

3333 B'way tenants meet with CU reps

BY EMILY NEIL
Spectator Staff Writer

University representatives spoke to a full room of local residents in 3333 Broadway on Wednesday night about how construction plans for Columbia's Manhattanville campus will impact their building.

Last week Columbia began installing air-conditioning units for some of the residents of the 35-story mixed-income building to control noise pollution, but residents said they're still worried about other construction impacts and confused about why only some tenants will receive the units.

Because of the environmental impact statement issued by the city, which indicated that noise levels could increase by up to three decibels due to University construction, 714 apartments in 3333 facing West 133rd are eligible to receive air-conditioners, paid for by the University.

But some residents, like Alicia Barksdale, president of the tenants' association, said they are more concerned about diminished air quality and an overwhelming presence of dust in the area of the construction site.

"Dust rises just like sound travels. How are you going to control something you have no control over?" she said.

Phyllis Adams, a resident in 3333 since its opening in 1976 and a member of the tenants' association, expressed concern that the air conditioners would only be provided to one side of the building, though many others might be affected by a lack of air quality.

"How can they say dust only goes in one direction? It goes everywhere," Adams said. "I don't know what the answer is. But what they're doing is not right."

Philip Pitruzzello, vice president for Manhattanville Capital Construction, told those at the meeting that various measures had and would be taken to ensure the preservation of air quality.

The air conditioners were designated as necessary by the EIS for the purpose of noise mitigation in the particular apartments, and for this reason, the University is not prepared to provide all apartments with air conditioners, Pitruzzello said.

"Our form of monitoring and

SEE M'VILLE, page 2



KATE SCARBROUGH / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

GARDEN PARTY | President Bollinger hosted members of Community Impact in his backyard.

Gateway Lab to undergo major changes

BY SONALEE RAU AND
SAMMY ROTH
Columbia Daily Spectator

Columbia's flagship introductory course for freshman engineers is getting a makeover, with dramatic changes to Gateway Lab expected to be implemented in the fall.

The changes have not yet been finalized, but according to chemical engineering professor Michael Hill, a member of the School of Engineering and Applied Science committee reviewing Gateway, the restructured course will probably incorporate the involvement of many professors from different engineering departments.

It's also likely that the semester-long project that

Gateway groups work on will be eliminated, Hill said, although there will still be some hands-on projects. One possibility is to shorten the team project to take up less of the semester, and to give groups a choice of project from different disciplines, Hill said.

Additionally, Hill noted that SEAS Associate Dean Jack McGourty and professor Promiti Dutta will no longer teach the course. It will now be headed up by electrical engineering professor David Vallancourt and mechanical engineering professor Fred Stolfi as well as several other as-yet undetermined professors, Hill said.

Hill, who attended SEAS as an undergraduate, said a main goal of the changes is to expose first-year engineers to

a wider range of engineering material.

"Back in the day, you didn't really get a flavor of what you would do as an engineer until you got to be a junior, and even then it was sketchy ... but the concept now is even as a freshman, you actually get a flavor of what an engineer actually does, and if possible, across the range of disciplines in engineering," Hill said.

Chemical engineering department chair Sanat K. Kumar praised the current course for preparing first-years for engineering work in general, but said the changes are meant to better prepare engineers for the majors they choose down the road.

SEE GATEWAY, page 2

Community Impact celebrates 30 years

Volunteers, staffers say organization faces new challenges

BY KARLA JIMENEZ
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Jonathan Gutterman, GS, went home last week with a collection of drawings from the young children he works with in Artists Reaching Out, a Community Impact program that runs after-school arts classes for children in Harlem.

"It helps the volunteers as much as it helps the kids," he said, adding that his work with ARO and Peace by P.E.A.C.E., a youth conflict resolution program, has been a huge part of his life.

On Wednesday, Gutterman and other CI volunteers gathered in University President Lee Bollinger's garden party to recognize the organization's 30-year anniversary.

"We don't have this much joy in the president's house very often," Bollinger said in a short speech in which he emphasized CI's role in the neighborhood. "It's great for Columbia, but more importantly, great for the community."

Community Impact was founded in 1981 by Joe DeGenova, CC '82, who was concerned that members of the surrounding area lived under dramatically different circumstances from Columbia affiliates. What began as a community lunch program soon became the University's largest student service organization.

As the organization continues to grow, volunteers and CI staffers say they face new challenges every year.

CI Executive Director Sonia Reese said that during the economic downturn, the organization had to let go of two of its 11 paid staff members. Of the organization's \$1.5 million budget, only a third comes from the University.

"With the economic downturn, that [funding] was a challenge. There's a greater need for the services ... but we've also had some of our major individual donors come forward and really become champions of our work," CI Development Officer Audra Acey said. "For any nonprofit, funding is always a challenge."

Despite requests from

groups like the Grant Houses Community Garden Project and Jumpstart, Community Impact has not added another service group since 2005.

Chloe Oliver, CC '12 and a student executive for CI, said the organization has wanted to add a group for a while, but sought to prevent overlap.

"Our biggest goal was, we wanted to accept a group that was different than we already had," Oliver said of the current student executive board.

This year roughly 950 students volunteered with CI's 25 programs, which range from tutoring groups that meet on campus to teams that staff local homeless shelters.

CI received seven group applications this semester, of which the board hopes to approve at least one.

"The students have been very frustrated," said Reese, who has been executive director for 22 years. "We felt it would be irresponsible to take more groups that we couldn't provide support for."

Another obstacle some students mentioned was the extensive bureaucracy involved in running the organization. Reese, however, said there aren't really that many layers in CI's structure.

"From a student's perspective, it looks like a lot of layers," Reese said, adding that a lot of programs are student-run anyway. "In order to run a nonprofit, you need some of those layers in terms of accountability."

Sallie Wilson, CC '11 and a program coordinator for the Advocacy Coalition, which works with homeless and low-income clients at kitchen pantries by giving them referrals to benefit systems, said the structure of CI helps keep her in check.

"It's hard, because you have many visions of how to help people," Wilson said. "It'd be wonderful if there were unlimited resources to help people. Community Impact is certainly a gift in providing some of those resources."

For student volunteers, Community Impact is

SEE IMPACT, page 2

NEWS BRIEF

Alleged assaulter in College Walk attack indicted, pleads not guilty

The Columbia Business School student accused of attacking a woman and a police officer on College Walk three weeks ago was indicted on Wednesday. He pleaded not guilty.

Ash Sinha, an MBA candidate, was charged in Manhattan Supreme Court with assault in the second degree, assault in the third degree as a hate crime, and resisting arrest. He will next appear in court on July 13 for motions.

The altercation took place shortly after midnight on April 3, when Sinha allegedly punched, kicked, and bit a woman outside the Columbia gates at 116th Street and Broadway. The woman was not affiliated with Columbia.

Even after Public Safety and the NYPD arrived, Sinha, who appeared to be highly intoxicated, continued to scream, asking people not to "crucify" him. He was immediately taken to Harlem Hospital Center and subsequently to the psychiatric ward at Bellevue Hospital.

A New York City Department of Corrections officer said Sinha was admitted to Bellevue on April 6 but posted bail two days later. He has not been readmitted and is not currently in custody.

Joan Vollero, deputy director of communications for the Manhattan District Attorney's office, said that there was no plea deal in the works.

—Finn Vigeland

Floridita owner files for courts to pick up case against CU

BY ABBY MITCHELL
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

With no progress on his complaint against Columbia, Floridita owner Ramon Diaz has taken further action to get his case in front of the courts.

Last Thursday, Diaz filed both an Affidavit of Emergency and a Memorandum of Law to urge courts to pick up his legal complaint against the University. He claims that Columbia did not properly deal with asbestos exposed from previous renovations on his new restaurant location on the corner of 12th Avenue and 125th Street.

The Memorandum of Law outlines Diaz's complaint and asks that the court "grant the request for preliminary injunctions" and set a court date for proceedings to begin. An Affidavit of Emergency is a motion for the case to be addressed immediately, on the grounds that there is a pressing reason it cannot wait.

Diaz has already faced several setbacks in his legal efforts. The complaint itself was

officially served to the president and trustees of Columbia in February. After that, it was assigned a judge, and Diaz was supposed to appear in court on April 6. However, according to Diaz, the judge handling the case was dismissed just before the court appearance was set, and the case was reassigned.

"My attorney has spoken with the new clerk to see where we stand, but it seems that the last judge left such a high volume of cases that he is inundated with paperwork," he said. "They don't know when we can appear."

Diaz's lawyer could not be reached for comment.

If the judge recognizes the motion, Diaz could move up on the roster. In the meantime, the status of his restaurant remains unchanged. The New York City Department of Environmental Protection's "stop-work order" for the property, which bars any unauthorized personnel from entering the building, is still in effect, preventing Diaz from conducting any renovations on the space. Diaz claims

he is also currently paying rent on the property, despite having been served with default notices in February.

"I have the 40-odd employees working who are still unemployed, I'm paying rent, and I'm

not able to operate. It's a triple whammy," Diaz said. "I'm going nowhere."

According to Diaz, he should receive a response about the

SEE DIAZ, page 2



FILE PHOTO

A LONG ROAD | Floridita owner Ramon Diaz speaks at a forum on the Manhattanville expansion at Fordham University.

A&E, PAGE 3

Music meets math in alum's CD

Stephanie Chou, CC '09, will release her first jazz album, "Prime Knot," this Friday, April 29.



OPINION, PAGE 4

A 'pinion for your thoughts

An opinion is more than just an argument—it is a personal response.

To the next frontier

Alex Katz reflects on the past four years.

