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CAROL KIM / FOR SPECTATOR

GOING GLOBAL | Andronico Luksic, vice chairman of Banco de Chile, speaks at a ceremony announcing Columbia's new center in Chile.

Two global centers slated as plans for Kazakhstan fade

BY MELISSA VON MAYRHAUSER
Columbia Daily Spectator

Columbia will open two more global centers this school year, but plans for another center have been put on hold. Administrators say the University is still developing strategies for collaborating research among centers and involving undergraduates in the University's growing network of international outposts.

In addition to a global center in Santiago, Chile—which was launched at a ceremony on Tuesday—the University will officially open international outposts in Nairobi, Kenya and Istanbul, Turkey within the next six months, according to Vice President for Global Centers Ken Prewitt. Columbia already has centers in Beijing, Paris, Mumbai, and Amman, in an ongoing initiative to further Columbia's global presence with satellite research facilities.

There are also plans to start a center in Rio de Janeiro, but momentum for a center in Kazakhstan—something administrators have been discussing since late last year—has ground to a halt.

"There was a major donor who was interested in [Kazakhstan], and that conversation is still ongoing, it just didn't materialize," Prewitt said. "We are hoping that that donor will reengage this year."

But even if Kazakhstan becomes the location of Columbia's ninth global center, finding ways to engage undergraduates in the centers has been no easy task for administrators.

"We hope undergraduates will engage with us [in our blogs] and start arguing with us," said Prewitt. "I'm going to start a blog again as soon as we get the site up on the question of whether universities should start thinking about a fifth year."

The global centers will be open to students from all levels of study, but Prewitt said he hopes to reach out to undergraduates online and through programs specialized to their interests, possibly an oft-discussed fifth-year study abroad program.

This summer, Columbia offered internship programs in three of the locations, as well as language, science, and architecture classes at the Amman center, and the Paris center is currently accepting applications for an undergraduate research program. But even as these programs get started, the global center team has been working to acquire the monetary, legal, and administrative means to work in each country.

"These are offices, basically, that make things happen," Prewitt said. "Look, there are a lot of barriers to working overseas. ... You just can't suddenly pop up and say, 'Guess what, I want to open up a global center and I want to rent space.'"

Columbia recently reached an agreement with the

SEE GLOBAL, page 2

Columbia holds onto 4th in nat'l rankings

US News & World Report places Alma Mater just behind HYP

BY JORDAN FREISLEBEN AND COLE RAINEY
Columbia Daily Spectator

For the second year in a row, Columbia University was ranked fourth by US News & World Report in its annual National University rankings. Columbia has been climbing national rankings for several years—in 2008, the University was ranked 10th.

Interim Dean of Columbia College James Valentini said that Columbia's spot in the rankings was a great present in his second week as dean.

"We're probably higher than fourth," he said. "We're on the rise."

Valentini said he was especially proud to see that Columbia came out on top for faculty resources, a category that includes class size, quality of instruction, and accessibility to students.

US News evaluates universities based on many criteria, including endowment, acceptance rate, student-faculty ratio, and financial resources.

"Everybody's going to have their own ranking based on what environment and what curriculum suits you," Jocelyn Bohn, CC '15, said. "Just because Harvard's number one doesn't mean that their community vibe is what's best for you."

Dean of Undergraduate Admissions Jessica Marinaccio wrote in a statement to Spectator that the rankings should not impact anyone's decision to apply or not apply to Columbia.

"While we are aware that students will use these rankings as a guide, we hope they will also visit our campus, talk with current students, faculty, staff, and alumni, and fully explore our academic and extracurricular opportunities to assess whether Columbia is the right fit for them," Marinaccio said.

Several students said they don't put much stock in US News' rankings.

"US News & World Report judges things on a completely arbitrary and superficial level. I think if someone finds significance to some kind of difference in being 7th or 4th, then they probably don't appreciate the instruction they're getting–it's like judging someone just based on their SAT scores," Josh Arky, CC '13, said.

> **"We're probably higher than fourth. We're on the rise."**
>
> *—James Valentini, Interim Dean of Columbia College*

James Crandall, CC '15, said he doesn't believe that the rankings have any tangible effect on the quality of education at the University.

"It's about the prestige ... especially when you're applying for a job," he said.

Last year, Columbia College's acceptance rate dipped to a record low of 6.4 percent. Some students said they believed the low acceptance rate would improve the

SEE RANKING, page 2

EcoReps roll out new residential program

BY AMANDA EVANS
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Columbia University EcoReps are hitting the floor with a new program that will attempt to disperse environmental coordinators throughout residence halls. EcoReps members say they hope to recruit enough "ECOs," Environmental Community Organizers, to place them on most floors of most dorms, so they can answer questions that students may have about recycling and living sustainably.

"In the past EcoReps has had committees. We are switching this year to be project-oriented, and those who are accepted to EcoReps can choose to be involved in the ECO liaison program," Aida Conroy, CC '13 and EcoReps president, said.

EcoReps, a student-run group that organizes events and starts initiatives to increase sustainability options on campus, started six years ago and is run through Housing Services.

Conroy said the program would begin with a focus on first-year dorms—specifically Carman because of the addition of blue recycling bins to all rooms.

The number of dorms and floors that will have liaisons depends on how many applications are received, said Conroy.

"It's an appealing program for people who are interested but can't devote five hours," Conroy said. "It's at minimum a one-hour commitment, the main requirements are just one study break a month and being able to answer any questions residents may have about tap water, energy, and light usage."

Conroy and Louis Smith, CC '13 and co-president of EcoReps, had worked on a pilot program last year in John Jay, where they held study sessions, gave out organic snacks, and had discussions with people about green initiatives on campus. Conroy said that they found many students were very disconnected from environmentalism on campus.

