

HI-DEF ON LOW



JASPER L. CLYATT / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FANTASTICAL FILM | Last night, Columbians gathered on Low Plaza to watch “Coraline” in 3-D as part of this week’s Bacchanal festivities. The first 300 students to arrive at the event received free 3-D glasses, and some students also received T-shirts.

Bollinger signs new book for undergraduates

BY AMBER TUNNELL
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

About 50 students turned out at Faculty House Tuesday night for a lecture—and a discount—on University President Lee Bollinger’s latest book.

Book signing events for his newest work “Uninhibited, Robust, and Wide-Open: A Free Press for a New Century” have led him off campus this semester, but last night he was reserved exclusively for undergraduates.

While co-coordinator and recently elected University Senator Kenny Durell, CC ’12, had sent a Facebook message to potential attendees reminding them that “this might be one of the few chances you have to interact and see the university president in person,” the room was half empty.

In Bollinger’s lecture—one that was supposed to be informal, he noted, despite delivering it from behind a podium—Bollinger said that the issue of free speech and press today may not be “not entirely settled,” but that “in this country, you can say and the press can report virtually anything.” It’s necessary, he said, to spread those rights globally.



ZARA CASTANY FOR SPECTATOR

AUTOGRAPHS | University President Lee Bollinger signed a copy of his newest book for Bo Yun Park, BC ’12, at an undergrad event Tuesday.

He touched on the rise of technology, particularly the Internet—tools, he noted, that were beneficial but carried a “very great risk” of censorship.

“If you have censorship anywhere, you now have censorship everywhere,” he said, referring to the fact that countries can now, if they choose, censor everything published on

the Internet.

But he also offered a solution to his audience: “Having the American press out there in the world reporting as great journalists do will do more to undermine calls for censorship than anything else.”

Bollinger added that he felt the Internet had financially undermined the media,

particularly foreign coverage, in a time when “there is less and less coverage of the world and more and more need for information.”

Durell said that it was necessary for Bollinger to defend his work. “It is not a cheap book for students to buy,” he said, adding that the lecture gave Bollinger a chance to “prove the ideas are worth it.” At the event, the 210-page book was on sale for \$19.25.

“It is great to see our president be out in front about an issue like this,” said Jordan Hirsch, CC ’10 and a student who took Bollinger’s Free Speech course.

Devora Aharon, CC ’10 and chair of the Student Governing Board, also took Bollinger’s class and said that his “speech brings the concepts of the class into where we are today,” and that the event allowed her to get a more in-depth understanding of his argument.

“It is good to see President Bollinger in a more informal environment,” Vighnesh Subramanyan, CC ’12, said, adding that he believes “lots of people feel like reading the book now.”

amber.tunnell
@columbiaspectator.com

Lawsuit against CU women’s studies dept. dismissed

BY MADINA TOURE AND SAM LEVIN
Columbia Daily Spectator

Though Roy Den Hollander, MBA ’97, thinks Columbia’s support of gender studies discriminates against men’s rights, the U.S. Court of Appeals ruled on Friday that the University has not harmed men with its actions.

Hollander, a controversial men’s rights activist who first filed a lawsuit against Columbia in August 2008, has claimed that Columbia’s support of a women’s studies department was a First Amendment violation, on the grounds that, legally and constitutionally, feminism counts as a religion.

He has also charged that the discriminatory nature of

a women’s studies program is in violation of the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment.

His argument is that Columbia cannot use public funds for the Institute for Research on Women and Gender unless it supports an equivalent men’s studies program.

The United States magistrate judge ruled last April that there was no valid injury for the plaintiff, Hollander, and the decision said that the case therefore merited no judicial

authority. Later that month, Judge Lewis Kaplan of the U.S. District Court, Southern

District of N.Y., upheld the magistrate ruling, stating that “feminism is no more a religion than physics. ... The core of the complaint therefore is frivolous.” And last week, Hollander’s case, for now, reached the end of the line with the U.S. Court of Appeals’ decision to uphold the lower courts’ dismissals.

“The only way to change this is for 100,000 armed guys to show up ... and demand their rights.”

—Men’s rights activist
Roy Hollander, MBA ’97

The court argued that the prior decisions “properly dismissed the action for lack of standing as to all defendants because the plaintiff’s claims of harm amount to the kind of speculative harm for which courts cannot confer standing.”

But Hollander said on Tuesday that the fight was far from over. “I can bring this case again, and I’m going to bring this case again,” he said, arguing that the court ruling emphasizes that he has no standing, which he said leaves options open to pursue a different track of the case. Hollander said he plans to focus his complaint on government support for the “religion” of feminism, an argument that he said he can

SEE LAWSUIT, page 2

Strike called off for CU buildings

Labor dispute resolved after workers protested contracts

BY SARAH DARVILLE
Spectator Staff Writer

A labor dispute that almost left dozens of local buildings, including parts of Columbia housing, without basic services was resolved last night, and no strike is planned.

Thousands of doormen, handymen, superintendents, and other workers were set to walk off the job this morning after negotiations between their union, 32BJ, and the city’s Realty Advisory Board on Labor Relations dragged on past the union’s midnight deadline.

According to the New York Times, a union official announced that a deal had been struck at 12:20 a.m.

New York City’s 32BJ union, a division of the Service Employees International Union, represents 30,000 building workers and has been in contract negotiations since March with the Board, which represents building owners.

“I was really worried—I’ve got a third kid on the way, so to go on strike would have been bad. Nobody would’ve crossed our picket line, and we would have had garbage stinking up the city,” Vinko Camaj, a doorman at 610 West 110th Street said.

The union represents workers in some Columbia-owned buildings, including graduate residence halls, and a strike would have stopped basic services like trash pickup, most maintenance, and package deliveries.

“There are 32BJ employees who work in Columbia dormitories, and those buildings will be part of the 3,222 that will be affected if we do go on strike,” 32BJ spokesperson Kwame Patterson had said Tuesday afternoon.

Undergraduate residence halls are not serviced by 32BJ members and would not have been affected by a strike.

On Tuesday, Dan Held, director of communications for

Columbia Facilities, said in a statement, “Columbia University is not directly involved in the current negotiations. The University has established procedures in order to keep our residential buildings safe and operational during the strike and has communicated these procedures to our tenants.”

In 362 Riverside Drive, a graduate residence hall known as Carlton Arms, fliers were posted on Tuesday detailing how to deal with reduced building services.

