

The Shaft

SUITE SELECTION EDITION

Choose your point value...

SEE PAGES 4
AND 5 FOR
CAMPUS MAP

Choose your group size...

	30 pts	20-30 pts	20 pts	10-20 pts	10 pts
8	0 groups	7 groups	21 groups	0 groups	19 groups
7	0 groups	0 groups	5 groups	12 groups	9 groups
6	36 groups	3 groups	12 groups	3 groups	33 groups
5	47 groups	15 groups	7 groups	1 group	6 groups
4	58 groups	3 groups	10 groups	0 groups	29 groups
3	1 group	1 group	8 groups	2 groups	6 groups
2	119 groups	14 groups	76 groups	4 groups	99 groups

GRAPHIC BY REBECCA SCHWARZ

Rats! Manhattanville residents report more pests

BY ABBY MITCHELL
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

There's an apparent rat epidemic in Manhattanville—and some residents are quick to connect it to University construction at the new campus.

"I have little mice running everywhere," said Katrice Wynn, a resident at 3155 Broadway. "There wasn't any mice and rats last year. This year there are."

Wynn said that she catches four to five rats a day in her apartment.

Complaints like Wynn's echo the sentiment of many community members, who first broached the topic of pest control and rising rat populations at a Community Board 9 meeting last week.

Philip Pitruzzello, vice president of Manhattanville Capital Construction and Facilities at Columbia, said that pest management remains a huge concern for the University, although he and other Columbia officials denied that the recent construction has caused an uptick in rodent sightings.

Columbia's pest management initiatives began three years ago, just as construction efforts on the expansion were beginning. It began with a survey of the demolition area as well as the surrounding properties to estimate rodent activity and population, according to a University statement. From these results, and additional surveys conducted recently, University officials maintain that there is no increase in rodent activity.

Manny Guzman, the owner of the firm managing Columbia's

pest control, said, "I'm on site basically every week, sometimes two to three times a week ... we know exactly what's happening there."

However, Guzman said he was unable "to give an accurate number" of the rats in Manhattanville from the initial survey.

"Right in that tree right there—absolutely, there are big rats there," Grant Houses resident Marty Lovejoy said as he pointed to a tree near the 125th Street subway station on Broadway, adding

SEE RATS, page 2

Students, admins talk endowment at BC

BY AMANDA EVANS
Spectator Staff Writer

At a town hall on Monday night, a handful of Barnard students brainstormed ways to increase the College's endowment.

Lara Avasar, BC '11 and president of the Student Governing Association, told Barnard's Chief Operating Officer Greg Brown that the College should emphasize the value of small contributions to young alumnae and current seniors.

"The power of a dollar, really just donating one dollar—whatever you have, is what is important," she said after the town hall.

Mica Spicka, BC '13, said she became curious about Barnard's endowment—the total value of the College's investments from donations—after attending a fireside chat with President Debora Spar.

"I wanted to learn more about that and why what alumnae give back is much smaller in comparison to other schools," she said.

Brown presented a breakdown of the College's

endowment at the town hall in comparison to other schools'. He noted that the average endowment per student at Barnard is \$78,624, whereas Harvard's is \$1,912,993.

"Only 75 percent of tuition covers the cost to be a student here," Sarah Slobodien, BC '03 and the associate director of the Barnard Fund, said, adding that the other 25 percent comes from gifts from donors and alumnae.

Spicka said that she learned a lot from Brown's presentation.

"I think there was a really informative conversation, students had a chance to ask burning questions and see where money goes," she said.

Erin Fredrick, BC '01 and director of alumnae affairs, described the barriers her office faces when they try to reach out to alumnae who do not share her love of Barnard.

"For those alumnae who we reach out to who say they have had a negative experience at Barnard, we try and ask them what Barnard taught

them—how to be a self starter, how to be resilient, maybe how to be a great writer, as a means to convince them to donate," Fredrick said.

"Barnard itself has a lot of community, but I feel like outside the campus there isn't a lot of community."

—Amie Blocker, BC '13.

Amie Blocker, BC '13, said she can understand why the alumni office might have trouble with fundraising.

"Barnard itself has a lot of community, but I feel like outside the campus there isn't a lot of community," Blocker said.

Dean of Studies Karen Blank said that Barnard doesn't always get enough credit for its contributions to Columbia.

"While my son was at Columbia he was very involved with the Barnard radio station WBAR. He got a sense of community from his Barnard involvement as well," said Dean Blank.

Alexandra Voss, BC '11 and SGA student representative to Columbia College Student Council, said that different groups of alumnae have very distinct relationships with the school.

"Alumnae in the '70s and '80s seem less enthusiastic in comparison to alumnae of the '50s and '60s who really love Barnard," she said.

amanda.evans@columbiaspectator.com

Researchers find ice grows bottom-up

BY HENRY WILLSON
Spectator Staff Writer

A new study from Columbia researchers at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory may turn our understanding of Antarctica upside down.

While it is well-known that ice sheets build from the top-down due to snowfall, findings from a team co-led by Robin Bell, a geophysicist at LDEO, indicate that the ice sheets that cover much of Antarctica also grow from the bottom-down, as they lie atop a layer of water that continually thaws and refreezes.

These findings emerged from a six-nation expedition to a remote region of East Antarctica that surveyed the Gamburtsev mountains, a range entirely buried under ice. Nick Frearson, the lead engineer for Columbia's polar research group, said that the extreme cold and high elevations of the Arctic mountain range posed many challenges.

"The cost was enormous ... The middle of Antarctica is the closest you can get to another planet," he said, adding that they had to make many special modifications to their equipment.

Bell explained that the water, despite lying under more than a mile of ice, is kept liquid by the geothermal heat radiating from the earth.

"The bottom of the ice sheet, when it's a couple of kilometers thick, is close to freezing, it's only like minus two, minus three degrees Fahrenheit ... It's warmer at the bottom of the ice sheet than it is at the top," where temperatures regularly reach 50 degrees below zero, said Bell. "The ice sheet is acting like a blanket ... it's capturing the earth's heat."

After the ice melts, researchers said,—it can refreeze when

Football player arrested for buying fake IDs

The student ordered 42 IDs online to his mailbox in Lerner

BY CAILTIN BROWN
Columbia Daily Spectator

Last Tuesday, Investigator Jonathan Reid of the New York County District Attorney's Office intercepted a package in Lerner containing 42 false identification cards.

The recipient, Anthony Johnson, CC '13, was arrested and now faces legal action.

