

Post-Campo, Il Cibreo tries to revive nightlife

BY DAPHNE CHEN, JORDAN FREISLEBEN, AND FINN VIGELAND  
Columbia Daily Spectator

On a recent Friday night, Il Cibreo—the red-awninged restaurant on Broadway between 112th and 113th streets—had a handful of 30-somethings at the bar, a collection of graduate students huddled around a table in the back, and a few older couples taking in a late dinner.

It's not quite the image of a campus bar, and the restaurant's management knows it.

"We want the kids to come back," bar manager Dawn Cantwell said. "We want the Mel's crowd to come here. Our happy hours are the best prices and most extensive around the area ... But on Friday night, this place is empty. We just can't figure it out."

"We want people to come back," she said. "Honesty, we need people to come back."

Students said that the new place just doesn't carry the same feel as Campo, its predecessor.

"It just seems more like a bar for older people, or for a romantic date," Aaryaman Vir, CC '14, said. "Not the kind of place for tequila shots."

Campo opened in April 2008 as an Italian trattoria specializing in grilled pizzas and other Mediterranean dishes. In few years, it became a Columbia institution. "Campo Mike," or Michael Wetherbee, the former



PHOEBE LYTLE / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

EMPTY TABLES | Students aren't partying at Il Cibreo, though managers are trying to bring them in.

SEE IL CIBREO, page 2

Vet population likely to decrease due to new GI Bill cuts

How much future vets will have to pay for GS remains unclear

BY MADINA TOURE, AVANTIKA KUMAR AND KANDACE FULLER  
Columbia Daily Spectator

The number of veterans at the School of General Studies is likely to decline over the next few years, as a result of the new GI Bill that will make veterans' financial aid packages less comprehensive.

The new GI Bill, passed last December, caps tuition benefits for veterans attending private schools at \$17,500 per year, adding \$5,000 to \$15,000 in out-of-pocket expenses for veterans attending Columbia. This year, GS has responded by dramatically increasing its financial aid budget, limiting the bill's immediate effects. But GS's long-term ability to fund the number of veterans who have flocked to GS in the last few years remains unclear.

This year, GS increased its financial aid budget by approximately \$200,000, according to Dean of Enrollment Management Curtis Rodgers. This will allow GS to fund the 56 new veterans who enrolled this semester, who applied while the previous GI Bill was still in effect, at the level at which they would have been funded under the old rules.

"Even though the legislation has changed from its original design, we didn't then go and

reduce our rewards," Rodgers said. "We said we'd fund at this level so we stuck to this level."

But in the long term, Rodgers noted, GS is likely to see a decrease in its veteran population as awards decrease. The number of veterans in GS has ballooned from 64 three years ago to 222 this year, but Rodgers said it will probably level out between 180 and 200.

General Studies administrators say they are working on ways to increase their financial aid to keep attracting veterans to the school. GS Dean Peter Awn said the school is continuing to raise more funds from alumni, as well as foundations and individuals interested in helping veterans.

Another funding avenue, the Yellow Ribbon Program, may be a crucial factor in how the veteran population changes. That grant involves an agreement between the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the University, through which the government matches the University's funding.

"If we're able to increase the Yellow Ribbon grant over time, we might be able to be at the upper end of that number, around 200 to 210," Rodgers said, though he acknowledged that there are other pressures on their financial aid budget. "If it

SEE VETS, page 2

Survey shows colleges paying more attention to who can pay

BY VARUN CHAR  
Columbia Daily Spectator

A survey published last week revealed that many colleges nationwide are trying harder to recruit wealthier applicants.

The survey, conducted by the publication Inside Higher Ed, showed that 34.3 percent of four-year colleges are trying harder to recruit students who can pay the full price of attendance, and that 22 percent are paying more attention to "applicants' ability to pay" when deciding who to admit.

"If you can afford to go to Nicaragua, work with lepers, and then write an essay about it, it is clear you can afford to be ahead of the game."

—Claudia Dreifus, SIPA professor

Barnard economics professor Randall Reback, an expert in education policy, said he is not surprised by the survey's findings, thanks to the national economic climate.

"A lot of schools of course were hit hard in terms of taking hits on their endowment, and at the same time a lot of students from middle class families who would normally be able to pay a certain amount, how much they need has gone up," Reback said. "Given those two

trends, this is not too surprising."

Columbia wouldn't say whether it participated in the survey, which was completed by admissions officers at 462 schools, including 14 schools with admission rates under 20 percent.

Dean of Undergraduate Admissions Jessica Marinaccio said in a statement that Columbia is "fully committed" to its need-blind admissions policy.

"We are incredibly fortunate that Columbia has the financial resources that allow us to recruit and support students from all backgrounds, ensuring we continue to have one of the most diverse and vibrant campuses in the country," Marinaccio said.

But Claudia Dreifus, a professor at the School of International and Public Affairs and a co-author of the book "Higher Education?: How Colleges Are Wasting Our Money and Failing Our Kids and What We Can Do About It," said that admissions offices in general lack transparency and that "there is definitely a big difference between what people say and what they do."

"There's a lot of evidence that admission has not been 'need-blind,' as frequently maintained by some admissions officers," Dreifus said.

Dreifus emphasized that she was not referring specifically to Columbia and that she is not overly familiar with how admissions works here. She said that the trend identified in the survey is one that she and Andrew Hacker, the co-author of her book, have "long suspected is the practice at many, many schools."

But that doesn't necessarily mean that schools are lying when they say that they are need-blind.

SEE ADMISSIONS, page 2

New financial aid dean no stranger to Columbia office

BY JESSICA WHITLUM-COOPER  
Columbia Daily Spectator

In the early 1990s, Laurie Schaffler, GS '92, was a student at the School of General Studies and a single mother, helping pay for her education with a work-study job in the financial aid office. This summer, Schaffler rose to the top of that office, becoming Columbia's dean of financial aid.

"I love the University, and I am very passionate about financial aid," Schaffler said. "It's not just about financial aid; it's about a student's financial life when they're here."

Schaffler replaced Daniel Barkowitz, who left the job at

the end of January to become the executive director of his synagogue in Needham, Mass. Previously, Schaffler was a vice president of student affairs, dealing with financial services.

Financial aid means a lot to Schaffler, since it helped her get through Columbia, and it also helped her daughter, who graduated from Columbia in 2002.

After graduating from GS, Schaffler got a job at Columbia as the associate director of education financing. Since then, she has continued to deal with student finance, working in the Student Financial Services office at another college and in the division of the New York State budget office that

deals with financing higher education.

In 2008, Schaffler returned to Columbia, joining the student financial services division and working closely with Barkowitz and the financial aid office.

In her new role as dean, she is working on improving the office's technology and enhancing security procedures for student data. She wants the office to be in "a place where we can be as technologically savvy as possible, but without losing the human part."

But her main goal, she said, is providing students with the aid they need.

Of her daughter, Schaffler said, "I truly believe that what

formed her into the person she is, this very wonderful human being, is her time here."

Vice President of Student and Administrative Services Scott Wright, who has worked closely with Schaffler for the last few years, praised Schaffler's knowledge of financial aid, calling her "one of the best in the business."

"She is very smart and an expert on her subject matter," Wright said. "She also has all the personality traits to support students."

Wright added that she has been a great asset during the financial crisis that began in 2008, saying she "managed the entire thing with positivity."

According to University figures, 49.8 percent of Columbia students receive grants from Columbia, and the average award is \$35,277. But despite the financial aid office's insistence that it meets the demonstrated need of students, some say that it needs to do more.

Schaffler noted the challenges of the changing nature of the financial aid budget, which she said is never set in stone—Columbia estimates how much it has to allocate for financial aid each year, but must adjust that number based on what the financial aid office determines is the demonstrated need of the student body.

"You need to be careful from a fiscal perspective, but when you know students have need, it's hard," she said.

Noam Goldberg, SEAS '13, expressed frustration with his payment plan, saying he wished he knew more about the options available to him.

"Ideally I want to go and travel when I graduate, but



ZARA CASTANY / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

MONEY, MONEY, MONEY | Laurie Schaffler took over as Columbia's dean of financial aid in July.

OPINION, PAGE 4

To kill or not to kill

The death penalty reveals entrenched American discrimination.

Speak uncensored

Jelani Harvey argues that frank exchanges of ideas could bridge the American wealth gap.



SPORTS, PAGE 8

Lions open Ivy season at winless Princeton

The Columbia football team has had a disappointing season thus far, but a conference opener against the Tigers could give them their first win.

EVENTS

Getting a Job in Sustainable Development

An associate director of the Center for Career Education will host a gathering about how to connect with experts in the field.

Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., Schapiro Room, 12-1 p.m.

"A Bitter Taste of Freedom"

A screening of the documentary, focused on a murdered Russian journalist, and a Q&A session with the filmmaker.

Journalism 3rd floor conference room, 6-9 p.m.

WEATHER

Today



74° / 56°

Tomorrow



63° / 48°





ZARA CASTANY / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

CREATIVE VISION | Julia Pilowsky, CC '12, went to Africa last semester to research her thesis.

## Birdsong in Kenya lets senior thesis take flight

BY MEGAN KALLSTROM  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

Eight African birds, 200 minutes of birdsong, and approximately 28,000 syllables—that is the senior thesis project that Julia Pilowsky, CC '12, has taken on this year.

Pilowsky traveled to Kenya this summer to record the birdsong of the Superb Starling, an iridescent bird native to Africa and notable for living in a rare social hierarchy that actually affects its song.

“In most birds, males have more complex song than females ... but in this case, what I expected to find is that the females would also have very complex songs,” Pilowsky said. She was right.

To find that answer, Pilowsky flew directly from South Africa, where she had studied abroad in the spring, to Kenya. There, she worked for a month at a rural research center that offered her close access to group of starlings.

Every day, accompanied by a gigantic microphone and her research assistant, she left the center to record and study the birds. The assistant identified each bird for her so she could distinguish which gender of bird made which sound. This

was crucial to developing her thesis, as both genders of starling enjoy power as the dominant bird.

Pilowsky said she was given total autonomy by Columbia. “I had to plan out things myself,” she said. “There was no one to tell me how many hours a day should I do it, when should I do it ... where should I go. I had to figure it all out.”

But the research center tested her endurance as well as her intelligence.

“By the very end of Kenya, I was getting pretty homesick just because it had been five months, and that was wearing on me after a while,” Pilowsky said.

“There were seven people in a room, sleeping, like, just one bed right next to another, and the showers showered down river water. It came out brown from the shower.”

Pilowsky’s work in assistant professor Dustin Rubenstein’s lab gave her the idea to study bird songs, after a graduate student’s presentation on bird calls. “At the end, she said, ‘Oh, by the way, no one’s studied the song.’ And I thought, ‘Hey, well, I could study the song.’”

However, her interest in birds began long ago, when she would carry around John James

Audubon’s book of birds as a child.

“My teacher would let me read it if I finished my reading early in class,” Pilowsky said.

It was that lifelong love of birds that was the initial inspiration for the nontraditional project, she said.