In the event of a strike, residents were asked to bring garbage to the basement, pitch in to keep their floors clean, be home for all deliveries, and carry keys at all times. The posters noted that buildings that usually have 24-hour doormen would have had security guards

posted in the lobbies instead.

Loretta

Zuk, the superintendent of the Columbia-owned 547 Riverside Drive, is a member of 32BJ and had planned to stop working if the strike was called.

“I run the building pretty much on my own, so if I don’t work, it’s at a standstill,” she said.

After losing a good chunk of her retirement savings due to the recession, she said she can’t afford what she heard were the proposed contract changes.

“We don’t want to give back any of our benefits. We want a cost-of-living increase—we’re not asking for much more,” Zuk said. “They want to reduce our sick days from 10 to five, up what we pay to our insurance, which we never had to do. Little things here and there add up.”

Camaj of 610 West 110th Street said those proposed health care changes were the main sticking point among union members.

“We do a service that they want, and now they have to pay for it,” he said.

sarah.darville
@columbiaspectator.com



PATRICK YUAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

LABOR PAINS | Ronald Pelissier, supervisor of Carlton Arms on Riverside Drive, was involved in negotiations between workers and management.

INSIDE

A&E, page 3

Local food carts cater to students’ tastes

Three Columbians weigh in on the budget-friendly snacks available at neighborhood food carts. Options include empanadas from Havana Central, fresh fruit from fruit carts, and southern Indian pancakes at the Dosa cart.



Sports, back page

Schneiderman secures Ivy title for Columbia tennis

Sophomore Haig Schneiderman brought the Light Blue to their second straight Ivy League title with his winning shot from the baseline. This season Schneiderman has compiled a 7-0 record in conference play.

Opinion, page 4

Influencing our children

In a world far, far away, global warming will affect us.

Beyond affiliation

Anna Arons comes to Barnard’s aid, explaining why we need single-sex schools.

Today’s Events

Marriage Equality New York

The group presents “Why Only Marriage Equality Will Do.”
313 Fayerweather, 9 p.m.

Authors of ‘Game Change’

Mark Halperin and John Heilemann join Alan Brinkley at the J-School.
Third-floor lecture hall, 6 p.m.

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(212) 854-9555

WEATHER

Today Tomorrow
68 / 51 68 / 45

No need for men’s studies, students say

LAWSUIT from front page

make because he is a taxpayer. Hollander said he had expected the latest blow to his case. “I’m not surprised. When it comes to men’s rights, the courts in this country are useless,” he said.

Though representatives from the Institute for Research on Women and Gender, along with several gender studies professors, could not be reached for comment, over the course of this case, Columbia has argued that Hollander has no standing since he is simply pursuing his own personal hostility toward feminism.

The continued fight for Hollander is not about winning in court, which he

acknowledges is not likely. “The only thing that I can really do with these cases is point out the hypocrisy,” he said, adding, “I believe the only way to change this is for 100,000 armed guys to show up to Washington, D.C., and demand their rights.”

Students on campus said that they were uncertain what a men’s studies program would entail.

“I think you can raise the question, but I think in doing so you have to be careful. ... There’s not a historical bias against men,” Bianca Schreiber, BC ’11, said. “There’s not ... a need for a men’s studies program in the same way.”

Robert Post, SEAS ’11, agreed, saying, “It just seems like the suggestion that there should be a men’s studies seems

retaliatory.”

Phil Crone, CC ’11, defended the program, saying that its purview is broader than women. “It sort of tries to talk about many different identities in terms of biology, sexuality, identification with different groups,” he said. “Even though women might be in the name of the field, it doesn’t solely focus on women.”

But Ben Bao, a master’s student at Teachers College, said that Hollander’s argument for a men’s study program may be valid if he has done the research. “He thinks it’s useful to study, so I support his idea about that,” Bao said. “I haven’t heard this kind of study before, so it’s very interesting.”

news@columbiaspectator.com

Trustees honored at BC scholarship auction

BY CLAIRE LUCHETTE
Columbia Daily Spectator

In what trustee emerita Helene Kaplan BC ’53 called “one of the best parties Barnard has ever had,” trustee Judith S. Kaye BC ’58 and outgoing board of trustees chair Anna Quindlen BC ’74 were honored at Barnard’s annual Scholarship Dinner and Auction Tuesday night.

Barnard alumnae and supporters gathered at the Plaza Hotel for the event, which featured a live, silent, and online auction. The evening’s festivities raised \$1,635,000 for Barnard’s financial aid program.

The event’s success, Barnard President Debora Spar said in her introduction, was important to “give young women of promise a chance to succeed.”

Vice President of Development and Alumnae Affairs Roberta Mark said that the auction had received more support this year, particularly from current students and parents. “This is part of our effort to get parents involved not just the first year, but for all four years of their daughters’ time at Barnard,” she said.

Auction-goers had the chance to bid on a book club session

with Quindlen, who is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and best-selling novelist. Quindlen’s sixth novel, *Every Last One*, was released last week. Competition for the opportunity yielded a \$10,000 bid for the session—and a promise from Quindlen to hold two additional sessions for matching bids.

“This is part of our effort to get parents involved ... for all four years.”

— *Roberta Mark, VP of Development and Alumnae*

In an interview before the auction, Quindlen said she wasn’t “entirely comfortable with the idea of being honored at the event,” but noted that “if it gets more money, I’m all for it.”

Quindlen said she was looking forward to her future after her time leading the trustees, but would continue to devote herself to fundraising for financial aid at her alma mater. “I told Jolyne [Caruso-Fitzgerald] and Deb

[Spar] I’d be more than happy to help in the future in any way. Whether they need me to ask for money or make a speech, I’m there,” she said.

Quindlen said her last year as chair has been “spectacular,” crediting the success to the opening of the Diana. “It’s very rare that you turn out happier when a building is completed than you are during the planning stage of the process,” she said. “I love to watch how the students have taken to the building and made it their own.”

She was honored alongside Kaye, the first woman to be appointed to the New York State Court of Appeals. While accepting the award, Kaye recognized her Barnard education as a source of an “ultimate bond” that lent her “pride, creativity, and commitment.” To those in the crowd who had the “misfortune of not being Barnard graduates,” Kaye asked, “Don’t you wish you were Barnard graduates, too?”

Quindlen echoed a similar respect for her alma mater in her acceptance speech, saying, “I owe Barnard my entire life ... At Barnard, I got far more than I’ve ever been able to give.”

news@columbiaspectator.com

Baseball takes on Manhattan today

BY VICTORIA JONES
Spectator Staff Writer

This afternoon the Lions will take a break from Ivy League competition to play a double-header against nearby rival Manhattan College.