> **"It is easy to live sustainably, it is just that people don't know how. We would like to change that."**
>
> *—Aida Conroy, EcoReps President*

As long as the liaisons are proactive, Matt White, CC '15, said he believes residential communities will become more eco-friendly.

SEE ECOREPS, page 2

Teachers College closes bookstore to free up space

BY EMILY NEIL
Spectator Staff Writer

LILA NEISWANGER / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CLOSED FOR BUSINESS | The Teachers College Bookstore on 120th Street and Amsterdam closed over the summer.

The Teachers College Bookstore shuttered its doors four months ago, a move that administrators hope will bring TC students closer to the University's main campus and help alleviate the school's space shortage.

"Senior leadership made the determination, and the decision, that it was no longer financially viable to operate a stand-alone bookstore at any site, or that particular site," said Jim Gardner, the TC associate vice president for external affairs. "Affecting this decision was our recognition that we needed more office space for our faculty, and we needed to bring more of our academic operations ... closer to the core of campus."

As for plans for the empty space at 120th Street and Amsterdam, Gardner said it will be filled with administrative offices of some sort, to ensure that classrooms and faculty offices remain at the center of the TC campus.

"Whatever moves to that vacant space will be administrative space, because that location we regard as the perimeter of campus," Gardner said.

Although the individual TC bookstore is now gone, Gardner said that Teachers College now coordinates with the Columbia University bookstore, located in Lerner, so that TC students can buy both textbooks and TC paraphernalia at the main University bookstore.

"The only thing that has been lost, if you want to call it lost, is a matter of convenience," Gardner said, adding that he has yet to hear complaints from students.

TC students have said they have mixed feelings about the bookstore's closing.

"I buy my textbooks online," Kathryn Minas, a new TC student, said, adding that she probably would not have utilized the TC bookstore if it was still there.

Another new TC student, Leah Harrell, has encountered difficulty with getting textbooks for her classes.

"There was a miscommunication between Columbia bookstore and Teachers College, and only certain [TC] classes have textbooks available at the Columbia bookstore," Harrell said, although she added that she most likely would have purchased her books online rather than at the Columbia bookstore, even if they had been available there.

Jennifer Herard, another TC student, expressed concern about losing the bookstore as a representative display of TC's identity.

"I didn't really buy books there, but I thought it was nice to have our own bookstore," she said, adding that it was a good place to take visitors when they came to look at the school.

Anna Park, a first-year doctoral student at TC, said she was a little sad to see the store go, as she considers it a TC landmark but said the school's space crunch is a more important problem.

"I definitely think we need more classroom space," she said, adding that one of her classes was held in a "closet between staircases," where all the desks were left-handed.

Herard felt that having a more tightly knit campus

SEE TC, page 2

OPINION, PAGE 4

Engaging Homer
Wushu inspires student to reconsider the Iliad.

Crappy campus community
An urban environment is not the most ideal.

SPORTS, PAGE 6

Fighting till the last second

After going a full season without an overtime win, the veteran Columbia men's soccer team has a pair already this year.

EVENTS

Nuremburg, from "Atrocities" to "Genocide"
A film on the documentation of the unprecedented trials that convicted Nazi war criminals.
Buell Hall, 6-8 p.m.

A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Poverty
A discussion with authors Esther Duflo and Abhijit Banerjee, moderated by Jeffrey Sachs, the director of the Earth Institute.
301 Uris Hall, 6-7:30 p.m.

WEATHER

Today	Tomorrow
84°/65°	72°/49°

FILE PHOTO

Students have mixed reactions to ranking

RANKING from front page

school's ranking, which is just behind Harvard, Princeton, and Yale.

"Didn't we have a lower acceptance rate than Yale and Princeton? So shouldn't that affect our rankings with them?" Rob Cornacchia, CC '15, asked.

Some international students said that the rankings informed their perceptions of American universities.

"I feel proud. I didn't think Columbia could be compared to Harvard, Yale, or Princeton. I'm from Korea, and there, there's the stereotype that Harvard, Yale, and Princeton are the top three and no one can be compared to them, so I'm satisfied that we're number four," Sung Hwan, CE '14, said.

Erica Bower, CC '14, said that she's very proud of the school's ranking.

"It's nice to know that we're at a school of that caliber," she said. "Once you factor in that we're in New York, I think we're number one."

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Prewitt hopes to reach undergrads through interactive blog, research opportunities

GLOBAL from front page

government of Kenya to open a center in Nairobi, most likely in March. This will be a regional center—students and faculty members based in Nairobi will conduct research in countries across the continent, especially within rural village areas.

"We're working in 14 countries in Africa," Belay Begashaw, director of the Nairobi center, said. "We do some sort of development research work on village levels in many of these countries. We work with 600,000-plus communities directly so far, but starting from next year, this number will be increased to 10 million."

Researchers at the Nairobi center said they plan to share their work with African policymakers.

"We are synthesizing information, experiences, and putting it in such a way that it can be palatable to policy makers and communicate to government ministers, prime ministers, and presidents," Begashaw said.

Begashaw said that this new model for advising policymakers, in addition to Columbia's previous work in Africa through the Earth Institute, the School of Public Health, and the School of Social Work, is what convinced Kenyan leaders to welcome Columbia.

"They have been getting their advisers from organizations like the World Bank, IMF, and others, but over time, African leaders are realizing that none of these organizations are politically neutral," he said. "So they tend to incline towards hearing from apolitical systems like the university systems."

The on-campus opening event for Columbia's global center in Istanbul will take place in October and will be followed by an official opening gathering in Istanbul on Nov. 1. The Istanbul center will focus, at least at first, on journalism and sustainable development.