Since returning to the United States, Pilowsky has worked tirelessly on analyzing her research, uploading bird calls onto the computer and breaking down the different syllables. So far, she has found that Superb Starlings can make 70 different syllables, the same number of phonemes as in the English language.

This similarity inspired her to examine whether syntax can be found in the birdsong and investigate whether certain syllables always come before or after certain other syllables.

Pilowsky hopes to find some engineers to help her analyze the birdsong using the human speech software.

She hasn’t decided how far to take the project in that direction, but she said the independence Columbia allowed her was important to her research process.

“I came up with it and I carried it out. It feels very much like it’s mine,” she said.

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## Survey: schools admit more paying students

ADMISSIONS  
from front page

“They can look at their [applicants’] zip code, they can look at what high school they went to, and they can look at what sports they did,” she said. “If you can afford to go to Nicaragua, work with lepers, and then write an essay about it, it is clear you can afford to be ahead of the game.”

Not all admissions at Columbia are need-blind—the admissions process for international students is need-aware. Marinaccio said that although Columbia has

a “significant international population,” this is not a result of “a desire to admit students based on their ability to pay, but on the University’s commitment to enrolling a truly global community.”

“A student’s ability to pay, even in our need-aware process for foreign students, is not a reason a student would be admitted through our holistic review process,” she said.

Reback said he thinks that colleges’ ability to deduce their applicants’ income, which Dreifus discussed, actually brings diversity to universities,

because most universities are “need-affirmative.”

“If you have two applicants with similar test scores, similar quality grades or achievements, and one is from a less privileged background, well, they are actually going to give the advantage to the student from the less privileged background,” Reback said. But he added that those schools could stop favoring those students somewhat to save money.

“It’s more of a question of how much you do that,” he said. “How need-affirmative are you?”

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## Il Cibreio not a destination, students say

IL CIBREIO from front page

Campo co-owner who organized the restaurant’s late-night scene, was well-known on campus and was the butt of a joke in last year’s Varsity Show.

“I would always see a lot of people hanging outside Campo,” Rebecca Clark, CC '13, said. “It was just a funny thing that people always talked about—it was almost like a campus character.”

The food was eclipsed by its nightlife scene as it became a go-to spot for fraternities and other student organizations to host parties.

“They were really good at organizing events with our rugby team ... we filled the place up,” Ray Caban, SIPA '12, said.

Karla Casariego, CC '12, said the parties that student groups held at Campo were often the main reasons why students were compelled to go there. “Now it’s more of a restaurant

vibe,” she said.

Jonathan Ricketts, SEAS '12, described the Campo as “very fratty,” and many students noted that Campo was known for its lax ID policies.

But Campo had received noise complaints from its landlord, general manager John Lenahan said, contributing to the revamping as the sleeker, more adult Il Cibreio.

Cantwell said the restaurant’s image change is most likely what has driven students away in the evenings.

“The problem with Campo was, when we were so sustained by the college kids, in the summer we would just die, die, die,” Cantwell said.

Il Cibreio has two happy hours every day, from 3 to 7 p.m. and from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m., and Cantwell said the restaurant is planning to add a karaoke machine soon.

“A lot of people thought

that we weren’t doing the late night anymore after we became Il Cibreio, but that’s not true,” Lenahan said. “We’ve got the same ownership, we just tweaked the menu, and we don’t do the DJ anymore, but we do have a sound system.”

But the new management is insistent that it will maintain a strict door policy. “We are going to card you,” Cantwell said. “We’re not trying to be that bar where there is throw-up every five feet.”

Lenahan said that, as much as Il Cibreio aspires to have a successful nightlife scene, it won’t seek out the college demographic as actively as Campo did.

“We want the late night crowd,” Lenahan said, “but we’re trying not to go to the same lengths as before.”

Adam Koling, Ben Gittelson, and Casey Tolan contributed reporting.

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## Students say fewer vets would hurt CU

VETS from front page

stays flat, it probably won’t be as large of a community.”

THEY LOOK AT THINGS  
DIFFERENTLY

This semester, 56 veterans entered General Studies, down from 69 last semester. Rodgers said that the GS class size had gone down as a whole, and that the percentage of veterans in this year’s class was “down only slightly.”

“The fact that we were able to maintain the size of the incoming class, even within significantly reduced benefits for veteran students, is a good indication of how strong a community of veterans we have at the undergraduate level and in the university,” he said.

For students and administrators, veterans have become a crucial component of GS and the University.

“It’s fantastic to be in classroom, particularly if you’re in anthropology or history, and you’re talking about conflict and somebody can bring experience in active conflict to the table and discuss it,” said Liz Walsh, a GS student who is not a veteran. “It’s not experience from a book.”

“I love the veterans’ perspective at this school,” John Zeuner, GS, said. “They’ve had a lot of life experience, they’ve been through a lot more than other students have been through, and they look at things differently.”

Others stressed the ways in which the veteran student population has increased the relevance of the military among civilians, and at Columbia.

“Because there’s no draft anymore, most people aren’t connected to the military,” said Dan Lagana, GS and the president of the U.S. Military Veterans of Columbia University. “They’re not connected to the wars we’re funding or the people that are fighting the war. Having veterans in school with you, in class with you, helps bridge that divide, that disconnect.”

Zeuner said that the strong presence of veterans at GS takes from the “anti-military” image that many individuals had of Columbia due to the absence of an ROTC program since 1969.

“I think it’s a great aspect, especially when you go back to a time when Columbia lost its ROTC program, and, you know, people were saying that it was a school that was anti-military, and now it really shows that we’re going after and attracting a lot of military veterans,” he said. “It really speaks for the school and how it’s changed over the years, and the atmosphere that is here.”

University Senator Jose Robledo, GS and a veteran, added that during the ROTC debates last school year, there were “high-minded academics and left-wing radicals” who pushed forth their concerns with ROTC, but that veterans at Columbia helped moderate the conversation.

Ryan Robinson, GS and the veteran students representative for the General Studies Student Council, said that while it might sound self-serving, a decrease in the number of veterans enrolled would “change the fabric of GS.”

“Having less veterans in our classrooms, having less veterans in our student groups, and the absence of a robust MilVets community on campus that comprises a large portion of the GS population, would not be good if it was lost,” he said.

“We bring a kind of maturity and a kind of global perspective to the student body that up until very recently hasn’t been represented,” Danielle Bylund, GS and a military veteran, said.

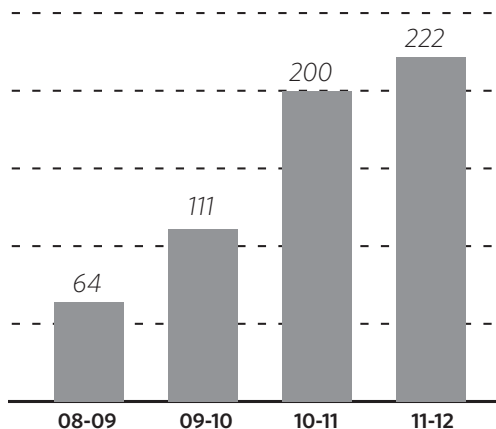
WEIGHING THE COST

Bylund simply calls the new GI Bill “a mess.” While GS has a good academic program and a real sense of community, she said, it will be too challenging for future students to deal with

DEAN from front page

### MILITARY VETERANS AT GS

Over the past four years, the number of military veterans at GS has increased, but enrollment could drop to between 180 and 200 due to decreased federal aid.



\*Does not include enrollment for spring 2012

GRAPHIC BY REBECCA SCHWARZ

the new costs.

“I would recommend that they go to a different school that’s cheaper, because you have to shoulder that entire burden yourself,” Bylund said. “A lot of these veterans are coming directly from their service. Some of them are still on terminal leave. They have limited skills in terms of paying their rent. They’ve lived in government-provided housing.”

Current students have not felt the dramatic effects of the new GI Bill, thanks to a grandfather clause passed by Congress in July which ensured students who were already accepted or enrolled would continue to receive their tuition benefits. The clause was introduced by Sen. Chuck Schumer, who was heavily lobbied by the MilVets.

Before that grandfather clause was passed, General Studies had increased its financial aid budget by about \$500,000 to attempt to cover the difference for currently-enrolled veterans.

### “Having veterans in school with you, in class with you, helps bridge that divide, that disconnect.”

—Dan Lagana, GS, president of MilVets

GS was able to use some of the savings from the grandfather clause to increase funds distributed through the Yellow Ribbon program. Still, Rodgers said that the school is paying twice as much for each of this fall’s incoming veterans as it did for last year’s group.

Some students said they worry that those new costs will stop veterans from applying to Columbia, or from attending Columbia if accepted. Walsh said that friends in GS talk about how much better the previous financial benefits were.

“One of the draws of military service is that it helps you afford attending a university,” Walsh said. “And certainly GS is not cheap at all.”

Others, like Christian Zamora, GS and a military veteran, are optimistic that Columbia’s reputation, above all, will keep veterans coming to GS. “Of course, if they’re accepted, they may end up weighing the costs and the benefits of attending here as opposed to a state school—which is a lot cheaper but doesn’t have the prestige,” Zamora said.

GS will continue to attract veterans because the University brings together traditional and untraditional students, of different ages and experiences, Awn argued.

“Students like the veterans, and frankly this is in fact the only Ivy League with a college that

fully integrates these kinds of students into the undergraduate program,” he said. “So that makes it a very attractive option for the veterans because they’re getting the real thing.”

And many current students are advocating for different funding sources. Robledo suggested an alternative route for administrators to help veteran students with the costs of attending GS—taking on housing costs.

“The two big challenges that us veterans, and GS students in general, face when coming to Columbia is not just the cost of attending the University but the cost of living in New York City,” he said. “So a solution is, if they can’t help us with our financial aid, which is tuition and fees, what about our living expenses?”

MORAL COMMITMENT

Future students will have no choice but to deal with the new funding realities if they attend GS. But for many current students, the changes are more than monetary—they’re an example of the government reneging on its obligation to veterans.

Zamora said that while veterans will just have to “suck it up and just be like lots of other students” who have to be careful with their finances, the decision to cut veterans’ aid bothers him in principle.

“That’s what really hurts us, because we’re all about principles ... and values and doing what’s right, having integrity, doing what you say you’re going to do—that is what guides us,” Zamora said. “But we’re not getting that. There seems to be a lack of reciprocal promises here.”

Awn said that in some ways, the government is “abandoning its original moral commitment to veterans and their education” on which the original GI Bill was based.

“Why would you penalize a woman of enormous intellectual talent who is accepted at Columbia and wants to achieve what a Columbia education can allow her to achieve?” Awn asked.

Robledo says that he does understand why Congress cut aid for veterans attending private colleges, given the state of the economy. “It’s not a question of whether it’s fair or not, it’s a question of, right now, the country is in a tough economic situation, even veterans, so some of the things that we’d normally be used to getting, we can’t get,” he said.

For veterans, like all students, decisions will come down to weighing the costs and benefits of attending Columbia. And although that equation will soon look much different for veterans that it did last year, many current students said they were thankful for their experiences.

“With all of the critiques about money, negotiating the bureaucracy—this is the only place I would want to be,” Bylund said.

