear changing” that managing the Core and one or more majors required developed my capacity to handle multiple complicated matters. This was especially useful when I began practicing law and subsequently when I began managing several diverse companies for a private equity group.

Most importantly, what Columbia and the Core did for me was to make me a balanced and (I think) interesting person. A love of art, music, history and a deep interest in other cultures has given me a richer life and made me a better father. Respect for and friendship with people of different backgrounds and political persuasions are things I try to pass on. Every summer for most of the past decade, I have taken my family abroad to ensure that they are exposed to other great cities and cultures.

Although the kids in the Class of 2012 certainly do not face the same practical challenges as we did, they too will benefit from the shared experience of the Core and the incredible multicultural experience that is Columbia.

The author is a member of the Columbia College class of 1981. He is an attorney and a private equity investor and manager.

Columbia's influence, then and now

BY LEYLA KOKMEN

Much of my absolute joy at graduation in May 1994 came from my absolute certainty about what I was going to do with my life. I had majored in German. I had spent summers in Europe. My Japanese mom and Turkish dad had instilled in me a love of the international. I had worked at *Spectator* and done media internships. I was going to be a journalist. And I was going to live abroad.

That fall I left for Berlin to study on a year-long fellowship. Once there, I landed an internship at the Associated Press. I explored the city, I made friends, I watched this European capital reinvent itself. I learned about reporting and writing from savvy, experienced journalists. I soaked up their advice and the opportunities they offered me. Everything was on track.

But a strange thing happened as my fellowship drew to a close. Though I had some possibilities to work as a journalist in Germany, my mentors advised me to return to the U.S. to launch my career. Much to my own surprise, I wanted to come home.

I interned at the *Chicago Tribune*, which then led to a reporting job at the *Seattle Times*. A couple years later, I moved on to a job at the *Denver Post*. My journalism career was going strong. I got to live in some amazing cities. I did some important stories. I developed into a talented writer and a spirited reporter. I plotted my next move.

Then my father was diagnosed with cancer. The possibility of losing my dad was debilitating. He was the person I was closest to and most like in the world. He was the person I'd shared so many excited conversations with about Music Hum and Lit Hum and Buddhism and German history while I was at Columbia. I realized that my best choice was to move back to Minnesota, where I'd grown up, to be closer to him and my mom.

I moved to Minneapolis, and I took a job at the alternative weekly. It was disorienting, but it was also liberating: I got to experiment with writing in ways I couldn't at a daily paper. More importantly, I got to spend time with my dad. During the year before he died, I began to understand that yes, I had rerouted my career, but I had also rerouted my priorities. And by truly living through that year and all of its raw experiences—joy, sadness, humor, grief, life, death, love, family—I broke down many of my preconceptions about life and started to build them back up again, with a different perspective. I became a stronger person, and I became a better writer.

I stayed in Minneapolis, something that never entered my mind as a possibility back on Class Day. I met my husband here, and we have a beautiful two-year-old daughter. I often think about the fact that they wouldn't be in my life had my post-collegiate road not zigzagged. I went to graduate school and explored the intersection of health and writing—something that had always interested me, but crystallized while my dad was sick. After grad school I spent three years working at the University of Minnesota, teaching journalism, overseeing the health journalism master's program and doing freelance writing. A few months ago I switched jobs to focus even more on health and writing. I now work at the Minnesota Department of Health, managing communications around our state's comprehensive health reform law that passed last May.

When I think back to Columbia, I'm often amused at how totally different my life looks today compared to my youthful expectations. That's not only OK—it's wonderful. It's great to have ambition and drive—those are the things that got us all into, and through, Columbia. But what I've learned since then is that they're only part of the equation: You've also got to be open to life—the exhilarating, the devastating, the strange, the surprising. While every job or situation I've been in hasn't necessarily been perfect, I've always known that I could grow from those experiences and then make my next zig or zag when the time was right. I attribute that confidence to the foundation I built at Columbia, and to the life experiences I've had since.

Columbia's particular situation in New York City and its philosophy about giving back to the world took root in me, both in my career as a journalist, and now in the public sector. My experiences at Columbia developed my instinct to want to make a difference in the world—both personally, with my family, and for society. For that I'm grateful and glad, and excited to see how my road twists and turns in the next fifteen years, and beyond.

The author is a member of the Columbia College class of 1994. She is the Health Reform Communications coordinator at the Minnesota Department of Health.

A lesson on the no. 1

BY BOB KLAPISCH

It's coming up on 30 years since I graduated from Columbia, which is depressing (and embarrassing), especially as I realize the world I live in, covering baseball for the *Bergen Record* and ESPN.com, is populated by people younger than me.

Still, there's a certain built-in immunity to being a sports writer. Doc Gooden might've lost his fastball at the age of 25, but at 50, I still make deadline. Words are still my most precious currency.

For that, I can thank my years at Columbia, where I paired my passion for baseball (I pitched for the varsity Lions) and journalism (I was *Spectator* sports editor), and parlayed that into my first job at the *New York Post*.

It was hardly glamorous—I was a clerk, assigned to answering phones, sorting mail, and taking abuse for my Ivy League education.

“Tell me one useful thing you actually learned at Columbia,” said my boss, teasing but hardly kidding. “Tell me one real-life experience you had.”

Actually, I had a doozy. It used to be that Columbia's baseball players took the subway to Baker Field. There was no chartered bus, no school-funded van. All you got was a token for the IRT No. 1. From 116th Street to 215th, the ride usually took no more than 25 minutes, but then-coach Paul Fernandes had one law he enforced without mercy: don't be late. Joe Torre would cut a Yankee player in two with his laser-like stare if he missed the 4 p.m. reporting time by even a minute. Same went for Fernandes and his young Lions. Running behind? Don't even think about it.

Only, I doubt any Yankee ever had a problem quite like mine one afternoon in my junior year. I was riding the subway uptown when a gang of local kids jumped on at the 125th stop. There were five of them, staring down anyone in the subway car who might've challenged the decibel-level

from their boom box. I looked away—I wasn't crazy. The rest of the car's occupants were as meek as Western Europe in the late 1930s. Mostly, they were elderly folks pretending to be asleep.

All of a sudden, a NYC transit cop arrived. He looked like a *Rocky*-era Sylvester Stallone, but bigger. In fact, his arms were the size of my legs. The cop approached the kid with the music box and said, “Turn that shit off.” The kid was foolish enough to ratchet up the confrontation. Not only did he disobey, but he stood up and flung the cop's hat like a Frisbee down the length of the car.

The kid turned to his friends, all of them sneering. Their triumph didn't last long. The cop punched the kid in the face so hard, he was unconscious before hitting the ground. The officer then pulled his .38 out of the holster, aimed it at the next kid, and said, “You want to fuck with me, too?” Instantly, the car's occupants—the retirees who'd been pretending to hear and see nothing—sprang to life.

