



DOUGLAS KESSEL / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**SINGLE-PARTY SYSTEM** | Peter Bailinson, CC '16, Daphne Chen, CC '14, Noah Swartz, CC '16, Bob Sun, CC '14, and Briana Saddler, CC '14 (not pictured), are members of the “It’s Always Sunny at Columbia” party and likely the next CCSC executive board.

## In São Paulo, BC holds fifth global symposium

**BY SAMANTHA COONEY**  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

With its first-ever female president and a record 10 female cabinet members, Brazil is no stranger to women leaders.

So São Paulo was a natural choice for Barnard’s fifth annual global symposium, Women Changing Brazil, which took place over spring break. Six students, four professors, and Barnard President Debora Spar visited the country for a week of panels and workshops centered on female leadership.

Eleonora Menicucci, Brazil’s minister of the Secretariat of Policies for Women and one of those 10 cabinet members, gave the symposium’s keynote address.

Menicucci and the other panelists “showed that we have a lot to learn from a country governed by women

and from citizens who support the success of women at many levels,” Hilary Link, Barnard’s vice provost, said in a statement. “The list of government-sponsored initiatives to protect, promote, and support women was inspiring and overwhelming.”

“Brazil proved to be the perfect location,” Link added.

More than 400 people attended the symposium, which featured noted Brazilian panelists hailing from academia, politics, and the arts, including Brazilian filmmaker Petra Costa, BC '06, and Duilia de Mello, an astronomer at NASA and a professor of astronomy at Catholic University. Over the course of the week, they discussed the relationship between art and activism, the role of women in science, and the definition of leadership.

“Brazil is at the forefront of what people are watching in terms of economic

development and simultaneously trying to Csocial issues that go along with that,” Mary Glenn, BC '13 and one of the six student fellows selected to attend the symposium, said.

Glenn, along with Dhvani Tombush, BC '15, Annelise Finney, BC '15, Adriana Moore, BC '15, Victoria Steinbruch, BC '14, and Mariany Polanco, BC '13, organized a workshop on gender discrimination in the workplace for Brazilian high school girls.

The workshop, which Glenn called the highlight of her experience in Brazil, included a workplace simulation and a discussion of the meaning of leadership.

The high school students “got really, really into it and they were really passionate about their ideas about leadership and what the workshop brought out for them that they hadn’t heard before,” Glenn said. “It was really cool to hear

all of their ideas.”

In addition to the student fellows, four Barnard professors attended the symposium as faculty fellows, which provided them the opportunity to conduct research in Brazil in their chosen fields.

Dance professor Colleen Thomas-Young, who has visited Brazil with her company multiple times, taught a dance workshop in São Paulo as part of the symposium.

“I was interested in those two worlds of mine meeting and seeing what other possibilities there were for collaborative research there,” Thomas-Young said.

Thomas-Young found a discussion between Brazilian graffiti artist and activist Pannela Castro and filmmaker Katia Lund about self-identifying as a feminist particularly interesting.

**SEE BRAZIL, page 3**

## Only one party up for CCSC e-board

Daphne Chen, CC '14, is presumptive president

**BY RAKHI AGRAWAL**  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

The election for the Columbia College Student Council executive board will be uncontested this year—the first time in four years that only one party is running for the top council positions.

Members of the “It’s Always Sunny at Columbia” party will take over leadership of the council, barring any big surprises.

Daphne Chen, CC '14 and the current CCSC vice president for finance, is the only candidate for CCSC president. While competition can encourage students to “be their best,” Chen said, “when I look at the list of people that we have running for class council, those are the best people we have on council this year. I have full confidence in them.”

Rounding out Chen’s ticket are Bob Sun, CC '14 and the vice president for policy candidate, Peter Bailinson, CC '16 and the vice president for communications candidate, Noah Swartz, CC '16 and the vice president for finance candidate, and Briana Saddler, CC '14 and the vice president for

campus life candidate.

Sun noted that while there may be less competition in the elections, the candidates are still going to campaign for student votes.

“We are still going to do all of the campaigning we would normally do if we were competing,” Sun, a Spectator columnist, said.

“In some ways,” he added, “It’s even more important to show the Columbia community what we stand for, if there isn’t an opposing ideal to rate us against.”

Current CCSC president Karishma Habbu, CC '13, said that while a contested election would be more exciting, she fully supports all the candidates running for executive board positions.

“I think if the elections were contested, it would generate excitement and more interest in the election, but luckily for me, I have full confidence in all the members,” she said. “I’m really quite pleased that Daphne is leading the ticket. I have full confidence in her abilities.”

Chen is the only executive board candidate who is

**SEE CCSC, page 3**

## Kids take nature hands-on at ‘Animal Odyssey’

**BY HALLIE NELL SWANSON**  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

“Toads try and make themselves as disgusting as possible,” animal care manager Billy Flynn told a rapt audience of neighborhood kids aged four to 12. “The first thing you’d do if you pick up a toad is it would pee on you.”

This was one of many pearls of wisdom delivered during Monday’s “Animal Odyssey” program at the Bloomingdale branch of the New York Public Library located on 100th Street between Amsterdam and Columbus avenues. The day’s animal guests included a toad, a fish named Orangey, a yellow spotted salamander called Tim Spots, a tadpole that the crowd christened Little Legs, and a

bullfrog skeleton.

“So if an animal picks up a toad with its mouth,” Flynn continued, “that doesn’t taste very good.” He passed around a toad that he had picked out of the pond that morning at the New Canaan Nature Center, where he works.

A resounding “Ewww” emanated from the young naturalists assembled in the library’s auditorium. Indeed, according to Flynn, this is not the only repulsive mechanism toads have in their arsenal.

“Toads make this white gooey stuff that goes all over its back that tastes really disgusting. It’s supposedly one of the grossest tasting things on the planet,” Flynn said. “Scientists actually must have had to taste it to realize that.”

**SEE BLOOMINGDALE, page 3**

### NEWS BRIEF

#### Business School announces death of William McGuire, Business '14

William “Billy” McGuire, Business '14, a student remembered for his athletic successes and interest in finance, died, Business School dean Glenn Hubbard announced Monday.

McGuire enrolled at Columbia in fall of 2012 and was a member of the Sports Business Association and active in the Columbia Student Investment Management Association, Hubbard said in an email.

“Billy was a terrific member of the Columbia community and his cluster,” Hubbard said. “He will undoubtedly be missed.”

McGuire earned an undergraduate degree in government from Franklin and Marshall College in 2007, where he was a member of the varsity baseball team. While there, he earned the “Team Rookie of the Year” award in 2004 and served as

team captain in 2007.

McGuire also worked as an analyst at the BlackRock investment firm and as a corporate paralegal at law firm Simpson Thacher & Bartlett before attending Columbia.

“With an interest in financial services, particularly investment and portfolio management, he secured a summer internship at a major financial firm,” Hubbard said.