The Jaspers are 18-13 this season, 7-5 in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference. Most recently, Manhattan took on division foe Fairfield in three games. The Jaspers suffered a tough 7-6 loss in the first game but recovered well to win the next two 6-5 and 9-2.

At the plate this season, the Jaspers have been led by junior Chad Salem with a .423 batting average. Salem also leads the team with 11 homeruns and 49 RBI.

From the mound, it has been Tom Costigan who has represented Manhattan well. With an ERA of 5.03 and a 4-2 record, Costigan leads the starting rotation after 48.1 innings pitched.

Columbia’s own pitching, however, has seen significant improvement this past month from the starting rotation of Pat Lowery, Dan Bracey, Stefan Olson, and Tim Giel.

Lowery leads the group with an ERA of 4.25, and Bracey has

pitched similarly well, recording an ERA of 4.53. The starters are 3-2 and 3-3 on the season, respectively.

The Lions have seen more than solid pitching these past few weeks, as the starting four have gotten continued support from the batter’s box.

Senior Dean Forthun and sophomore Jon Eisen sit atop the rankings with batting averages of .365 and .364 respectively in the 32 games that they have each played.

Furthermore, outfielder Nick Ferraresi leads the team with 30 RBI, while designated hitter Alexander Aurricchio has contributed 28 of his own.

The power the Lions have seen behind the plate and the accuracy from the mound have carried Columbia to a record of 11-3 in April, significantly improved from March’s record of 7-11.

The major difference between the two months has been the commencement of conference play. For the first month of the season, the Lions only faced non-Ivy League opponents, while April has seen the Light Blue face almost exclusively teams in the Ancient Eight.

Tomorrow it will be interesting to see whether the tendency to drop games to nonconference foes will prevail over April’s winning streak against Manhattan.

Last year when the two city foes faced off, it was the Jaspers who came out on top. Manhattan won both games in the double-header, the first 4-1 and the second 8-4.

When asked about the Jaspers, head coach Brett Boretti said “they are a very competitive team and they hit very well” but that the Lions “are preparing the same was as [they] always do – practicing hard and paying attention to detail.”

Tomorrow the Light Blue will focus on “just playing solid defense, throwing strikes and competing in [its] at bats,” Boretti said.

The Lions won’t have long to focus on the twinbill against Manhattan, as they will have just two days’ rest from competition before they continue conference play against Cornell this weekend in Ithaca.

This afternoon’s double-header will begin at 2 p.m. in Riverdale, N.Y., with the second game scheduled to commence at 4:30 p.m.

Schneiderman undefeated in Ivy play

SCHNEIDERMAN from back page

you’re not going to come, but this is what you can work on.’ But then, once I came here for a visit and met Bid more, met some of the guys, I really wanted to come. I looked at some other Ivies—Brown, Harvard, Cornell—but once I came here, there wasn’t a choice to make.”

Upon arriving at Columbia as a highly touted freshman, Haig was immediately impressive in practices.

“He is everything that you would want from a young man,” Goswami said of Schneiderman. “Always at practice, works hard. Really passionate about tennis, and comes into practice and works to improve every day. Unbelievable work ethic.”

The hours he spent on the courts paid off. On his way to the Rookie of the Year award, Schneiderman also defeated opponents from Southern Methodist University and conference rival Harvard. Due in large part to Schneiderman’s stellar performances, mostly

from the No. 3 spot, Columbia was able to emerge as the 2009 Ivy League champion after defeating Harvard 4-3 in a dramatic showdown that wasn’t secure until Deb-Sen smashed the winning point.

During the summer, Schneiderman continued his training. “I worked with Amin [Khalaf], our assistant coach. He helped me a lot,” Schneiderman said. “I joined his gym, and he got me extremely motivated to come back and try and win the Ivies again.”

The following season was—if possible—even better. Schneiderman plowed through his opponents on his way to a 17-3 record (undefeated in Ivies), playing mostly at the No. 3 position.

Schneiderman, along with seniors Jon Wong and Mihai Nichifor, played at the top three spots, collected an 18-3 record in Ivy play and led the Lions to a 16-4 (6-1 Ivy) record.

The past Sunday, Schneiderman’s long journey culminated with one swing when he

delivered the shot that clinched Columbia’s second straight Ivy League crown.

“It [the match-winning shot] was so surreal because I never thought I’d be in that position,” Schneiderman said. “That’s why you play tennis, to have moments like that. That’s why you work hard.”

Following Sunday’s triumph, the No. 46-ranked Columbia tennis team will next compete in the NCAA Regionals mid-May. In that event, Wong and Nichifor will play in the final sets of their collegiate careers. Although their value to Columbia tennis is immeasurable, if Schneiderman continues his stellar play, the Lions will be in good shape for an unprecedented three-peat.

“It’s rare to be in a position to win three in a row. It’s pretty awesome, so hopefully we’ll take advantage of it,” Schneiderman said. “I know Rajeev and I are going to play a lot this summer. So hopefully we’ll both come out strong next year and lead the team to a third one.”

Swim test tradition serves as equalizer

LEWIS from back page

blue robes to accept a piece of paper that’s supposed to validate our time here.

I like the idea of the swim test tradition—it strips Columbia students of every intellectual defense mechanism and puts them all on a (more or less) even playing field. It’s probably the closest thing to an egalitarian activity

that you can find on campus. You can’t get an A or an A+ for the swim test—you either sink or you swim. It reminds everyone that you aren’t going to be judged solely on your ability to rip somebody a new one with the power of your words. It’s a friendly reminder that sometimes the things that matter in the real world have absolutely nothing to do with a liberal arts education. It’s a

reminder that in the face of a freak drowning accident, your diploma means everything and nothing at the same time.

Whether or not you ever attended a game, wrote a paper, turned in a problem set, or made a friend, it’s time to suit up. Grab your towel.

Lisa Lewis is a Barnard College senior majoring in economics. sports@columbiaspectator.com



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Morningside Heights’ varied food carts provide meals on wheels for hungry Columbians

FRUIT IS NATURE’S STREET FOOD

From the Columbia’s still conceptual Nom[^]3 to the flamboyant Big Gay Ice Cream Truck, New York’s street eats scene seems overrun by zany food carts. But the classic and healthy staple of green carts chills quietly for Columbians who seek it out.

