

Construction to begin soon at Baker Field

BY CHELSEA LO
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

With the City Council's approval in hand, Columbia will begin construction on the Campbell Sports Center by the end of this month.

"Demolition of the existing small maintenance building and construction mobilization for the Campbell Sports Center is scheduled to begin in late April," Facilities spokesperson Dan Held wrote in an email. "Construction is expected to last 12-15 months."

Columbia's plans for the construction of a 48,000-square-foot athletics complex cleared their final hurdle last week when the City Council approved the University's development plans at Baker Field, which sits at 218th Street and Broadway in Inwood.

Plans for the property include a public waterfront park known as Boathouse Marsh and the Campbell Sports Center, which will include offices for coaches, a student-athlete study center, an auditorium, and meeting spaces. Held said Columbia is still finalizing the design of the Boathouse Marsh, which will include a waterfront park area designed by James Corner Field Operations, the landscape architecture company that designed the High Line park.

Columbia has almost secured the funding it needs to begin development on the \$50 million plan, said Corey Aronstam, deputy director of development

SEE BAKER, page 2



CHABALI BRAVO FOR SPECTATOR

WALK ON | Marchers made a circuit around Morningside Heights at the annual Take Back the Night march on Thursday.

USenate drafting resolution to make evaluations public

BY ELISSE ROCHE
Columbia Daily Spectator

Some members of the University Senate say that CULPA is no longer enough—but many faculty members say they're unconvinced.

The University Senate's Education Committee is drafting a resolution to make all University course evaluations public, senator Alex Frouman, CC '12, said.

Frouman has been working

this semester on the proposal, which would encourage all schools to make their evaluations public to students and faculty. A few schools, including the School of Engineering and Applied Science, already do.

Frouman, who was reelected to the senate this week, called this resolution his top priority in the senate.

"The desired service is apparent, for example in CULPA, which is almost impossible to use during registration due to such

high levels of traffic," Frouman said, referring to the unofficial rating site for Columbia professors. "We know people want this information."

University Senator Paul Brenner, a graduate student at SEAS, believes that course evaluation access would allow for more open communication than independently-run review websites.

"I believe that students would benefit from the information provided by open evaluations

and that faculty would benefit from that information being provided under a common framework," Brenner said.

Frouman and Brenner cited the extreme nature of the opinions on CULPA as an example of the site's limited usefulness, saying that students would benefit from seeing the more even-handed course evaluations that students fill out at the end of each semester.

SEE EVALS, page 2

Students march against sexual violence

Hundreds show for Take Back the Night

BY ABBY MITCHELL
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Enthusiastic whistles and chants filled the night air on Thursday—the sounds of an estimated 800 students who gathered for the 23rd annual Take Back the Night march.

"These are conversations that don't happen enough, and so the fact that we're openly saying, 'We're standing here, we're talking about it, speak out,' is definitely a conversation starter," said Jennifer Levinson, BC/JTS '11, the co-coordinator of the march. "It's the only forum like that on campus."

According to organizers, the goal of the march, which was founded at the height of the feminist movement in 1978, is to acknowledge the problem of sexual violence on college campuses and to create a safe space for survivors.

As they marched, protesters chanted phrases like, "Rape is a felony, even with a CUID" and "Yes" means 'yes' and 'no' means 'no,' whatever we wear, wherever we go."

SEE TBTN, page 2

Nussbaum closes after health inspection

BY CHELSEA LO
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Customers may have been getting more than cream cheese with their bagels at Nussbaum & Wu recently.

The popular café at 113th Street and Broadway was closed on Thursday after failing a routine sanitation inspection that morning.

Nussbaum racked up 59 violation points for "extensive unsanitary conditions, including vermin infestation, inadequate refrigeration facilities, and food contamination," Department of Health and Mental Hygiene spokesperson Susan Craig said in an email. That's more than double the amount of points needed for a "C" grade—the lowest grade given under the agency's inspection system,



HANNAH BOTKIN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

VIOLATIONS | Inspectors gave student favorite Nussbaum & Wu 59 violation points Thursday, forcing it to close temporarily.

where 0-13 points is an "A" and more than 28 points is a "C."

Employees could be seen scrubbing empty food display cases and mopping floors on

Thursday night. An employee said the café would open "maybe tomorrow."

SEE NUSSBAUM, page 2

After documentary, B-school rethinking ethics

BY SHIRA POLIAK
Spectator Staff Writer

After watching the movie "Inside Job" in October, Business School student Joseph Weishaar was troubled.

The film revealed that Business School Dean R. Glenn Hubbard, Business School professor Frederic Mishkin, and other prominent economists are frequently paid to consult for financial services companies and other business interests, and alleged that this compensation often influences their academic work.

"It damages the school's reputation," Weishaar said in an email. "The administration can mitigate the damage, but if they don't respond it makes it look like the school is complicit"

At a town hall later that month, Weishaar confronted Hubbard about the movie, asking him how Columbia was responding to its

claims about conflicts of interest among economists. Hubbard told him that there was some internal discussion about the film, but he said nothing about a public response.

University President Lee Bollinger and Provost Claude Steele declined to be interviewed for the film, although both have since discussed the movie's claims publicly. Bollinger told Spectator in a recent interview that he is taking them very seriously, and that he has asked Provost Claude Steele, the University's highest academic officer, to lead a review of the school's conflict of interest policy. A central question is whether professors should be required to disclose their outside consulting work to the University, which they are not required to do under current policy.

The University Senate and the Business School administration are also conducting their own reviews of the University's policy. Administrators, professors, and students, though, say that these reviews are about more than just conflict of interest policies—Columbia's reputation is at stake.

Conflict of Interest

This is the third in a three-part series about the University's disclosure policies.

KEY PLAYERS



CHRISTOPHER MAYER

Senior Vice Dean of Business School
Appointed by Hubbard to oversee Business School conflict of interest policy review.



SHARYN O'HALLORAN

Chair of University Senate Executive Committee
Chair of senate's Ad Hoc Conflict of Interest Review Committee.



CLAUDE STEELE

Columbia University Provost
Overseeing central administration's conflict of interest policy review.



FREDERIC MISHKIN

Business School professor
Paid \$134,858 by the Iceland Chamber of Commerce to write a study on Iceland's economy.



GLENN HUBBARD

Dean of Business School
Paid \$250,000 per year to sit on the board of MetLife.



CHARLES FERGUSON

Director of "Inside Job," which won Best Documentary Feature of 2010 at the Academy Awards in February.

ALL PHOTOS FROM WIKIMEDIA COMMONS / GRAPHIC BY STEPHANIE MANNHEIM

NEWS BRIEF

Wed. arrest on College Walk for laptop theft in library

The man arrested on College Walk on Wednesday night allegedly stole a laptop from a University library.

Police said Thursday that Frank Todd, who is not affiliated with the University, was arrested and charged with burglary, trespass, and criminal possession of stolen property.

Daniel Held, a spokesperson for Public Safety, said that Todd had entered a library without permission, and that this wasn't his first crime on campus.

"The suspect was identified by a University affiliate based upon a picture alert that was distributed campus-wide and was shortly thereafter apprehended

by Columbia Public Safety," Held said in an email.

Todd was arrested after Public Safety and the Police Department received information from a librarian about the incident. He was tackled and handcuffed on College Walk at about 8:30 p.m. after sprinting from the north end of campus, student witnesses said.

There were two undercover police cars and four Public Safety cars at the bottom of the steps during the arrest.

"This arrest of a non-affiliate who has committed several crimes on our campus is an example of how we as a University community work together to

keep our campus safe," Held said.

As for the laptop theft, students like Mike Laracuente, CC '13, said it's all too easy to give potential thieves the chance.

"I feel like campus as a whole is very secure. Students don't have anything to worry about," Laracuente said.

But he recognized that there's an issue with feeling too safe, to the point of leaving possessions unattended—especially at the libraries.

"I feel way too safe in Butler. I leave my stuff there all the time," he said.

—Karla Jimenez and Abby Mitchell

OPINION, PAGE 4

Embrace spring

Kathryn Brill urges us to act like prosies and bask in the sun.

Act locally

Local activism and global perspectives go hand in hand.



SPORTS, PAGE 6

Lions take on Cornell in 4-game series

The Light Blue baseball team will host the Big Red in two consecutive doubleheaders this Friday and Saturday at Satow Stadium as it looks to improve its conference record.

EVENTS

Battle for Bacchanal

Student musicians compete for the chance to be Snoop Dogg's opening act at Bacchanal.

Lerner Party Space, 8:30 p.m.

Through the Looking-Glass

The Columbia Science Review and Postcrypt Art Gallery join for an art-science exhibit.

Wien Hall, 5-7 p.m.

WEATHER

Today



55°/43°

Tomorrow



52°/52°

Students say popular spot’s closing is “horrifying”

NUSSBAUM from front page

“If they correct all of the violations, they will have a re-opening inspection and then would be allowed to reopen if they have addressed all of the Health Department’s concerns,” Craig said.

Prapti Chatterjee, CC ’12, said she occasionally picks up pizza from Nussbaum and called the forced closure “horrifying.”

“I don’t frequent it, but it is the go-to place for breakfast,” she said.

Cameron Anderson, a West Harlem resident, was surprised to see the lights off when she went to Nussbaum to pick up some food.

“It’s like a totally popular place,” she said. “It surprises you, being a big place near Columbia.”

She said when the new inspection system began, requiring restaurants to post their sanitation grades prominently in their

storefront windows, she and her husband nervously waited for a favorite local Mexican restaurant to get its grade.

“It’s sad, just one day the whole thing closed its doors, just like this,” she said.

Bank Street student Tracy Fine pointed at the “A” grade sign from Nussbaum’s inspection last October, posted three feet away from the official yellow “closed” sign from the DOHMH commissioner.

“I want to know how they got that grade,” she said.

Anderson said it’s a little unsettling to know that restaurant workers knew they were serving food to customers with rats around, but she’ll probably come back to Nussbaum for their bagels and cream cheese once they’re allowed to reopen.

“It’s gross,” she said. “But you also think, I’ve been eating this for seven years and I’m fine.”

chelsea.lo@cumbiaspectator.com

USenate to talk about giving students access to evaluations

EVALS from front page

“Such sites tend to accumulate more extreme opinions from students who feel passionately in favor or against a class,” Brenner said.

But some faculty members are wary of making all evaluations public.

Economics professor and University Senator Michael Adler said that public course evaluations could cause professors to adjust their teaching styles to receive better reviews.

“It will put pressure on instructors with low ratings to improve their style and reach out more to students,” Adler said. “I understand that instructors have to be sometimes unforgiving when they are attempting to teach a hard, high-workload course.”

Biology professor and University Senator Ron Prywes agreed, saying he worries that making evaluations public “would change them from a constructive tool for evaluation and improvement to a bludgeon for punishment of instructors students don’t like.”