McGuire is survived by his parents, Bill and Denise, his siblings Jack, Molly, and Ryan, and his fiancée, Liz Masi. Dean of Students Nayla Bahri is available to help direct students to support resources.

McGuire’s death is the second this semester at the Business School. DeShaun Maria Harris, another student, died earlier this month.

—Avantika Kumar

**BY CHRISTIAN ZHANG**  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

For Cameron Fegers, CC '16, getting a 10/2933 housing lottery number felt like getting dumped by a person you’re in love with.

“You have no idea,” he said. “You’ve picked a life together, but you discover the feeling’s not mutual.” His group’s reaction, he said, was “more comical than depressing.”

Meanwhile, the housing gods

shined their goodwill upon David Najem, CC '14, and Henning Sauerbier, CC '14, on Monday, as the pair received the best housing lottery number among seniors and will be the first group to pick into a suite next month.

“We were never this lucky in the past,” Najem said. “It’s incredible.”

“We were jumping around in the locker room,” Sauerbier said. “We were ecstatic.”

After this year’s housing lottery numbers were released Monday



PETE BOHNHOF / SPECTATOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**WHAT IS A HOUSE, REALLY?** | Henning Sauerbier, CC '14, contemplates existence, perhaps predicting his future housing victory, during a soccer match last fall. He will be the first to choose a suite.

### A&E, BACK PAGE

#### BC senior wins national theater award

Zsuzsika Beswick, BC '13, received first place in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival competition for a paper she wrote on a 1940 German propaganda film.



### OPINION, PAGE 4

#### Drawing on the core

Visual communication is an oft-overlooked skill.

#### Carve your own path

Ayelet Pearl on ending the game of competition with one another.

### SPORTS, PAGE 2

#### Softball to face Jaspers in doubleheader

After splitting last week’s doubleheader against Manhattan, the Lions will face the Jaspers in another doubleheader on Tuesday afternoon, before playing Dartmouth on Friday.

### EVENTS

#### Italian Academy art exhibit

Emerging Italian artists Francesco Arena and Anna Franchesi present a portfolio of their recent work, including film and video works.

*The Italian Academy, 6 p.m.*

### WEATHER

#### Today



49°/33°

#### Tomorrow



49°/35°



A lesson in what it really means to be a true fan

My family has always been a plentiful source of sports wisdom. Whether it was how to hit a ball with the sweet part of the bat, how to dribble a basketball, or how to get that perfect spiral when throwing a football, I could always turn to them for all the tips and tricks.

Their wisdom often extends beyond the realm of the how-to and into what I like to call the “two-cents” territory. They like to weigh in on my favorite teams, and tell me all the reasons why I shouldn’t be a Mets, Knicks, or Giants fan. My uncle especially likes to hound me about the Amazin’ Mets. His most repeated line goes something like this: “I told you what would happen once you became a fan. Lifetime of heartache. Don’t say I didn’t warn you.”

As a Columbia student, I can see how this same principle can be applied once you are sucked into the vortex of Light Blue fandom, with special emphasis on the men’s basketball department. It seems like both the talent on paper and the numbers from the year prior support the promise of each upcoming season. And yet, time and again, the Lions have found unique ways to self-destruct and collapse during a season that could have been. As fellow columnist Sam Tydings put it, the source of the disappointment, while often masked by the typical “injuries, refs, illness” veneer, can be attributed to failures with the fundamentals when it mattered most—late in the game. Had the Lions not struggled with the basics at the most critical times, perhaps they would have been contenders for the Ivy crown this season, rather than dead last in the league.



MELISSA CHEUNG  
Closing In

To this, I say a true fan always believes the hype. And for these true fans, it’s not hype—it’s hope.

Sam’s message is this: Forget about all the preseason hype we keep building for our Columbia teams, because they have consistently proven that they cannot live up to it. When they actually start to show that they can live up to the expectations, then they are “deserving” of the hype. For now, we need to stop setting the bar so high and overlooking problem areas based on a small string of successes.

To this, I say a true fan always believes the hype. And for these true fans, it’s not hype—it’s hope. Hope isn’t a consistent expectation of good results, but rather an undying, unwavering faith in your team, no matter the circumstances. Hope that the nail-biting two-point loss from the other night will turn into an exhilarating 10-point win the next night. Hope that last season, when the team came so close to winning the championship, was only a glimpse of the team’s success to come in the near future. Without this hope, what do fans have left to believe in?

Yes, the Columbia teams that have garnered the preseason hype have consistently fallen short of these expectations. There’s no question about that. But no one said that winning was going to be easy. If it were so easy, then teams that do well one season would keep winning over and over again. Teams do go on streaks, but at some point these streaks end. Moreover, it takes time for a compatible team to get together and generate the right chemistry to go on these streaks—it doesn’t happen overnight, and often not over one season.

And let’s not forget that the other teams in the Ivy League aren’t sitting around waiting for the Lions to stomp all over them. They’re also trying to improve their games and make the tweaks necessary to win an Ivy title. Our athletes and coaches are not the only ones responsible for teams “not living up to the hype,” and thus, with all these points in mind, we do have to keep our expectations realistic, but still maintain our integrity as real fans.

SEE CHEUNG, page 3

Early on, Cornell, Penn, Dartmouth dominate

BY AIGERIM SAUDABAYEVA  
Spectator Staff Writer

The Ancient Eight spent break out of the cold of the Northeast. The league is split between strong records and poor ones. Cornell, Dartmouth, and Penn have records all hold winning records, while Harvard, Princeton, and Yale have only six combined wins.

The Brown Bears (1-9) started their journey on Friday with the first of four games against Washington State. They got off to a rocky start, losing to Cougars in the first three games. They opened the series with an 8-2 loss and continued the trend with 14-0 and 20-1 losses. The Bears will continue their stay in Washington with two doubleheader games against Gonzaga.

After a wobbly start to the season, Cornell (11-5) pulled itself together and is on a roll with a seven-game winning streak. Last week, the Big Red faced Davidson and Villanova. Cornell secured two victories against Davidson, defeating the Wildcats 10-9 and 3-2. Those victories were followed by 3-2, 4-0, and 3-1 wins against Villanova. Cornell is now prepping for its home opener, a doubleheader against Albany on Tuesday.

Dartmouth (11-1) spent its break in Florida, participating in the RussMatt Central Florida Invitational. Over the break, the Big Green played nine games with an 8-1 record. Dartmouth started off the invitational by notching a school record with an 8-0 start to the season, including victories against Army (5-2) and Vassar (10-2). The Big Green’s winning streak ended with a 7-3 loss to Slippery Rock. Despite the loss, Dartmouth turned things around and carried on without another loss, defeating Bradley three times in a row and Babson once. Sophomore catcher Matt MacDowell was recognized by the Northeast Credit Union as Dartmouth’s Athlete of the Week for his efforts in securing three wins over break. The Big Green will return to Hanover to face Siena

in its home opener on Wednesday. During break, Harvard (3-14) traveled to Texas to face Rice and Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, before journeying to Louisiana to play McNeese State. The Crimson then returned to Texas to challenge Houston and Houston Baptist. Harvard finished off its road trip with eight losses and two victories. After dropping three contests to Rice, Harvard continued its losing streak with a 7-6 decision to Texas A&M. McNeese State obliterated Harvard in two shutouts. After losing two more games, one against Houston and one against Houston Baptist. Harvard managed to beat Houston in two games, 4-3 and 6-1. Holy Cross will be the Crimson’s first home opponent on Wednesday.

