



TIANYUE SUN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

ONE OF A KIND | Ari Schuman, CC '15, Rebecca Pottash, CC '15, and Averil Israel, CC '13, show off Random Acts of Kindness Week swag.

More current students interview applicants

BY TRACEY WANG
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

In his 15 interviews with Columbia applicants this year, Kai Schultz, CC '14, met one student who spoke about his battle with leukemia. Another talked to Schultz about coming from a single-parent background and working full-time while taking a full course load.

“The interviewing process really opened my eyes to how many amazing people apply to Columbia every year,” Schultz, a member of the Undergraduate Recruitment Committee, said. “Ultimately, we want students who will be happy here.”

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions significantly expanded its student interviewing program this year, allowing all juniors and seniors in the URC, Multicultural Recruitment Committee, and Global Recruitment Committee to interview Columbia College and School of Applied Science applicants for the first time.

In previous years, only a few seniors from the URC were allowed to conduct interviews, most of which are conducted by alumni.

Jessica Marinaccio, dean of undergraduate admissions and financial aid, said that the office expanded the scope of its interview program after a multiyear pilot with a handful of student interviewers. Overall, 1,300 applicants received interviews with current Columbia

students this year, out of a total of 34,000. Marinaccio did not provide student interview statistics for previous years.

Columbia’s applicant pool has dramatically increased in the last few years. For the class of 2017, the number of applicants rose 5 percent from the previous year, adding to huge gains in recent years.

“Interview feedback can help the admissions committee assess a student’s fit with Columbia and assist us in making very fine distinctions among many qualified applicants,” Marinaccio said.

While interviews can provide invaluable insights about applicants, they are just one of many factors in a student’s application, Marinaccio said. Applicants who do not have the chance to be interviewed by a student or an alumnus, she said, are not at a disadvantage.

Marinaccio emphasized that in addition to their training as members of the recruitment committees, student interviewers go through extensive interview training and work closely with admissions officers during the interview process. Student interviews, she said, allow applicants to learn about Columbia from current students.

“Prospective students benefit enormously from the chance to learn about the Columbia experience directly from the individuals who live and breathe our community,” she said.

SEE INTERVIEWS, page 2



JUSTIN CHAN FOR SPECTATOR

STUDENT TO STUDENT | URC member Emilio Santiago, CC '13 (right), tells prospies about Furnald Hall on a tour—just one face-to-face interaction between applicants and current students.

In Schapiro, showers run cold for months

BY RUBY MELLEN
Columbia Daily Spectator

For the last few months, Schapiro residents have faced uncertainty every time they’ve stepped into the shower—will there be hot water when they turn on the tap? The answer is often no.

Schapiro, which has undergone renovations during both of the last two summers, has lost hot water for hours at a time at multiple points throughout the last few months—and residents want answers.

Emails that are sent to residents each time the hot water is turned off state that due to the conduction of “emergency repairs ... The heat and hot water will be affected.”

It’s not exactly clear what is causing the hot water issues in Schapiro, on 115th Street between Broadway and Riverside Drive.

Vice President of Campus Services Scott Wright cited two separate problems. The first is a general lack of heat in the building.

“In a building like Schapiro, to fix that, we have to shut everything down,” Wright said.

The other problem, more difficult to diagnose, is an “intermittent interruption in the hot water,” as Wright put it, meaning that different sections of the building experience outages with their hot water at different times.

Maintenance is unsure of the cause of these seemingly random hot water shortages, Wright said.

Mark Kerman, a Housing representative, said there have also been periodic leaks in the building, after which “we have to get all the water out of the system.” But Kerman said the intermittent hot water shortages are the bigger issue.

In order to completely fix the problem, “Maintenance services has to overhaul all the controls—something that could require us to turn off the hot water for two to three days,” Kerman said.

Because no residents can live in the building during this process, Housing plans to overhaul

SEE SCHAPIRO, page 2

Scholarship opens up libraries, classes to locals

BY CHRIS MEYER
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Columbia will begin reviewing applications Friday for a new initiative that grants students from Upper Manhattan access to University classes, libraries, and social events.

The accepted applicants will take part in the three-year Community Scholars Program, in which they will pursue independent study on a project of their choosing or improve their skills in a specific academic area. Although they are permitted to audit classes at the University, there is no required coursework and students will not receive an official certification or degree from Columbia after the three years.

To be eligible for the scholarship, candidates must live north of 96th Street and hold at least a high school diploma or GED. The program is not intended to cater only to recent high school graduates, but a “wide array of local residents,” University spokesperson Victoria Benitez said in a statement.

The program, whose

application deadline closes Thursday, is not outlined in the Community Benefits Agreement signed with West Harlem residents in 2009, but Columbia representatives call it part of an effort to reach out to communities affected by the Manhattanville campus expansion.

“Columbia supports a wide array of civic partnership and service programs that help to improve education, culture and civic life in our local community,” Benitez said. “The Community Scholars Program is just one of the University’s commitments to the community in connection with the Manhattanville campus.”

Benitez said the program was intended to provide a “vehicle through which the community and the University can share their intellectual and creative resources.”

The program, which came from discussions with West Harlem locals, was “born out of a mutual desire for a greater sharing of intellectual resources,” she said.

SEE SCHOLARS, page 2

Students spread good cheer across campus

Student Wellness Project holds second annual week of kindness

BY ELIZABETH SEDRAN
Spectator Staff Writer

Students may feel a little happier than usual this week as they receive compliments, encouragement, and free food during Columbia’s second annual Random Acts of Kindness Week.

Many of the events this week are intended to be a surprise. Cookies were left in a lounge in Sulzberger Hall, and Post-it notes with compliments were placed around campus on Monday.

It’s one of the most tangible initiatives of the Student Wellness Project, which has organized events celebrating the week starting Monday. Each day has a different verb associated with it: compliment, appreciate, care, inspire, and connect.