The package shipped from Id Chief, a company that sells novelty IDs and operates out of China. Johnson ordered the batch of IDs at a discount price for the high quantity, and planned to distribute them to a group of friends who had gone in with him on the order. According to the Criminal Court complaint filed at the time of his arraignment last Wednesday, Johnson said that he and his friends paid \$65 for each ID, and he charged his friends an additional \$2 each.

"It was him and like 20 other guys," said Allegra Roberts, CC '13 and an acquaintance of Johnson. "The website apparently gives you two copies of each ID."

Johnson has been charged with 42 counts of Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree.

Johnson, a member of the varsity football team, has been suspended from Columbia until after his court date in June.

The maximum punishment for possessing a fake identification card, a felony in the state of New York, is seven years in prison.

According to the complaint, Johnson stated at the time of his

arraignment, "I ordered the IDs online because there's a lot of places around school where you need to be 21."

A University spokesman said the University cannot comment on legal matters. A spokesperson for the Office of Student Affairs declined to comment on impending judicial or legal action for the students who also ordered IDs with Johnson.

The maximum punishment for possessing a fake identification card, a felony in the state of New York, is seven years in prison.

While he may not have been the first Columbia student to order a fake ID from this online company, he was the first one caught.

Roberts confirms that this instance was not unique. "It's something that other football and soccer players and lots of other people have done," she said, "and it hasn't been a problem. He was just the one that they found out about."

Johnson is currently at home with his family in Philadelphia, awaiting his court date.

news@columbiaspectator.com



HENRY WILLSON / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ICE ICE BABY | Robin Bell, left, co-led a six-nation research expedition to Antarctica with lead engineer Nick Frearson.

it comes into contact with lower temperatures near the surface or when it undergoes rapid decreases in pressure.

The new findings, which were published last month in the journal Science, are sure to affect researchers' ability to predict how glaciers accumulate and flow, and, crucially, how they will respond to global climate change. The crucial variable is the impact of the thawing and refreezing processes on the base layer of the glaciers.

"If the basal ice is formed differently, it's going to respond differently," said Bell.

Preliminary observations suggest that similar conditions prevail throughout Antarctica and in Greenland. However, according to Bell, it is still too early to know whether the role of water below in glacial formation indicates an increased or decreased rate at which ice slides into the sea. The concentration of water far below may prevent it from acting as a lubricant, thus impeding glacial movement; alternatively, the water layer may make it easier for

the bases of glaciers to deform, accelerating sliding.

The findings are also relevant for researchers looking for areas to drill for ancient ice cores, a valuable record of prehistoric climate. The new understanding of thawing and refreezing could indicate that the oldest ice would have already melted long ago, or that it is closer to the surface than previously thought.

The behavior of the hidden water was detected by planes equipped with a variety of instruments flying over an area of Antarctica approximately the size of California. Variations in the reflection of radar waves allowed the researchers to chart the distribution of ice, water, and rock.

Bell and Frearson are currently working on using federal stimulus funds to design a compact pod of ice-imaging devices that can be attached to the C-130 aircraft flown on routine missions over Antarctica by the New York Air National Guard.

henry.willson@columbiaspectator.com

SPORTS, BACK PAGE

Light Blue practices for left-handed pitchers

The Lions have found themselves somewhat challenged by left-handed pitchers this season. The team is taking action to eradicate this problem so that it can thrust ahead once conference play starts.



OPINION, PAGE 6

College is not a checklist

Aarti Iyer observes that college isn't always what the brochures advertise. Liam Neeson's take on life

A&E, PAGE 3

Yoko Ono and Sonic Youth raise a charitable ruckus at Miller Theatre

The Concert to Benefit Japan Earthquake Relief on Sunday, March 27, raised over \$34,000.

EVENTS

Oral History and Human Rights

Join a diverse group of speakers for a discussion about Burma.
Butler Library, Room 523. 6 p.m.

WEATHER

Today



45°/29°

Tomorrow



48°/36°



ILLUSTRATION BY JIIN CHOI

Cultivate spring indoors with dorm room gardening techniques

BY CHRISTINA VLAHOS
Columbia Daily Spectator

During springtime in New York, when it snows one day and is 50 degrees the next, the essence of the season—the mildness of the air, the dewy scent of grass, the still, serene sunlight—seems impossible to capture. Students with spring fever might want to create their own indoor, vernal asylums for the remaining six uninterrupted weeks in the semester.

Perhaps the most direct way to inject some of the season's spritely optimism into a dorm room is with a display of fresh flowers. A vase full of fresh-cut tulips, artfully placed on a window ledge or atop a mini-fridge, adds a hint of sophistication and some aesthetic appeal. The welcoming aroma after a long day in Butler is nothing short of wonderful.

There are two flower shops close to campus, Flowers By Valli (2881 Broadway, at 112th Street) and Academy Floral (2780 Broadway, between 107th and 108th streets). Each store offers a wide variety of small bouquets suitable for a student budget. At Flowers By Valli, prices range from \$7 to \$15. Academy Floral's storefront is filled with bouquets of fresh-cut flowers, including tulips and roses for \$9.99, and beautiful, potted 6-inch tulips for \$12.50. Academy Floral also has a wide selection of smaller potted plants, including kalanchoes, African violets, and pansies.

For those with a penchant for do-it-yourself projects, dorm room gardening—a popular trend across college campuses—is a great option. Whether

well-versed in the intricacies of flora cultivation or simply desirous of a spruced-up dorm decor, students can maintain a plant in their rooms without much effort.

Gardening also reaps the personal satisfaction of successfully nurturing a living thing—flowers are surprisingly much easier to keep alive than goldfish. Gardening-guides.com recommends planting paperwhites, tulips, or daffodils, not only because they are bold and colorful, but also because they are simple to work with. As long as they get an ample amount of sunlight and water, these flowers are likely to thrive and will hopefully help improve one's general disposition (as long as no one in the room suffers from allergies).

The only caveat with regard to planting flowers is that it takes several weeks for a lovely bunch to bloom. Sal Lo Monaco, president of Academy Floral, suggests growing herbs like basil, which sprout much faster than regular flowers. They can be used in cooking, as well.

Before buying seeds, make sure that enough well-lit space is available in a location where a pot will not be a nuisance. Seeds, as well as pots and soil, are sold at both of the flower shops. If removing oneself from that coveted spot in the Reference Room long enough to water a plant is unfathomable, cacti are nice alternatives and require minimal care.

Brightening up a room for spring greatly benefits a student's mental health. Not that Columbia students are anxious, depressed, or moody, but there's no harm in taking the extra step, just to give life a little bit of spring.



