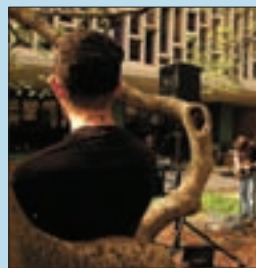


## INSIDE

## News, page 2

## Meeting the presidents

Both President Lee Bollinger and President Debora Spar held fireside chats—informal gatherings with students—on Wednesday evening. One involved a puppy.



## A&amp;E, page 3

## Student takes cinematic story to Spain

Filmmaker Victor Suarez, CC '11, brings Spanish flavor to Columbia with his new short film *Nel Reimu*, an semi-autobiographical look at his family's past in Spain.

## A&amp;E, page 3

## Chicken and rock? Only at WBAR-B-Q

This weekend's WBAR-B-Q promises food, a selection of up-and-coming indie-rock bands, and some other surprises.

## Opinion, page 4

## Why we're here

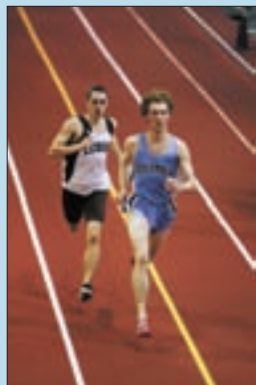
Columnist Chris Morris-Lent analyzes "leadership positions" to make a broader judgment on how Columbians value their college experience.



## Sports, page 8

## Columbia baseball drops two to Manhattan

The Columbia baseball team dropped both games in a double-header against Manhattan. However, the Lions are looking forward to the weekend's contests against Penn.



## Sports, page 8

## Track and field to race in Penn Relays

The track and field team will be competing in the Penn relays, which run from Thursday to Saturday. The Lions will look to improve their times before league championships.

## ONLINE

## ColumbiaSpectator.com

## News around the clock

Just like you, the news never sleeps. Check out our Web site 24/7 for campus and city news that matters to you.

## Feniosky Peña-Mora named Engineering dean

## Peña-Mora returns to New York's acropolis, desires communication

BY JOY RESMOVITS  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

In coming to Morningside Heights, Feniosky Peña-Mora returns to his roots. "When I was growing up, Columbia—you thought about it as the pinnacle. To use an analogy from the Greeks, it was the king of the Parthenon, the whole campus. You see it looking up."

A fast-talking Dominican Republic native, Peña-Mora described growing up with his family in Washington Heights for certain parts of the year.

"I have benefited from some of the services that Columbia provides to the community in the surrounding area," he said. Peña-Mora studied English as a Second Language in the Teachers College, and took the GRE in Riverside Church. "Without those two, I wouldn't have been able to get here. It's a great feeling coming back."

Though he noted, "It's a totally different context, of course."

This time around, Peña-Mora, now associate provost of the University of Illinois, will sit close to the top of the hill. Close to Low Parthenon, the new dean of the Fu Foundation School of Engineering & Applied Science will bring a fresh approach to the long-term "Vision 2020," a plan formulated in 2007 under Dean Zvi

Galil to bolster SEAS's reputation and "continue the excellence of the school, enhancing the international footprint of the school, and fostering better interaction with industry."

Peña-Mora earned his Ph.D. at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and first developed notions of the importance of interdisciplinary research studying civil engineering and disaster recovery. Over the years, he said, as he took on administrative responsibilities, he developed a sensibility for bringing different spheres together. "I believe firmly that it's not just SEAS, but it's Columbia, and engineering is part of Columbia University as a whole," he said. The worst problems today require thinking from every walk of life, every school of thought, area of knowledge," he said.

As associate vice provost, he has overseen institutional programming and built the 'Dormcubator,' an equivalent of the Living Learning Center at Columbia. "Visualize a beehive in which students have come together and explore different ideas," he explained. Peña-Mora also helped revamp the tenure process, stressing interdisciplinary learning, and he is a point person on diversity.

His transition from hard engineer to

SEE PROFILE, page 2

## Associate Provost of Illinois University hopes to see 'Vision 2020' through

BY JOY RESMOVITS  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

Feniosky Peña-Mora, associate provost of the University of Illinois, has been appointed the next dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Science, according to a university-wide e-mail sent by President Lee Bollinger on Wednesday afternoon.

Peña-Mora, who grew up in the Dominican Republic, has been the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's Edward William and Jane Marr Gutsell Endowed Professor in the civil and environmental engineering department for six years. As the school's associate provost, he has overseen institutional programming and is also an affiliate at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications. Peña-Mora earned his masters and doctorate in civil engineering from MIT, where he taught information technology and project management in civil and environmental engineering.

Peña-Mora will begin his tenure on July 15, and will succeed current interim dean Gerald Navratil. The search for a new dean at SEAS has spanned the past two years, following previous dean Zvi Galil's spring 2007 announcement that



Courtesy of Illinois University

FENIOSKY PEÑA-MORA

he would be leaving Columbia to become president of Tel Aviv University. Peña-Mora will arrive at Columbia during a time of great administrative flux, and will join the newly minted Columbia College dean Michele Moody-Adams. The climate is changing within SEAS

SEE SEAS DEAN, page 2



Elaine Burchman for Spectator

**INCOMING** | Park West Village, which spans 97th to 100th Streets between Columbus to Amsterdam, will bring new retail to the area—including Whole Foods, Borders Bookstore, and Modell's, as well as smaller shops. Two schools have also bought space.

## Columbus Village brings new retail, schools

BY SAM LEVIN  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

The elementary school courtyard, the public housing playground, the market-rate condo, and the backyard garage sale are part of a three-block neighborhood on the brink of transformation.

The diverse region from 97th to 100th Streets between Columbus and Amsterdam is nearing the end of the three-year construction of the Columbus Village development project, which involves building over 14 new retail spaces and five residential towers—one already penetrating the Upper West Side skyline.

The developers, Stellar Management in partnership with the Chetrit Group,

purchased the entire seven-building Park West Village complex and commercial space in 2000, and since the fall of 2006 have overseen construction to take down and rebuild this area.

Three-and-a-half years after the first stone was laid, the neighborhood faces a definitively different economy, and as vacancies persist and increase two avenues west, uncertainty looms over the slow parade of new retailers making their new homes on Columbus Avenue.

## New mix to the neighborhood fabric

"Welcome to the West Side. We have such a diverse group of people with such a wide variety of income levels," Helen

Rosenthal, chair of Community Board 7, said. "It makes this area such a desirable place."

The wide range of demographics in this neighborhood will be appropriately matched by the assortment of retailers who have signed leases with Winick Realty, the broker for the development. From a small kosher bakery to the next installment of the Upper West Side's procession of banks, the businesses and organizations moving in are eclectic in both their function and their target markets.

Whole Foods Market, TJ Maxx, Bank of America, the Solomon Schechter School, the Mandell School, Borders Bookstore,

SEE PARK WEST, page 7

## Faculty members to convene on Palestine

BY KIM KIRSCHENBAUM AND SCOTT LEVI  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

Members of the Faculty of the Arts and Sciences will meet at noon today to discuss Columbia's role concerning academic freedom and scholarly research in the West Bank and Gaza, and to once again call on University President Lee Bollinger to publicly take a stance on the issue.

The faculty-organized meeting, which will convene at the request of professors who petitioned to hold a special meeting on the issue—including MEALAC's Gil Anidjar and anthropology's Brinkley Messick, who circulated the information in a press release sent to *Spectator*—follows

a letter signed by 134 faculty members and sent to Bollinger in February. The letter asked Bollinger to express "support for the academic freedom of Palestinians" and publicly censure Israel's actions during the January military conflict in Gaza as they relate to academia.

At today's meeting, the Faculty will debate whether Bollinger should speak on behalf of the University as he has on past international matters. They will also offer a proposal for an advisory committee aimed to investigate ways in which Columbia can support Palestinian students and professors.

"We would like to have an open and informed and indeed vigorous debate on the role Columbia can play," Anidjar,

professor of Middle East and Asian Languages and Cultures and religion, wrote in an e-mail. Anidjar referred to Columbia's "leadership position on the issue of academic freedom in the Middle East," specifically in Israel and Iran, and urged the administration to balance its commitment to such causes across the region.

The Faculty of the Arts and Sciences gathers on a semi-annual basis to discuss issues important to the approximately 650 professors in 29 academic departments. But according to Katharina Volk, classics professor and chair of the Executive Committee for the Faculty of the Arts

SEE PALESTINE, page 6

## CCSC winners: Action Potential, Clear Party

BY ALIX PIANIN  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

Uncontested party Action Potential was unsurprisingly elected to the Columbia College Student Council Executive Board Tuesday night, while the majority of Cliff Massey's Clear Party won out over The Party, ticket of class of 2010 presidential incumbent A.J. Pascua.