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## Wright calls new fin. aid dean ‘expert’

complaints with financial aid at Columbia.

“I think Columbia, compared to other Ivy Leagues, is much better,” Lou said. “My friends who need it have the financial support.”

Schaffler said she understood the stress felt by students,

and she hopes to improve communication about the financial aid process. One idea is initiating group chats with financial aid officers.

“Much of the anxiety is about the unknown,” she said.

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# Living an international lie

BY GEORGE ANDREOPOULOS

The execution of Troy Davis, a black death row inmate who, to the very end, claimed to be a victim of mistaken identity, rekindled the ongoing debate about the institution of the death penalty. Former President Jimmy Carter stated that the execution shows that the death penalty system is “unjust and outdated.” In addition, he expressed the hope that “this tragedy will spur us as a nation toward the total rejection of capital punishment.” Carter joins a long list of prominent figures that include the pope and former Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens. Stevens recently argued that the death penalty is unconstitutional—a welcome statement to be sure, but something that would have definitely carried more weight if it had been issued while he was still a sitting justice. On the other hand, prosecutors and the victim’s family saw what transpired on September 21 as a long overdue closure to a case that had witnessed four years of delays.

According to the Death Penalty Information Center, 46 individuals were executed in this country last year and 37 individuals so far this year. This record places the United States in the august company of countries such as China, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen, hardly the type of countries that the United States likes to associate with when the discussion turns to the values, principles, and norms that should guide domestic and international conduct. It is rather ironic that in the universalism vs. cultural relativism debate on human rights, the U.S. has not only sought to assert its presence on the universalism camp, but it has contributed to the erroneous portrayal of this debate as a north/south cleavage; in this context, the developed North was presented as the bearer of universal values in defense of human dignity, and the less developed South as the terrain of many cultural practices that seek to undermine it. Thankfully, such a reading of the famous debate has by now been thoroughly discredited and the continuing practice of the death penalty in the U.S. has been an important, though clearly not the only, factor. To phrase it rather differently, there are many intracultural cleavages within the North and some of these cleavages firmly anchor the U.S. within the cultural relativism camp, in

## After Office Hours



JELANI HARVEY

## The Niceties of Speculation

There has been a recent upsurge in media coverage of racial wealth inequality that no one seems to be discussing publicly. Last Saturday, President Obama tried to bring this topic into conversation when he told blacks to stop complaining and to put on their “marching shoes” in order to achieve more prosperous lives. A few months ago, the Associated Press reported on how blacks were faring compared to whites, and the story was not pleasant. It reported that the average wealth of white Americans was around \$98,000, compared to \$2,000 for blacks. In light of such stark gaps in wealth, there should be more public conversations surrounding racial wealth inequality. Despite whatever reasons deter this conversation, discussion needs to happen—and soon.

In classes and social gatherings at Columbia, there is such an emphasis on social niceties and decorum. People are eager to discuss inequality, to speculate why it may exist, and to find excuses to throw in references to Rousseau. Few mention race, though, in their discussions. The reasons people stop short of this are quite obvious. Americans do not engage in these discussions because these discussions bring up unpleasant feelings of misunderstanding and shame. By speaking about wealth differences, more affluent groups—namely whites and Asian Americans—sincerely fear the discussion will lead to negative perceptions and biases that make them seem racist. It is this fear of being seen as racist that halts discussions. In the hopes of fostering conversations, whites should not be afraid to point out factual truths.

A second reason whites are uncomfortable speaking about economic inequality could stem from the fact that the white Americans of our generation were born after the Civil Rights Movement. Since many of these whites had no role in systematically oppressing blacks, they feel it unfair if and when blacks blame them for the wealth gap, and they are right to feel this way. For similar reasons, there is a hesitation to discuss wealth inequality for blacks as well. African Americans may be embarrassed to discuss what little capital they have accumulated in the last 40 years. These discussions give the appearance that not much has happened economically for blacks since the end of the Civil Rights Movement. By bringing up this conversation, blacks fear discussions will lead to feelings of inferiority. Not wanting to be seen as less than equal to whites sparks blacks to work hard and persevere, but it does not address larger structural and systematic forms of equality that will lead to better wealth outcomes. It’s clear from looking at the wealth gap that hard work and perseverance are not the only answers, for there is no question that many blacks do work hard. Many people would agree with the statement that America is a nation that guarantees opportunities but not results for those who work

Each Friday, a professor will share scholastic wisdom readers won’t find in lectures. Suggestions regarding which professors to feature are welcome.

defiance of the universalistic pretensions of official U.S. discourse. If in doubt, one has only to look at how European Union countries react when the topic of the death penalty is raised, to the thought that they share a common heritage with their transatlantic partner.

This raises the interesting question of how all this impacts the use of the country’s soft power. Soft power is a concept that has been extensively used—and misused—by a variety of leaders in the global North, as well as the South. As Joseph Nye, a pioneer in the theory of soft power, has correctly noted, it is a descriptive, not a normative concept, and it “can be wielded for good or bad purposes.” Culture and political values are key resources for soft power. For soft power to achieve its desired ends—that is, to produce favorable outcomes as a result of behavior which is attractive to others—a set of important conditions have to be met. One of these conditions, as the same author has observed, is the ability to live up to one’s political values at home and abroad. One of the key values—but not the only one—at stake in the death penalty issue is this country’s commitment to the norm of non-discrimination. The way that the death penalty is meted out clearly violates this fundamental norm—a norm which the U.S. has consistently advocated for before international forums. In fact, it is the very violation of the norm of non-discrimination that has turned many people, even those who are not philosophically opposed to the death penalty, against it. If we are entering, as some analysts have argued, a phase in world politics in which, for a variety of reasons, soft power will be increasingly relevant, it is incumbent upon those who seek to use it to ensure that there is a certain correspondence between discourse and practice, both domestically and internationally. While non-discrimination is not the only norm on the table, it is a very important indicator of the extent to which a society values human dignity, especially when its violation enables the cruelty that we witnessed, once again, on the evening of September 21.

The author is a professor of political science in the City University of New York, and is an adjunct professor of political science at Columbia University.

# Discuss wealth inequality with honesty

hard. The government cannot ensure success for all Americans. Not every black child born in this country can “make it” in terms of prosperity. The children of many minority groups, including blacks, are not always given equal opportunities. What are we to say to poor African American or Hispanic children born into families lacking resources, stable households, good housing, and an education? Do we tell them “shame on them” for not taking advantage of American opportunities? No reasonable person would do that. If, then, from conception poor minority children are not given opportunities similar to those of whites, the argument in favor of dismantling programs such as affirmative action and quotas which help minority groups loses grounding. If we do not offer equal opportunities, we cannot expect similar results. Without programs such as affirmative action in place, not only would there be less social mobility for blacks, but income inequality would worsen since the majority of black children are born to parents without college degrees. A mere 16% of black adults will continue to have a college degree, limiting career options in today’s competitive economy. Without programs supported by the law, poverty will continue to be cyclical.

## By discussing wealth inequality, America has a better foundation to end misunderstandings between blacks and whites.

If we as Columbia students take the time to break down conversational taboos involving race, we will move closer to solving many problems associated with low income areas such as crime, poverty, high unemployment, and poor health outcomes. Since many of these issues are more common in poor minority neighborhoods, how can we discuss fixing them without speaking about race? We can’t. The key to these discussions is to speak with complete honesty in a way that does not disparage any other group. I ask whites in this country to open their eyes and to explain how they feel. As a black man, I will not be offended, and I encourage other blacks not to be either. By discussing wealth inequality, America will have a better foundation to come up with conversations and end misunderstandings between blacks and whites. So get out there, talk to your friends, and ask them “Why is there wealth inequality between whites and blacks, and how can it best be fixed?”

Jelani Harvey is a Columbia College senior majoring in history. He is currently the Residential Adviser on John Jay 13, a facility supervisor at the Dodge Fitness Center, and a member of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. The Niceties of Speculation runs alternate Fridays.

# Murder is not justice

BY SARAH GITLIN

We were dismayed, disheartened, and deeply disappointed when the state of Georgia executed Troy Davis last week. Up until the very end, we held out hope because we believed in the American justice system. We hoped and believed that compassion and justice would prevail. We hoped and believed that, in a case riddled with flaws—where seven out of nine witnesses recanted their testimony, where a former U.S. president and a former director of the FBI were calling for clemency, where 630,000 Americans signed petitions asking Georgia not to execute—the parole board would intervene, that the Supreme Court would hear the case, or that the Governor would, at the very least, commute the death penalty. We could not bring ourselves to believe that our country would murder someone who was quite possibly innocent, and do so while the whole world was watching. Execution is too pretty a word for what happened to Troy Davis. When there was so much doubt as to his guilt, his death was nothing short of state-sanctioned murder.

But perhaps we shouldn’t have been surprised when, despite massive evidence of “reasonable doubt,” Troy Davis was killed last week. After all, in spite of all the media attention focused on him, Troy Davis’ case wasn’t isolated. The Innocence Project has freed 17 death row inmates from 11 states after proving with DNA evidence that they were actually innocent. Unfortunately, stories like Davis’ are all too common.

## In the United States today, Lady Justice is not blind. Lady Justice sees race, and Lady Justice sees class.

We have never really understood why the state kills people who kill people to show that killing people is wrong. But even for those who believe in the concept of capital punishment, Troy Davis’ case highlights the profound dangers of allowing the government to end lives. There are no mulligans with executions. If the state realizes that it has wrongfully incarcerated someone, it can free them from jail and offer financial compensation. But once the poison has been injected, there is no turning back. Capital punishment certainly has no rehabilitative value—and studies show that it has no deterrence value, either. State-sponsored killings are vengeance, pure and simple. It is an inconvenient truth that sometimes vengeance is carried out against the innocent. In the United States today, Lady Justice is not blind. Lady Justice sees race, and Lady Justice sees class. According to a study at the University of North Carolina, a black defendant convicted of killing a white victim (like Troy Davis) is more than three times as likely to be sentenced to death as a white defendant convicted of killing a black victim. And we all know that the quality of lawyer that a defendant can afford often makes a big difference in the outcome.

Hundreds of students came together last week in a vigil and rally after Troy Davis was killed. There is nothing that we can do now for Troy Davis. But as he himself said, his struggle has always been about more than just him and it did not end when he was silenced late last Wednesday night. It is now up to us to carry the crusade against injustice. It is now up to us to improve the American criminal justice system. It is now up to us to end the death penalty. The Columbia Democrats urge all Columbia students who care about justice to unite with us in calling for the United States to join the community of civilized nations in banning this barbaric process.

The author is a Columbia College junior majoring in political science. This op-ed is written on behalf of the Executive Board of the Columbia University Democrats.



CECILIA REYES

STAFF EDITORIAL

# Suggestions for Dean Valentini

Dean Valentini has emphasized his eagerness to hear students’ ideas on how to improve Columbia College. With such a receptive Dean at the helm of our school, students have a unique opportunity to have their voices heard on issues important to undergraduates. We have a few suggestions of our own to offer.

