

## After 40 years, USenate votes for ROTC’s return



ANDRA MIHALI / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**RAIN-SOAKED RAGE** | Around 20 students protested outside of the University Senate’s hearing at the Law School on Friday for three hours in the rain, chanting slogans like, “They’re for war and occupation/We’re for jobs and education,” on Amsterdam Avenue.



COURTESY OF DAVID SHANKBONE

**REMEMBERED** | Marable began teaching political science at Columbia in 1993.

### Prof. Marable remembered for work on race relations

BY CAITLIN BROWN  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

Manning Marable, the founding director of Columbia’s Institute for Research in African American Studies, died this Friday at age 60.

Marable’s death came just days before the release of his long-awaited biography of Malcolm X, the last of Marable’s many works on the African-American identity and race relations in the United States.

Malcolm X: A Life of Reinvention chronicles the life of the black rights activist and offers a theory regarding his unidentified assassin—just one example of the professor’s passion for African-American history. Yet his focus on academia was never without practical concern, his wife, Leith Mullings, said.

“He believed in the unity of theory and practice and the unity of scholarship and activism,” Mullings said.

Marable’s contributions to Columbia began with his role as a professor of history and political science in 1993. In his first year at Columbia, Marable founded the Institute for Research in African-American Studies, serving as its chair for the next 10 years.

“He was interested in creating a new paradigm at Columbia, a kind of history that was, as he described in the title of his book, a ‘Living Black History,’”

SEE MARABLE, page 2

## Local schools face drastic teacher layoffs

BY EMILY NEIL  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

A \$1.3 billion cut in state education spending and Mayor Michael Bloomberg’s 4,600 projected teacher layoffs are personal for Andrea Rodriguez, an eighth grader at Columbia Secondary School.

According to initial estimates, Columbia Secondary, a public middle school with a University partnership located on West 123rd Street and Amsterdam Avenue, could lose 70 percent of its current teachers.

“We already have problems with our faculty because there’s not ... enough to cover all the students,” Rodriguez said.

Columbia Secondary may lose a higher percentage of its teachers than any other school in the city, due to its young staff and the city’s “last-in, first-out” policy, which means that newer teachers are laid off first.

According to initial numbers released by the city Department of Education, a number of Upper West Side and West Harlem schools will lose more than 10 percent of their current staffs, though those numbers are subject to significant change as budgets are finalized.

In a March 27 statement about the 2011 state budget, Bloomberg said that while “the

outcome is disappointing and the results will be painful,” the city hopes to do the best job possible by making changes, which include “ending the last-in, first-out law that exacerbates the negative impact of Albany’s teacher layoffs on our public school children.”

But the connection being made between the seniority system and potential layoffs has some local politicians, principals and residents crying foul.

Some, like District 3 Community Education Council president Noah Gotbaum, have suggested that the mayor’s release of projected teacher layoffs by each school is an attempt to stimulate an overthrow of the seniority system. But Gotbaum said that changing the “last-in, first-out” policy should not be the priority.

“How you assess teachers versus this layoff issue is something the mayor’s using to take people’s eye off of what is really going on,” Gotbaum said, adding that Bloomberg should be “fighting to keep the teachers, to keep class sizes low, to retain our programs.”

“Instead he’s focusing on an issue that really has no relevance right now,” Gotbaum said.

Others agree that there has been too great of an emphasis placed on the system for

determining who is laid off, and too little effort made to avoid teacher layoffs altogether.

“To me, there’s no good answer. No teachers in the classroom should be cut, period,” City Council member Gale Brewer said, noting that she has heard many complaints about the proposed layoffs from schools and parents in her Upper West Side district. “Every single school in District 3 is overcrowded, classes are large, and we cannot afford to lose any teachers.”

Brett Gallini, principal of PS 165 on 109th Street and Amsterdam Avenue—which could lose 14 percent of its teachers—stressed the importance of every teacher, regardless of experience.

“All of my teachers are very strong, so losing any staff in my school ... would be a loss for our children,” Gallini said.

Others, including Gotbaum, called into question a recent report that the city DOE would be spending millions to upgrade school technology at the same time as laying off teachers.

Ian Kenyon, a Columbia Secondary eighth grader, said Bloomberg’s priorities are skewed.

“Well, I know the governor just cut spending, I read it in

SEE LAYOFFS, page 2

### COMMUNITY CONCERN



CHRISTINA PHAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**CONFLICT** | Tom DeMott, with other members of anti-expansion group Coalition to Protect Community, protested on Friday as students participated in Columbia Community Outreach.

## Resolution passes 51-17; Bollinger, deans to make final decision

BY SAMMY ROTH  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

The University Senate took a major step toward inviting ROTC back to Columbia on Friday, voting to support the return of the military training program that has been absent from campus for more than 40 years.

The Reserve Officers’ Training Corps has not been present at Columbia since 1969, when campus protests over the Vietnam War led to its ouster.

“This is a great day for Columbia. This is a great day for America,” said Tao Tan, CC ’07, Business ’11 and the chair of the senate’s Student Affairs Committee, after the vote. “We have put behind us a painful disagreement of our past and have taken a step forward toward our shared future.”

The senate voted 51-17, with one abstention, to approve the ROTC resolution. The resolution’s key clause states, “Columbia University welcomes the opportunity to explore mutually beneficial relationships with the Armed Forces of the United States, including participation in the programs of the Reserve Officers Training Corps.”

A group of about 20 protesters opposed to ROTC gathered on Amsterdam Avenue, across the street from Jerome Greene Hall, where the senate meeting took place. They chanted and drummed, drawing the attention of passersby, but they did not disrupt the meeting.

The senate vote was the final step in the process of debating an ROTC return, which began in December after the repeal of the military’s “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy. The policy had prohibited gays from serving openly and had been used as an argument against inviting ROTC back to Columbia.

Journalism School student senator Andrew Springer, an ROTC supporter, said that the vote will benefit future Columbia students.

“Young people who want to serve their country and get the benefits of the ROTC program will hopefully finally be able to,” Springer said.

#### WHAT COMES NEXT

The resolution’s passage does not guarantee that ROTC will return to Columbia. A branch of the military would need to agree to start a program here, and then University President Lee Bollinger and other administrators would need to negotiate the terms of the program with the Department of Defense.

Bollinger said he thinks that “one branch does want” to start a program at Columbia.

Bollinger also noted during the meeting that he will continue to discuss the ROTC question with Columbia’s Council of Deans, but he seemed to indicate that senate approval is enough for him to start negotiations with the DoD.

“This is a powerful, powerful vote here, in my mind,” Bollinger said.

Shortly after the meeting, the University released a statement praising the senate’s proceedings.

“My conclusion was that having ROTC on campus did not change our ability to be a tolerant university.”

—Ron Mazor,  
*University Senator,*  
CC ’09, Law ’12

“We appreciate the diligent work by the University Senate in fostering a robust debate on the issue of military engagement and ROTC,” the statement read. “As in any diverse, open community there will always be a range of strongly held opinions on such important issues. But as President Bollinger stated after last December’s Congressional vote, the repeal of Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell offers an historic opportunity for universities to reconsider their own policies as well. As planned, we look forward to sharing the Senate resolution with the Council of Deans and seeking an official conclusion on this matter by the end of the semester.”

School of General Studies student senator Jose Robledo, a military veteran and ROTC cadet, said he does not expect the Department of Defense to propose an ROTC program at Columbia in the immediate future.

“They’re still strapped for money. Their budget is basically constrained, just as our budget is constrained,” Robledo said. “Until the economic situation improves, there will be no outreach as far as ROTC is concerned.”

SEE ROTC, page 3

#### NEWS BRIEF

### Woman assaulted Saturday night at gates, attacker taken to hospital

A 22-year-old woman was attacked in front of Columbia’s gates around midnight on Saturday.

Ash Sinha, 28 and resident of 109th Street, punched, kicked, and bit the woman at 116th Street and Broadway, according to police, who said he appeared to be highly intoxicated. The attack was incited by a fight among a large group of people outside the Columbia gates.

A witness said the man was bleeding after the altercation and was screaming obscenities.

NYPD received two calls and arrived at the scene

after Sinha had been apprehended by Columbia Public Safety officers.

The woman was not taken to the hospital, but her injuries included a swollen face, abrasions on the knees and face, and bites on the legs. Police took Sinha to Harlem Hospital for injuries and intoxication, where he acted in an “irrational manner,” and damaged medical equipment. He was charged with criminal mischief.

Other charges include felony assault to a police officer—for kicking a police officer in the face—and misdemeanor assault.

—Gina Lee

#### OPINION, PAGE 4

#### Life’s calling

Derek Turner argues it is better to believe in individual purpose.

#### No privilege

Safe spaces need to be protected by and for minorities.



#### SPORTS, BACK PAGE

### Baseball sees opposite ends of sweeps

Despite dropping two games to Dartmouth in the weekend’s first doubleheader, the Columbia men’s baseball team bounced back with a sweep of Harvard the next day.