SPORTS, PAGE 8

Johnson no stranger to no-hitters

Senior softballer Maggie Johnson threw Columbia's first no-hitter since 2006 this weekend. It was not the first no-hitter of her career—she also threw one at age 11.

EVENTS

KCST's "The Taming of the Shrew"

Join the King's Crown Shakespeare Troupe for a roving performance around campus.

The Sundial, 8 p.m.

WEATHER

Today



70°/55°

Tomorrow



66°/46°

Recommendations from ESC, engineering departments to contribute to Gateway

GATEWAY from front page

“The good part of it [the current course] is clearly the ability to do something hands-on, the ability to work in a group, because these are things you do as an engineering major,” Kumar said. “What we’re trying to add to it is something actually more related to what you will actually do as part of the major ... That’s what’s missing.”

Kumar added that the decision to give the course new leadership was not a reflection on McGourty, who has been teaching it for many years and who Kumar said has done a great job. He said the change reflects a decision to run the courses out of the engineering departments rather than the dean’s office.

Hill emphasized that the changes have not yet been finalized, and that many details still need to be worked out. The committee, which is composed of representatives from all the engineering departments, will work over the summer to finalize its recommendations, which will then

need to be approved by SEAS Dean Feniosky Peña-Mora. The goal, Hill said, is to have a new Gateway course ready for the fall semester.

Peña-Mora said in a statement on Tuesday that as part of the Engineering School’s regular process of evaluation for every class, faculty have been looking at the Gateway class, assessing input from students who have taken Gateway and from faculty, to “ensure the course curriculum fits the needs of today’s and tomorrow’s engineers and is consistent with our educational philosophy.”

“As we refine the course content to meet these needs, we will build on the pillars of Gateway, its socially responsible engineering and applied science projects and rigorous pedagogy integrating the engineering fundamentals with a project-based, hands-on experience that will enable our students to lead the way in developing solutions to the challenges society will ask them to address in their career,” Peña-Mora wrote.

SEAS Class of 2014 President

Akshay Shah said that the Engineering Student Council has solicited student opinions on Gateway this year, and that he and two other ESC members had given recommendations on how to change the course to an undergraduate academic review committee chaired by Yannis Tsvividis, the undergraduate curriculum advisor to Peña-Mora.

According to Shah, he and the other ESC members recommended splitting Gateway from one three-hour meeting per week—its current format—to two one and-a-half hour meetings per week. One of the meetings would focus on design, and the other would focus on the group projects.

They also recommended having all students take Gateway second semester and all preprofessional courses first semester—as many first-semester freshmen go into Gateway without the necessary engineering skills—and creating a program in which each first-year in Gateway receives one-on-one mentorship from a senior.

Shah noted that no changes have been finalized, but said

he believes that Tsvividis took the recommendations seriously, and that the course will be changed for the better.

“I’m pretty confident [that] Professor Tsvividis was actually very, very open to all our commands,” Shah said. “And he asked us to be very frank, and we really, really appreciate that.”

Members of the SEAS class of 2015, who, upon arriving at Columbia in the fall, will be the first to take the new Gateway class, were cautiously optimistic about the news.

“I’m not sure how I really feel about the Gateway change,” Shaun Ang, SEAS ’15, said. “On the one hand, I’ve always thought of it as one of those iconic SEAS classes that you don’t mess with—one that fits in with the school’s mantra about educating socially conscious engineers.”

But Ang added that he is “hopeful” the changes will only improve Gateway.

“I’m hoping that the new course structure will allow for ‘actual’ engineering knowledge and skills to be imparted to us pre-frosh, even if it now

seems like another generic introduction to engineering course,” Ang said.

Sandya Sankarram, SEAS ’15, said she thinks the new Gateway will be “a great way for the engineers to wet their paws” in the different types of engineering without having to make any commitments.

“Before, if I were interested in biomedical engineering, I would have to take a course in it, and if I found that I disliked the material, I would be stuck in the class for an entire semester,” Sankarram said. “This survey course would let us figure out what subjects inspire us and which ones just ... don’t. Sort of like a sampling platter for engineering classes, if you will.”

Shah said that he is pleased with one of the only confirmed changes—that Vallancourt will be involved with the new class.

“Frankly, he’s an awesome professor, and at the very least he gets all of his students engaged in what he’s teaching. ... He seems to be a good fit for what you would like to see in a Gateway professor,” Shah said. news@columbiaspectator.com

3333 residents raise concerns on air quality

M’VILLE from front page

control at the site is really the best form of monitoring,” Pitruzzello told the gathering. “We are very proactively controlling emissions at the site.”

At a meeting last week with Spectator, Pitruzzello said construction vehicles are hosed off before they leave the site and that many of the debris are wet down so that dust doesn’t travel through the neighborhood.

“How can they say dust only goes in one direction? It goes everywhere.”

—Phyllis Adams, resident

Barksdale called for increased cooperation and consideration from the University.

“Everything changes, and it’s for the betterment of the community, but don’t move out a community that’s been there so long ... You’ve got to help us build up a better community,” she said.

La-Verna Fountain, associate vice president of construction business services and communications, said that she agreed that communication between the University and the residents is essential.

“I think it’s all about community relation development. It really is,” she said of the meeting.

“And what we have to do is be willing to be open to hear what people are saying. It doesn’t mean that we’re going to give everyone what they’re asking for. It does mean that we’re here. Columbia’s not going anywhere, and there are many ways we can work with people and keep trying to find ways to improve things,” Fountain added.

emily.neil@columbiaspectator.com

Diaz hopes for swift resolution in case against University

DIAZ from front page

memorandum by the end of the week, although so far, he has heard “not an iota.”

When he initially filed the complaint, Diaz had hoped the issue would be resolved quickly.

“I thought within 30 days we would be in front of a judge,” Diaz said. “Columbia can turn this into years of legal ragging. It certainly can.”

The University does not comment on ongoing litigation, but it has firmly denied Diaz’s allegations.

In a statement to Spectator in February, La-Verna Fountain,

associate vice president of construction business services and communications, said, “The University has met all of its obligations with respect to providing the space to the tenant for fit-out. Instead of meeting his obligations, Mr. Diaz has chosen to take action against the University.”

Diaz said he hopes the case will be resolved as quickly as possible.

“I’ve been out of business for over a year,” he said. “The longer we’re gone, the quicker it’s going to be forgotten, and my customer base will scatter.”

abby.mitchell@columbiaspectator.com

After 30 years, Community Impact keeps growing

IMPACT from front page

partly about surprises. Nicole Oparaeké, CC ’11 and a volunteer for the America Reads program, recalled that when she was grading papers for a second-grade class that was practicing contractions, one of her students’ sentences was, “I can’t believe Malcolm X doesn’t have a national holiday.”

“I thought, ‘What? You’re 7!’” Oparaeké said.

But CI has a wider repertoire than just its well known youth programs. Tamara Harris, SEAS ’13 and co-coordinator of the English as a Second Language program for local adults, said she works with people from

every continent but Antarctica.

Robert Niewiadomski, GS and co-coordinator of the same program, said working with CI gets him thinking about his own experiences.

“I do have a special bond that I share with the ESL program. I can relate on a personal level as an immigrant from Holland.”

Student involvement has evolved over the last 30 years, according to Associate Director Sandy Helling, who has worked with Community Impact for over 20 years.

“Our student volunteers come in now more experienced than before,” Helling said. “Students have the opportunity

to provide to neighbors, both the community getting good services as well as the volunteers getting meaningful experiences.”

According to George Van Amson, a member of the CI board of directors and a trustee emeritus, the most critical thing CI does is to develop connections between the University and the community.

“It’s important that the University not be an ivory tower in the community,” Van Amson said. “This reception is a manifestation of how important the organization is to the University.”

karla.jiminez@columbiaspectator.com

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

Thousands of students flock to Penn every summer.

You can be one of them.

Why Penn? Because we want you to pursue your passion and combine it with purpose. Take a course to fill a requirement, to satisfy your curiosity, or to have an academic experience unlike any other.

OPEN ENROLLMENT
THREE SUMMER SESSIONS
300 FULL-CREDIT COURSES

www.upenn.edu/summer

PENN SUMMER

USF
UNIVERSITY of
SAN FRANCISCO

THE TOP 10 REASONS
SPEND SUMMER at
UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO

10 Reduced Tuition!
1/3 off undergraduate tuition

9 Reduced Rent!
1/3 off USF's housing rates

8 Accelerated Classes!
Complete a class in three weeks, then do it again!

7 Get It All
Take six-week classes and intern or work this summer, too!

6 A Summer in SF
Take 12-week classes (and lose your heart in San Francisco)

5 Get Ahead
Make time to study abroad or allow more options in your senior year

4 Catch Up
Stay on track and graduate with your friends

3 Be Cool
San Francisco is cooler than most of the country, and the weather is not as hot either

2 Experience Culture
Walking distance to world class concerts, festivals, museums, and food

1 Be Known
Take classes with professors who know your name and care about your learning

www.summeratUSF.org
Educating Minds and Hearts to Change the World

Play all around campus with KCST’s ‘Taming of the Shrew’

BY NICOLLETTE BARSAMIAN
Spectator Staff Writer

Normally, Columbia undergrads are content experiencing Shakespeare in Lit Hum classrooms, but once a year King’s Crown Shakespeare Troupe performs a play from the English great, starting on the steps of Low Library and moving to a new location for each scene.

KCST will be performing “The Taming of the Shrew” this Thursday, April 28, at 8 p.m.; Friday, April 29, at 11:59 p.m.; and Saturday, April 30, at 9 p.m.

This Shakespearean comedy’s plot is a story within a story. A mischievous lord has a play performed for his amusement that depicts the courtship between the headstrong Kate and the impervious Petruchio, who is determined to tame her.