Adler added that he has heard other faculty voice the concerns that some professors would attempt to improve their popularity by “dumbing” their courses down and that junior faculty and teaching assistants could be adversely affected if evaluations were made public.

University Senator Esteban Reichberg, a TA and student in the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, said

that releasing evaluations could lower enrollment in classes taught by “either newer or less popular faculty members.”

He added that newer faculty members might suffer from small sample sizes.

“If evaluations are made public, they should be released only after a robust amount of feedback has accumulated, after new teachers have gained experience,” Reichberg said.

Frouman acknowledged that junior faculty might be against the policy.

“They get bad course evaluations at first, and they are afraid that it may tarnish their reputation,” he said. “This is a very important concern.”

Those concerns are shared by some TAs, Brenner noted.

“TAs are especially concerned that evaluations could be taken as an official evaluation of their teaching ability at a time when they are still supposed to be learning to teach,” he said.

Still, Frouman said that there is some support by professors for making their evaluations public.

He said that he once asked a math professor to recommend other courses in the department to him, but that the professor didn’t feel comfortable doing so because he didn’t know which professors students preferred.

“He is always hesitant to recommend faculty because he doesn’t know how they relate to undergraduates,” Frouman said. “And relating to the undergraduates is the point of the story here.”

news@cumbiaspectator.com

Estimated 800 students turn out for Take Back the Night

TBTN from front page

The second chant hit home with many female students who said they feel targeted and harassed on a daily basis.

“When you’re walking in the street at night, some guy catcalls you, and you feel uncomfortable, even here,” said Ileini Romero, BC ’14 and a newcomer to the march. “People just say, ‘Oh this is the college lifestyle, I guess this it’s supposed to happen,’ but that’s not true ... It’s not okay to be catcalled, it’s not okay to use violence against us.”

Though participants were mainly female, around 75 male students were dispersed within the crowd, cheering and chanting just as loudly. The march had historically been women only, but in 2008 it became open to both genders. However, the space at the beginning of the crowd is reserved exclusively for women.

“There are a lot of women survivors, and it can be really traumatic for them to hear male voices, triggering emotions, and it’s really important that we maintain that safe space and distance,” explained co-coordinator Gita Deo, BC ’12.

Levinson added that the safe space also serves as a reminder of the history of the event as a women-led initiative.

“This is the best way we’ve found so far to incorporate

everyone and still respect the history,” she said.

Erik Nook, CC ’12, a volunteer at the march, said, “I think it’s important that men participate. It’s important ... to open it up for discussion to everyone in the community and for everyone to be involved, so obviously you want guys to be here.”

As participants took to the streets, bystanders watched from their windows and doorways, cheering and clapping.

Members of the Police Department cleared the roads for the march, a process they gladly undertook.

As he ushered the sea of students across Broadway, one officer said, “It seems like a great cause. We’re happy to help in any way we can.”

This positive atmosphere did not detract from the seriousness of sexual violence.

Shelley Ramrattan said she recognized the impact of sexual violence on students and emphasized the importance of supporting people as they face it.

“If you’re out in the real world, you don’t necessarily think that there are people on your side ... and you can feel alone,” Ramrattan said. “This event is an emotional support system, whether you’ve been through it or not.”

abby.mitchell@cumbiaspectator.com



FILE PHOTO

BAKER FIELD | According to officials Columbia has almost secured the funding it needs to begin development on the \$50 million project.

Plans for waterside park finalized as City approves construction

BAKER from front page

for athletics.

“We have raised a majority of the funds necessary to start the project,” she said.

Meanwhile, Columbia has already begun to prepare for construction, Held said, referring to small holes known as geotechnical borings that have been drilled into the ground around the site.

A sticking point in the city approval process was neighborhood residents’ desire to have Columbia guarantee certain benefits for Inwood in exchange for a zoning waiver, which is allowing the University to provide only 1.5 percent of its property for public waterfront access instead of the 15 percent required by law.

Columbia officials are still working on finalizing a community partnership agreement with Inwood residents. Last week, members of Advocates for Inwood Manhattan met briefly with Columbia and City Council member Robert Jackson to go over a tentative community agreement. But resident Susan Ryan, an organizer from AIM, said the community is still waiting for a response from Columbia.

“The ball is in Columbia’s court,” Ryan said. “We are hopeful that Columbia University will come back to us with an agreement that is legally enforceable, that has substantive community benefits, and that Columbia will honor its commitment to be a

good neighbor.”

University spokesperson Victoria Benitez said that Columbia officials “look forward to meeting with the community for project updates and ongoing collaborations.”

“University officials will continue to work with elected officials and the local community to provide long-term enjoyment of the new Boathouse Marsh and Columbia’s athletic facilities by both local residents and the University,” Benitez said.

Council member Jackson could not be reached for comment on Thursday.

Ryan said she and other residents are hopeful that longtime concerns like disruptive stadium lighting will be resolved by the

agreement.

“It’s a really significant issue—it’s been going on for years,” she said, noting that light pollution affects both residents on 218th Street and neighborhood wildlife.

AIM member Roger Meyer said that the group is still confident that they will come to a satisfactory agreement, as long as Columbia keeps the conversation open.

“Columbia University can really be a vibrant addition,” Meyer said. “But it does take an ongoing and open dialogue with the community, which we hope we’ve helped set a precedent for in northern Manhattan.”

chelsea.lo@cumbiaspectator.com

Documentary prompts review of conflict of interest policy

CONFLICT from front page

a top economic adviser to former President George W. Bush, and Mishkin was a governor of the Federal Reserve.

“I was shocked at the lack of ethics that they displayed. They are in really powerful positions—they have been in powerful positions in the Federal Reserve and the President’s economic advisors,” O’Connell said. “But when they were asked about ... declaring their conflict of interests, they acted like that was not done in the business world, and I couldn’t believe it.”

Hubbard and Mishkin, who were both featured in on-camera interviews in “Inside Job,” declined to be interviewed for this story. In a message posted on the Business School’s Facebook page in February, the day after “Inside Job” won the Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature, Hubbard defended his decision not to publicly contest the film’s claims.

“I have not actively worked to correct the incomplete picture that Mr. Ferguson has sought to present,” Hubbard wrote. “Rather, I am counting on the discerning minds of individuals to see through to the heart of the issues.”

Weishaar, though, said Hubbard should do more to address the movie publicly.

“The public statements made by the business school administration so far fail to address the conflict of interest issue head on or show any recognition that issues may exist,” Weishaar said. “The mere appearance of conflicts of interest in an academic setting represents a serious issue and it is the administration’s responsibility to actively work to address these issues, whether they are perceived or real.”

But Steele said that the film gave Columbia pause, and that concerns about the school’s reputation prompted the administration’s reassessment of its disclosure policy.

“It’s why we have given this as much attention as we have given it,” Steele said.

But Steele also noted that Columbia revised its conflict of interest disclosure policy in 2009, before “Inside Job” made its impact. This policy is not as strict as the policies at some of Columbia’s peer institutions—including Stanford University and the University of Pennsylvania—but Steele said it was an accomplishment nonetheless.

“The innovation of the policy reflects an awareness of growing concerns on the part of Columbia as an institution. “That’s one of

the elements why I feel proud of it,” Steele said. “Before the movie came out there was a lot of attention to this.”

‘NOT AN IVORY TOWER’

Michael Riordan, the chair of the Economics Department, said it is important for Columbia to engage with the issues raised in “Inside Job” in order to protect its reputation for objectivity in research.

“We are not an ivory tower,” Riordan said. “It’s important for a university to be engaged in policy issues of the day and protect the reputation of objectivity when evaluating those, both in terms of research and public engagement.”

Many economists say the potential for conflicts of interest is an inherent problem in academia.

“It’s always something that academics have had to address over the course of our academic lives. It’s something that as young faculty we ask the advice of older faculty and we ask our students to deal with,” Riordan said. “But it’s something that has largely been dealt with through personal introspection or personal relationships with mentors.”

But in recent months institutions have been looking to formulate clearer policies. The American Economic Association formed the Ad Hoc Committee on Ethical Standards for Economists in January, after being urged to create a code of ethics in a letter signed by 296 economists. Columbia professors Elliott Sclar, Eric Verhoogen, and José Antonio Ocampo were among that letter’s signatories.

Noble Prize-winning economist Robert Solow, a professor emeritus at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is the chair of that committee.

“It has occurred to me for a long time that conflicts of interest are often a problem and you need strong ways to deal with them,” Solow said. “I wasn’t enlightened by ‘Inside Job,’ though I thought it was a very good movie.”

But even those who believe that faculty should disclose consulting work that might present a conflict say that Columbia should encourage consulting. Business School professor Michael Feiner said that consulting work keeps professors informed about the world outside of the classroom.

“It makes them relevant, it makes them know what is going on in the world, it makes them up to date about what issues they can bring into the classrooms,” Feiner said. “But obviously every university needs to have a conflict of interest policy to make sure that when they are consulting they are

doing it not because they are being paid to promote but because they are bringing in outside, relevant factors into the classroom.”

Medical School professor and University Senator Samuel Silverstein, a staunch advocate for greater disclosure, agreed that professors should keep consulting.

“The ability for business school faculty makes them better faculty members,” Silverstein said. “If they didn’t have access to companies they are teaching about, it would be equal to denying me medical literature.”

Still, Silverstein emphasized that when a professor is paid to do work for a company, it is important to examine that work with a critical eye.

“In principle, if you are a paid consultant, it doesn’t matter how much money you are making,” Silverstein said. “Accepting remuneration is to act on behalf of a company.”

ETHICS EDUCATION

But despite the discussion taking place among faculty and administrators—and the fact that images of the Business School’s Uris Hall were projected on movie screens nationwide in “Inside Job”—the Business School’s student leadership has had little to say publicly about the film.

Olivia Albrecht, Business ’10, SIPA ’11, and a co-chair of the Business School’s Student Leadership and Ethics Board, said in an email that “Inside Job” is “a provocative movie that has sparked dialogue within the business and business school community.” But she declined to elaborate on that dialogue and on how the ethics board has responded to the film.

Business School Honor Board Chair Amit Paley declined to comment for this story. University Senator Tao Tan, CC ’07, Business ’11, and the chair of the senate’s Student Affairs Committee, said he has never seen the film.

Yu said that conflicts of interest have been a “dead issue” among students.

“I think people in the Business School haven’t responded because they are afraid,” Yu said. “If you are the dean of a school, obviously all the students are going to be dependent on you for their careers and futures. It’s hard for them to do anything.”

“Inside Job” has also raised questions about whether or not business and economics students at Columbia are receiving a sufficient ethics education. Some professors say questions about conflict of interest, as well as the financial crisis, should

compel these disciplines to re-think the place of ethics in their curricula.

The economics department does not offer courses in business ethics, but Riordan, the department’s chair, said that it should. He added that an ethics component in the department orientation’s program would be especially beneficial for Columbia economics Ph.D. candidates.