The fruit carts on Amsterdam and Broadway are actually a New York City government-sponsored initiative to increase the availability of fresh fruit and vegetables. In 2008, Mayor Michael Bloomberg signed a law that permitted 1,000 green carts to set up in New York City. Though the carts don’t provide the variety of nearby Westside and Garden of Eden, they do offer a different advantage.

“We’re cheaper,” Abdul Azzine, vendor of the Amsterdam green cart, said. “Nobody can give you four bananas for a dollar! Is there anybody that can give you four bananas for one dollar? Nobody! But the push cart can do that.”

Azzine’s cart is stationed at 111th and Amsterdam on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays, and at 112th and Amsterdam on Thursdays and Fridays. He sells everything from the plump red strawberries that have infected Columbians’ spring cravings to cheap coconuts and avocados that remain cooking and snacking favorites.

“The oranges are excellent, but all the fruit is very nice and very healthy,” Azzine said. Despite recent trends, Azzine thinks fruit choice is ultimately not about what’s in season, but rather personal preference. “Maybe you like the mango, maybe I like the blueberry, somebody else likes the avocado.”

—Devin Briski



DO THE DOSA | Indian dosa are a more unusual street offering.

DOSAS EMBRACE GREASE AND GRIME

Swirling a thin batter in concentric rings with the bottom of a cup, the dosa vendor at 115th Street and Broadway simultaneously chatters on his cell phone and jokingly assures a reluctant customer, “If it’s not good, your money back!”

Dosa, a pancake speciality of southern India often consumed for breakfast, appears to be one of the more unusual food cart offerings around Columbia. Stuffed with fiery garam masala and turmeric-scented potatoes, each elongated crepe gets folded into a tube and chopped into segments. Not at all greasy, the pieces feel light and almost insubstantial. Served with a coconut curry, these dosa are not street cuisine for the timid—clumsily picked up with fingers and dunked in sauce while waiting for the bus, each pancake section juxtaposes creamy potato with crispy crepe, pleasant heat with mouthwatering saltiness.

While picky eaters might abhor the dosa cart’s grungy vibe, the unpainted sheet metal, bucket of slop water, and stained rags actually add a measure of authenticity to the experience. After all, students patronize such a food cart not for a hermetically sealed, sanitized experience, but rather for the strange thrill of eating finger food on New York’s already dirty streets.

More utilitarian than the halal carts that serve a variety of dishes, this stand offers only one option. For \$5, the dosa themselves feel a bit scanty, more mid-afternoon snack than gut-busting chicken-and-rice dinner. Nevertheless, sporadic visits seem worthwhile when munching on a spicy pancake provides such an escape from the daily grind.

—Jason Bell



FRESH AND FRUITY | Healthy snacks abound at fruit carts.

HAVANA CENTRAL STUFFS BOTH PASTRIES AND STUDENTS’ STOMACHS EVERY WEEK

On Wednesday evenings the long line of cheerful-looking people outside of Havana Central (2911 Broadway between 113th and 114th streets) proves that their \$1.00 empanada cart is one of the best bargains near campus. Every Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Havana Central sells this traditional stuffed pastry outside of the restaurant.

Havana Central offers three flavors: beef picadillo, broccoli and cheese, and chicken sofrito, this last one being the most popular flavor. The empanadas come steaming hot as the chef wraps them up for customers, placing them in a paper bag for easy transportation. At first glance, students would never know that these empanadas, with their slightly hard, crusty shells, contain such rich and authentic flavors. Slightly spicy, the chicken sofrito contains meat stewed with peppers and onions. The broccoli and cheese option features fresh and flavorful broccoli surrounded by warm, melted cheddar—a taste and texture far from the realm of the “Hot Pocket.”

Fitting for spring, Columbians can purchase fresh squeezed lemonade, also only a dollar. This thirst-quenching juice makes it easy to pretend school has already ended. Finals approaching? Not while sipping this lemonade, which practically overflows with pieces of lemon, strawberry, mango, and pineapple. Each cup is a work of art both in taste and appearance and comes chilled with ice cubes and bits of pulp, providing plenty of zest. As the man serving it said, “You’re not going to find this in a bottle!”

—Katherine Freedman

Save green and live green with eco-friendly clothes

BY ANNA COOPERBERG
Columbia Daily Spectator

With Earth Day coming up tomorrow, now is the perfect time to re-evaluate how to make life as a Columbia student as green as can be.

STYLE Fortunately, the trend toward eco-friendly fashions seems to be here to stay. A larger number of designers have gotten into the business of being green, creating more budget-friendly options and making a wardrobe of organic clothing feasible for college students. In Morningside Heights, for example, students can easily walk over to American Apparel

and check out their Organics line of T-shirts, which retails from \$18 to \$22 per shirt.

More and more indie designers have also jumped on the green bandwagon, making clothing and accessories from used or recycled items. In Brooklyn, Christine Domanic constructs her jewelry by hand from reclaimed items. To top it off, her studio is completely wind-powered, making the line’s carbon footprint incredibly low. Her quirky necklaces and earrings run from \$15 to \$40 and include crochet, wood, and vintage fabric used alongside carefully carved metals.

Although the options for low-budget organics—from both worldwide brands and independent designers—are now so

accessible, students don’t need to purchase organic clothing in order to greenify their wardrobe. “My tips are to reuse—shop at thrift stores, trade with friends, go to a clothing swap,” Yoni Golijov, CC ’12, said. Golijov is a resident of the special interest house GreenBorough, whose residents focus on leading organic and eco-friendly lifestyles. He also recommended that students “try to buy local and non-animal products, [and] no leather.”

A crafty fashionista would embrace Golijov’s last tip for eco-friendly dressing: “Rip up old clothes and sew them back up with something else or in a different way!” he said.

But for Columbians who aren’t as familiar with eco-friendly dressing, these tips might be tougher to adopt. “I’m very conscious of being eco-friendly in most aspects of life,” Karla Casariego, CC ’12, said. “I recycle. I actually can’t bring myself to throw paper or plastic in the garbage. When I wash my face or brush my teeth, I always turn the faucet off in between to conserve water.” But when it comes to dressing, Casariego admitted that her lifestyle is not completely green... yet. “I own, like, two articles of clothing made from organic cotton. I have no idea if that’s eco-friendly,” she said. “However, I never throw clothes away. I give them to my cousins.”

The green clothing industry is a bit less developed than other sectors of the green empire: organic food, sustainable energy, and recycled materials. However, it’s not lagging far behind. Perhaps soon it will be the norm to don organic materials and to reuse clothing—for students, that means no more wearing that party dress only once.



ORGANIC OUTFITS | American Apparel is one local vendor that embraces the eco-friendly clothing trend with its line of organic cotton T-shirts.