### Open Course Evaluations

Just a week after Dean Valentini voiced his measured support of open course evaluations, President Bollinger formally endorsed the move to make course evaluations public. As students, we often have to rely on CULPA to glean information about our courses, which tends to attract feedback from students with polarizing views. The move to make course evaluations open would allow for a

larger sampling of student opinions, including those who don’t profess undying love or burning hatred for a particular professor. SEAS already has open course evaluations, and to our knowledge, they have proven helpful.

### Make the Global classes smaller

Though Dean Valentini briefly suggested changes to the Global Core, reevaluating the effectiveness of the Global Core is imperative. The number of Global Core options aside, the majority of these classes are structured as large lectures. Since the Global Core serves as a counterpoint to the Western canon we learn in Literature Humanities and Contemporary Civilization, Global Core classes should have a similar structure. Much of the learning that takes place in Lit Hum and CC occurs during discussion, and to miss out on such an enriching part of the educational process for the non-Western world is a shame. There are currently only a handful of options for Global Core classes that are taught as small seminars. Nevertheless, there are undoubtedly too many students in Columbia College to allow for all Global Core classes to function as seminars with current financial allocation.

We hope that Dean Valentini understands that we would like to have Global Core classes that are as enlightening as those we take in the rest of Columbia’s canon, and can do something to change that.

### Get rid of CubMail

Though we are no experts of things computer-related, we do know that CubMail—Columbia’s email client—is downright awful. While many students forward emails from their @columbia.edu accounts to Gmail, others just decide to grit their teeth and deal with CubMail’s utter failure as a system. It shouldn’t be too difficult for Dean Valentini to persuade CUIT to adopt a better email browser—Barnard recently made the switch from their old system to a version of Gmail.

### Martinis with Dean Valentini

Last but certainly not least, we would like to see Dean Valentini offer a hip, cosmopolitan counterpoint to President Bollinger’s “Fireside Chats” or former Dean Moody-Adams’ “Tea with Moody-Adams.” We recommend he inaugurate a series of “Martinis with Dean Valentini”—spots would certainly fill up quickly.



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The *Columbia Daily Spectator* is published Monday through Friday during the academic year, except during examination and vacation periods.

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### Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

**ACROSS**

1 Shoots the breeze  
6 1940s-'50s Israeli U.N. ambassador  
10 Game \_\_\_\_  
14 "The Wolf and the Crane" author  
15 Cross off  
16 Piece of one's mind?  
17 Halloween tricksters' route?  
19 Awestruck  
20 Roy Halladay stat  
21 Sister of Calliope  
22 It may be icy  
23 Best place to watch "Animal House"?  
25 Close, for instance  
28 Unburden  
29 Kate of "Ironclad"  
30 Soften by soaking  
35 How most reading is done, and this puzzle's title  
39 Sherry alternatives  
40 Albany's father-in-law  
41 "Piers Morgan Tonight" channel  
42 Eisenhower library site  
45 Feathers?  
50 Nigerian seaport  
51 Noted Beethoven interpreter  
52 CIA's ancestor  
55 Cancel  
56 Work the late shift at the diner?  
58 "\_\_\_\_" no kick from Champagne"  
61 Gets into  
62 Employee IDs  
63 Third shift hr.

**DOWN**

1 Champs Elysées feature  
2 Bach title?  
3 Land east of the Urals  
4 Dress finely, with "out"

5 Field of influence  
6 Americans in Paris, maybe  
7 Tug and junk  
8 Overlord  
9 Ultimate  
10 Home at the park?  
11 Airport whose code is BOS  
12 Decide not to finish  
13 Desert bordering the Sinai Peninsula  
18 Choral syllables  
22 Feast in the month of Nisan  
23 Position in a viewfinder  
24 Moneyed, in Monterey  
25 Like some switches  
26 Word spoken with amore  
27 Put one's foot down  
30 Summer escapes: Abbr.  
31 Little streams  
32 "The African Queen"  
33 Instead of 34 Reason d'\_\_\_\_  
36 Trounces

37 Cube creator Rubik  
38 Royal introductions  
42 France-based jet maker  
43 Sound from Eeyore  
44 "Beats me!"  
45 Not fixed  
46 Title chameleon voiced by Johnny Depp in a 2011 animated film

47 Osmonds' hometown  
48 Codgers  
49 Two-time loser to McKinley  
52 Look like a creep?  
53 Branch of Islam  
54 Check  
56 NFL ball carriers  
57 Fluoride, for one

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

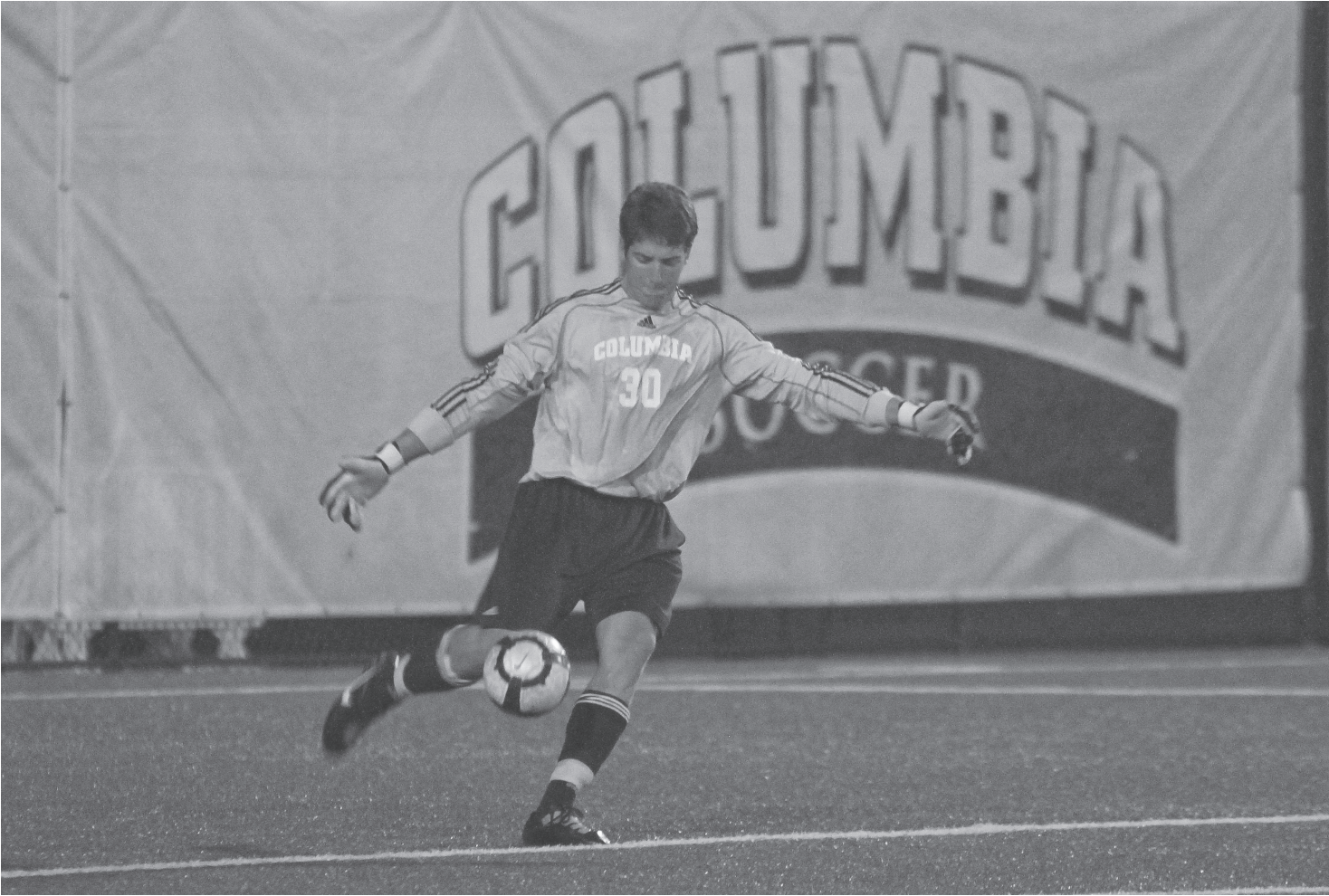
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By David Poole  
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ALYSON GOULDEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

GAME OF INCHES | Although the Lions are winless in their last six games, all have been decided by the slightest of margins.

## CU trudges into Ivy opener on six-game winless streak

### MEN’S SOCCER from back page

spells of those contests—but a failure to convert possession and dominance into goals has hindered their progress. Even though they were down to nine men, the Lions did put up a fight and only fell by a narrow margin to Seton Hall, their fourth consecutive 1-0 defeat. “They’re all close—we’re not doing enough to win though,” Aurricchio said. “Everything is adding up to a loss. It’s good to see that we just need to make that little adjustment, that little difference, to get back onto a winning track.” Head coach Kevin Anderson is just trying to focus on conference play.

“Every day we train, plan, and prepare to grow and earn our places within this team,” he wrote in an email. “We have certainly self-examined all aspects and have found that confidence and consistency are successful ingredients for our team and its success. We are prepared for the beginning of the Ivy season and are prepared for a successful campaign.” The Bears, who received the most votes in this week’s NSCAA poll of any Ivy with six, have started off the season with a 5-3 record and are most recently coming off a 2-0 loss to No. 13 Boston College. Columbia and Brown’s matchup last season was also the Ivy opener for both squads. The Bears triumphed

### PICKING UP WHERE THEY LEFT OFF

Last season, Columbia was undefeated in its final four ivy games.

10/23	v. Dartmouth	z, 2-1
10/30	@ Yale	Tie, 0-0
11/6	@ Harvard	Win, 1-0
11/13	v. Cornell	Tie, 0-0

GRAPHIC BY REBECCA SCHWARZ

3-0 and snapped a three-game winning streak for the Light Blue, thanks to goals from Jon Okafor and current seniors TJ Popolizio and Austin Mandel. (Okafor has since graduated and was drafted by Chivas USA in the MLS.) Popolizio scored

a diving header in that fixture and leads the Bears this year with six goals and an assist, ahead of his classmate Sean Rosa, who tallied an assist last year against the Lions. Rosa has three goals and an assist in 2011. Aurricchio highlighted the importance of getting the Ivy campaign off to a strong start. “The Ivy season is only seven games, so that first game sets the tone for the whole season,” he said. “If we come out and make a statement in that first game it could change the outlook for the whole season and make people take note of where we are.” Kickoff is scheduled for 4 p.m. tomorrow at Columbia Soccer Stadium.



FILE PHOTO

SCHULTZ ON GOAL | The Lions need senior forward Marissa Schultz and the rest of the offense to improve as Ivy play continues.