The Business School offers several classes that explore ethical issues. According to the website of Columbia’s Sanford C. Bernstein and Co. Center for Leadership and Ethics, the Business School incorporates ethics into its core classes as well.

The Business School’s ethics program was established in the wake of the dot-com boom and the Enron scandal in the early 2000s, Feiner said.

“This [the financial crisis] will happen again,” Feiner said, “unless Columbia, and every other business school, understands that they have a role in teaching the best and the brightest how to be on the lookout and on guard to make sure that they don’t get co-opted in the system.”

He argued that fostering business ethics must be one of the school’s primary goals, and that it needs to do more to achieve that. He noted the difficulty of fitting more material into the curriculum but suggested including ethics in every business core class, expanding its role in the school’s orientation, and adding another core course on ethics.

“I think we could do more ... I think we should. I think we must,” Feiner said. “And I hope that over the next year or so faculty committee thinks about that.”

A Business School spokesperson declined to comment on the school’s ethics education.

Yu, too, emphasized the importance of combating unethical behavior. She said that in the long run, it is not enough for Columbia to protect its reputation—it must address the alleged wrongdoings of its professors.

“Eventually we have to ask if professors such as Dean Hubbard do the things that they are exposed to be doing in the film, do we want such people to be the deans of our business school, where we teach 21st-century ethics and responsibility courses?” Yu asked.

“No one is holy here,” she added. “We have to think whom do we want [at Columbia], not just bend to authority because people happen to be the dean.”

Sammy Roth contributed reporting.

shira.poliak@cumbiaspectator.com

Thousands of college students are addicted to this kind of pot.

Gambling is a common part of college life, but some people become addicted to gambling and get into serious emotional, financial and even legal trouble.

So take precautions to prevent problems. Set a limit on the time and money you spend gambling.

If gambling is causing a problem for you or someone you know, call the National Problem Gambling Helpline (800.522.4700) for confidential help 24/7 or goto www.ncpgambling.org

SAVE TIME, EFFORT AND MAYBE EVEN SOME MONEY ON YOUR TAXES. VISIT IRS.GOV

<http://www.irs.gov>

Make this your first stop before you do your taxes.

Everything you want to know is all in one reliable place—irs.gov. You'll find all the tax information and forms you need. There are easy online tools to help you calculate your eligibility for tax credits and track your refund. And it's all free. Prefer the phone? Call 1-800-829-4477 for 150 tax topics in English or Spanish. Either way, you know the information is good because it's from the official source—the IRS.

irs.gov. See how it can help you.

Equal rights for ears.

©2007 Better Hearing Institute

Correcting hearing loss is as easy as correcting your vision. For a free "Guide to Better Hearing" and other help, call or visit our website. 1-800-EARWELL betterhearing.org

BETTER HEARING INSTITUTE

Advocates for America's ears.

Colon polyps. Stop them before they go bad.

Colon cancer almost always starts with a polyp. Get the polyp early and stop colon cancer before it even starts. And that's for both men and women. Just get a test from your doctor. 1-800-ACS-2345 or cancer.org

Colon cancer. Get the test. Get the polyp. Get the cure.

SPECTRUM

www.columbiaspectator.com

COLUMBIASPECTATOR.COM

INSIDIOUS IS "A HAUNTED-HOUSE MOVIE THAT HAS SOME OF THE MOST SHIVERY AND INDELIBLE IMAGES I'VE SEEN IN ANY HORROR FILM IN DECADES." GRADE A-

—Dave Karger, ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

INSIDIOUS IS "MOST TERRIFYING FILM SINCE 'THE EXORCIST'"

—Dave Karger, WGBS RADIO

BUT... "JUST DON'T GO IN ALONE."

—John Anderson, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

FROM THE MAKERS OF PARANORMAL ACTIVITY

INSIDIOUS

A JAMES WAN FILM

PG-13

AMC EMPIRE 29 42ND ST. & 8TH AVE. 888-AMC-4FUN

AMC LOEWS 34TH ST. BET. 8TH & 9TH AVE. 888-AMC-4FUN

AMC LOEWS 84TH STREET & 87AVE & 84TH ST. 888-AMC-4FUN

AMC LOEWS WEST 34TH ST. 14 34TH ST. BET. 8TH & 9TH AVE. 888-AMC-4FUN

REGAL ENT. GROUP UNION SQUARE STADIUM 14 13TH ST. & 87AVE 800-FANDANGO #528

REGAL ENT. GROUP BATTERY PARK STADIUM 11 VESKY AT WEST ST. 800-FANDANGO #529

AMC MAGIC JOHNSON HARLEM 9 125TH ST. & FREDERICK DOUGLASS BLVD. 888-AMC-4FUN

COLUMBIASPECTATOR.COM 751 WEST 181ST ST. 745-1545

AND AT THEATERS EVERYWHERE

FOLLOW US ON facebook AND twitter www.insidious-movie.com

TANNING BEDS R 4 LOSERS.

UV rays from tanning beds can B up to 15x stronger than the sun.

UV rays can cause skin cancer, the kind that can kill U.

Tanning beds R over.

Physicians Dedicated to Excellence in Dermatology

www.aad.org

A first message from the American Academy of Dermatology

Center for Environmental Research and Conservation
EARTH INSTITUTE | COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

SEE-U

Summer Ecosystem Experiences for Undergraduates

Fulfill core science requirements!

Earn 6 Credits in just 5 weeks.

Learn ecology and environmental sustainability in unique natural settings through applied research and field techniques:

Jordan: May 21 – June 23
Puerto Rico: May 28 – July 2
Dominican Republic: July 9 – August 13

www.cerc.columbia.edu
212-854-0149
cerc@columbia.edu

- All majors may apply.
- Partial fellowship available through CERC.
- Rolling admissions - Next deadline: April 22



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
Spectrum 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
Karla Jimenez, 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 Glibicki, Kunal Gupta
Infrastructure Editor
Amrita Mazumdar
Sales
Thomas Elustondo, Alex Smyk
Finance
Gabriela Hempfling, Noah Kolatch, Daniela Quintanilla
Alumni
Rob Frech, Rex Macaylo

ASSOCIATE BOARD

Editorial Page Editors
Andrea Garcia-Vargas, Samantha Henderson, 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 Fisch, Jessica Geiger, Emily Handsman, Michelle Lappen, Hannah Laymon, Gina Lee, Emily Neil, Emily Sorensen, Sean Wong
Page Design Editors
Maya Fegan, Joe Girtton, Tarvi Gupta, Leila Lin, Geetika Rudra, Finn Vigeland, Isaac White, Laura Ye
Graphic Design Editors
Stephanie Mannheim, Yuma Shirohara
Photo Editors
Arvin Ahmadi, Hannah Botkin, Phoebe Brosnan, Kate Scarbrough, Henry Willson
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, Jiayi Liu, Zhaoxun Ma, Bruno Mendes, Gedion Negash, Kinnari Norojono

EDITORIAL BOARD

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

THURSDAY NIGHT STAFF
Copy
Trevor Cohen, Sierra Kuzava
Design
Hilary Udow

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.

Let the prospie spirit bloom

There are roughly four weeks left before Columbia kicks us out and makes us cart our entire lives out of our rooms in those wobbly blue bins. These last weeks happen to be my favorite ones of the entire semester and possibly the entire year. For instance, I'm writing this while sunning myself on Low Steps. From the looks of it, about half the campus is out here too, so it's likely I don't need to convince you of the awesomeness of the situation. The sun isn't the only lovely thing about these last few weeks, though. It seems that every group on campus tries to cram as many events as possible into the end of April. Theatre productions abound, as do Columbia traditions like Bacchanal and the Varsity Show. The tree next to the Diana Center bursts into bloom, turning Lehman Lawn into a sight worthy of a postcard. My friends start organizing picnics as well.

The atmosphere of April is indisputably different, and although the events I just listed have a lot to do with it, I think the sunshine plays a large role. Whatever the difference, it's certainly a helpful marketing prop for admissions. Because of the way acceptances work at Columbia, the prospies usually arrive for Days on Campus just as the weather gets gorgeous and end-of-year events start. Their first impressions of Columbia will involve blooming trees and sunbathers, as well as whatever gets thrown at them in tours and information sessions. It certainly can't hurt their chances of saying "yes" to coming here.

While sitting out here, I've overheard several people commenting on how the sunshine is giving the prospies a false impression of Columbia life. "They probably think this is what college is like all the time!" is a phrase I've heard more than once this afternoon. While the prospies see happy college students in sundresses strolling lazily down College Walk, those of us who have been here a little longer are very aware of the other side of college life. Naturally, it's not always this sunny and pretty—this is, after all, New York, not California or Texas. But "the other side"—of which the prospies are so blissfully unaware—isn't just snow and rain. The crowds on the steps speak of community, of spending the afternoon hanging out with your friends rather than studying. Scrambling to finish assignments, pulling all-nighters, holing up in the library until the end of midterms or finals—that's the side of college life we're all too familiar with, the side that dominates our lives for most of this year, and it's much less postcard-worthy.

But I'm not entirely okay with letting go of the prospie vision of college in the spring. Sure, it's naïve to assume that the college atmosphere will be the same in winter as in spring, but that doesn't mean we should scoff at the prospies. They're on to something: Going to college in the spring is fantastic, worthy of being celebrated like it's the first time you've ever lounged on the Steps or picnicked on the lawns. When I came to Days on Campus, the weather was balmy and sunny, and the lawns were vibrantly green. I remember reveling in my visit, pretending I was a "real college student" already. I bought Pinkberry and sat on the Steps and enjoyed it with an exuberance I haven't quite recaptured since.

What changed wasn't Columbia but my own view of spring. My urgent need to enjoy sunshine was replaced by my need to finish a paper. The exuberance I felt wasn't simply a result of being new to the college experience.

There's something inherently lovely about Columbia in the spring, and if we aren't seeing it, we should take a step back and reconsider whether we've lost something since our first visits. Maybe we're jaded and a tad weary from overexposure to stress and excessive workloads. Maybe we even feel a little smug about our more accurate understanding of college life. But let's put all that on the back burner for these last few weeks. Instead, let's rediscover the prospie spirit and revel in all things great about spring at Columbia like we're the Class of 2015. Now, if you'll excuse me, I'm way behind on basking in the sun.

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

STAFF EDITORIAL

Casual Friday: Stressing in spring

If you chose the right day to walk across campus this week, Columbia would seem like a glorious, stress-free college. Yesterday students were relaxing on the lawns, smoking on Low Steps, drinking beers out of paper bags, and throwing Frisbees without shirts on.

Prospies be warned: Columbia does not normally look like this. Pale students swarm the steps of Low and scurry across College Walk. They slug coffee out of thermoses and eat unpalatable food from John Jay.