The four remaining kids were bawling like babies, their arrogance smashed to smithereens. “Please don't shoot,” one said through his tears. The cop kept his gun out, using his free hand to radio ahead to the next stop. When we reached 137th Street, a dozen transit officers swarmed onto the subway car, dragging the kids away.

Me? Peel away the layers of psychological flesh, and I was just a scared kid from lily-white Leonia, New Jersey. But I never forgot the way the hip-hoppers were humiliated.

Even after four decades, Columbia's gift to my memory bank endures: from the subway to

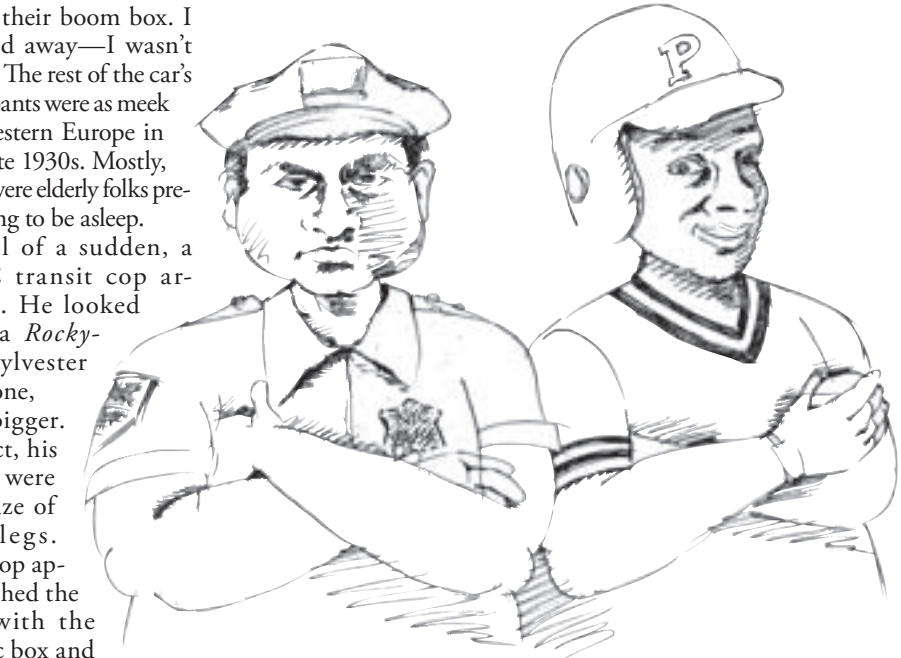


ILLUSTRATION BY ERICA LEE

the major league clubhouse (and everything in between) bullies are just cowards turned inside out. I see it all the time in the clubhouse now: major leaguers pretending to be bulletproof. I've had my share of confrontations in the last three decades, including one with Mets right-fielder Bobby Bonilla in 1993 that had me nose-tip to nose-tip with a potential opponent who, at 6'4 and 240 pounds, had me by four inches and 45 pounds.

But journalism begins and ends with what you believe in. Bonilla had been baiting me for a book I'd written about the hapless 1992 Mets: *The Worst Team Money Could Buy*. I wasn't going to back down. Neither was that cop. I actually thought of him when I said to Bobby Bo, “You want to fight me?”

It was both a question and a challenge. I didn't have a pistol, only a willingness to stand up to a bully. Bonilla had his opening—and, as it turned out, did nothing with it. He simply walked away. I had a hunch it would end that way, thanks to the education a Columbia baseball player got on the No. 1 way back when.

The author is a member of the Columbia College class of 1970. He is a sports writer for The Record and ESPN.

An Orgo final to remember

BY ALLAN JACKMAN

To begin with, I must state that I was pre-med from the time of my orientation in September 1949 until my graduation in June 1953. I managed to get into Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons Medical School and my career path since then led me to San Francisco in 1961 and a 40-year solo practice in Internal Medicine in that beautiful city.

But getting into medical school even then was very difficult, though perhaps less so than it has been in recent decades. I had to compete with some very mature and motivated World War II veterans to get a school acceptance. At that time, getting a good grade in Professor Charles Dawson's organic chemistry class was considered a key to gaining admission into a top-notch eastern medical school. Professor Dawson had been teaching this course for more than a decade, and although about a dozen other science courses were required or recommended to all pre-meds, somehow admissions officers at several medical schools in the northeast had made a discovery over the years: A strong correlation existed between the grade that a Columbia

student acquired in Professor Dawson's course and how well they did in medical school.

This fact was well-known to all of us pre-meds, and we strove mightily to do well in his course. I was just an average student getting B grades in most of my classes and, indeed, I got a B on the organic chemistry midterm. But the final was the real cruncher. There were 10 questions on the exam worth 10 points each with the last question being “special.” This was a “bonus question” wherein we were asked to draw the chemical structure of an organic compound that Professor Dawson had mentioned in class but whose structure he had never drawn on the blackboard. We all knew the diagrams in the required textbook cold, but while I was studying the night before the exam with a fraternity brother, he suddenly pulled out his brother's different organic chemistry textbook from NYU. My friend quickly leafed through it. He suddenly stopped at a page and asked, “Did Dawson ever mention DDT to us?”

“Yes,” I replied after some deep thought, “Something about it being recently used in Africa to wipe out mosquitoes and eradicate malaria.” So the last thing I did before finally going to sleep at 2 a.m. was to write out the complex chemical structure of DDT. As luck would have it, when I opened my exam booklet in the cavernous gym the next morning, I quickly turned to Question #10, and there it was! Only a handful of students got it right, and I was handed a “gift” 10 points on a platter. Only 6 members of

the class of more than 100 were given A grades, and I was one of them!

This will be hard to believe, but after World War II, final grades were posted on a huge circular bulletin board in University Hall for all to read. My first inkling of my sudden fame came a few days after the exam when about a dozen of my pre-med classmates ran across Broadway to shake my hand and congratulate me. For several days afterward I was the “Hero of Morningside”. I felt as if I had scored a winning last-second touchdown against Princeton. I still recall one of my egghead friends who had barely spoken to me in 3 years coming over to offer his congratulations while patting me on the back and saying, “I had no idea you were that smart!”

That fall when I took a train up to Boston for my interview at Harvard Medical

School, my interviewer took my transcript from a folder and after looking it over, suddenly said, “I see that you got an A in Dawson's course. Because of this I am hereby authorized to offer you an acceptance here and now to Harvard.” But I didn't take it, preferring to go to

Columbia P&S where I came under the magic spell of Dr. Robert Loeb, head of the Department of Medicine, and I have never regretted my choice.