## Women’s soccer hosts fellow Ivy undefeated Brown

### BY MOLLY TOW Spectator Staff Writer

Two-thirds of Columbia’s wins this season have been at home. The Lions have struggled in every away game. As the Light Blue returns home again, its fans will help to facilitate rejuvenation. On Saturday, the Columbia women’s soccer team (3-5, 1-0 Ivy) will host Brown (6-2-1, 1-0 Ivy) under the lights at Columbia Soccer Stadium. The Light Blue is coming off a fairly successful weekend. Although their outing at Fordham ended in their fourth shutout loss of the season, the Lions began conference play with a solid 3-1 victory at Cornell. Columbia is happy to see senior forward and co-captain Ashlin Yahr fully recovered from her short injury, and by Friday’s game it doesn’t appear

that she has faced any setbacks. Yahr scored Columbia’s third goal against the Big Red, and her offensive prowess will be key for the Lions in their coming games, as goals have rarely come easy for them this year. “The doors of possibility are open for any of our players to step up. One of the positive signs is that some of our injured players are well on the road to recovery and getting closer to full strength,” head coach Kevin McCarthy said. “Sunday was a difficult match against a team that had not played for a week, whereas we were coming off a long road trip that was emotionally and physically taxing. It has only made the team more committed in training this week, and that bodes well for us in our future performance.” Brown has commenced Ivy play as well, as the Bears

defeated Dartmouth 1-0 in an exciting overtime match last Sunday. Senior forward Marybeth Lesbriel scored her first goal of 2011 in the 98th minute to push the Bears over the Big Green. Brown’s most recent game was on Wednesday against University of Rhode Island, which saw the Bears record their fifth shutout of the season with a 1-0 win against their in-state rival. The game’s goal was another season first, this time for sophomore forward Emily Wingrove, who scored with 15 minutes left in the game. Currently, the Bears do not have a regular goalkeeper. Sophomores Amber Bledsoe and MC Barrett have split time in 2011, with Bledsoe starting every game and Barrett coming in following halftime. The Lions will be wary of sophomore forward/midfielder

Kiersten Berg, who has 23 shots, three goals, and three assists this season. In total, the Bears have seven players with 10 or more shots, six of who have at least one goal. “Our intention is to dictate the play and to be the aggressor and create chances,” McCarthy said. “We respect them and their players but our focus really is on us.” Not only is this game important in regards to Ivy League play, but it is also Columbia’s alumnae day. The Light Blue’s first conference match at home this year will see fans from multiple generations in attendance. “The team certainly likes to play at home,” McCarthy said. “We’ve only played two games there so far this year and won them both—that’s a good omen for us.” Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Oct. 1.

## Poor play is less due to strategy than attitude

### SIMMONS from back page

game and gassing the defense, it seemed like the Lions coaches wanted to try their own version that they’d never practiced. They came out in the second half and had the Lions offense line up, fake a snap, then all 11 players faced the sideline to get the play, the formation would change, and then the play was finally run. It was as if the coaches felt backed into a corner and then overcompensated with a totally ineffective plan. But my question about that no-huddle is why didn’t the coaches trust Brackett to read the defense? He’s obviously a smart kid—he goes to Columbia just like you and me. I say if you want to run a no-huddle, give him three to five plays, send him up to the line and let the man’s brain go to work. I’m sure he can see where a play should or should not go. I bet there are very good reasons why they didn’t run the no-huddle like

that, but if everybody has to turn to the sideline to get the play, just huddle. And that’s what brings me back to attitudes and culture. The fact that I have to sit here and critique tackling and the no-huddle offense is, to me, a bigger reflection on the guy in charge than anyone else. I sincerely believe that if the culture dictated that a win is expected each and every week, I wouldn’t even be discussing these problems. Look, in this economy, I don’t want to think about anyone losing his or her job, so my sincere hope is that Wilson has built enough of a foundation that we can see a drastic change in how the Lions come out and fight for a victory this week. Otherwise, the attitude might not be the only thing that needs to change. Myles Simmons is a Columbia College sophomore. sports@columbiaspectator.com

## SPORTS BRIEFLY

### GOLF

Men’s golf travels to Yale this weekend for the MacDonald Cup. The 35th iteration of the tournament will see Columbia face 11 other teams, including Ivy League rivals Dartmouth, Harvard, Princeton, Penn, and host Yale. Both Yale and Penn come off of strong showings last weekend, each placing third in their respective tournaments. Golfweek ranked Yale men’s golf 43rd in the country this week, making them the only team in the tournament ranked in the top 100. The Light Blue, meanwhile, finished second at the Cornell Invitational last week. Senior Sam Myssock, juniors Michael Yiu and Ford Fischer, and sophomore Andrew Kim combined for four of the top six individual performances of the tournament. The teams will play two rounds on Saturday and a final round Sunday to complete the 54-hole tournament. —Muneeb Alam

### LACROSSE

The Columbia women’s lacrosse team heads to Baltimore, Md. Friday to play American University and University of Maryland, Baltimore County. This two-scrimmage double-header marks the first action for Columbia lacrosse since the one-goal loss in the season finale against Binghamton. In that match, then-sophomore and current junior Kacie Johnson scored five points, bringing her single-season total to 59, a program record. Johnson played a huge role in the last season, and one can expect her play to be commendable again this season. The Lions welcome eight freshmen to the team after losing six seniors to graduation last year. Their biggest loss was third-leading scorer Gabrielle Geronimos, who claimed 21 points in the previous campaign. In the 2010-2011 season, the Light Blue went 4-11 overall, with a 1-6 conference record—notching their first Ivy win in three years. Columbia’s weekend opponents, American and UMBC went 9-8 and 11-7 respectively last season. The Light Blue will play five more scrimmages in the next two weeks and will officially open their season on Feb. 25 at American. —Miles Johnson

### WOMEN’S TENNIS

For the first time in the Columbia women’s tennis team history, four players will be competing in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association’s All-American Championship in Pacific Palisades, California. Columbia is sending the most players out of all of the Ivy League women’s teams with junior Nicole Bartnik, sophomore Bianca Sanon, and freshman twin sisters Adel Arshavskaja and Renata Arshavskaja all making the cross-country flight. Bartnik will compete as a singles competitor and as a doubles competitor with Sanon. The Arshavskaja twins will be competing as a doubles team as well. Singles play begins Saturday, Oct. 1, and doubles play begins Sunday, Oct. 2. —Alison Macke

“★★★★ I HAVEN’T BEEN THIS EXCITED ABOUT A MOVIE SINCE PULP FICTION!”  
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— Peter Travers, **Rolling Stone**

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PIXBOX

week # 3

- 1: Columbia at Princeton (+4.5)
- 2: Pennsylvania at Dartmouth (pk)
- 3: Wagner at Cornell (-1.5)
- 4: Yale at Lehigh (-12.5)
- 5: Harvard at Lafayette (+7.5)
- 6: Nebraska at Wisconsin (-9.5)
- 7: Detroit Lions at Dallas Cowboys (pk)
- 8: Detroit Tigers at New York Yankees Game 1 (-1.5)



**Ronnie Shaban**  
(11-5)

LIONS  
Penn  
Big Red  
Woof  
Leopards  
Corn  
Other LIONS  
Verlander is pitching

*Hello FIFA 12, good bye GPA.*

*Too busy playing Football Manager...*



**Zach Glubiak**  
(10-6)

Roar Lion  
Quakers  
Big Red  
LeAlto  
Leopards  
Herbie the Husker  
Dan Bailey  
Bronx Bombers




**Victoria Jones**  
(9-7)

Norries  
Penmanship  
Corndogs  
Bulldogs  
'Vard  
Wisconsin  
Matt Stafford  
Verlander ftw

*Yet again, this one's for Bartolo.*

*Soccer players should be banned from Pixbox.*



**Mrinal Mohanka**  
(9-7)

Roaree  
Penn  
Upstate  
Yale  
Laugh  
Wisconsin  
Tim Bagels  
NY4EVER



**Michael Shapiro**  
(8-8)

Come ON  
Darts  
Corny  
Yale  
Vard  
BADGERS!  
Real Lions  
Not Yankees


*What crashed first, the Red Sox, the satellite, or Solyndra?*

*Shanah tovah to all my Jewish brothers and sisters.*



**Jeremiah Sharf**  
(8-8)

Who owns NY?  
Oatmeal  
Clifford  
Bulldogs  
Harvard  
Nebraska  
4-0  
Verlander




**Ryan Young**  
(8-8)

NY > NJ  
Penn  
Big Red  
Yale  
Lafayette  
Cheeseheads  
Cowgirls  
MVVerlanderP


*50 seasons: 2 championships, 0 no-hitters ... 1 batting title and no longer holders of September's worst collapse.*

*So who wants a fifth wildcard now?*



**Jim Pagels**  
(7-9)

Lions  
Penn  
Cornell  
Yale  
Lafayette  
Huskers  
Megatron  
Verlander




**Benjamin Spener**  
(6-10)

Columbia  
Pennsylvania  
Cornell  
Yale  
Harvard  
Nebraska  
Dallas Cowboys  
New York Yankees

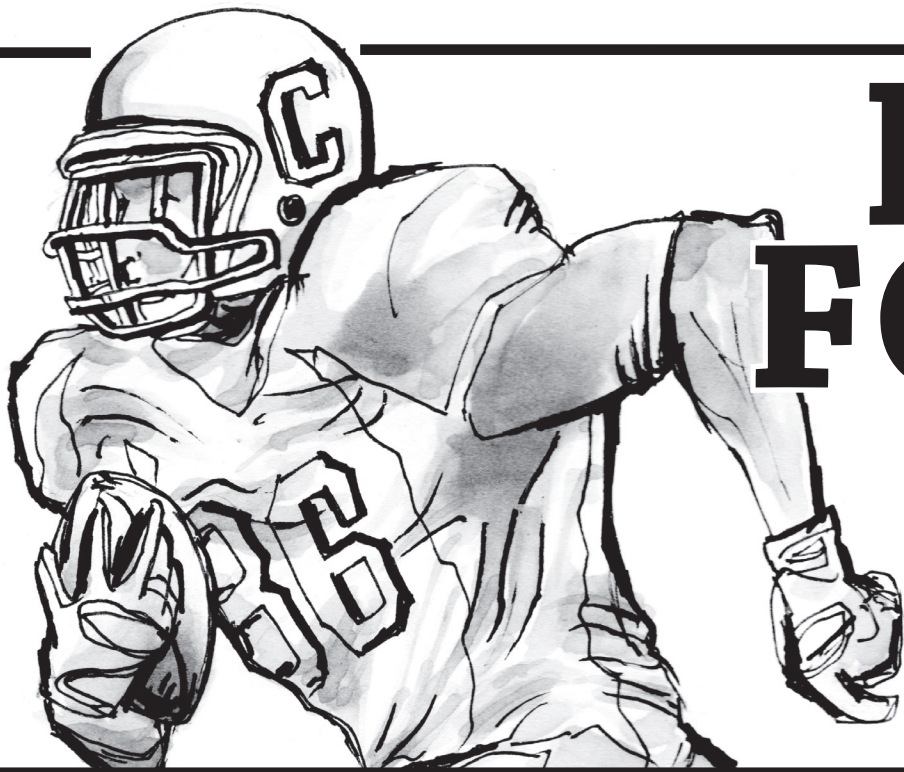
*Remember: you can win games by kicking six field goals.*

*I'm just glad we don't have to pick the Red Sox.*



**Myles Simmons**  
(5-11)

Columbia  
Dartmouth  
Cornell  
Lehigh  
Harvard  
Wisconsin  
Lions  
Yankees



FRIDAY  
FOURTH  
DOWN

KEYS TO  
THE GAME

1

**Special teams**

Big plays on special teams will be critical. Last week Columbia's special teams unit was outplayed by Albany, and it helped the Danes gain great field position. This week, Columbia will have to contain senior defensive back/return specialist Ivan Charbonneau, who has averaged 32.4 yards per return this season.