According to the Daily Beast, it is not lack of sleep or decent food options that make Columbia the most stressful university in America. Instead, a combination of high costs, competitiveness, a large engineering program, crime, and low acceptance rates served as the criteria for naming Columbia the most stressful school. We accept the Daily Beast's nomination but present a different set of reasons for our stressful lives. Here are some scenarios that turn a Columbian's life from manageable to unbearable:

You go to one of Columbia's dingy bars to have a couple of beers, relax with friends, and talk about something other than how stressed you are. Instead, cops come into the bar and bust you for having a fake ID.

You're stressed as hell about your Calc III exam. You decide to relieve your stress by taking a two-minute Facebook break—only to find that your friend posted a link telling you that you go to the most stressful school in the country.

You are freaking out about housing—should you "choose" McBain or Wien? Turns out neither—you have been wait-listed.

You're already fighting with your soon-to-be roommate. It's going to be a long year.

The biggest stress-buster of the semester—Bacchanal—is featuring a band that you don't like. Also, Snoop may or may not have assaulted someone.

You crawl out of your study cave to find that the weather is beautiful. You think that spring is finally here—until it hails tomorrow.

Though our days may be more stressed than those of our peers, sunny skies tease us with rain, and exams loom in the very near future, remember that fine summer days lie ahead.



KATHRYN BRILL
We Should Talk

Think global, act local

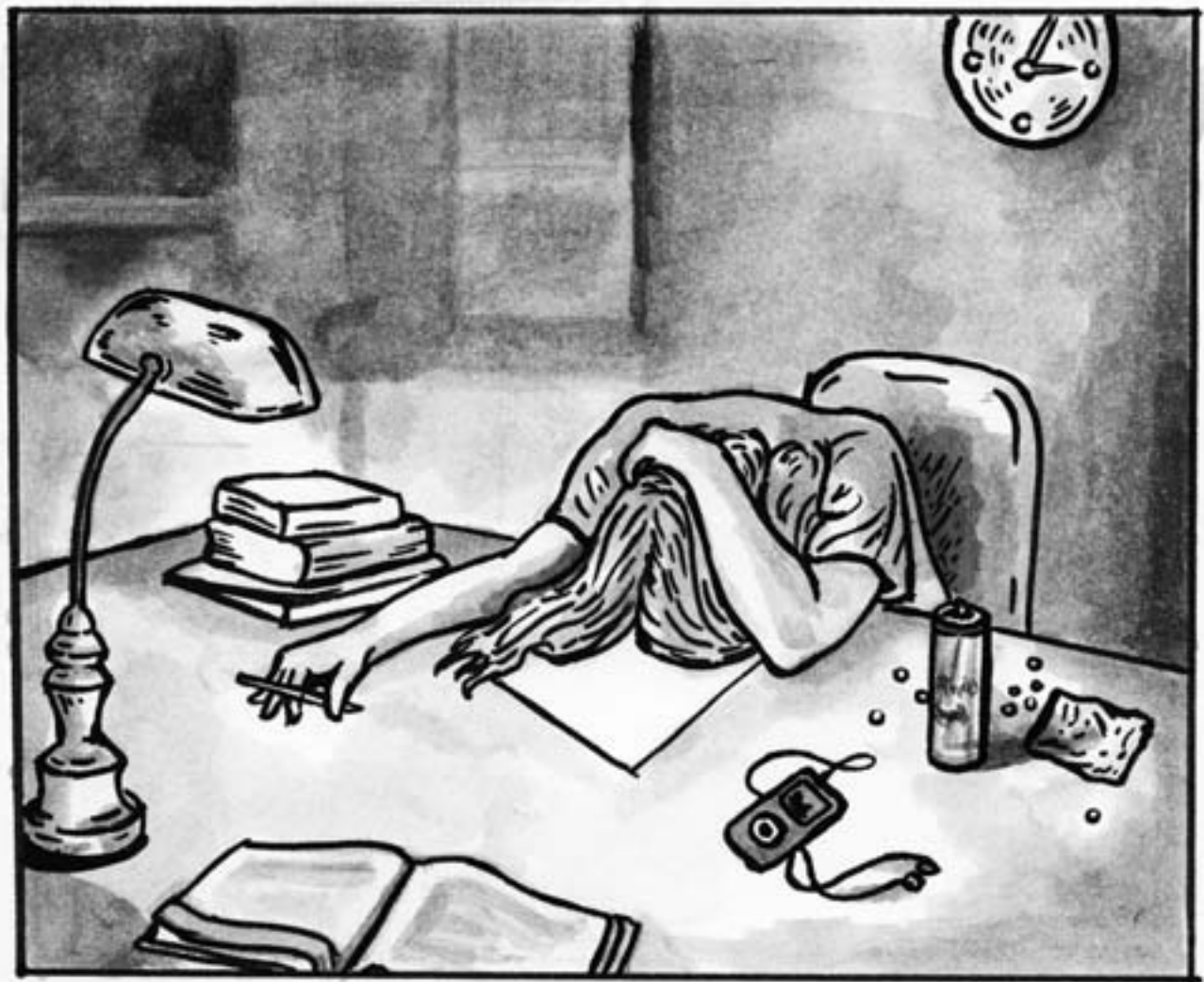
BY SAM KLUG

Things are growing at Columbia again. No, I don't mean our minds (when are they not?). I mean actual, physical, plant-like things. The greenery and the nature, a rarity around here, always remind me of when I worked on a small, hydroponic tomato farm for two summers during high school. The farm's owner—who loved to talk about baseball and give me long lunch breaks and would occasionally go on friendly rants about how crazy it was to allow 16-year-olds to drive—had a faded bumper sticker on the back of his old Volvo that read, "Think Global, Act Local." I was kind of in awe of him at the time, and I fancied myself a bit of a global-citizen-in-training: I did Model UN and even convinced my parents to subscribe to The Economist! Needless to say, I thought this bumper sticker would make a great motto for how to live my life.

Since coming to Columbia, I've found that the University likes to pitch itself as the embodiment of this motto. We have a thriving, enclosed campus, and we have the Columbia Global Centers. We have a traditional Core Curriculum, and we have a Committee on Global Thought. We have clubs that work for sustainability in our dorms and dining halls, and we have clubs that work for the rights of people imprisoned in faraway lands.

Too often, though, we act as though global and local perspectives are mutually exclusive. People who work on local causes—from campus sustainability to tutoring local kids—judge those who attend to questions of more distant import as elitist or out of touch with their community, or else they ignore them all together. People who work on problems far from our borders—justice and peace in Palestine and Israel or public health from Nicaragua to Rwanda—condemn the localites for a narrowness of moral imagination, a failure to understand that problems bigger than those we see exist in the world.

Neither of these perspectives is fair, of course, and I would assign responsibility for this problem on what I call the increasing segmentation of the life of a college student. The expectations of the University, the job market, and even our peers force students to define themselves in narrow, specific



AMALIA RINEHART

Go get some (sleep)!

BY WEIHUI LU

As an Ivy League college situated in a big city, Columbia has an academically and socially ambitious student body—everyone wants to get good grades, be "involved" with club activities, and check out the latest party in EC or the hippest new joint downtown. It's Restaurant Week, it's Fashion Week, it's the New York Film Festival—and somewhere along the way you've got to deal with school, especially now that it's mid-April and class registration and finals are looming. Not to mention those 200 pages of weekly readings you haven't started yet—so you pull an all-nighter and grab a double-shot espresso from Starbucks because one night can't hurt. And then you do it again. And again. You fall into the vicious cycle where less sleep means less efficiency, and inefficiency leaves even less time for sleep. You seek out public places, uncomfortable seats, noisy atmospheres, just to stay awake and put in a few more hours to satisfy your conscience. You're being productive—or at least you're trying.

As the semester rolls on, you begin to feel sore all over. The dark bags under your eyes are starting to peek through the thickest concealer. You get headaches, your eyes are bloodshot by the end of the day, and you forget your ID constantly. The gray skies don't help your depression or your ability to get out of bed in the morning. These are all symptoms of chronic sleep deprivation—a medical condition and the lifestyle choice of most college students. But why do we make this decision?

On one hand, sleeplessness is such a prevalent part of campus culture that it often feels as though we don't actually have another option. Sleep-deprivation and unhealthy behavior are constantly naturalized as we poke fun at ourselves, our third cups of coffee, and "morning people"—the overall rhythm of the college is blatantly biased against their lifestyle choice. (Hewitt, for example, opens at 11 a.m. for brunch on weekends). It is undesirable to be seen going to bed at 10:30 p.m.—don't you have a life?—and how little sleep you got last night always makes a good conversation starter since most can commiserate.

In response to this argument, I think it's important to remember that we are human beings before we are college students, and being alive is essential to "having a life." When facing the glittering lights of the city and the high of being awake at 3 a.m., or even just another looming paper deadline, it's easy to forget that our bodies follow certain patterns and require maintenance. But in the long run, we are the ones who must pay for our accumulated sleep debt, and our youth doesn't give us as much leeway

ways. All the forces operating on a student who arrives at Columbia push him or her to specialize: pick a major, pick a club or two, pick an internship. Pick an issue to care about, as though what we care about in the world can be reduced to issues and interests that we can check boxes for on LionSHARE. Our lives become increasingly compartmentalized. Like Hugh Grant's character in "About a Boy," we divide our time into units: class, 3 units; student group, 2 units; internship, 4 units; 30 Rock on Hulu, 1 unit.

Too often we act like global and local perspectives are mutually exclusive.

When we transform our experience into segments like this, we lose exactly what our education should be teaching us—the ability to see connections between things, to imagine the problems we care about not as issues but as parts of the one big world of which we're a part. The global versus local divide represents one of the most troubling examples of this segmentation, not only because it always ends up being counterproductive, but also because it fails to represent the world accurately. To "Think Global," we have to "Think Local" as well and think about how our local community reflects the broader world and interacts with it. To "Act Local," we have to understand how the broader world affects our community and how our actions might serve as examples to those with similar goals elsewhere.

Dividing our lives into separate compartments and thinking about the world in terms of disconnected issues risks making us more like the protagonist of "About a Boy" than we think. Our concerns may matter more than his expensive shoes or his Mystikal album, but by failing to bring them together, we detract from whatever we seek to do at the global and local levels.

The author is a Columbia College junior majoring in history. He is a former Spectator columnist and is a current member of the Editorial Board.

as we like to think. Studies have shown that long-term sleep deprivation can lead to depression and symptoms of psychosis, creating an inability to distinguish appropriate emotional responses and leaving one prone to (potentially manic) mood-swings and irritability. It has also been shown to damage cognitive functions such as attention and memory, and the reduction in executive function certainly won't help you get a better GPA. Temporary chemical fixes only exacerbate the problem in the long run—we eventually become tolerant to our substance of choice, but only after we've learned that we can get away with giving our bodies very little.

Sleeplessness is a prevalent part of campus culture.