And so, this is my most vivid memory five-and-a-half decades later of an undergraduate experience that shaped the rest of my life. How I ended up in California is an even weirder story that I will save for another time.

The author is a member of the Columbia College class of 1953 and the College of Physicians and Surgeons class of 1957. He has a solo practice in internal medicine.

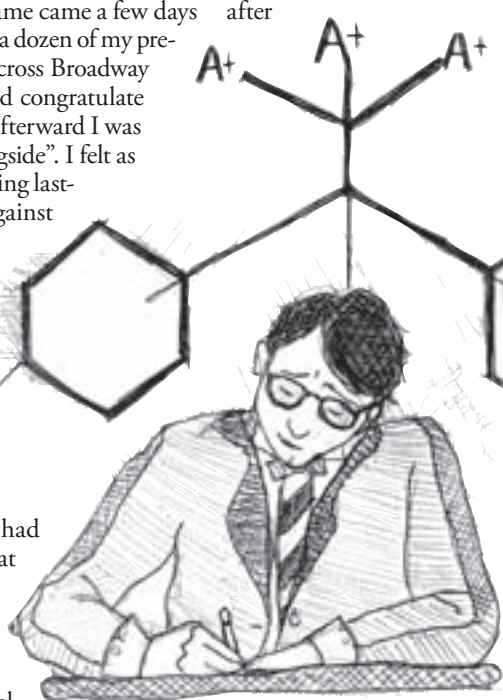


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Tuesday • April 7

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Friday • April 10

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Monday • April 13

11:00 am-4:30 pm • Donor Bus - College Walk

12:00 pm-6:00 pm • Studebaker, 4th Floor Conference Room

Wednesday • April 15

12:00 pm-8:00 pm • Uris Hall

Thursday • April 23

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at 9:00 am

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To submit applications on-line go to www.columbia.edu/cu/lernerhall

Questions?

Please contact your organizational advisor or e-mail lernerhall@columbia.edu

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH

FEBRUARY

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03/02

MONDAY

THE RED SHOES

7:00 PM

Julius S. Held Auditorium, 304 Barnard Hall

03/03

TUESDAY

WHEN LABELS DON'T FIT

A Practical Approach to Intensity, Sensitivity, Perfectionism, and Other Challenges

7:00 PM

Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall

03/05

THURSDAY

IMAGINING NATIONS OF IMMIGRANTS

Do Words Matter?

7:00 PM

Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall

03/05-03/07

THURSDAY-SATURDAY

SENIOR THEATRE FESTIVAL

Visit www.barnard.edu/theatre for shows and times

Minor Latham Playhouse, 118 Milbank Hall

03/11

WEDNESDAY

SMALL TALK

Cell-to-Cell Communication in Bacteria

5:30 PM

Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall

03/24

TUESDAY

YVETTE CHRISTIANSE

7:00 PM

Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall

03/25

WEDNESDAY

WOMEN FILMMAKERS

Documenting the Truth

6:30 PM

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

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Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9. That means that no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Belgrade native
5 Unmanned woman's title
9 Try out
13 Crime scene find
14 Pleasant scent
16 Suffix with switch
17 2000s sitcom starring a country singer
18 Ignited again
19 Auth. unknown
20 All-in-one home entertainment gadget
23 Photo shoot
24 Coin of the ____ legal currency
25 Mt. Rushmore's state
27 Intelligence, slangily
31 In the past
34 Colorful quartz
37 Durable wood
38 Pact between two countries
42 "____ Almighty"; 2007 Steve Carell film
43 Where sailors go
44 Director Spike or Ang
45 Blue ____ Duke University team
48 Part of A.D.
50 Frames of mind
53 Pound's 16
57 Geometric solid with five faces, ironically
61 Purest pup
62 Swarming pests
63 Opposed to
64 Advantage
65 Busybody
66 Exam for future Drs.
67 Bird feeder food
68 Netherworld river
69 Combustible funeral heap

DOWN

1 Clean using elbow grease
2 1985 Malkovich film
3 See 10-Down

4 "____ and Butt-head" MTV cartoon
5 Ceremony at an altar
6 Angers
7 Alternative energy type
8 Show one's pearly whites
9 Fellow Dodger, e.g.
10 With 3-Down, inventor of a puzzling cube
11 Chimney buildup
12 Muscle quality
15 Gillette razors
21 Be on the air until
22 Nightmare street of film
26 Go ____ small racer
28 Genuine
29 Westminster art gallery
30 Terrier named for a Scottish isle
31 Still in the sack
32 Donate
33 Patron saint of Norway
35 Chinese "way"

36 "Born Free" lioness
39 Like many Disney films
40 Bill Clinton's instrument
41 Incurred, as debts
46 Wolf Man player
47 Waterlogged
49 Freeway entrance
51 Saharan hills
52 Viewpoint
54 Home of the NFL's Bengals, casually
55 To be, in Tijuana
56 Clobber, in the Bible
57 Uno plus dos
58 Discourous
59 "Picnic" Pulitzer winner
60 ABA member

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

JMBARRIE DEBARK
PROTEAMS ELISHA
ESTHETIC PISTON
GOTEVEN SPACING
LONE LPS KOREA
FEMA DOORMAT
AAS TIVO AZTECS
CRUSADEDAAGAINST
TYPERS LIEN CTA
TOOLERS CLUB
ROAST EST HOOD
INDUCED OPENSEA
DEEPAK NAILGUNS
GALORE BITPARTS
EMENDS CRASSEST

xwordeditor@aol.com 03/23/09

By Pamela Harrison
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Ollie’s owner pays up in labor dispute

BY BETSY MORAIS
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Disputes over labor practices at local restaurants, such as Ollie’s and the now-closed Tomo, came to a halt on Wednesday when the New York State Department of Labor called out owner Tsu Yue Wang on his unfair treatment of employees. Wang agreed to pay a grand total of \$2.3 million to the over 800 workers he wronged.

Wang’s millions mark the greatest sum ever collected for a single case in the State Labor Department’s history. The money will compensate workers for minimum wage and overtime underpayments. State Labor Commissioner M. Patricia Smith announced at a press conference that a Department investigation uncovered Wang’s labor swindle at his eight Ollie’s locations—including the local 116th and Broadway restaurant—and Tomo, now boarded up at 110th and Broadway.

“These restaurants are known throughout the city for supplying Asian food for families at reasonable prices,” Commissioner Smith said in a statement. “But as families enjoyed quality food at a price they could afford, workers toiled under the weight of below-minimum wages, late paychecks and lack of overtime payments. Many of these workers

have waited a long time to reclaim these hard-earned wages. Today, I’m pleased to announce that their wait is over.”