2

**Win turnover battle**

Last week the Lions turned the ball over four times and in their opening game against Fordham a 100-yard interception return proved to be the difference in the outcome of the game. Against Bucknell, Princeton fared even worse losing possession six times. Whichever team wins the turnover battle will likely win the game.

3

**Defensive recognition**

Princeton's offense is based on speed, motion, and misdirection. For the Lions, who have struggled in tackling this season, it will be key for them to find where the ball is on every play. If Columbia's defensive players are unable to do so, Princeton's offense could end up with big plays.

BY THE NUMBERS

POINTS FOR		YARDS GAINED	
COLUMBIA	17.5	COLUMBIA	320.0
PRINCETON	15.5	PRINCETON	323.0

POINTS AGAINST		YARDS ALLOWED	
COLUMBIA	32.5	COLUMBIA	371.5
PRINCETON	34.0	PRINCETON	388.5

KEY MATCHUPS

*Sean Brackett*

*Tommy Wornham*

In 2010 Brackett completed 58 percent of his passes while he has only completed 45 percent so far this year. This game will be a great indication of which of these quarterbacks Brackett is. Wornham was injured for half of 2010, but when healthy, he is a very talented QB. So far this season, his numbers are remarkably similar to Brackett's.

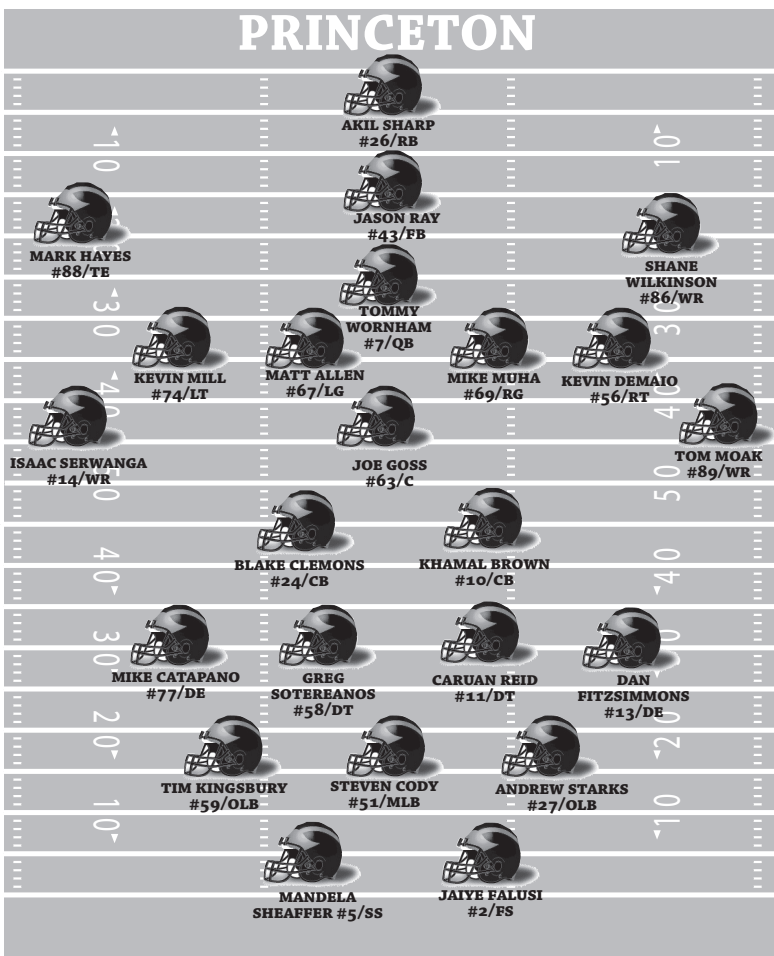
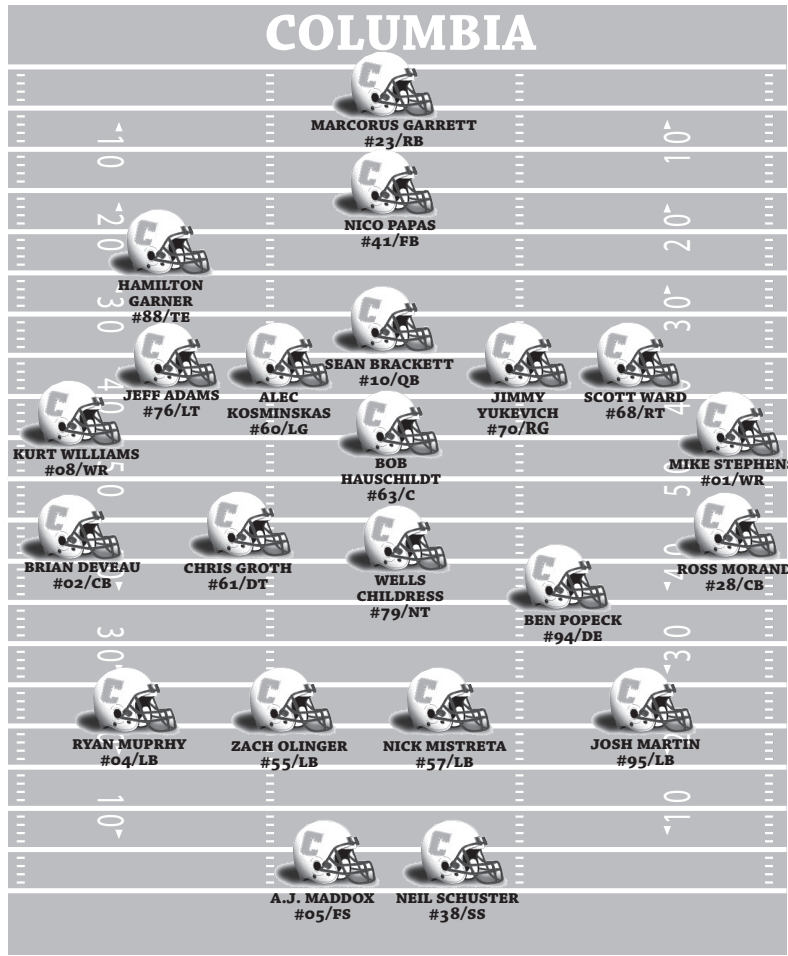


*Zach Olinger*

*Andrew Starks*

Olinger leads the Lions with 20 tackles. As one of the leaders of the defense, Olinger will have to lead the Lions by example as they attempt to improve their tackling after last week's loss to Albany. Starks has already recorded 17 tackles. Hisplay will be critical in determining if Columbia is able to ignite its struggling running game.

STARTING LINEUPS



IVY STANDINGS

Team	Conference Record	Overall Record
1. Yale	1-0	2-0
2. Harvard	1-0	1-1
3. Dartmouth	0-0	1-1
4. Columbia	0-0	0-2
5. Pennsylvania	0-0	0-2
6. Princeton	0-0	0-2
7. Brown	0-1	1-1
8. Cornell	0-1	1-1

Other Ivy Games

*Penn at Dartmouth*

The two-time defending champions Penn (0-2) visit Dartmouth (1-1), in both team's Ivy league opener. Penn is looking to shake off an uncharacteristically bad start, having been outscored a combined 67-33 in games against Lafayette and Villanova so far, a season after allowing a league-low 14.5 points per game. Dartmouth's hope with upsetting the Quakers will depend on the sort of game MVP running back Nick Schwieger can have against a Penn defense that traditionally is stingy against the run.

*Yale at Lehigh*

Yale (2-0, 1-0 Ivy) heads to Lehigh this weekend after a commanding 37-17 victory in its Ivy Opener over Cornell. Senior quarterback Patrick Witt threw for 246 yards and two touchdowns, in addition to rushing for another, and was named Ivy League Offensive Player of the week for the second week in a row. The Bulldogs face a tougher test this week in Lafayette (3-1) who conquered the Tigers, 34-22, two weeks ago.

*Harvard at Lafayette*

Lafayette (1-3) will play Harvard (1-1) with a bad taste in its mouth having been dismantled 35-10 last year to the Crimson. For Lafayette to be competitive this time, it will have to contain Harvard's new primary back Treavor Scales, who is coming off a resounding 129-yard rushing performance in a victory against Brown last week in Harvard's league opener.

*Rhode Island at Brown*

Brown (1-1, 0-1 Ivy) looks to rebound from a difficult loss in its Ivy opener when it meets Ocean State rival Rhode Island in the Governor's Cup. The two will meet for the 96th time in only the second game under the lights at Brown Stadium. The Rams (1-2) are coming off their lone win of the season, a 21-17 victory over Fordham.

*Wagner at Cornell*

The Big Red (1-1, 0-1 Ivy) will look to avenge its Ivy loss against Yale when they host Wagner (1-3) this weekend. Cornell quarterback Jeff Matthews, who leads the league with 603 passing yards, will try to send Wagner to its fourth straight loss.



# GAMEDAY

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 • PAGE 8



## COLUMBIA (0-2, 0-0 Ivy) at PRINCETON (0-2, 0-0 Ivy)

SATURDAY, 6 P.M., PRINCETON, N.J.

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### Change in CU culture begins with the coach

A team must have a certain attitude to meet expectations.

You don't necessarily hear about this all the time, but I think it's very true. As an individual, it's always nice to have someone who believes that you can succeed. This comes in the form of a cheering parent, a supportive friend, or a loving significant other. We all have people who support us in our endeavors.

Yet, sometimes the confidence those people have in us make things more difficult, mostly because we fear disappointing them. And while sometimes that may be a motivating factor, it can also make us put undue pressure on ourselves and ultimately be the cause of a lot of failure. On the other hand, there are times when one person ticks you off so badly by saying "you can't" that you feel like there is no other choice but to prove them wrong.

Having high expectations versus low expectations. Being a favorite versus being the underdog. Which do you prefer?

When it comes to our football team, I'd venture to say that given the history of the sport at this university, they'd probably prefer having the high expectations. And if that's true, now is the time to take a look in the mirror and see if they can handle it.

And I'm not even talking about huge, lofty expectations. Of course, the goal each year is to go out and win the Ivy League title. But as someone following Ancient Eight football, is that a realistic expectation for this year? No, it probably isn't. But that doesn't mean this team can't be competitive. That doesn't mean the team can't play with heart. And it certainly doesn't excuse a horrendous 44-21 blowout loss in their home opener.

### The Lions' performance has a lot less to do with expectations than it does with attitude and culture.

If you ask me, when things like that happen, it has a lot less to do with expectations than it does with attitude and culture. You look at any sport around the country, and there are always programs or franchises that are successful year after year.

Now, attitude and culture isn't something that just changes overnight, but the fact that Norries Wilson has been our football team's head coach since 2006 and the Lions still can't seem to break "mediocre" status is concerning. I feel like there should at least be some tangible progress, but when you watch a team run rampant up and down the field, as Albany did last Saturday, it clearly isn't a positive sign.