Princeton (2-16) kicked off its spring break by traveling to the nation’s capital. The Tigers lost three games to Georgetown, 4-5, 0-3, and 2-3. Princeton then headed south and played against No. 1 North Carolina, Elon, and University of North Carolina at Greensboro. The Tigers were unable to clinch a single win in the North Carolina games. Princeton then headed to Annapolis to face Navy in a four-game series. The only win of the break came in the Tigers’ third game against Navy, 10-4. Princeton will face Yale and Brown next weekend in its home opener.

Penn (12-7) also traveled to D.C. over break. The Quakers played two games against George Washington, and continued their four-game series against GW on their home turf at the Meiklejohn Stadium. The Quakers swept GW while in Washington, 2-1 and 9-2. They slipped up in their first home game, though, and let GW clinch a 4-6 victory, though the Quakers were able to finish the series with a 6-4 win. Penn later took on Villanova at home and defeated the Wildcats in a 12-5 game. The Quakers finished off their week with a four game series against Lafayette, and followed the same pattern as their GW series. They won the first two games at Lafayette’s stadium, defeating the Leopards 12-5 and 8-1. While at their home stadium, the Quakers lost one game 6-8 and won the other



COURTESY OF CHRISTINA CHEN / THE DARTMOUTH

**STRONG SQUAT** | Strong play from Dartmouth catcher Matt MacDowell helped the team win eight of nine games at the RussMatt Central Florida Invitational.

7-6. Penn will continue its season by playing Lafayette once again at the Liberty Bell Classic on Wednesday.

Yale (1-13) started off its break by dropping two matches against Virginia. The losing streak persisted as the Bulldogs faced Holy Cross in a four game series. The first two games were supposed to be played at Holy

Cross, but due to the condition of the fields, the whole series was moved to Yale. Despite having the unexpected home advantage for the entire series, the Bulldogs lost all four contests. Yale will head to New Jersey to face Princeton in a doubleheader on Saturday.

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FILE PHOTO

**STREAKING SLUGGER** | After splitting last week’s doubleheader, the Lions, led by Emily Snodgrass, and the Jaspers will face off twice more on Tuesday.

After Florida, Lions prepare for doubleheader with Manhattan

BY PHIL GODZIN  
Spectator Staff Writer

After a grueling stretch of 11 games in seven days, the softball team returns to New York on Tuesday to play a doubleheader against Manhattan. Following a seven-win week in Florida, the Lions look to be better prepared in their rematch with the Jaspers Tuesday afternoon. The Light Blue is now back at .500 (9-9).

“Manhattan is a pesky team,” head coach Kayla Noonan said. “They came out swinging early, and we were surprised by that.”

In the first game of their split doubleheader on Wednesday, Manhattan scored four runs in the first two innings, chasing Lions sophomore starter Brooke Darling before the end of the second frame. Manhattan’s starting pitcher Kate Bowen shut down the Lions, giving up one earned run en route to a complete-game 6-2 win. Bowen also leads Manhattan with a .358 batting average, four home runs, and 15 RBIs.

In the second game of the twin bill, the Lions won 4-3 in nine innings, with

the help of great pitching performances by sophomore Kalli Schultea and freshman Emily Kenyon, who gave up just one earned run between the two of them. Kenyon shut down Manhattan for the last five innings of the game, giving the offense a chance to win.

In the upcoming matchup, the Lions will hope junior Emily Snodgrass continues her hot start at the plate, leading the team with a .358 batting average, four home runs, and 15 RBIs. Meanwhile, they will try to shut down the Manhattan offense with a staff that has a combined ERA of just over two, an incredible turnaround after posting a team ERA over 4.0 last season. No pitcher has an ERA above 2.50, with Darling leading the team at a 1.41 ERA.

The doubleheader against Manhattan will be the final tune-up for the Lions before they begin Ivy League play against Dartmouth on Friday. After a disappointing 6-14 conference record last season, Noonan doesn’t mind being overlooked. “It’s OK if not much is expected of us, but we’ll sneak up on them,” she said.

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MEN’S GOLF

In frustrating showing, men’s golf squad takes 11th of 12 at Seahawk Invitational

The men’s golf team finished a disappointing 11th at the Seahawk Invitational, hosted at the Nicklaus Golf Course, to kick off the spring season. The Lions competed in this event for the first time alongside 11 other teams, including the eventual winners, UNCW, and previous winners East Carolina and Georgia Regents. Freshman Harrison Shih finished highest among the Light Blue squad, ending the tournament with a score of 157 to tie for 23rd place. Senior Stephen LaRouere

also put in a strong showing, finishing in a tie for 43rd with a score of 160. LaRouere also posted the lowest round for the Lions on Monday with a score of 82. The Lions have seen standout efforts from junior Jordan Lee and Shih in the fall, with the team finishing out the fall with a season-high 9th-place finish out of 19 teams at the Big 5 Invitational. The Light Blue continues its campaign with the Yale Invitational on April 6 in New Haven.