While next year's CCSC will include veteran council members, a large portion of the council will be comprised of newcomers who have promoted their understanding of student life outside the walls of Lerner's Satow room. With the exception of Sue Yang, who formerly served as the class of 2010 vice president, the executive board includes an entirely fresh line-up: Sana Khalid, CC'11, Deysy Ordóñez, CC'10, Nuriel Moghavem, CC'11, and Sarah Weiss, CC'10, who is currently studying abroad in Ecuador, will fill the vice president of communications, vice president of campus life, vice president of finance, and vice president of policy slots respectively.

But while the Action Potential victory was a given, Massey's win over Pascua will bring in a full slate of council outsiders—participants and leaders in other sectors of the campus.

Massey, who won with about 64 percent of votes, said that he thought his party appealed to voters in making sure that "our platform is their platform" by seeking out other juniors and soliciting their suggestions in a door-to-door campaign.

Other Clear Party Members elected to council were Evelyn Phan as vice president and Asher Grodman and Lena Phan as representatives.

This is the first year that students voted for candidates by plurality instead of majority. While students have traditionally chosen between contenders and voted for their single favorite singular candidate, the new system allowed voters to rank the candidates in order of preference. Candidates with the majority vote were elected.

Under the new rules, a candidate could be elected without a majority so long as the tally indicated that the contender was the most widely preferred choice. But the new voting system proved precarious for candidates running as a full party, as it did not guarantee the election of an entire ticket. Clear Party candidate for representative Ruqayyah Abdul-Karim, President of the Black Students Organization, was not elected with the rest of her party after being edged out by The Party's representative candidate Maximó Cubilette.

Elections Commissioner James Bogner, CC'09, said that the Commission owed much to CCIT's efforts to help design the new system online.

Voting turnout was down significantly from last year; 1,856 voted in the student body presidential race between George Krebs and Alidad Damooei, both CC '09,

SEE CCSC, page 6

WEATHER

Today  
60/43



Tomorrow  
70/53



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EVENTS — APRIL 23

**Hearst Foundation New Media Lecture**  
Kenneth Lerer, co-founder and chairman of *The Huffington Post*, will speak on the media in a speech titled “How We Got Here and How We Got Out of Here.”

*Journalism School, 6:30-9 p.m.*

**Focus on Whiteness: Racial Identity and Microaggression**  
The Kraft Family Fund for Interfaith and Intercultural Awareness sponsors an event on race featuring Teacher College counseling and clinical psychology professor Derald Wing Sue and other academics.

*Dodge Room-Earl Hall 11 a.m.-3 p.m.*

QUOTE OF THE DAY

*“So one of the things that I’m known for is that I say hi to everybody. I’m walking in the quad, I see all the students, I say hi.”*

—Feniosky Peña-Mora

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Embry Owen for *Spectator*

**SPEAKING WITH SPAR** | Barnard College President Debora Spar participated in her first fireside chat since arriving in Morningside Heights last July. She spent her time with students discussing Barnard’s international profile and her recent trip to China.

## In first fireside chat, Spar discusses global BC

BY MADINA TOURE  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

Barnard President Debora Spar held her first fireside chat Wednesday evening to discuss the concerns of international students and how to raise Barnard’s profile abroad.

Students raised questions and concerns about the ways in which Barnard could attract more international students, send more students abroad, and bring the international community together more. Spar stressed that internationalization of Barnard would remain one of her top priorities.

“We have a responsibility not only to educate women in the United States but women outside of the United States.” She added that the newly named Athena Center and revamping of Barnard’s Web site would contribute to such an endeavor.

Spar also stressed her commitment to

expanding Barnard’s recognition overseas. So far, Barnard has already met with two Korean universities and three Chinese universities. Spar spoke about Barnard’s relationship with Ewha, a women’s college in Korea, that participates in a program with Harvard students where students from both schools attend the other school during spring break and participate in a variety of events.

A more contentious question raised by one of the students pertained to what defines an international student.

“There’s the perception and a sort of data question,” Spar said, attributing such questions to “financial aid formulas and bureaucratic things.” She continued, “We count you based on where you went to high school ... we statistically look less international than we are.”

That Barnard has only three international scholarships to distribute makes it even more difficult. Spar mentioned a

student she met during her trip to China for the symposium on Woman Changing China in March, who, while qualified to attend Barnard, could not attend for financial reasons.

Students raised a variety of questions and ideas, such as a one-credit seminar or group of students that share their experiences studying abroad, or creating a fellow for international issues.

“I learned a lot about internationalizing Barnard. ... I don’t think that was something huge that I was exposed to,” Kimberly Wu, BC ’10, said. “I definitely agree with her point—internationalizing Barnard is a great way to bring diversity to Barnard.”

“This is the first one [chat] I’ve been to with Spar,” Mary Penticoff, BC ’09, said. “They’re really good opportunities to hear what the other students have to say and hear the president speak in real time.”

*news@columbiaspectator.com*

## Bollinger talks economy, shows off puppy

BY AMBER TUNNELL  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

Last night, about 50 students attended University President Lee Bollinger’s fireside chat at his residence at 60 Morningside Drive.

After enjoying an array of sandwiches, vegetables, cheese, and flower-topped cupcakes, everyone settled in to discuss the University.

“The year is coming to a close, in case you haven’t noticed,” Bollinger said as he opened the discussion. He jokingly informed the students that “Barack Obama will not be the commencement speaker this year” but it was “not for lack of trying.”

He then quickly turned to discuss the current economic situation. Bollinger asked the students, “What does the current economic downturn mean for you?”

He commented that students probably feel that “things are pressing in,” and students feel the need to reevaluate what they originally wanted to do due to the economic environment. But Bollinger reassured students that “sustaining your education is an intelligent response” to the crisis.

Another major subject of the night was the changing nature of journalism in the technological world. Bollinger, who is currently working on a book about how to fix the press, said that there was an “utter vitality of press in the 1970s-1980s with events such as Watergate and the Pentagon Papers.” But, now this vitality is dwindling in paper journalism with the rise of technology.

Bollinger said that today is a “great moment for higher education” but that it reflects the journalism world 10 years ago. He says that he doesn’t know what this means for universities but that students should pay attention to it over the next years.

Bollinger then opened up the question-and-answer portion of the chat with the question, “How do you get your news?” After only 25 percent of the students said that print newspapers were their main news source, he went around the room asking everyone what online sources they use.

He said that he reads four print papers on a daily basis: the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and the *Financial Times*. When asked, Bollinger responded with a smile that he also reads the *Spectator* and *Buog*. He said he believes that the major problem in U.S. news is that

“The amount of attention to global matters is both small and shrinking.” He said that, with the economy, many papers have had to decrease their foreign coverage.

Bollinger believes that the “university is already tremendously international,” and a student “can get sophisticated exposure to global issues.” But, he qualified, “most of us still have little knowledge of the rest of the world.”

He then asked the students, “How many of you have been to China? To Africa? To the Middle East?” After only a small portion of the students raised their hands, he said that “We are failing you as a university by not making it easier to travel around the world,” and students need to learn about the world through experience and not just their imagination. He said he believes that it is now “as essential to go to China as it is California.” He said that study abroad is not necessarily the best option and that the University needs to do more, which is why Columbia has begun to establish Global Centers around the world.

At the end of the chat, Bollinger urged students to continue eating and brought down his puppy for the students to play with.

*news@columbiaspectator.com*

## Schwartz, CC salutatorian, to pursue science in D.C.

BY TABITHA PEYTON WOOD  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

Mollie Schwartz, this year’s Columbia College salutatorian, prepares to address her class at graduation, but still doesn’t know what she will say.

“I don’t think I really have words of wisdom. I’m so impressed by everyone in my class,” she said.

Schwartz, a chemical physics major, said that her academic success comes from her interest in understanding her studies. “I’ve always just done what was interesting to me, and because I’m interested in it, I’m motivated to get to the heart of it,” she said.

“I’ve just always made a point of doing what I wanted to do and doing well because I didn’t want to sell myself short,” she said. “I’m not ready to ... pick one thing. I still want to do everything.”

Her father, Jan Schwartz, CC ’71 wrote in an e-mail, “It’s hard to imagine that school work might be construed to be at all recreational but we think that Mollie has been doing things at Columbia that she really loves to do. She’s very lucky.”

Schwartz’s friend Emily Glass, CC ’09 attributes some of Schwartz’s success to her connection to family and heritage. “She [Schwartz] also has a really strong tie to her community, and her roots, and Jewish culture, which I think really makes her stand tall.” Glass added, “She has an incredibly supportive family.”

Schwartz’s research co-adviser, Nobel Laureate, I.I. Rabi Professor of Physics, and Professor of Applied Physics Horst Stormer wrote in an e-mail, “She is ... great in the lab and, most importantly, very enthusiastic about science; almost contagiously so.”

During her time at Columbia, Schwartz has excelled in physical research, traveled to speak at science conventions, and published her research on chemical reactions that occur in flowing fluids in the *Physical Review Letters*, a prestigious scientific journal of the American Physical Society.

Right now, Schwartz’s research deals with graphene. “Mollie is working on the fascinating electrical properties of thin sheets of [graphite] material, only one atomic layer thick. She has been able to suspend such sheets in ‘mid-air,’ like an ‘atomic hammock,’” Stormer explained.