Administrators envision a network of global centers that will allow for communication among students and professors from myriad corners of the world. Ipek Cem Taha, the interim director of the Istanbul center, said students and faculty in Istanbul might work most closely with their counterparts in Amman and Paris.

"Amman and Paris would initially be the main links, both due to geography and also due to Turkey's shared heritage and history, in Europe and the Middle East," Cem Taha said.

Prewitt pointed to how the centers in Istanbul and Paris could communicate about the European Union and the centers in Istanbul and Amman could share research about the Arab Spring.

It remains to be seen how the centers will communicate with one another, but administrators imagine a system in which centers will freely share information through video-chatting, monthly online forums, and the global centers' website.

"We need to see how it will all link, as it is not just a two-way communication, but a communication process with multiple ports," Cem Taha said. "In a way it is unchartered territory. In another way it is learning at its best."

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TC students, like others, mostly buy books online

TC from front page

would be beneficial, but that there are changes beyond the bookstore closure that the administration must make for this to occur.

"I feel like we are kind of isolated here. We don't really have many benefits from the main Columbia campus," Herard said, mentioning printing quotas in particular.

Park said that she hopes additional trips to the main campus will encourage more communication between schools.

"I feel like if we share resources, it will be beneficial for everyone," she said.

Gardner said he hopes that the decision to close the standalone bookstore is one that will help change the sense of isolation some TC students describe.

"We always put the needs and concerns of our students and faculty first, and we made this decision with them in mind," Gardner said. "It's about creating the synergy, when the faculty and students are closer together, and the spaces are contiguous."

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Everyone always remembers the first time

SHABAN from back page

watching a player on his debut is like meeting him for the first time. It's their first impression of you, and you'll both be sure to remember it. A dream debut that gave me chills watching was Frederico Macheda's for Manchester United. A 17-year-old kid came off the bench to score an injury-time winner and put his team on top of the table, from which they never looked back. A nightmare debut that still makes me feel sorry for him when I think about it was Jonathan Woodgate's for Real Madrid. An own goal and red card marked a day he wishes he could forget.

In the past couple years here, we've been lucky enough to witness some memorable debuts of Columbia athletes. On Halloween 2009, our quarterback, Sean Brackett, started in place of the injured Millicent Olawale and lit up Yale for three touchdowns on his first time out, only to see the Bulldogs steal a victory by one point in the last minute. Last year, I witnessed Steve Frankowski's range for the first time when he nailed five 3-pointers in seven minutes and finished as the top scorer against Maryland-Eastern Shore in the men's basketball home opener. An impressive full debut season belonged to men's soccer's Henning Sauerbier, so much that he finished as Ivy League Rookie of the Year.

This year will again mark the debuts of a new class of Columbia student-athletes. You really shouldn't miss the chance to see some memorable moments. And because I'm shameless I'm going to plug our game tomorrow night. Come to Baker on Thursday at 7 p.m. to see your men's soccer team take on Fordham!

As for my debut column, I hope I left you satisfied. I hope this wasn't something you just picked up one time, one afternoon from a stand. And I hope to see you again soon (not too soon, though—wait on it for about two weeks).

Ronnie Shaban is a senior in the School of Engineering and Applied Science majoring in mechanical engineering. He is a member of the varsity men's soccer team.

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EcoReps liasons to teach sustainability from dorms

ECOREPS from front page

"If you have a person set a group of standards for being environmentally friendly and have someone monitor it, it'll work as long as they are dedicated to being able to enforce the guidelines," White said.

Sam Liu, CC '15, however, said he doesn't think people will go to the liaisons.

"I think people assume they know how to recycle so probably won't really ask them any questions or for much help," Liu said.

Conroy said that she and her team are optimistic about encouraging environmentalism.

"It is easy to live sustainably, it is just that people don't know how," Conroy said. "We would like to change that."

Alex Ge and Grant Yuan contributed reporting.

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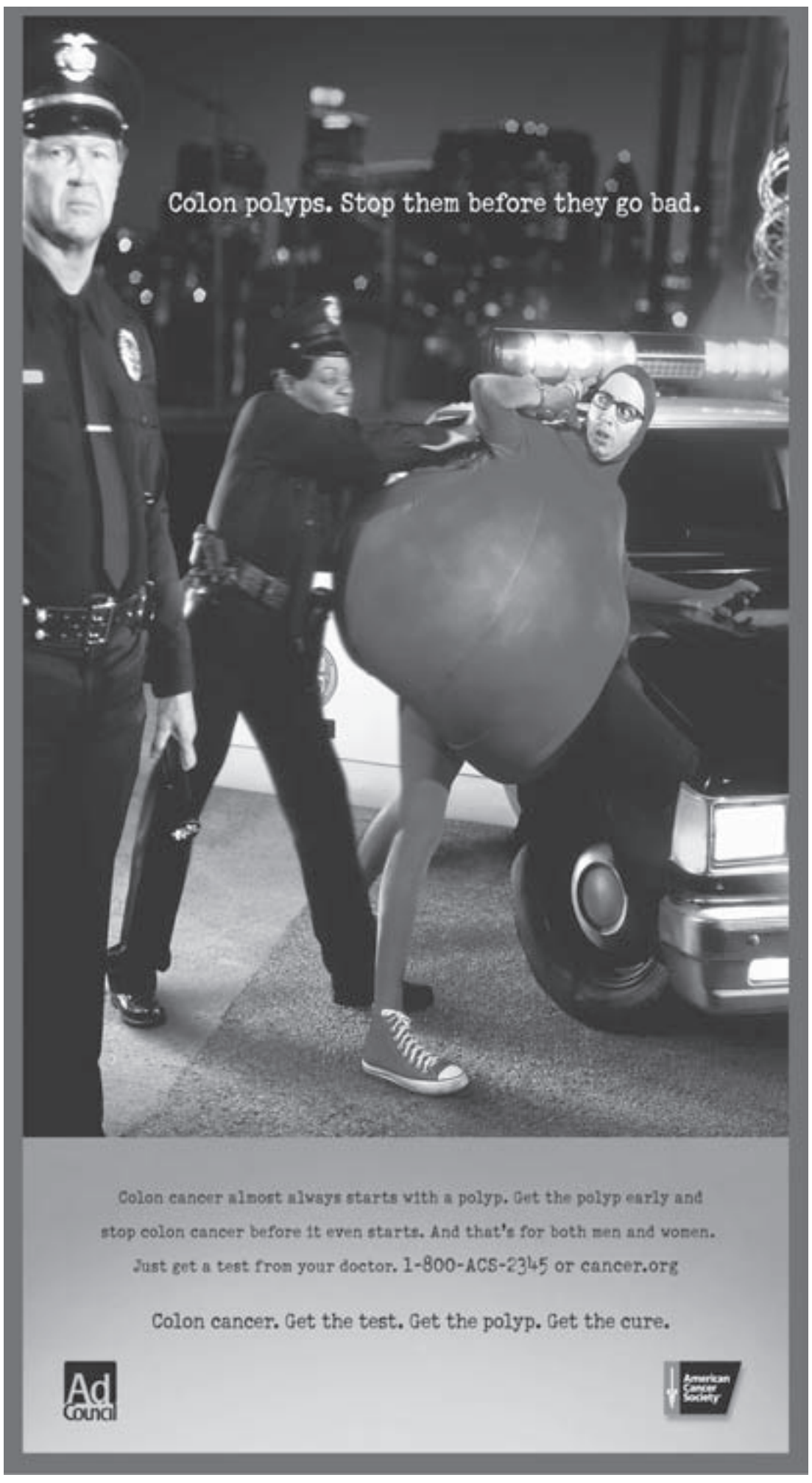