COURTESY OF HOWARD GOODMAN

DOUBLE TROUBLE | The REBEL Baroque Ensemble played three concertos by Bach and three by Vivaldi for the “Seeing Double” concert at Miller Theatre.

Miller presents a REBEL take on Baroque music at Saturday concert

BY RUBII PHAM
Columbia Daily Spectator

Last Saturday, March 26, classical music enthusiasts from Columbia and all over the city gathered to watch the REBEL Baroque Ensemble take over Miller Theatre with its daring style of classical performance.

The performance forwent any introduction, beginning immediately and wordlessly. “Seeing Double: Concertos by Bach and Vivaldi” consisted of six concertos, three by J.S. Bach and the other three by Antonio Vivaldi, separated by a quick intermission in the middle. The pieces performed were less well-known concertos from the musical greats—perfect for any Columbia classical music aficionado looking for something beyond Bach's usual Brandenburg concertos or Vivaldi's famed “Four Seasons.”

“Seeing Double” was the first concert in Miller's spring series, “Bach and the Baroque.” The series will continue with two more concerts titled “Reclaiming Bach for the Recorder” with the Flanders Quartet on April 28, and “Bach and His Predecessors” with the TENET ensemble on May 14.

The group's name, REBEL (pronounced “Re-BELL,” not “REH-ble”), references renowned French Baroque composer Jean-Féry Rebel. The slightly

obscure and clever reference embodies the group's deliberate yet subtle style of playing.

REBEL—an ensemble consisting of two violins, a recorder, a cello, and a harpsichord—has received international recognition for its fearless, no-holds-barred approach. The ensemble has previously performed at many critically acclaimed venues, including the Da Camera Society and the Schubert Club.

The night's violin solos by Jorg-Michael Schwarz and Karen Marie Marmer were especially notable, each piercing through the piece with vivacious urgency. Karen Marie Marmer's harpsichord solos in the final piece, Bach's “Concerto in C Major,” ended the evening well with elegance and liveliness.

The crowd was polarized in terms of age, with a few faces familiar from Columbia's Music Hum set but the large majority belonging to an older generation.

The Bach and Vivaldi selections very strategically intersected with one another, as if the pieces were engaged in some flamboyant, wordless conversation.

Although Baroque music typically appeals to the subset of music connoisseurs who appreciate the subtleties in its arrangements, REBEL's fearless and engaging performance made it easy for even amateurs to enjoy themselves.



COURTESY OF SHAWN BRACKBILL

ONLY YOKO | Yoko Ono greets the Miller Theatre crowd at the March 27 Concert to Benefit Japan Earthquake Relief.

Big names make bigger noise for Japan

BY ALLISON MALECHA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Though it was hosting a big-name, sold-out concert for a weighty cause, by 7:59 p.m.—a minute before the event was due to start—only a casual buzz was diffused through the not-yet-full Miller Theatre. Host and avant-garde musician John Zorn, saxophone worn like a necklace, appeared onstage 17 minutes later with his trio Aleph to kick off the March 27 Concert to Benefit Japan Earthquake Relief. Sonic Youth, Yoko Ono, Sean Lennon, Mike Patton, and Cibo Matto headlined the event, which also included Mephista and Marc Ribot and Akiki Yano. Each played a three-song set. The \$34,000 raised from ticket sales will go to the Japan Society's Earthquake Relief Fund.

The earthquake and tsunami hit Sendai on March 11, and by March 14, Zorn had contacted Miller Theatre Director Melissa Smey with the idea to do the concert. “Within 48 hours of that first email, we had confirmed everything, announced the concert, and sold it out,” Smey said in an email. “I think we all felt the need to respond to the news coming from Japan and the urgency of the situation there.”

Zorn also organized Japan benefit events for April 8 at the Abrons Arts Center and for April 9 at the Japan Society, assembling the rosters of musicians from his own contacts. And Smey couldn't help but express excitement at the opportunity to present such big names at Miller. “Certainly having Yoko Ono and Sonic Youth on our stage will be amazing,” she said. “Presenting artists that are at the intersection of rock, jazz, and the avant-garde is a particular passion of mine.”

Avant-garde and casualness, as first

indicated by the audience, seemed to be themes for the night. Though Zorn initially said a few words about the event while his group set up, there was no emceeing or formal introduction between acts. The set-up was simple, cluttered even, with all of the bulky instruments for the evening on stage at once, and most performers were in sweatshirts and jeans. The bands entered and got right down to playing—some threw in a “thanks for showing support” or “god bless Japan” between songs. For the most part, the music was allowed to speak for itself.

Japanese-American indie duo Cibo Matto garnered the first big cheer of the night, showing the crowd to be relatively young, even if it was far from student-dominated. Unfortunate timing—the concert was announced over spring break—and a limited availability of tickets at a relatively high student price (\$25) meant that few Columbians ended up in the audience. The point of the concert, though, was charity—not presenting a cool, on-campus opportunity for Columbians.

“For me, the most important outcome is just to be able to show the Japanese people that our thoughts are with them, that we are doing what we can to help,” Smey said, although she did add, “I think that the fact that we made discounted tickets available for students, which is unique for a fundraiser like this, speaks for itself. We're committed to being a venue for the Columbia campus.”

Seemingly for student consolation, Miller, along with the Office of Public Affairs, helped organize Columbia University Television to broadcast the performance live—a first for the student group and the only live broadcast of the concert anywhere (a Japanese network

also filmed).

The diverse nature of the night was apparent to both sets of watchers, from Cibo Matto's mostly food-inspired lyrics, set to a moody mingle of hip-hop, jazz, and pop beats to Mike Patton's supper-club swanky, Italian crooning accompanied by Uri Craine on the piano. The live crowd, at least, reacted with equal enthusiasm to both.

The night's avant-garde theme was most incarnate in the last two acts: Sonic Youth and the Plastic Ono Band. Jarring, ominous, and dissonant, Sonic Youth's “Shaking Hell” had Miller's stereo system at its wits' end and audience members ready to jump out of their seats—or at least lightly stomping their feet.

Then there was Yoko. That infamous eccentric of small stature and of over seventy years easily commanded the stage in an all-black ensemble, felt hat tipped over one eye and oversized shades included. She started a cappella, cuing in son Sean Lennon and the rest of the band with a half animal scream, half maniacal laugh that was faded out into electronic echoes.