Over the course of the investigation, which began in 2006, the Department discovered that individual workers were owed as much as \$30,000 after several years of inadequate pay. The Department also released findings of “disturbing trends” in employee treatment, from the insufficient amount of compensation workers received to the infrequency of payments. Kitchen helpers who worked full time for up to 60 hours each week received \$1,200 per month, which means they earned just \$300 a week at \$5 an hour. That amount is around half of the \$500.50 employers are required to pay for such labor according to state law.

At Tomo, investigators found that about 100 workers were collectively owed over \$1 million, which the Department is now seeking to recompense. Last month, Tomo’s then-employees rallied against Wang’s treatment, and were joined by peers from Ollie’s, as well as representatives from the 318 Restaurant Workers Union and the Chinese Staff and Workers’ Association. The protest was organized by restaurant labor union organization Justice Will Be Served, and raised questions about the circumstances surrounding the Japanese eatery’s imminent closing.

For months, Wang denied the Labor Department’s claim that he owned Tomo. The restaurant’s manager, Dee Loke, told *Spectator* in February, “The rent is too high. We cannot afford to continue.”

Yet according to Josephine Lee, CC ’01 and coordinator of the Justice Will Be Served campaign, rent wasn’t really the reason behind Wang’s decision to close Tomo’s doors. At the demonstration her group organized, workers dubbed Wang the “Sweatshop Boss.”

In January, Tomo employees filed a lawsuit against Wang. His response, according to Lee and 318 Restaurant Workers Union Vice President Fong Tsai, was to further worsen their plight through verbal abuse and cutting back on hours. At last month’s protest, Tsai said it was a “tactic to make employees quit. Get rid of workers. Stop them from organizing.”

Such protests have sprung up over the past few years not only at Tomo, but also at Ollie’s locations around the city.

“Nobody wants to dine in a sweatshop, and with this enforcement action, we are slamming the door shut on the mistreatment of workers at every one of these establishments,” Smith said.

Sam Levin contributed reporting to this article. Betsy Morais can be reached at betsy.morais@columbiaspectator.com

Faculty, administrators emphasize centers’ role in research

GLOBAL CENTERS from front page

sustainable development in the Middle East and the global economy, promoted the strengths of a global vantage point.

“This will add to the possibility of courses,” Kenneth Prewitt, director of the newly created Office of Global Centers and Carnegie professor of public affairs at SIPA, said in a phone interview from Beijing before the event. Centers will aid in connecting Columbians “to more than one part of world, with students in Morningside Heights interacting with students” in China and Jordan on any particular question, he continued.

Attendees of the international openings consisted of a slew of top administrators, representing the project’s far reach across the University. In Beijing, Bollinger, University Provost Alan Brinkley, Teachers College President Susan Fuhrman, Barnard president Debora Spar, and University professor Joseph Stiglitz made appearances among Chinese university presidents. Bollinger and Brinkley then traveled to Jordan, appearing alongside Jordan’s Queen Rania al Abdullah and Prime Minister Nader Dahabi, American University in Cairo Provost and former SIPA Dean Lisa Anderson, Earth Institute Director Jeffrey Sachs, and Rashid Khalidi, who is Columbia’s Edward Said professor of modern Arab studies and literature.

Despite the potential for curricular enhancements, the Centers exist chiefly for research purposes. “The Center is not a teaching place,” said Barnard political science professor Xiaobo Lü in an interview online. Lü, formerly chair of Morningside’s Weatherhead East Asian Institute, is heading Columbia’s office in Beijing. “It is important to emphasize that the Center’s main mission is on research,” he added.

Activities at both the Amman and Beijing centers strive to tackle regional conflicts, diving headfirst into environmental issues, natural disaster response, and education with the aid of diverse Columbia schools and local private and public agencies.

Much of the hype surrounding Beijing and Amman comes from the presence of up-and-running Columbia programs already there. The Columbia-China bond, for instance, goes back 100 years, dating back to the time when Columbia became one of the first American universities to accept students from China. “Certainly a major goal of the Center is to continue and expand the strong ties and add to the illustrious history between Columbia and China,” Lü said.

As a result, funding mostly comes from alumni donations and government grants—linkages Columbia has established overseas. “The research model is very different. We’re not out there to make money and we don’t want these centers to be a drain on Columbia resources,” said Safwan Masri, head of the Amman Center and former vice dean of the Business School, as he compared this approach to that of other universities like Cornell and Carnegie Mellon, which have accepted hundreds of millions from oil-rich Gulf governments to construct degree-granting campuses in those countries. “Ideally, the centers should not cost the University anything.”

Prewitt said that the next global centers will open in India and Paris, the latter likely in conjunction with Columbia’s Reid Hall for the study of French language and culture.

Scott Levi can be reached at scott.levi@columbiaspectator.com

Facilities reinstates student barbecues with new conditions

Fire up the grills—student barbecues are back on this spring, Columbia Facilities announced on Friday.

After Facilities announced last term that student groups would no longer be able to hold campus barbecues because of safety and organizational concerns, Chief of Administration Michael Novielli said in an e-mail sent out on Friday that Facilities planned to bring student-group barbecues back this semester under new proposed guidelines.

Novielli invited student council leaders, governing boards, and fraternity councils to participate in a discussion before spring break about the proposed policy for increased safety training and revision to the bureaucratic steps groups must take to plan the events. Novielli wrote in an e-mail to student leaders before break that the proposal “addresses some of the safety concerns that were expressed

in the past while still allowing student groups to hold BBQs” through a more controlled system of safety regulations and administrative advisors.

The proposal would require student groups to reserve space and get approval from an organizational advisor. If a group decides to forgo hiring Columbia Catering for the event, the group would, under the proposed guidelines, need to designate a student event manager to undergo fire and safety training. Such training would then be valid for an academic year. Barbecues would have to take place at one of the six spaces Facilities designated as acceptable areas: Revson Plaza, Ancell Plaza, Low Plaza, Van Am Quad, Wien Courtyard, and the pavement between Butler and the College Walk sundial.

Aaron Edmonds, CC ’09 and Student Services representative for the Columbia College Student Council, said that the

main goal of the meeting with administrators was to make sure the process remained “user-friendly” for students while still maintaining an adherence to safety procedures.

“There’s a little more structure to putting on a barbecue,” Edmonds said of the planning process. He thinks the new organization—which faculty and administration support—will improve the quality of student group events and draw greater participation from across the campus.

And, of course, the new policy will hopefully augment the true staple of college student existence—the endless pursuit of free food.

“Students will be forced to organize events that a lot more people will come to and where a lot more food will be available,” Edmonds said. “It’ll really enrich the student body.”