The purpose of the week is “to have a positive atmosphere all around campus, for at least one week,” said Rebecca Pottash, CC '15 and co-chair of RAK Week with Averil Israel, CC '13, and Rakhi Agrawal, BC '14 and a Spectator news writer.

The thematic structure was created to inspire acts of kindness from a wide variety of groups and individuals, Pottash, a Spectator arts and entertainment writer, said.

“We just want people to get involved—to do something nice for each other,” she said.

Columbia Compliments, the original anonymous Facebook account that sparked the Columbia Admirers fad, also joined in the action. In a new initiative for RAK Week, students can submit compliments on a website separate from the group’s regular Facebook page, and the first 1,000 students complimented will receive a gift through the Lerner mail system.

SWP has partnered with a variety of student groups on campus. In Butler Library on Tuesday night, Columbia/Barnard Hillel members gave out chocolate wrapped in notes that read, “You’re sweet, love Columbia/Barnard Hillel.”

Hillel President Seffi Kogen, GS/JTS '14, said participation in

RAK Week was a logical choice for the group.

“It’s such a deeply Jewish thing to do,” he said. “It’s a deeply natural thing for Hillel, the Jewish community on campus, to be involved and working to reach out to all students and make sure that they have a bit of kindness in their life and happiness in their day.”

The kindness isn’t just selfless. “There’s something beautiful and pitiful about the deep gratitude you see in a smile of someone who’s been buried in Butler after you hand them a piece of chocolate,” Kogen said. “It’s quite the feeling. Giving is its own reward.”

Hillel’s executive board helped out during last year’s RAK Week too, and passing out chocolate has become a tradition.

“I enjoyed it so much last year that I wanted to share it with the new e-board this year,” Kogen said.

SWP has widened RAK Week’s reach this year, and the larger participation is noticeable, particularly on Facebook, where many students who are not directly involved in RAK Week have been posting about the events.

Students Wednesday said they appreciated the events and initiatives of the week.

“I was a having a crummy morning, and I walked into the lounge to do my dishes, and there were white chocolate macadamia nut cookies with a sign that said ‘Take one for Random Acts of Kindness week,’” Anna Freedman, BC '16, said. “It made me happy.”

Stefani Priskos, BC '16, called the week “a fantastic effort by students in our community to really take a moment and appreciate who we are and spread a positive vibe.”

Priskos said the most visible example of kindness was the influx of compliments on the Columbia Compliments page.

“I love reading them and agreeing with everything that is said,” she said. “It’s a great reminder of how amazing the people that we interact with every day really are.”

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KIERA WOOD / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BALANCED AND FOCUSED | Sophomore Joey Falcone only started playing college baseball after serving in the military.

Falcone brings unique background to CU baseball

BY MOLLIE GALCHUS
Spectator Staff Writer

Like many college baseball players, Columbia sophomore Joey Falcone watches videos of MLB greats to help improve his game.

But very few get to hear their dad suggest, “Joey, why don’t you give Keith Hernandez a call?” when discussing ways to approach an at-bat.

That’s what happens when your father is former major league pitcher Pete Falcone. The elder Falcone stood on the mound and faced countless All-Stars, MVPs, and batting champions over his

10-year career—winning 70 games with the Giants, Mets, Cardinals, and Braves.

Born in Atlanta after his father’s Major League Baseball career ended, at just three years old Joey was running through his house with a whiffle ball and bat. His interest in baseball grew as he was exposed to the game on a daily basis while living in Italy, where his father played ball.

“When he was really young, he was just natural—he just played,” Pete said. “I never really had to tell him anything. He just liked it

SEE FALCONE, page 2

THE EYE

Code Red

Mental health is a concern among many computer science students who sacrifice sleep and their social lives for schoolwork. But is the problem systemic? Kyla Cheung takes a look in this week’s lead story.



OPINION, PAGE 4

Drama and doctors

James Yoon argues that med students feel the pressure of typecasting.

Crossing the street

Lanbo Zhang says it’s time to revisit the Barnard/Columbia merger.

A&E, PAGE 3

Student wins Juilliard Cello Competition

Nathan Chan, CC-Juilliard '15, beat out undergraduates and graduate students to win Juilliard’s annual cello competition.

MULTIMEDIA, ONLINE

Work in progress

Take a behind-the-scenes look at For Dad Films’ current production, “A Certain Tendency.”



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Scholarship part of CU’s local outreach

SCHOLARS from front page

Rev. Georgiette Morgan-Thomas, Community Board 9 chair, said the program would help Columbia in its efforts to “be seen as a community partner” rather than an enemy. The selection process will involve a committee composed

of Columbia staff, deans, and faculty, and may also include community leaders. The application for the program bears many resemblances to a standard college application, requiring a personal essay, letters of reference, and a transcript of past academic work. Applicants also have to submit a project

proposal describing how they would use Columbia resources to complete it.

After three years, Community Scholars will have the opportunity to submit their work to the University as inspiration for future students.

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Source of water problem still unclear

SCHAPIRO from front page

the controls in the interim period between the end of the spring semester and the beginning of summer housing, Wright said.

And if that doesn’t work, plumbing will be replaced during the summer.

“At a certain point, you stop hunting for the problem and you replace everything,” Wright said.

Residents of Schapiro, a 15-story high-rise completed in 1988 and the University’s second-newest dorm, have become increasingly frustrated with the situation.

“It is infuriating to me that one of the most modern dorms on campus cannot supply hot water to its residents,” Daniel Goggin, CC ’15, said. Plumbing systems “in older dorms work better than Schapiro. The most annoying thing about the whole mess is that we, as usual, are left in the dark.”

The periodic lack of hot water has left students unable to

shower comfortably in their own building, even leading some to try out inconvenient alternatives.

“It’s absurd,” Creaghan Peters, CC ’14, said. “I’ve been going all the way to Broadway to shower ... I’ve had to go three or four times this semester.”

Many students said the problems have left them feeling neglected by administrators.