For some hip students, love affair with irony extends to film

BY JULIA ALEKSEYEVA
Spectator Staff Writer



It’s not very hard to figure out what young people like to watch, but it’s a little more difficult to understand why. This column has tried to explore cultural phenomena like children’s film, “Where the Wild Things

Are,” Tim Burton, Wes Anderson, and Landmark Theatres in order to understand what makes them appealing to the young, hip, urban generation. But one extremely important category has been left out: what films young people love to make.

The past two weeks offered numerous opportunities on campus to view films made by undergraduates, including the annual CUNUFF and CUFJ festivals. CUNUFF brought in films made by undergraduates across the United States from campuses as diverse as Northwestern, Emerson, and Oberlin. The films shown at the CUFJ festival, on the other hand, were made by Columbia’s own students. To anyone who attended both festivals, a trend was apparent in almost every film, especially the ones that were most well-received: the use of irony.

Irony as a concept is familiar to the young, urban population. The ‘noughties’ have seen so much irony incorporated into music, literature, and especially fashion that it almost seems cliché to discuss it: ironic facial hair, ironic trucker hats, ironic mullets, ironic t-shirts. But what about film? In the realm of Hollywood, film has perhaps remained the last bastion of sincerity, with the possible exception of 2006’s “Borat.” Dramas remain dramas, romantic comedies remain romantic comedies. Not so, however, in undergraduate productions, where the best films undoubtedly contain elements of irony. After all, how serious can a film made by 20-year-olds really be?

At CUNUFF, the winner of both “best directed” and “best picture” was the most

ironic film of all: the Rambo-meets-Matrix-meets-Austin Powers action spoof “Action World,” which used self-consciously bad acting and a hilarious number of extraneous special effects in order to poke fun at the action film genre (however, the directors themselves—Aaron Fronk, Vince DeGaetano, and Cooper Johnson of Columbia College in Chicago—still claim sincere love for Sylvester Stallone movies).

Victor Suarez, CC ’11, also presented an ironic film worthy of mention, the absurd and oddly funny “Garbage Day!” whose tagline is “Dinner date gone awry!” Awry indeed—in the few minutes of the short film, Suarez toys with violence, murder, and suicide attempts and somehow manages to make drama uproariously funny. Suarez is the only director with a film in both CUNUFF and CUFJ (which included his beautifully-shot music video, “Doctor, Doctor”).

“Something that I’ve learned from making shorts is to stay away from drama,” Suarez said when asked about the use of irony in his film. “At least for me, it’s very hard to write a serious short without it ending up pretentious. ... I’ve only seen maybe one or two strictly dramatic shorts that were successful. For me, at this point, the only way I can really communicate a short form story is by poking fun at it.”

Wise words for an undergraduate. Irony lets the filmmaker momentarily knock down the ivory tower, allowing young directors like Suarez the ability to experiment with film while remaining self-aware. There is a reason most dramas made by undergraduates appear unconvincing—filmmaking takes experience, and crafting a believable drama is more difficult than most people assume.

Of course, irony, especially as a comedic element, is also an enormous crowd-pleaser. “I use irony, I guess, because it’s the best method I know that gives laughs without sacrificing a story,” Suarez said. “With drama it’s hard to know if your movie connected with the audience. With comedy you know right away. If you hear them laughing, they bought the story, too ... well, maybe.”



IRONY IN ACTION | Two actors perform a scene from the film “Action World,” a humorous pseudo-action movie that recently took top honors at CUNUFF.

Columbia New Music strikes a chord with Music Hum students

BY EMILY OSTERTAG
Columbia Daily Spectator

Concertgoers, it’s time to put some of those Music Hum lectures to good use.

Some Columbia students may only know the name Pierrot Lunaire from the ubiquitous Music Hum textbook Listen. But one group on campus has spent this semester getting to know this landmark piece of contemporary classical music well enough to perform seven movements of it on Friday at 8 p.m. in Lerner C555.

Flute player and music major Holly Druckman, CC ’12, has led a group of students—organized through Columbia New Music—in this project since the beginning of the semester. Columbia New Music is a campus group devoted to performing contemporary music. “Columbia has a reputation for being one of the pioneering schools for composers of new music,” Druckman said.

According to Druckman, who joined the board of Columbia New Music this year, the board has, in the past, been made up primarily of composers. “New Music has wanted to put together an ensemble of this nature for a long time,” Druckman said, “but since composers are so busy composing, it’s been hard.”

Columbia New Music, once known as Works in Progress, was founded in 1999 by two Barnard College composers. The goal of the group is to provide a way for Columbia composers to share the music they write and have it performed, as well as for fans of contemporary music to listen and enjoy the work of composers on campus. The group began as just a concert series but has since expanded to include lectures, master classes, and other demonstrations given by a

variety of composers. The group has also focused on having weekly listening parties where composers can have their works performed, listened to, and discussed in a more intimate setting than a concert.

Arnold Schoenberg’s Pierrot Lunaire is a melodrama from 1912 based on 21 poems by Albert Giraud. The narrator performs the text of the poems along with the music in the Sprechstimme style. This atonal, expressionistic piece was written for flute, piccolo, clarinet, bass clarinet, violin, viola, cello, piano, and voice. Also on the program will be works by a number of Columbia student composers.

The ensemble, according to Druckman, has since become known as the “Pierrot Ensemble.”

“The idea behind putting this group together was not just to perform Pierrot Lunaire,” Druckman said. “Many contemporary pieces are written for this combination of players. Columbia New Music is primarily about performing the work of Columbia composers. So, in the future, we hope to perform more of their work.”

To the casual listener, or anyone sitting in Music Hum at 9:10 a.m., the atonal nature of Pierrot Lunaire can be a bit disconcerting. “It’s definitely more of a 4 a.m. type of piece than a 9 a.m. type,” Druckman joked.

She advised listeners, however, not to let the seeming lack of musical structure and harmony of the piece deter them from enjoying this important piece. “The amount of care and detail that was put into in the instrumentation [of the piece] is really amazing, as is the wide range of sounds that comes out of such a small ensemble,” she said.

“It’s been a lot of fun putting this project together with such a great group of musicians,” Druckman said. “We’ve accomplished quite a lot, and I think the audience is really going to enjoy it.”