But in the words of producer Dan Aprahamian, CC ’12, the show can be boiled down to “what you’ll do for a girl.”

The comedy features Madalena Provo, BC ’12, as the “shrew” in question, Kate.

“I’ve been involved with King’s Crown since my first semester. I assistant-directed the outdoor spring show last year,” Provo said. “I always enjoy doing Shakespeare and especially enjoy the way KCST does it.”

KCST publicist Lisa Mack, SEAS ’14, explained the way in which KCST’s spring performance differs from other Shakespearean productions. “Columbia’s campus has a unique beauty,” Mack said. “We try to take advantage of that by having the show

travel around the campus, with each show [scene] in front of a different building.”

Mack also described the club’s unique internal structure. “KCST operates less like a club and more like a family, and this carries over into the casting process,” she said. “Every year, for the spring show, everyone who auditions is cast.”

Aprahamian discussed the themes in Shakespeare’s seminal comedy.

“‘Taming of the Shrew’ is a hilarious show, but it also touches on sensitive issues,” he said. “The gender issues in the show are always difficult to address, yet the directing team and the actors have managed to deal with them appropriately while still putting on a fun show.”

KCST encourages all to attend the performances, regardless of any aversion some may have to Shakespeare. Aprahamian, a computer engineering major, said he has never had a problem understanding or relating to “The Taming of the Shrew” when he sees it performed.

“The show still feels relevant, and the jokes are still funny. It really is a great show,” he said. “Plus, since the show is an immersive experience, you don’t just watch a play—you get a night of fun.”

This Saturday, one could theoretically see the Varsity Show, Das Racist, Snoop Dogg, and “The Taming of the Shrew” all in one day. “The Taming of the Shrew” offers a bit of light-hearted culture and campus appreciation to end an entertainment-packed night.



COURTESY OF STEPHANIE CHOU

JAZZY EQUATION | Stephanie Chou, CC ’09, will debut her first jazz album on Friday, April 29, at LES spot Drom.

Alum Chou adds new variables to jazz

BY EMILY OSTERTAG
Spectator Staff Writer

Everyone knows how many Columbia grads go off to do interesting things when they finish their four years here. Once in a while, though, there is someone who deviates more from the beaten path than most. Jazz musician Stephanie Chou, CC ’09, is one such person.

Chou majored in math at Columbia and is using her degree in a non-traditional way. On Friday, April 29, Chou’s first album, “Prime Knot,” will be released at Drom (85 Ave. A, at East 6th Street), at 6 p.m. Chou composed nearly all of the album’s music, basing her work on mathematical concepts and on traditional Chinese folk songs she grew up hearing.

In mathematical knot theory, a prime knot is one that cannot be decomposed. Chou describes it as “taking a piece of string, tying and twisting it up however you like, and then gluing the ends together.” Chou finds these knots to be incredibly beautiful, and the variety of these knots inspired her to create different variations on the Chinese tune “Jasmine Flower.”

Chou began her musical studies with classical piano at the age of five and had focused her interests on jazz by high school. At Columbia, she took many jazz classes without actually completing the jazz studies major or concentration. She also played piano and saxophone with many jazz groups on campus before she transitioned into composition.

“I had always been writing stuff, but I took my first composition class in my senior year of college,” Chou said. “Writing goes with the math more. I’m better at it because you have time to think about what you want to say.”

Chou also feels that using traditional Chinese melodies has helped her get in touch with her roots. “I studied Chinese growing up and a little bit at Columbia,” she said, noting that singing in the language “has really helped my Chinese.”

Chou feels that her greatest strength is composition, but she sings and plays saxophone and piano adeptly on the album. Two of the other musicians featured on the CD, Jeremy Siskind and Joel Gombiner, are also Columbia alumni. “Working with people who play on that level was an incredible experience,” she said. “This

is the best way for someone to grow artistically—I’ve learned so much doing this album.”

Chou currently studies composition with Patrick Zimmerli, a professor in Columbia’s music department, and will head to City College to study composition in the fall.

When asked about her biggest influences, Chou was unable to pinpoint one or even just a few. She draws on a wide range of musical genres for inspiration, from madrigals to ’90s pop. “I’m in a phase where I’ve just been trying to listen to as much as possible,” she said.

Like a prime knot, Chou feels that the album “came out to be more than the sum of its parts.” Her main goal, and the greatest challenge she felt she faced was “creating a cohesive sound.”

Chou thinks the album achieves fluidity overall but hopes to accomplish this further in her next project, which will be more of a world music collection.

“This is where I want to go, but it’s also more viable commercially and where my strengths are,” Chou said of the decision to move away from jazz. Chou feels that she will be more capable of getting her message across to audiences through this different genre.



NIRAALI PANDIRI FOR SPECTATOR

SHREWD PERFORMANCE | KCST holds its annual outdoor production, this year “The Taming of the Shrew,” from Thursday, April 28, to Saturday, April 30.

More than a pint of history in alum’s mystery novel

BY ALLISON MALECHA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Two judges and a Barnard professor murdered. All three murders marked with a black Bible and a white rose. This is the historically and symbolically chock-full “Secret of the White Rose,” the third mystery novel involving Detective Simon Ziele by Stefanie Pintoff, CLS ’06, stripped down to its barest plot skeleton.

Following “The Shadow of Gotham” (2009) and “A Curtain Falls” (2010), “Secret of the White Rose” will be released from Minotaur Books on May 24.

A Columbia Law School forensics class, coupled with Pintoff’s love for the history of New York City—the books are set in 1905 and 1906—generated the context for the books. “The series ... is just born of the very simple idea of, ‘How would a sort of ordinary working detective be able to participate in some of the really exciting innovations that were happening turn of the 20th century New York?’” Pintoff said, going on to answer her own question. “If a case brings this really learned scientist into his life and his investigations and is going to be sometimes as much of a help as he is a hindrance.”

The scientist’s name is Alistair Sinclair, a moneyed intellectual introduced in the first novel who becomes a major source of controversy in the third book because of his close relations to the murder victims. “I really created Simon Ziele to be his [Alistair’s] perfect foil—you know, lower class, an immigrant from the

Lower East Side, someone who is pragmatic and street-wise and down-to-earth,” Pintoff said.

Ziele can seem almost too flawless a protagonist. He fosters a socio-economically complicated love for Alistair’s widowed daughter-in-law, but, on the whole, Ziele is as good of a guy as one can find—or fabricate. He is empathetic but always professional, remains detached from prejudice when questioning suspects, and has a steadfast hunger for the truth.

Yet Pintoff is committed to spinning a realistic tale in most every other respect. “The standard I’m trying to hold is, ‘Okay, I’m writing fiction, but even if it didn’t happen, could it have happened?’” Pintoff said.

The “Secret of the White Rose” is colored with historical facts and perspectives, like the novelty of first experiencing gas-powered taxis, but sometimes Pintoff goes overboard, making certain dialogues contrived or stalling action for a comment on restaurant dynamics.

One particular historical event—the Slocum disaster—is integral to Ziele’s history. Its after-effects manifest themselves differently in each book. In 1904, over a thousand steamboat joyriders, most of them from Little Germany like Ziele, drowned because of inadequate safety precautions. Ziele lost his fiancée in the accident. “In 1905, 1906 New York, that was as huge as 9/11 is to New York today,” Pintoff said.

The books unabashedly take on societal issues of the time, including one that parallels contemporary readers’ relation to 9/11—terrorism. Pintoff said that Americans at the time “were very

worried about the anarchists—the papers will use the term ‘terrorist.’” She avoids this terminology in the book, explaining that the two terms are not equivalent but that there is the same “sense of being anxious and on edge.”

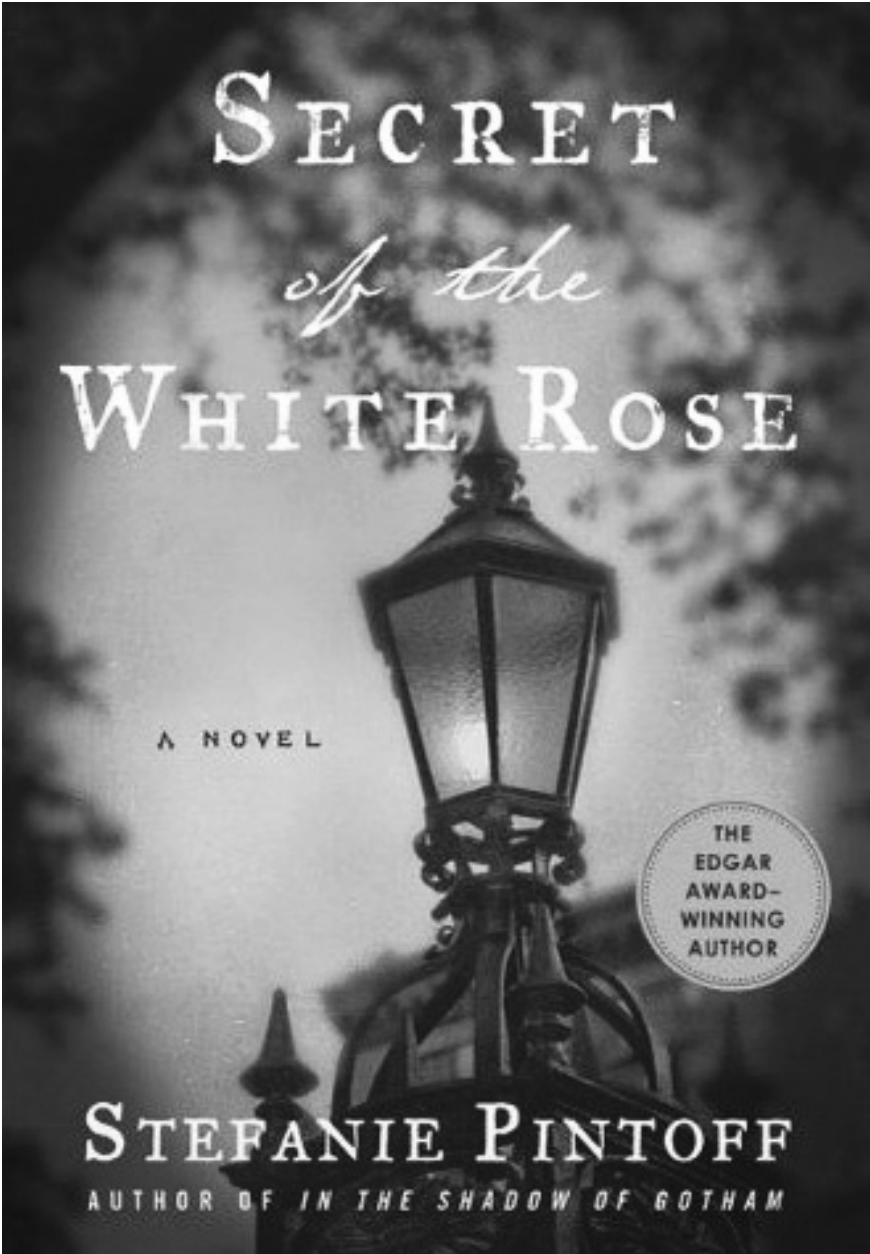
“Secret of the White Rose” begins with the sensationalist trial of Al Drayson, child-murderer and anarchist, over which the first murdered judge was presiding. Anarchists become the assumed perpetrators for all three murders.