—Alix Pianin

Aeronautics expert to address engineering graduates


CLASS DAY from front page

Albaugh received his B.A. in mathematics and physics from Willamette University in Salem, Oregon, where he is now a trustee. Albaugh is also president and chief executive officer of Boeing Integrated Defense Systems, a business unit headquartered in St. Louis, Mo. that oversees \$32 billion and 70,000 people. The unit contains Boeing Military Aircraft, Tanker Programs, Phantom Works, Global Services & Support, and Network and Space Systems—which consists of combat and intelligence systems, according to the Boeing Web site. Albaugh was previously CEO of Boeing Space and Communications, which

merged with the Military Aircraft and Missiles Systems unit to create Integrated Defense Systems in July 2002.

According to the release, Albaugh’s affiliation with his alma mater did not end during his own Class Day in 1974. “During Reunion 2002, Mr. Albaugh delivered the Magill Lecture Series in Science, Technology and the Arts at SEAS Dean’s Day, where he spoke of The Art of Designing and Crafting Space-Bound Platforms,” the release said. “In addition to remaining an involved alumnus, Mr. Albaugh is active on the boards of several professional and charitable organizations and has won numerous professional awards.”

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Tennis teams pick up wins in away matches

BY KUNAL GUPTA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The men’s and women’s tennis teams each went 1-2 over their spring break training trips to Texas and California, respectively. The men fell against Texas Christian University and Southern Methodist University, but managed to defeat UT Arlington on their final stop of the trip. The women lost their first match to Loyola Marymount, but rallied with a win against Cal State Fullerton before falling to Cal State Northridge.

The men began their trip by taking on the 38th-ranked team in the nation, TCU. The Lions got off to a slow start in the doubles matches, losing all three to go down 1-0. Columbia was unable to do much damage in singles, either. The top three singles matches, featuring nationally ranked players from TCU, went to three sets for Columbia, but the Lions fell at each position. Bogdan Borta at No. 1 singles won the first set but lost the next two, while Jon Wong at No. 2 singles lost the first and came back to win the second only to lose in the third set, 6-4. At No. 3 singles, Mihai Nichifor had an up-and-down match, losing the first and third sets,

6-0 and 6-1, while winning the second 6-3. Ekin Sezgen at No. 4 singles lost in a third set tiebreak, giving the Lions a final 7-0 defeat.

Next up for the Lions was SMU, which despite being unranked was a tough opponent on outdoor courts. The Lions lost 6-1 with freshmen Haig Schneiderman winning the Lions only point at No. 5 singles in three sets, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4. The Lions also lost the doubles point despite Wong and Schneiderman winning their doubles match, 8-6, at No. 2 doubles.

The Lions’ only dual-meet win of the trip—against UT Arlington, 5-2—started strong, with Columbia winning the doubles point for the first time on the trip. Wins from Wong at No. 2 singles and freshman Rajeev Deb-Sen at No. 6 singles helped secure the Light Blue win, advancing the team’s record to 10-4 on the season.

Meanwhile, in California, the women found themselves in a dogfight in their first match against Loyola Marymount, ending in a 5-2 defeat. The Lions lost the doubles point by dropping all three of the doubles matches but fared better in singles, picking up wins from both freshmen in the lineup, Nicole Stanzola and Eliza Matache.

Stanzola at No. 2 singles and Matache at No. 3 singles each won in a tiebreak, 10-3 and 10-4, respectively. Natasha Makarova, playing at No. 1 singles, lost in two tight sets, 6-4, 6-4, and Nina Suda, playing at No. 5 singles, fought valiantly only to lose 6-3, 7-5.

The Lions had an easier time against Cal State Fullerton, taking every set of the singles matches as well as the doubles point en route to a 7-0 win. Senior Marlena Hall at No. 5 singles dominated her opponent, 6-0, 6-0, while the rest of the lineup also won comfortably.

The Light Blue did not fare as well against Cal State Northridge, falling 5-2. The Lions got another win from Matache and a victory in the singles lineup from Suda at No. 6 singles. The doubles point was lost in a sweep, however, as Columbia managed to win just four games in all three matches. The loss dropped the Lions to 4-7 on the year.

The men and women will begin Ivy play this Friday. The women will travel to Cornell, who currently sits at 5-8. The men will stay in Manhattan and host the Big Red at the Dick Savitt Tennis Center, where the Lions are 5-0 this season.



File Photo

ACE | With a win in singles, Rajeev Deb-Sen contributed to Columbia’s success against UT-Arlington in its final dual-meet of the trip.

Abrupt finish for Flores after day one of NCAA Championships

BY JACOB LEVENFELD
Spectator Staff Writer

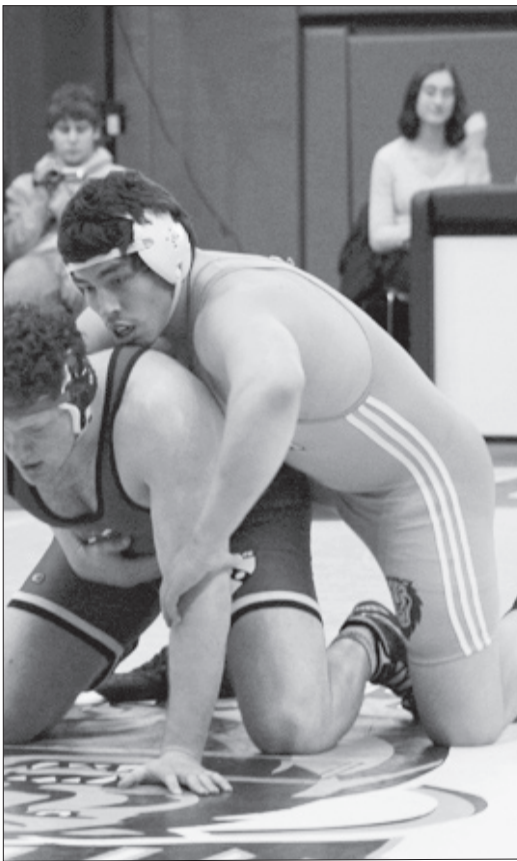
Columbia’s wrestling season came to an end on Thursday when Ryan Flores, the Light Blue’s sole representative at the NCAA Championships in St. Louis, was ousted on the tournament’s first day after losing in his first two matches. The sophomore heavyweight, who entered with high expectations and the tenth seed in his weight class, will now have a long off-season to contemplate next year’s campaign.

After strong performances at the Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association Championships two weeks ago, the Lions were hoping that junior Lou Miller and senior Derek Sickles would join Flores at the Scottrade Center in St. Louis. Miller finished third in his weight class at the EIWA Championships while Sickles came in fifth, but neither received the at-large bids required to send them to the NCAA Championships. Flores, on the other hand, qualified automatically with a first-place finish.

In Thursday’s action, Flores unexpectedly fell out of the championship bracket with a loss to Minnesota’s Benjamin Berhow in his first match of the day. Berhow, like Flores a sophomore and a veteran of the 2008 NCAA Championships, defeated Columbia’s heavyweight with an 8-4 decision. With the loss, Flores found himself in the consolation bracket facing a match-up with Oklahoma’s Nathan Fernandez.