Throughout this last set, pulsating rhythm and experimental, cacophonous energy filled Miller—the same theater with which students tend to associate Bach concerts and ballet performances. After stomping in circles, waving her fist in the air, and shrieking “Punch me, I'm a bad girl” for the intro to “Rising,” Ono showed that she too is fluid in opposites. After the last song, she sweetly preached for everyone to “give generously, because ... when you give, you get back tenfold.” The rest of the night's performers then joined the Plastic Ono Band onstage and unconventionally gave the audience an informal wave goodnight.

‘Women in Film’ still fighting for equality and diversity

BY MARICELA GONZALEZ
Spectator Staff Writer

The glitz and glamour of the entertainment world are often associated with celebrity actresses. But behind the camera, the film and TV business remains a boy's club.

To address the issue of female representation behind the scenes, the Apollo Theater Education Program and New York Women in Film and Television presented “Women in Film: Breaking Barriers.” The Monday, March 28, event held on Apollo's famed stage brought four female industry insiders together to discuss their journeys to make it in a male-dominated field.

Moderated by culture guru and image activist Michaela Angela Davis, the panel included film and music producer Lisa Cortés (“Precious”), Managing Director of the Tribeca Film Institute Eileen Newman, film and TV producer Sana Offenbach (“Mooz-lum”), and film producer Frida Torresblanco (“Pan's Labyrinth”).

Davis prefaced the discussion by specifying that the event was to be a “critical conversation” that remained “sugar free,” meaning that the participants should be as candid as possible.

Offenbach, who joked that she entered the film industry because she “had no other skills,” stated that the biggest lesson she had to learn to make her way through the ranks was to not care if she was liked by her—often male—peers.

“You can't care if you're liked. You can care if they respect you,” Offenbach said. “But no one can respect you without liking you a little bit.”

Torresblanco underscored that she has never shied away from making



MARICELA GONZALEZ FOR SPECTATOR

(WO)MEN'S WORLD | Sana Offenbach and Frida Torresblanco participated in Apollo Theater's March 28 panel discussion “Women in Film: Breaking Barriers.”

tough production decisions just because she is a diminutive woman. “Being tough is part of the job. It's a part of the dynamic of who I am,” she said.

Conformity of the types of stories told in films and on TV and of the entertainment community in general was a recurring topic of the night. When describing the opportunities the Tribeca Film Institute provides for young filmmakers, especially women and people of color, Newman was passionate about the lack of diverse representation in Hollywood. “Don't even get me started on the Academy Awards,” she said.

Offering a last nugget of advice,

Offenbach and Torresblanco both stressed the importance of never giving up. Newman emphasized volunteering and networking in order to become a part of the film community.

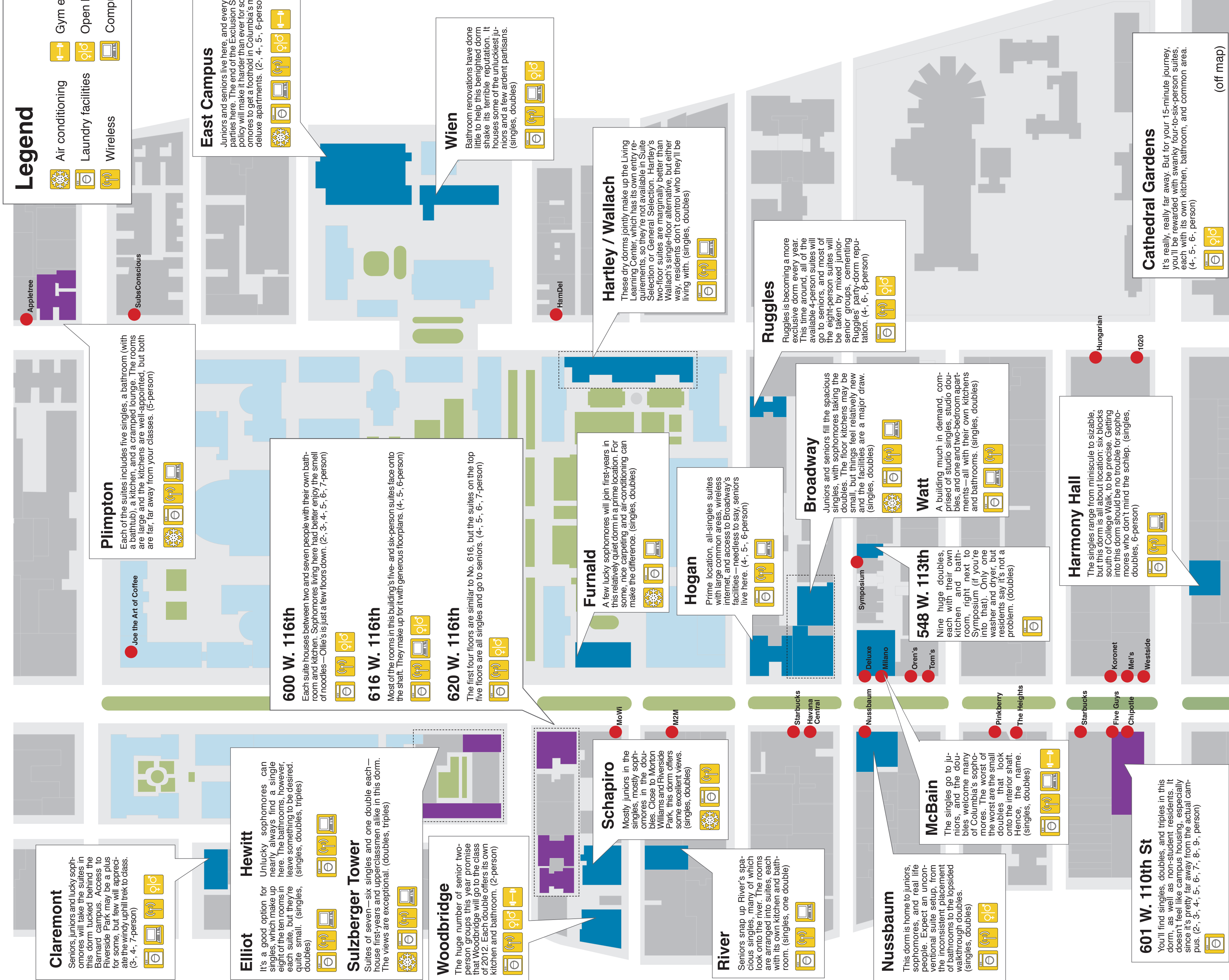
Cortés impressed two further pieces of advice. “Always say thank you. And the house you want to live in is a house of possibility,” she said.