“There’s an expectation that this is something that should have been solved after the first time this happened,” Kristina Garrity, CC ’15, said.

Residents also expressed anger over the vague wording of the emails they receive, which never expand on what repairs are needed to fix the recurring problem.

“It has become a little ridiculous at this point that they’ve shut down the hot water ‘to conduct emergency repairs’ this many times,” Geoff Hahn, CC ’15, said. “How big of an emergency can it be? If this was actually an emergency, they would have dealt with it by now, right?”

Wright said he knows students have had a tough semester, and administrators are planning to attempt to make up for the plumbing inconveniences.

“We’re going to talk about maybe doing something around reading week,” he said. “I don’t think anything makes up for having a cold shower, but we’ll at least acknowledge it and try to do something to make finals week go better.” He declined to elaborate on what the administration was planning.

Wright, Kerman, and Joyce Jackson, the executive director of Housing, said they foresee an improvement in the Schapiro quality of life after repairs are completed this summer. However, for now, Jackson encourages students to be communicative about the residential hall’s problems.

“If there are intermittent problems, please call the hospitality desk,” she said. “We need as much information as possible.”

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Interviewers see underrepresented areas

INTERVIEWS from front page

Ryan Cho, CC ’13 and one of the coordinators of the URC interview program, said adding current students to the admissions process will encourage them to continue participating as alumni interviewers once they graduate.

Student interviewers “try and reach out to areas that may not have the alumni to

conduct interviews, or generally unrepresented areas,” he said.

Cho, a member of Spectator’s editorial board, also stressed that interviews just provide another perspective on the applicant.

“There is no detriment to not having an interview,” he said. “There are tons of students, including myself, who have been accepted without one.”

Schultz said that current students provide a unique insight to the interview process.

“I think that current student interviewers are often more in tune with what types of characteristics prospective Columbia students possess,” unlike alumni interviewers, he said. “Obviously, we weren’t the same institution 20 years ago that we are today.”

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Falcone served in Iraq, Afghanistan

FALCONE from front page

and was successful, and he just had good tools. He had good eye-hand coordination. He was strong.”

Joey later moved to Louisiana, where he attended high school. He enjoyed playing baseball, but did not put much effort into school-work and never thought about going to college.

“I didn’t think forward at all,” Joey said. “I didn’t have the will-power to put in the time to make good grades.”

But his attitude changed after graduation when he enlisted in the military at the age of 17. He trained to be a corpsman and spent six years in the military, during which time he was deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan.

“He really had to mature quickly, because he was pushed into a situation where he had to succeed,” his father said.

As for what the military taught him, the younger Falcone simply said, “To roll with the punches.”

After being discharged, Joey moved to his family’s hometown of Brooklyn and applied to colleges, hoping to play baseball again. He was accepted to schools throughout the country, but his poor high school transcript prevented him from joining those schools’ baseball teams per NCAA rules. He decided to attend the College of Staten Island, where he could both boost his grades and play ball.

“Once I got to community college, I wasn’t the same person I was in high school,” Joey said. “I was very militant about things I could control—like my grades.”

His work ethic was nothing like that of the short, slender kid he was before becoming an infantryman. His baseball coach at Staten Island suggested he apply to Columbia’s

School of General Studies, where Joey enrolled in the spring of 2012.

After his first semester at Columbia, the 6-foot-5, 225-pound veteran visited Light Blue head coach Brett Boretti to introduce himself and inquire about joining the team.

After hearing Falcone answer questions with “yes, sir” and “no, sir,” “I could just tell that he was a little bit different than your everyday Columbia student,” Boretti said.

“Obviously with Joe, the first impression is he’s a very physical young man,” the head coach added. “And we found out that he had some ability offensively, hitting-wise. That was something we saw early in the fall, and something we felt we could definitely work with and try to continue to improve upon.”

Though Falcone is nearly a decade older than many of his fellow Lions at age 26, the age difference has not been a barrier because he and his teammates understand how different their pasts are.

“A couple of years ago, people that were 18 were calling me by my rank and last name. And now, they’re calling me by my first name,” he said, noting that he continues to adjust to civilian life.

“I think the team accepted him wholeheartedly,” Boretti said. “He has developed some leadership skills that are a little different from what the guys have seen before from others.”

Falcone is still figuring out how to balance his immense amount of schoolwork with baseball.

“It’s really, really, really difficult making good grades now, or the grades I grew used to making at the community college,” he said. Because he leaves campus for practice at 2 p.m. and doesn’t get back

until 8 p.m., he has started doing his homework early in the morning but is still trying to find a daily routine that works.

“He’s pushed to the max now,” his father said. “It’s amazing how these guys can play sports and deal with the workload.”

As for the work on the field, Joey has a father with 10 years of MLB experience one phone call away. Although his parents live in Louisiana, Joey often calls his dad to catch up and pick his brain.

“We talk about what the game is all about,” Pete Falcone said. “We talk about hitting, we talk about mechanics. I try to get in his mind a little bit, tell him what the pitcher is trying to do with him, so now that he’s a little more mature, I can really help him out more than I have in the past.”

These discussions have paid off, as Boretti noted that Joey’s middle-of-the-order presence has already made a great impact on the team—and he continues to improve.

“He’s hungry, he’s open to suggestions, and he’s very coachable,” Boretti said. “He just wants to help the team any way he can, and he’s done a great job of doing so.”

Joey’s parents attended one of Columbia’s games in Texas earlier this season, and his dad continues to follow the team’s progress online. He said he’s proud of Joey’s accomplishments and has the utmost admiration for his son.

“Joseph is a veteran war hero, and I have a lot of respect for what he did for his country,” the elder Falcone said. “I don’t think he’s the kind of guy that would command that respect, but people realize what these guys went through at a young age, and it’s really unbelievable.”

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Columbia athletes need nicknames too

BENEDICT from back page

football coach is the picture of authority, and he made it clear from day one he was here to kick ass and win games. “The Man” is one of those titles that just works, and my friend and fellow columnist Peter Andrews agrees with me.