#### EVENTS

#### Apollo Music Cafe

R&B singer/songwriter Terrell Howard and Tai Allen to perform.  
*Apollo Theater Soundstage, 253 West 125th Street, 9 p.m.*

#### Orchestra Spring Concert

The Columbia University Orchestra will play Strauss, Prokofiev, and Mozart.  
*Miller Theatre, 8-10 p.m.*

#### WEATHER

#### Today



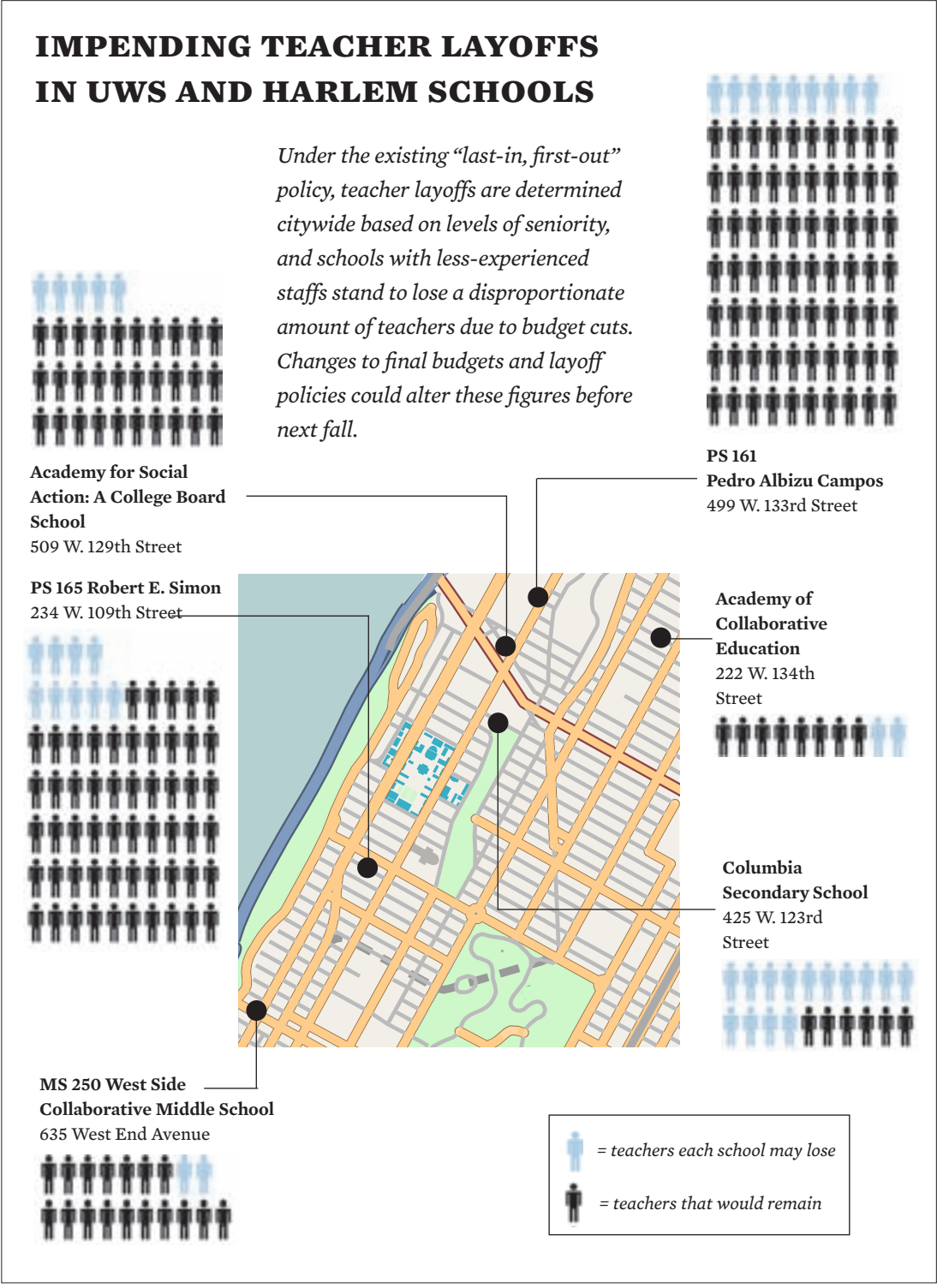
66°/54°

#### Tomorrow



54°/37°





Some local schools face disproportionate layoffs

LAYOFFS from front page

the Times yesterday that ... he [Bloomberg] is spending \$500 million on the new technology, wiring and all that,” Kenyon said. “I think that they could put that ... instead towards keeping teachers, even though they say that with the capital they can’t put it towards salaries.”

Pam Price, assistant principal at PS 161 on 133rd Street and Amsterdam—a school with projected cuts of 11 percent of its teaching staff—said she’s “dissatisfied” by the state’s attempt to balance the budget through cutting funding for education. She sees those cuts as indicative of a lack of appreciation for the teachers and public education as a whole.

“I think there are other things that can be done than just ... go straight at cutting money from public education. And does it go

along with this fever of public education being inadequate?” Price said.

“Every single school in District 3 is overcrowded, classes are large, and we cannot afford to lose any teachers.”

—Gale Brewer, City Council member

The consequences of teacher layoffs would be damaging to everyone, she said, citing larger class sizes in particular.

“You’re going to have too many children in the classroom with one teacher who is going to burn out,” Price said. “We need to give our children the very best.”

Rodriguez said that she doesn’t think her teachers at Columbia Secondary are worried yet about losing their jobs.

“It’s really good, it’s an amazing school, so our teachers aren’t really worried that they are going to get fired,” she said.

But those budget decisions will undoubtedly change the make-up of the school’s staff next year. Gary Biester, principal of Columbia Secondary School, said that he understands the complexity of the issue and hopes the layoffs don’t happen.

“Losing so many would be devastating to our mission,” Biester said.

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Professor founded African-American institute

MARABLE from front page

Mullings said. “He saw history as something that was living and as something that was practiced, something from which we can move forward.”

The Institute became a national and international center for scholarship, and in 2002, Marable established the Center for Contemporary Black History at Columbia. Notable for its production of Souls, the quarterly academic journal of African-American studies, the center worked on projects regarding race and criminal justice at a national level.

But what was most important to him was the human side of the Institute, which allowed him to increase the number of black faculty in the arts and sciences and form a meaningful connection with the Harlem neighborhood.

“He was able to create the institute, hire black faculty, fund black graduate students. All of that meant a lot to him,” Mullings said.

Marable earned a B.A. from Earlham College in 1971, a master’s from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1972 and a Ph.D. in American history from the University of Maryland

in 1976. Over the next three decades, he wrote over 275 scholarly articles and numerous books.

“He supported the struggles of people oppressed by insidious forms of racism, sexism, homophobia, and poverty.”

—Farah Griffin, director of Institute for Research in African-American Studies

He went on to teach political science, history, sociology, economics, and African-American studies at a host of universities since the 1970s. He was the director of ethnic studies programs at various schools, including Fisk, Cornell, and the University of Colorado, and he served as the chair of the Department of Black Studies at Ohio State University in the late 1980s.

For over 20 years, Marable battled sarcoidosis, a lung disease, while continuing work in the name of social justice until his death—even giving frequent lectures at Sing Sing Prison in New York as part of a master’s degree program for prisoners.

“Even in the throes of his illness,” said Professor Farah Griffin, the current director of the Institute for Research in African-American Studies, “he continued to teach, write, and lecture whenever he could.”

Like Mullings, Griffin remarked on Marable’s active spirit as a match to his dedicated scholarship.

“Professor Marable was a force of nature,” Griffin said. “He supported the struggles of people oppressed by insidious forms of racism, sexism, homophobia, and poverty. He was most especially concerned with the plight of poor and working peoples.”

Colleagues noted that his commitment to civil justice reached far beyond the gates of Columbia.

“He wanted his body of work to be an important contribution to the black freedom struggle,” said Griffin, “which to him was a major dimension of struggles for justice and human dignity worldwide.”

news@columbiaspectator.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					01	02
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL EVENTS ARE WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE.

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04/01–04/02  
SENIOR CREATIVE THESIS DANCE CONCERT  
7 PM  
Minor Latham Playhouse, 118 Milbank Hall

04/06  
CREATED IN GOD’S IMAGE  
Intersections of Judaism, Gender, and Human Rights  
6:30 PM  
Event Oval, The Diana Center

04/07  
TRANSLATION, INTERTEXTUALITY, INTERPRETATION  
7 PM  
Event Oval, The Diana Center

TANYA BARFIELD, SHIRA NAYMAN & FRANCES RICHARD  
7 PM  
Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall

04/12  
EUROPEAN MIGRATION SINCE 1500  
Implications for World History  
6 PM  
Event Oval, The Diana Center

PUBLIC FEELINGS SALON  
6:30 PM  
Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall

04/13  
LIBERTY IN MIND  
Women Philosophers from Margaret Cavendish to Mary Wollstonecraft  
4 PM  
Julius S. Held Auditorium, 304 Barnard Hall

04/16  
SPRING CONCERT  
Johannes Brahms’ Ein Deutsches Requiem  
8 PM  
Union Theological Seminary

04/19  
ARTS & POLICY  
Dance and the NEA  
7 PM  
Event Oval, The Diana Center

04/21  
SOUND POETRY  
7 PM  
Sulzberger Parlor, 3rd Floor Barnard Hall

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# USenate debate ends with ROTC support

ROTC from front page

Regardless, for senator and astronomy professor Jim Applegate, a longtime ROTC supporter and a member of the task force which gathered campus opinions on ROTC, the decision was exactly what he and other ROTC supporters wanted. “We authorized him [Bollinger] to negotiate on our behalf,” Applegate said. “That is what we intended to do.”

**THE FINAL DEBATE**  
Columbia has spent the last three months debating ROTC’s return. The senate’s Task Force on Military Engagement hosted three town hall meetings on the subject, and there have been a number of other forums held to debate it, some for students and some for faculty.

The senate began debating the issue at its March 4 full body meeting, and senate committees spent the last few weeks discussing the resolution. But this was the first full senate meeting devoted to ROTC.