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Lonely Lions

PAUL HSIAO

While our former dean hosted "Tea with Dean Moody-Adams," she lamented that one of the biggest challenges Columbia faces relative to other schools is the apathy of its alumni. In her opinion, the alumni's apathy is due to the lack of support undergraduates felt and feel during their time here. To paraphrase our outgoing dean: alumni like their universities, but they love their colleges.

We may not do so well in terms of happiness, but the same Daily Beast ranked us number one in terms of stress.

This was not apparent until I visited another university. While walking around campus, I noticed that the students were happy: they were walking (not running) to class, they had smiles on their faces, and a couple of them came up to me and introduced themselves saying that they hadn't seen me before. Maybe I am exaggerating, but it was odd.

After I came back to Columbia, I realized that I was all too used to the "Columbian indifference": people on their smartphones (I'm certainly guilty as charged) and third lattes of the day, with smiles reserved for networking. Jaded? Possibly. Though we rank fourth in the country in terms of the best colleges, it came as no surprise to me that good ol' Alma Mater wasn't even ranked in the Daily Beast's list of the happiest colleges in America. Columbia needs to focus on the cohesiveness of its undergraduate body with the faculty, administration, and University as a whole at this turning point in its history.

I transferred to Columbia from schools that were polar opposites on the happiness scale: one was a school-spirit-y prep school where students went to pep rallies even if they weren't interested in sports, and on the jaded end was school in Maryland that, in my experience, oozed negativity to the point that transferring was the only option I had for maintaining my sanity. Columbia was somewhere in the middle—it has proud individual students but rarely a unified community. To me, Columbia and its students were a pragmatic sort: people were never "happy" but were "satisfied."

I was told that: "When you come to Columbia, you'll find a lot of things to complain about." The (perceived) student and administration divide, the chance of food poisoning while eating at John Jay, the fact that the undergraduate class is split into four, the fact that stress is something to be proud of, the fact that our most famous alumnus refuses to acknowledge our existence, and the fact that we are one of the "forgotten Ivies" (read: not HYP) and have a chip on our shoulders as a result, are just a few examples.

On an individual level, work and stress and all its derivatives are supposed to toughen up the average Columbian with the logic that what doesn't kill you makes you stronger: John Jay food will toughen your stomach, Socrates said (I think) that work is done best when it produces a result rather than reputation, and our boy in the White House isn't doing too hot right now. We may not do so well in terms of happiness, but the same Daily Beast ranked us number one in terms of stress.

A large part of this culture has to do with being in a city—specifically New York City. It's not a coincidence that in the top 25 happiest schools, none of them are in big urban environments. It seems as if happiness is tied to community and that's where Columbia stumbles.

Perhaps Columbia is a victim of its own success–a rigorous academic environment may serve as a jungle to each of the student-lions of Columbia. But remember, though the Lion may be fierce, noble, and brave, it is constantly in competition with the other animals to stay at the top.

The author is a Columbia College senior majoring in Economics. He is a multimedia associate for the Eye.

Engage with the Iliad

LAURA BOOTH

For some freshman, myself included, the Core was one of Columbia's most powerful attractions. As an applicant, I read about partaking in this continuing tradition and looked forward to getting to know my fellow classmates over discussions of our first assignment, Homer's "Iliad."

But my experience, and the experience of other Core-enthused freshman, has not, for the most part, been so constructive. Instead, we have found reading one of the great masterpieces of Western literature to be so boring a task, so deficient in the sensation of grandeur we had hoped for, that many of us threw up our hands and tossed the book aside. I think that our frustration with the "Iliad" stems from our belief that, like more contemporary genres, the gratification of reading it would be instant. We assume that no more is required of us as readers than to simply slog through the story before reaping the benefits of its message.

I think that our frustration with the Iliad stems from our belief that, like more contemporary genres, the gratification of reading it would be instant.