MAODO LO (MEN’S BASKETBALL): “THE CHAIRMAN”

I bestowed this title on Maodo in my basketball end-of-season awards column, but it bears repeating. Now all we need is a student section full of fans waving Little Red Books.

GRANT MULLINS (MEN’S BASKETBALL): “PRINCE CHARMING”

Have you seen this kid? Blond hair, blue eyes, a pearly-white smile... He’s straight out of central casting. Sure, it might be problematic that these things are standards of beauty in our society. But who cares, the name’s perfect.

MIWA TACHIBANA (WOMEN’S BASKETBALL): “BENIHANA”

This Lions point guard is super entertaining to watch and always leaves you wanting more, just like those crazy performing waiters. She’s an accurate shooter, tossing the ball in the basket as if it were a shrimp tail. She slices up defenses like a chef slices onions, and her game sizzles like a hibachi. And poetically, “Benihana Tachibana” just flows off the tongue.

MARVELLOUS IHEUKWUMERE (WOMEN’S TRACK): “AS ADVERTISED”

Iheukwumere has been truly marvelous so far this season, winning two individual Ivy championships in the indoor 60-meter and 200-meter back in February. When your first name says it all, your nickname can just ride its coattails.

JOEY GANDOLFO (BASEBALL): “THE WIZARD”

Look, when your last name is

Gandolfo, I’m going to call you “The Wizard.” It’s one of my ironclad rules. Deal with it.

There you go, Columbia, seven nicknames to get you started. But the train shouldn’t stop here. I encourage you to come up with nicknames of your own and start shoving them down your friends’ throats. Maybe apply for a Spec sports column so you can force them on total strangers. I guarantee you, this sort of silliness will only make the games more fun. Or my name isn’t Tuberculosis.

Tyler Benedict—*The Munshi of Monikers*—also goes by *TB*, *TyBen*, *TyTy Baby*, and *Vision*.

He is a Columbia College senior majoring in English and Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies, and the poet laureate emeritus of the Columbia University Marching Band. The Road Less Traveled runs biweekly.

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Dance collective selling out showcases

BY JENNY PAYNE
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

At a typical rehearsal, the dancers of e r a Dance Collective find themselves tangled up in a delicate knot of movement. Their warm-up improvisational work has brought them here, with the dancers smiling and laughing as they carefully maneuver around each other. e r a Creative Director Sarah Esser, BC '15, squats nearby, instructing her dancers to keep moving.

“Really, there are no boundaries at all,” dancer Sarah Silverblatt-Buser, BC '15, said.

Improvisational movement and other tasks built to increase dancers' comfort with themselves and their fellow dancers are at the heart of e r a's design.

Founded in December 2011, the collective has grown tremendously since Esser initially asked eight of her friends and acquaintances through dance to participate in a new project. Now a company of 13, e r a has performed in three of New York's boroughs and is performing its fifth showcase this weekend after a sold-out show at the Gibney Dance Center two weeks ago.

“It's becoming really real, which is a little bit scary,” Esser said. “I don't know how to run a collective, so I'm sort of teaching myself things as I go. It's sort of fun because I get to make up all the rules.”

A year and a half later, Esser and her dancers look back on how far the group has come since their first rehearsals, spent in open hallways and on the lower level of Lerner. Thanks to a very successful Kickstarter campaign in mid-February that raised \$1176 of the \$500 goal, e r a was able to afford to rent a space of its own and have room for growth. Friends have helped where possible, contributing photography and graphic design for the logo and programs.

The dancers have taken it in stride. “They were all so into it from the beginning, and

what's so amazing is that they're all still so into it,” Esser said. “Each dancer brings a unique style to it, but somehow they all look really great together.”

The different backgrounds represented in e r a push the dancers to work together to learn from each other while also learning about themselves as dancers.

“All of us are trained, but in different ways,” Silverblatt-Buser, a classically trained ballerina, said. “It's an interesting conglomeration of talents and styles that's allowed us to learn a lot from each other. Being in e r a has really allowed me to branch out by improving my improvisational skills by being more experimental and creative in my movement.”

Dancer Hye-Jin Yun, BC '15, who knew Esser from high school, stressed e r a's strength in collaboration.

“It's exactly what it sounds like, e r a Dance Collective: it's a collective, a group of people who work together.”

Though she serves as the principal choreographer, Esser encourages the dancers to improvise and contribute to the dances in ways that express their own individuality. The Saturday showcase's finale as being structured around the theme of self-portraits, Yun said.

“We have five specific gestures that we come up with specific to each individual dancer, which is the self-portrait element of it,” Yun said. “Sarah specifically guides us, but gives us the freedom to move, and that's the beauty of this collective.”

e r a's last planned performance of the semester will take place this Saturday in the Marion Streng Studio from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., but the collective will keep rehearsing and growing.

“Even after our show's over, we're still going to continue to rehearse because the process never really can stop,” Silverblatt-Buser said.

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JENNY PAYNE / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CAN'T STOP THE BEAT | e r a Dance Collective, which was founded by Sarah Esser, BC '15 (foreground), in December 2011, is set to perform its fifth showcase this weekend.

Living Side by Side:

On Culture and Security

Does the concept of security assume a distinctive cultural form in the midst of deafening patriotic calls for protection and precaution?

Homi Bhabha

Harvard University

With Discussant Saskia Sassen

Columbia University



Monday, April 29, 2013

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Low Library Rotunda
Columbia University

Homi K. Bhabha, Anne F. Rothenberg Professor of the Humanities at Harvard University, will deliver the Inaugural Global Thought Lecture, "Living Side by Side: On Culture and Security." Professor Bhabha's lecture will be followed by a discussion with Saskia Sassen, Robert S. Lynd Professor of Sociology and Co-Chair of the Committee on Global Thought.