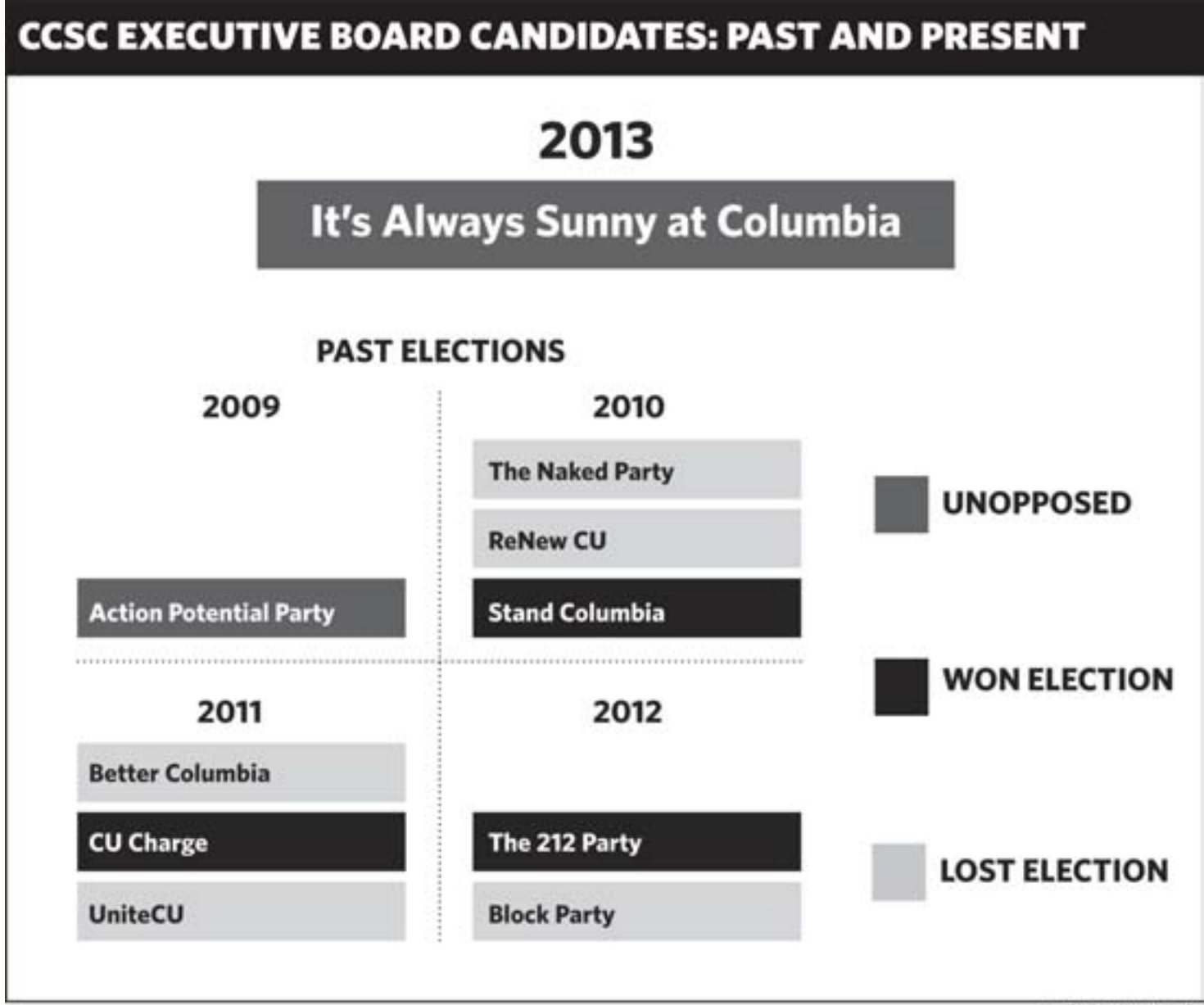
—Eric Wong



MATTHEW SHERMAN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**SILVER LINING** | Tying for 23rd place, freshman Harrison Shih earned the team’s highest finish in the weekend’s lackluster showing.





## E-board candidates pledge to improve transparency

**CCSC from front page**

currently on the board, and she led an initiative to create two new funds for clubs last semester. Sun previously served on the Committee on Instruction, an appointed position. Bailinson is currently a member of the first-year class council and a Spectator development associate. Bailinson organized two major fundraisers for Spectator in the last year and also sparked media attention over the cost of Nutella in Ferris Booth dining hall in his role on the dining advisory committee. Neither Swartz nor Saddler have any experience on the council, though they are involved in the leadership of other campus groups. Swartz became involved on campus through the Columbia/Barnard Hillel.

“It was a great way for me to get into the Columbia community and get hands-on and I’m really looking forward to CCSC and getting a whole new set of challenges,” he said. Chen said she chose Saddler, the 2012 New Student Orientation Program coordinator, because of her experience with various student activities—and her friendliness. “She takes kind of a broad view of campus life—not just events, but also how are people feeling on campus, do they feel well, what about students that have left campus and are coming back, do they feel integrated into the community, should we be looking at GS and Barnard,” Chen said. “She has a lot of high-faluting ideas that I think will be really great next year.” The candidates said they plan to push initiatives related to four goals: improving transparency, improving the campus experience, improving resources and technology, and advocating for Columbia College. Sun said institutional transparency will be his “hail to die on,” as he feels it is important to connect students to resources that already exist. Chen said that while CCSC may be an important student council body for the whole campus, she wants to focus more specifically on Columbia College students. “A lot of times, Columbia College is kind of like the de facto default council for the whole university, or at least the undergraduate population,” she said. “But we want to make sure we are representing CC specifically.” For instance, she said,

“making sure the Core is protected or improved, making sure we’re supporting career opportunities for CC students who might be majoring in things like film or English, as I am, and need that extra boost during the summer for those unpaid internships.” Meanwhile, elections for the 2014 and 2015 class councils are also uncontested, while Richin Kabra is running alone for representative of the 2016 class council against “The Corps” party. On the other hand, elections for representative positions—pre-professional, academic affairs, and alumni affairs—along with a vacating University Senate seat have several candidates running. Tracey Wang contributed reporting. rakhi.agrawal@columbiaspectator.com

## Sticking with a team, no matter its record

**CHEUNG from page 2**

The difference between the true fan and the person who masquerades as a fan is that the former sticks with the team through all the trials and tribulations. The true fan never loses faith in his team, and he doesn’t need the team to prove anything to warrant his support because he knows that the squad will eventually come through. And when the team does win the championship, the true fan is the one who is rewarded most sweetly. Call me naive for believing that every season always has the potential of being a championship season for my favorite teams. Maybe this is the person I’ve become after being a Mets and Knicks fan for nearly a decade now (the Giants have already rewarded my patience, and I’m certainly hoping the first two will do the same in my lifetime). Whatever the reason, I think it’s a mentality worth giving a try. Teams feed off the hope and the hype. If we are so critical of our teams that we adopt an attitude in which we’re essentially standing in opposition to them saying, “Show me that you deserve my fandom,” then how can we ever call ourselves true fans? It’s not easy being a true fan, but take it from former Mets pitcher Tug McGraw: “Ya gotta believe.”