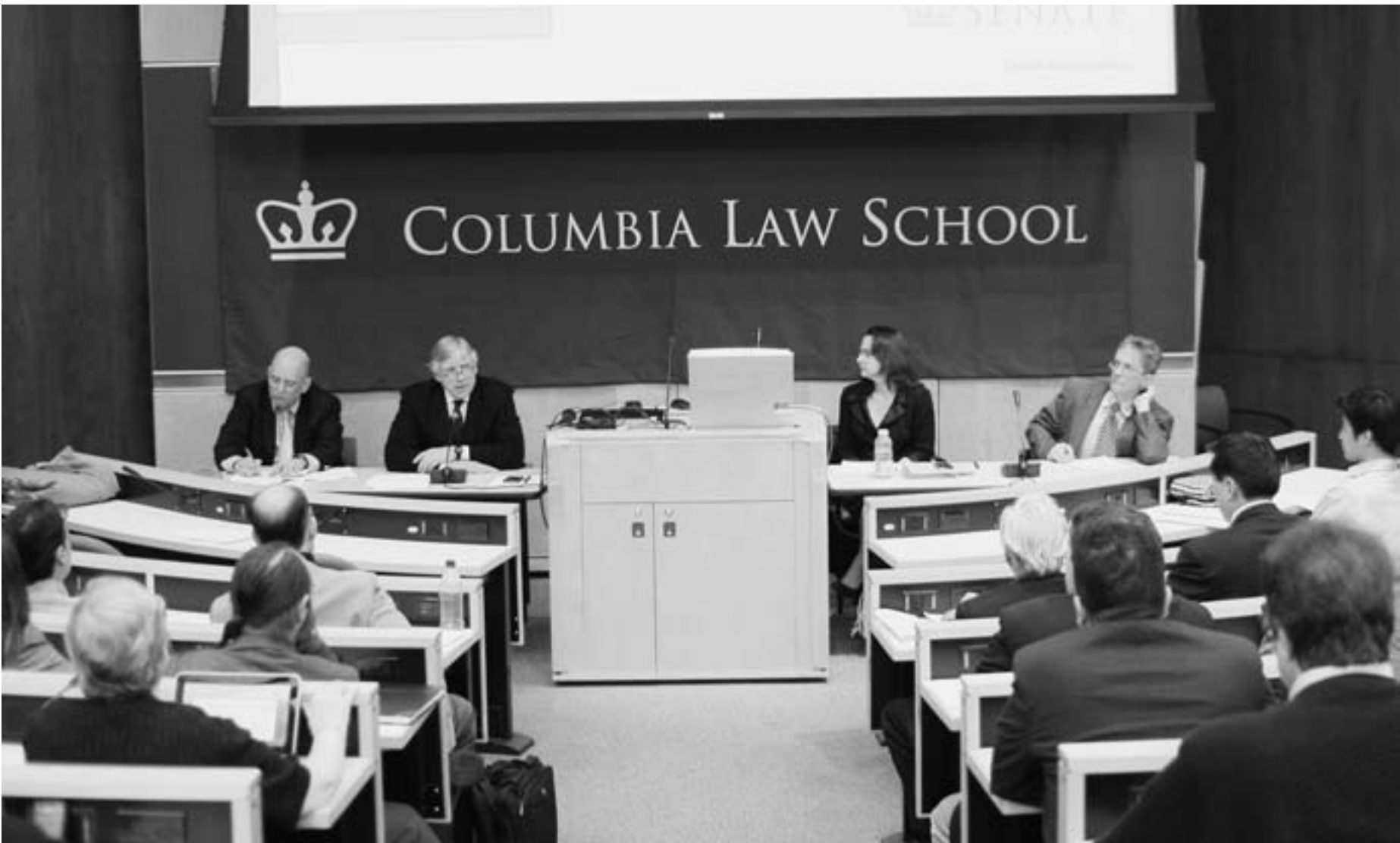
Film professor Bette Gordon started off the meeting with one of two opening speeches opposing ROTC. She argued that “the symbolic presence” of uniformed officers would be detrimental to Columbia.

“For many students, and particularly those from countries where the military, whether American or not, is associated with the destruction of civil life, the presence would be inhibiting, if not traumatizing,” Gordon said.

Senator Ron Mazor, CC ’09, Law ’12, who chaired the senate’s ROTC task force, voted for the resolution. He said after the meeting that he had made up his mind within the past week.

Mazor said after the vote that while many of his friends are opposed “to the whole notion of ROTC,” he disagreed with the argument that Columbia and the military are incompatible.

“I never really understood



ANDRA MIHALI / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**DEBATE CULMINATES** | At Friday’s USenate meeting, President Bollinger, second from left, called for a vote on a proposal in favor of ROTC’s return, which passed.

the arguments ... that we as a university could not look beyond a uniform or someone’s personal choices when it comes to our ability to tolerate them or incorporate them,” he said.

Some senators argued that they should not yet pass the resolution, because even though Congress repealed DADT in December, the repeal has not yet been implemented. The President, the secretary of defense, and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff must certify that the repeal will not harm military readiness before it becomes official.

At the Friday meeting, there was a late push to add an amendment stating that the resolution would not take effect until the DADT repeal is official, but Bollinger quelled senators’ concerns by assuring them that he would not bring an ROTC program to Columbia until that point.

Some said they opposed ROTC because even after the

DADT repeal is implemented, the military will continue to bar transgendered individuals from enlisting. Columbia’s nondiscrimination policy protects students against discrimination on the basis of gender identity and expression.

Tan, who gave one of two opening speeches arguing for ROTC, made the point that while “discrimination against our colleagues who identify as transgender is an invidious and loathsome thing,” Columbia’s nondiscrimination policy also states that “Nothing in this policy shall abridge ... the University’s educational mission.”

“And for that reason we have Barnard College, which discriminates on the basis of gender, the College of Physicians and Surgeons, which discriminates on the basis of creed against committed euthanasiasts, and our football team ... which discriminates against individuals with medical and physical

challenges,” Tan said, drawing some laughs.

Senator and Barnard women’s studies professor Rebecca Jordan-Young responded to Tan’s remarks during the meeting, saying that his condemnation of discrimination against transgendered individuals was “undermined by the sarcasm in several other aspects of the comments.”

Jordan-Young argued that Tan’s examples of discrimination “actually reveal a very serious lack of understanding of the very phenomenon of discrimination.”

“Barnard College has a very strong, long history of existence that has to do with systematic exclusions of women from higher education and continuing exclusions of women from lots of public domains,” Jordan-Young said. “Likewise, transgendered people continue to be systematically, programmatically, legally excluded in many ways.”

ROTC opponent Avi Edelman, CC ’11 and the president of Everyone Allied Against Homophobia, said he was disappointed that the resolution passed, as he believes it directly violates Columbia’s nondiscrimination policy.

“I can’t say that I’m surprised,” Edelman said. “But you know, even expecting such a slap in the face to the transgendered community doesn’t make the slap hurt any less.”

Edelman added that while the ROTC debate has probably increased awareness of discrimination against transgendered students, Columbia is still ignoring the importance of its nondiscrimination policy.

“This isn’t an intellectual academic exercise ... we’re talking about the lives of students of our campus,” Edelman said. “And we’re talking about bringing back a program that says, ‘I do not respect who you are.’”

Mazor said he has “no opinion either way” on whether or

not a Columbia ROTC program would constitute discrimination. But he noted that in making his decision on how to vote, he had to balance nondiscrimination against the benefits of an ROTC program.

“My conclusion was that having ROTC on campus did not change our ability to be a tolerant university,” he said.

“Even expecting such a slap in the face to the transgendered community doesn’t make the slap hurt any less.”

—Avi Edelman, CC ’11, president of Everyone Allied Against Homophobia

**PARLIAMENTARY MANEUVERING**

While the senate ultimately voted by a nearly 3-1 margin in support of ROTC, it took the body almost two hours of debate and procedural wrangling to reach a vote.

Some senators opposed to ROTC attempted to derail the resolution’s passage. A motion to table the resolution until the senate’s April 29 full body meeting was defeated, as was a motion sponsored by senator and philosophy professor Lydia Goehr, which would have changed the resolution to say only that Columbia would continue to discuss a relationship with ROTC.

“I would like to have seen the resolution have more neutral

language with regards to the discussion that is going to take place ... regarding relationships with ROTC and Columbia,” Goehr said after the meeting.

Other motions were more successful. The senate unanimously agreed to remove three clauses from the resolution, leaving only the clause supporting ROTC.

One of the removed clauses stated that “questions of academic credit, faculty appointments, academic governance, and space allocation” would remain under Columbia’s control should an ROTC program return. Those preconditions to an ROTC return have been university policy since 1969.

The second removed clause had specified that new relationships formed with the military as a result of the resolution would be subject to “periodic review” by the senate. The senate has the authority to revisit any measure it passes.

The final removed clause stated that “it is in the interest of Columbia University to continue to constructively engage with the Armed Forces of the United States and to educate future military leaders.”

When Bollinger eventually called for a vote on the finalized resolution, some senators objected, saying the discussion should continue. Bollinger insisted that it was time to make a decision, eschewing the two-thirds vote usually required to end debate.

Applegate said the senate meeting Friday “got a little drowned in parliamentary maneuvering,” but was otherwise a civil debate.

“This is not a terribly complicated issue. We got to the core of it and we made our decision,” Applegate said after the vote. “Everything worked. This is the way it’s supposed to work. It’s not always neat, it’s not always easy, but it worked.”

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ANDRA MIHALI / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**STOP ROTC** | Students protested for three hours outside Jerome Greene Hall while the USenate meeting on ROTC’s return was taking place, chanting, “They say indoctrination, We say education.”





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# To have a purpose

Graduation looms. The real world stares us in the face. It demands decisions. The choice is between two broad conceptions of reality. In one, we, as individuals, have a calling—a part to play in a meta-narrative. In the other, there exists no such concept that provides context to our existence, so you do as you please.

To have a calling, or at the least to believe in its existence, can utterly overturn one's post-college trajectory. Sure, the job search continues—no respite there. What changes is that the job search ceases to be a free-for-all rat race for the highest paying or most prestigious position within reach. In its place, a more meaningful exploration of the future emerges. The search goes beyond just getting by, to doing what we are meant—perhaps made—to do.

The effects of a calling should not be mysterious to anyone who has taken Literature Humanities. Take for example Don Quixote and his valiant attempts to woo Dulcinea del Toboso by pursuing the most incredible feats of a knight errant. Though utterly insane, Quixote embodies what it means to have a purpose and a calling. We witness the transformation from a lonely, old, hermitic man to an energetic, resilient, and unstoppable emblem of chivalry. Misguided and delusional though he might be, his transformation does not hit far off the mark. A calling is an



**DEREK  
TURNER**  
**Opening  
Remarks**

incredible thing—it focuses a person's skills, passions, and education into a cohesive and powerful stream.