I'll admit it, I made these points on Spectrum in "Three Quick Thoughts" a few days ago, but I think they're well worth going over again.

I remember one play when the goal line defense was sent in on first down, and on the ensuing play, they literally stood up, were pushed back into the end zone, and Albany's running back was able to walk in. That kind of play is unacceptable. When you stand up and play patty-cake on the goal line, you've quit on the play. It's unwatchable.

And I hate to call out one player, but when it comes to failing to live up to expectations, quarterback Sean Brackett perfectly fits the mold. However, I think part of the problem here is coaching.

I'm talking about what I call, "The No-Huddle Debacle." After Albany killed the Lions with the no-huddle for the entire first half, speeding up the

SEE SIMMONS, page 6



MYLES SIMMONS  
A Second Opinion

## Lions look for fresh start in Ivy opener at Princeton



ALYSON GOULDEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**RUNNING WILD** | CU will need more production out of its running backs, including Marcorus Garrett, to win Ivy games.

## Men's soccer hopes to continue Ivy success in conference opener

BY MRINAL MOHANKA  
Spectator Staff Writer

The Columbia men's soccer team (3-5-1) hosts conference foe Brown (5-3) on Saturday in both teams' Ivy League opener. The Lions, who opened the season with a three-game winning streak, will be looking to pick up where they left off in conference play in 2010, where they went undefeated in the last four Ivy games.

"We started out well, 3-0, but as of late it's been difficult," senior goalkeeper Alexander Aurricchio said. "We've had four 1-0 losses in a row. You know, it almost feels like we're there because every game has been so close."

The Light Blue enters the clash on the back of a midweek loss at Seton

Hall. The Lions squad has been hit by injuries in recent weeks, with senior defender Nick Faber, junior defender Brendan O'Hearn, and sophomore midfielder David Najem all missing out against the Pirates. Columbia's job was made harder when they had two defenders, junior Ifio Akpandak and sophomore David Westlake, sent off with red cards against the Pirates; both will miss the clash against Brown. As a result, freshman center-back Jack Gagne may be called into the starting 11.

The Lions have failed to win any of their last six encounters, and are scoreless for the past five. Those statistics do, to an extent, conceal the fact that the Lions have controlled several

SEE MEN'S SOCCER, page 6



ALYSON GOULDEN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**RED HERRING** | The Lions have had plenty of success in the Ancient Eight of late, but two red cards in their last game will force them to play backups vs Brown.

## Princeton linebacker Starks makes just as big an impact off the field

BY HAHN CHANG  
Spectator Staff Writer

Stats get forgotten. Few remember the numbers of even the most revered athletes. Game-winning heroics in the fourth quarter also fade in our consciousness. However, it is harder to forget stories about athletes off the field. For Princeton's All-Ivy junior linebacker Andrew Starks, the most defining moment of his football career has not come from his awards or accolades, his stats, or any of his personal game-changing plays he's made over three seasons at Princeton.

"I just think he's one of those guys who has high character, high energy—you like being around him," Princeton Head Coach Bob Surace said.

Born in 1990, Andrew Starks seemed to be a prime candidate to be a football standout. His father, Kevin, played in the NFL after an illustrious collegiate career at the University of Minnesota.

"Though my father played a monumental role in my football career, and in my athletic development as a whole for that matter, he was not the one who first suggested that I play football," Starks said.

He started by playing catch with his father and eventually began his organized career with a group of his



COURTESY OF THE DAILY PRINCETONIAN

**STARK DIFFERENCE** | Versatile Princeton linebacker Andrew Starks will be a major obstacle for the Lions.

friends in the park district where his dad was the coach.

At Plainfield North High School in Plainfield, Ill., Starks stood out in academics, extracurriculars, and athletics.

"I loved the feeling I got running out of the tunnel under the lights every Friday night in high school," he said.

Starks, who played quarterback, racked up numerous honors including his team's MVP, an Illinois State Scholar, and an All-State honoree for football.

Heavily recruited by D-1 schools across the country as a safety, schools such as Boston College, Colorado State, Air Force, and Brown all looked to bring him to their programs.

Despite all these scholarship offers, when he took his official NCAA visit to Princeton, he knew.

"I realized that was the right place for me. Princeton is the best of both worlds. It has a rich athletic tradition in addition to a world-renowned academic reputation," Starks said.

From his freshman year, Starks made an impact. He recorded 33 tackles, recovered a fumble, and earned the Harland "Pink" Baker '22 Award, given to the Tigers' top defensive freshman.

"Making my first start freshman year was a big moment for me," Starks said. "Any playing time during freshman year helps build a foundation of comfort and confidence for the remainder of an athlete's career."

However, he did not just limit himself to being exceptional on the football

field during his freshman year.

"If there's something we want to do with the Princeton Varsity Club or other leadership roles, he was already in a lot of those roles as a young player. If they wanted a freshman, he was the guy," Surace said.

In his sophomore year, he switched to playing linebacker, a position he had never played.

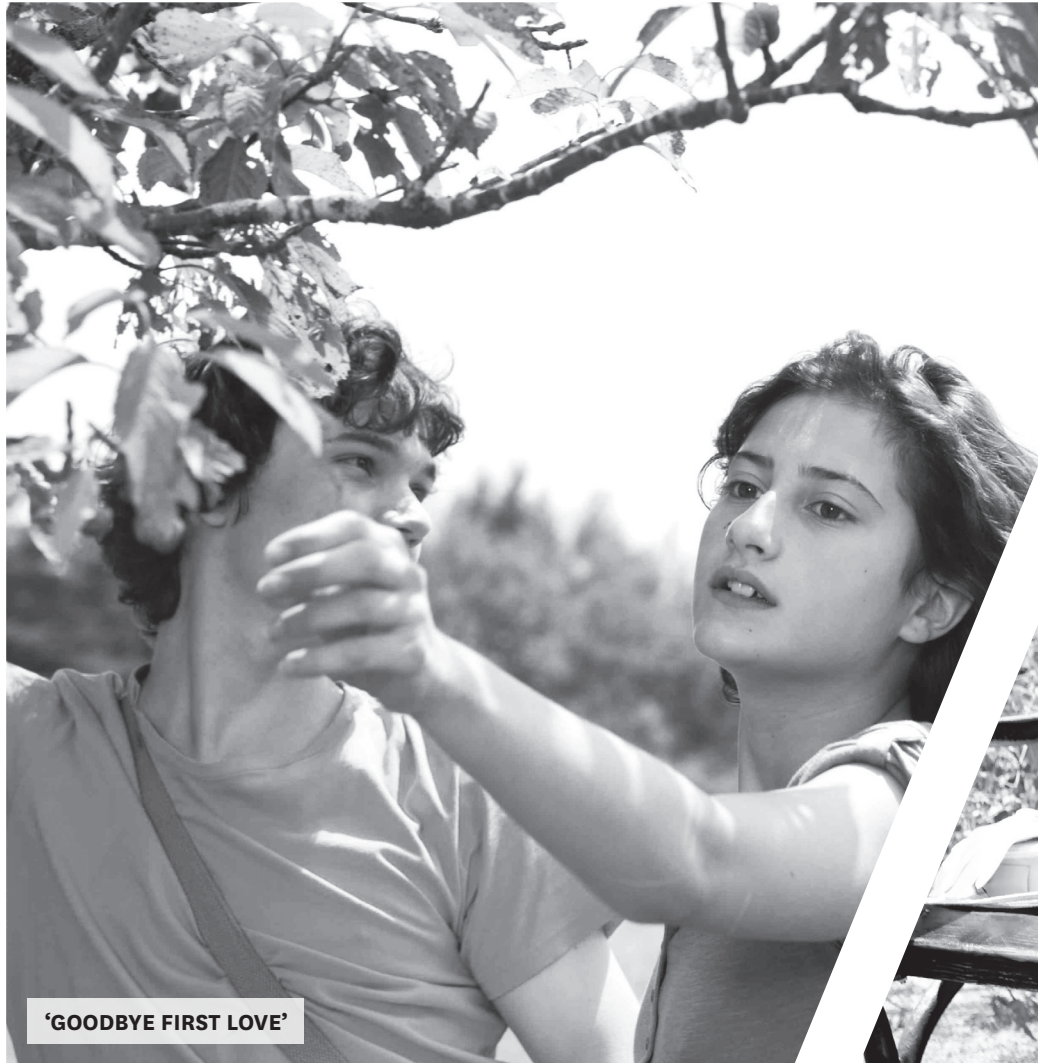
Starks embraced the challenge, pushing himself in the off-season. He came in full-force against opposing offenses, recording 89 tackles, including 12 at Columbia when the Tigers fell 42-14, and picking off two passes that year, earning him an All-Ivy League Honorable Mention.

"He just has a great way of controlling his emotions by flicking a switch and playing good hard football. He's really done a good job with that," Surace said.

Although the Tigers haven't won a game since Sept. 25 last year, Starks plans to turn Princeton's fortunes around this season. Leading the Ivy League in tackles amongst underclassmen, Starks has shown his leadership, and as a leader of Princeton's defense, he will be ready to challenge the Lions as both teams go for their first win of the season.

"Our goal is winning the next game," Surace said.





'GOODBYE FIRST LOVE'



'A DANGEROUS METHOD'



'MELANCHOLIA'



'CARNAGE'



'LONELIEST PLANET'



'THE DESCENDANTS'

## 'FilmLinc' to international cinema at the 49th annual New York Film Festival

BY RACHEL ALLEN  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

While year 49 isn't quite a golden anniversary, the 49th annual New York Film Festival has plenty to celebrate. From Friday, Sept. 30 through Sunday, Oct. 16, the Film Society of Lincoln Center hosts NYFF, which showcases films from all over the world in celebration and promotion of cinematic art. With shining new theaters and a reinvigorated film slate, NYFF should have a banner year—and there are many ways for students to get the most out of it.

The question of how to use the Film Society of Lincoln Center's beautiful new digs—the three theaters that comprise the Elinor Bunin Munroe Film Center (70 Lincoln Center Plaza, between Broadway and Amsterdam)—only created new opportunities.

"We do have new spaces and I don't think we just wanted to repeat films," said Film Society of Lincoln Center programming director and Columbia professor Richard Peña. "We wanted to figure out how we could expand intelligently—how we could expand in such a way that we did not lose our identity but in fact that we were moving into new areas and doing more things."

These new theaters have brought to life the festival's outer spheres: retrospectives, such as a 37-film tribute to the Japanese film studio Nikkatsu, discussions, and panels. This year's panels feature everything from a fun "The Royal Tenenbaums" reunion to a tribute to late film critic Pauline Kael.

That is not to say that the main slate is lacking. This year, NYFF features some of the most exciting film selections seen in recent years—from anxiously awaited commercial films like Lars Von Triers' dreamy "Melancholia" to the intense Iranian feature "Nader and Simin, A Separation." The latter has already won awards for best film (gold), best actress (silver), and best actor (silver) at the Berlin International Film Festival.