That brings me to my second point: If we are aware that sleep deprivation is a choice, why would anyone make it? Maybe because of our youth and relative inexperience with health issues, we don't realize the magnitude of the consequences we might be facing. I've heard many people tell me, "But it's just college, I won't do this after I graduate." Aside from the possible long-term physical toll that four years of chronic sleep deprivation—which even six hours per night qualifies as—can cause, the problem with this attitude is that it does not acknowledge the power of habits. Psychologically, depending on all-nighters as an emergency backup deprioritizes our health and easily allows it to become our default choice under similar circumstances; in order to maximize so-called productivity, we learn to minimize sleep on our daily schedules, until we convince ourselves that we really just don't have time for it. Physically, the habit of sleep-deprivation can disrupt our circadian rhythms, which may take months to restore, so that even when we do decide that we have time to sleep, our bodies may spend that precious time refusing to cooperate.

Now that class registration has begun, it's the perfect time to stop and reconsider what kind of lifestyle you really want. For once, it might be nice to underestimate yourself: Give yourself a break, and don't take that extra class. Make fewer commitments, and spend more time taking care of yourself. As tacky and obvious as this sounds, you'd be surprised how much happier, smarter, and more beautiful you might be if you made sleep your default choice.

The author is a Barnard College sophomore majoring in English.



COLUMBIA (13-5, 3-5 Ivy)
vs. CORNELL (4-22, 2-6 Ivy)

SATURDAY, 12 P.M., SATOW STADIUM
SATURDAY, 2:30 P.M., SATOW STADIUM

SUNDAY, 12 P.M., SATOW STADIUM
SUNDAY, 2:30 P.M., SATOW STADIUM

RADIO: WKCR 89.9 FM, WWDJ 970 AM •
SPECTRUM.COLUMBIASPECTATOR.COM



Searching for
the origin of the
swimming test

Sink or swim. Those are the two options quite literally facing Columbia College seniors as they approach graduation.

It is a simple task—get into the pool, swim to the far wall, swim back, and then swim to the far wall once more. To many, it is just a blip on the radar, one more form that needs to be signed in the paper trail toward a diploma. Yet as a junior watching seniors approach the end of their time here, I began to wonder where the swim test came from—and the answer proved much more elusive than you might think.

A quick search on the Columbia website does not bear much fruit—the swim test schedule is readily available, as well as descriptions of the P.E. requirement (which includes the swim test), yet an explanation of the origins of the test or the reasoning behind it is nowhere to be found. A Google search produces several blogs that speculate the beginnings of the infamous test. Still, though, no definite answer arises.

It is a mystery which I think warrants a serious investigation. The test is no joke—just ask Mortimer Adler. Adler, who earned a doctorate from Columbia, taught at Columbia, wrote over 30 books, and was the chairman of the Encyclopedia Britannica, was denied a bachelor's here due to his inability to fulfill the swimming requirement. (Sixty years later, the denied pupil, by then known as Dr. Adler, received an honorary degree from the University.)

It is, seemingly, a mystery. A cursory survey of classmates, teammates on the soccer team, and even the renowned managing editor of this very publication failed to yield a satisfying answer.

Sifting through the blogosphere, several potential explanations appear. To guide me through fact and fiction, I turned to Dr. Ken Torrey, the associate athletics director for physical education and a 30-year veteran of the Columbia Athletics Department.

The first story goes something like this: The son of prominent alum X drowns, prompting the alum to donate in the son's name to Columbia under the stipulation that a swim test be required in order to receive a diploma. At Harvard, the rumor was that Eleanor Elkins Widener, a wealthy widow of two victims of the Titanic accident, included the swim test as a stipulation when she donated the Harry Elkins Widener Library in 1915, which is doubtful, as the Crimson's test did not originate until the 20s. Another version of the tale has an extremely wealthy individual donating to not just Columbia but to Cornell and MIT as well under similar conditions.

Indeed, Columbia is far from alone in including a swim test in its curriculum. Aside from the Big Red of Ithaca and the Beavers of Boston, the list includes Notre Dame, Swarthmore, Bryn Mawr, Dartmouth, and the University of Chicago.

Unfortunately, Dr. Torrey debunked the tale. He did point to the period as one in which swimming was not necessarily as common as it is today.

“Back in that time there were not a lot of public pools, so there were many more people taking beginning swimming courses,” Dr. Torrey said, noting that there are still many students who enroll in those classes today in preparation for the test.

The other common anecdote is a more entertaining yarn, one (it appears) that is repeated by Columbia tour guides. A University president long ago decided that, as the school is on an island, students need to be able to get off the island in the event of some sort of catastrophe. This explanation has the added benefit of explaining a particularity of the swim test—as SEAS seniors know,



ZACH
GLUBIAK

Boom
Goes the
Dynamite



HENRY WILLSON / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CRUCETING THE COMPETITION | Sophomore third baseman Nick Crucet has stepped up for the Light Blue recently both on the field and at bat.

Baseball looks to improve Ivy record against Cornell

BY MOLLY TOW
Spectator Staff Writer

The spring semester is nearly finished, but Ivy League baseball finds itself at the heart of its conference matchups with a New York Ivy showdown on the slate this weekend.

The Columbia baseball team (13-15, 3-5 Ivy) will host Cornell (4-22, 2-6 Ivy) for a four-game series at Robertson Field at Satow Stadium to kick off Gehrig Division play.

Both teams have something to prove this weekend, as their current losing records in the Ivy League are not reflective of their talents.

In its last outing this Wednesday, Columbia proved that a team's momentum and past performance coming into a game is a non-factor. The Light Blue, which went 1-3 last weekend, broke Manhattan's 10-game winning streak—it was the longest streak

in the country. Against the Jaspers, the Lions saw yet another game decided by one run, but unlike the Brown doubleheader, this time the outcome was in their favor, as they won 6-5. Columbia showed that it didn't let the craziness of bad weather and rescheduling tamper with its concentration. It started out the game with a bang, scoring four runs in the first inning off a pair of two-run long balls by senior Jason Banos and sophomore Dario Pizzano, and never looked back.

As far as offense is concerned, Columbia hasn't been playing all of its regulars lately, but this has given other players the opportunity to show their stuff. “I feel good about where we are lineup-wise right now,” head coach Brett Boretti said. “We have a lot of options going into this weekend. Some guys have taken advantage of the opportunity in the last two days as far as not having [senior Nick] Cox

and [junior Jon] Eisen in the lineup. Nick Crucet has really stepped up, has played a good third base, and is coming up with some big hits recently. I think that bodes well for some options that we have offensively. Pizzano's been consistent, Banos has been consistent, [senior Alex] Godshall has done a very good job of getting himself on base and picking up some slack, and we hope to get firing on all cylinders offensively.”

Cornell's most recent outing was far less successful than Columbia's, as the Big Red dropped consecutive games to Le Moyne on Tuesday afternoon. Cornell endured a Le Moyne slugfest in its first game, as the Big Red was demolished 19-3 by the Dolphins. The second game, on the other hand, had a completely different flow of play. The Big Red was still on the losing end of the contest, falling 5-1, but it was the dominant Dolphin

pitching that caused Cornell problems this time around.

Compared to the Columbia staff's 3.70, Cornell pitchers have conceded almost twice as many runs per nine innings, with a combined 6.34 earned run average thus far in its season. The Light Blue will look to capitalize on Big Red's pitching lapses, maintain its recent power at the plate, and get men on base early and often, as it did against Manhattan. Columbia also hopes to bring back its running game. “We've had to be a little more conservative recently because we're playing from behind and not getting a lot of guys on base,” Boretti said. The Light Blue can expect to face a rotation that has become fairly set this season. Cornell's first three starters, seniors Jadd Schmeltzer, Taylor Wood, and Corey Pappel, are

SEE BASEBALL, page 7



ALYSON GOULDEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

GOOD JOB GERY | Sophomore Nick Gerry won both his doubles and singles matches against Brown last weekend.

Tennis hosts
Penn, Princeton
this weekend

BY KUNAL GUPTA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

For the first time in years, the men's tennis team has nothing to play for on the second-to-last weekend of the season—except for pride.

With a record of 7-13 (1-3 Ivy) this spring, the pre-season goal of another Ivy title won't be accomplished this season. Instead, the team will have the opportunity to dash the hopes of another contender. This weekend will see the team play its first outdoor Ivy match of the season against Princeton on Friday, as well as hosting arguably the biggest underachiever of the Ivies, Penn, on Sunday.

“I thought coming in Princeton would be a tough match. I was surprised they lost to Binghamton at ECAC's,” head coach Bid Goswami said. “I think that's the last match in the region they've lost. I've always thought Princeton would be a tough match for us.”

The Tigers are off to their best start in Ivy play since 1992. Princeton is one of two Ivy teams that is still undefeated and comes into the match ranked No. 59 in the nation. The Tigers also boast the best singles player in the Ivies in sophomore Matija Pecotic, who is undefeated at No. 1 singles in Ivy play and reached the finals of the ITA Regional Championships in the fall. Princeton boasts a young lineup, playing sophomores at No. 2 and 4 singles and freshmen at No. 3 and 5 singles. Freshman Augie Bloom has been a strong

SEE TENNIS, page 7

SEE GLUBIAK, page 7



STAY ON TARGET

Earn Credits This Summer at
Baruch College—In the Heart of Manhattan

Choose from hundreds of undergraduate or graduate courses in Business, the Arts & Sciences, and Public Affairs.

A NATIONALLY RANKED COLLEGE:

- In the Top **15%** of U.S. Colleges —The Princeton Review
- **4th** among Top 10 Public Colleges in the Region — *U.S. News & World Report*
- The **22nd** Most Desirable Large College (public or private) in U.S. — Kaplan/Newsweek

ONLINE REGISTRATION

Begins April 18th

UNDERGRADUATE RATES

\$300 per credit for
NY State residents

\$640 per credit for
out-of-state residents

SESSION 1 June 2 – July 14

SESSION 2 July 18 – Aug. 18

scan me



BaruchCOLLEGE
www.baruch.cuny.edu/summer

summer
in the city



Weekend

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT • FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2011 • PAGE B1

More to Coney Island than run-down rides and littered sand

BY CLAIRE FU
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Many New Yorkers think of Coney Island as a relic of the past—an ancient amusement park of the post-Civil War era with little to offer besides a rundown beach, a rickety wooden roller coaster, and an overrated hot dog stand.

This Saturday, April 16 marks the year-old Luna Park's 2011 season opening, for which the park will debut four new Scream Zone rides. Such developments indicate that Coney Island still has relevance today.

Named by 17th-century Dutch colonists as Conyne Eylandt (“Rabbit Island”) for its abundant rabbit population, Coney Island is indeed a fall down the rabbit hole, with plenty of quirky Alice in Wonderland-esque surprises that make good attempt to win over the most skeptical New Yorkers.

After spending the Fourth of July before my senior year of high school at Coney Island, I was charmed into going back for repeated visits. Coney Island turned out to be more than the last stop of the Q train.