Of course, there are better examples of intentional lives in Lit Hum—Aeneas, Achilles, or even Elizabeth Bennet. Each has a calling or a purpose that comes to fruition (sometimes tragically) and, for example, reveals that a different man could not have founded Rome. What these tales show is that the prospect of purpose engages the human soul to achieve authentic greatness. This is the reason we neither read about nor feel inspired by characters who pursue life based on what path is most lucrative, productive, prestigious, or popular.

The problem is as you suspect: A calling is very hard to find, let alone follow. Delphi isn't as instructive as it once was and Jane Austen is not composing our love lives. Instead, we live in an age of seeming randomness and chance. To top it all, we run the risk of pursuing a path that may seem as ill-conceived as Quixote's. However, I find the problem of finding a calling to be of less importance to us at this point in our lives than the issue of believing that callings and purposes exist. That is the choice which will make the difference.

Naturally, the CCE is unlikely to be the one to tell us this. Its job is to help us find jobs we desire in the industry. Our advisors, unless they're the really good ones, will be unwilling to prompt such personal deliberations. It is entirely up to us to consider this idea for ourselves, and, sadly, we rarely get deep into the implications. When was the last time you had a conversation about whether our futures hold more than a string of directionless career decisions?

# Reflections on the Varsity Show

BY SEAN WALSH

The 117th annual Varsity Show has been one of the most exhilarating, demanding, and rewarding theatrical experiences of my life. At first, I hadn't even planned to audition, but was convinced by Rebekah Lowin and Rachel Chavez, two other first-years in the cast. Little did I know that I would be jumping headfirst into a whirlwind of freshly written Columbia-themed showtunes, draft after draft of cleverly composed scenes, and a process that would push my creative capacity to the limit.

For those that don't know, the Varsity Show creative process is twofold. The writers and composers create a show over the course of two months, and this show (arbitrarily named the "Turkey Day" performance) is performed for Varsity Show alumni. After the performance, the alumni critique the show, providing the creative team with constructive criticism, and the show is almost entirely rewritten. Due to the nature of this process, the pressure on the writers and composers is immense, but they never fail to provide us with hilarious scenarios and brilliant music.

As a first-year, I am both bewildered by the extraordinarily talented people I get to work with and excited to be part of such a beloved Columbia tradition. For me personally, the Varsity Show has been so demonstrative

of the talent and motivation of Columbia students. The show is entirely student written, directed, and produced, yet the professionalism and efficiency of the cast and crew is astounding. I think I can speak for the entire cast when I say that Emily Nagel, this year's director and fearless leader, has become our second mother. Her hard work, guidance, and dedication motivate each and every one of us day after day.

Before I auditioned, I heard a myriad of negative things about the Varsity Show: the time commitment, the drama-filled and cutthroat nature of the procedure, the frenzy of student-run musicals, etc. Now that I've been involved in the Varsity Show process for three months, I can safely say that there is nothing cutthroat, drama-filled, or frenzied about it. We are blessed to have a group of passionate people who work well under pressure and who produce amazing work, no matter what crazy scenario is thrown at them. The time commitment is absolutely mind-blowing, but the rehearsal process is so rewarding that it doesn't bother me one bit. (And this is coming from someone who is taking seven classes this semester.)

What is most compelling about the Varsity Show is its ability to bring together a sometimes-disconnected university. While so many controversial events have occurred over the past year, the Varsity Show provides Columbia the opportunity to laugh at itself and its tribulations in

# Safe spaces don't want your privilege

BY JENNIFER ALZATE

By now, most Columbia residents will have encountered the controversial "safe space" flyer. Printed in the bright pink color of Everyone Allied Against Homophobia's "Safe Space" flyer, the Columbia University College Republicans flyer criticizes supposedly exclusionary safe spaces like those of Stephen Donaldson and Malcolm X lounges. However, its critique mistakes collective, identity-based activism for divisive victim politics and perpetuates the privilege-based power structures that safe spaces subvert.

First, the flyer criticizes safe spaces for "suggest[ing] that the rest of the campus is in some way dangerous." That's partly the point: To think of America, or Columbia, as a non-racist and non-homophobic sanctuary is dangerously naïve. Safe spaces remind us that discrimination exists, even if we're lucky or privileged enough not to experience it firsthand. The creators of CUCR's flyer forget, however, that no safe space pretends or aspires to be the only discrimination-free zone. Rather, safe spaces provide one of many havens for minorities, no matter what happens outside of the room's walls.

Additionally, by alleging that safe spaces "legitimize a mentality of on-campus victimization," CUCR insinuates that such feelings are wrong and invalid, that no one has the right to feel victimized on campus. This ignores, shames, and—most ironically—excludes students who are actually harassed by their peers on the basis of their identity. This particularly noxious type of victim blaming has no place on campus, much less on a flyer that decries safe spaces for their exclusionary nature.

However, the entire debate—including Sarah Ngu's otherwise excellent editorial last Friday—has missed another crucial reason to protect safe spaces ("Be open to safe spaces," April 1, see editor's note). I've already discussed how safe spaces provide minorities with repression- and oppression-free zones in which to explore identities. Secondly, safe spaces subvert the status quo insofar as they exist as spaces created by minorities, for minorities.

Safe spaces give minorities a much-needed escape from white and hetero-normativity, which is epitomized by non-minorities' undue exercise of privilege in minority conversations. Take the following example: In the midst of a conversation about the racialization of poverty, a white person asserts that white people are poor, too. While the statement in and of

itself is correct, it is irrelevant to the topic and effectively shuts down the conversation. Moreover, while this kind of defensive response can be made in good faith, it is too often accompanied by truly racist or otherwise discriminatory allegations: for example, that race has nothing to do with poverty, and that colored people have nothing to complain about.

Safe spaces counteract this problem—they provide sanctuary from these typical privileged/minority interactions, in which privileged people silence minority conversations through the conscious or unconscious exertion of privilege. Moreover, they allow minorities to freely discuss discrimination, identity, and other topics with people who truly do check their privilege at the door. No longer obliged to justify, cater, or defend their discussions to privileged people, minorities can focus on their own matters.



STAFF EDITORIAL

# It's not in the numbers

The class of 2015, having gained acceptance to Columbia despite incredible odds, deserves recognition for its accomplishments. We welcome the incoming class of 2015 with open arms, and are excited to see what they will bring to campus in the fall.

Though at the moment newly admitted students are probably ecstatic over the fact that they beat the odds (by a huge margin), there are more important things to keep in mind. What awaits the class of 2015 is much more valuable than the prestige of getting accepted to the second most selective Ivy League university. The class of 2015—like those before them and those to come—will be greeted by outstanding professors, smart, creative peers, and a truly cosmopolitan campus.

This sort of inquiry does not have to approach the gravity of the age-old question of what exactly the meaning of life is. Instead, it stops at the more fundamental: is there a purpose? We have plenty of time to figure out what the purpose may be, but the decision about its possibility has an immediacy to it. It has an impact on how we approach this period of life where our career is as blank as it ever will be. With graduation, we set the tone of the steps we take from here. We cannot afford to procrastinate about this one.

I envision the results of either choice in terms of momentum. To the student who embraces the postmodern viewpoint of random chance and the absence of life narratives, I can only imagine a mode of life that makes each choice separately. Without a route of some sort, each decision is just as arbitrary and meaningless as the next. The only factors of importance are the tangibles—the salary, the quality of life, and the workplace environment.

With even a slight conception of an individual purpose, a mission, the choices we make about future employment become building blocks to something greater. There is a final goal to strive for—a job that must be done which transcends employment or occupation. If there is a purpose, then there is a life enhanced by inspiration and possibility. We're free to choose between the two beliefs. I'm sticking with purpose. Try it.

*Derek Turner is a Columbia College junior majoring in anthropology and political science. Opening Remarks runs alternate Mondays.*

A positive, entertaining, and enjoyable way. It is unique in that the show contains jokes and characters that are relevant and relatable to every student at Columbia. Though Columbia students may have their differences, the Varsity Show is the one time every year when the entire University comes together to sit back and laugh at itself.

While there are only twelve people in the cast, the Varsity Show is one of Columbia's largest student organizations, with a creative team, production team, design team, and publicity team that are comprised of what seems to be a million people. Although the twelve of us are the only ones who get our faces on the posters and (hopefully) the thunderous applause after the show, every single person in this production has so much to offer and brings so much to the table. Whether it's our lighting designer, Camille, who can hang and focus 50 lights and set 100 cues in 20 minutes, or Solomon, our musical assistant, who can transcribe and then memorize almost 200 pages of sheet music overnight, everybody in this process is so valuable and so talented, and I am so extraordinarily grateful and honored to be part of what is sure to be the greatest Varsity Show in years.

*The author is a Columbia College first-year. He is a member of the cast of the Varsity Show.*

Conversations with our white, heterosexual, and/or male peers should and must happen if we ever aim to dismantle the status quo. However, safe spaces are not the place for these conversations. Moreover, they are not places of victimization and differentiation. They are havens from discrimination, places to accept and grapple with identity in all its complexity. Inclusive societies, such as the one CUCR espouses, cannot be forged by naïvely pretending that discrimination doesn't happen. But by demonstrating solidarity with minority groups, and by questioning our own privilege and challenging others', we can strive for a world in which every space truly is safe.

*The author is a Columbia College sophomore majoring in English.*

ASHLEY SANG EUN LEE



Editor’s Note

April Fools’ is a day for the unexpected, but sometimes we’re all taken by surprise. Due to a production error, we printed the opinion page for March 31 a second time, instead of the page we had prepared for the April 1 edition. See below for articles by Sarah Ngu, Professor Christia Mercer, and columnist Kathryn Brill, originally meant to appear in Friday’s paper.

Defining the supra-rational

Every so often, I have moments when I think, “Wow, Columbians are weird.” Sometimes I mean this in a bad way—like on Saturday, when I overheard a group of guys singing Rebecca Black’s “Friday” on the benches outside of John Jay. But sometimes, I mean it in a good way. There’s a kind of out-there, cerebral quirkiness that makes me glad I know these people. Case in point: While at Columbia, I’ve had numerous philosophical discussions via text message. I had no idea that you could talk about anything complex over texting before I came here, but I’ve often found myself debating ideas in this way with my friends. It sounds ridiculous, but these philosophical texts have inspired me on occasion, giving me new insight or another angle from which to look at things.