Meilssa Cheung is a Columbia College sophomore. Closing In runs biweekly. sports@columbiaspectator.com

## At UWS nature event, frog pee in focus

**BLOOMINGDALE from front page**

He finished off his toad session by debunking some toad myths, most notably that toads and frogs are not genetically different, toad being the name given to ugly frogs. The session was the second event so far, part of an ongoing partnership between the New Canaan center in Connecticut and the New York Public Library, which sends naturalists like Flynn, who works at the center, to different library branches for after-school programs and summer events. Flynn, who has been doing this job for five years, said that today’s was an unusually enthused and well-informed group—even though most of them had arrived by accident after librarian Moriah Boulos rounded up children who happened to be in the library at the time. The group of around 20 was composed mostly of local kids on spring break. “Before I started working with preschoolers, I thought I was going to be like, this is a bird, it’s blue, it has feathers,” Flynn said. “But you run into kids who know a lot.” Flynn said that showing children real animals made them more interested in learning. “The worst thing is teaching children who don’t want to be there,” he said. “So rather than talking about, say, an owl, I like to show them: ‘Look, I brought an owl!’” His summer program, called “Birds of

Prey,” was extremely popular with students. One girl at the event Monday was keen to point out exceptions to the rules Flynn was putting forward about how to classify animals, noting that “a red-eyed tree frog lays its eggs on leaves” rather than in water. James, a boy in the audience, lent comedy to the proceedings, periodically interrupting to tell the audience that he owned a book on the subject. By the end of the event, James, who loudly shared his ambition to begin zoologist training at the age of 17, had listed books on toads, frogs, mammals, and bugs. Upon learning that reptiles’ chief achievement was inventing a yolk to sustain their young, James mused, “I sometimes eat that from a chicken egg.” Flynn said that the nature center’s programs were special because they show children animals they may not have otherwise seen. “We’re a little different than a zoo—all our animals are animals that would not have had a home otherwise,” Flynn said. “Some kids aren’t as well as informed and it gives us an opportunity to open their eyes.” Judging by the response from his audience, Flynn feels that he is succeeding in his mission of making children more aware of the natural world. In a chorus, the students promised to return for the next session in two weeks. “A lot of conservationists can trace their involvement from the first time they went to camp, or that time they went to a talk,” Flynn said. “A big reason I do this is that I like to think we have a chance to raise the next generation of environmental stewards.” hallie.nell.swanson@columbiaspectator.com



EWWWWWW | Billy Flynn, an animal care manager at the New Canaan Nature Center in Connecticut, presents a frog skeleton at an educational program at an Upper West Side library Monday.

## ‘Passion Play’ costumes span several centuries

**WIESENFELD from back page**

well as the director’s vision of the play. I love all kinds of art and have always thought of fashion design as a challenge, because you have to make your artwork with the human body. Costuming is just a different kind of challenge. There’s also an unglamorous side of costume design, just like there’s an unglamorous side of fashion design—when you’re on a budget and tight on time, there’s a lot of shopping at lower-priced retailers, and returning to the same store three times in three days to exchange pant sizes. The most important new experience for me is that I don’t get a chance to be part of the theater community here a lot, because I don’t act or do lighting or write scripts or anything like that, and it’s a really vibrant community. I’m really grateful to have the experience of being a part of it.

**MB:** Since “Passion Play” takes place in two different settings, how do the costumes reflect the fashion of those times?

**YW:** The first act takes place in 16th-century England, so obviously period costumes were not an option—far too expensive. I decided to create an aesthetic that’s a little less tied to a specific time period, and use the clothes to emphasize the simplicity of the lifestyle in this little English village. The men are all wearing tunics. There’s a bit of a biblical reference as well, in keeping with the subject matter of the play. The second act is in 1934 Germany, so going a little bit more period-accurate was feasible for that. There are Nazi soldiers—they have the red swastika armbands. The officer has a military jacket. The men switch to collared shirts. The actors playing Mary 1 [The Virgin] and Violet/The Village Idiot have these timeless, full-skirted dresses I made that they wear for both acts, with some small changes in the full outfits.

**MB:** While making the costumes, did you draw inspiration from any specific sources, such as photographs or past performances of the play?

**YW:** I’m already very familiar with fashion history, so I didn’t really need to research 1930s clothing—I know what it looks like. Most of my decisions were made because they seemed like the right thing to do—putting the Virgin Mary in white, with a sweetheart neckline, Violet in purple and fun-printed tights, leaning towards lighter colors on Jesus and darker ones on Pontius.

**MB:** What’s the process that goes into creating an entire costume piece?

**YW:** For the pieces I sewed from scratch, that involves sketching out a design; patterning it (or draping, the other method of garment construction); purchasing the fabric, thread, and closures; cutting the pattern pieces; and sewing it all together. One useful trick is to copy parts of the pattern off of an existing article of clothing—that really helps with fit because if the base article of clothing fits the actor, the copy will, too, saving time spent on alterations. For the pieces I purchased, that involves a lot of online research and a lot of in-person shopping, seeking out that nice-looking shirt in the right size at a low price point.

**MB:** Do you have a favorite costume out of all those you created?

**YW:** I really like the dress I made for Mary 1, but I think my favorite look in the play is actually not one I made—it’s Mary 1’s sleepwear when she wanders around at night in the first act. She’s up there talking about the men she finds to share her bed when she’s lonely at night, and she’s wearing a loose men’s button-down, presumably belonging to a former lover, with these lace bloomers peeking out.

*This interview has been condensed and edited for clarity. Performances are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8 p.m. in the Diana Center’s Glicker-Milstein Theatre. Tickets are \$5 with a CUID.* arts@columbiaspectator.com



BARNARD ABROAD | Eleonora Menicucci, Brazil’s minister of the Secretariat of Policies for Women, meets Barnard President Debora Spar at the school’s global symposium over spring break.

## BC symposium focuses on female leadership skills

**BRAZIL from front page**

“There was this dialogue between the two of them that really made me think about how people define themselves and if you are for equality, how important is it to take that stance,” Thomas-Young said. “It made me think about how people define themselves and how much we differ in those instances.” Glenn said the symposium challenged the notion that leadership is limited to the workplace. Panelists discussed how women can be leaders in the home, too. Past global symposiums have brought Barnard students to Beijing, Dubai, Johannesburg, and Mumbai, and administrators plan to bring the program to Morningside Heights next year. “We are looking forward to bringing all past symposium participants to New York City on the occasion of Barnard’s 125th anniversary,” Link said. samantha.cooney@columbiaspectator.com





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# Why isn't drawing a Core course?

BY MICHAEL SAMUELS

Our Core education is supposed to be about commu-  
nication. That's why we read so many texts in common.  
It's an attempt to get us all to speak a same, shared, very  
high-level political/scientific/literary/philosophical/  
existential language that allows us to discourse, thereby  
furthering the cause of the ascent of human reason and  
yada yada yada.

Why isn't drawing a Core course? Why isn't there a  
Core course in the most basic form of human commu-  
nication? Our language requirement equips us to con-  
verse in one or a few countries where we might one day  
be stranded, while a basic functional education in draw-  
ing equips us to be universally communicative. Where  
words fail, visual communication holds up the bridge:  
Men's Room, Women's Room, EXIT. Visual language is  
the most widely shared language in the world. More than  
that, the development of an intuitive internal sense of how  
to articulate space, depth, and light using only the wrist  
flexes the conceptual mind and internal eye in a totally  
novel way. In short, it makes you smarter.

Seized with yet another impending-graduation panic  
attack over winter break, I signed up on a whim for  
Basic Drawing. It's not like I couldn't use the credits.

# Study abroad or '¡Yo no sé, señor!'

BY STEPHEN SNOWDER

A few days ago, a man stopped me on the street to ask  
for directions in Spanish. He did not seem to speak any  
English. I was finally able to figure out what he wanted  
and get him on his way, but only after a good two or  
three minutes of wild hand gestures and frequent rep-  
etitions of the phrase "Más espacio, por favor!" That  
was when it really hit me: I do not speak Spanish.