Though the plot line is multi-branched and grasps at society-sweeping critiques of the judicial system, treatment of immigrants, gender constraints, and corrupt capitalism, Pintoff effortlessly weaves in reminders for the reader—including, at one point, a comprehensive chart of the case—to keep everything clear.

The three murdered men are connected back to a Harvard finals club with the Ovidian goal of “Order triumphing over Chaos.” Though the Ivy experience doesn’t fare too well in “Secret of the White Rose,” Pintoff has great affection for Columbia.

“I met my husband here—we met the very first day of law school in my very first class,” she said. The finale of the first book is set at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, and the murder victim is a Barnard alum getting a mathematics Ph.D. at Columbia.

After “Secret of the White Rose,” Pintoff will pause work on the Ziele series to start a new, contemporary FBI-thriller series for Random House, which will feature a female lead but will continue to display a commitment to criminal forensics.



COURTESY OF LISA COTOGGIO

WHO DUNNIT? | Columbia Law School alum Stefanie Pintoff will release her third Simon Ziele detective novel, “Secret of the White Rose,” on May 24.



The 135th year of publication
Independent since 1962

CORPORATE BOARD

SAMUEL E. ROTH
Editor in Chief

MICHELE CLEARY
Managing Editor

ADITYA MUKERJEE
Publisher

MANAGING BOARD

LEAH GREENBAUM
Campus News Editor

SARAH DARVILLE
City News Editor

GABRIELLA PORRINO
Editorial Page Editor

REBEKAH MAYS
Editorial Page Editor

ALLISON MALECHA
Arts & Entertainment Editor

JIM PAGELS
Sports Editor

MRINAL MOHANKA
Sports Editor

MIKEY ZHONG
Spectrum Editor

AMANDA CORMIER
The Eye, Editor in Chief

ASHTON COOPER
The Eye, Managing Editor

CINDY PAN
The Eye, Art Director

ALEX COLLAZO
Head Copy Editor

JASPER L. CLYATT
Photo Editor

ANN CHOU
Design Editor

JEREMY BLEEKE
Design Editor

JAKE DAVIDSON
Online Content Editor

HANNAH D'APICE
Staff Director

ANDREW HITTI
Alumni Director

MABEL MCLEAN
Sales Director

SPENCER DUHAIME
Finance Director

DEPUTY BOARD

News Editors
Karla Jimenez, Chelsea Lo, Abby Mitchell, Sonalee Rau, Sammy Roth
Arts & Entertainment Editors
Claire Fu, Claire Stern
Copy Editor
Zuzanna Fuchs
Design Editor
Rebecca Schwarz
Photo Editors
Zara Castany, Maria Castex, Alyson Goulden, Phoebe Lytle, Christina Phan
Sports Editors
Zach Ghubiak, Kunal Gupta
Infrastructure Editor
Amrita Mazumdar
Sales
Thomas Elustondo, Alex Snyk
Finance
Gabriela Hempfing, Noah Kolatch, Daniela Quintanilla
Alumni
Rob Frech, Rex Macaylo

ASSOCIATE BOARD

Editorial Page Editors
Andrea Garcia-Vargas, Samantha Henderson, Leo Schwartz, Lanbo Zhang
Arts & Entertainment Editors
Ian Erickson-Kory, Maricela Gonzalez, Melissa Haney, Joseph Pomp, Katy Tong
Copy Editors
Maggie Alden, Jack Dickey, Abigail Fisch, Jessica Geiger, Emily Handsman, Michelle Lappen, Hannah Laymon, Gina Lee, Emily Neil, Emily Sorensen, Sean Wong
Page Design Editors
Maya Fegan, Joe Girtan, Tanvi Gupta, Lella Lin, Geetika Rudra, Finn Vigeland, Isaac White, Laura Ye
Graphic Design Editors
Stephanie Mannheim, Yuma Shinohara
Photo Editors
Arvin Ahmadi, Hannah Botkin, Phoebe Brosnan, Kate Scarbrough, Henry Willson
Sports Editors
Rebeka Cohan, Trevor Cohen, Robert Wren Gordon, Jeremiah Sharf, Molly Tow, Ryan Young
Sales
Katherine Estabrook, Aurora Lende, Ross Lerner, Jamie Yu
Finance
Brendan Barry, Shivrut Chhabra, Michelle Lacks, Jiaqi Liu, Zhaoan Ma, Bruno Mendes, Gedion Negash, Kinnari Norojono

EDITORIAL BOARD

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

WEDNESDAY NIGHT STAFF
Copy
Maggie Astor, Mark Choi, N. H. Diane Kim, Kevin Lee, Katie McNeirney

ADDRESS & EMAIL
Columbia Spectator
2875 Broadway, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10025
info@columbiaspectator.com

PHONE & FAX
Daily Spectator (212) 854-9549
Business (212) 854-9550
Business Fax (212) 854-9553

EDITORIAL POLICY
For more information about the Columbia Daily Spectator and editorial policies, visit <http://www.columbiaspectator.com/about>.

CORRECTIONS
The Spectator is committed to fair and accurate reporting. If you know of an error, please inform us at copy@columbiaspectator.com.

COMMENTS & QUESTIONS
For general comments or questions about the newspaper, please write to the editor in chief and managing editor at editor@columbiaspectator.com.

Another year, another milestone

Graduation bleachers are beginning to be assembled. For the past three years, I have always noted this time—it marks the end. I’ve wondered how the graduating seniors feel about their upcoming milestone: Are they nervous, excited, depressed? I never really thought about what it would feel like to actually graduate, to say goodbye to a chapter of my life and farewell to a place I’ve called home. The truth is, now that it’s here, I don’t know what to think.

When I think back to how much I’ve done, the wonderful friendships I’ve developed, how many classes I’ve taken, events I’ve participated in, internships I’ve had—it seems like a long time. But somehow I still manage to feel like college has flown by. Move-in day freshman year feels like yesterday. I can still recall



ALEXANDRA KATZ
Umm, Excuse Me

what I was wearing and how nervous I was. I was mostly nervous about beginning a new, unknown part of my life.

Oh, wait! That’s exactly how I feel right now.

There have been times in recent months where I’ve panicked, thinking, “I’ll never be able to take X class, or maybe I should have been more involved in Y.” The mere thought of writing more 20-page papers and taking more exams is usually enough to snap me out of it, but it is hard to look back without having any regrets. All in all, I’m happy with my college career and am confident that the woman graduating on May 17 is much better equipped to take on the world than the girl moving into college four years ago.

It’s difficult to visualize actually living in the “real world,” as my friends and I have taken to calling life after graduation. It’s scary. Exciting, but scary. The possibilities do seem endless, due, in great part, to the opportunities afforded to us as college graduates. For many of us, this is the first time we will have total control over what we choose to do and which path

we take. As worried about graduating as some of us may be, the way we look back on how we felt when we came to college will one day be the way we remember how we’re feeling now. We did it, and our nerves will surely dissipate as we settle into life after college.

No one person’s college experience is the same as another’s, but for everyone, college is about growth. It’s not just about academics, as important as they are. It’s about challenging yourself to take risks and expand your worldview. It’s about independence and growing up. Looking back on my senior-year-of-high-school self, I can see how much I have grown. The changes have been subtle but marked.

One of the more significant changes, for most of us, is that our definition of home changes. I can still remember the first time I referred to my college dorm room as “home.” I was completely taken aback and felt a bit sad. I didn’t know if I was ready to separate myself from the life I had lived for the past 18 years. With time, I adjusted to having two homes, one in Boston and one in New York. My family

and high school friends became the people I would have to explain the goings on of my daily life to, and my college friends were present with me in my day-to-day life. I missed my family, but as I spent less time in my childhood home, I felt increasingly comfortable with the life I was building in college, and I relished the independence. Making my own schedule and being able to pursue my interests gave me confidence and motivation not only to work hard, but to enjoy life.

It’s hard to sum up four full years of wonderful experiences, ups and downs, and important milestones in one word: college. But that’s what it will become when I look back. As anxious as I am, I’m excited to see what my future holds.