The most recent instance of this occurred a few weeks ago when I sent a paper to a friend of mine to be proofread. Among other things, the paper discussed a man named Wim Hof who can control his core body temperature by literally willing himself to be warm. When I first learned about Hof, I was disbelieving. After finding out that laboratory studies had confirmed his ability, I was still baffled, but I decided to accept this as one of the mysteries of the natural world. (Science: the only thing weirder than Columbians.) As I described in the paper, I feel that there are some things about the universe that our tiny, finite human minds can’t possibly comprehend. They’re nonsensical to us, seemingly incomprehensible. But for me at least, it’s comforting to accept these mysteries as mysteries and to turn to wonder at the sheer vastness and complexity and strangeness of the world. I mean, how boring would it be to live in a universe where we understand everything, and there is nothing new to discover?

My friend found this particular section of my paper the most intriguing. “I agree with your point about accepting mysteries,” he texted me, “but I wouldn’t call them nonsense, but ‘supra-sense’ (that is, beyond reason, not below it).” After a few more texts back and forth, I understood what he was trying to point out. Essentially, there are two labels, “rational” and “irrational,” that you give to things depending on whether or not they make sense. “Rational” is what can be understood by the human mind, what can be worked out by reason. “Irrational” is what doesn’t make sense in this way. But “irrational” is used to cover a lot of areas. For instance, a taxi driver who yells at the traffic is acting irrationally. Hollering at the cars in front of him won’t have any effect on how fast they move. “Irrational,” in this context as in most others, has a negative connotation. It’s usually taken to mean “less than rational” and used as a descriptor for things that don’t make sense because they’re flouting the laws of reason—like the taxi driver.

Many people would label Wim Hof’s feats as irrational, too. But his abilities are not irrational so much as “supra-rational.” They’re beyond our understanding, not beneath it. The idea of “supra-sense” that my friend was proposing gets at an important point: “Incomprehensible” does not necessarily mean “nonsensical.” Sometimes, it might have a meaning that’s just beyond our grasp. I’ve heard the term “irrational” used to describe many things: the layout of Lerner, string theory, that new Starbucks cup size that’s bigger than the human stomach, problem solving using intuition, religious faith. But how many of these things are sub-rational or irrational, and how many are supra-rational? It’s a question we ought to consider. Whatever we think, it’s important for us not to box the universe in, to assume that things we can’t comprehend are somehow lacking in purpose or meaning. When we’re confronted with a mystery, perhaps instead of looking down or away, we should look up—in disbelief, in wonder, but not in dismissal.

Kathryn Brill is a Barnard College sophomore majoring in English. She is a member of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. We Should Talk runs alternate Fridays.



KATHRYN BRILL  
We Should Talk

Cheating and Dante’s hell

BY CHRISTIA MERCER

Our Lit Hum books are full of moral quandaries. Was Hektor right to leave his family and return to battle? Was Medea justified in killing her children? What are we to think about Griselda’s patience, Cordelia’s silence, and Lily Briscoe’s self-doubt? Is there anything morally redeemable about Mr. Collins? Puzzling over such moral matters is one of the many joys of Lit Hum.

But Lit Hum instructors presently face a moral quandary of a very different sort: How can we at Columbia encourage the highest standards of academic honesty? We must do something, but what?

Academic dishonesty taints our relations, both among students and between instructor and students. It only takes a few cases a year to do the harm: A couple students copy off each other’s midterms and seem surprised this is a problem, a few ask to go to the bathroom during the final exam to look up IDs on their cell phones, a few buy papers online while others plagiarize major parts of their essays. How are instructors and students supposed to respond to these moral failures?

We need to have an honest conversation about the grave dangers of dishonesty. Our academic culture must be based on trust and integrity. Lit Hum not only sets the tone for the rest of the Core, it is—at its core—an open conversation among equals. We struggle together to glimpse the profundity and beauty of our texts. We bond in our delight, fascination, and perplexity.

Cheating breaks the bonds and taints the openness that is essential to Lit Hum and to an honest dialogue among equals. It’s a kind of violence against all of us. It disrupts, disconcerts, and discourages. Many faculty find cheating

After Office Hours

Each Friday, a professor will share scholastic wisdom readers won’t find in lectures. Suggestions regarding which professors to feature are welcome.

so unsettling, they’d rather look the other way. Some become so incensed, they become anxious about every new set of papers. We Lit Hum instructors want so badly to help our students become better writers, readers, and independent thinkers that we despair at the thought of such a breach of faith. When students break our trust, we have to recalibrate the relation to our class. We feel delight when a student suddenly does significantly better work but then catch ourselves with the worry: Is this the student’s work or not? We wonder: Is it disloyal to search for sources online or foolish not to? We worry about worrying too much or too little. The thought of students getting ahead (or trying to) by false

To what sort of torment would Dante submit the classroom traitor?

means produces despair and dismay.

We find cheating in Lit Hum utterly irrational: Students come to Columbia to take the Core, develop writing and reading skills, and engage in honest conversation with one another about our shared literary past. Cheating ruins that. Besides severing the bonds of trust, cheaters are not developing the skills that they came to Columbia to master and that will help them in more advanced courses. They’re not preparing themselves to live a rich and thoughtful life. That’s not just dishonest; it’s dumb.

Of course, many students would never ever cheat. In the same way that many instructors have a hard time dealing with academic dishonesty, many students are themselves so committed to honest learning that they find discussions about cheating

disconcerting. They’re insulted by professorial proclamations about the need for honesty.

What are we to do? As chair of Lit Hum, I take this moral quandary very seriously. We instructors will educate ourselves about how to catch plagiarists and how to create assignments that discourage plagiarism. We will have new rules (e.g., no cell phones at exams). I hope that we can start using Turnitin or another software that makes it easier to identify papers bought online. (For some of us, the thought that wealthier students can cheat more easily than less wealthy ones by buying an A paper, or trying to, is particularly galling.) There will be discussion, debate, and much gnashing of teeth. In short, we Lit Hum instructors and staff will do everything we can to discourage dishonesty and encourage an environment of trust.

What will you students do? You must not ignore the problem. It impacts your academic and social lives. Should there be an honor code? Should there be more thorough discussions during first-year orientation? Should upper-level students volunteer to help proctor Lit Hum exams? How can we work together to create an environment of trust? This is one giant and annoying moral quandary. And the sooner we confront it, the sooner we can return to more important matters.

I leave you with a more proper Lit Hum quandary: To what sort of torment would Dante submit the classroom traitor? Here are some suggestions in keeping with contrapasso perfection: He would submit the traitor to a thousand paper cuts around the head and hands; he would have the violent characters in the books unread by the plagiarist tear the cheater apart; he would make the traitor spend the rest of eternity with Mr. Collins. Now this is the sort of moral quandary we should spend our free time considering.

The author is the Gustave M. Berne Professor of Philosophy and the chair of Literature Humanities.

Be open to safe spaces

BY SARAH NGU

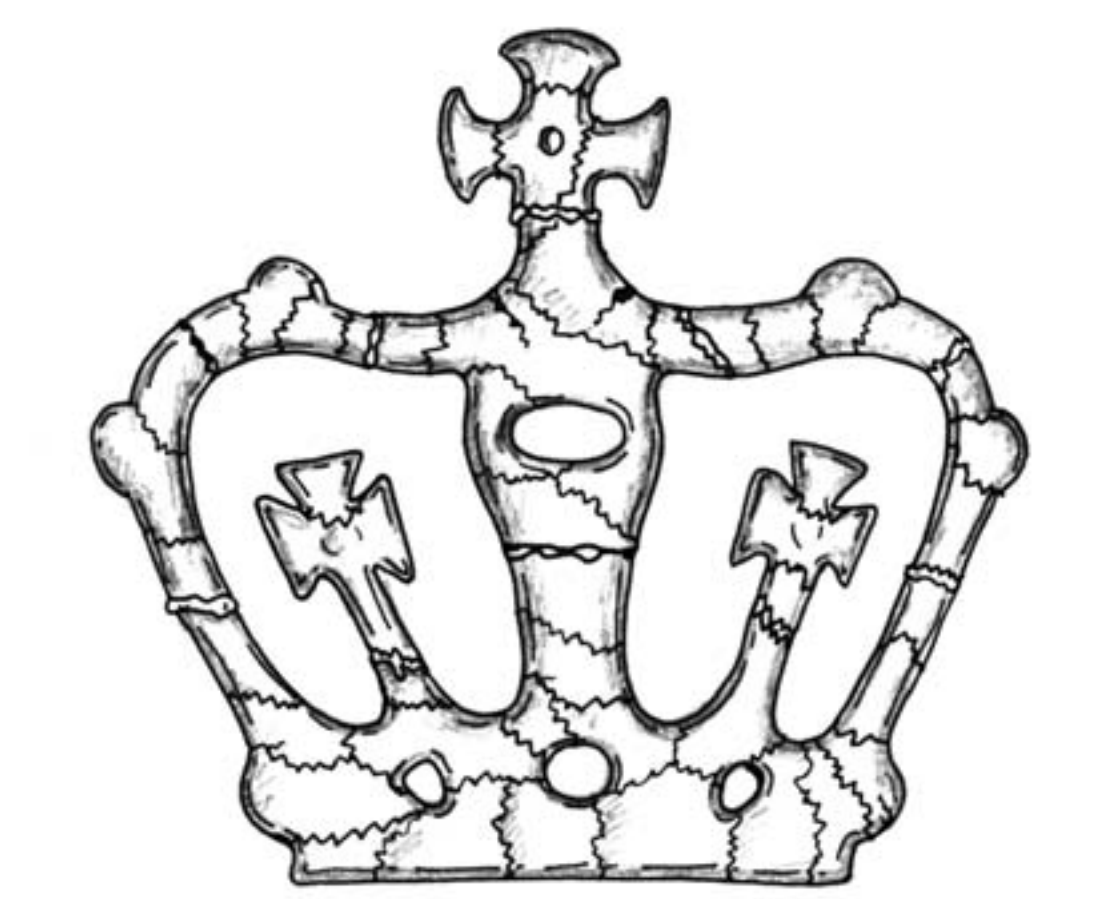
I’m tempted to pick apart the “safe space” flyer by Columbia University College Republicans. A few anecdotes will swiftly dismantle its blanket statements, such as ones that say minorities should not “have genuine fears when on campus,” a fear that demonstrates the need for safe spaces. But statements like those are also the flyer’s weak points. The strong points—those that ask larger questions of the type of community we want at Columbia—can’t be so easily dismissed.