This lecture explores the role of culture and the arts in cultivating an ethic and aesthetic of "living side by side" that contributes to our contemporary understanding of "cosmopolitan right" (Kant). Homi Bhabha will reflect on the global scale of cosmopolitan affiliations to ask what kinds of neighbourliness are possible in a time of partial sovereignties and paradoxical communities that constitute our Age of (In)Security.

More information at cgt.columbia.edu
To register, visit globalthoughtlecture.eventbrite.com

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CELLO WORLD | Nathan Chan, CC-Juilliard '15, will be performing at Alice Tully Hall in May.

Chan wins Juilliard competition

BY JENNY PAYNE
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

As a cofounder of String Theory, a YouTube star, and a Davidson Fellowship recipient, Nathan Chan, CC-Juilliard '15, has a lot of reasons to wear his ever-present smile. Now he can add winning the Juilliard Cello Competition to his résumé. The Bay Area native beat out full-time Juilliard undergraduate and graduate students with his performance of Richard Strauss' "Don Quixote," which he'll get to perform in Alice Tully Hall next month.

The competition occurs at Juilliard each year for every instrument, with the competition piece announced the prior summer. Chan, who spends part of his time studying economics at Columbia and part of his time taking cello lessons under Richard Aaron at Juilliard, was excited to see that this year's piece tied in to his Core studies.

“I think having read the book was one of the most enlightening things, because I knew that the book is quite silly and dramatic, and I tried to bring that knowledge into my playing,” Chan said. “Whenever you're soloing or performing, you're always trying to convey a story, and knowing the story for 'Don Quixote' helped me a lot in preparing.”

The piece, written for orchestra with a cello solo, stars the cello as the character of Don Quixote and the principal viola as his sidekick Sancho Panza, with the two instruments engaging in a dialogue with one another throughout the piece. “Don Quixote” is one of Strauss' famous tone poems—musical compositions that draw from literature as inspiration.

“I think my favorite part of the piece is the

theatricality of it all,” Chan said. “Each variation of the piece is very extreme in emotion. I'm crying or I'm yelling or I'm riding my horse. Bringing a lot of different emotions to the piece makes it not only exciting, but also worth it.”

After listening to the piece and practicing extensively, Chan can look back on reading the text with a more critical perspective.

“I think now, if I read the book again, I would definitely think about the moments differently since the composer has made me internalize each moment and associate it with a certain melody,” Chan said.

Chan's prize for winning the competition is the opportunity to perform the piece with the Juilliard Orchestra next month under the direction of Detroit Symphony Orchestra conductor and Juilliard alumnus Leonard Slatkin. Rehearsals begin next week, and Chan will have two weeks to perfect the piece before he takes the stage.

“I'm nervous, but I think it will be really fun because the piece itself is so imaginative and creative,” Chan said.

As a member of the Columbia-Juilliard exchange, Chan is also excited about the opportunity the performance offers him to participate in Juilliard life.

“Since I spend my first few years only taking lessons there, it's cool to have more Juilliard experiences, and the opportunity to participate in something big there is quite exciting.”

Chan's performance with the Juilliard Symphony Orchestra will take place on May 4 at 8 p.m. in Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center. Admission is free.

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Thurston Moore gets 'Street'-wise

BY CHRISTIN ZURBACH
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Watching a woman pick her nose has never been as captivating as it is in James Nares' "Street.”

The video is playing in a loop at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, which hosted a special event Monday for the exhibit with live musical accompaniment by Sonic Youth's Thurston Moore on guitar. Nares and Moore, both longtime New York residents, collaborated to make parallel musical and visual narratives.

Nares' "Street" edits down 16 hours of continuous Manhattan street footage to a one-hour slow motion film, which was recorded in 2011 out of a moving car with a high definition camera, and later slowed down to the present pace. From Times Square to 125th Street—and even to Westside Market—Nares examines crowds throughout Manhattan by freezing their movements.

The film's slow-motion method mines comedy out of the subjects' unusual responses. A little girl makes a “rock on” sign followed by a peace sign, and as the camera circles around her a second little girl comes into frame striking a pose. A middle-aged man reaches out his hand toward a Mickey Mouse impersonator. Very few look directly at the camera, and when they do it creates either a jarring or comic effect. The lack of acknowledgement of the camera allows the viewer to feel integrated into the film.

The film encapsulates New York life in all of its crowded diversity so well that the viewer can get lost in the scenes. Though the slow motion technique may seem lethargic or potentially repetitive at first, the viewer soon acclimates to the film's pace and fall into the lull of its continuity. The slow motion can prompt a trance halfway between daydreaming and zoning out because the scenery, though new, is so familiar and the narrative method so consistent.

The music equally contributes to the dream-like mood. Accompanied by a drummer, Moore created instrumentals that, like his Sonic Youth



TIANYUE SUN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

(MURRAY) STREET | James Nares (left) and Thurston Moore at a special performance of Nares' "Street," a video installation at the Met.

material, feature alternative tunings and varied strumming techniques. Though not cacophonous, his performance mirrored city street sounds, pulling the viewer into the visuals.

At times they shifted the dynamics, though they often corresponded with a change of neighborhood. The parallelism is particularly impressive, considering the fact that Moore's back was to the screen throughout his entire performance.

The end of the film seems to be the end of a dream, the sudden halt of a slow journey. It captures universal moments that are fleeting but constant. Nares slows down one of the fastest cities in the world, forcing his audience to absorb a New York that it so often speeds through.

"Street" is playing at the Met through May 27.
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STAFF EDITORIAL

Everyone should be able to Take Back the Night

Tonight is the annual Take Back the Night march, rally, and speak-out to raise awareness about gender-based violence at Columbia and create a community of support for survivors. The speak-out part of the night serves a very particular and necessary function in bringing these goals to fruition, creating an anonymous and protected space for survivors who wish to come forward about their experiences.