Schwartz said her research group’s findings could become useful in creating faster transistors for better super computers. “Graphene has the potential to have even better electronic properties than silicon, and is also potentially much cheaper of a material,” she said.

Schwartz said her research group’s findings could become useful in electronics, especially when the Earth’s silicon has been depleted.

After she graduates in May, Schwartz will move to Washington, D.C. to



Angela Radulescu / Senior staff photographer

MOLLIE SCHWARTZ

work at the Science and Technology Institute, a non-partisan, scientific consulting firm that works for the executive branch to inform policy makers on the science behind their decisions. The institute also does research and data analysis with the National Institutes of Health and the National Security Foundation.

Schwartz grew up in the small town of Danville, PA, “in the heart of ‘Pennsylvlucky’—basically a little bit of the Bible belt, transposed,” she said. Danville has a population of around 300 people.

“A beautiful, smart, gifted girl growing up in a conservative, homogenous rural farming community in central Pennsylvania is at a great social disadvantage. I believe that Mollie often felt very isolated from peers. We hope that this was offset by the closeness she developed with her family,” Jan Schwartz wrote of his daughter.

But Mollie Schwartz noted several benefits of being raised in Danville. The town’s pace is slower than that of New York, she said, which Schwartz thinks has its advantages. She also appreciated that growing up in such a conservative milieu forced her to really defend her liberal ideas. This ability to clearly defend her point of view, Schwartz said, is something she was able to bring to Columbia.

When she graduates, Schwartz will miss Columbia which she said, “has been a really great place to grow up.”

“Everyone here is just so interesting and so difficult to typecast, and is involved in so many different things. ... I’m going to miss the atmosphere because I don’t think it ... exists anywhere else,” Schwartz said.

Outside of class, Schwartz holds a black belt in Tae-Kwon-Do. She also enjoys dancing ballet, playing the piano and singing in the Bach Society. She said that each term, she makes a point of earning a couple of credits in something less academic. “I’ve always fought having to make choices and not doing what I want to do because there’s something else that I had to do,” she said.

*news@columbiaspectator.com*

## New SEAS dean Peña-Mora talks fast, friendly

PROFILE from front page

broader academic figure, Peña-Mora said, particularly prepared him to work at Columbia’s engineering school, in which students have to take Core classes.

“If someone would have asked me about this five years ago, it would have been hard for me to comprehend, since I was just an engineer then,” he said. “Now I work with all the deans, and it gave me a broad perspective of the synergy of various parts of the University. It’s not a notion of us vs. them, engineering vs. the humanities.”

He added, “My own research in engineering today is more within a social context. I’ve learned that one needs to understand an individual as a whole person, not just a technical or managerial aspect. The approach at Columbia allows students to see all components.”

Peter Valeiras, SEAS ’09, Engineering Student Council president and a member of the committee that selected Peña-Mora, said he hopes to see the new dean link various parts of SEAS, including its graduate students. “I hope that he shakes things up and brings changes,” Valeiras said. “I’d love to see more interaction

between the different groups, all of those are housed in one school in SEAS. It’s nice to have that environment, but we don’t take advantage of it.”

Though Columbia lost money during the economic crisis, SEAS has fared relatively well. Still, Peña-Mora will step into a school for which fundraising is crucial. “Here in Illinois we have changed the name from alumni foundation to advancement. I like that word,” he said. “It’s not only going and talking to alumni community about placing funds, but also how to engage with the institution, providing feedback, helping us to achieve our goals.”

Peña-Mora’s demeanor—his accent, verbosity, and gregariousness—is reminiscent of Galil, who was known for attending student events and sending quirky late-night e-mails.

Peña-Mora said he believes in personal interaction. “So one of the things that I’m known for, is that I say hi to everybody. I’m walking in the quad, I see all the students, I say hi,” he said.

“Sometimes it looks weird, but they learn that I’m just being friendly, having an open door.”

*Joy Resmovits can be reached at [joy.resmovits@columbiaspectator.com](mailto:joy.resmovits@columbiaspectator.com)*

SEAS DEAN from front page

as well, since the school recently saw a surge in applicants.

“I was so impressed with the energy and enthusiasm I saw among the faculty, students, staff, and alumni/ae at the school,” Peña-Mora said in a University announcement. In an interview, he said he wanted to see through the ‘Vision 2020’ plan drawn out in 2007 to bolster SEAS in several ways.

He continued, “It was clear to me that the SEAS leadership at Columbia has built a very strong foundation in recent years, well positioning the school to move to the next level in terms of its impact on the University, the local community, the nation, and the world. Many important

innovations have taken place at SEAS over its long history and continue to take place today. It is exhilarating for me to see how committed Columbia’s students, faculty, staff, alumni/ae, and University leadership are to an even more exciting future.”

The announcement comes after a longer-than-usual search process. At the end of spring 2008, *Spectator* learned that the University had lined up several finalists. But during the fall, according to Bollinger, the search committee—which was led by provost Alan Brinkley and included students, faculty, and administrators—began anew.

“Columbia is fortunate to welcome such a remarkable new engineering dean at a time when the school is becoming ever more central to the University’s mission—from its interdisciplinary work with

our medical center in the life sciences and our Earth Institute in climate science to its pioneering service-learning curriculum that is a national model for civic engagement between university and community,” Bollinger said in the release. “He will be an outstanding leader for our School of Engineering and Applied Science.”

Peña-Mora has researched strategies for infrastructure disaster recovery and the non-technical aspects of civil engineering and construction management. He holds the 1999 National Science Foundation CAREER Award and the White House Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers. Peña-Mora has also won several other prizes, including the Walter L. Huber Civil Engineering Research Prize of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

*news@columbiaspectator.com*



FILM

# Student filmmaker shoots movie under the Spanish sun

BY JULIA ALEKSEYEVA  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

Victor Suarez, CC '11, is so down-to-earth, it is almost hard to believe that he directed a \$15,000 film production in Spain last summer.

Before beginning his sophomore year, Suarez managed—with relative ease—to secure funding for his short film, titled *Nel Reinu*. Set in a small Spanish village west of Barcelona, *Nel Reinu* explores the concept of families—how they change and are affected by time and separation.

Although Suarez discovered filmmaking late in his high school career after trying his hand at theater and acting, it is surprising that he is not a film student. For the moment, he is an English and Economics-Philosophy double major, and tries to keep away from film courses as much as possible. “I don’t want to do anything film-related until I graduate,” he said, although he plans to go to a graduate film program.

Regardless of his experience, *Nel Reinu* has the look of a true professional film—perhaps due to both great talent and a generous budget. Suarez attempted to explain the plot: “Following the death of his father, a man returns to his home in the north of Spain. It’s the first time he has visited his family in 30 years. He brings his American daughter along. It’s about family, and the whole thing is pretty... subtle. It asks a lot of questions and doesn’t give any answers. Basically it’s about how families work.”

The story is a personal one. The small village in Spain is also the home of his grandmother, and as the son of a Spanish father, he has wanted to make a film in Spain for some time. Last February, Suarez began contacting Médula Producciones, a small Spanish production company. Médula was enthusiastic about the film, but also needed for it to be a co-production with a U.S. company.

After two months of script-writing, Suarez pitched the idea to Project Bluelight, Columbia’s first undergraduate movie production company, as well as the Gatsby Charitable Foundation, a funding opportunity though the Columbia Arts Initiative. Both Project Bluelight and Gatsby agreed to contribute to the project. Their support combined with help from the Spanish production company made for an approximately \$15,000 production—quite a large sum for a 13-minute film.

After securing funding, Suarez traveled across the Atlantic with five other current and former Columbia students to get down to business. One of the actresses was American—Nessa Norich, BC ’08—while the rest were Spanish actors hired by the production company. Suarez unfortunately lost some creative control through the filming process, and in the end, decided that writing screenplays was an easier way to shape the creative vision of a project than physically directing a movie.

After a great deal of post-production and sound editing, Suarez finished the final product a month ago. He and the Spanish producer are currently in the process of sending *Nel Reinu* to film festivals around the country, and so far it has won Best in Festival at Open Aperture Film Festival at Appalachian State University, as well as the Silver Palm at the Mexico International Film Festival. Victor explains, “It’s nice to sit back and see what happens. It’s just like waiting for the results after you send out college apps.”

When asked about advice he would give to fellow Columbia undergraduate filmmakers, Suarez was adamant about sticking to short films to get practice and experience on a smaller scale. In addition, outside sources, like the Spanish production company, can be a great help: “We have higher chances of getting money if we already have somebody interested, so I’d recommend that everybody do the same and find different sources.”

*Nel Reinu* was the most involved, ambitious, and personal of Suarez’s projects to date. As Suarez explained, “I wrote myself a lot into the story. Except I made myself into a girl, which is sort of weird. I don’t know what that is about...”



Courtesy of Victor Suarez

**STUDENT CINEMA** | Victor Suarez, CC '11, turned to Project Bluelight, the Arts Initiative, and a Spanish production company to fund his student film, and ended up raising \$15,000—for a 13-minute movie.