We are balancing on a social seesaw. On one end is diversity and multiculturalism; on the other is community and harmony. How do we strike the right balance? Can we have a community without a compromise of identity? This is the question at stake in any type of heterogeneous community. The CUCR flyer states that “an inclusive society cannot be created by constantly emphasizing difference,” coming down on the harmonious community end of the seesaw. The University, on the contrary, seems to be, at least ostensibly, tilting toward the diversity end.

The problem, the flyer seems to say, is that our community no longer rests on the diversity of individuals but rather on that of factions. Instead of one community where all its members explore their identities, we have several communities or safe spaces within which we feel free. Our University, the argument goes, encourages diversity by ironically homogenizing groups of students, drawing circles around, them and assigning a group label.

Even if safe spaces are necessary due to existing biases on campus, CUCR rightly points out that pockets of safe spaces that stride but never touch each other ought not to be the end goal of our community. The task of cultivating the ability to have difficult dialogue with the Other outside of safe spaces ought to be the next critical step if we are truly committed to building a safe community for all of Columbia.

I’ve summed up and expanded the strongest and most compelling claim of the flyer. But while conceptually appealing, it’s empirically unsubstantiated in respect to safe space discussions. Sure, there are a few cases of “safe



AMALIA RINEHART

space” discussions that do not move beyond a solidarity that simultaneously mocks and fears the Outsider and that promote a type of group-think. Safe spaces aren’t perfect spaces, and the best way to change that is probably to increase the represented diversity (read: more straight, white males) in these discussions.

But positive spaces are those that deepen

The key to a wider community is to enlarge these safe spaces rather than eliminate them.

understanding of the social formations of individual identity while allowing room for a more distanced, complicated relationship with the categories of race, class, gender, etc. They hold

the door open for people of all beliefs and identities but ask that you leave generalizations and disrespect at the threshold. There is a surprising amount of diversity within these safe spaces, but more critically, it is a diversity that is engaged and celebrated, demonstrating that there can be a community with differences.

The key to a wider community is to enlarge these safe spaces rather than eliminate them. If you have a problem with the type of dialogue that goes on in safe spaces, then shouldn’t you attend one and change it from within? I could give a few examples of honest and self-critical dialogue that I’ve experienced in ROOTed discussions; it’s not all just rage-against-the-straight-white-man. I could talk about how the most persuasive criticisms of diversity initiatives by the University are held by those who are, for lack of a better outlet, involved in them. But it’s probably better if you go and attend one.

The author is a Columbia College junior majoring in political science. She is a former ideas editor of The Eye and president of the Veritas Forum.

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## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

**ACROSS**

1 Cotton swabs originally called Baby Gays

6 Actor Guinness

10 More than stumbled

14 Basic belief

15 Capital surrounding Vatican City

16 Falco of "The Sopranos"

17 Shabby

18 \$3 million, 30-sec. Super Bowl feature

19 Poet, St. Vincent Millay

20 Feeling of uneasiness

23 Jungle swinger

25 Fla. hours

26 Cumberbund fold

27 Hand-held two-way communications device

32 Cheering noisily

33 Mashed luau staple

34 "M\*A\*S\*H" staff

37 Reprimander's "reading"

40 Leave for a bit

43 Mind reader's skill, briefly

44 "How beautiful"

46 Oil refinery input

47 Up-tempo jazz piano style

51 Ami's good-bye

54 Tiny bit

55 His-and-\_\_\_\_ towels

56 Symbolic nose-gays

61 Isaac's eldest

62 Knucklehead

63 Close, as a parka

66 Hollywood success

67 Hollywood favorite

68 College town near Bangor

69 Nanny's charge

70 Bills with Hamilton on them

71 Rehab step

3 Fully informed

4 Sampras of tennis

5 Eyelid problem

6 Monet or Monet

7 Affectionate bop

8 Key with four sharps: Abbr.

9 Give up formally

10 Weak

11 Murphy of '48 HRS."

12 Top of a form, perhaps

13 "It's the \_\_\_\_ I can do"

21 Honey maker

22 Prefix with center or cycle

23 Informed (of)

24 Capital on the Seine

28 See 31-Down

29 Lyrical Gershwin

30 \_\_\_\_ Angeles

31 With 28-Down, layered chocolate bar

34 Glitch in need of smoothing out

35 Film with nakedness

36 Cattle drive critter

38 Pigeon's sound

39 Dress (up)

41 Green prefix

42 Athlete who isn't green?

45 Stumble across, as an idea

47 Have no doubt

48 "Yes, mon ami"

49 Props for Monet and Monet

50 Part of wpm: Abbr.

51 "This is only \_\_\_\_"

52 Like the trail on a cattle drive

53 Singer Chris

57 Change text

58 Pie à la \_\_\_\_

59 Former Lacoste partner

60 Dublin's lake

64 Half of dos

65 Chicken \_\_\_\_

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**


ARUBA	IDLE	WITS
RANAT	DEEM	ABIT
MIDDLE	OF	NOWHERE
ANO	ARTISTE	FER
NONUNION	ENJOIN	
INEPT	OIL	TORRE
TIE	TAJ	LEOS
INSECT	REPELLENT	
NORM	CUL	TAI
SNIPET	TYR	SECTS
PELOTA	MALTS	SHOP
AVA	TITANIC	ASA
DENTAL	HYGIENIST	
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SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

Dartmouth 6  
Columbia 4

Dartmouth 8  
Columbia 1

MEN’S TENNIS

Dartmouth 5  
Columbia 2

Harvard 0  
Columbia 8

WOMEN’S TENNIS

Dartmouth 4  
Columbia 3

Harvard 6  
Columbia 1

MEN’S LIGHTWEIGHT ROWING

Placed third at Fosburgh cup behind Princeton and Georgetown

Placed second in Varsity Events and first in Freshman Eights against Delaware

WOMEN’S ROWING

Swept Bucknell at Orchard Beach Lagoon

SOFTBALL

Dartmouth 1  
Columbia 0

Dartmouth 9  
Columbia 4

Harvard 4  
Columbia 2

Harvard 4  
Columbia 2

SPORTS BRIEFLY

Columbia women fare better than the men in the rivers, softball swept by pair of Ivies on the field

The Columbia men's lightweight rowing team participated in two meets this Saturday. In the morning, the Lions rowed in the Fosburgh Cup, in which they finished third behind Princeton and Georgetown, who placed first and second, respectively. The outing was not Columbia's best, as they failed to place above last in any varsity event. The only Light Blue group that was able to clinch a second place finish at the meet was the Freshman Eights team. Later that day, the Lions took on Delaware in Princeton. Columbia still didn't find victory in any varsity race and lost in the meet, but put up a better fight against the Blue Hens. As in the Fosburgh Cup, the Light Blue's strongest race was the Freshman Eights, as it defeated Delaware with a time of 6:26.6. The lightweight team will head back to the water on April 9 at Navy.

The Columbia women's rowing team fared better this weekend, sweeping Bucknell on Saturday in its home opener. The Varsity Eights events were the biggest highlight for the Lions, as they beat Bucknell with times of 7:18.0 in the first and 7:32.7 in the second. The Varsity Fours races were more of a struggle, but the Light Blue was still able to pull away undefeated. On Sunday, the Lions rowed against Northeastern in the Woodbury Cup, but scores were not available at the time of printing. Columbia will next



JOSE GIRALT / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FE-ROW-CIOUS | The Light Blue women's crew team swept Bucknell when it took to the water this weekend.

take to the river on April 9 at the George Washington Invitational.

The Columbia softball team went winless over the weekend, as it was swept by both Dartmouth and Harvard at home. On Saturday, the Light

Blue lost 1-0 in a pitcher's duel and then was soundly defeated 9-4 in the second game. Freshman Emily Snodgrass had an impressive outing, going 4-6 at the plate in the doubleheader. Senior pitcher Maggie Johnson

threw seven solid innings in game one despite the loss. On Sunday, the Lions were defeated 4-2 in consecutive games by Harvard. Sophomore Christie Taylor had a solo shot in the bottom of the seventh in game one,

but it was not enough to pull back into the game. Columbia's record has now dropped to 8-19 overall and 0-4 in the Ivy League. The Lions next take the field on April 5 at Fairfield.

—Molly Tow

Lights-out pitching and explosive batting contribute to victories against Crimson

**BASEBALL from back page**

two-run single for junior first baseman Alexander Aurrichio. He served the pitch into left-center field, turning a 3-2 deficit into the Lions' first lead of the afternoon.

"I was thinking to myself: just relax, just see it and hit it," Aurrichio said.

Unfortunately for Columbia, the lead would not last long, as Lowery began to get behind in the count against Dartmouth hitters in his seventh inning of work. After a walk and a bloop single put two-men on base with one out, Boretti decided to take Lowery out and bring in his closer, sophomore Tim Giel, to face Dartmouth senior first baseman Jason Brooks.

"Brooks had two hits off Pat in his previous two at-bats, so that's a spot that we felt good about, bringing him [Giel] into the game," Boretti said, adding that he has confidence in his closer.

Giel's first pitch was a fastball over the plate, which Brooks lined over the right-field

fence, giving the Big Green the lead back.

"First pitch, coming in, I knew the kid was probably going to be sitting on fastball, but I figured that I could maybe get one by him, maybe he'd take it for a strike," said Giel. "But the kid put a good swing on it and anything up in the air with the wind blowing out is going to carry."