Some of this impatience can be expected from a group of people who knows the story of the "Iliad" cursorily through the blockbuster, "Troy." Despite its many inaccuracies, the movie, with its visual depictions of battles and purposeful casting, has a certain visceral appeal to audiences that students might claim the book lacks.

I was surprised to find another connection to the "Iliad" during NSOP week's Performance Showcase, when one act in particular caught my eye.

The Wushu group's art, according to the Chinese Students Club's website, "is primarily a performing art that emphasizes speed, power, flexibility, balance, and looking unbelievably good. The history of Wushu traces back to the early days of the People's Republic of China when the leaders decided to try to unify the hundreds of styles of kung fu that existed back then." The relevant part of the routine featured two male performers silently but violently arguing over one of the female members. The rush of breath amongst audience members was audible, the mounting tension palpable as the two male fighters sparred, with one eventually earning the victory.

It may not seem obvious, but the Wushu's routine, which evoked such a potent response in all of us, essentially tells the same story as Homer's epic narrative. The Iliad is, at its heart, the story of Paris and Meneláos' battle over the beautiful Helen. Although the plot divulges the details of other characters, many of those are also centered on women-based conflicts. Achilles, for example, refuses to take part in the war for most of the book because Agamemnon takes his prize girl, Brisêis. While such objectification of women could be considered offensive from a modern perspective, it is also secondary to the element that makes these battles exciting: heroic conflict.

Based on these examples, I think our appreciation of "Troy" and the Wushu performance and our simultaneous irritation with the "Iliad" has less to do with the differences in their subject matter and more to do with our previously mentioned impatience as an audience. Again, we know the story, and perhaps this colors our vision of the book—it seems a simple enough tale, and shouldn't take more than 500 pages to explicate.

But such impatience isn't justified in the context of this great work. There is more to the "Iliad" than its admittedly dry prose, and its sometimes difficult, name-heavy passages. As we discussed in my first Literature Humanities class, the "Iliad" as an epic poem was once part of a vast oral tradition that has, miraculously, survived into the present. While "Troy" is part of a new trend in retelling epics via film and the Wushu's performance gave us a brief look into the age-old traditions of China, the "Iliad" gives us something deeper than the instantly rewarding emotional reaction these genres provide. It gives us an extensive description of heroic conflict but requires that we are willing to participate in order to be satisfied. And this was always the purpose of the Core as I understood it: to enable students to engage with the past by using it to understand the present.

So maybe the 500 plus pages could be exciting if only we helped them along. And if it takes picturing Brad Pitt as Achilles, so be it.

The author is a Columbia College first-year.

THUTO DURKAC SOMO

Keep the pages

AMANDA GUTTERMAN

The Far Side of the Familiar

The buzzword in government this season is "austerity," a term I associate for some reason with rationed portions of chocolate and eggs, of meat packed into jars, and the invention of spam. But last week as the House reconvened after summer recess, Nancy Pelosi and John Boehner pulled what appeared to be the "austerest" move of all: cancelling the House's page program. I think the program is crucial in that the students it graduates have a clearer vision of the democratic process, allowing them to inform, enrich, and properly disillusion their college communities.

The page program in the House has existed in some form almost since the legislature's inauguration in 1789 allowing high school students the opportunity to work directly with their representatives. Pages took notes, carried messages, opened doors, fastened overcoats, and awakened napping members of Congress before an important vote. In the U.S. capitol shooting incident of 1954, pages helped rescue several wounded representatives. Congressional shootouts aside, this set of experiences is undoubtedly a formative one. Illustrious graduates of the page program include numerous members of Congress and incidentally, Bill Gates. (The clerk's office confirmed that pages have attended Columbia, though I couldn't get them to release the names for my article.)

Long story short, the program costs $5 million in taxpayer dollars. On the other hand, President Obama is hoping to pass a job creation bill worth $447 billion. As far as austerity measures go, $5 million is a drop in the bucket. No rations, no spam. And furthermore, wealthy ex-pages have offered to pitch in to sponsor the program—to no avail. It turns out there is an altogether different reason the program was cancelled, and it has very little to do with budget cuts.

Ex-page and law professor Jonathan Turley offered the explanation on NPR: "Every ten or twenty years, we have some member [of Congress] who tries to molest or proposition a page." Turley's statement has never felt truer than now, in the wake of the Mark Foley and Anthony Weiner scandals. In her New York Times op-ed, Maureen Dowd wrote a whimsical farewell to the pre-pedophilic Age of Innocence when 16 to 18 year-olds were safe on the floor of Congress. But she missed the real question: if we can't trust U.S. Representatives with college- and pre-college-aged kids, how can we trust them to run our country?

The answer is that we can't, and ironically, that is all the more reason why we need pages in the House. Let me explain. Though I was never a page in Congress, living in Washington D.C. gave me the opportunity to visit the Capitol several times and witness congressional debates in person. If not for that experience, I would be utterly unable to imagine what is going on in government these days. When you read that Congress is in "gridlock," you (or at least I, past tense) imagine a crowded floor full of representatives locked in heated debate. I envisioned something like the Roman Senate, with everyone fairly old and wise and possibly wearing togas. But this couldn't be further from the truth.

When I visited Congress, if not for the bicamerally huge white building, I would've thought I'd gotten off the bus at the wrong stop. An important vote over a tax bill was scheduled for that afternoon, but the floor of the House of Representatives was almost completely empty. A congressman tottered up to the podium and read notes off a piece of paper into the microphone. No one asked him any questions. Another congressman, opposing the bill, took the stage and read his prescripted lines. Of the few people in the room, no one seemed to be listening, preparing to respond, or taking notes, except for the lonely stenographer.