MUSIC

# WBAR-B-Q concert brings beef and beats together

BY ANGELA RUGGIERO-CORLISS  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

Chicken, rice, and indie rock may be an unlikely combination, but, according to WBAR, it’s a good one.

Barnard’s independent radio station will host its sixteenth annual WBAR-B-Q on Lehman Lawn this Sunday. The free concert and barbecue is scheduled to run from 11:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. The extensive line-up includes bands Gang Gang Dance, Soft Circle, and Free Blood among others, including Columbia students Jerome Ellis, CC '11 and Fitzhugh Shaw, CC '09.



Courtesy of Khalid Ahmed

**MUSIC N’ MUNCHIES** | WBAR-B-Q hopes to bring upcoming indie bands to students’ attention.

Gang Gang Dance, the best known of the bunch, plays genre-defying experimental rock with global influences. The one-man act Soft Circle creates droning, layered songs by recording and looping sounds and adding drum effects. Free Blood plays electronic dance punk.

The WBAR-B-Q may be the first time many concert attendees have been exposed to these bands, most of which are just beginning to achieve wider name recognition. “The trend has been in the past that they book bands right when they’re about to get big, then they get huge,” said Samiha Rahman, CC '12, and WBAR event coordinator. She cited Japanther from last year’s show as an example, which may not have truly gotten “huge,” but has become a relatively well-known name in the indie rock world.

For Enrica Ferrero, BC '09, the obscure bands are a draw. “It’s always a good time,” said Ferrero, who attended the show last year. She plans to go again this year “because they have a great selection of lesser-known bands.”

Carlos Blanco, CC '12, hosts a show on WBAR and will be working the event. Blanco is looking forward to seeing students perform. “We obviously see them [Columbia students] a lot in academic settings but watching them perform will be something new,” he said.

This year’s show, while still boasting mostly indie and experimental groups, will have more

variety than in past years. For example, PackFM is a hip-hop MC, and Liturgy’s Web site describes their music as “Religious/Black Metal.” “We’re trying to diversify,” said Rahman.

Though WBAR expects an audience of mostly Barnard and Columbia students, the event is open to the public, and past WBAR shows have attracted music fans from all over the city. The station has been advertising the concert through what Rahman called “a killer promo team,” using poster and event-related merchandise. The Web has also helped spread the word—the event’s page on Facebook lists nearly 300 planned guests, and it is listed on Oh My Rockness, a citywide concert calendar, as well as Brooklyn Vegan, an indie-media blog.

WBAR usually puts on one or two shows per semester. In February, the station presented the fuzzy surf-rock of much-buzzed-about Wavves, along with Blank Dog, Woods, and Nodzzz. The show took place at the Underground Lounge, on West End Avenue. Rahman said the venue was “completely packed” for the show, which had only cost \$3 for Columbia students and \$5 for the general public.

WBAR’s choice to present a day’s worth of lesser-known bands, instead of a few heavy hitters, contrasts with last weekend’s Bacchanal concert. “We’re not Bacchanal—we can’t have Talib,” Rahman said, in reference to the station’s limited budget. “WBAR has a more independent vibe, and the artists reflect that.”

BOOKS

# Professor’s short stories combine strange and silly

BY TOMMY HILL  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

“What readers might think of as escapist—or even absurd—can often serve to hint at something much deeper, something personal. Any story I’m writing has a deep connection to things that matter to me.”

This is the philosophy of Scott Snyder, Columbia professor and author of the critically acclaimed short story collection *Voodoo Heart*. While Stephen King lauded Snyder’s recent book as “sometimes horrifying, often absurd,” what impressed the horror writer most about Snyder’s stories “was their warmth and humanity.”

But what’s also heartening about *Voodoo Heart* is that its creator is a genuinely nice guy. Snyder described life as an author in New York City—a lifestyle so often romanticized by dreamy-eyed undergraduates longing for just a little more freedom—as “really fun.” “It’s always a stretch financially, but if you get to do something you really love, then it’s worth it. It’s a really lively job.”

In addition to his literary career, Snyder is also deeply grounded in the academic environment at Columbia—he obtained his MFA in fiction at the School of the Arts (and also met his wife there), and currently teaches an intermediate fiction workshop at the college.

With a wife and young son of his own, Snyder seems to have a lot on his plate. Apart from teaching and working on a new novel for the Dial Press, he is also collaborating with King, an author he deeply admires and whom he cites as a major inspiration, on an ongoing comic book series to be published by Vertigo starting in 2010. “I was a kid who lived in his imagination a lot. As a child I always thought my home life was a bit uninteresting, so I grew up on comic books—it’s a very expressive medium.” Snyder points to his early infatuation with comic books as a cause of his present interest in the frightening and the absurd.

Snyder did not always envision himself as a writer. “I actually came to writing kind of late,” he said. “When I entered Brown undergrad, I was planning on being an illustrator.”

But Brown’s intellectual environment helped cultivate his taste in literature. “The amazing thing about the university is that you’re constantly having names, titles, ideas thrown at you,” he explained, echoing the feelings of any inquisitive undergraduate who has watched a summer reading list grow exponentially. “At Brown I became really thirsty for ideas and books that could be literarily inspiring, and eventually that led me to writing.”

Today’s literary environment is conducive to the pursuit of both of his interests. “There’s so much fluidity now... writers like George Saunders, Karen Russell, Neil Gaiman—they use elements of genre, they do comics, young-adult lit. I think writers like these influence even younger writers to disregard convention and just write what they like.”

Today’s writers have explored genres across the wide world of literary and artistic media. The book Snyder is currently working on is a bit of a border-crosser too. As he describes it, “It’s a post-apocalyptic novel, with a little bit of illustration, a little bit of YA [young adult] material. I’m having a blast writing it.”

One thing that keeps Snyder inspired in his pursuits across these various media is his teaching. “It’s what keeps me young as a writer—to read so many new ideas and hear so many new voices. It keeps me honest... and now that I’ve been teaching for a couple years it’s wonderful to see some of my students develop into successful writers in their own right. That’s the most gratifying thing.”

TV

# TV viewers to face new troubles on YouTube redesign

BY JOE DALY  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

As children of the lightning-fast cyber age, Columbians are used to quick changes in online content. But the YouTube redesign that is pushing the legal streaming of TV shows over original content has fans doing a double take, wondering if the company is essentially removing the “You” from YouTube.

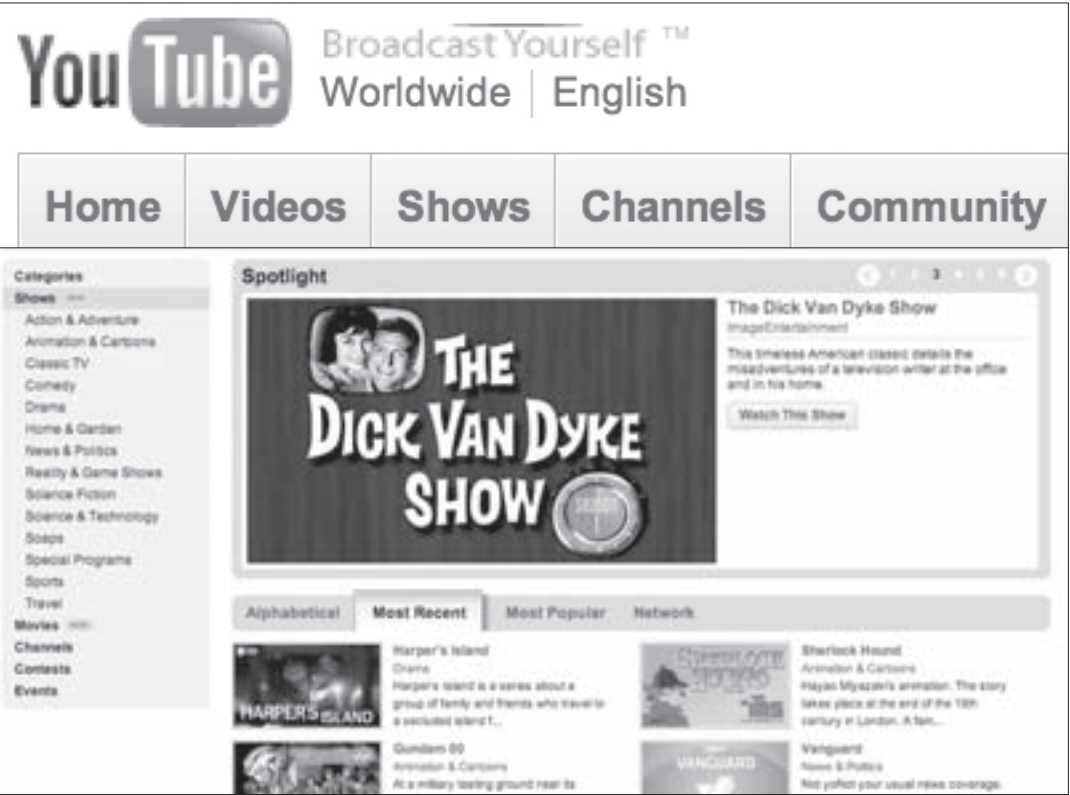
Last Thursday, YouTube Product Manager Shiva Rajaraman and Entertainment Marketing Manager Sara Pollack announced on the company’s official blog that there would be a new “Shows” tab added to the YouTube masthead. The tab allows users to browse TV shows by network, genre, title, and popularity in this first legal and official debut of television shows on YouTube.