The Luna Park rides may not be Six Flags-caliber thrills, but they guarantee the adrenaline rush. A personal favorite, “The Tickler” is a roller coaster that took me and my friends on dizzying turns and steep drops, all while rotating. I had the crazy idea of filming the entire experience with the camera clutched in my hand. Needless to say, it was a blurry and scream-filled disaster, though it made for a good laugh afterward. Luna Park classifies “The Tickler” as a high-thrill ride.

Those looking for a more relaxed experience can opt to ride rotating hot air balloons on the moderate thrill “Balloon Expedition.” Leave the turning and dipping mild thrill ride “Beach Shack” for the kiddies, though.

A Coney Island visit would not be complete without rides on the classic “Cyclone” and “Wonder Wheel.” Yes, the “Cyclone” was constructed around the time your grandparents were born and is one of the oldest roller coasters in the nation. And yes, the ancient construction makes horribly suspicious rattling sounds as the carts shoot along the wooden tracks, looping and turning at up to 60 miles per hour. But thrill-seekers shouldn't let that stop them from experiencing this New York City landmark. The highest peak of the “Cyclone” stands at 85 feet, affording a breathtaking view of the beach and shoreline—if you manage to keep your eyes open, that is.

The majestic 150-foot-tall “Wonder Wheel” is a better bet for more complete views of Coney Island and the Atlantic

Ocean, with both stationary and rocking cars. Tip: Always choose the rocking cars, which slide along the track. I felt like I was falling into the ocean—but in a good way.

If the amusement park rides aren't enough to fool visitors into thinking they're out of the city, the three-mile beach and boardwalk wipe away any doubt. The spot's rolling waves and white sands were what made Coney Island the ideal vacation getaway for urban elites in the olden days. Admittedly, the water was chilly even when I visited on the Fourth of July, but that didn't stop my friends and me from alternating between taking dips in the ocean and lying on the beach to get our tan on.

Icy temperatures are not a challenge for members of the recreational winter bathing organization Coney Island Polar Bear Club, who take weekly plunges into the Atlantic from November to April. At least they don't have to navigate the crowds (read: tourists) that swarm the beach as summer nears.

Lining the beach, the bustling Riegelmann Boardwalk is a huge part of Coney Island's charm. It is dotted with dozens of restaurants, bars, and food stalls. Sip on piña colodas out of supersized, neon-colored cups with oversized sunglasses on and pretend to be in Hawaii. Wearing bold Hawaiian prints would be totally acceptable here, too.

Strolling down the wooden slats of the boardwalk, munch on Nathan's Famous hot dogs with sauerkraut and crinkle-cut French fries with bacon and cheese. Overrated? Perhaps. A deliciously gooey, guiltily caloric feast? Definitely. Though imagining the annual Nathan's Famous Fourth of July International Hot Dog Eating Contest—think 70 hot dogs in 10 minutes—always makes me feel better.

Coney Island has more obscure charm, too. Take, for example, the “Congress of Curious Peoples,” a 10-day festival celebrating the best of bizarre personalities until Sunday, April 17. Koko the Killer Clown, the bearded lady Jennifer Miller, and other characters have already made appearances. Guesses are that it will only get more curious and more curious. No stranger to the oddball and the bohemian, Coney Island is also home to the now-demised “Shoot the Freak” and the annual “Mermaid Parade.”

Offering the laid-back vibe of the beach and boardwalk right along with the eccentricity of the thriller rides and offbeat events, Coney Island is both uncharacteristically and quintessentially New York. Once you fall in love with Coney Island, it's down the rabbit hole, and there's no turning back.

Best of

Pies

The word “pie” seldom means what it used to. Traditionally comprised of a fruit-based filling with a buttery crust, pie can now mean any sort of pastry molded into a pie-like shape. The Little Pie Company and Two Little Red Hens represent classic pie at its best, while Momofuku Milk Bar and Baked present gourmet pies that are simply irresistible. —BY CATHERINE RICE

Two Little Red Hens

Two Little Red Hens (1652 Second Ave., between 85th and 86th streets) is a small, unimposing bakery with a charming logo and a modestly homey ambiance. Choices of fresh, mostly fruit-based pies await customers. The standard apple pie, for \$3.50 a slice, is notable by virtue of its thick and smooth purée filling. Too often apple pies are filled with either large apple chunks, which prove unwieldy and difficult to eat, or with an artificial, overly sweet gelatinous filling. This cinnamon-infused filling, combined with a thin, buttery crust sprinkled with sugar crystals, makes for a fine piece of homestyle apple pie.



ILLUSTRATION BY REBECCA SCHWARZ

Momofuku Milk Bar

The pie slices at Momofuku Milk Bar (207 Second Ave., between 13th and 14th streets) might strike first-time visitors as the most pretentious food ever created—tiny slices, at \$5.75 each, are served cold in tailored, to-go paper boxes. But, after a taste of Crack Pie, it’s easy to understand why the spot doesn’t need a storefront sign or big, heavy slices to get its point across. According to the eatery’s menu, Crack Pie consists of “toasted oat crust with a gooey butter filling.” That doesn’t begin to describe the nuttiness of the oat crust, which tastes like both hazelnut and caramel, or the moistness and richness of the filling, which has a texture like flourless chocolate cake. More reminiscent of a brownie in its density and richness, Crack Pie is an interesting deviation from the norm. Other flavors include Candy Bar Pie, made with chocolate crust, caramel, peanut butter nougat, and pretzels, and Grasshopper Pie, which has a graham crust and a filling of mint cheesecake and brownie.

Baked

Baked (359 Van Brunt St., between Dikeman and Wolcott streets) represents a happy medium between the everyman’s apple pie and a sophisticated gourmet pie. Although Baked’s pie descriptions include words like “ganache” and “fleur de sel,” the ultimate effect of its Sweet & Salty tart impels one to keep eating at any cost.



COURTESY OF KINO INTERNATIONAL

GOLDEN GORDON | Filmmaker and now a professor at the School of the Arts, Bette Gordon is honored with a retrospective this weekend at Anthology Film Archives on the Lower East Side.

Retrospective film series features SoA prof Bette Gordon’s work through the decades

BY JOSEPH POMP
Spectator Staff Writer

The saying goes, those who can’t do, teach. Anthology Film Archives (32 Second Ave., at 2nd Street) proves such cynics wrong this weekend with a comprehensive retrospective dedicated to the films of Bette Gordon, a filmmaking professor in the School of the Arts.

Gordon, who moved to New York in 1979 after receiving an MFA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, quickly became associated with the burgeoning No Wave scene in New York in the early ’80s. She discusses the era in the documentary “Blank City,” currently playing at the IFC Center (323 Ave. of the Americas, at West 3rd Street).

Gordon’s perhaps best-known film is “Variety” (1983), her narrative feature debut, which screens at Anthology tonight, April 15, at 7 p.m. The story of Christine, who works at the box office of a Manhattan porn theater and gradually becomes fascinated not only with the theater’s customers but with pornography itself, “Variety” is a paean to the bygone seediness of Times Square.

After initially screening at the Toronto International Film Festival and Directors’ Fortnight at Cannes, “Variety” has become a minor cult classic. It is a time capsule of both the dangerousness of New York in the early ’80s and the collaborative spirit that pervaded downtown art circles at the time.

The film’s credits are a testament to the willingness people had to work together, despite there being little to no money to be made. Long before his days as a go-to character actor for Paul

Thomas Anderson, Luis Guzmán made one of his first screen appearances in the film. Post-modern writer Kathy Acker, an icon to both punks and feminists, wrote the screenplay, and John Lurie composed the sound track.

The retrospective also presents Gordon’s three other feature films: “Handsome Harry” (2009, April 17 at 6 p.m.), her most recent, “Luminous Motion” (1998, April 16 at 8 p.m.), a disturbing road movie, and “Empty Suitcases” (1980, April 16 at 6 p.m.), a structuralist narrative that dissects its female protagonist’s life in an effort to interrogate the way viewers identify with characters on the screen.

Delving deeper into Gordon’s early experimental work, Anthology Film Archives also presents a program of her short films from the ’70s, all newly restored and preserved. Gordon co-directed three of these films, “Michigan Avenue” (1974), “i-94” (1974), and “The United States of America” (1975), with James Benning, one of the most critically acclaimed experimental filmmakers in the U.S., whom she met and dated while a student in Wisconsin. These rarely screened experiments in space and time will screen tonight, April 15 at 9:30 p.m. and Sunday, April 17 at 8:15 p.m.

A wonderful opportunity for students to see the work of a Columbia professor, “The Films of Bette Gordon” ranges from somewhat familiar to unknown territory. “Handsome Harry,” for example, features several recognizable actors, including Steve Buscemi and Campbell Scott. The Anthology’s preservations of Gordon’s purely experimental work offer a chance to expand the average moviegoer’s notion of what cinema can look like and do.



YUNSEO CHO FOR SPECTATOR

STALLING | The latest in higher-end food courts, Food Gallery 32 offers eight different stalls, featuring both traditional Korean cuisine and more fusional eats, like at the Chinese-influenced Jin Jja Roo.

Gallery of food options in K-town is perfect for those unfamiliar with Korean fare

BY KIMBERLY TOPILOW
Spectator Staff Writer

When choosing a local restaurant, New Yorkers gravitate toward places that have terrific food and a great ambiance.

Recently opened Food Gallery 32 (11 W. 32nd St., between Fifth Avenue and Broadway), a mostly Korean, tri-level food court definitely offers the former. The latter? Not so much. Walking in, visitors may feel as if they have entered the foyer of a hospital. Everything, from the walls to the tables displaying Korean pastries and other snacks, is severely white. Shielding the eyes may be necessary at first.

The savory star of the evening is the seafood-scallion pancake from Hanok, which specializes in Korean food staples.

Once customers recover from the blinding attack of white, an excitement settles in—for eight kiosks, each offering a unique menu, await. Those new to Korean cuisine should first approach Jin Jja Roo, which serves up Chinese entrees that Koreans have adopted and adjusted to their liking. The offerings are simple and many will be familiar—think fried dumplings, shrimp in garlic sauce, and bowls of noodles. This booth’s most popular meal is Jja Jang Myon. It comes as a bowl full of

springy, spaghetti-like noodles cloaked in an inky black-bean sauce and sprinkled with minced pork and sliced onion. Each bite is deliciously starchy, savory, oily, and crunchy.

The next stop is O-De-Ppang!, the Japanese stall that dishes up some seriously tasty bento box fare. When in doubt, get the Spicy-Pork Teppanyaki, a platter of stir-fried pork slicked with spicy-sweet teriyaki sauce. Pork often gets a bad rep, but all stigma is blown to smithereens by the pros at O-De-Ppang!

Next up is Boon Sik Zip, Korean for “snack house.” Fast food common to Korean grocery stores and street food stalls is available here. Customers should go straight up to the counter and order the cheese kimbab, a delicacy best described as sushi gone Korean. Eaters receive what looks like an average eight-piece sushi roll, but the first bite dissipates all preconceived notions. Each piece features diced ham, lettuce, and carrots nestled inside a ring of cheese-infused rice. It’s as if a ham-and-cheese sandwich went incognito as a roll of the Japanese staple.