Lots of people don't speak Spanish, so it may be  
tough to understand why I'm making such a big deal  
about it. Let me explain, then, that I've taken four se-  
mesters of Spanish here at Columbia, and each time I  
received (it's now hard to say "earned" with a straight  
face) high marks.

I'm not trying to kid anybody here: It's not like, prior  
to the other day's conversation, I thought I was some  
Spanish-speaking god, wandering around the city on a  
mission to assist confused Latin American tourists.  
Until I met that man, in fact, I had never had a reason to  
put my supposed skills to use. But I'd always assumed,  
after two years of language courses at an Ivy League in-  
stitution, that I would at least be able to manage simple  
conversations if ever I needed to. I mean, for Pete's  
sake—we had a whole chapter on giving directions!

So what went wrong? A couple of things. First of  
all, I'm not as smart as a lot of people here. But there's  
nothing Columbia can do about that, so let's move on.  
A bigger thing, I think, has to do with the way we learn  
languages at Columbia.

Columbia language courses—at least, the ones I  
took—require you to speak the language the entire time  
you're in the classroom, starting from day one. And I'm  
not criticizing this practice. Immersion training is, as  
far as I can tell, a good idea. Walking into a classroom  
and speaking Spanish for the entire time you're in there,  
figuring things out as you go, seems to mirror the way  
we learn our native tongues. Why shouldn't it work for  
other languages as well?

The problem is that, despite its best efforts, Columbia  
doesn't really offer immersion training. Speaking  
Spanish for an hour and 15 minutes three times a week is  
not immersion—not really.

In an 11:40 class, I might at some point mention  
to my classmates that tengo hambre, but at 12:55, I  
walk over to HamDel and say, "Can I get a Mojo Melt,  
please?" (By the way, the Mojo Melt is the best sand-  
wich at HamDel.) My friends speak to me in English.  
The TV shows and books I read are in English. All of  
my other classes are in English.

# The problem is that, despite its best efforts, Columbia doesn't really offer immersion training.

If Columbia is serious about wanting its students to  
really learn a foreign language, why not require us to  
study abroad for a year? Current study abroad require-  
ments include a certain amount of time spent study-  
ing the language of the host nation, but why is that  
necessary?

If Columbia really believes in immersion, why not  
drop us in a study abroad program overseas and make  
us sink or swim? We could take language classes while  
we're there to supplement the experience we're getting  
in the real world, but we would have the additional  
benefit of the fact that our education wouldn't stop just  
because the day's grammar lessons were over.

Study abroad programs have traditionally been too  
expensive and not necessarily accessible to all students.  
But as Columbia continues its work toward becoming a  
global university, this should be ever less of an obstacle.

I can say one thing for sure: If Columbia had sent  
me to Spain to learn Spanish, I would not have had to  
use nearly as many hand gestures in the conversation  
I held the other day. Not that the hand gestures really  
helped anyway.

The author is a General Studies senior majoring in politi-  
cal science. He is a former Spectrum editor.

As it turns out, the class is fascinating. By design, it's  
meant to be even more rudimentary than Drawing I. We  
don't sit for an hour at a time carefully shading each  
texture and tone of a model's behind. Instead we are in  
constant motion, scratching out raw and primal articu-  
lations of spaces and contours in front of us on sweep-  
ing three-by-four foot sheets of newsprint paper, using  
only the most elemental of visually articulate marks  
like contours, dots, and dashes. We almost always only  
use simple vine charcoal and seldom devote more than  
five or 10 minutes to a single drawing. It's almost like  
we're running drills.

# It's as much a part of our DNA as verbal language is, talking and listening with our eyes as well as our voices.

In fact, that's exactly what we're doing. We are kept  
constantly moving around the classroom, engendering  
frequent jolts of fresh perspective, each one demanding  
a totally novel challenge for our wrists to conceptually  
convey what our eyes see. We are generally not permitted  
to sit. The class can even start to wear on the back by the  
end of the two-and-a-half hour block.

But, slowly, we are brewing an intuitive sense for how  
to speak visually. Curves to convey depth, tone to convey

# Carve your own path

I did not have the pleasure of meet-  
ing Millie the Bear in my first  
month at Barnard. But if I had, I im-  
agine the conversation might have gone  
something like this:

"Hello, Millie," I say, excited to meet  
the embodiment of the Barnard com-  
munity. "Can you tell me about some of  
Barnard's most treasured traditions?"  
Millie the mascot bear responds  
kindly. "Absolutely, my dear first-year.  
There's a game that's quite popular at  
both Barnard and Columbia."

"Oh, Millie, teach me how to play!"  
"It's simple, really," she replies. "You listen to someone  
talk about all her accomplishments, fluffing them up as  
much as she can; she'll talk about how busy she is—in-  
ternships and classes will score the big points—how she  
forgets to eat, how little sleep she gets, and how well she  
is doing in everything. Then, when you start to feel bad  
about your own accomplishments and ability to deal with  
the difficulties of college life, you do the same thing!"

I probably look at Millie, perplexed. "I don't  
understand!"

"Nor do I," Millie says wistfully. "But watch."  
Moments later, another first-year walks up to me and  
introduces herself.

# Résumés exist for job applications, sure, but not to define our relationships with each other.

"Are you enjoying Barnard so far?" I ask.  
"I love it! It's so crazy though. I'm taking like seven  
classes."

I look at Millie, confused. I'm not taking seven classes.  
Should I be? Am I not on par academically with this girl?  
But Millie looks at me, reminding me of the game.

I reply, hesitatingly, not entirely comfortable with the  
concept, "Well, I'm taking six, but I also teach Hebrew  
School." I then look at Millie for reassurance, but she  
puts up a paw, indicating that I wait.

"Oh," the girl replies, unimpressed. "I teach high  
school. And I have an internship downtown."

Teaching high school? And an internship? There  
is no way I can manage all that. This girl must be  
Superwoman. She is obviously perfect, the type of girl  
Barnard really wants.

"Right, but my classes are really hard," I say, before I

shade, a sixth-sense knack for making our wrists mean-  
ingfully articulate what our eyes see independently. It's a,  
strange kind of hand-eye coordination that can be a little  
spooky, when it first kicks in. It's this almost eerie out-  
of-body feeling as we start to feel our hands move with  
something like second nature, while our eyes rove freely  
and drink in the visual information in front of us, taking it  
back out through our wrists. It feels incredibly empowering.

I'll admit, some shred of the appeal on which I signed  
up for the class was a vague premonition of being able  
to pull a Jack Dawson somewhere down the road. That  
is not what we learn in this class. Our drawings are raw,  
basic, and incredibly spare. Efficiency and bluntness, not  
delicacy of communication, is what we seek.