Prior to this point, individual users would illegally upload snippets of their favorite shows, many of which would have to be removed after the networks complained of copyright infringement. This new partnership, however, links YouTube with various networks like CBS to bring viewers more TV shows legally.

But there’s a catch: there are now advertisements wedged between the newly added episodes. According to Rajaraman and Pollack, this “wider roll-out of in-stream ads” will help pay the fees for legally uploading content that belongs to other companies. These ads, part of a larger effort by YouTube to turn a greater profit, will be similar to those that play between segments on networks’ own Web sites, but not through original user content.

The blog post received immediate and passionate responses from commenters. Many argued that YouTube should not have made these changes, worrying that the site’s original content, like the rapidly growing Web series market, would get less attention because of the new focus on premium content.

But on the whole, Columbia students, who are a part of the age bracket that has most enthusiastically embraced Web series and viral videos, do not seem too worried about this possibility. “I’m fine with them adding more television shows, and I don’t think we’ll



Courtesy of YouTube

**TV TROUBLES?** | YouTube has added a “Shows” section, which features TV shows on the Web site. But the redesign will also incorporate ads in between the episodes, which may alienate amateur uploaders.

see a decrease in original content. I feel like the reason people like YouTube is because people can make their own videos, and I don’t think that will ever change,” said Laura Erstad, CC '12. Ella Magun, CC '12, agreed, explaining, “As long as people are bored, they are going to keep making and watching viral videos.”

Some even see this shift as an improvement to their online TV-watching experience, pointing to the speed at which YouTube videos load as a plus. Genevieve Jacobson, CC '12, said, “I would rather watch YouTube videos that load quickly than wait for the show to load on a site like Youku.”

Others worry about the quality of shows posted on YouTube. Yang Li, CC '10, said, “If they do upload shows onto YouTube, they’re not going to be of high quality. I would watch only if there were going to be shows not posted online.” Kerry Li, CC '10 agreed that the quality of the new content was important: “I would watch TV on YouTube if the quality were good.”

To see how the site expands on or diverges from its original purpose, YouTube fans and TV junkies alike will just have to stay tuned.













**CLEAR VICTORY** | After beating out incumbent A.J. Pascua of The Party for CC '10 president, Cliff Massey celebrates with co-Clear Party members Asher Grodman, Evelyn Phan, and Lena Phan. "What a surprise!" Grodman said of learning about his win.

# Fresh faces, new to Council, will lead CCSC

CCSC from front page

while 730 voted in this year's presidential election, 721 for Yang. Both Bogner and Yang said that the uncontested races were probably responsible for the lower turnout, though Yang said that the opportunity to run without opponents allowed the Action Potential party to avoid the negative aspects of campaigning.

While it was a relatively smooth election after last year's turbulent road to the polls, The Party filed a rules violation against the Clear Party Tuesday morning. The Party claimed that the Clear Party had violated the moratorium on campaigning, raising issue with the Facebook statuses of support from students that continued to be posted even after the campaigning cut-off. According to CCSC elections

rules, "Rules violations committed by supporters will be treated as if the candidates committed them."

The Election Board ruled Wednesday that there had been no rules violation. Candidates are responsible for the actions of students they solicit for support, but EB members wrote in an e-mail sent several hours before elections results were announced that The Party had not presented sufficient evidence to prove that the Clear Party had appealed for the endorsements.

For now, Yang said that the new E-Board would keep campaigning through the rest of the year to gain broader insight into student issues and what to tackle next year.

In an online interview from Ecuador, Weiss said that watching the campaign

from off-campus gave her a new insight into the importance of campus life.

"While I missed campaigning on-the-ground (I love the face-to-face contact), seeing the campaign from afar brought a new perspective and really emphasized the importance of being there and present on campus," Weiss wrote.

She also said that she saw current policy debates extending into next year—"smoking on campus, the current alcohol policy, the A + policy appear to be the biggest contenders for discussion," she remarked—and that her time sitting on the committee to select the new Columbia College dean gave her "a great introduction into the inner-workings of the University."

*Alix Pianin can be reached at alix.pianin@columbiaspectator.com*

# Faculty propose advisory committee on Palestine

PALESTINE from front page

and Sciences, University bylaws enable faculty to conduct an "extraordinary meeting"—separate from the official schedule—should 25 faculty members sign a petition.

Today's discussion is part of a larger dialogue on campus among students, professors, and administrators who voice a variety of opinions on how Columbia should react to Israeli-Palestinian relations. Although this meeting is organized solely by faculty, student groups have spent the past few months rallying and publicizing their stances on the January military actions in Gaza.

"I am pleased to see that the University is open to hearing from its students and its faculty on all issues. With that being said, I think that this is another extension of the ridiculous set of demands that has been going on for a few weeks, and I think the idea that we would divest from Israel is utterly ridiculous," said Jacob Shapiro, GS/JTS '10 and president of LionPAC, a pro-Israel student group that opposes divestment from Israel.

But others see this meeting as an opportunity to further work with the administration on achieving certain objectives. "It is extremely encouraging to us to know that this meeting is happening, especially as we continue to organize to pressure the administration to meet our demands in support of Palestinian rights," said Akua Gyamerah, School of Public Health '10, and a member of both the Barnard-Columbia International Socialist Organization and the Columbia Palestine Forum, a campaign launched in early March to garner support for Palestinian rights to education.

Whereas students have covered Israeli-Palestinian relations from a variety of angles, the faculty's concerns deal specifically with education and scholarly research in the Palestinian territories. Professors emphasize that Israel has blocked Palestinian students and professors from pursuing Fulbright Scholarships abroad and from traveling to and from universities within Palestine.

While Bollinger issued a letter to the faculty in March, and told *Spectator* on Wednesday he has nothing further to add, the professors directing today's meeting charge that he has given unequal airtime to the Israeli and Palestinian causes. In addition to resisting divestment from companies who conduct business in Israel in 2002, Bollinger has maintained links with Israel through the Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies, Anidjar said. He added that this meeting could ultimately result in the creation of a similar institute intended to gather resources on Palestine and host Palestinian scholars.

"I have always welcomed principled discussions about academic freedom and, in my own scholarship, have regularly addressed issues of freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and academic freedom," Bollinger wrote in the response letter. "In general, however, I do not speak out nor does the University take official positions on specific actions by governments in the many ongoing conflicts around the world that might in some way also threaten academic freedom."

Administrators in the Arts and Sciences, who are overseeing the meeting, could be reached for comment by press time.

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**Saturday, April 25**  
8:00 pm

**Sunday, April 26**  
8:00 pm

**Monday, April 27**  
8:00 pm

**Monday, April 27**  
8:00 pm

**Wednesday, April 29**  
8:00 pm

**Wednesday, April 29**  
8:00 pm

**Friday, May 1**  
8:00 pm

**Sunday, May 3**  
7:00 pm

**Monday, May 4**  
7:00 pm

**Monday, May 4**  
7:00 pm

**Wednesday, May 6**  
6:00 pm

**Thursday, May 7**  
8:00 pm

**Saturday, May 9**  
7:00 pm

**Sunday, May 10**  
TBA

**Columbia Organ Recital**  
by Students of Paul-Martin Maki  
St. Paul's Chapel, CU Morningside Campus

**Columbia University Guitar Ensemble Spring Concert**  
Philosophy Hall, CU Morningside Campus

**MPP Chamber Concert #1 and End-of-Semester Party**  
Philosophy Hall, CU Morningside Campus

**MPP Chamber Concert #2**  
Philosophy Hall, CU Morningside Campus

**CU Jazz Ensembles Directed by Ole Mathisen**  
112 Dodge Hall, CU Morningside Campus

**MPP Presents: The Blaauw String Quartet**  
Casa Italiana, 1161 Amsterdam Ave between 116th & 118th

**CU Jazz Ensembles Directed by Don Sickler**  
112 Dodge Hall, CU Morningside Campus

**CU Jazz Ensembles Directed by Ben Waltzer**  
112 Dodge Hall, CU Morningside Campus

**Lion in the Grass**  
Columbia's Bluegrass Band in Concert  
Philosophy Hall, CU Morningside Campus

**Jazz Vocal and Latin Jazz Ensembles Spring Concert**  
Casa Italiana, 1161 Amsterdam Ave between 116th & 118th

**CU Jazz Ensembles Directed by Victor Lin**  
112 Dodge Hall, CU Morningside Campus

**Columbia Gagaku Ensemble Spring Concert**  
St. Paul's Chapel, CU Morningside Campus

**A Columbia Composers Collaboration with the Daedalus Quartet**  
Casa Italiana, 1161 Amsterdam Ave between 116th & 118th

**CU Voice Ensemble Directed by Patrick Calleo & Sarah Wolfson**  
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# Concerts

# COLUMBIA

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- S3027 Ordinary Differential Equations
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- S4062 Intro to Modern Analysis II

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# Whole Foods, Modell’s, schools, and bakeries to rent in Columbus Village

PARK WEST from front page

Modell’s, Duane Reade, Crumbs Bakery, Chase Manhattan Bank, Associated Supermarkets, and Ryan Medical Center have all signed contracts for space in this development, said Kelly Gedinsky, one of the brokers for the project.