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A continental problem

BY JENNIFER HALL AND FAUSTO SICHA

Since President Obama came to power, he has not only continued the Bush administration's immigration politics—things have gotten worse. The fact that the White House has not reformed immigration causes a feeling of deception in the 67 percent of Latinos who voted for Obama and in the 12 million immigrants in the United States who are waiting for immigration reform. In this article, we will describe how things for immigrants are worse under Obama. And, as a solution, we will offer five suggestions that we hope will win the support of the public, including some Republicans, in order to make immigration reform a reality. These suggestions might seem lofty, but we think it is time to act, and act big, especially when protests and hunger strikes don't seem to be working.

Obama's initial popularity and his historic election, together with his promises of immigration reform, made Latinos believe that he would be the needed catalyst for change. However, since he has not kept his promises, it is up to us to take a more active role.

While Congress decides who is going to lead immigrant reform, Latinos are feeling the effects of both the Bush and Obama initiatives. In 2009 the administration deported one person every 75 seconds and separated an average of 1,100 families each day. And since Obama took office, the government continues the "zero tolerance" policy for people who cross the Mexican border, and the "wall" between the U.S. and Mexico continues to grow. Obama has continued promoting periodic immigration status checks on people detained in the 3,100 local jails around the country and has asked for \$200 million to identify who in jail should be deported.

In 2007, Bush deported 259,000 immigrants. In 2008 the number rose to 304,000. Since Obama came into office, the numbers have increased! In 2009, the number of immigrants deported was 400,000. Clearly, Obama has not started the reform he promised.

Many people do not support immigration reform because of the thousands of illegal immigrants who come to the U.S. every year. This has always been thought of as a U.S. problem. But we think it is clearly a continental problem.



ANNA ARONS

Two cents and sensibility

Derived from the root "Barnard."

My friend has been trying to make "Narded" happen since his first year at Columbia. He insists that the term is appropriate for any occasion, but even as I've grudgingly accepted it, neither he nor I have ever used the term positively. Maybe it's a function of the term (used on "How I Met Your Mother" to refer to testicles), which just sounds derogatory. Or maybe it's because many of us, Barnard and Columbia alike, rarely say positive things about Barnard, regardless of our terminology. While 800 words isn't nearly enough to dissect the Barnard/Columbia relationship and the bitterness folded into it, I want to take this final substantive column of my career (my senior column, of course, will just be a string of obscure shoutouts) to explore Barnard's value as an institution.

I could argue that the Nine Ways of Knowing are liberating or that the individual attention and attentive administration help us reach our potential. These factors help make Barnard great and make us distinct from Columbia. Benefits like loose requirements and an emphasis on discussion can be found at numerous liberal arts schools, regardless of their gender make-up. Yet even among liberal arts schools, women's colleges stand out. What I believe—and what people are so reluctant to say—is this: we need Barnard because it's a single-sex institution.

STAFF EDITORIAL



LETI FREANEY

As the elections near, the Senate will become more bipartisan, which means that immigration reform will continue to be stalled in Congress. It is now up to us and the Democrats to try to do something. We cannot let the current administration forget its promises because there is not enough Republican support. Obama can propose other alternatives. Here are our suggestions: First, President Obama could hold a Latin American Summit where all the countries discuss the problem of immigration and ways to reduce it. This summit would serve to show that the White House is solidly behind immigration reform.

Second, because of our weakened economy, the U.S. administration should help create employment in the local Latin American governments from which emigration occurs most often. This increase in jobs would reduce the bureaucracy and corruption in local government and reduce immigration into the U.S.

Third, at the same time, the administration should give incentives to U.S. or Latin American companies to open manufacturing plants in the cities in Latin America where emigration is a problem. When there is more work in the cities where people live, there will be less migration to the U.S. to look for work.

Fourth, we should redirect the economic incentives given to the Colombian military to eradicate social problems like drug trafficking and guerilla groups. These funds have expanded the problem from a regional to a national level. Instead, we should allow

the funds to be used to uphold local laws and reinforce the judicial system in Latin America, thus creating social stability and local employment.

Fifth, there should be a student exchange between the U.S. and Latin America whereby master's students in the U.S. could assist the local governments in Latin America. These students could teach useful skills like English, computer skills, urban planning, and manufacturing. Architecture, business, and engineering students could show countries how to run more efficiently. In compensation for their services, the governments could give the students school credit for participation. If Latin American countries had more jobs and ran more efficiently, families would rely less on money sent from their U.S. relatives and would be less likely to emigrate.

We strongly believe in these five solutions and think pursuing them would create positive change. Immigration is a continental problem. It is time to discuss the issue beyond the walls of Congress. Latin American governments need to promote education and government participation in order to decrease emigration. But here, in the U.S., it is also time to act. It is time to resolve the problems with Latin America. It is time for real immigration reform.

Jennifer Hall is a graduate student in the School of Social Work. Fausto Sicha earned a graduate degree from City University of New York in international politics.

Strong enough to say 'enough'

'Narded (past participle):

An ejaculation uttered in response to an event that occurred because of an affiliation with Barnard College, i.e. "The student center's going to be called the Vag? 'Narded!"

Etymology:

Columbia, I'm exercising that empowerment I got from Barnard.

inefficient; Barnard drains the University's lifeblood; single-sex education is outdated.

As long as our society persists in socializing boys and girls differently and gender-based inequality persists, there's a need for single-sex institutions. Even on the playground, stark differences stand out. Parents admonish their daughters to pipe down and be nice, yet when sons tear through the park screaming at the top of their lungs, their parents dismiss it as boys being boys. Our socialization translates to the co-ed classroom and beyond—as women, we agree with guys to avoid conflict or we decide not to speak up in class because we don't want to be seen as aggressive or unfeminine.

The same-sex education environment removes these pressures. Every Barnard woman is guaranteed at least two all-female classes, First-Year Seminar and First-Year English. While I may laugh about my first-year classes now (my professor did grade our papers on a "meat scale," ranging from "raw" to "medium," to "Peter Luger couldn't have done better"), I do remember the freedom in our discussions: I spoke out of turn, argued directly with other students, and didn't worry nearly as much

as I would in a co-ed class about whether I sounded stupid. That freedom transcended the single-sex environment and empowered me in my co-ed classes and the workplace.

These experiences aren't unique to me. According to the National Survey of Student Engagement of 2004, "In general, women at single-sex colleges are more engaged than women at coeducational institutions," more engaged even than women at liberal arts colleges. Further, studies have found that alumna of women's colleges are more successful in careers, hold higher positions, are happier, and earn more money than women who attended co-ed institutions. Sure, people say that single-sex benefits are lessened at Barnard because of its close ties to Columbia. But really, have you seen the size of Martha Stewart's empire? Do you dare question the degree of her empowerment, her willingness to speak out and forge her own path, be it toward a new way of folding a towel or a new way of trading stocks?