The savory star of the evening is the seafood-scallion pancake from Hanok, which specializes in Korean food staples. In one dish, a thin, tender fried coating encloses addictive chunks of briny seafood and crunchy scallion, making for a textural, satisfying end to a marvelous procession of eating.

Dessert at Food Gallery 32 is a must. On the third floor is the wonderful Crepe Monster, where the crepes are injected with Asian deliciousness. Try one stuffed with strawberries, nutella, and Zen butter ice cream. Then hail a cab—or an ambulance, depending on whether or not the crepe is a solo venture.



YUNSEO CHO / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

COUTURE CULTURE | Brooklyn Industries’ Upper West Side outpost on 99th Street and Broadway now offers Columbia student discount coupons.

Brooklyn Industries tailors outer-borough style to Upper West Side

BY ALLISON MALECHA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

A gray plaid-shirted male mannequin stands inside the 99th Street and Broadway corner storefront, holding a weather-appropriate black, yellow, and red umbrella ringed with Brooklyn Industries’ signature Manhattan skyline. This new outpost of the locally started clothing chain opened four months ago but was just approved for its first Columbia student discount coupon on Wednesday. The store will open a special side-walk sample sale booth on Sunday, April 17 for the fair from 96th to 105th streets.

A husband-and-wife team, the Funks, created Brooklyn Industries—the clothing line and the store—in 2001 in Williamsburg. Bronx native Ruben Ruiz, Jr., store manager, started at the brand seven months ago at its Union Square flagship.

“What I love about Brooklyn Industries is the brand itself,” Ruiz said. “It’s more of a culture, other than a retail company, where we focus more on artists.”

The Brooklyn Industries motto is “live, work, create,” and in line with the last tenet, they commission local New York designers for their clothing. “They create our own aesthetic, they create our own designs, our concepts, even create our prints,” Ruiz said. Besides its eponymous brand, the store carries jeans from Mavi, which recently

came under Brooklyn Industries management.

“It’s a really eclectic mix of style that we have but yet it’s ... ready-to-wear, it’s easy-to-wear,” Ruiz said. Certainly a pair of ECO lightweight sweatpants would comfortably fit into a student’s Butler wardrobe. The ECO line, which uses 65 percent recycled cotton, is a new development that Ruiz emphasized.

The 99th Street space is entirely wood-paneled with the half wall behind the register painted bubblegum pink. The atmosphere is decidedly casual: Ruiz set up a makeshift office for the interview with a pair of mismatched plastic chairs in the fitting room area, also all in wood with one wall plastered arts-and-crafts style with pages from National Geographic.

Looking to the racks of newly arrived summer clothes, a yellow, blue, and green plaid dress (\$98) is more high school sweetheart than “Bombshell Bustier.” But paired with a kitschy straw hat (\$48) and a three-quarter-sleeve yellow cotton cardigan (\$58), it could translate into a picnic at Central Park. The overall price range is \$34–\$118. On the guys’ side, there is the seasonally appropriate “Solstice Short” in toast for \$68 and bird-patterned red boxers that mom would be proud of for a slightly pricey \$28.

The chain’s signature messenger and tote bags—it started as a bag line—are mostly in canvas, have chunky black plastic clasps, and come in

standard solid colors like olive, red, grey, and blue. They sacrifice some aesthetic appeal for durability but could handle any amount of library books necessary for a final research paper.

“With this store specifically, it’s set up to be more of a boutique setting. We’re carrying more of the key items,” Ruiz said, adding that up here “we’re not so Brooklyn driven and Brooklyn branded.” Ruiz keyed in not just on Columbia students but Upper West Side moms as potential clients.

Though few Columbians were likely to stroll by and discover the new outpost during the winter months, Ruiz maintained that the store has seen plenty of students walk through its doors. “We actually had an employee who studied at Columbia, but unfortunately, his availability was too overwhelming,” Ruiz said.

Urban Outfitters, which opened at the end of last summer and is visible kitty-corner through Brooklyn Industries’ front window, has proved a traffic-driver for the Brooklyn Industries store. “We do not consider them our competition,” Ruiz said, “even though we are an urban market we have completely different aesthetics and concepts.”

Ruiz has hopes that the area will continue to blossom into a new Upper West Side shopping hub: “We really want to target this market and ... kind of change the whole area.”



YUNSEO CHO / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ALL IN THE BAG | The locally based chain, Brooklyn Industries, started out selling only bags—the canvas messengers pictured here are their signature.

NYU student band plays way through graduation and beyond

BY ELISSE ROCHE
Spectator Staff Writer

Composed of NYU students and now signed artists, the band Relatives is more than a redhead gimmick. Original, redheaded, band members Ian Davis, Gabriel Gall, and Katie Vogel, all NYU seniors, met during the first semester of their freshman year and started the band after jamming together one time. A bass player named Matthew Rosenthal and a drummer named Ian Chang, both of whom also attend NYU, joined later on.

Relatives recently released its debut self-titled album and will perform a series of concerts through the rest of the month: tonight, April 16 at the Art Gallery (285 3rd St., Second Floor, between avenues C and D), April 21 at Nublu (62 Ave. C, between 4th and 5th streets), and April 27 at the Jalopy Theater (315 Columbia St., between Woodhull and Rapelye streets).

Though Relatives originally identified as a folk band, the band members now prefer not to cement themselves in solely one genre. This fluidity is reflected in their diverse influences,

including The Beatles, composer Stravinsky, Sufjan Stevens, and Bluegrass.

Vogel said, “We don’t really like to dwell on the idea of a genre because we want to keep developing as a group, and it’s exciting to not limit yourself.”

As student musicians, the group members have found it challenging to balance the music business with class work. Gall believes they are able to do so because of their devotion to the music. They prefer to work on songs and practice instead of going out as much as, what Gall refers to as, “the average college student.”

“Yes, it’s difficult balancing them,” Gall said. “It varies with each one of us, but when it’s something that you love, it’s easier to dedicate your time to it.”

Vogel agreed, saying, “Sometimes it’s really relaxing to have practices and get your mind off of things.”

Davis attributes the most difficulty to organizing rehearsals before large shows because there are usually 12 or 13 people involved, including the horn and string sections.

This kind of collaborative work contributes

to the variety of the band’s sound, as evidenced in its debut album.

“Relatives” has an old record feel, complete with horns, strings, and innovative rifts combined with vocals reminiscent of Damien Rice and Bright Eyes. This compilation of songs uses a diverse array of tones and styles. From the melancholic sighs of the opening song, “Soldiers Desert,” to the funk-folk fusion of “New Orleans,” to the haunting ballad “Glue Factory,” the album is a trip that takes listeners through the reveries, observations, and experiences that life offers.

Though the band wrote and composed all of the tracks, the record itself was produced, engineered, and recorded by a producer named Adam Schatz.

After playing local concerts through April and May and getting through graduation, Relatives will set off on a coast-to-coast tour. Gall is extremely excited to expand their audience in the West, while Davis looks forward to being in and seeing places the band has never been before.

Gall said that the Art Gallery show should be a good time because the band does its best to be sincere, which “is special and important.”

Experimentation shouldn’t fling away consideration

Sexuality, like the rest of most people’s identities, is a hot mess. When trying to make sense of oneself, it can help to make out with someone else. But there are kind, ethical ways to experiment with sexuality, and there are douchebag ways to do so.



LUCY SUN
Queerbot

SCENE 1. GenderFuck is Columbia’s annual underwear party and tons of fun. This year, I went with my friend Gemma*, who is in a monogamous, long-term relationship with a guy. Gemma is curious about women, but she didn’t want to cheat on her boyfriend at GenderFuck. So, I was enlisted to help her “stay good.”

But everyone looks better in her underwear, and as scantily clad women brushed past, Gemma’s resolve started to waver. “I just want to play,” she said, gazing towards one woman in particular. “It doesn’t count if it’s a girl, right?”

“No, it counts. Be good,” I would say. And good she stayed.

BULLSHIT: the idea that sexual experiments with members of the same sex don’t count as cheating in a monogamous relationship. Playing with anyone is an experiment, and all of it has a meaning. To decide that members of the same sex automatically don’t count cheapens them and disregards any possible feelings they may have about the situation.

SCENE 2. Riley, a lesbian, fell into a frustrating pattern last semester: She would go to First Friday, meet a cute girl, and hook up, only to have the girl tell her, “I have a boyfriend,” which was disappointing because she was looking for a girlfriend.

“Is your boyfriend okay with this?” Riley would ask.

“Yeah, as long as it’s a girl,” the girl would say.

BULLSHIT: opening a relationship for same-sex experiments and nothing else. Although this type of relationship may appear to give any curious individuals involved support and freedom to explore their sexualities, this type of setup actually assumes that the curious individual is straight. That’s the only way to explain why hooking up with a member of the same sex is viewed as less threatening to a relationship than hooking up with a member of the opposite sex. Such an agreement precludes the possibility that a first kiss with a member of the same sex could be tied up with feelings or even the first tugs of love.

A kiss always means something—at the very least, it means “You were fabulous, and I couldn’t resist.” Acknowledging the other person’s fabulousness doesn’t make anyone gay—it’s common courtesy.

This isn’t to say that an open relationship can’t be a legitimate way to allow a partner to explore her sexuality. But open relationships have to be well-built and well-communicated—there has to be an understanding that falling in love with someone else is a legitimate risk, regardless of intention. And while there’s nothing inherently wrong with only looking for casual flings outside of an open relationship, one does need to be upfront as soon as possible with new partners.

SCENE 3. Amber and Brooklyn, best friends, go on a vacation to a foreign country, where they get drunk and hook up. They don’t talk about it for ages. When they finally talk about it, Amber explains it away with something along the lines of, “We were in another country, and we were intoxicated.”

BULLSHIT: using the fear of attaching meaning to same-sex trysts as an excuse to be a douchebag. Anyone has the right to decide if her own attitude towards a hook-up was serious or wasn’t, as well as the implications it has for her sexual identity. But a kiss always means something—at the very least, it means “You were fabulous, and I couldn’t resist.” This is usually even more the case between close friends. Acknowledging the other person’s fabulousness doesn’t make anyone gay or dating—it’s common courtesy, and it makes everyone feel like less of a fool.

SCENE 4. Katy Perry kisses a girl at a party. Straight men look on. End of story.

BULLSHIT: probably not, actually. The key Katy Perry lyric here is “...and I liked it.” If Katy Perry kisses a girl because Katy Perry thinks she might enjoy kissing her, then this is no more offensive than any other kind of PDA. But if Katy Perry is kissing a girl purely as an attention-getting measure, then...

BULLSHIT: This is on the same level as faking an orgasm in an effort to please someone else—the worst ever. Fake passion isn’t sexy, and in this case, it insults all the real queer passion out there.