In the second match, Fernandez led on the scoreboard from the start, allowing Flores to make a late comeback but ultimately prevailing with an 8-7 decision. Fernandez’s victory ended Flores’ brief run in his first day at the three-day tournament.

Although his season ended abruptly, Flores still finished the 2008-2009 campaign with very impressive statistics. He was undefeated in dual-meets, going 18-0 overall (5-0 Ivy League).



File Photo

HEAVYWEIGHT | Ryan Flores (undefeated in dual-meets) fell in day one of the NCAA Championships.

His 31-5 overall record landed him first team All-Ivy honors.

As they head into the 2009 off-season, the Lions can look forward to the coming campaign with the knowledge that stars such as Flores, Miller, and current sophomore Eren Civan will all be returning next season.

Columbia lacrosse falls in Ivy opener

BY SARA SALZBANK
Spectator Staff Writer

Despite a hard-fought second half, the Columbia lacrosse team suffered a close, 11-8 loss to Cornell in its Ivy League opener. The defeat snapped the Lions’ five-game streak and extended the team’s Ivy winless streak to 26 games.

Columbia jumped ahead against the Big Red after just four minutes courtesy of an unassisted tally by midfielder Taylor Gattinella, but that would prove to be the last Light Blue lead of the game. Cornell immediately answered to draw the score at one, and 10 minutes later took their first lead of the game on an unassisted goal by Halsey Diakow. The Lions quickly drew even on a Lizzie Lee goal, but three straight Cornell scores gave the Big Red the 5-2 advantage going into the break.

The Columbia offense picked up in the second half, pulling the Lions within two of the Big Red

at 6-4. Cornell went on another three-goal run to push the lead to five, however, and despite a number of Columbia rallies, the Light Blue couldn’t make up the distance.

Gattinella and Holly Glynn led the Lions with two goals each, half of Columbia’s offensive output in the game. The eight goals were the lowest output for the Light Blue this year. In the loss, goalkeeper Emma Mintz notched 14 saves.

After a short break, the Lions resumed nonconference play with a trip to Bethlehem, Pa. to face Lehigh. Once more, an early game deficit proved insurmountable for the Lions who, despite scoring six of the contest’s final eight goals, fell 15-13.

The Mountain Hawks struck first with two goals. Rachael Ryan and Gabrielle Geronimos responded with a goal apiece to tie the game at two. Both teams traded scores, with goals by Geronimos and Lee, to keep things tied at four. But Lehigh picked up seven

goals, including three by Kelly Draper, to take a commanding 11-6 lead at the break.

Draper continued her offensive onslaught with two more goals at the start of the second half, but goals by Geronimos, Lauren Olsen, and Brittney Shannon brought the Lions within four of the Mountain Hawks, 13-9. But once again the Lions could not capitalize on their second-half momentum, and two straight goals by Lauren Dykstra gave Lehigh a six-goal cushion. The Light Blue rattled off four straight goals to close the match, including three goals from Rachael Ryan, but it wasn’t enough.

Ryan led the team with five goals and five groundballs while causing two turnovers. Draper led all scorers with six goals.

Columbia will face its steepest challenge of the season in its second Ivy contest, hosting defending league champion Penn. The game begins at 3:30 pm on Friday.



File Photo

GOAL | Rachael Ryan had a great all-around game against Lehigh including five goals and groundballs.

WBC has come a long way, how far will it go?

SHAPIRO from back page

players would have felt pain in the opening few days of the regular season, but because they realized their injuries in early March, they now have an opportunity to improve their health in advance of the regular season.

I’ll admit that the WBC isn’t that exciting and that it raises some serious concerns about its proximity to the regular MLB season, but it has definitely come a long way from its first installment in 2006. And the championship game between Japan and South Korea tonight is definitely worth a few minutes of your time.

Team USA suffered a rough defeat at

the hands of the Japanese last night, and it doesn’t take experts to realize that the pitching staff is to blame. The Americans put forth a solid effort, but some of the nation’s top stars were absent from the WBC.

The impending MLB season will always be a reason for some players to dodge the Classic, but if American fans took up the cause and demanded that their country’s best athletes compete, then things might be different in 2012.

So what do you say, America? You’ve got three years to make a decision.

Jacob Shapiro is a List College junior majoring in history and Talmud. Sports@columbiaspectator.com

Softball triumphs in road games, struggles in NY

SOFTBALL from back page

Jennifer Ortega. The contest against Rhode Island was less of a nail-bitter as Columbia grabbed the lead in the first inning. Erica Clauss pitched a complete game, allowing only seven hits and one walk, while Leong led the offense with two RBI.

On the final day of the Rebel Spring Games, the Light Blue recorded its first shutout of the season, defeating Saint Peter’s, 6-0, before dropping a close game to Fairleigh Dickinson, 5-4. Against Saint Peter’s, Jessica Rakonzka threw the first shutout of her collegiate career, allowing only three hits and one walk while striking out four. But the Lions were plagued by sloppy fielding in their loss to Fairleigh Dickinson—three of the runs given up by Johnson, who entered in relief of Clauss, were unearned.

After a disappointing end to a successful spring break trip, Columbia returned to Baker Field

on Saturday to face Boston University. The first game of the doubleheader proved to be a pitchers’ duel, and despite giving up only six hits and two walks over seven innings of work, Johnson was the hard-luck loser, with BU’s Cassidy Hardy no-hitting the Lions for the win.

The second game was a slugfest with Columbia led, once again, by Ecker and Pineda, who each recorded three hits. Pineda also drove in two runs, but her effort was not enough for the Lions to capture the victory.

To cap an exhausting break, Columbia traveled to New Jersey to face Monmouth on Sunday, dropping both games of the double-header. The Lions lost the first game, 3-1, and dropped the second contest, 8-0.

Next up, the Lions return to New Jersey to face off against Fairleigh Dickinson on Thursday at 3 p.m. It will be the team’s last nonconference game before beginning league play this weekend.

Light Blue golf kicks off ’09 season

BY JONATHAN TAYLER
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The Columbia men’s golf team kicked off its season out west, taking part in the Hiddenbrooke Intercollegiate over the break. The defending Ivy League champions were the only East Coast team taking part in the 54-hole tournament, earning a sixth-place finish in the field of nine.

Individually, Brendan Doyle and Clark Granum led the way for the Lions. Doyle, a freshman from Beverly Hills, Calif., finished sixth overall with a score of 228, 12 over par, one shot behind Drury University’s Andrew Funk. Granum, who finished third in the Ivy League Championships last spring, was right behind Doyle with +13.