The well-socialized girl in me is tempted to hedge my arguments—to say, "If you're unconvinced, I totally understand"—but Columbia, I'm exercising that empowerment I got from Barnard. It's time to call you on your shit. Your response to Barnard is to attack us, to accuse us of lowering the level of discourse and cheapening the Columbia degree. Barnard is an easy target. It's a hell of a lot easier to attack a group of women, to call us weak, stupid, and slutty, than it is to attack a group of men. We Barnard students often take such criticism silently or join those in power in criticizing ourselves—just as society has taught us to do. Well, Columbia, what do these attacks say about you?

I'll leave you to ponder. It's been a pleasure writing for you this semester, and yes, you just got 'Narded. Ew. Not like that.

Anna Arons is a Barnard College senior majoring in urban studies. Two cents and sensibility runs alternate Wednesdays.

Global warming wins global warming war

BY KARL MOATS

Dear Future Son/Daughter,
Florida was nice, but you didn't miss too much. Think: New York's waiting room stocked with oranges and wacky news. We only lost a species for ever every 20 minutes. And people really didn't believe global warming was man-made.

Sounds silly now, I know. You see, our baby boomer parents saddled us millennials with the bailout bill. We eventually paid it off, but we put climate change on your tab. Here are two reasons why:

No. 1: Al Gore had no friends.

A two-term vice president, arguably the 43rd president of the United States, a Nobel Peace Prize winner, an Oscar winner, and even a Grammy winner, history will smile on Al Gore as one of the greats of our era. But contemporary American popular culture was not so kind. The globe's public spokesman for climate change was merely the late-night punch line whenever it became very cold. Al Gore was built for deal rooms in the back, not the podium out front. He was awkward, grew out a beard for a while, and got fat (see also: Michael Moore).

Al Gore's lack of a pulse didn't help, but the reality is, green wasn't sexy. It had too many numbers and took too long. Indeed, early 21st-century American environmentalism was a non-event. NBC painted its peacock green for a week. The Facebook page "Global warming didn't cause the drought. Someone dropped a Shamwow" had 200,000 fans. The Facebook group "Global Warming"? 36,000. Prius hybrid drivers, especially in the Bay Area, were deemed Starbucks smug.

No. 2: It should have been called global weirding, not global warming.

When snow blanketed the global climate change summit in Copenhagen last December, Rush Limbaugh sneered, "When phony scientists reach the height of deceit, God dumps a snowstorm on 'em, all over this man-made fraud." He was not alone. It got to the point where Republicans virtually cheered for freak snowstorms. During February's blizzard in Washington, D.C., the family of Republican senator James Inhofe of Oklahoma made an igloo next to the Capitol with a sign reading "Al Gore's New Home."

Meanwhile, across the continent, Canada had to import snow to Vancouver for the Winter Olympics. A record 13-year drought eviscerated Australia. And this is why New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman harps that we shouldn't call it "global warming" but "global weirding." The

Americans didn't want a more involved government. They just didn't want George W. Bush.

climate changes with warmer temperatures, and strange things happen. The dries get drier, the wets get wetter. More violent hurricanes pulverize shores more often.

Friedman had another idea too: "China for a day." As repressive as the Chinese government is, it gets stuff done. So Friedman muses about what would happen if for one day and one day only, Washington adopted China's governing apparatus. Not to censor its own people or terrorize Tibet, mind you, but to pass a comprehensive climate change bill. What if for one day, Washington filibustered the filibuster and let the White House pass a sensible, scientist-backed climate change bill? It will never happen, and it's tragic. Because climate change is not a Republican issue or a Democratic issue—it's a children and grandchildren issue.

No. 3: Republicans went crazy.

Obama was our best shot, but he couldn't do enough. Yes, he dithered. He'd hold information sessions, not pep rallies. He misread his sweeping 2008 election as a mandate for federal activism. Except, Americans didn't want a more involved government. They just didn't want George W. Bush. But the biggest problem was, Republicans just went crazy.

Washington, circa 2010, was paralyzed by partisan bickering. Since 2006, Republicans either threatened to use the filibuster or did use it 70 percent of the time (it was eight percent in the 1960s). Their playbook had one play. Obama was too big to succeed. From the petty (cheering when Chicago didn't get the Olympics) to the grand (blocking jobless benefits), many Republicans seemed to root for President Obama to fail so they would look better in November ... country be damned in the meantime.

Republican leadership veered sharply off the beaten trail to the tune of (not-even-elected officials) Sarah Palin, Rush Limbaugh, and Michael Steele. Former half-term governor Palin dismissed man-made global warming as "snake oil." Limbaugh routinely blasted it as a communist hoax. And I'm sorry, Mr. Steele, but repeating "drill, baby, drill!" louder is not a viable energy plan. It became very hard to have a meaningful national debate when one side had a bag of words and the other was handicapped by ... reality. You can't reason with a crazy. And when that crazy was slightly less than half of Congress, the American Empire showed cracks and fissures on a late-Ancient Rome scale.

P.S. Don't let the old Coca-Cola ads fool you. Polar bears would have ripped your head off.

The author is a 2008 graduate of Columbia College and will receive his MBA in 2011.

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News: (212) 854-9555
Editor-in-Chief: (212) 854-9546
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Sports: (212) 854-9546
Fax: (212) 854-9553
E-mail: info@columbiaspectator.com

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Harpeichord relative

6 Doorframe part

10 One of Hammett's Charleses

14 Aggressive poker bet

15 Spooky-sounding lake

16 Musician Clapton

17 Consequence of the subprime mortgage fiasco

20 Start of something?

21 Accident investigation agency

22 Lowly assistant

23 Swindle

24 Move quickly, as clouds

25 Exit spectacularly

31 Get out of bed

32 Human pans

33 Consume

35 Cellar stock

36 Blin, in Blois

38 Chip's buddy

39 First party staple

40 Mindless repetition

41 Championship

42 Punished severely, with "on"

46 Gums

47 Word after open or seven

48 Take big steps

51 Hit or miss?

52 Special ... military force

55 Complaint from one trying to concentrate, perhaps—and this puzzle's title

58 Aqueduct feature

59 Lcb

60 Narrow canyon

61 Cook in the microwave

62 Fencer's weapon

63 Tic, e.g.

DOWN

1 Peel

2 Martinique et Réunion

3 "... poor Yorick!" Hamlet

4 Zlich

5 Musically monotonous

6 Zippy watercraft

7 Like about 20% of Israeli citizens today

8 Univ. near Harvard

9 Stud muffin photos

10 Chilean poet Pablo

11 Algerian seaport

12 Game played on a world map

13 Store in a hold

18 Store in a hold

19 Clover-shaped suit

23 Artful stratagem

24 Engage in retail therapy?

25 Stare in wonder

26 Bay window

27 New Wave band ... Boingo

28 Tammany Hall name

29 "Peachy keen!"