Coinciding with Women's History Month, “Women in Film: Breaking Barriers” identified the growing diversity slowly permeating through film and TV with the goal of perhaps inspiring a few more cracks at the entertainment industry's glass ceiling.

The Shaft

The first thing you should know about housing is that there are a lot of options. And the second thing you should know is that a lot of them are terrible. But don't despair, our 2011 map of the Columbia/Barnard dorms will guide you to safety.

Spectator's comprehensive housing guide
For the latest updates on the selection process, check out The Shaft's liveblog at columbiaspectator.com.





The 135th year of publication
Independent since 1962

CORPORATE BOARD

SAMUEL E. ROTH
Editor in Chief

MICHELE CLEARY
Managing Editor

ADITYA MUKERJEE
Publisher

MANAGING BOARD

LEAH GREENBAUM
Campus News Editor

SARAH DARVILLE
City News Editor

GABRIELLA PORRINO
Editorial Page Editor

REBEKAH MAYS
Editorial Page Editor

ALLISON MALECHA
Arts & Entertainment Editor

JIM PAGELS
Sports Editor

MRINAL MOHANKA
Sports Editor

MIKEY ZHONG
Spectrum Editor

AMANDA CORMIER
The Eye, Editor in Chief

ASHTON COOPER
The Eye, Managing Editor

CINDY PAN
The Eye, Art Director

ALEX COLLAZO
Head Copy Editor

JASPER L. CLYATT
Photo Editor

ANN CHOU
Design Editor

JEREMY BLEEKE
Design Editor

JAKE DAVIDSON
Online Content Editor

HANNAH D'APICE
Staff Director

ANDREW HITTI
Alumni Director

MABEL MCLEAN
Sales Director

SPENCER DUHAIME
Finance Director

DEPUTY BOARD

News Editors
Chelsea Lo, Abby Mitchell, Sonalee Rau, Sammy Roth
Arts & Entertainment Editors
Claire Fu, Claire Stern
Copy Editor
Zuzanna Fuchs
Design Editor
Rebecca Schwarz
Photo Editors
Zara Castany, Maria Castex, Alyson Goulden, Phoebe Lytle, Christina Phan
Sports Editors
Zach Glibiaki, Kunal Gupta
Infrastructure Editor
Amrita Mazumdar
Sales
Thomas Elustondo, Alex Smyk
Finance
Gabriela Hempling, Noah Kolatch, Daniela Quintanilla
Alumni
Rob Frech, Rex Macaylo

ASSOCIATE BOARD

Editorial Page Editors
Anabel Bacon, Andrea Garcia-Vargas, Leo Schwartz, Lanbo Zhang
Arts & Entertainment Editors
Ian Erickson-Kery, Maricela Gonzalez, Melissa Haney, Joseph Pomp, Katy Tong
Copy Editors
Maggie Alden, Jack Dickey, Abigail Fitch, Jessica Geiger, Emily Handsman, Michelle Lappen, Hannah Laymon, Gina Lee, Emily Neil, Emily Sorensen, Sean Wong
Page Design Editors
Maya Fegan, Joe Girtton, Tanvi Gupta, Leila Lin, Geetika Rudra, Finn Vigeland, Isaac White, Laura Ye
Graphic Design Editors
Stephanie Mannheim, Yuma Shinohara
Photo Editors
Arvin Ahmadi, Hannah Botkin, Phoebe Brosnan, Kate Scarbrough, Henry Wilson
Sports Editors
Rebeka Cohan, Trevor Cohen, Robert Wren Gordon, Jeremiah Sharf, Molly Tow, Ryan Young
Sales
Katherine Estabrook, Aurora Lende, Ross Lerner, Jamie Yu
Finance
Brendan Barry, Shivrat Chhabra, Michelle Lacks, Jiaqi Liu, Zhaoan Ma, Bruno Mendes, Gedion Negash, Kinnari Norojono

EDITORIAL BOARD

Sarah Ahmed, Yohana Beyene, Sam Kling, Jonathan Lee, Stephen Snowden, Vighnesh Subramanyan

WEDNESDAY NIGHT STAFF

Copy
Peter Andrews, Imani Brown, Molly Greethead, Natalia Remis, Kiley Shields
Design
Megan Baker, Esther Kim

ADDRESS & EMAIL
Columbia Spectator
2875 Broadway, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10025
info@columbiaspectator.com

PHONE & FAX
Daily Spectator (212) 854-9549
Business (212) 854-9550
Business Fax (212) 854-9553

EDITORIAL POLICY
For more information about the Columbia Daily Spectator and editorial policies, visit <http://www.columbiaspectator.com/about>.

CORRECTIONS
The Spectator is committed to fair and accurate reporting. If you know of an error, please inform us at copy@columbiaspectator.com.

COMMENTS & QUESTIONS
For general comments or questions about the newspaper, please write to the editor in chief and managing editor at editor@columbiaspectator.com.

I am an abolitionist

BY KEVIN PLYBON

Remember that movie “Taken”? The one where Liam Neeson says that thing about “I have a very particular set of skills” and fights his way Bourne-style through a bunch of slightly less badass bad people to rescue his kidnapped daughter? In “Taken,” the daughter gets put up for sale as a sex slave to a bunch of gross, absurdly wealthy males—but it’s OK, because in the end Liam finds her. The movie is a failure, though, because it’s missing a crucial blurb that audiences everywhere probably would have appreciated seeing—that this actually happens.

The problem with “Taken” is that it doesn’t take the problem of human trafficking—modern-day slavery—seriously enough. I first heard about this issue two years ago through a documentary called “Call+Response.” The film, a self-styled “rockumentary,” features artists like Matisyahu, Cold War Kids, and Imogen Heap, intellectuals like Cornel West, and politicians like Madeleine Albright. The film makes the bold statement that slavery—yes, slavery—is as big a business today as it was 200 years ago. Not only that, but slavery exists in the United States and even here in New York, in what many of us call the greatest city in the world.

I think sometimes being a student at Columbia makes me naive. I find this strange, because I also think being a student makes me wiser. By this I mean that I start to think of the world as it should be, instead of how it is. Especially in classes like Lit Hum and CC, it’s very

The ideal college experience

I didn’t have the escapist spring break college students are supposed to have. While friends spent their time away from school on beaches and abroad, my travels led me right back to early morning academic halls and walks across campus.