As this is my last column, I want to thank you for reading, commenting, and challenging me to be better, and thank you to everyone who made my college experience so meaningful.

Alexandra Katz is a Barnard College senior majoring in political science. Umm, Excuse Me runs alternate Thursdays.

An open letter to President Bollinger

Dear President Bollinger,

We are asking you to step forward as leader of the University to condemn the hateful speech and discriminatory stereotyping allegedly used by the ROTC personnel last weekend in their maneuvers in New Jersey in which Columbia students were involved.

A front page article in Spectator on Tuesday, April 19, reported how ROTC fought “Spanish-speaking, Islamic fundamentalists from the Caucasus” and what a lark that was—not to mention the piquant detail of the “Muslim” who demanded a new wife and 10 camels.

Awfully funny, except that there is a real war going on for many a year with many soldiers and civilians maimed and killed. Awfully funny, except that this legitimates everyday racism and mocks the principles by which we teach and on which the University as a moral entity rests.

You have defended Columbia’s antidiscrimination policy in the past, and we call on you to do so again.

As anthropologists we feel especially put out by this language and its locker-room tone. We worry about what effect this rhetoric will have on Muslim and Spanish-speaking students and faculty, as well as on other minorities and international students. Who will be the next “enemy?” Is not Columbia a “global university?” How can we claim leadership in the global sphere while permitting our students to humiliate and revile entire classes of people, at a time when racial profiling and criminalization of undocumented migrants has reached alarming levels?

We ask that you hold good on your promise that no organization be permitted to operate at Columbia if it violates the University’s antidiscrimination policy.

Sincerely,
Members of the department of anthropology
April 28, 2011

This letter was signed by Nadia Abu El-Haj, Lila Abu-Lughod, Brian Boyd, Partha Chatterjee, Myron Cohen, Elaine Combs-Schilling, Zoe Crossland, Terence D’Altroy, E. Valentine Daniel, Catherine Fennell, Severin Fowles, Alexandra Harnett, Marilyn Ivy, Paul Kockelman, Brian Larkin, Claudio Lomnitz, Mahmood Mamdani, Brinkley Messick, Rosalind Morris, Richard Parker, John Pemberton, Elisabeth Povinelli, Nan Rothschild, David Scott, Audra Simpson, Michael Taussig, Carole Vance, and Paige West.



WENDAN LI

The truth about opinions

This semester, I found myself writing about increasingly personal issues in increasingly abstract ways. For both classwork and this column, I’d often resort to invoking authorities, like national statistics or recent research, and I’d ultimately dismiss the experience that inspired the piece of writing as irrelevant or trivial. I would have been satisfied with the easy explanation for this—my own insecurity—if I didn’t see many of my classmates struggling with the same tension between using factual knowledge and personal opinion.

The better educated and informed we become, it seems, the less likely we are to have and state categorical opinions. However, without such opinions, we lack a springboard for gaining new knowledge, and we commit self-censorship instead. It’s frustrating to think that the occasions on which I’ve refrained from expressing an opinion, including interactions with friends and classroom debates, might have been those where my opinion would



ZEBAH AHMAD
Any Road Will Take You There

have proven most effective. Opinions should be founded on personal experience, not fact.

Opinion formation would ideally be an intuitive, personal reaction to objectively-presented facts. In a sense, being opinionated is simply a matter of being attuned to the formation of belief in oneself and others. But because we engage best with people, not ideas, our opinions are more often a reaction to the opinions of others. In class, for example, we demonstrate understanding of new material exclusively by expressing an opinion or extension on it. The capacity to form opinions on abstract concepts is supposed to translate into decision-making and presentation skills, so opinion formation seems inherently social. There is a distinct sense of relief associated with arriving at an opinion, but maintaining one requires further investigation that might ultimately defeat it.

It’s certainly difficult to form an opinion without preparing it for someone else’s ears. People seem to feel that it’s imperative to express their opinions as soon as they have them, and such expression implies and often finds an audience. Identity and certainty lend credibility to opinions, and critics and those with experience are often privileged. Conversely, prominent political and creative figures

with unfounded, provincial, or ill-researched stances tend to reach the forefront of our media by sole virtue of the forcefulness, parsimony, and consistency of their positions.

Opinions are often associated with their authors in cases of multiculturalism and racial discrimination. A fellow Spectator columnist has stated in her article that in the case of perceived prejudice, it’s the effect on the audience and not the intention that matters (“Right-wing prejudice,” February 21). But if that’s true, it would seem necessary that every opinion writer is responsible in turn for the perceptions and actions that his or her own views inspire. This defeats the purpose of starting a debate with readers. Many online forums presuppose a wealth of different opinions, with personal experience playing a key role in justifying anonymous comments—however, an opinion presented anonymously is only an opinion in the weak sense, with no person to back it up.

In this column, I almost always chose my topic as an explicit expression of personal perspective. A lot of college journalism and activism hinges on strong defense of hyperbolic opinions and their ramifications, and the way we frame those debates

is key. Along with the rapid-fire nature of new media, this kind of atmosphere can encourage a lack of responsibility for, and quick extrapolation of, opinions. A well-expressed opinion strikes a balance between defending one’s stance and actively encouraging productive discussion on the topic.

Plato once described belief or opinion as the route from ignorance to knowledge. It seems fairly obvious that an expressed opinion should reflect authority and conviction, but these are features of a person, not a piece of writing, and effective communication is only hampered by the self-censorship that we are tempted to commit.

While writing papers and following the example of some academics, we are often nudged toward dogmatism or submission. Opinion is the ignored middle ground. It is not a distraction from gaining further knowledge, a reassuring refrain, or a way to narrow perspectives to accede to the expectations of others. Opinion is largely a feature of character, but character invariably develops with time.

Zeba Ahmad is a Barnard College junior majoring in psychology and philosophy. Any Road Will Take You There runs alternate Thursdays.

Senior columns

Former Spectator staff share their experiences and thoughts before graduation. Today we hear from Daniel Amzallag, Raphael Pope-Sussman, and Helen Werbe.

Happy and proud, thanks to Mark Zuckerberg

BY HELEN WERBE

I'm taking a seminar this semester called "Social and Economic Networks," and in our first class, we learned about six degrees of separation—the idea that you can trace a connection to anyone in the world through a maximum of six relationships. So, even though I don't know Mark Zuckerberg, I'm counting on Spec's readers, and friends of Spec's readers, and friends of friends of—well, you get the picture—to pass on this message to Mark for me: Thank you for making me happy and proud these last four years.

What I mean is that if it weren't for Mark's brainchild, I probably would have never joined Spectator, a source of so much joy for me. Sans Facebook, I would be graduating next month an engineer. My main extra-curricular would be the sailing club. I would maybe have gone abroad a semester. I would have slept a lot more. I wouldn't have met nearly as many people as I did. I wouldn't know the school, neighborhood, and city so well. Would I feel as proud as I do now about graduating from Columbia?

It was early January 2008, when my friend Ariana and I were in Paris for winter break, and I had just received an email from Alexandria Symonds. Alex had found me through Facebook stalking. She had seen I had "magazine" as an interest on my profile and wondered if I'd want to work on The Eye's design team. Had I considered joining Spectator before? Did I have any publication experience? Did I know Photoshop or InDesign? No, no, and no.

Ariana said I should absolutely ignore the email. Was it not creepy that this girl had stalked me on Facebook? Plus, doing design would require late hours and had nothing to do with what I was studying. Worst of all, I would be slaving away for some magazine I had never heard of. Ariana made it sound like a challenge, and I couldn't pass it up. At the least, I would attend the

introductory meeting Alex had set up at the Spectator office.

I remember my first visit to 2875 Broadway well. I found the door next to Pinkberry, was buzzed in, walked up the steep stairs to the third floor, and followed the voices. The area designated for The Eye was cozy and intriguing, with fire engine-red chairs and old magazine covers on the walls. Eight or so sharp-looking students were in the process of introducing themselves. I was late, so I had to awkwardly stand in the doorway. Everyone seemed a bit shocked when I said I was SEAS and that the extent of my experience with magazines was reading French Vogue since I was a baby. Next to these journalism and design experts, I felt naive. But Alex was encouraging—as most Speccies are, I would discover—so I returned to the office the following day.

What kept me involved with The Eye for the rest of my college years was a deep desire to share the effect the magazine had on me with other students.

My first task on the production team was to redesign the magazine to make it less hipster. We started by flipping through old issues of The Eye, and right away, I loved my new role. There were juicy stories about TA-student relationships and how NYU might eclipse Columbia, accompanied by colorful photos and

illustrations. These stories made the Columbia campus and student body come to life, and they made me truly excited to be a part of it.

What kept me involved with The Eye for the rest of my college years was a deep desire to share the effect the magazine had on me with other students. I took every opportunity to spread awareness about The Eye. I would "accidentally" leave an issue behind in class, hoping the next person to sit in my spot would pick it up. To this day, seeing someone reading The Eye or hearing it mentioned brightens my day.

I can think of a million times when something related to Spectator has made me happy and proud. From sitting next to Lindsay Lohan while covering Fashion Week to landing a dream internship at Vanity Fair to hearing Yale's daily was starting its own magazine inspired by ours to discovering through Google Analytics that we had readers all the way in New Zealand.

When my time on the 134th managing board came to an end last semester, it was hard to let go. I miss my serene walks back to EC at 4 a.m. after a long night of hard, rewarding work and waking up Thursday morning to a fresh stack of new issues. Even though I can no longer call The Eye my own, I've been comforted by the fact that the magazine and Spectator continue to thrive. Future generations of Speccies—a mix of students who come to Columbia to pursue journalism and others who, like me, will stumble upon it by chance—will have reason to feel happy and proud of their work. Knowing this keeps me optimistic.