30 Carlo Rossi winemaker

34 Be die (with)

36 Sports car named for a small warship

37 Info in AAA TripTiks

38 "That's mine!"

40 Saxons and oboes

41 They usually have strings attached

43 Twist in pain

44 Scary African fly

45 Frau's spouse

46 Ugly duckling, actually

49 Drive—window

50 Pinion partner

51 Still life subject

52 Gumbo pod

53 Things for hanging things

54 Stem's opposite

56 Emulate Kanga

57 Radar gun ainer

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

ASSAM	KETT	VATS
PRODD	EDGY	ITUP
BONET	NAIR	EGGO
SYNONYM	FORJUST	
REA	ION	
ARCTIC	HOB0	POP
THORN	AIDA	FOUR
HOMONYM	FORWRITE	
ODIN	EMIR	EENIE
SAC	KAOS	FATTEN
SHE	NIK	
ANTONYM	FORLEFT	
BAR	MOON	IDIOM
IRIS	CARE	NERVE
TYPE	ABET	KNEEL

wordeditor@aol.com 04/21/10

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

By Donna S. Levin
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Swim test forces community on seniors



LISA LEWIS

That's What She Said

your diploma gives you all the freedom you can handle). That only means one thing: It's time to take your swim test.

The swim test is funny because it's a Columbian rite of passage that may be the singular experience that unifies the senior class. (The CC senior class, that is—we fortunate Barnard lasses and bridge-building SEAS students don't share your pain here.) There are few other experiences that unify the Columbia community besides eating in John Jay or sitting out on the Steps on a warm May day.

It's a shame that athletics are not a formative part of the Columbia experience. At so many colleges, the undergraduate experience is defined by athletics, whether it's sending pledges to stand in line overnight to get tickets, dressing up with full body paint, or putting one teeny tiny temporary tattoo on your face for the big game. Columbians choose to create their own "Columbia" experience, which typically excludes a pilgrimage to Baker or to Dodge.

The ironic part is that creating my Columbia experience involved going to places that the community should have been, but wasn't. For me, the best games were ones where I was one of maybe a

few hundred spectators, not thousands. I loved watching volleyball, women's basketball, and swim meets over the past four years, because no other students could get in the way of my experience. Having a guaranteed seat in the front row of the bleachers to cheer (or shout with varying degrees of obscenity) was the best part—it made me feel like I owned an intangible piece of Columbia's history. I bore witness to games that few other students saw. I got the exclusive scoop. I made friends with members of almost all departments of the Columbia athletic staff. When I yelled profanities, people listened.

I created my own Columbia experience, and within it, created my own traditions. I only sit on the right side of the student section. I must say hello to the Spec Sports delegate sitting on press row. I get to swipe my own copy of the stat sheets at halftime. I clap my hands high in the air when something is downright incredible. My traditions stemmed from my own neuroses and from trying to find a way to feel like I was part of a community on campus.

Yet here we are, looking at a graduation requirement that forces CC students to do something ridiculously outdated for the sake of tradition. It seems wrong to use the word "forced" to describe getting students to partake in traditions here. But it also seems all too accurate a term to portray the Columbia mindset toward things like singing our fight song. Like standing for the entire time during a home game. Or like walking around in scratchy

SEE LEWIS, page 2

Ivy Champ



ADYSON GOULDEN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DECIDING SHOT | With a shot from the baseline, Schneiderman clinched the Ivy title for the Lions.

Schneiderman secures Ivy League title for men's tennis

BY MICHAEL ZHONG
Spectator Staff Writer

Even before slamming home Columbia's second straight Ivy League title with a baseline shot, sophomore Haig Schneiderman didn't need any introduction. Playing at the No. 3 spot this season, Schneiderman dominated the competition, compiling a 7-0 record in conference play. The year before, he was unanimously selected for the Ivy League Rookie of the Year award after going 13-6 in singles play and nearly running the table with a 6-1 record in the Ancient Eight. To say that Columbia is lucky to have him would be a massive understatement.

"The results will show that he is one of the best we have had," Columbia head coach Bid Goswami said. "He has been a great help to the team in both singles and doubles."

Schneiderman first picked up the sport when he was three years old, at an age most children can barely pick up a racket. Despite learning the game so early, Schneiderman was not immediately passionate for tennis.

"I'm not sure if I was interested at that time," Schneiderman said. "He [Schneiderman's father] basically introduced me to all different sports."

At the age of twelve, though, Schneiderman chose to focus solely on tennis, dropping activities like basketball to dedicate more time to tennis training. Around then, he met his future Columbia teammate Rajeev Deb-Sen at Horace Mann, a private school in New York City.

"At first we trained separately and did our own thing, but then, as we got closer to high school, we started playing more and more together," Deb-Sen said.

"Once ninth grade came along, we started playing every afternoon together at Horace Mann amongst our other practices. ... We had a heavy dose of each other pretty constantly for a good four years. We'd play maybe two hours a day at Horace Mann together."

And who usually emerged victorious from those afternoon battles?

"He'd usually win," Deb-Sen said. "At first I was winning, but then he got a little bigger, grew seven or eight more inches, and then he started beating my butt."

During Deb-Sen and Schneiderman's time at high school, these training sessions significantly improved their playing abilities.

"I've probably hit with him more than any other person in the world," Schneiderman said. "Our games match up nicely. He's a lot faster than I am, so it makes me play a lot of shots. We're just always trying to push each other."

In no small part due to these training sessions, by the end of Schneiderman's high school career, he had already garnered an impressive list of accolades. Schneiderman was ranked among the top 50 in the country and won the Mayor's Cup three times—arguably the toughest junior tennis event in New York.

When Haig began looking at colleges, his priority was to attend a top-notch academic school. Still, despite this criterion and his residency in New York, he was far from set on Columbia.

"I never thought I'd come to Columbia, living in New York City," Schneiderman said. "The first time I met [head coach] Bid [Goswami], he sort of joked around with me, saying, 'I know

SEE SCHNEIDERMAN, page 2

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