It was supposed to be an enlightening experience for my brother, a high school junior in the beginning stages of the college application process. We spent a week driving across state lines, visiting schools. We attended information sessions headed by middle-aged men with elbow patches, each of whom extolled the virtues of his college’s curriculum, faculty, and student life. We saw where students had their seminars, wrote their term papers, ate their dinners. It was all, ostensibly, to get a real feel for what daily college life was like, to allow high schoolers to form their own judgments and conclusions about what they wanted out of their college experience.

Instead, we were presented with model after model of the Ideal College Experience—one that left the high school students in the audience enraptured with excitement and anticipation, but one that left me second-guessing my past four years.

In the Ideal College Experience, your first-year roommate will be a fascinating individual from another country who will change the way you view the world forever. You will get along famously and never fight about dirty dishes. Your resident advisor will always be planning bonding trips to ice-skating rinks and Broadway shows, and you will attend every single one, without fail. Your professors will stand at the door at the end of class to ask whether you need help writing a paper or securing a summer internship, and the two of you will talk it out over drinks at the neighborhood bar. You will attend intimate teas with U.N. ambassadors, become a member of an a cappella group and a volunteer at an animal shelter and a triple major, and still somehow find time to bake cookies with friends at midnight.

To prospective students, it must have felt like life was awaiting them on those campus greens, but as someone reaching the end of her time as an undergraduate, it felt suffocating. Had I been doing it wrong? I hadn’t studied abroad—had I limited my horizons? I felt guilty for all the classes I hadn’t taken, the talks I hadn’t attended, the clubs I hadn’t started, the types of people I hadn’t met. The school literature featured pictures of young men and women studying on lawns, looking positively ecstatic, and I don’t believe that expression has ever crossed my face while studying.

Our time in college is romanticized as one of endless easy opportunities, of nonstop fun and fulfillment, and what’s most insidious about this romanticization is that its source is not just television and movies but colleges themselves. The problem comes when we incorporate those romantic notions into our own hopes for what our time in college will actually be like, creating impossible expectations and fating ourselves for disappointment. What will become of those prospective students when they finally step on campus and realize that libraries aren’t social hotspots, that building good relationships with professors involves more time and effort than admissions officers let on, and that there aren’t enough hours in a day to attend every event open to students?

It’s unnecessary disillusionment. While college does indeed offer many opportunities, they’re not endless and they’re not easy. Rather than feeling overwhelmed or discouraged by the fact that we’re unable to achieve all that a college brochure told us we could, perhaps we should define a college experience apart from the literature, information sessions, and campus tours.

Spectator published a list of “116 Columbia Traditions” in its orientation issue my first year of college. I still have the list taped to my dorm room wall, checking things off as I complete them (the latest being the Broadway Shake at Tom’s). That’s one way of outlining the success of our college careers, as silly and small as some of the traditions are, and sometimes having that sense of opportunity can compel us to do and experience things we might not have otherwise—because we were scared, because we were short-sighted.

But there’s no printed list in the world that can tell us how to find ourselves—especially not one from a college admissions office. The Ideal College Experience isn’t a checklist but a process that may or may not include studying abroad, getting involved in extracurricular activities, taking a class with a superstar professor, or making maniacally happy faces while studying. We should have the confidence and bravery to go through our undergraduate years and find our own versions of that ideal, without feeling guilt for opportunities missed.

Though, if I could suggest one thing, the Broadway Shake is really quite good.

Aarti Iyer is a Columbia College senior majoring in creative writing. She is the former editor-in-chief of The Fed. Culture Vulture runs alternate Tuesdays.



AARTI IYER
Culture Vulture

easy to swallow whole the narrative that’s presented to you—the teleological progression of morals and ideas that has culminated in our current state. Sure, we’ve got our problems, but we’ve picked the best from Plato and Hegel and the rest. We’ve had our Civil War and we know that slavery is evil. It’s illegal, it’s immoral, and it’s a thing of the past.

Slavery is illegal, it is accepted as deplorable and despicable, and it’s still alive and kicking.

But how many times have we shaken our heads in anger when we’ve heard someone (let’s say on Fox News) say something about “post-racial America” when talking about the election of Barack Obama? Racism is still alive, we say. Legal, moral, social, and even physical battles have been won, but much work remains—the justification for it is dead, but racism still exists, waiting under the surface. I submit to you that in the same way, yes, slavery is illegal, yes, it is accepted as deplorable and despicable, and yes, it’s still alive and kicking.

Here are the facts. The Department of State estimates that there are around 27 million slaves in the world

today and defines modern-day slavery as encompassing the following: bonded labor, forced labor, sex trafficking, child soldiering, child sex trafficking, involuntary domestic servitude, and forced child labor. Of the 27 million, 17,500 are trafficked in the United States each year. A side note—human trafficking just passed the illicit weapons trade to become the second-largest illegal market in the world, behind illicit drugs. In other words, in today’s global economy, criminals make more money selling people than they do selling weapons.

Modern-day slavery is a moral outrage and demands a response—a modern-day abolitionist movement. As a self-proclaimed global institution, Columbia should be at the forefront of both intellectual critiques of and movements to end the global slave trade, and as students we can be the force that propels the University into that position. This week, InterVarsity Social Justice will begin its “I Am An Abolitionist” campaign, a series of events designed to raise awareness of human trafficking and the ways we can fight it as students. The goal of the campaign is ambitious and provocative: that every student at Columbia will be able to say “I am an Abolitionist” and do something about one of the world’s great human rights crises. And who knows, maybe we can all learn some of Liam Neeson’s moves.

The author is a Columbia College senior majoring in English.

Columbia cares

Whether dealing with tuition payments or housing problems, it isn’t difficult to become disillusioned with the impersonal bureaucratic monolith that is Columbia. In his editorial in Spectator (“Columbia Inc.,” March 23), David Abud took a critical stand against Columbia’s increasingly business-like nature. His concern was with the lack of attention actually given to students, with money and reputation emphasized at the cost of student needs. After great efforts to attract the best and brightest (the richest don’t hurt either), Columbia reduces students to nothing more than tuition checks and UNIs, once inside the gates.

Nothing revolutionary here. The impersonal bureaucracy of the administration is always a choice topic to bemoan. Cruising Spectator, Spectrum, and Bwog entries from just the last week or so, it won’t take you long to see what I mean. As much as (I would hope) many of us know Columbia is somewhat more compassionate than campus culture would admit, it is not something that is seen in writing nearly enough. So today, I have nothing more than this simple and hopeful message: Columbia cares.