Columbia’s three other golfers were further down in the pack. Chris Arkin started the tournament with a 79 on the first day

but slipped over the next 36 holes, finishing with a score of 251, tied for 39th place. Cashel Rosier and Sam Mysock rounded out the team scoring for Columbia with scores of 265 and 271.

In individual competition, Philippe Fossaert finished 19th with a score of 239, including a 74 on the last 18 holes, while Justin Lee scored a 252.

Overall, Columbia recorded a team score of 973. Drury took home the overall title with a score of 922, while Loyola-Chicago’s Armando Favela was the individual winner, finishing five strokes over par with 221.

The women’s golf team also began its 2009 season over the break, teeing off at the First Market Bank Intercollegiate in Williamsburg, Va. Columbia finished the tournament in 10th place out of a field of 22 with a score of 344, 68 over par, over 36 holes. Alabama took home

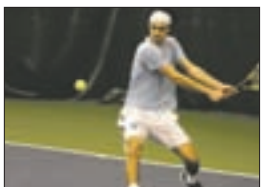
the team title, 18 strokes ahead of Richmond. The Lions were one of three Ivy teams competing, with Penn in 17th place and Dartmouth finishing second-to-last.

Individually, Stevy Loy was the Light Blue’s top finisher with a score of +14. Loy shot a 75 on the first day of competition but was done in by an 83 on the second day. Robin Lee finished second on the team, tied for 45th with a score of +18, with Jasmine Chead, Lynda Kwon, and Jennifer Adyorough rounding out the Columbia five. Alabama’s Rhea Nair was the individual winner with a score of 149, five over par, including a 74 on the last 18 holes.

The men’s team returns to action on March 30 at the Larry Nelson Collegiate Invitational in Braselton, Georgia. The women’s team will also play this weekend, traveling to Maryland for the Hoya Invitational.

The Columbia men's and women's tennis teams both went 1-2 in their respective trips to Texas and California.

PAGE 9



SPORTS

MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2009 • PAGE 10



After disappointment at the NCAA Championships, Ryan Flores closed out Columbia's wrestling season.

PAGE 9



File Photo

BATTER UP | Dani Pineda recorded three hits against Boston University.

Stars give WBC a chance—so should you



JACOB SHAPIRO
PUT IT ON THE BOARD

For those of you who remain unaware, the WBC is an international baseball competition that features 16 teams and is played every three years. If you haven't heard of the WBC, it may be because you're geared up for the new MLB season or because you're preoccupied with the March Madness Tournament. But it's more likely that, like most American citizens, you just don't care. But here's why you should.

While the WBC should really take place in February (see my column from Feb. 11), the tournament starts in early March and provides fans itching for baseball with some competitive games to watch. Take my word for it, the WBC games are far more exciting than watching minor leaguers with triple-digit numbers on their backs botch grounders in spring training.

Although the WBC hasn't exactly caught on yet in the United States, the other countries that participate take the tournament very seriously and raise the level of competition. Baseball is America's pastime, but for Japan, Venezuela, and Puerto Rico (just to name a few), the WBC is an opportunity to establish national pride. Most of the top players from other countries immediately signed up to play in the WBC. Bernie Williams even came out of retirement to don the Puerto Rican uniform.

According to Rick Sutcliffe, who was covering the first round of games in Toronto for ESPN, the 2006 Team USA exuded a "country club atmosphere" where each player kept to himself. As a result, the Americans were defeated in the second round and finished in a shameful sixth place.

But this year, Team USA has a distinctly different attitude. Like their countrymen on the basketball court—who rightfully brought home the gold medal in the Beijing Olympics—the players are genuinely interested in playing for their country. This year's roster features 24 legit stars. And unlike the 2006 squad, several players were rejected from the team this year given the increased demand for roster spots. Even after Chipper Jones, Dustin Pedroia, and Kevin Youkilis withdrew from the WBC with minor injuries, Evan Longoria and Brian Roberts jumped at the opportunity to join the team.

If this country is still apathetic towards the WBC, as professional representatives for the United States, it is encouraging to see that so many of our All-Stars care about something greater than their multi-year contracts.

When Team USA was on the verge of elimination at the hands of the Puerto Ricans last week, David Wright capped off a three-run rally to win the game that sent the entire team pouring out of the dugout towards the pitcher's mound. While it wasn't the Olympics, it was special. The message was clear: we want to win this thing, badly.

In 2005, the International Olympic Committee announced that baseball would be dropped from the docket for future competitions effective for the 2012 games. Following the 2008 Olympics, which were baseball and softball's last (at least for now), the WBC immediately took on increased importance and may continue to grow now that it is the premiere international baseball competition.

The main argument against the WBC is that it provides star players with opportunities for injury before the regular season starts. However, while these highly paid athletes definitely have responsibilities to preserve their health, minor injuries that are sustained in the WBC may actually have a positive impact.

Consider Chipper Jones' strained oblique or Kevin Youkilis' sore ankle. Both of those

SEE SHAPIRO, page 9

Lions take seven in Florida, drop home opener

BY MICHELE CLEARY
Spectator Staff Writer

Columbia softball wasn't exactly on break last week, playing in 12 games over seven days at the Rebel Spring Games in Kissimmee, Fla. The long string of games did give the Lions their first win of 2009, however, although the first home win of the year will have to wait after a home-opening doubleheader loss to Boston University on Saturday.

Columbia (7-14) opened its trip down south against Bucknell on March 13, defeating the Bison 3-2. Sophomore pitcher Maggie Johnson, Ivy League Pitcher of the Week for the week of

March 17, pitched a complete game against Bucknell, allowing only six hits and two walks while striking out three. The Lions were not as successful in their second game of the day, a 12-0 loss to Butler. Columbia only recorded three hits during the contest, all by center fielder Jackie Ecker.

The Light Blue split its games the following day as well, falling to South Dakota, 8-4, and defeating Sacred Heart by the same score. Ecker, shortstop Kelli Leong, and left fielder Kayla Lechler each recorded two hits in the contest against South Dakota. The offense was spread out in the Light Blue victory over the Pioneers, with six Lions collecting

at least one hit. First baseman Dani Pineda led the way with three hits and three runs scored.

The third day brought yet another split, with the Lions defeating Army, 4-2, before falling to Wisconsin-Green Bay, 5-0. Johnson posted another strong outing against Army, giving up only three hits and one walk while striking out five in another complete game effort. Johnson even made up for her two earned runs with a two-run home run in the fourth inning. The offense disappeared against UW-Green Bay, with only Pineda and Johnson collecting hits.

Columbia received the next day off, and the rest apparently helped, as the

Light Blue swept Lafayette and Rider. The Lions defeated the Leopards, 9-3, behind yet another impressive, complete game effort from Johnson. Lechler, behind the plate for this game, and right fielder Stephanie Yagi combined for four hits and three RBI against Lafayette, with Yagi adding three more RBI versus Rider.