Cancelling the page program dismisses the last vestige of innocence, of tradition, of the illusion that the House works in the way we imagined.

The most important part of that day was not that Congress struck me as particularly un-sexy. It was the lingering feeling that the democratic process has decayed. Gone is the era of passionate debate that might change anyone's mind. That day the representatives were probably in their home states, selling themselves to their constituents for the price of another term—selling themselves as powerful voices in their legislative body. But no one there seemed active or engaged to me—members skipped the debate entirely and cast their votes remotely. And that, I think, is precisely what high school and college kids need to see.

Cancelling the page program dismisses the last vestige of innocence, of tradition, of the illusion that the House works in the way we imagined. What we need is not an austerity measure, but a healthy dose of disillusionment. Otherwise how can we expect it to change in the future? If Gates or one of his friends will cough up the $5 million, there's every reason to keep the page program—on the house.

Amanda Gutterman is a Columbia College junior majoring in English. The Far Side of the Familiar *runs alternate Wednesdays.*

STAFF EDITORIAL

Shop 'til you Drop

A degree of chaos and confusion is only to be expected in the first few weeks of the semester. Courses that we signed up for in the spring are overbooked or unexciting, classroom doors bang distractingly open and shut throughout lecture.

Most undergraduates struggle to find spots in the best classes, evaluate the workload, and judge professors from the first few sessions. Armed only with reviews on CULPA and incomplete course descriptions, students are often forced to over-register for classes and then drop them during the add/drop period. While registration will never be trouble-free, there are some administrative changes that could streamline the process.

While many of our peer institutions—including Yale, Brown, and Harvard—have formal shopping periods that allow students to attend classes before registration, Columbia has no such policy. Instead, we must register for classes and attend a lecture or two to receive the syllabus. The problem with this system is that it leads students to over-register for classes, taking spots from students who are fully committed or need the class to fulfill a requirement. The state of constant flux as class sizes change dramatically over the first few weeks make it hard for both students and teachers alike to settle in.

Logistical impediments make a formal shopping period at Columbia unlikely. But with better information including in-depth course descriptions, book lists, and syllabi, students can choose their courses more judiciously and thus minimize the turbulence of the first few weeks. Under the Higher Education Opportunity Act, professors are already required to post book lists and their prices online before course registration, but few do so. It's reasonable to expect professors to post syllabi and book lists in the few weeks before the fall semester, just as students are expected to show up to class prepared with reading done and homework in hand.

Otherwise, students have to scramble to buy the necessary books under time pressure and often end up paying more than they would have if they had purchased them online. The chief advantage of having syllabi posted ahead of time is that it would allow students to make informed decisions during registration—decisions they can currently only make either through blind guesswork or by sitting through a couple of classes to find out what the course they've registered for is actually like. This approach is not ideal because it can force students to drop a class and add another one that has begun. Requiring that syllabi be posted before the semester begins would also enable students to get a better sense of a professor's style and personality than the current system, wherein the first class usually consists of a cursory introduction of the material to come.

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS
1 Wasn't renewed
7 Fiend's tail?
10 Biographical datum
13 World Cup chant
14 They're "high" but not dry
16 Little shaver
17 ""The Music Man" number
19 Ginormous
20 Early computer
21 "Sweet stocking stuffer
23 Not quite a compulsion
25 W-2 info: Abbr.
26 Perceptive
30 Predecessor of 33-Down
34 "Lead singer in No Doubt's hit "Don't Speak"
37 Bee fore?
38 Plate in a park
39 Took by the hand
40 Aptly named movie channel
41 Ernst contemporary
42 "Instrument using rolls
46 Grab ahold of, as an idea
48 Cross to bear
49 Trivial amount
50 Sandbox sight
52 "Seven-time Grammy-winning jazz singer
56 Tibetan capital
61 Showy wrap
62 Words in a classic game show that can be followed by the ends of the answers to starred clues
64 Lumber tree
65 Geological time division
66 Fare-minded one?
67 Family pooch
68 Command to a 67-Across
69 WWII fleet

DOWN
1 Prime seating
2 Rickman of Harry Potter films
3 Prefix with meter
4 Miso bean
5 Extracts
6 Place to relax
7 Hoops legend Thomas
8 Penn of "Milk"
9 Like computer lab learning
10 Goya's "Duchess of __"
11 Put on a spare tire?
12 Upper hand
15 Greets someone with more than a nod
18 LXX x X
22 MSNBC rival
24 Vietnamese holiday marking the arrival of spring
26 Ottoman big shots
27 Talked a blue streak?
28 Musical speeds
29 French article
30 Shade of green
31 Leaves for lunch?
32 Speak one's mind
33 Successor to 30-Across
35 Pizazz
36 Tina of "30 Rock"
40 Tree often brought into the house
42 Illinois River port
43 French pilgrimage site
44 DH's stat
45 Can opener
47 When doubled, sister of Eva
50 A stripper takes it off
51 Arctic diver
52 Genesis shepherd
53 1970 Kinks classic
54 It's perpendicular to a threshold
55 "The Time Machine" race
57 Vagabond
58 "Take a Chance on Me" quartet
59 Dressy duds
60 Thumbs-up votes
63 Former French coin