It is a message that I hope is as obvious as it is cheesy. As a residential advisor on campus, I have been briefed time and time again on the great resources available to Columbia students. For just about every student need, it seems there is someone on staff to help. Are you having trouble dealing with a recent breakup? Counseling and Psychological Services is there to help. Roommate tension? Hoorah for the Ombuds Office (surprisingly not an acronym). Often I feel these resources are underutilized, and that may be for several reasons, including the highly independent mentality that is attributed to Columbia students. Yet when these offices are mentioned they seem to be treated as a given, and rarely, I think, do they get the recognition they should.

It’s not a subject I spend a lot of time thinking about, but every once in a while something causes me to return to it. When working with members of CPS to set up an event or interacting with them in RA training sessions, I have been pleasantly surprised by how dedicated and earnest they are to provide help to students who come in. Stories about positive encounters from friends haven’t done anything to lower my opinion of them either.

I returned to the subject most recently after the March 11 earthquake and tsunami hit Japan. Almost instantly, various student groups and the University administration responded in sympathy and action, including my bosses in the Office of Residential Programs. I



DEREK ARTHUR
Shining Bright Blue

received an email naming various residents in Wien who may have been affected by the disaster. My mission: On behalf of Residential Programs, I had to pay a visit to each of these unknown students to make sure they were OK. With residents’ emotions potentially running high, the idea couldn’t seem more awkward. I was envisioning the encounters: “Hi, you don’t know me, but I just wanted to make sure you were OK...” After that, how could they not come pouring their hearts out?

Maybe somewhat to my relief, none of the listed residents were in that night. In every case, though, I spoke to a roommate or friend who assured me they had spoken earlier that day and that everything was fine. I was surprised by how often they seemed grateful for the visit. It seemed that they really appreciated the school’s show of concern via RA emissary, as if I had actually come to inquire about them.

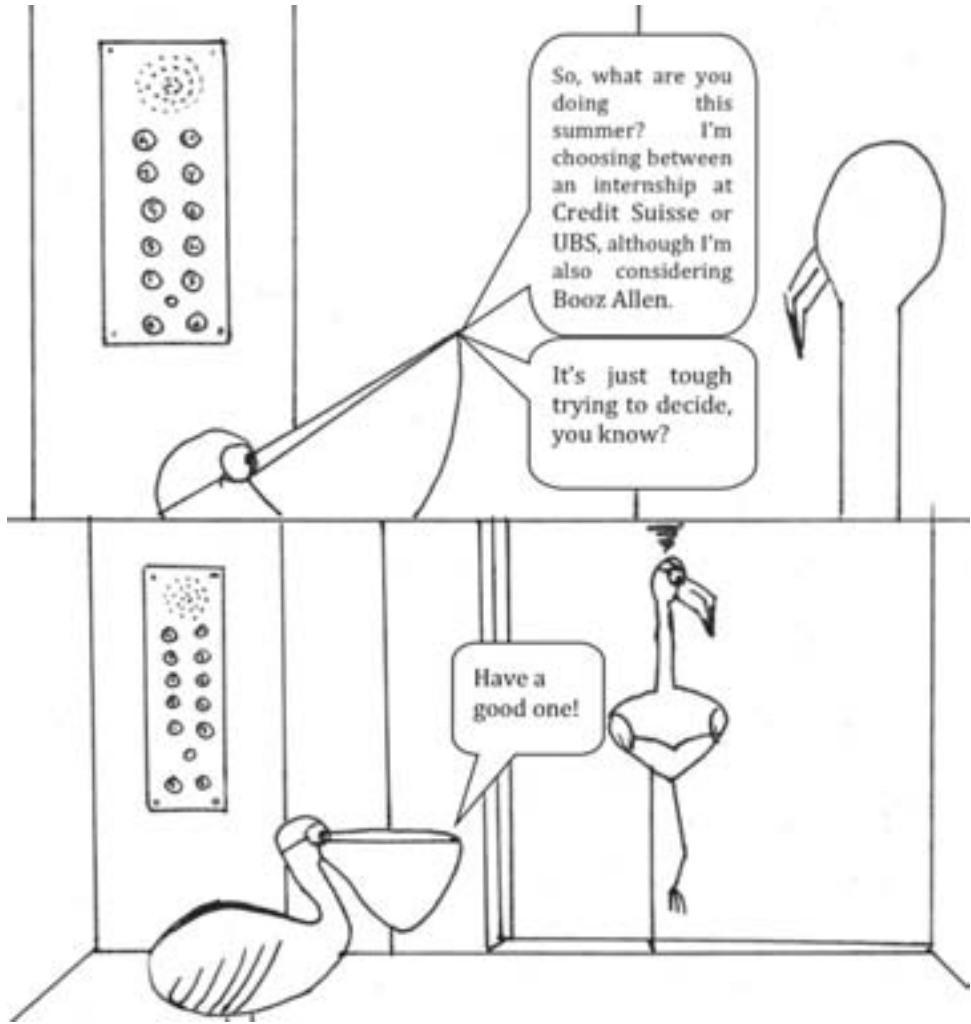
For these brief years, for many of us, Columbia is also “home.”

In the midst of all the reaction after the tsunami, I doubt the students affected ever thought, “Gee, I’m sure glad Residential Programs checked in on me.” In fact, I don’t know if word of the visit ever got back to them at all. But it’s these little efforts by the administration that I think often go unappreciated. No doubt, Columbia University is a business first. I don’t know how many times I’ve been preached the importance of “community building” as a central tenet of the RA role, but it drives home the point that for these brief years, for many of us, Columbia is also “home.”

Articles like Abud’s bring up valid points on the lack of attention students receive from the University, and no one will deny how difficult getting things done can sometimes be. “Columbia Inc.” is in the business of academia, and business can’t always be personal, nor does it really care about the little people. But when we’re not fighting with whatever board or committee or pestering to get a facilities request taken care of, it’s nice to reflect that somewhere in the administration, offices like Residential Programs or CPS are the beating hearts that pump blood through the red tape veins of Columbia.

Derek Arthur is a Columbia College sophomore. Shining Bright Blue runs alternate Tuesdays.

EGRETS, I’VE HAD A FEW



NATALIE ROBEHMED

I'm not fooled by Barry Bonds

In the last few weeks, I've done two posts for Spectrum's new series, "An Athlete's Diet." Basically, these posts detail how athletes eat throughout the day in order to perform their best at their given sport. In interviewing the two athletes, football left tackle Jeff Adams and wrestler Eren Civan, and subsequently writing the posts, I've realized how little thought I give to what I put into my body each day. Obviously, since I'm not an athlete, it isn't nearly as big of an issue for me, but it shows the level of commitment that these athletes must have. Participating in a sport is not just about the performance you give when there are fans on gameday—it's the preparation, the little things you do when no one else is watching, that makes a victory sweet.