“We get calls every day, and we hear from every kind of business, sometimes people who even want to start their own businesses,” Gedinsky said of inquiries for the remaining 10 percent of the space that has not been leased, including one “big-box,” 20,000-square-foot location at 805 Columbus Ave.

While Whole Foods Market is scheduled to open late this summer on the corner of 97th Street, “each of these buildings is on a slightly different timeline,” Gedinsky said.

According to Peter Rosenberg, director of development at Stellar Management, the entire retail project will be completed by the end of 2010.

“We tried to balance fairly large retail spaces with smaller uses that appeal to the neighborhood,” Rosenberg said of the deals they made.

Rosenberg added that although they are “not close with anybody right now,” the firm has spoken with a variety of retailers, including furniture, hardware, pet stores, apparel, and food services.

Many of the businesses moving in said they were excited about the opportunities of this neighborhood specifically and of the development at large.

“Each Whole Foods is unique to that neighborhood. They all have a different look and feel, and even different products,” said Fred Shank, Whole Foods spokesperson.

“We want to sell food to anyone who eats. Whether you are on a budget or not,” he added.

Shrank also noted that the incoming Whole Foods branch hopes to replicate the partnership the market has with New York University in Union Square, to become part of Columbia’s “college town.”

Some businesses said that the typically affluent demographics of the Upper West Side made the location an attractive place to open a new store.

“We look for places with homeownership and families with children,” said Thea Houghton, TJ Maxx spokesperson. “We generally go into middle-upper-class areas.”

Uri Cohen, director of development of the Solomon Schechter School, a Jewish private school currently located on the East Side, said that this new neighborhood—into which Solomon Schechter will be expanding its facilities—will be a good local fit.

“They are going to get an authentic Manhattan experience,” Cohen said. “They can use the surroundings as a case study, for economic development, urban planning, for example.”

**Response to change**

Area residents and community activists agree that there are both positive and negative implications of this large influx of retail.

“The neighborhood now is cut off from the northern end of Columbus,” said Peter Arndsten, executive director of the Columbus Amsterdam Business Improvement District. Arndsten said of the lack of commercial activity from 100th to 104th Streets, “it is a dead zone coming down that hill,” adding that this new development could help fill the gap.

“I think for residents, it is always helpful to have active street life, and with this thriving retail, I think it will be great,” said CB7 Chair Rosenthal.

Local Park West Village residents expressed cautious optimism. “It is New York City, what are you going to do?” said Trudy Oorthout, PWV resident for 44 years. Oorthout said she was looking forward to shopping at Whole Foods.

Developer Peter Rosenberg said that this retail influx was necessary for this street. “Take any 10-block stretch like this—there is nowhere with such little retail,” he said of the current lack of activity on Columbus.

Rosenberg added that there would be a huge employment opportunity for the community. “I know I have a stack of resumes on my desk of people interested in the building and the retail,” he said.

Frederick Douglass resident Daniel Rivera confirmed that this was the case. “I am excited. I am going to try to get a job there, and it would be great—right across the street from my home.”

Rivera added, “I mean I kind of hate big businesses, but I think it is actually really helping us.”

Existing businesses nearby said they were looking forward to the potential increase in foot traffic as a result of the incoming retail.

Dario Martinez, an employee at Maxine Cleaners on 97th and Columbus, which has been in the area for 15 years, said, “It will be great for business. More people will come here. I think it will really increase the flow.”

Some locals were less enthusiastic. “They don’t say ‘Whole Paycheck’ for nothing,” Park West Village resident Robert Dinkelmann said of the high prices he expects at Whole Foods.

Working together

The economic interests of the developers and local interests of the residents have not always overlapped, though representatives on both sides have agreed that their goals are not mutually exclusive.

Peter Arndsten of the BID said that he and other residents want a “small successful restaurant” to sign a lease, citing viable options such as Mama Mexico, Indian Café, and Café con Leche.

“We always think about what best fits in this place. You can’t put a square in a circle, and as much as the community would love a bar or a restaurant, there are certain things that prevent us from doing this,” said Gedinsky of Winick Realty, adding that zoning laws have made contracts with food services difficult to negotiate.

Local community groups said that they hope these new businesses will work actively with the community, and with one of the businesses, this relationship has already begun.

“Whole Foods has been a good neighbor even before they are here,” said Penny Ryan, district manager of CB7. CB7 Chair Rosenthal said she was particularly happy with Whole Foods’ plans for a “low cost food line” to serve neighborhood residents with lower incomes.

Lorraine Leong, Director of Community Relations and Advocacy of the affordable healthcare organization, the Ryan Center—which is located right across from the future Whole Foods loading dock—expressed concerns that vehicles passing through might pose a potential hazard to the center.

“I think there are ways for us to figure out how to work together,” Leong said. “Whole Foods is going to have social responsibilities.”

Leong explained that the Ryan Center will be opening its Women and Children’s Center and Mental Health Department in the new Columbus Village space on Amsterdam, and added that she would like to elicit support from the new businesses. She hopes Whole Foods will consider entering into a health partnership program with the center.

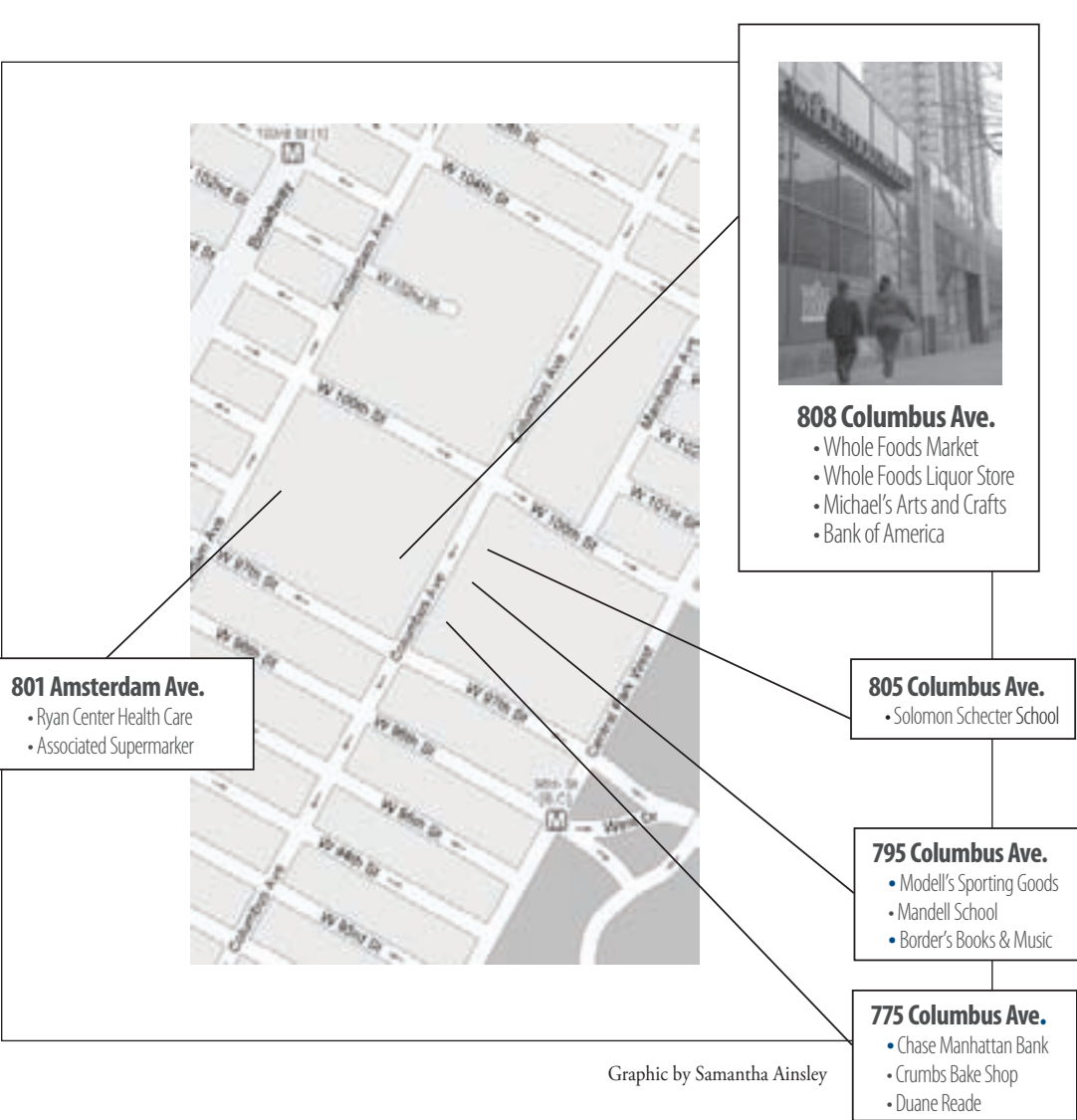
A different economy

“We began in a different economic climate, financing was much more readily available, and everyone had a rosier outlook,” developer Rosenberg said.