The author is a Columbia College senior majoring in economics-mathematics. She was design associate for The Eye on the 132nd associate board, style editor for Spectator and The Eye on the 133rd board, and editor-in-chief of The Eye on the 134th managing board.

This time, no complaints

BY RAPHAEL POPE-SUSSMAN

People always speak about college as a revelatory experience. College changed my life! Best four years! I blossomed! It's a truth universally acknowledged that everyone is a critic, yet when it comes to college, it turns out that they're all actually Peter Travers.

When I arrived at Columbia, I was not expecting any revelations. Freshman year I was unimpressed with my classmates. "The people here are dumb," I complained to a friend from home.

I held on to this impression for longer than I'd like to admit. I was like that guy in the old joke:

A woman is watching TV one afternoon and she sees a news flash about a man driving down I-95 in the wrong lane. Her husband commutes home on 95, so she calls him in a panic: "Honey, there's a lunatic on 95, driving in the wrong lane!" He snickers. "One? There's like 600."

Fortunately, unlike the guy in the joke, I didn't have to collide with 600 tons of steel to detect the error in my thinking.

Instead, I had a gradual awakening. And I'd credit that awakening, in large part, to working at the Columbia Daily Spectator.

I showed up at Spectator on the first day of freshman year. I had written a humor column in high school and was hoping to continue at college. After a few minutes of investigation, I ascertained that there was no room for a humor columnist at the newspaper, but that I might be able to write for the humor page of The Eye, Spectator's weekly magazine. Also, did I know grammar? If so, perhaps I should try copy editing.

"How do I apply to write?" I asked the humor editor. "We don't have any, uh, writers," he said. "Just come to a meeting next Sunday, and you can write whatever you want."

That week, I passed the copy test and went to a humor section meeting (the guy wasn't kidding about writing whatever I wanted—we once published an entire column in German). The rest is Internet-searchable history. I spent my first semester writing jokes and sitting at the copy desk complaining loudly about Columbians' collective ignorance of the rules of grammar.

I was humor editor freshman spring and sophomore fall, then lead story editor at The Eye. That was beginning of my real career at Spec.

When I started as lead story editor, I had no idea what I was doing. I knew next to nothing about magazines and even less about reporting. But pretty quickly, I realized that didn't matter. Because I was working with an exceptional group of editors and they knew what they were doing. In addition to being extremely bright and competent to a fault, they were very funny and also very patient, even when it was four in the morning and I was rereading the lead story for the fifth time looking for errant punctuation.

One night, we worked until the sun rose, then sat down at Tom's for breakfast. We were so tired we nearly wept when someone told a joke. These were people to go to war with.

That night was exhausting and exhilarating—probably the best way to describe working at this newspaper.

After a year as lead story editor at The Eye, I was poised to move over to the daily as editorial page editor. Then, during my last final of junior fall, I felt a pain in my side. What I thought was a hernia turned out to be testicular cancer.

I've spilled seas of ink writing about being sick, and I need not spill much more. What's worth noting, though, is that the hardest thing I had to do that spring was step down as editorial page editor.

Yet my life at Columbia has been semi-charmed (charmed because it's been a blast, semi because I lost a nut). I missed a semester of school, but that was all. When I got back, thanks to my superb co-editor, Emily Tamkin, the opinion section was running like clockwork. By fall semester, most desk editors at Spectator are starting to burn out. That's especially true of seniors, who are entering their seventh and eighth terms. I'd spent the summer resting, though, and I returned to Columbia and to Spectator full of energy. I was the opposite of disillusioned. Illusioned?

And so, this past fall, I spent many more nights in an office, happily surrounded by people who weren't idiots after all.

Turns out I was the idiot.

But that's all right. Because, as I learned in so many philosophy classes, the idiots are actually the smart ones. "He is the wisest," spoke Socrates, who "knows that his wisdom is in truth worth nothing."

College was a revelation. Just a very slow one. It's been real, Columbia. You've conferred upon me more kindnesses and more opportunities than I perhaps can understand.

I began my tenure at Spectator writing jokes, and that's how I'd like to conclude it. For, in the words of Henry Ward Beecher, "Laughter is not a bad beginning for a friendship, and it is the best ending for one."

In bed.

The author is a Columbia College senior majoring in political science. He was a copy staffer on the 131st, 132nd, and 133rd boards, the humor editor for The Eye on the 132nd associate board, lead story editor for The Eye on the 133rd deputy board, and the editorial page editor on the 134th managing board.



Outdoing the First Amendment

BY DANIEL AMZALLAG

I fell in love with Columbia immediately upon my first campus tour. The tour guide described the Core Curriculum, the group passed a protest on College Walk, and I found myself agape at the extraordinary energy that flows through this campus. I already revel in free discourse and worshipped the First Amendment, and Columbia seemed like the ultimate expression of it. These days, I remain grateful beyond words for the laws that permit virtually any kind of speech at any time—and for a campus that puts its political freedoms into action. Lately, though, I've been thinking maybe we can do better. Having mastered our legal opportunities for freedom of speech, perhaps we can attain an even higher level of discourse. The challenge we face today is to organize a society based on a meaningful exchange of ideas rather than their mere promulgation.

Currently, organizations on differing sides promote their views in isolation and without communication. Student groups animate our university with campaigns for the causes they believe in, battling each other for the persuasion of administrators and fellow students. For this they deserve appreciation, as they consist of hard-working, earnest students seeking to make our community a better place. But in working to persuade decision-makers to adopt their reforms, opposing sides rarely discuss issues directly with each other. The political activity that enlivens our campus occurs only in separated strands of discourse—segregated elements of speech that seldom reach any synthesis. Because student groups so rarely confront one another with disagreement, there is almost no chance for their arguments to engage with each other. The tragedy of Columbia's discourse—at first appearing vibrantly expressive of free speech—lies in the forgone opportunities for proponents to learn and enrich their beliefs from one another.

Institutions that might mediate, impartially, among contrasting organizations are few and usually prejudiced. Many forums that claim to support dialogue premise their discussions on highly controversial ideas and remain hostile to having them challenged. A course from the Center for American Studies, for example, aims to explore "the role of conscious and unconscious racism, as well as community biases against the poor" in the American criminal justice system. A more open dialogue would have begun with an examination of the premise—whether or not such biases exist in the first place—instead of limiting the discussion to those who already agree with it. Similarly, some student groups claim to facilitate respectful dialogue but aim to address issues of structural oppression and privilege. They are hostile to disputes of their

premises, i.e., whether structural oppression exists and whether its remedies are appropriate. Their approaches circumscribe discourse within a shared reality, attracting only like-minded people and precluding exchanges of ideas that are fundamentally and meaningfully challenging.

Clearly, our university needs stronger mediator organizations—but maybe we can do even better than that. Maybe it is possible to achieve an environment in which differences confront each other voluntarily, in which organizations willingly engage with their opponents, and in which, as William Blake wrote, "Opposition is true friendship." Such interactions may already be frequent at Columbia on an individual basis, but among organizations they are exceedingly rare. For example, an alarming number of groups purport to represent objective notions of "justice" or "the public interest" and consequently spurn dialogue with others. Characterizing themselves as objectively and indisputably correct, they seek to advance their points of view without confronting others who disagree. But the very foundation of a pluralistic society is that individuals all hold different beliefs about what "justice" or "the public interest" comprise. The attitude of objective rectitude obstructs meaningful interactions among organizations, fostering a closed, intolerant field of discourse.

Blake envisioned a situation in which two parties respected each other's individuality so highly that their ideological opposition would constitute the most honest form of human relations. Applied to student groups, such a world would not require mediator institutions, as groups would be self-mediating. A shared embrace of all differences in opinion as equal would mean that student groups would willingly enter into dialogue with each other, fostering richer debates and more nuanced solutions. Even if decision-makers chose one side over the other, the reforms offered would be better informed and more carefully vetted, having engaged with and responded to opposition. Through these interactions, organizations would be wiser from experience and richer from understandings of multiple perspectives. Our campus's discourse would rise to permit all types of rhetoric—even, or perhaps especially, that which makes others feel uncomfortable, offended, or "unsafe." An education that trains groups to be self-regulating and a campus whose organizations eagerly seek engagement—that is perhaps the highest form of pluralistic society.

The author is a Columbia College senior majoring in English and political science. He was a deputy news editor on the 132nd deputy board and an opinion columnist in spring 2010.

V&T

PIZZERIA & RESTAURANT

Italian Food at Its Best

FULL MENU • PRIVATE PARTY ROOM

WE DELIVER • OPEN 7 DAYS

SIDEWALK DINING

Order online at: VTPIZZERIARESTAURANT.COM

TUESDAY NIGHT • 15% OFF W/ CUID (DINE-IN ONLY)

1024 Amsterdam (betw. 110-111 Sts.)

663-1708 • 666-8051

www.columbiaspectator.com

HUNGRY?

Feel like something NEW, DIFFERENT, EXOTIC...

Did you know— you're living in a CULINARY AMUSEMENT PARK?

Go to COLUMBIASPECTATOR.COM

Check out the new ONLINE DINING GUIDE

Being NUMBER ONE is nothing to celebrate.

This year, more than 172,000 people will be diagnosed with lung cancer. And more than 163,000 will die from the disease — making it America's NUMBER ONE cancer killer. But there is hope. New treatments are available and more are on the way. Help Lung Cancer Alliance shine a light on lung cancer and focus more attention on fighting this disease. Working together, we won't be number one.