Columbia's mandatory reporting policy requires that University employees file incident reports if they ever hear a student express that he or she has been the victim of sexual violence. This specific policy is grounded in the federal Title IX policy, though not explicitly required by it. Officials classified as mandatory reporters include staff, faculty, and students who serve as resident advisers. If this policy is followed without exception, every RA in attendance at Take

To practice or not to practice

At a recent dinner hosted by the LLC, I met an alumna who graduated from Columbia with a bachelor's and a master's in fine arts. A professional actor, she has also taught many students in Barnard's theater department. At one point during the dinner, a female student asked the alumna about her opinion on female roles and typecasting. Due to her Italian roots, she would often be typecast into "ethnic roles," such as a clumsy patron in an Olive Garden commercial. Given how competitive the acting world is now and how difficult it is to find a stable gig, she would gladly take the Olive Garden commercial again.

I do not have much experience in film or theater, unless playing in a pit orchestra counts for anything (I frankly went to the LLC dinner mostly for the free food). However, I still saw important overlaps between the practice of typecasting and what I have noticed while applying to medical schools this year over and over again. Like casting directors, the Association of American Medical Colleges seeks students that the association deems likely to fit its agendas. By the year 2020, America will face a shortage of 90,000 physicians, especially in medically underserved areas like inner-city ethnic enclaves or remote rural areas.

To resolve this shortage, the AAMC recommends building new medical schools and aims to increase medical student enrollment by 30 percent. At the same time, it has become a priority to aggressively recruit students underrepresented in medicine, because they are likely to return to their communities and practice primary care, which is exactly what the AAMC desires. In order to ensure that this vital interest is satisfied, medical schools often ask how an applicant will add diversity to medicine in their supplemental applications.

It is a noble effort on the profession's part to ensure that all healthcare needs will be met, whether a patient lives on an Indian reservation in Oklahoma or in a city, like Boston, with the nation's top hospitals. The problem lies in the fact that the field of medicine "typecasts" or targets specific categories of students in the pursuit of its health equity agenda. For example, Summer Medical and Dental Education Program is a summer program that attempts to recruit underrepresented minorities or socioeconomically disadvantaged individuals to the fields of medicine and dentistry. Many similar programs have been implemented in universities and public agencies, like the CDC, all across the United States. There is no guarantee, however, that these students will actually become proponents of health equity and minority health. Considering the pressures of loan repayment, geographic relocation, and the concentration of competitive training programs in major affluent cities in America, it is not surprising that very few physicians make substantial sacrifices to practice primary care in underserved areas.

Despite this disappointing reality, going to Columbia has shown me on multiple occasions that I could be taken seriously in any cause, regardless of whether my involvement directly improves my circumstances or those of my race. For example, after having worked individually with undocumented clients at a clinic, it is very difficult to ignore that there is something deeply wrong with how health care is accessed and delivered in this country. I have also seen male classmates strongly support the improvement of women's health on campus, especially in terms of sexual violence and misconduct support services. I am fortunate to be part of a university where it is the norm to find open-minded people who are willing to entertain unfamiliar ideas and concede if they true. Many of our strongest idealists did not find their ideals at home, but rather here at Columbia.

I recognize that medicine is still an institution affected by our society's fixation on demographic categories. There's a belief that in settings like rural Oklahoma, patients would feel "most comfortable" around a doctor who resembles them, instead of an Asian-American doctor whose "best fit" would be in a radiology department with minimal patient contact. Whereas Columbia instructs us that we have unbound potential as students, the real world is not shy about telling us that we are products of our times—that we somehow reflect and are bound to our world's whims, boundaries, and misconceptions.

Contributors to Spectator have all uniformly advised their classmates to find their passion and everything will fall in place, and while their advice is reassuring, it provides an imperfect picture of how physicians find their niche in medicine. The opportunities available to us sometimes depend on factors that lie beyond our control. With only a month left until graduation, it may be time to re-examine how one's interests align with what the world expects and needs. They say that actors rarely land the roles they dream of, unless they are Al Pacino or Cate Blanchett. I think the same rule applies to most other professions, including medicine. For sure, we can become the people we're meant to be, but only after years and decades of proving ourselves and defying other people's expectations.

James Yoon is a Columbia College senior majoring in environmental science. He is a resident adviser in John Jay Hall. Yooniversity runs alternate Thursdays.



JAMES YOON

Yooniversity

Back the Night must file a report for any student recounting a sexual assault whose voice or the details of such they recognize, despite the consciously constructed anonymity the speak-out is supposed to provide and protect. This week, some Graduate Hall Directors explicitly reminded some resident advisers in both upperclassman and first-year dorms that the mandatory reporting policy applies at Take Back the Night, encouraging RAs who are uncomfortable with the implications not to participate.

On Tuesday, representatives from Columbia's Take Back the Night published an op-ed encouraging University officials to whom the mandatory reporting policy applies not to attend tonight. While this would protect the anonymity of those speaking who could be recognized, it also prevents fellow students and survivors from benefiting from the empowerment and support that is at the heart of Take Back the Night.

In order to remain as inclusive as possible while still protecting survivors, Take Back the Night has instituted a new policy allowing those who wish to speak the opportunity to write their stories down for a member of the organization to read, thus keeping the survivor's actual voice disguised. While a welcome and creative solution to some of the potential reporting problems that RAs face,

Why not merge?

On Monday, Barnard President Debora Spar announced the intention to demolish and rebuild Lehman Hall, so as to build sufficient space after some period of time in excess of 20 or 30 years.

I went to Lehman Library to check out a book earlier this week. The building's facade is unsightly and the interior is dilapidated. No preservation society will fight to preserve the architecture for its aesthetic worth. The wrecking ball can't hit soon enough, and I'm glad that President Spar has the good sense to plan ahead.

Barnard's finances have been in shambles for as long as any current student cares to remember. It is telling that in the same meeting in which Spar announced her intention to replace Lehman, she simultaneously voiced doubt about Barnard's ability to pay the \$150 million bill for demolition and reconstruction.