Despite minor concerns about the hard-hitting recession during a crucial period in his project’s progression, Rosenberg said, “I am extremely optimistic, I think that we have been aggressive about pricing our retail spaces to market and bringing in good and financially sound retail uses.”

Rosenberg was not overly concerned about the unsustainable commercial activity two avenues west. “I think that a lot of the landlords on Broadway maybe asked for much too much rent and let good, existing stores get away, when they probably should have had an eye towards renewing some of their existing tenants,” he said.

Many businesses admitted that their excitement to be a part of this development was clouded by fear of recession.



“We are moving ahead, though the job has certainly gotten harder,” said Cohen of Solomon Schechter.

Leong from the Ryan Center said that the new Columbus Village rent will become more of a burden to their budget. “I think it definitely poses more challenges for us, especially now that we are going to have this higher monthly expense,” she said.

“We are paying market rate. It is a sizeable increase,” Leong said.

Jason Bauer, CEO and President of all-kosher bakery Crumbs Bake Shop, said that though his business is up 25 percent, they were “growing out of March at a much greater pace,” at around 40 percent. While opening a business with these kind of downward fluctuations can be disconcerting, he said that he was pleased that their numbers were still up.

Bauer also said that he foresees his business riding on the coattails of Whole Foods—a speculation he said he took into consideration when first signing the lease.

“We see Whole Foods as an anchor that will bring in a high volume of traffic and give us great exposure,” Bauer said.

Shank from Whole Foods said of the economic outlook, “We are watching every step, and controlling what we can control,” adding that they will be marketing more “value sets.”

Arndsten from the BID said he is uncertain about the future of this development with such a large, simultaneous flow of retail into one area. “It is going to need a strong draw to sustain the rents that they will charge,” he said.

**Looking forward by looking back**

Rewind five years to Columbus Avenue, pre-construction. In Central Park Café, on the corner of 97th street, locals are eating croissants and drinking coffee. The bodega next door is selling 25-cent bags of chips to fifth-graders from P.S. 163 around the corner. The rest of the block is covered by a Chinese takeout restaurant, a large discount retailer, and a C-Town supermarket.

Meanwhile, Tara Gill, owner of Tandoori Indian Restaurant, is preparing a platter of masaman curry. “Believe me, it was a very friendly neighborhood,” he said today.

Reflecting back, residents of this neighborhood agree that, for better or worse, their backyard has changed fundamentally.

“We were there for 12 years. I knew everyone,” said Gill, who opened a new restaurant on 94th Street after the development displaced him. “I would see people getting old, watch the young people start going to school. But one day we had to go.”

Some recalled traces of the old street with less enthusiasm. “I think the old area was a bit quieter,” CB7 Chair Rosenthal said, remembering the low foot traffic of the block.

“It was more homey, more comfortable,” Arndsten said. “It was little, low-rise brick buildings, with lots of windows facing Columbus and a maximum roofline of 20 feet.”

With the retail parade on its way and comparisons to Columbus Circle, which sports a Whole Foods and a Borders, one looming question remains: Will this development transform the area into a destination neighborhood?

Brenda Massy, PWV resident for 40 years, said, “The community has already changed so much. I have seen it transform from a semi-ghetto into something else quite different.”

Kyra Burstion, FDH resident said, “We like it. It is upgrading our neighborhood. It is changing our community, but definitely for the better.”

Fred Shank of Whole Foods said, “We are a destination shop for customers within the community and outside of the community.”

“I don’t think this is going to become a destination, but I do think you are going to see a lot more people from the rest of the Upper West Side,” Rosenberg speculated.

Arndsten said he did not think the transformation would be on the scale of 59th Street, but he said the changes are here to stay. “It is a very different feel. It feels much more like an outdoor mall. Who knows, maybe I will be pleasantly surprised.”

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The Columbia baseball team will face Penn this weekend in two must-win double-headers.

TOMORROW



# SPORTS

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The Columbia heavy weight rowing team will head to Boston to compete for the Doc Lusins Trophy.

TOMORROW

## Baseball drops two against Manhattan

BY JACOB LEVENFELD  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

In a final tune-up before the last weekend of league play—which promises to be chock-full of drama—Columbia baseball dropped a pair of afternoon games at home to Manhattan, 4-1 and 8-4. The Lions (10-29, 6-10 Ivy) knew that the two seven-inning matchups did not affect Ivy League standings and, importantly, will go into the weekend series against Penn with rested arms. Eight different pitchers saw action against Manhattan, and only one for more than two innings of work (Derek Squires, loser of game one, threw for three frames).

Columbia's defensive woes in game one were largely to blame for the afternoon's first defeat. Mike McCann, batting leadoff for the Jaspers, got his team on the board early. After singling to right in the top of the first, McCann moved to second on a passed ball and to third on a sacrifice fly. He scored when center fielder Kevin Nieto grounded out to short.

The Light Blue got that one right back in the bottom of the inning when number two hitter Nick Cox doubled

down the left-field line with a full count and came around on Alex Aurricchio's run-scoring base hit with two out.

The Jaspers got to Squires again in the third despite a couple of nice fielding plays for the Lions. After Manhattan put men on first and second with no outs, Mark Onorati laid down a sacrifice bunt, but Lions catcher Dean Forthun was ready, pouncing on the dribbler and nailing lead runner Will DeRuve at third for the first out. The Light Blue then failed to complete a double play when Eisen, at second base, threw wildly to first, and the Jaspers were able to plate the go-ahead run. They added another one on Anthony Armenio's RBI double. Squires departed after the inning, a hard-luck loser after going three innings and allowing three runs (none earned).

The Jaspers closed out the scoring with their fourth run when Ruben Perez homered off Alex Ferrera in the top of the sixth.

Meanwhile, Zac Goyer was cruising on the mound for the Jaspers en route to his fourth win of the year, limiting the Lions to six hits and one run in his seven-inning

complete-game effort. Columbia managed a single baserunner in each of the last three innings, but couldn't string together enough offense to seriously threaten a comeback.

The Lions fell behind early again in game two and were ultimately unable to overcome a 5-0 third-inning deficit. Chad Salem got things going for Manhattan in the first with a two-run homer off Columbia starter Max Lautmann, who took the loss after allowing three runs in two innings of work. The Jaspers would add another run in the second and two more in the third before the Lions plated one in each of four straight innings, starting in the bottom of the third. Billy Rumpke's solo shot in the sixth provided the Light Blue's offensive highlight of the day, but by that point Manhattan already had eight runs on the board and the game was out of reach.

Although yesterday's losses were disheartening, the Lions are still alive in league play. They will just need flawless play and a little bit of luck this weekend when they take on Penn Saturday at noon.



MANHATTAN	4
COLUMBIA	1



MANHATTAN	8
COLUMBIA	4



File photo

**MANHATTAN TAKES TWO** | Despite a late struggle to hold on, the Lions were downed by Manhattan.

## A look at the first round of the 2009 NBA playoffs



JELANI JOHNSON

### DON'T KNOCK THE HUSTLE

Last week I went to play basketball at a park here in Salvador, Brazil. As far as recreational sports go, you'd be hard-pressed to find a burgeoning basketball scene here in Salvador. Since this is Brazil, soccer is obviously the be-all, end-all. Hell, dominos is more popular than basketball here (I'm actually not joking. It's a fact. A national survey found that dominos is the most popular game in Brazil. If I walk down the street right now I'll probably find a group of men drinking beer and playing dominos.). Therefore, I didn't have high expectations going into my Thursday night pick-up game. This story has no twist—I went and played a mediocre game of basketball with mediocre players. In fact, rather than improve my skills, that Thursday night session probably made me worse. But that's not important. The silver lining of this tale lies in my chance encounter with a Brazilian guy who grew up in Boston and speaks fluent English. My new friend (we'll call him João) conveniently has cable television in his house with access to the NBA playoffs. I have been dying to watch basketball all semester. I missed March Madness, the NBA MVP race (although LeBron dominated hands down), and everything else related to my favorite round ball. So getting the chance to watch Derrick Rose go off for 36 points and 11 assists against Boston was a big deal for me.

Last year I wrote a column during the NBA playoffs about some of my observations on what I had seen so far. This year I'd like to revisit that theme and talk about the first round of this year's playoffs.