The Lions were unable to build on their modest winning streak, however, dropping their next game to Colgate, 3-2, before defeating Rhode Island, 7-3. Once again, Johnson went the distance, only to pick up a tough loss on a walkoff double by Colgate's

SEE SOFTBALL, page 9

CU baseball captures single win over break

Light Blue defeats Cal State Northridge on final day of trip

BY MICHAEL SHAPIRO
Spectator Staff Writer

Columbia baseball left New York City for the sunny environs of California almost two weeks ago with only one win to its name in its first seven games. Eight days, 10 games, and two nationally ranked opponents later, the Lions returned to the East Coast only one win heavier, as the big bats of UC Riverside, San Diego, and Cal State Northridge proved too much for the defending Ivy League champions.

The No. 27 Highlanders gave the Light Blue a rude welcome to the West Coast, pounding Columbia for 35 runs in three games. UC Riverside shelled Light Blue pitching early and often, plating eight earned runs against Joe Scarlata in game one en route to a 14-5 win and six runs against Dan Bracey in game three to cruise to a 15-5 victory. The only Columbia starter who seemingly had the Highlanders figured out was Geoff Whitaker, who limited UC Riverside to only one earned run in his seven innings of work in game two. But things fell apart in the bottom of the eighth, as an error by third baseman Mike Roberts and three walks by reliever Harrison Slutsky turned a 4-2 Columbia advantage into a 6-4 defeat.

Things didn't get any easier for the Lions as they traveled south to face the No. 20 San Diego Toreros. Although Columbia pitching was able to keep San Diego in check for most of the series, the Light Blue offense was missing in action for the three-game sweep, scoring only seven runs in 27 innings of play.

An early 1-0 lead in game one, courtesy of an RBI double by designated hitter Alex Aurrichio, was quickly erased by three San Diego runs in the bottom of the fourth. Columbia managed to tie the game with two runs in the seventh, but seven runs off of starter Roger Aquino and reliever Alex Ferrera in the bottom of the seventh and eighth sealed the deal for the Toreros.

Another early lead in game two was also squandered, as San Diego scored one in the third, three in the fifth, and two in the seventh. That was all Toreros starter Matt Thomson would need. The tall right hander out of Santa Rosa, Calif. shut down the Lions over seven innings, striking out six while allowing just one earned run.

The series finale followed suit for the Lions, as an excellent start by Scarlata was wasted. Despite eight innings from Columbia's staff ace, the offense couldn't figure out San Diego's Darrin Campbell, who allowed just one earned run on four hits over six innings, striking out eight. Down 3-1 entering the top of the ninth, Columbia threatened as Aurrichio homered to lead off the inning, but fell short as the team lost a close game, 4-2.

The last leg of its West Coast road trip pitted Columbia against Cal State Northridge, and once again the offense came up empty. Game one saw Matador starter Billy Ott earn his first win of the season with eight brilliant innings of



File Photo

PITCHING MOUND | The Lions' final match-up against San Diego turned into a pitching duel between Darrin Campbell and Joe Scarlata, who lasted eight innings and surrendered four runs (three earned) on eight hits.

work. Ott struck out seven and conceded two runs in the 8-2 win.

Things finally broke Columbia's way in game two. Bracey led the team on the mound by limiting Cal State Northridge to one run on four hits over seven innings, and the Lions battered Matador pitching with 11 hits and 10 runs on the game for the easy 10-1 win. But the Light Blue could not carry the momentum from into the series-ending doubleheader. Aquino was hit hard early, surrendering seven hits and five earned runs over three-and-two-thirds innings, as Cal State Northridge pushed ahead in the third and fourth innings, scoring four runs on six hits to edge the Lions, 5-4. Both teams' bats came alive for the last game, with Columbia chasing Matador starter Davin Tate with four runs in the first inning. Cal State Northridge used the long ball to climb back on top, however, posting three home runs in the game to come back and win, 10-7.

For Columbia head coach Brett Boretti, the West Coast trip gave him a chance to audition pitchers for the fourth and final spot in his starting rotation. That competition seems to be between Aquino and Pat Lowery. Aquino was solid for six innings against San Diego, while Lowery turned in five strong innings the next day against the Toreros.

In the infield, Jon Eisen has grabbed the starting job at second base. The freshman hit just .204 on the trip but went seven for his last 20 after opening with a 1-for-13 series against UC Riverside. Other freshmen seeing extended time include Anthony Potter, Aurrichio, and Billy Rumpke. Potter and Aurrichio have struggled to make contact, however, combining for 26 strikeouts and just 18 hits in the early going.

Columbia will host St. John's University for one game on Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. in the team's last contest before beginning conference play.

Fencing teams take fourth place at NCAA Championships

Both the men's and women's fencing teams took home fourth-place finishes at this year's NCAA Championships, with sabrist Daria Schneider and foilist Kurt Getz each earning bronze medals. Columbia was the top Ivy team on both sides of the competition, edging out Penn, which finished fifth on the men's side and seventh on the women's.

Schneider, who won the gold medal at the 2007 NCAA Championships and spent last season training for a spot on the US Olympic team, finished third at this year's tournament, falling to eventual champion Rebecca Ward of Duke in the semifinals. For Getz, 2009 was his third

straight year with a bronze, as the junior lost his semifinal bout with Notre Dame's Gerek Meinhardt. Meinhardt lost to Penn State's Nicholas Chinman in the final, while Getz tied for third with Miles Chamley-Watson, also of Penn State.

Getz also earned first-team All-American honors, as did sabrist Jeff Spear, who finished seventh in the sabre competition and received second-team honors. As of press time, the women's All-American team had not been announced.

A full recap of the NCAA Championships will run in Tuesday's edition of *Spectator*.

—Jonathan Tayler

Ed Argast to join football's staff as new offensive line coach

Former Fordham offensive coordinator Ed Argast will join Norries Wilson's staff as the new offensive line coach for Columbia. Argast will replace Cheston Blackshear, who left Columbia to take a job as the offensive tackles and tight ends coach at the University of New Mexico.

Argast comes to Morningside Heights after three years in the Bronx spent shaping and developing Fordham's offense. In 2007, the Rams averaged 29 points per game, second-best in the Patriot League, while running back

Xavier Martin earned conference Rookie of the Year honors. Last season, Fordham slipped to just over 21 points per game but still averaged 143 yards on the ground and 384 yards of total offense per contest.

Before working at Fordham, Argast spent time as the offensive coordinator at Central Connecticut State. The Blue Devils, a Division I Football Championship Subdivision team, led the Northeast Conference in total offense in 2004. Argast has also coached at Wagner, Canisius, and Colgate.

—Jonathan Tayler