One of my regrets in my time here is that I didn't take an  
anthropology class (another candidate for Core inclusion, if  
you ask me). For all my ignorance, though, I'm pretty sure  
people were scratching out pictures on cave walls with  
nothing but charcoal from the last night's fire before or  
around the development of spoken language. It's as much  
a part of our DNA as verbal language is, talking and lis-  
tening with our eyes as well as our voices. But, visual arts  
majors excepted, most Columbia students will graduate  
without ever even having flexed this muscle. I think that's  
sad. Renaissance painters knew how important the muscle  
was—Da Vinci doodled obsessively. A Core designed to turn  
us into some shred of that kind of well-rounded student  
should have the sense to make us do so, too.

The author is a Columbia College senior concentrating  
in mathematics.

can stop myself, "and, like, I never sleep."

"No, but, like, I actually get literally no sleep. I still get  
A grades though. It's so weird!" she says, and our conver-  
sation is over.

"I don't deserve to be here," I say to Millie, feeling ut-  
terly worthless.

"The sad thing," Millie says, putting her big bear arm  
around me, "is that she now probably feels the same."

My first year here, unfortunately, went much like this.  
But I did not have Millie to explain the game to me—I  
innocently fell prey to it like so many other first-years,  
not even fully processing what I was doing. I learned to  
counter an impressive example of success with a dramati-  
cally described one of my own, or someone else's hectic  
schedule with samples of my own daily life. Wearing our  
résumés was so fashionable, and we all wanted to fit in.

I realized, slowly, that few people really were the way  
they presented themselves to be. No one was perfect.  
No matter how many classes, internships, and jobs they  
held, they, too, would go home and feel inadequate after  
hearing the stories of their peers. We were all trying to  
impress each other to stave off our own perceived failings  
and feelings of doubt.

There was no room to appreciate the accomplish-  
ments of others, and there certainly seemed to be no  
reason to appreciate our own successes.

About a month ago, I was talking to a friend about  
how I much I enjoyed having a schedule that allowed for  
a full day with no classes.

"Oh, so you have an internship?" she asked.  
I paused for a moment before proudly replying, "No,"  
surprised at how pleased I was with my answer.

I am not inherently a competitive person, and once  
I understood the pointlessness and harmfulness of the  
game, I quickly stopped playing. I now comfortably do  
the things I want to do, without regard for what seems  
to be the path of most accomplishment. Perhaps it is  
because I do not see myself following a traditional career  
path that I am less inclined to directly compare my own  
success to that of others.

Yet this is not the case for everyone. Many are directly  
competing with other students for graduate school or job  
opportunities after graduation. This is valid, but there is  
truly no need to internalize accomplishments as signs of  
worth. Résumés exist for job applications, sure, but not to  
define our relationships with each other.

There is every reason to appreciate the skill and talent  
of our peers without doubting our own. Although many of  
us are competing within similar job markets, it is more and  
more important for us to each carve our own paths and ap-  
preciate our own successes. When we are presented with  
the admirable feats of our peers, let us praise them for  
what they have accomplished and allow them to serve as  
inspiration—but never as sources of jealousy or angst.

Ayelet Pearl is a Barnard College and Jewish Theological  
Seminary junior. Pearls of Wisdom runs alternate Tuesdays.





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### Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

#### ACROSS

1 PC screens largely replaced by LCDs  
5 Exchange goodbyes  
9 Breed, as salmon  
14 Ghostly glow  
15 "Nothin' don't"  
16 "Dallas" matriarch  
17 Sleight-of-hand scam  
19 Cold temperatures  
20 Fountain of Rome  
21 Leaves on smokes and booze  
23 Prefix with present  
26 Playfully shy  
27 Houston of Texas  
30 Agenda item  
36 World's largest rainforest  
38 Pearl Jam singer Eddie  
39 Early whirlybird, for short  
40 Winding curve  
42 Body wash brand  
43 Dressy ties  
46 Maraca's headwear  
49 Filmed like most of today's films  
51 Hyphenated ID  
52 Fair-haired abbot  
53 Wax-wrapped cheese  
55 Alphabet soup, so to speak  
60 Have an inkling  
64 Abrasive mineral  
65 Fight fiercely to the end  
68 Barely burn  
69 Continental cash  
70 Armory supply, and a hint to the starts of 17-, 30-, 49- and 65-Across  
71 Left one's seat  
72 Slight impression  
73 Author Unis

#### DOWN

1 Plaster bandage  
2 Essen's region  
3 "Magic House": kiddie lit series

34 Gets within a stone's throw of  
35 Check for size  
37 Type of baggy '40s suit  
41 One and only  
44 Colored, hippie-style  
45 Snooty sort  
47 '60s chic  
48 "The Godfather" hoodlum Luca  
50 Discontinued  
54 Lead or zinc  
55 Military chow hall  
56 "You're looking at the one and only"  
57 Strange: Prof. adhesive  
58 Therefore  
59 Scrapbook  
61 Alaskan seaport  
62 Osaka wrestler  
63 Henry VI's school  
66 Spigoted server  
67 Came down with

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

B	R	A	F	B	I	S	S	T	D	I	P
R	E	D	B	E	E	T	T	E	A	R	O
A	T	E	I	N	T	O	R	A	T	E	D
M	I	L	K	C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T
E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
D	I	C	E	S	U	P	S	C	A	M	
D	I	C	E	S	U	P	S	C	A	M	
I	N	I	T	I	A	L	O	L	D	C	O
S	G	A	R	M	A	P	L	E	S	S	
G	R	A	T	E							
O	E	R									
C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E	M	I	L
C	H	A	O	T	I	C					
R	O	S	E	T	E	A					
O	W	E									

By Gail Grabowski and Bruce Venzke  
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‘Passion’ for fashion from play’s costumer

BY MELISSA BAI  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

Sarah Ruhl’s “Passion Play” poses a challenge for any designer. The drama is set in three wildly different communities attempting to stage the death of Christ—England under the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, Nazi Germany, and Reaganite America. But for first-time costume designer Yaël Wiesenfeld, CC ’14, a love and knowledge of historical fashion trends have proved handy backstage in CU Players’ upcoming production of the 2003 play cycle.

Despite being her first time involved in a Columbia theater production, Wiesenfeld has had past sartorial experience through programs at Rhode Island School of Design and Parsons The New School for Design as well as her current studies at the Fashion Institute of Technology. A double concentrator in visual arts and business management, she hopes to professionally design womenswear.

Spectator spoke to Wiesenfeld about her current venture as the costuming visionary behind “Passion Play,” which opens on Thursday.

**MELISSA BAI:** What inspired you to start designing costumes for the theater?

**YAËL WIESENFELD:** I had thought about it before and never acted upon it, but before Cassie Hartnett [BC ’14], the director and a friend of mine, sent in her proposal to direct “Passion Play,” she came to me and said, “Hey, if this goes through, would you want to costume design?” I thought it sounded like fun, so I said yes. It’s been crazy, but really wonderful.