- This is arguably the best talent the NBA has had during my lifetime. If you look at all the playoff teams you'll see that there are no cupcakes. In the past, you'd always have one or two lower seeds that had no business playing in May and June. Although the Cavaliers and the Lakers are clearly the best teams this year, there is definitely a lot more parity. Although Los Angeles won the first two games of its series with Utah, the second game was very close and, to be honest, those two teams have nearly the same amount of talent. Utah is a team built for the playoffs, with solid post players, strong defense, and one of the best point guards in the world. If Los Angeles had not shot an obscenely good percentage from the floor in Game 2, that series would be tied. And that's just the 1 vs. 8 matchup out west...

- Although it's bad luck that Kevin Garnett is out for the playoffs, it does make the Bulls vs. Celtics series fun to watch. I already mentioned Rose leading Chicago to the series opening overtime victory, but I preferred watching Ray Allen and Ben Gordon go nuts in Game 2. Ray Allen has the nuts of an elephant. For me the saddest thing about not having Kevin Garnett in the playoffs is the fact that I won't be able to watch him cuss and yell at everybody on the court. KG is a bully. Everybody always attributes his behavior to his competitive nature, but he's basically that loud kid at recess who talks shit and just happens to be bigger and more talented than everyone else. He's a reckless man. In Garnett's absence, Kendrick Perkins should be able to do an admirable job in the bully role (minus the talent).

- As well as Allen, Rose, and Gordon have played in that series, Rajon Rondo has actually been the best player on the court so far.

- Orlando is not ready to be a serious contender. Philadelphia is the worst team in the playoffs. There is no reason why Dwight Howard shouldn't put up Wilt Chamberlain-esque numbers every time he goes out and plays against Samuel Dalembert, Reggie Evans, Marreese Speights, and 60-year-old Theo Ratliff. How they lost Game 1 after being up by almost 20 points is beyond me. Dwight Howard fouled out and finished with 11 points and 10 rebounds in their Game 2 victory. I'm disgusted.

- MTV used to have this basketball show called Nike Battlegrounds. One season it was a bunch of players who all played one-on-one games in a steel cage with the aim of being crowned champion. I wish that all the point guards in the NBA playoffs could play a one-on-one tournament, with each game played in a steel cage, surrounded by rowdy fans. Can you imagine that? Deron Williams, Chris Paul, Chauncey Billups, Rajon Rondo, Tony Parker, Derrick Rose, Andre Miller, Mike Bibby, Jason Kidd, Mo Williams. It would be crazy. For the record, Deron Williams would win that tournament. He's tough, real tough.

- The Cleveland Cavaliers are going to win the 2009 NBA Championship.
- Josh Smith reminds me of Asenso Ampim.
- Actually, it's the other way around. Asenso Ampim reminds me of Josh Smith.

This column is basically what I'd be saying to my friends if we were all sitting around watching ball together. Sometimes it's good to vent. Good luck on finals and enjoy the rest of the playoffs. Until next year...

Jelani Johnson is a Columbia College junior majoring in history. [sports@columbiaspectator.com](mailto:sports@columbiaspectator.com)

## Columbia Track travels to Philly for Penn Relays

BY SABINE SCHULZ  
*Spectator Staff Writer*



File photo

**TIME FOR TRACK** | The Columbia track and field team will seek individual records and team wins at this weekend's Penn Relays against tough Ivy league and nonconference competition.

The Columbia track and field team will be heading to Philadelphia this weekend to compete in the Penn Relays. After last week's successes at the Larry Ellis Invitational in Princeton, the Lions look to improve their times against Ivy League opponents.

Last year at the Penn Relays, the Light Blue achieved some remarkable finishes. A squad consisting of current senior Marissa Smith and former Lions Osamuade Iyoha, Whitney Crayton, and Erika Moses finished third in the 4x400-meter relay with a time of 3:46.91.

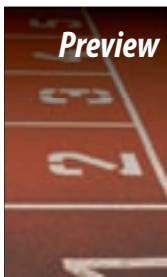
On the men's side, the Lions had similar results, as the team of current sophomore Jeff Moriarty, current junior Mike Mark, and former Lions Liam Boylan-Pett and Jonah Rathbun took third place as well in the 4x800-meter relay. Both the women's 4x400-meter and 4x100-meter teams, and the men's 4x800-meter team came in at times that were good for second all-time in school history. Former Lion Shelby Leland took fifth in the 3000-meter steeplechase to qualify for the NCAA Regionals.

After last week's finishes at the Larry Ellis Invitational, in which eight Lions qualified for the NCAA Regionals and two school records were broken, the Columbia team is eager to return to the track.

All eyes will be on standout performers Moriarty and freshmen Sharay Hale and Kyra Caldwell. Moriarty has been building an incredible season thus far, winning the 800-meter premiere run at Arizona State University's Sun Angel Track Classic, while Hale has improved her performance in her debut season, taking first in the 400-meter dash at Princeton last weekend. Caldwell finished second in both the 100-meter and 400-meter hurdles.

Expectations are high, as the Lions round out one of their last meets before the Ivy League, ECAC/IC4A, and NCAA championships this season.

The Penn Relays will begin on Thursday, April 23, and end on Saturday, April 25.



## CU softball hits the road to face Rider in twin bill

BY SARA SALZBANK  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

Continuing its short break from conference play, the Columbia softball team (13-29, 3-23 Ivy) will face Rider University (10-28, 3-5 MAAC) on Thursday before taking on its final Ivy foe, Penn, this weekend.

The Lions are coming off a momentous rally against Iona on Tuesday. After dropping the first game 1-0, they battled back to defeat the Gaels 10-2 and split the doubleheader. The Broncos, on the other hand, were not as successful.

Also taking a short break from its conference campaign, Rider dropped two games earlier this week to Monmouth University. The Broncos' defense fell short against the powerful Hawk offense, tallying eight errors on the day.

In game one, Rider fell 4-0 despite a stellar pitching performance by freshman Kelsey Krisch who allowed only two earned runs. The Broncos posted three errors in the opener and only four hits, two of which were off the bat of junior Megan Kozlowski.

The following game saw an improvement in Bronc hitting, scoring six runs, but no improvement on the defensive side.

Down five in the fourth, Katy Mills gave Rider hope with a two-run single. But Monmouth soon took off and widened the gap to 10-2. However the Broncos attempted a rally with four runs in the sixth inning. Starting the effort for Rider, Clarissa Ortiz hit an RBI single and was followed by another two-run single by Candice Harris.

Harris, who has 98 career hits for Rider, and Mills led the Bronc offense in game two with three hits and three RBI, respectively.

The last time Rider and Columbia met, the Broncos swept the Lions 3-1, 9-0. The Broncos had three homeruns in the effort—two were by Harris.

The Lions and Broncos will face off in Lawrenceville, N.J. on Thursday at 3 p.m.



## Lacrosse wins double-overtime thriller for third straight victory

BY BART LOPEZ  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

The Columbia lacrosse team traveled to Philadelphia to face La Salle on Wednesday. The Lions won their third straight contest, defeating the Explorers 10-9 after two overtime periods. The two teams were even all game, trading goals until the second overtime when Columbia was able to pull away with the win.

The Light Blue was the first to get on the scoreboard, thanks to a goal by Brittany Shannon on a free position shot. La Salle responded three minutes later with a goal by Ashley Rutz, assisted by Nora McGurkin. The Explorers would take the lead, 2-1, three minutes later off an unassisted goal by Jill Davis. Columbia was able to tie the game at two with a goal by Holly Glynn, her first of the night. However, La Salle quickly responded with two goals by McGurkin and Davis. McGurkin would finish with one goal and two assists for the night. After another three minutes, Columbia's Lauren Olsen scored her only goal of the night, only to have La Salle's Stefany McKee fire a shot into the net a minute later. Down 5-3 with just under four minutes left in the half,



LA SALLE	9
COLUMBIA	10

Shannon and Glynn would score back-to-back goals to tie the game up at five going into halftime.

Glynn would start the second period off on the right foot, scoring an early goal, assisted by Gabrielle Geronimos. For the rest of the second period, Columbia and La Salle would trade off goals, with La Salle tying the game at eight with a goal from Sara Ciavarelli. With the score tied at eight, the two teams headed into overtime, only to continue to trade off goals. La Salle's Davis score the first goal of the first overtime, giving the Explorers the 9-8 lead. However, with 24 seconds left in the first overtime, Columbia's Glynn scored a clutch goal off a Lizzie Lee assist. With the score tied at nine, the game headed into double overtime.

The second overtime was dominated by Glynn, as she scored the winning goal with 2:11 left in the period. The Lions' defense would buckle down for the final two minutes, capturing the win. Glynn finished with five goals on 10 shots on goal. Columbia goaltender Emma Mintz played all 66 minutes and finished with 11 saves.

The Columbia lacrosse team will have a few days to rest and prepare for its next game against Dartmouth on Sunday, April 26.



File photo

**OVERTIME TRIAL** | Though tied at eight at the end of second half, the Lions triumphed 10-9 over LaSalle, as a second overtime goal from senior Holly Glynn found the back of the net, while the defense held on.