FIN: Experimenters should go forth knowing it is possible to be both casual and kind, unsure and unafraid.

**All names changed, except for Katy Perry’s.*

Lucy Sun is a Columbia College senior majoring in economics. Queerbot runs alternate Fridays.

Flipside

Guide

‘The Princess of Montpensier’

French period film transcends historical setting and love story tropes

BY KATIE REITBERG
Spectator Staff Writer

Love is a 16th-century battlefield in Bertrand Tavernier’s “The Princess of Montpensier,” where behind four great men, there is one woman. The film is in French with English subtitles and opens on Friday, April 15 at Lincoln Plaza Cinemas (1886 Broadway, between 62nd and 63rd streets) and IFC Center (323 Sixth Ave., between Third and Fourth streets).

Princess Marie de Montpensier (Mélanie Thierry) is ahead of her time but constrained by society. She has all the complexity of a Jane Austen heroine—from the stubborn independence of Elizabeth Bennet to the girlish naivety of Marianne Dashwood.

Marie is in love with her childhood sweetheart, Henri de Guise (Gaspard Ulliel), but her father has other plans. With the timeless themes of Madame de La Fayette’s 17th-century short story “La Princesse de Montpensier” and Tavernier’s focus on the idealistic and impetuous youth of the main characters, the film transcends the label of a “period piece.” It examines the casualties of love and war through the eyes of an innocent yet determined woman, caught between accepting her fate and risking everything to follow her heart.

“The Princess of Montpensier” is set during the religious wars of the 1500s, but Tavernier blends in other genres to add dimensions to the seemingly archetypal characters. The film starts by immediately launching into a violent action scene, complete with the black hats and white horses of John Ford. There is teen angst in the rivalry between Prince Philippe de Montpensier and his cousin Henri. They fight over Marie much like the Catholics and Protestants who, as said in the film, “kill each other in the name of the same God.”

Tavernier and screenwriter Jean Cosmos speak through Count François de Chabannes (Lambert Wilson), an enlightened thinker who has seen the atrocities of war and refuses to fight. François is the only character with perspective, and he advises Marie to consider the balance between passion and duty.

Although it is easy to recognize the heroes, it becomes increasingly difficult to discern between appearance and reality as Tavernier plays with audience expectations. Viewers experience Marie’s suitors through her eyes, blind to any hidden motivations or intentions. It is easy to sympathize with Thierry’s conflicted Marie as she delicately balances sense and sensibility, and the sharp angles of Ulliel’s face perfectly complement Henri’s volatile character. This Francophile delight will sweep up filmgoers with its lush scenery, costumes, and language. There is blood and romance in this vibrant retelling of a classic love story.

Flipside Guide Film reviews are evaluated for: storyline, quality of acting, originality, production value/spectacle, composition, and student interest.



COURTESY OF PARADIS FILMS

PRINCESS PRIDE | Mélanie Thierry stars as the titular Princess of Montpensier in Tavernier’s latest film, set in 16th century France.

events

BOOKS

The Paris Review Interviews

—20 Cooper Sq., between 5th and 6th streets, Friday, April 15, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., free

Editor Lorin Stein converses with literary heavyweights in journalism, publishing, and fiction. Writers present will include Jonathan Galassi, Janet Malcolm, Laurie Moore, Gay Talese, and Columbia professor Gary Shteyngart.

MUSIC

MoMA Saturday Sessions

—22-25 Jackson Ave., at 46th Avenue, Saturday, April 16, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., free with CUID

Hosted by Molly Surno of Cinema 16, this Saturday Session features the Brooklyn-based, minimal synth trio FORMA, as well as five classic avant-garde films. Students can groove to FORMA’s futuristic electronic music while enjoying films from Fernand Léger’s 1923 “Ballet Mécanique” to Scott Bartlett’s 1957 “Off/ON.”

MUSIC

Brooklyn <3 Japan Benefit

—149 7th St., between Second and Third avenues, Friday, April 15, 7 p.m., \$15

The Bell House throws a second benefit concert hosted by Liam McEneaney, with all proceeds going to Global Giving, a charity that supports Japanese earthquake relief. The performers include Wyatt Cenac, Kristen Schaal and Kurt Braunohler. Autographed Nada Surf and Chromeo posters will be among the items up for silent auction.

THEATER

‘We’re Gonna Die’

—425 Lafayette St., between Astor Place and East 4th Street, Sunday, April 17, 9:30 p.m., \$25-\$30

In the premiere of a one-woman show by provocative playwright Young Jean Lee, the audience can jam to experimental rock-and-roll cabaret performed by Lee’s band Future Wife. Lee takes the stage to share stories about heartbreak and heartache, sickness and death, and weakness and failure.



HANNAH CHOI FOR SPECTATOR

OSTENSIBLY ITALIAN | Sergio and Mario Riva’s new Upper West Side restaurant venture offers tiny flavor and even tinier meals.

Osteria Cotta

Inauthentic Italian restaurant is remarkable only for its small portion sizes

BY JASON BELL
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

On a Thursday night, Osteria Cotta fills with a Columbus Avenue crowd—pony-tailed women in pantsuits living large off that last promotion and over-aged frat boys looking for a little weeknight action. A cozy balcony overlooks the bar, affording the ultimate voyeuristic dining experience. Look down for a peek into the pickup scene, or watch a Rangers game unfold on the flat screen TV suspended precariously on the far wall. At 8:30 p.m., the night is young—plenty of time still to get drunk before Friday morning.

This pseudo-casual Italian restaurant with a clubby soundtrack and wanna-be-clubby clientele took over 513 Columbus (between 84th and 85th streets) from Senor Swanky’s in early March. Sergio and Mario Riva’s latest attempt piles on the faux fancy. Rustic, dimly lit, and built with nooks and crannies galore, Osteria Cotta affects a romantic Piedmontese watering hole. But an exposed aluminum ventilation duct hints—if the flat screen isn’t already the giveaway clue—that this is not, in fact, an Italian tavern. Instead, Osteria Cotta is a refuge for Upper West Siders who don’t want to go downtown to feel hip.

Andrew Kraft is the chef, which isn’t surprising considering his relationship with the Rivas: He got his New York City start in their restaurant Irving Mill. Unfortunately, Kraft’s touch with Italian fare feels less than nuanced.

The restaurant’s meatballs are pleasant enough, similar in taste to that consistently ordinary Italian deli down the block—the one you go to for eggplant parm and roast beef. They are innocuous but

perfectly enjoyable with enough focaccia to squeegee the excess sauce. But broccoli rabe billed as spicy lacks any heat whatsoever. The only flavor comes from a sprinkle of salty ricotta salata.

Another “small plate”—code for lilliputian serving size—is a precious ramekin of lukewarm and oily mushrooms. Despite the off-putting temperature, there’s an admirable fungal hit in this dish.

Three dollars for three bites—the tomato and mozzarella bruschetta tastes bright and creamy. But the tiny portion makes a seemingly sweet deal go down bitter.

Osteria Cotta prides itself on its pizza oven, and the pies arrive blistered like a sunburned baby. They’re about the size of a baby, too, so savor every delicately measured slice. A Calabrese pizza is topped with tomato, mozzarella, sopressata, and olives. Greasier than Ray’s or Famiglia’s or any other artery-clogging chain option, Osteria Cotta’s pizza leaks fat like a rendering slab of lard. Finishing the small serving leaves diners begging for wet wipes and an enema. Ironically, the Calabrese comes with a bottle of garlicky chili oil—as if this creation needed more lubrication.

Stuffed with eggplant, ricotta, and tomato, a plate of homemade agnolotti costs \$11. An order includes six pieces of al dente, above-average pasta. Clocking in at \$1.80, one agnolotto could buy two Absolute Bagels, a small cup of Oren’s coffee, an armful of Greenmarket apples, or a washing machine cycle. Is it worth it?

For Columbia students, no. Whether it’s date night or parent’s weekend, Osteria Cotta is an inestimably bad choice for college kids looking for reasonable deals in a less-than-absurd setting.

Flipside Guide Food & Drink reviews are evaluated for: student-friendliness, price point, accessibility, quality, and cool factor.

‘The Conspirator’

Redford’s latest casts a woman onto the scene of Abraham Lincoln’s murder

BY KINNO NOROJONO
Columbia Daily Spectator

Mary Suratt. John Wilkes Booth. Connect the dots—here’s a hint, Abraham Lincoln. Set against the gloomy backdrop of postbellum Washington D.C., “The Conspirator” opens in theaters on Friday, April 15.

The film tells the story of Mary Suratt (Robin Wright) after she is charged with conspiracy to kill President Lincoln, Vice President Andrew Johnson, and Secretary of State William Seward. A decorated Union Army captain turned attorney at large, Frederick Aiken (James McAvoy), is assigned to defend her before a military tribunal.

The sole woman accused, Suratt owns and operates the boarding house where Booth and his co-conspirators met and planned the subsequent attacks. As the proceedings march on, Aiken is constantly forced to separate his prejudicial feelings against Suratt from his obligations as an attorney.

Originally armed with honorable intentions, director Robert Redford and screenwriter James Solomon try to present a different angle on a familiar story. The movie begins with a chaotic intercutting of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln and a celebration of Union soldiers returning from the battlefield. While this is intended to provoke a feeling of turmoil and fear in viewers, it also sets a lackluster pace for the rest of the movie.

Nonetheless, the movie was at its best during the court show-downs between Aiken and the prosecutor Joseph Holt, deftly played by Danny Huston. Holt’s seemingly friendly demeanor perfectly complements the fiery Aiken, creating exciting and energy-charged courtroom drama.

Playing a morally righteous soldier, just as he did in Joe Wright’s “Atonement,” James McAvoy seems to be perfectly at home within the character of Frederick Aiken. McAvoy is able to capture the youthful soul of Aiken, which often conflicts with the conservative environment around him. McAvoy tastefully portrays Aiken as he goes from skepticism of Suratt to a realization that she, too deserves equal justice under the law.

The vibrant dynamic between Suratt and Aiken is augmented by Wright, whose piercing blue eyes cut right through the screen in each and every one of her close-ups. Though her character is often staged beneath extremely harsh lighting, the audience can seldom guess what she is really thinking. Suratt gives the movie its mysterious edge, as the audience rarely sees things from her point of view. This air of secrecy also leaves many things unanswered, even by the end of the movie.

“The Conspirator” is an enjoyable historical thriller in every respect. That is, if one puts aside the humdrum pace of the movie and perhaps the performance of Alexis Bleidel, who has yet to outgrow



COURTESY OF ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS

CONSPIRATORY | The accused, Mary Suratt (Wright), causes attorney Frederick Aiken (McAvoy) to reassess his prejudices.

her Rory Gilmore days. Still, the movie is a suitable way to commemorate President Lincoln this Friday, the 146th anniversary of his death.

Flipside Guide Film reviews are evaluated for: storyline, quality of acting, originality, production value/spectacle, composition, and student interest.