That being said, the controversy surrounding Barry Bonds is ridiculous to me. He is currently involved in a perjury trial, accused of falsely testifying to the 2003 grand jury of the BALCO case that he did not knowingly take steroids. Based on what I've learned in recent weeks about Ivy athletes' eating habits, how am I supposed to believe that a Major League Baseball player had no idea what was going into his body? The whole principle of it is ludicrous.

I'm not going to tell you about how guys like Bonds, Mark McGwire, Sammy Sosa,



MYLES SIMMONS

A Second Opinion



KATE SCARBROUGH / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

STEALING IS GOOD | Senior Nick Cox recorded four hits and four stolen bases against Holy Cross.

Dartmouth overtakes Columbia in rankings

BY ROBERT WREN GORDON
Spectator Staff Writer

Over the past week, Dartmouth managed to usurp Columbia and now boasts the best nonconference record. Yale has also caught up to Columbia, leaving both teams tied for second place in the standings. Conference action gets underway on Saturday.

BROWN

Last week, the Bears headed out west on a six-game road trip to California to round out the

month of March. In California, the Bears planned to play a four-game series against Santa Clara before playing two games later this week at San Jose State. So far, the Bears have yet to win a game in California, losing three straight games to Santa Clara. Brown will head back to the East Coast this weekend to start conference play against Princeton.

CORNELL

The Big Red wrapped up a trip to Virginia last week, dropping two games to James Madison, in Harrisonburg. Cornell then headed to North Carolina to play Appalachian State for a three-game series. The Big Red went 1-2

against Appalachian State and returns to New York to play its home opener against LeMoyne College on Wednesday. The Big Red hosts Yale in Ithaca to begin Ivy action on the weekend.

DARTMOUTH

The Big Green (9-4) is flying high on a five-game win streak after completing a sweep of UMBC in Winter Haven, Fla. Dartmouth stayed in Winter Haven long enough on Saturday to beat Grinnell by a score of 5-3 before heading back to New Hampshire. Dartmouth will open its home

SEE AROUND THE LEAGUE, page 2

Left-handed pitching challenges Light Blue

BY RYAN YOUNG
Spectator Staff Writer

Even though some left-handers may feel like outcasts in society, those that can pitch are coveted in the baseball world. For the Lions, the meat of their batting lineup is rather left-handed heavy, so it may be expected for it to be a challenge when they have the task of facing lefties on the mound.

Although Columbia has not struggled mightily against lefties this year, there was a noticeable difference this weekend when the Lions dropped both games started by lefties, accumulating only five runs on 15 hits. In the other two games, the Lions came through with 18 runs on 31 hits.

"We honestly like seeing a righty better, we're a little bit more lively and ready to come out and beat the team that we know that we're better than and that's what we did in the second game [on Saturday]," sophomore outfielder Dario Pizzano said.

Head coach Brett Boretti, like many of his players, attributed the lackluster offense in the home

opener to coming out flat, rather than the effects of facing a left-handed pitcher.

"I think we've faced a lot of lefties early on and guys who were quality lefties, and we've done pretty well against the lefties early in the season so far," Boretti said.

He is alluding to the multiple wins that the Lions accumulated against southpaws on their two Florida trips to start off the season. However, even including those victories, Columbia still hits better against right-handed competition and most of its overwhelming offensive performances have come against righties.

The Lions' lineup features left-handed hitters Pizzano, junior outfielder Alex Aurrichio, sophomore third baseman Eric Williams, and senior outfielder Jason Banos, who missed last weekend's Holy Cross series due to injury. These players usually bat very close to each other in the lineup, and Pizzano, Aurrichio, and Banos are especially relied upon for their power contribution. Additionally, junior third baseman Jon Eisen, who is a switch-hitter, has been hitting in the two-hole, right in front of the lefties. In his career, Eisen has

SEE IN FOCUS, page 2

ON THE ATTACK

	AGAINST LEFT HANDED PITCHERS	AGAINST RIGHT HANDED PITCHERS
RUNS	5	18
HITS	15	31
WALKS	5	12
STRIKEOUTS	14	10
STOLEN BASES	0	9
TIMES PICKED OFF	2	0

GRAPHIC BY YUMA SHINOHARA

REALITY SUCKS



LUCKILY THE GM COLLEGE DISCOUNT DOESN'T.



COLLEGE DISCOUNT

In fact, it's the best college discount from any car company¹ and can save you hundreds — even thousands — on an eligible, new Chevrolet², Buick or GMC. If you're in college, a grad program or even a recent grad...take advantage of this discount and get a great deal on a new ride to call your own. Check it out:



2011 Chevrolet Malibu

(discount example)

Malibu LS MSRP starting at	\$22,735.00
MSRP of Malibu LT as shown ³	\$23,585.00
Preferred Pricing ⁴	\$22,853.97
Consumer Cash ⁵	-\$ 3,500.00
Price You Pay	\$19,353.97
Your Discount	\$ 4,231.03



2011 GMC Sierra 1500

(discount example)

Sierra 1500 Reg. Cab WT 2WD MSRP starting at	\$21,845.00
MSRP of Sierra 1500 Crew Cab XLE with optional equipment as shown ³	\$35,585.00
Preferred Pricing ⁴	\$33,624.92
Consumer Cash ⁵	-\$ 2,500.00
Down Payment Assistance ⁶	-\$ 2,005.00
Price you pay when you finance through Ally or GM Financial	\$ 29,119.92
Your Discount	\$ 6,465.08

Stop pushing...start driving.

Get your discount today at gmcollegediscount.com/save



 Find us on facebook: facebook.com/gmcollegeprogram

¹ Eligible participants for the GM College Discount include college students (from any two- or four-year school), recent graduates who have graduated no more than two years ago, and current nursing school and graduate students. ² Excludes Chevrolet Volt. ³ Tax, title, license, dealer fees and optional equipment extra. See dealer for details. ⁴ Not available with some other offers. Take retail delivery by 5/2/11. See dealer for details. ⁵ Not available with some other offers. Take retail delivery by 5/2/11. Must finance through Ally or GM Financial. The marks of General Motors, its divisions, slogans, emblems, vehicle model names, vehicle body designs and other marks appearing in this advertisement are the trademarks and/or service marks of General Motors, its subsidiaries, affiliates or licensors. ©2011 General Motors. Buckle up, America!