NO MORE EXCUSES. NO MORE LUNG CANCER.

lungcanceralliance.org

EDEN

SALON & SPA

Full Service Salon for Men & Women

10% OFF FOR STUDENTS & STAFF w/ CUID... SENIORS TOO

New Offering: FACIAL THREADING

OPEN SEVEN DAYS

212.864.3720

1233 Amsterdam Avenue (between 120th & 121st Streets) BENEATH PLIMPTON HALL

Solutions to Previous Issue's Puzzle

6	1	8	4	3	5	7	9	2
2	9	4	6	7	1	3	5	8
3	7	5	2	9	8	6	4	1
7	2	9	5	6	3	8	1	4
4	6	1	8	2	9	5	3	7
8	5	3	1	4	7	9	2	6
5	4	6	3	8	2	1	7	9
1	8	7	9	5	4	2	6	3
9	3	2	7	1	6	4	8	5

su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9. That means that no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

			8	2		9
		4				
	2	5		3	7	1
4		3		5		
		7				9
	7	8	6			1
					7	
	9		8	3		

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED AD RATES:

\$8/00 per first 20 words.
25¢ each additional word.
Ad in all boldface \$4.00 extra.
All ads must be pre-paid.
2 business day deadline.
Call 854-9550 for information;
or fax ad to 854-9553.

APARTMENTS

SUNNY, LARGE 1 BR sublet. 114 St betw B'way & Amsterdam across from CU campus. Lease for rent stabilized apt avail June 30, 2012. Landlord will renovate and paint. Large kitch; unfurn or partially furn. 13 mo lease, \$2000/mo (neg). (908) 242-8158.
\$575 - SUNNY ROOM for rent in a 5 BR on 138 St & B'way. 1 block to the 1 train, 2 stops to 116th St. Laundry in bldg. AptShare212@gmail.com or (917) 836-6888.
1 BR APT, BIG KITCHEN. Excellent condition. Backyard. Close to transp and shopping. E 116 St. Rent \$1800. Call (646) 327-6511.

EDITING & TYPING

PROFESSIONAL EDITING by Columbia Ph.D. Dissertation and academic style expert (APA, Turabian, MLA, etc.). Typing services available. (877) 922-9422.

EGG DONOR

HEALTHY WOMEN 19-29:
NYC egg donors needed. Help someone create a family and be well compensated! Confidential. Apply at www.MyDonor.net
GIVING A GIFT. Receiving a gift. Earn up to \$60K (6 cycles at \$10K each). Help couples become parents through egg donation. Apply or learn more at www.fertilitybridges.com or apply@fertilitybridges.com
CONSIDER BECOMING an Egg Donor. Earn \$8000 if you qualify. The New England Fertility Institute, has one of the largest Egg Donor Programs in the tri-state area. If you are between the ages of 19 & 29, we invite you to contact our program for a personal interview and/or complete an application on line. Flexible hours and days for students. This is a great opportunity to earn extra dollars with a minimum commitment of time. Please contact us at: (203) 323-1947 or via email at: mwelch@nefertility.com and include your telephone number in all inquiries. All inquiries are confidential. www.nefertility.com

NEVER-BEFORE-PHOTOGRAPHED beautiful "hand model" sought for free-lance, budget-priced-watches ads on eBay and other auction sites. However...you must have (or start) your own support "staff"/"production" company, including photographer, nail polisher, whatever. No "professionals". This is for pre-Mother's Day Auction (M-Day is 5/8). A "great career starter" for a beautiful hand. Left or right. CU area, no travel. Send info and sample photo to: mnemonicshouse@hotmail.com. Hurry!

PSYCHOTHERAPY

PHYLLIS LOWINGER, LCSW
Experienced, sensitive, empathetic clinical social worker for help with relationships, school, career - w/specialties in infertility, adoption, 3rd party reproduction and parenting issues. Flexible fee. Located on the UWS. Call (212) 666-3400; email Phyllow@gmail.com

COLUMBIA SPECTATOR

FOUNDED 1877 • INDEPENDENT SINCE 1964

Reasons you should advertise in the

Columbia Daily Spectator...

• Your ad will be seen by as many as 60,000 students, faculty, staff, and neighborhood residents.

• Your ad will be distributed to more than 50 campus locations, including libraries, dormitories, and student and faculty centers, as well as throughout the Morningside Heights and Washington Heights neighborhoods in restaurants, stores, and streetcorner newsracks.

• Your ad will appear in one of the nation's premier college newspapers, an award winner for both design and content—and one of New York City's largest dailies.

Call (212) 854-9552 for display or (212) 854-9550 for classifieds.

Contact Information

The Columbia Daily Spectator, the nation's second-oldest college daily, is an independent, student-run newspaper published by the Spectator Publishing Company, Inc. for the Columbia University community.
The Managing Board of the Columbia Daily Spectator has sole authority for the content of the newspaper. All inquiries or complaints concerning that content should be directed to the Managing Board at the address below.
The Columbia Daily Spectator welcomes opinion submissions and letters to the editor from readers. Submissions and letters must include the author's name, telephone number, and Columbia affiliation if any. Readers may submit submissions and letters electronically by emailing opinion@columbiaspectator.com, or by sending hard copies to 2815 Broadway, New York, NY 10025.
Opinion submissions may not be less than 600 words and may not exceed 800 words; letters may not exceed 300 words and may not be signed by more than four persons. All submissions and letters may be edited for length and content.
Opinion submissions do not reflect the views of the Editorial Board.
The Columbia Daily Spectator is published Monday through Friday during the academic year except during examination and vacation periods.
Acceptance of an advertisement does not imply approval of policies of the advertiser. All rights reserved.
Spectator is free on campus. Limit one copy per reader please.
Office & Mailing Address:
2815 Broadway, Third Floor
New York, NY 10025
Advertising Director:
Dan Smulgan (212) 854-9552
Office Manager/Classified Advertising:
Ellen Lannon (212) 854-9550
Controller:
April Wang (212) 854-9550
Publisher: (212) 854-9549
News: (212) 854-9549
Editor-in-Chief: (212) 854-9549
Editorial/A&E: (212) 854-9549
Sports: (212) 854-9553
Fax: (212) 854-9553
Email: info@columbiaspectator.com
©2011 Spectator Publishing Company, Inc.
Spectator is published by the Spectator Publishing Company, Inc.
Aditya Mukherjee, President
Samuel E. Roth, Vice President
Michelle Cleary, Vice President

EGG DONOR NEEDED for same sex couple. \$15K-\$20K, + all expenses. Physician and attorney seek a well-rounded, healthy and intelligent woman between the ages of 21-27. Contact us through: info@aperfectmatch.com or call 1 (800) 264-8828.

HELP WANTED

MOBILE PAYMENTS and Promotions Start-Up seeking summer interns (June-Aug). Need developers, programmers, designers, and marketers/business developers to develop beta product and business plan. Monthly stipend available. Send resumes to chickman@mobiXP.com

WEBSITE ENTREPRENEUR

Established site needs business-minded writer/marketer with fresh ideas to enhance traffic and sales for generous percentage of profit. Email: jefrey@labelnewyork.com

DINOSAUR LOOKING FOR MAC/tech help. Hourly. Upper West Side. Refs. winstrathmann@gmail.com

POETRY EDITOR WANTED

Editorial assistance to a closet poet is needed. Any good poet with a MS in creative writing/poetry or equivalent will suffice. Compensation by the hour or per poem may be chosen. Call (212) 866-0016 or email amiya@ee.columbia.edu

FREE PIANO RECYCLING and moving. All NYC and vicinity. Free removal of all unwanted, used pianos in working condition. Non-working pianos and junk pianos removed and recycled as low as \$150. Pianos in 5-floor walk-ups are no problem. Your unwanted piano is our business. Grand pianos, baby grands, upright pianos, spinets and organs accepted. Fully equipped and experienced. Call Jay Fernando (646) 316-4442 direct. Also, estimates for other clean-outs of home and offices are available upon request. PROFESSIONAL PAINTING by experienced Painter call Jay at (212) 529-5293. Experienced painter available to work on small or large paint jobs. I can paint your whole apartment, 1 room or even just one wall. Fix up your, bedroom, living room, kitchen or bath with a fresh paint job and enjoy your place even more. Reasonable prices. Estimates and references available upon request (or can work by the hour).

PSYCHOTHERAPY

PHYLLIS LOWINGER, LCSW
Experienced, sensitive, empathetic clinical social worker for help with relationships, school, career - w/specialties in infertility, adoption, 3rd party reproduction and parenting issues. Flexible fee. Located on the UWS. Call (212) 666-3400; email Phyllow@gmail.com

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Given by 5 Milton or Shelley 10 2004 Best Actor 14 ___ lamp 15 Rocker's place 16 Top 17 Had too much 18 Comforting words 19 Midas competitor 20 Lawyer after too much coffee? 23 Military response 24 Came with 28 Bowie's scientist role in "The Prestige" 32 "I'm just ___ boy, I need no sympathy!" "Bohemian Rhapsody" 33 Bank worker that never takes time off 36 A day at the spa? 39 Snub, say 41 First U.S. multimillionaire 42 Draft status 43 George, Abe et al.? 46 Prime meridian skt. 47 Pianist Claudio 48 Ruby's spouse 50 Welcome site 53 Onetime "SCTV" head writer Harold 57 Place to find both parts of 20-, 30- and 43-Across 61 Gertz of "Still Standing" 64 Truth held to be self-evident 65 Riquefort hue 66 Israeli arms 67 Tubes on the table 68 Gas or elec. 69 Olympic VIPs 70 Newark's county 71 Chilly and wet

DOWN

1 Left the coop 2 Ham's medium 3 Printing extras

37 "My bad" 38 Addresses with dots 40 "Prew" evoker 44 Sunniest place on Earth, per Guinness 45 Cork's location 49 iPod accessory 51 Like losers' faces after a buzzer-beating shot 52 April concern 54 Island nation near Sicily 55 Trip at the chalet 56 Move furtively 58 Some reds, briefly 59 Actress Skye 60 Roosevelt's st. 61 Makeshift band instrument 62 Nitrogen-based dye 63 Day's beginning?