**MB:** What have you learned about costume design by working on “Passion Play?”

**YW:** It’s funny because costume design is both freeing and more restrictive than regular clothing design. On the one hand, you aren’t limited to what people in today’s world wear, but on the other hand, you are beholden to the characters as

SEE WIESENFELD, page 3



LILLY LIU-KRASON / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**A+ PERFORMANCE** | Zsuzska Beswick, BC ’13, beat about 18,000 entrants for first place in the Kennedy Center National Theatre competition.

BC senior wins Kennedy Center theater award

BY DAVID SALAZAR  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

The next time you’re slaving over a paper for a class, remember that it might just help you win a scholarship one day. For Zsuzska Beswick, BC ’13, her paper on a 1940 German propaganda film, written for a class called Nazism and Performance with assistant professor of theater Hana Worthen, did just that.

Beswick’s paper, “Joseph Süß Oppenheimer as an Eroticized Figure: Re-evaluating Veit Harlan’s ‘Jud Süß,’” won the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival competition, making her an Undergraduate Theatre Scholar, the foundation announced on March 1. The scholarship also included a \$1,000 prize and trip to the Kennedy Center’s Theatre Festival in Washington, D.C., which takes place in mid-April.

For Beswick, the film “Jud Süß,” produced under the Third Reich and Joseph Goebbels’ propaganda ministry, held an interest in the conflict between the film’s message and its lead actor.

“For some reason, ‘Jud Süß’ really resonated with me,” Beswick said. “Even though the message was pretty horrible, it’s still a pretty entertaining and well-made movie. The actor who they have playing this character, Joseph Oppenheimer—which is what the movie is about, this historical figure in German history—was this very charming, good-looking German actor.”

Her project argued that the response that the German public had to the film—especially German women—might not be what the film’s message intended.

“I first try to argue that maybe this movie isn’t the most anti-Semitic movie of all time. Maybe there’s this hidden message of elevating the Jewish figure actually,” she said. “I talk about the response German women had to the film and to the main characters in real life—their attraction to him [Oppenheimer]—and how maybe they were kind of attracted to this idea of being with a Jewish man even though National Socialist ideology told them that they should not be interbreeding with Jews.”

This response to the handsome lead actor,




Beswick said, suggests that perhaps Goebbels didn’t have as firm a grasp on his message as he thought, unable to successfully vilify a group of people because of casting choices.

If the movie was intended to “preach a message that would later advocate the Final Solution in Nazi Germany, then maybe their propaganda system has some flaws,” she said. “This was a contradictory reaction that German women were having to the film.”


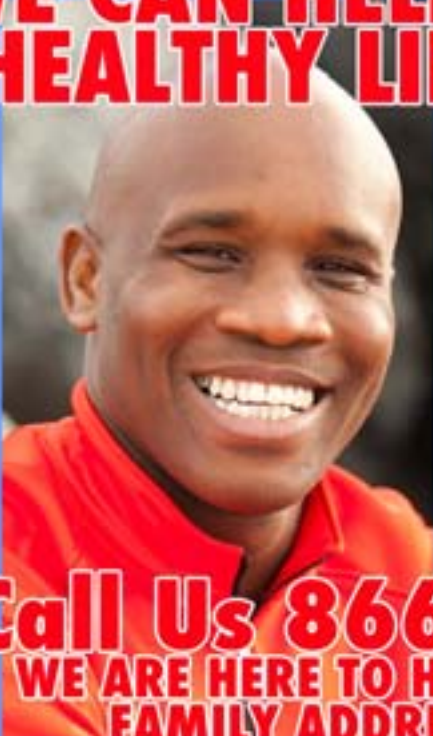
Though she majored in Asian and Middle Eastern cultures, Beswick’s thesis is actually about the nationalization of the film industry in China, and examines how the industry was influenced by ideology and vice versa. Examining a similar trend in the context of Nazi Germany was just another way of looking at “the performative aspect of how the government—especially regimes—used performance to expound their ideologies.”

A February graduate, Beswick is now pursuing acting and working as she waits to graduate with the rest of her class in May.

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KIMBERLY FLORES / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**GIMME MORE** | Jamund Washington, SoA ’10, produced the film “Gimme the Loot,” which was released March 22. The film was the Grand Jury Winner in the Narrative category at SXSW in 2012.

SoA alum moves from acting to producing

BY OLIVIA WONG  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

The original “Star Wars” holds a special place in the heart of Jamund Washington, SoA ’10, not only as the beginning of a beloved series, but also as the movie that sparked his interest in filmmaking.

“I remember being completely in awe and flabbergasted by ‘Return of the Jedi’ as a kid,” Washington said.

Over the years, he has come a long way from his “Star Wars” obsession.

Washington produced “Gimme the Loot,” which was released on March 22 and was the Grand Jury Winner in the Narrative Feature Competition at the 2012 SXSW Film Festival. “Gimme the Loot” follows two teenage graffiti artists, Malcolm and Sofia, as they desperately try to come up with \$500 to cement their legacy in New York graffiti history.

But it didn’t always seem like he would end up behind the camera. Despite his early love of film, Washington never thought of it as something he would do himself—until he saw John Singleton’s “Boyz n the Hood,” which he said was instrumental in his breakthrough into the film world.

“Instead of it [the film world] being this obscure, intangible thing ... there’s actually a world here that I can actually reach, and here are people that look like me that have done it,” he said.

As an undergraduate at the University of Texas at Austin, he discovered a passion for acting.

After graduating, he moved to New York City and joined a theater group.

“I did quite a bit of auditioning for films,” Washington said. He also worked as a stand-in on

film sets before he decided to apply for graduate school to work on the other side of the camera.

“When you’re doing stand-in work, you’re there with the D.P., the gaffer while they set up stuff,” he said. “You’re really seeing the world of filmmaking as it’s happening around you.”

After graduating, Washington worked on a short film with director Adam Leon.

The relationship led to the creation of “Gimme the Loot,” Leon’s first feature film as a writer and director, and the acting debut of both lead actors, Ty Hickson and Tashiana Washington.

Jamud Washington became attached to the project early on and took part in rewrites, casting, and other pre-production tasks—including a crash course in graffiti art taught by a prominent graffiti artist. In the film, Malcolm and Sofia live for their art, so it was important for the actors and crew to truly understand graffiti before shooting began.

While making a film in part about New York—and all the places ripe for graffiti in the city—made for a hectic shoot, Washington thinks chaos is inherent in making a movie.

“In filmmaking there are so many things that need to come together, and if you wait for the perfect circumstances, you’ll be waiting your whole life,” Washington said. “It’s a matter of recognizing that the circumstances are never going to be perfect ... and preparing yourself for everything that could possibly go wrong and letting those things become a part of the film that you’re creating.”

Washington is currently developing his first feature film.

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