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

B	A	N	A	L		R	O	C	S		A	T	R	A
L	L	A	M	A		E	D	I	E		L	O	A	D
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D	I	V	I	D	E	N	D	C	H	E	C	K		
E	N	E		A	X	E		L	O	B		N	O	S
			B	U	T	C	H	E	R	B	L	O	C	K
W	H	I	R		R	K	O			S	E	T	T	O
R	E	N	O		A	S	K	U	P		V	E	E	S
E	L	B	O	W			U	N	O		E	S	T	H
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		C	L	O	T	H	E	S	H	A	M	P	E	R
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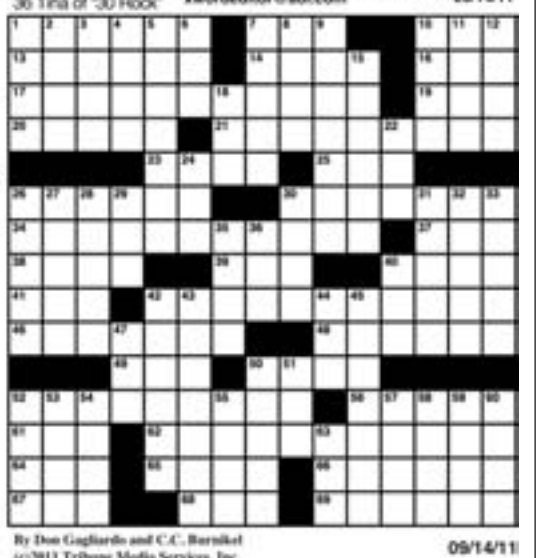

By Don Gagliardo and C.C. Burnikel
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su|do|ku

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

Solutions to Previous Issue's Puzzle

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

The beginning often means the most in sports

RONNIE SHABAN

Squeaky Bum Time

You'll always remember your first. That's the beauty of a debut. Going through any initial experience can range from a blundering mess to a stimulating escapade. I'm hoping this column will be closer to the latter.

Yes, this is my first time. So let's get to know each other before we go any further. My name is Ronnie and I'm a senior in SEAS—not that you're interested in that. I'll go through all of my writing exploits and qualifications quickly. None. Told you it would be quick. So why are you a columnist, Ronnie? The simple answer is it's something I wanted to do. For the past few years, I've made a habit of picking up Spectator on a daily basis. Admittedly, it has mostly been for selfish reasons, as I'm a member of the men's soccer team here and was only interested in anything the paper had to say about us. My eyes started to wander around the sports section to check out the happenings of other teams and eventually over to the left side of the back page. The daily sports columns slowly became the first thing I turned to. That, along with my growing interest in other sports journalism, eventually led to this column.

I'll break it down with my first-ever sports-to-real-life analogy. Imagine you're bored one summer, flipping through the channels on your television. You see two girls in short skirts making some noises that catch your ear, so you stop. It's the French Open. You watch a few matches and pick up on the rules pretty quickly. You start to recognize the best players and their individual playing styles. Ads for Wimbledon are on every commercial break, so you naturally tune into that too. Soon enough you're even watching matches on the US Open Series—not even a major—during the summer. You finally work up enough courage pick up a tennis racket, call a buddy, and head to your neighborhood court. That's essentially what this column is. I'm picking up a tennis racket. (I may or may not have actually carried out this tennis analogy in real life as well.)

Although my writing credentials are virtually non-existent, I would bet my knowledge of Columbia sports could rival anyone's here on campus (if it weren't a compliance issue). Spending nearly four years immersed in the men's soccer program, and subsequently the entire athletic department, will have that side-effect. I do have to alert you, though—my sports knowledge is a bit like the great Diego Maradona (sports-to-real-life analogy number two!). No, it's far from the best of all time, but it's like Maradona in that soccer for me is like his left foot to him and other sports his right foot, head, and even hand. Nearly all of his greatness came from his favored left foot—but he was certainly capable of playing with everything else as well.

My first experience with Columbia sports was my own debut. It was a preseason scrimmage up at Dartmouth in 2008, meaningless to even some of the people involved, but for me that game has had more of an impact than any other I've played. I was on the bench for the first 20 minutes until a senior member of our team went down and let out a horrifying shriek. He lifted up his leg toward the sideline so we had a perfect view of his leg bending where legs aren't supposed to bend. That break signaled the end of his career and the start to mine. Without any unnecessary hyperbole, I was nervous. Fast forward a couple weeks and there was my home debut at the beloved Baker Field. We unbelievably beat No. 7 UC Santa Barbara 3-1, a result I still, to this day, can't fathom.

I could bore you to death with details of each and every minute from those games because I still remember them vividly. That's how much debuts mean to athletes. Arguably the greatest goalkeeper in the world right now, Iker Casillas, summed that up brilliantly on Monday. He celebrated the 12-year anniversary of his Real Madrid debut by claiming it was his greatest football memory. That comes from a man who lifted the European Championship and World Cup as the captain of his country. For fans,

SEE SHABAN, page 2

FILE PHOTO

WHEN IT RAINS IT POURS | Columbia's defense—due in part to Nick Faber's efforts—has held strong, allowing the Lions to score first in two overtime contests.

Men's soccer learning the art of the golden goal

BY MRINAL MOHANKA
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

IN FOCUS

When junior forward Will Stamatis took off his shirt and flipped in the air after scoring a sensational overtime winner against Sacred Heart 10 days ago, some members of the current senior class of the men's soccer team found themselves looking back on their time here. It wasn't senioritis that made them reminisce, but the fact that the Light Blue (3-1-1) had not tasted victory in an overtime contest since Sept. 23, 2009 when it defeated Bryant 2-1 after Bayo Adafin, CC '10, scored the winner less than three minutes into overtime.

For the current senior class on the team, overtimes have not gone well for the Lions: They have lost six, drawn five, and won only two overtime contests in their time here prior to this season. College soccer in the United States uses the golden goal rule, which means that the first goal scored in overtime seals a win.

Columbia head coach Kevin Anderson doesn't feel that overtime should be used to settle contests.

"I think it's kind of silly," he said. "They should consider removing it, as you know if you go away from home against a quality team and get a draw, sometimes that's a very good result. However, if you go into overtime and you lose, it's still a loss. Whether you lose in overtime or you lose 10-0 it counts as the same thing. I'm not a big fan, but those are the rules."