The Lions would not be able to rally after the demoralizing turn of events, going down without a fight in the bottom of the seventh.

"I just wanted to get ahead of the guy, try to get a ground ball," Giel said. "Try to get out of the inning, end the game there. Unfortunately it didn't happen."

The devastating loss in the opener seemed to sap some of the life out of the Lions, as they were soundly defeated 8-1 in the final game of the doubleheader.

The offense was anemic against Dartmouth starter Cole Sulser, who allowed only four hits in seven and two-thirds innings of shutout baseball. Boretti thought the bats struggled

because of Sulser's dominance as opposed to the disappointment from the game one loss.

"I thought Cole Sulser was the problem," Boretti said. "He's a power arm, he did a good job locating his fastball away. He got ahead of us and went right after us and I think he's probably one of the better arms in the league."

**"I was thinking to myself: just relax, just see it and hit it."**

—Alexander Auricchio, first baseman

Aurrichio did manage two hits off Sulser and scored the only run for Columbia.

"I don't know why we couldn't adjust to it [Sulser's fastball], but we failed to adjust, and you can look at the scoreboard, putting up one run in the last inning isn't going to win

you a ballgame no matter what," Aurrichio said.

Senior starting pitcher Geoff Whitaker struggled, allowing six earned runs in five innings of work.

Despite Saturday's matchup being a rematch of last year's championship series, Boretti believed the doubleheader was no more than just two of twenty conference games on the schedule.

"We put ourselves in a position to win the first game today and it didn't work out," Boretti said. "I think in the second game they did more than we did offensively, and came out and jumped on us and we got behind the eight ball and their guy pitched a good game."

After the rough doubleheader, Boretti told his team they needed to put the losses behind them and come out ready to play against Harvard on Sunday. The Lions were ready. Columbia swept the doubleheader against the Crimson (3-20, 0-4 Ivy) with resounding 11-2 and 8-0 victories.

In the first game, the Lions

jumped on junior starting pitcher Brent Suter, scoring five runs in the first inning to knock him out of the game. Sophomore outfielder Dario Pizzano hit a three-run homer in Columbia's five-run fourth inning, marking the first round-tripper the Lions have smacked at home this season. Columbia starter, senior Dan Bracey allowed two runs on five hits in six innings.

In game two, sophomore starter Stefan Olson put up seven innings of three-hit, shutout baseball.

"We were working it inside a lot with fastballs, which they were doing a good job locating and didn't walk too many guys all day," Boretti said of his starters. "This is a team [Harvard] that likes to hit and run and steal and its good that we were able to limit that by limiting the walks."

Olson cited attacking the strike zone as a reason for success as well.

"I think what really helped was that I was just trying to get it over the plate and let them hit it and the defense was

making great plays behind me," Olson said.

Boretti praised centerfielder Nick Cox for a few spectacular plays he made.

"We talk about keeping the momentum by playing good defense, and those are game-changing plays, it takes the wind out of the sails of the opposing team and when you got a guy who's making plays like that in the outfield and stealing hits," Boretti said.

After missing last weekend's action due to injury, senior outfielder Jason Banos hit a long ball and drove in four runs in the win.

"I saw a couple of curveballs. He'd thrown it to me two times before in that at-bat so he didn't really fool me, I was ready for it the third time and put a good swing on it," Banos said.

He added that the Columbia hitters came out more aggressively in their resilient sweep over Harvard, also doing a better job of battling with two strikes.

The Lions next game comes on Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. when they visit Rutgers.

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WOMEN'S TENNIS

Columbia lose on consecutive days to begin conference play

Despite fielding its strongest team in years, the Lions women's tennis team is still struggling to win Ivy matches.

The women were swept by Dartmouth and Harvard this weekend, dropping their overall record this season to 9-8 (0-2 Ivy). Since the spring of 2008, the first season under head coach Ilene Weintraub, the women's team has gone 1-22 in Ivy play. This weekend saw a tight, 4-3 loss to Dartmouth and a 6-1 loss to No. 54 Harvard.

The Lions got off to a fast start against Dartmouth, winning the doubles point by getting wins at No. 2 and 3 doubles. The six singles

matches were all very tight, with four out of the six going the distance. The only one that didn't was a 6-2, 6-0 loss at No. 6 singles by freshman Tiana Takenaga. Sophomore Nicole Bartnik at No. 1 singles lost her first set 6-0 to senior Molly Scott, a player she defeated earlier this fall, but rebounded to win the second 7-5. Bartnik would finally lose the third set 6-3. Freshman Bianca Sanon won 2-6, 6-3, 6-4 at No. 2, but senior co-captain Natasha Makarova fell 7-6, 6-3 at No. 3. Sophomore Katarina Kovacevic won 6-7, 6-3, 6-4 at No. 5 but a Dartmouth win at No. 5 gave the Big Green the four necessary points.

The match against Harvard would not be as close as the day before. Harvard swept the doubles matches to grab a 1-0 lead and won five of the six singles matches in straight sets. Bartnik fell 6-1, 6-4 at No. 1 to No. 97 Holly Cao. Sanon fell 6-4, 6-4 and Kovacevic moved up to play No. 3 but fell 7-6, 6-3. Makarova fell in straight sets at No. 4, and the Lions' lone win came from freshman Ioana Alecsiu, who won 7-5, 6-1.

Columbia will now travel to play Cornell, a team they beat 4-3 in a five-hour match earlier this spring, on Wednesday in Ithaca.

—Kunal Gupta

TRACK AND FIELD

Light Blue have top finishers in both Relays and Invitational

The Lions began the outdoor season slowly, but ensured that the off week would not be a recurring trend.

All-American junior sprinter Sharay Hale was the only athlete who traveled to the University of Florida this weekend for the ultra-competitive Florida Relays. Hale took part in two separate events—the 400m dash and the 200m invite. In the 200m, Hale finished in a quick 24.20 seconds, good for 16th place despite running during the windiest heat. Hale took eighth place in the 400m with 54.05 seconds in a race that featured not only collegiate runners, but also athletes from Adidas and Brooks Sports.

The rest of the team was much closer to home as they competed in the Sam Howell Invitational at Princeton.

Saturday featured numerous top finishers for the Lions.

Freshman sprinter Marvellous Iheukwumere took top honors in three events. In the 100m, she finished in 12.23 seconds, and finished in 24.60 seconds in the 200m. Junior Kyra Caldwell and freshman Tayler Johnson finished 1-2 in the 100m hurdles, with Caldwell's 14.30-second finish being just 0.3 seconds short of her personal best. The junior also took first in the 400m hurdles, finishing in just over a minute.

The Columbia women's 'A' teams took first place in the 4x100m relay and the 4x400m relay. In the 4x100m, Iheukwumere and Johnson were joined by sophomores Queen Denise Okeke and Uju Ofoche. The longer relay was run by Caldwell, freshman Miata Morlu, sophomore Yamira Bell, and senior Laura Vogel.

A pair of Lions, junior Monique Roberts and freshman Tara Richmond, finished in the top two spots of the women's high jump, and junior Sarah Engle vaulted 3.81 meters to win the pole vault.

The men also had some success this weekend, despite limited competitors. Freshman Cody Love finished first in the 400m hurdles with a time of 53.61 seconds.

The men's 'A' team took second place in the 4x400m relay, with the help of Love. Sophomore Mark Feigen and freshman Adam Behnke finished third and fourth, respectively, in the 5000m on Friday. Both posted impressive times below the 14:30 mark.

Next up for the Light Blue is the one-day George Mason Invitational set to take place on Saturday, April 9.

—Jeremiah Sharf

Lions struggle in opening Ivy weekend

MEN'S TENNIS  
from back page

“We didn't play good doubles against Harvard,” Goswami said. “We had breaks at both No. 1 and 3 doubles but we lost both 8-6.”

Columbia would have slightly more success in singles, getting wins out of the bottom of the lineup as Yetimoglu and Tizian Bucher both won their matches at No. 5 and 6. Yetimoglu won in three sets and Bucher won in straight sets. Schneiderman fell 6-2, 6-3 to No. 107 Jonathan Pearlman at No. 1, and Kung lost a heartbreaker at No. 2. Kung was up 6-2, 5-2, and love-40 on his opponent's serve before senior Aba Omodele-Lucien climbed out of the hole and rallied to win the set and eventually the match, 2-6, 7-5, 7-5. Cyril Bucher fell in three sets 6-2, 4-6, 6-2 at No. 3, and Gery fell to freshman Casey MacMaster 6-4, 6-2. MacMaster is now 12-2 this spring.

“It's a new thing for the juniors—they haven't lost so many matches.”

—Bid Goswami  
men's tennis coach

“We won the first set in three matches,” Goswami said. “If we had won the doubles point, it would have put a lot more pressure on them [Harvard].”

Schneiderman, the Lions No. 1 singles player, struggled against Pearlman on Saturday.

“Haig is having a lot of trouble recovering from long matches,” Goswami said. “I thought it was a winnable match against Pearlman, but he wasn't 100 percent. Still, we're grateful that he's playing, and still fighting.”

Despite the struggles, Goswami doesn't think success is far off.

“We're not playing poorly,” Goswami said. “We win one match and we're back. I'm not saying we're going to win the Ivies, but we'll be walking with a strut.”

The Lions are going to have to rebound quickly, as they will host Yale and Brown this weekend, when Ivy play continues. The matches will be played on Saturday and Sunday respectively, with both starting at 2 p.m.



ALYSON GOULDEN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
GERY NICE | Nate Gery helped the Lions to the doubles point against Dartmouth but it was not enough.

MONDAY MORNING  
week 1 CLOSER

GAME BALL

Game ball goes to outfielder Nick Cox, who had six hits in seven plate appearances against Harvard. He walked in his other at-bat, making his on-base percentage for the day 1.000. The senior is now on the top ten all-time hits list for Columbia, and also tied for second in all-time steals as well.

SHINING SHUTOUT

The Light Blue shut out Harvard in its second game of Sunday's doubleheader. Starter Stefan Olson threw just 73 pitches in the first seven innings, and junior Harrison Slutsky came in to pitch the final two innings, his only conceded hit coming to the first batter he faced in the eighth.