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

ACRID RYAN SLOG
SHERE AIRE CANE
SIDEPOCKET OPEN
ALS THREE DWELT
ULT HORSECOLLAR
LIARS CON SPY
TETE BAYONET
RECORDSLEEVES
DRILLED MAHI
ESO ADE EATON
LOBSTERTAIL SEA
IRATE HEMI DTS
DEMI DRESSSHIRT
ELAL DOMO HEREI
SYST STEP ASTER

xwordeditor@aol.com 04/28/11

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

14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71

SPERM DONOR

\$\$\$SPERM DONORS WANTED\$\$\$
Earn up to \$1200/mo and give the gift of family through California Cryobank's donor program. Convenient Midtown location. Apply online at: SPERMBANK.com

MISCELLANEOUS

GRADUATION PARTY, class seminar, laid back social, or any other special event, Rent out Haakon's Hall accommodations 50-185 persons please contact Haakon or James (212) 300-4166. james@haakonshallny.com
NOTE TO CU PRESIDENT Lee Bollinger: My very sincere best wishes on your coming "milestone" birthday. You asked provocative questions at the recent Global University Forum. I went home knowing much, much more. —hn
QUESTIONS FOR SUMMER reflection: How is being a Philatelist (stamp collector) like being a US Constitutional Lawyer? How might either or both connect with the written Chinese language? Email your thoughts to timeandtide@w.cn Prizes!

LOOKING FOR WITNESSES to a pedestrian being struck by a motorcycle on November 17, 2010 at B'way & 116 St, especially a woman who assisted the pedestrian to the curb and later spoke with the police. Please email rkass@sierraclaim.com or call (201) 207-3004.

FREE PIANO RECYCLING and moving. All NYC and vicinity. Free removal of all unwanted, used pianos in working condition. Non-working pianos and junk pianos removed and recycled as low as \$150. Pianos in 5-floor walk-ups are no problem. Your unwanted piano is our business. Grand pianos, baby grands, upright pianos, spinets and organs accepted. Fully equipped and experienced. Call Jay Fernando (646) 316-4442 direct. Also, estimates for other clean-outs of home and offices are available upon request. PROFESSIONAL PAINTING by experienced Painter call Jay at (212) 529-5293. Experienced painter available to work on small or large paint jobs. I can paint your whole apartment, 1 room or even just one wall. Fix up your, bedroom, living room, kitchen or bath with a fresh paint job and enjoy your place even more. Reasonable prices. Estimates and references available upon request (or can work by the hour).

Three years of Spec Sports memories

LOPEZ from back page

of my crap than just about anyone else. You're a great friend and a true Spec Sports writer. Thursday nights wouldn't have been the same without you.

To the members of brahal-la, couldn't pick a better group of awesome, crazy, stupid, messy, meat-heady, chill, lazy, loyal friends.

To the third Columbia Lopez, Douglas, keep working hard, make it rain, and do the Lopez name proud.

To my family, thanks for all the support. In particular, thanks for reading my columns and thinking they're the best things since sliced bread.

With that taken care of, the final chapter of "The Tailgating Tales" comes to an end. Thanks for reading.

Bart Lopez is a Columbia College senior majoring in economics-mathematics. sports@columbiaspectator.com

In last nonconference games, Columbia falls twice to crosstown rival Fordham

BY TREVOR COHEN
Spectator Staff Writer

The final midweek matchups for an already melancholy Columbia team ended in more disappointment on Wednesday against an old crosstown foe.

"We weren't able to put complete games together as well as we had over the first part of spring break and earlier in the season," senior pitcher Dan Bracey said on Monday of the Lions' struggles in the second half of the season in Ancient Eight play. "I'd say that's kind of the way the season broke down for us."

The theme persisted on Wednesday, when, despite a renewed spark from the Lions' bats—something they sorely lacked in last weekend's three losses to Princeton—they could not keep up with a prolific offensive display from Fordham, which outscored Columbia 16-8 over the twin bill.

Just like in Monday's second loss to the Tigers, which officially took Columbia (17-21, 7-9 Ivy) out of contention for the division title, the Lions scored first in game one against the Rams but let their lead slip away. Freshman

Zack Tax, who has been a solid reliever for the Light Blue this year, made his first collegiate start and was almost flawless through three innings, allowing just a hit and a walk and keeping the game scoreless.

The Lions took the lead in the top of the fourth on three straight extra base hits.

Alexander Aurricchio sparked the rally, rebounding from a 1-7 performance at the plate on Monday to make a contribution. After Jason Banos walked with one out, Aurricchio tripled him home and came around himself a batter later on Enmanuel Cabreja's double down the line in left. Next up was Alex Ferrera, who sent a 3-2 pitch over the left-center wall on a hop for a ground-rule double.

In typical midweek fashion, head coach Brett Borette limited his starters' innings and sent in junior Harrison Slutsky to relieve Tax in the fourth. Slutsky didn't have the same luck on the mound, relinquishing the team's early lead. He worked himself out of a bit of a jam after giving up a two-out double and walk, throwing a third strike past Fordham's Joe Russo for the final out. That was the final out he would record,

though. After left fielder Stephen McSherry reached on an fielding error by sophomore Eric Williams at first, Slutsky gave up a hit, walk, and hit in succession and was pulled from the game with the bases loaded, having already surrendered an unearned run. All three runners that Slutsky left came home to score, all credited to the righty. After reliever David Speer secured the first out on a strikeout, he gave up two hits before ending the inning on a 4-6-3 double play.

The Rams tacked on two more the next inning with four straight hits against Speer with two outs to go up 6-3, a lead they maintained until the finish.

In the second game, Fordham scored twice in each of the first

two innings against Columbia senior starter Max Lautmann. The Lions threatened to pull even, scoring three in the third on a two-run blast from rookie catcher Mike Fischer and an RBI grounder by sophomore right fielder Dario Pizzano that brought in junior Jon Eisen, who played second base in game two.

Fordham pulled away in the bottom of the inning, though, aided by poor fielding by the Lions. The little-used junior Anthony Potter, who made just his third start of the season in game two at first base, committed two errors in the inning, first throwing away a potential double-play ball with one out and one on, and later making a fielding error with two runners

in scoring position. Eisen also dropped a fly ball, Lautmann hit a batter to load the bases, and sophomore reliever Ricky Kleban threw a wild pitch that allowed a run to score. In all, the Rams plated six runs in the inning to go up 10-3. Columbia scored two in the top of the next inning, but could manage no more.

The losses further reflect the disparity between this year's Lions team and last year's, which went 14-6 in the Ancient Eight to win the division easily. Last season, Columbia swept its double-header against Fordham.

The Lions still have a chance to pull out a second-place finish in the Lou Gehrig Division when they play 8-8 Penn this weekend.

Asthmatics Needed for Research Study

Visits and compensation:

- Completing screening visit: \$50
- Completing study visit and bronchoscopy: \$200
- Completing blood draw two days after bronchoscopy: \$50

Please call the Department of Genetic Medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College for more information

646.962.2672

IRB approved protocol: 0005004440

Dizzy's Club *Coca-Cola*

student nights

\$10 Cover. \$5 Menu.
Complimentary beverages provided by
The Coca-Cola Company

MAY 4 JUILLIARD JAZZ QUINTET
MAY 18 THE MUSIC OF CLIFFORD JORDAN
JUN 8 JOE LOVANO NONET

*Attend all events for your chance to win special prizes.
Valid student ID required*

jalc.org/studentpromotions

Find Us On

YouTube

Photo courtesy of The Frank Driggs Collection



looking for a place can be SCARY





homingCloud.com

wants to help. Happier, not broker...

Give the Gift of LIFE and Help Make Miracles Happen...

Imagine how rewarding it must feel to help someone achieve their dreams.

Become an Egg Donor and help infertile couples have the baby they have been longing for.

You can earn up to \$60,000 for 6 cycles with Fertility Bridges clients.



Apply at:
[www.FertilityBridges.com/egg donors](http://www.FertilityBridges.com/egg_donors)

Or call:
312.794.7857

You can make a profound difference in the life of another.

FAIRWAY

LIKE NO OTHER MARKET®

2328 12th Ave, NY (Corner of 131st St.)
212.234.3883
8am-11pm daily
Entrance across from waterfront park at 125th St.

FREE PARKING WHILE YOU SHOP!


Use your **Flex Card** for **5% Savings**
Please go to aisles 5 and 7 at the Uptown Fairway.

Care Packages and Gift Baskets
available online, www.FairwayMarket.com

Take **Columbia University Shuttle, Blue Line** to Stop #10

1 125th St. Stop

R&VP NOT needed!



Master your own Royal Celebration

WE'LL SHOW YOU HOW...

Bloody good British grub really does exist!

Scones (ea) **\$1.49**
On sale from April 29-May 5, 2011

Devon Cream.
The perfect complement!



Proper Tea
Hundreds of teas to choose from. Loose, herbal, floral and blends from all points of the globe. Yes, PG Tips and Twinings are here too!!

Low (afternoon) Tea is all about manners, good graces and lace. First, you'll need to set a proper table, a "low" one, dressed-up frilly with flowers, china and crystal. Offer tea, honey, berries, dainty little finger sandwiches, shortbread cookies and of course, Fairway baked-fresh scones and Devon cream. It's spot-on!

SEE LOPEZ, page 7