More importantly, as the 21st century moves along, I wonder whether Barnard can continue to justify its existence as an independent undergraduate school alongside Columbia College. Meaningless rhetoric and labels aside, I wonder whether in 20 or 30 years Barnard will be able to offer its students a college experience that is substantially or even noticeably different from one at Columbia College. I wonder whether it does right now.

I don't want to compare mission statements or dwell on the merger between Barnard and Columbia that almost took place 30 or so years ago. We are told that Barnard is a small liberal arts college in New York and that Columbia is the big research university under whose umbrella Barnard resides. Yet beside the label and the rhetoric, I don't see how the substance of a Barnard education necessarily differs from a Columbia College one.

While different degree and major requirements exist, the classes that fulfill those requirements are often the same ones—with the obvious exception of Literature Humanities and Contemporary Civilization. Degree and major requirements are, by design, flexible and lenient enough to accommodate a wide variety of academic experiences. While Columbia's academic program does not directly correspond with Barnard's—that is to say there isn't a Columbia equivalent for every Barnard requirement and vice versa—the differences seem to me more administrative and arbitrary than substantive.

I understand that there are minute differences between the Columbia College science requirement and the Barnard Laboratory Science requirement, and that the Global Core is slightly different from Cultures in Comparison. Yet, it is entirely possible that two students, one registered at Columbia, another registered at Barnard, can graduate with similar degrees, having taken many of the same courses.

Having never used the advising, health, career, or any other support services at Barnard—and to be honest,



LANBO ZHANG

Second Impressions

RAs who wish to speak about their own experiences of sexual assault are put in an impossible situation—they must choose between violating the privacy and consent of other survivors and keeping their own stories untold. Meanwhile, RAs who simply want to support their peers are still at risk of hearing stories they must report.

Instead of asking RAs to refrain from participating in the events tonight, we call for an act of targeted civil disobedience. Resident advisers exercise their discretion about the applicability or inapplicability of University policies in many other situations, and Take Back the Night should certainly be such a time. All students—resident advisers or not—should be able to attend and actively participate in the speak-out if they so choose. The space created by Take Back the Night should be available to all who wish to reclaim it. In this particular instance, we urge RAs who wish to participate to do exactly that and maintain the anonymity of the speak-out. If asked about their attendance, resident advisers can simply state that none of the voices or stories they heard were recognizable. When a policy doesn't embody the values it's supposed to protect, sometimes it's worth breaking.

Ryan Cho and Yasmin Gagne recused themselves from this editorial because they are resident advisers.

having barely used the ones at Columbia either—I can't speak to whether tangible differences exist between the two. However, I don't think there are necessary and essential differences between the host of administrative and support services available on both sides of the street. Perhaps differences exist now, but there is no reason they have to. What differences there may be do not define Barnard or Columbia—they are incidental.

If Columbia split its undergraduate support services in half, the first half catering to students whose names begin A-L, the second half catering to students whose names begin M-Z, there might be some differences in the quality of one half compared to the other half. However, that is not to say that the two halves will differ in kind. Barnard's advising system might be in much better shape than Columbia's, but that difference hardly merits a separate school.

While a Barnard-Columbia merger might seem logical, it is more likely to be caused by economic reasons than one of educational philosophy.

I can't for the life of me figure out how the social life could be so different on the other side of the street. Living in womens-only dormitories could be seen as significant, but given that Barnard students have the opportunity to live off-campus or in Columbia residence halls, it is hardly an unshakeable pillar of the Barnard experience. The fact is that Columbia and Barnard share classrooms, we eat at the same restaurants, go out to the same bars, and ride the same subway trains.

While a Barnard-Columbia merger might seem logical, it is more likely to be caused by economic reasons than one of educational philosophy. Barnard is in a rather dire situation—pools are being closed, doubles are being turned into triples, and physical education requirements are being curtailed. Columbia, despite the Manhattanville expansion, will continue to view limited space as its biggest impediment toward further expansion.

Especially if they become more acute, Barnard's dire finances and Columbia's demand for space would make a merger mutually beneficial. If and when a merger occurs, I don't know whether we—that is, Columbia AND Barnard—will lose much aside from the administrative overlap that currently exists.

And where does that overlap come from? It comes as a result of the separate history of the two schools, because at one point in time, Columbia didn't see it fit to accept women.

So, why isn't a merger being seriously considered?

Lanbo Zhang is a Columbia College junior majoring in economics and history. He is a former Spectator editorial page editor. Second Impressions runs alternate Thursdays.

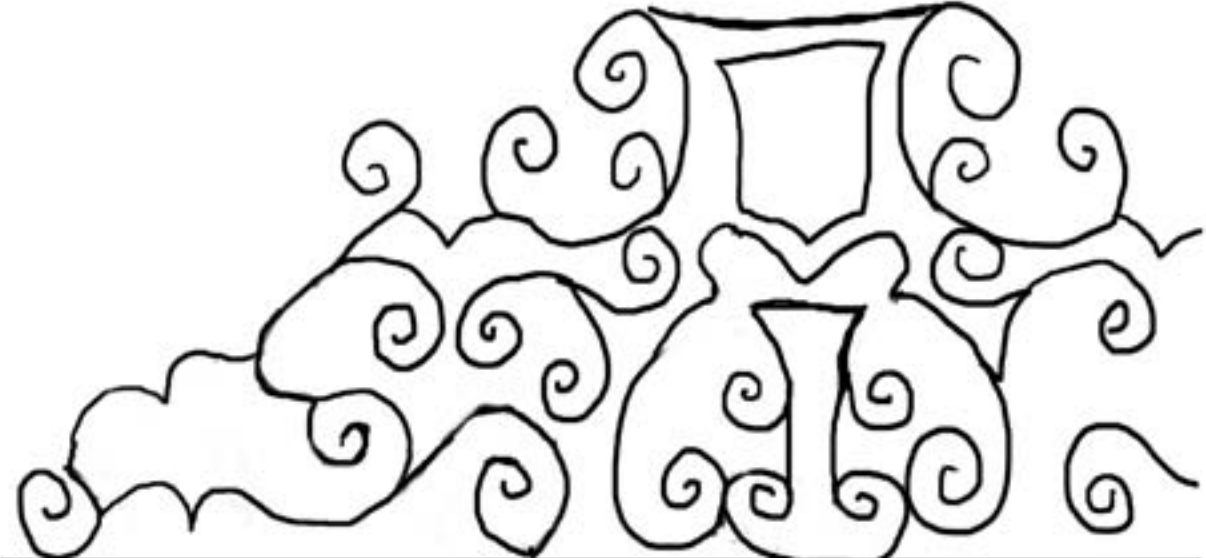


ILLUSTRATION BY GRACE BICKERS

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Lions need creative nicknames