IVY STANDINGS

	W	L	PCT
Penn	4	0	1.00
Princeton	4	0	1.00
Columbia	2	2	.500
Dartmouth	2	2	.500
Yale	2	2	.500
Brown	1	3	.250
Cornell	1	3	.250
Harvard	0	4	.000

IVY SCHEDULE

						
VS. DARTMOUTH 4/2 12 P.M. L 4-6 2:30 P.M. L 1-8	VS. HARVARD 4/3 1 P.M. W 11-2 3:30 P.M. W 8-0	AT BROWN 4/9 12 P.M. 2:30 P.M.	AT YALE 4/10 12 P.M. 2:30 P.M.	VS. CORNELL 4/16 12 P.M. 2:30 P.M.	AT PRINCETON 4/23 12 P.M. 2:30 P.M.	VS. PENN 4/29 12 P.M. 2:30 P.M.
				4/17 12 P.M. 2:30 P.M.	4/24 12 P.M. 2:30 P.M.	AT PENN 4/30 12 P.M. 2:30 P.M.

LACROSSE

Columbia loses two contests, yet to see victory in Ivy play

The Columbia lacrosse team fell 13-6 to No. 8 Penn this weekend in a match that saw the Quakers take an early lead which the Light Blue was never able to surmount. Penn, perhaps the top team in the Ivy League, entered the contest hoping for a win, as it had been crushed 16-4 on Friday by the nation's top team, Maryland. The Lions, on the other hand, had something to prove as they went in search of their first conference win.

The Quakers scored twice in the opening eight minutes of the game, but Columbia sophomore midfielder Olivia Mann put Columbia on the board with an unassisted shot. However, Penn responded with three goals over the span of a minute to build a significant lead. Light Blue sophomore attacker Kacie Johnson scored off a free position shot to put the score at 5-2, but the Quakers went on another scoring spree during the remainder of the half and entered the interval with a 9-2 lead.

The largest lead the Red and Blue possessed was eight, at 10-2, which happened soon after the start of the second half. The remainder of the game featured back and forth scoring for both squads, with junior midfielder Taylor Gattinella recording a brace for the Lions.

The Quakers outshot Columbia 29-21. Junior goalkeeper Karlee Blank made 14 saves for the Light Blue, whereas the two goalies for the Red and Blue only recorded six saves combined.

The Lions return to action this Wednesday at Robert K. Kraft Field when they take on Quinnipiac at 3 p.m.

—Rebeka Cohan

Designing new proposal for bracket scoring

PAGELS from back page

refuse to acknowledge CBS's inane insistence on referring to the four play-in games as the “first round” and the 32 games on Thursday and Friday as the “second round.”

So to sum up: A blindly fanatic UConn alum who goes 1-for-32 in the first round and 1-for-16 in the second could potentially tie a guy who goes 31-for-32 and 16-for-16, respectively, in an upset-filled tournament.

The weight placed on the later rounds is just too much. Assuming Butler goes down, I guarantee that at least 48 of the top 50 brackets on ESPN will all have UConn listed as their champion. It's simply too difficult to beat someone in a pool when they're getting 32 points and you're not.

279,308 brackets on ESPN's Tournament Challenge have the Huskies going all the way. At the end of the first Friday two weeks ago, ZERO had a perfect 32-for-32 first round—yet ESPN awards the same number points for either event. I don't understand why this is the default scoring system for almost all major bracket pools, but the Deplorable Doubling approach seems to be firmly in place for now.

Here's my proposal:

- 1st Round = 1 point
- Sweet 16 = 2 points
- Elite 8 = 3 points
- Final Four = 6 points
- Championship Game = 8 points
- Champion = 10 points

Yes, it's quite a scale down from the current status quo, but it's a much fairer way of determining which accountant in the office pool deserves to take home the \$55 first place winnings. Picking the champion will still net you a pretty 30 points total, but it won't be the sole factor in naming a pool winner as it effectively is right now.

The weight placed on the later rounds is just too much.

By giving marginally more emphasis on the first and second round games in tournament pools, conferences like the Ivy League and other mid-majors might garner some more attention come bracket-filling time. For example, those who studied Cornell last year, knew they were under-seeded

as a No. 12, and correctly predicted them to go to the Sweet 16, got a measly three points for their efforts—i.e. 4.8 percent of the 63 points that Christian Laettner got for annually penciling Duke in to win it all in his High School Janitor co-workers' pool.

It now seems as if conferences outside of the BCS are not only garnering minimal attention from the ESPN analysts and reporters, but also from the fans filling out the brackets themselves. Lessening the dominant stranglehold that Final Four predictions have on a bracket would help spread interest to some of the lesser-known conferences and increase the chances that five-star recruits might consider these non-powerhouses for college.

For those of you signing up for another session of the sadistic national pastime next March, I highly recommend CBSSportsline.com or another site that allows you to customize your point settings. Shaka Smart will appreciate it when his 2012 VCU National Champion prediction flames out in the first round.

Jim Pagels is a Columbia College sophomore majoring in American Studies.  
sports@columbiaspectator.com



Bracketology we can believe in

Look, we all got hammered in our March Madness pools this year. Even Shaka Smart only had VCU winning the play-in game. But luckily, we don't simply have ourselves to blame for our poor performances—we can also point the finger at ESPN, Yahoo, and CBS Sports themselves!



JIM PAGELS  
On the Couch

The way the major sites score brackets is, as Jay Bilas would say, “indefensible.” Yeah, one point for the first round is fine, two points for the second round, great, but as it keeps on doubling, that’s where it gets a bit dicey. I have an idea for a better way to run things, bracketology we can believe in.

Assuming UConn wins the Championship game tonight, yes that small group that picked them to go all the way rightfully deserves its due credit, but do those fortuitous few really deserve 1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + 16 + 32 = 63 points total over the course of six rounds for one championship pick?

- Let's put it this way:
- A guy whose bracket had the Huskies winning the title but who lost EVERY other game (meaning he picked all four No. 16 seeds over No. 1 seeds, all No. 15 seeds over No. 2 seeds, etc.) would get 63 points.
  - A guy who picked EVERY first round\* game correctly except Morehead State, then went on to pick EVERY Sweet 16 team correctly (including No. 8 Butler, No. 11 Marquette, No. 11 VCU, and No. 12 Richmond), but then missed all the Elite Eight teams would also get 63 points.
- (\*Please note that I steadfastly

SEE PAGELS, page 9



FILE PHOTO

DYNAMIC DAN | Senior pitcher Dan Bracey allowed two runs on five hits in six innings for his third win of the season.

Columbia loses matches against pair of Ivies

BY KUNAL GUPTA  
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

In the midst of an eight-match losing streak, the men's tennis team could not snap out of the skid against league rivals Dartmouth and Harvard, as it was swept by the pair on the first weekend of Ivy play. For the first time since 2001-02, the two-time defending Ivy League champions are guaranteed to have an overall losing record. The team's record fell to 6-12 (0-2 Ivy) this spring after the weekend sweep.

“The boys are pressing,” said head coach Bid Goswami, who has led the Lions to an above .500 record in dual matches in all but one of his 29 seasons as head coach. “It’s a new thing for the juniors—they haven’t lost so many matches.”

The teams loss to Dartmouth, who finished 2-5 in Ivy play last spring, may have been a surprise to outsiders, but Goswami knew going in that Dartmouth was a good team.

“I knew Dartmouth was a very good team,” Goswami said. “They had a match point to win against Cornell [now ranked No. 49]. They are a much improved team and they forced us to play well.”

The Lions started strongly against the Big Green, winning the doubles point with wins at No. 1 and 3 doubles. But Columbia lost all the momentum they earned with the doubles point when Dartmouth won all six first sets in singles. The only Lion to rebound would be junior Haig Schneiderman at No. 1 singles. Schneiderman defeated

Michael Laser in three sets, coming back from losing the first set to win 2-6, 6-1, 6-4. Senior co-captain Kevin Kung lost 6-2, 6-2 to Xander Centenari and sophomore Cyril Bucher lost 6-3, 6-0 to Curtis Roby at No. 3. Fellow sophomore Nate Gery fell 6-4, 6-4 at No. 4 and his classmate John Yetimoglu gave Brandon DeBot a tough fight, but eventually fell 6-3, 3-6, 6-4 in a hard-fought match. Freshman Tizian Bucher lost 6-4, 6-2 at No. 6.

“Dartmouth is good,” Goswami said. “It looks like we lost, but really, they just beat us. They were better.”

Columbia would not replicate its success in doubles against a tough No. 70 Harvard squad.

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Light Blue goes 2-2 to commence Ivy play

BY RYAN YOUNG  
Spectator Staff Writer

The Lions embarked on their Ivy League baseball schedule this weekend with a pair of doubleheaders that both ended in sweeps. Saturday's Ivy League Baseball Championship Series rematch with Dartmouth turned out to be just as disappointing for Lions' fans as it was last May, while yesterday Columbia appeared to take out its frustration on Harvard.

The first game of the weekend was the only one that was competitive and full of momentum swings, as a three-run blast in the final inning led to a 6-4 Dartmouth (12-6, 2-2 Ivy) win. Junior starting pitcher Pat Lowery got off to a rough start by allowing a pair of first inning home runs to junior shortstop Joe Sclafani and sophomore catcher Chris O'Dowd. However, after allowing three runs in the first two innings, Lowery settled in, striking out eight in the game and not allowing a run over the next four innings.

“I thought they hit a couple balls hard early, but then I thought Pat settled in and did a real good job,” coach Brett Boretti said. “He gave us a chance to come back, which we did.”

Columbia (11-11, 2-2 Ivy) began to mount its comeback with a two-run third inning. The Lions used small-ball to rally in the inning, including an RBI groundout followed by a two-out RBI bunt hit for junior third baseman Jon Eisen.

Columbia would wait until the sixth inning to mount their next rally when a ball by Dartmouth starter Kyle Hunter moved both Columbia base runners into scoring position, setting up a clutch

SEE BASEBALL, page 8

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