The 2011 season is Anderson's third at the helm, and it's often said that the third time's the charm. There seems to be some truth to that in the world of the Light Blue, as the team is treating overtime differently this year. In the past few years, the Lions have not been adept when it comes to winning games in overtime, but if the start of this season is anything to go by, that is certainly a trend that they seem to be reversing. After the winner against the Pioneers, Stamatis made it two in a matter of days when he scored another overtime winner against Saint Peter's. And this weekend in Albuquerque, the Lions held off Missouri State to settle for a goalless draw after overtime, making it a string of six games since they lost a match in overtime.

Anderson highlighted the team's approach to overtime and credited the squad's improved experience.

"It's a good thing that we haven't [conceded in overtime this year]," Anderson said. "We have a good approach to overtime, similar to last year, but we have more experience this year. We manage even 90 minutes better than we did last year and I think that comes down to experience and maturity that our guys now have."

Senior center-back Nick Faber, a part of the Light Blue defense that has been stellar in overtime, echoed Anderson's thoughts about overtime.

"I think we just try to stay as focused and as mentally and physically sharp as during the first 90 minutes," he said. "I think one of the things this year is that we're just a much more experienced group, and we've been through our share of overtime games. And it's a learning experience, you know? Since we're a more senior team, we've become better at playing overtime."

While the Lions are solid at the back, in Stamatis, who has three goals already this season, they've found someone capable of doing the damage at the other end. The BigAppleSoccer.com's Player of the Week has three goals already this season and will be looking to add to that when the Lions take on Fordham later this week.

"I think we're still figuring out things within the system with these couple games," Stamatis said. "To be honest it's a bit of a numbers game. We're staying committed to our game plan as much as we can and many times the other team will slip up and give us an opportunity. Mazzullo was winning headers the whole time against St. Peter's and it was only a matter of time before one fell in the right place for me to get a shot away. And against Sacred Heart, we kept working the ball down the line and getting crosses in, and then Naj [David Najem] got his head on one that gave me a chance. So it's just a matter of us consistently working, and, it's a numbers game so if we keep creating chances some will go in."

The Lions are back in action against the Rams this Thursday at 7 p.m. at Columbia Soccer Stadium.

Men's Soccer Overtime Games

YEAR	OVERTIME RESULTS	SEASON RECORDS
2008	Marquette 0-0 * La Salle 2-1 * Quinnipiac 1-2 * LIU 0-1 * Adelphi 1-2	4-12-1
2009	Bryant 2-1 Fordham 1-1 * Brown 1-2 Harvard 1-2 Cornell 0-1	4-12-1
2010	Hartwick 2-2 * Yale 0-0 * Cornell 0-0 *	6-8-3
2011	Sacred Heart 2-1 Saint Peter's 2-1 Missouri State 0-0 *	3-1-1 (in progress)

WIN
TIE
LOSE

The Lions have recorded as many overtime wins this year as they did in the past three seasons combined.

*Double overtime

GRAPHIC BY STEPHANIE MANNHEIM

Four games in, two women's soccer teams remain undefeated

BY HANNAH STEINHARDT
Columbia Daily Spectator

AROUND THE LEAGUE

After another weekend of action, Penn leads the standings for women's soccer as it extended its winning streak to four. The Big Red are winless and remain last.

PENN

With four games under their belt, the Quakers (4-0) continue to impress. Against Villanova, Penn scored its only goal in the second half for a 1-0 win. Then, in a game against Saint Joseph's, the Quakers won again in a second shutout, 2-0. Next up, the team will travel to Virginia to take on James Madison.

BROWN

The Bears (3-0-1) opened up their season with three wins and one draw, making them the other undefeated Ivy. Brown defeated Liberty 1-0 on the opening day of the Liberty Cup Invitational. In the Bears' home opener, the team battled Vermont to a 1-1 tie after double-overtime. The season continues this week when Brown takes on New Hampshire.

CORNELL

The Big Red (0-4) is struggling as its season begins. In the first four games, the team suffered four tough losses, and has failed to score in three contests. In its home opener against No. 3 University of Maryland, the Big Red held the Terps to one goal until the final 21 minutes of play, when undefeated Maryland pulled away, scoring three times. Cornell's four-game home stand concludes this week with a game against Binghamton.

HARVARD

In the Crimson's home opener against Elon, Harvard (3-1-0) scored the game-winning goal in the 87th minute for a 2-1 win. The team continued its winning streak at home, beating Massachusetts and Connecticut. Crimson freshman Lauren Urke was awarded Ivy League Co-Rookie of the Week for her performances in all three games of the team's home stand. The Crimson make a short trip across the Charles this week to take on Boston University.

YALE

The Bulldogs (1-2-2) began the season on a strong note, defeating Marist 2-0 in their home opener in the Yale Soccer Classic. Yale ended the Classic in first place, winning the tournament after a scoreless game against Providence. The Bulldogs suffered two losses on the road immediately following the tournament, but they return home later this week to play Quinnipiac.

PRINCETON

The Tigers (1-3) opened the season in California losing to Long Beach State and Cal State Northridge. Princeton returned to the East Coast anxious to rack up its first win and was successful against Villanova. Junior Jen Hoy was named Ivy league Player of the Week and freshman Lauren Lazo was named Ivy League Co-Rookie of the Week as a result of their play against two tough opponents, Seton Hall and Villanova. The Tigers will play their home opener this weekend against La Salle.

DARTMOUTH

In its home opener against Vermont, the Big Green (1-3) earned its first win of the season, 2-1. Dartmouth has yet to be successful on the road, having been shut out by Texas A&M, Texas, and Rutgers. The Big Green travels this week to confront Boston College in the hope of acquiring its first win away from home.