You know, nicknames used to mean something in the sports world. But now, we've let ourselves get lazy. The sports pages these days are full of A-Rods and K-Rods, D-Wades and K-Marts, Melos and JPPs. Where's the originality? Where's the wit? Give me names like the Round Mound of Rebound, Chocolate Thunder, the Human Highlight Film, and the Minister of Defense. Give me the Fridge, the Great One, the Answer, the Worm, and the Galloping Ghost.

Heck, sportswriters in the '20s came up with like 15 nicknames for Babe Ruth. Are you telling me today's reporters can't come up with at least one good one for anybody else?

Lest you think that I'm all talk, I'm devoting the rest of this column to righting the ship. Here are seven names that the Columbia community needs to adopt right now (help me out here, Spec sports writers).

BRETT NOTTINGHAM (FOOTBALL): "THE SHERIFF"

OK, it's a little obvious, but it kicks the crap out of "B-Nott." I've been pushing for this one from the very beginning, and I'm just sad I won't be on campus next season to see the Sheriff hand out some hard justice. Sure, this nickname implies that Nottingham is some sort of villain. But the dude's 6-foot-4 and 212 pounds. He ain't no Robin Hood. And let's face it, the Columbia football team could use a little bit of the Sheriff's nasty swagger.

PETE MANGURIAN (FOOTBALL): "THE MAN"

I hate to be so predictable twice in a row, but this is a natural fit. The Lions



TYLER BENEDICT
The Road Less Traveled

Pitching, defense key in Light Blue's recent success

BY MYLES SIMMONS
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

From the beginning of the season, pitching and defense have been the calling cards for the baseball team's success. And now, as Columbia (17-16, 9-3 Ivy) heads into its second week-end of Lou Gehrig divisional play, the team will need its strengths to be at their best.

Lately, those two elements have both been about as sound as can be. In their 12 Ivy games, the Lions have committed just seven errors—second best in the conference to Dartmouth's four. Overall, the Light Blue is second in the Ancient Eight with a .967 fielding percentage in 33 games.

Columbia committed three errors in 35 innings against Cornell last weekend, and for the most part, the pitching was able to pick up the defense after those errors, as the Light Blue let in just two unearned runs.

But one of those runs came at a most inopportune time. In the top of the seventh of Sunday's first contest against the Big Red, senior first baseman and closer Alex Black allowed a leadoff double, followed by a single to put runners at first and third with no outs. Though the Lions got an out on a fielder's choice to keep men on the corners with one out, they couldn't keep Cornell off the board.

Big Red's first baseman Ryan Plantier hit a slow chop to third, which sophomore third baseman David Vandercook fielded and elected



KIERA WOOD / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BACK INTO BLACK | Alex Black is an important part of the Lions' run prevention, both playing first base and pitching.

to throw home—there probably was not enough time to turn a five-four-three double play to end the game. But Vandercook's throw went off of junior catcher Mike Fischer's helmet beside the plate and dribbled off to the side to allow the Big Red to tie the game.

Although that unearned run proved to be costly in that it sent the game to extra innings, it also provided an uncommon scenario for Black. When the senior came in to pitch the seventh, freshman Nick Maguire replaced him in the field as the first baseman. But because Black was already in the game, Maguire actually replaced sophomore designated hitter Joey Falcone,

eliminating the DH for the rest of the game. When Black finished pitching after two innings of work, head coach Brett Boretti decided to put the senior back at first base, meaning the pitcher would bat in Falcone and Maguire's vacated cleanup spot.

Though unusual, Boretti said Black's physical condition allows the senior to be able to play first, pitch two innings, and go back to the field all in the same game.

"It says a lot about him—his heart, his determination, and his leadership," Boretti said Sunday. "He's one of our captains, one of our senior leaders. And I know that the guys look to that and see

what he's doing—his effort—means a lot to the whole team."

Though Black's success at the dish has been well-documented, he's been named to the Ivy League Baseball Honor Roll twice this season and has also had plenty of success on the mound. His three saves rank third individually in the Ancient Eight, and he also has 13 strikeouts in 12 1/3 innings.

As always, pitching and defense will be key this weekend—but that is especially true against a Princeton team that leads the league in hits, homers, runs, and average during conference play.

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LACROSSE

Light Blue falls to Albany, 15-6

Columbia lacrosse (2-11, 0-5 Ivy) suffered another disappointing nonconference loss Wednesday evening—this time to Albany, 15-6. The Lions put up points first against the Great Danes (9-4) behind junior Paige Cuscovitch, who finished with half the of the squad's six goals. The lead was short-lived, however, as Albany's Ariana Parker scored the next three. Though seniors Kelly Buechel and Kacie Johnson scored two of the next three to bring the score to 4-3 midway through the first half, Albany finished the half with a 6-1 run.

The second half was marked by much more defensive play as no points

were scored until Johnson scored her second goal with 17:20 left to play. But the Great Danes then answered with five of their own. In all, six players put points on the board with three separate players notching hat tricks against the overmatched Columbia team.

Only two games remain in the season, against Harvard and Manhattan, each of which boasts a sub-.500 record. The Lions will play Harvard on the road for their last away game this Saturday at 1 p.m. in Cambridge.

—Robert Mitchell

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