Choosing which films to see is no easy task. After the dedicated festival selection committee narrows

SEE NYFF, page B2

### 'A DANGEROUS METHOD'

One of the most talked-about films of the festival, David Cronenberg's tale of Freud and Jung appeals to more than just psych majors. With big-name stars like Michael Fassbender, Keira Knightley, and Viggo Mortensen, the movie is a feast for the eyes and the mind. Of all the high-profile films premiering at this year's festival, "A Dangerous Method" is by far the most intellectual, as well as the most anticipated.

### 'MISS BALA'

Mexico's entry into this year's Academy Awards race features a star-making performance from newcomer Stephanie Sigman. She plays a dazed beauty queen wannabe who inadvertently gets caught up in a dangerous Mexican gang.

### 'FROM MORNING TILL MIDNIGHT'

A great example of NYFF's dedication to cinema history, this radical, silent film will appeal to anyone who enjoyed the eerie expressionism of "Cabinet of Doctor Caligari." Following a provincial embezzler who flees to the city and enters into a downward spiral, this extreme German expressionist film was thought lost. Recently recovered, it is brought back to life with live accompaniment by the Alloy Orchestra.



Best of

Hair Salons

Split ends, mop-like bangs, or simply an uninspired look are all telltale signs that it’s time to get a haircut. Some students might be holding out for their familiar hometown hairdressers, but others have hair emergencies that can’t wait until Thanksgiving or Christmas break. Make the task of combing the city for a spot a little less daunting by checking out one of these student-approved salons.

—BY MELISSA FICH

Scott J. Salon & Spa

For the stressed and time-pressed, Scott J. Salon (257 Columbus Ave., at 72nd Street) is the place to go. The salon can usually accommodate next-day appointments through their efficient online booking system. Scott J.’s also stays open until 10 or 11 p.m. every night—hours that are a godsend for those trying to squeeze in an appointment after class or work. Stylist haircuts start at \$60 and come with stress-relieving extras: Clients are pampered with a soothing scalp, neck, and shoulder massage and can choose between a complimentary makeup touch-up or hand treatment. These bonuses—as well as the salon’s warm vibe—will put even the tensest patrons at ease.

Avalon Salon & Day Spa

A self-described “oasis of relaxation and comfort,” Avalon Salon (112 Christopher St., between Bleecker and Hudson streets) is an escape from the bustle of Greenwich Village. The interior is modern, but the atmosphere is cozy and low-key. Haircut, shampoo, and styling start at \$45, and these hair services are sure to please even the pickiest of customers. “I’ve been getting my hair cut for about a year now from Tom, and I have never been disappointed with how my hair looks,” Austin Arita, CC ’15, said. “Usually when I leave a barber, I end up trying to fiddle with it because I ... well, I usually hate it. But with Tom, I love exactly how he does it.”

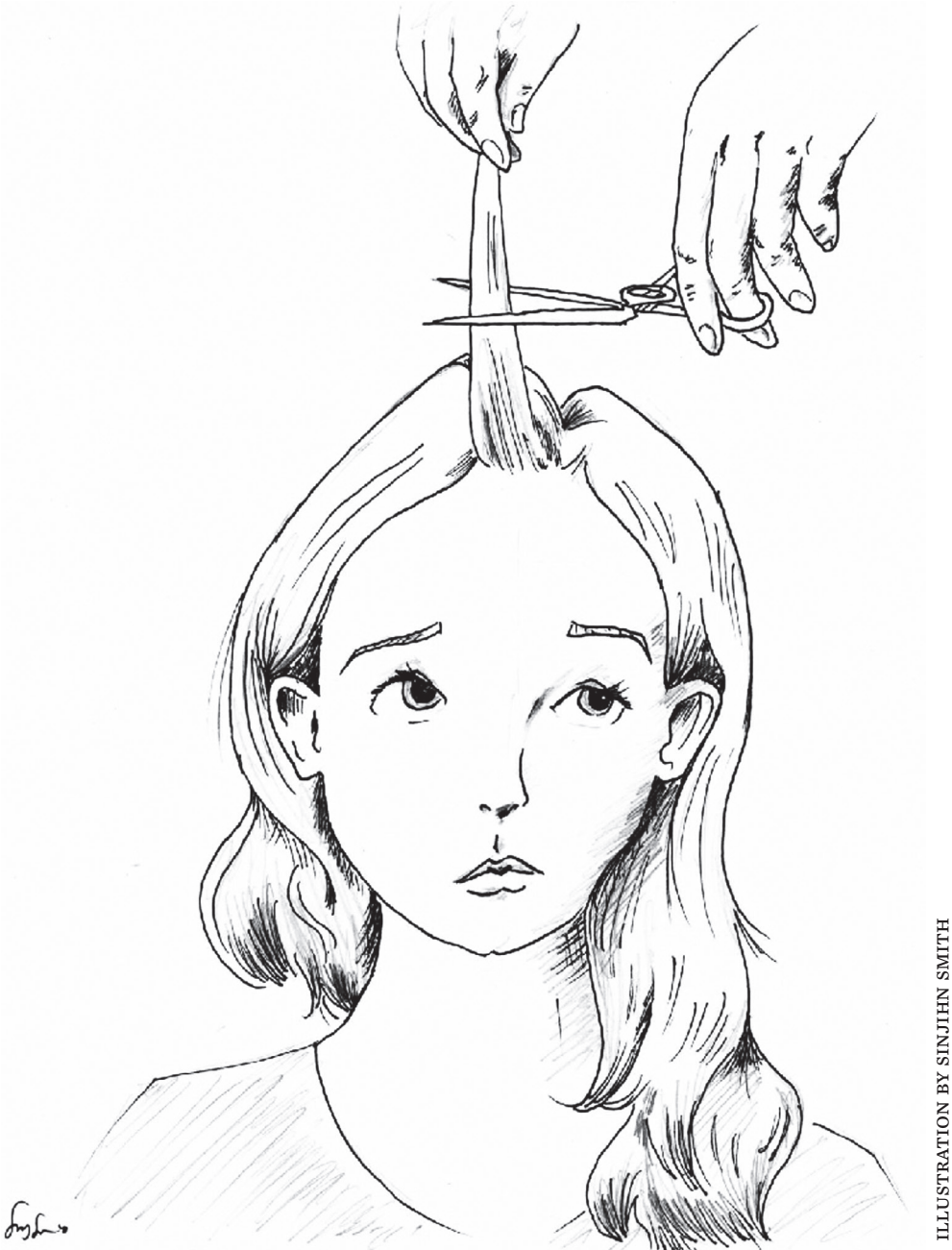


ILLUSTRATION BY SINJHN SMITH

Blondi’s Hair Salon

A quick five-minute walk from campus, Blondi’s (2742 Broadway, between 104th and 105th streets) is the ideal salon for anyone who doesn’t want to venture too far for that much-needed haircut. Women’s haircuts start at \$45, and a haircut with blow-dry starts at \$75. Men’s haircuts start at \$40. Clients can also elect to have their hair cut with a senior or master stylist (at a higher price range). Though this is expensive, university students can save 20% at Blondi’s when they present a valid CUID.

Astor Place Barbershop

Astor Place Barbershop (2 Astor Pl., between Broadway and Lafayette streets) offers quick, inexpensive cuts. There isn’t much ambience to speak of—the business is located in a large basement, which makes for an admittedly atypical salon experience. Nevertheless, the fast, efficient cuts will satisfy anyone who fidgets at the thought of spending more than 20 minutes in a salon chair. Simple haircuts start at just \$14, while wash, cut, and blow-dry combos start at \$25. Michael Davis, CC ’15, raves, “It’s cheap, it’s popular, and I love my haircut.”



COURTESY OF SONY PICTURES CLASSICS AND NUEE ROAD MOVIES / SUNDANCE SELECTS

Cinephile or not, students can watch film’s latest at NYFF

NYFF from page B1

the over 2,800 film applications down to 27, every film is worth watching. “I think there are several different ways of ... approaching the New York Film Festival,” Peña said. “One is to really see which films have distributors and which ones don’t. Films that have distributors of course will—within the next few months, at least within the next year—be opening, and you’ll be able to see them then. Other films in the program that don’t have distributors—this might be your last chance to see them on a big screen.”

If the \$25 festival tickets seem a bit out of

reach, there are other ways to gain access to NYFF. Although not prominently listed on its website ,NYFF offers rush tickets. One hour before the showtime of any film, open tickets are released at a reduced price of \$10. Although not guaranteed, most films do have extra tickets, and the price is hard to beat.

Also, in an attempt to strengthen its social media presence, the Film Society of Lincoln Center’s Twitter account (@FilmLine) offers daily trivia questions that allow participants to win free tickets.

While it may be too late for this year, the best way to truly gain firsthand NYFF experience is

to volunteer.

“Almost all the volunteers were film majors from city schools,” Winn Periyasamy, BC ’13, said. “It’s great for their résumé, gives them a place to see some really amazing films and meet some amazing people, and gives them a great chance to discuss their own films and their love of films with other students.” Periyasamy is a second-year volunteer.

Aside from networking, volunteering comes with major perks. “You get the chance to see press screenings and actual premieres of some really cool films, sit in on some amazing panels—I got to see the post-screening discussions for ‘The

Social Network’ and ‘Inside Job,’ for example—and meet some incredible people in the industry that you might not be able to meet otherwise,” Periyasamy said.

Peña said the opportunities for volunteering range from staffing the green room to checking in press, but he maintains that the “other duty is of course to attend.”

With many showings over the next two weeks that still have available tickets and rush prices comparable to AMC’s ticket deals, not even mid-terms should deter film-loving students from taking advantage of the simply great cinema at the 49th New York Film Festival.





SNAPSHOTS | Artist Moyra Davey’s set of chromogenic color prints “The Coffee Shop, The Library, 2011” is part of MoMA’s “New Photography.”

# ‘New Photography’ captures singular visions but lacks cohesion

BY RICHARD WHIDDINGTON  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

Vivacious New York characters, Turkey’s growing problems with modernization, and Mao Zedong’s cult status in China are a seemingly bizarre combination of themes. And yet Museum of Modern Art’s 2011 “New Photography” stuffs them in one room together—rather successfully.

The annual “New Photography” exhibition, running from Sept. 28 through Jan. 16, has been showcasing contemporary photographers from around the world for the past 15 years. This year sees the photographs of Moyra Davey, George Georgiou, Deana Lawson, Doug Rickard, Viviane Sassen, and Zhang Dali presented in the series.

**George Georgiou**

The exhibit offers a selection of photographs from his debut book “Fault Lines: Turkey from East to West.” The British-born photographer tours Turkey’s provincial backwaters and impressively manages to bring to question—through seemingly everyday stills—how Turkey struggles to merge its traditional heritage with its modern potential. Brashly colored apartment blocks clash with simple dirt roads,

fighter jets tower over bicycles, and women in traditional dress carry groceries through a recently built ghost town. Georgiou’s images feel raw, relatively detached from the world of Photoshop, and focus instead on composition. Mottled skies often stretch far into the pictures and focal objects are frequently perfectly off-center.

**While “New Photography” thrives in depth of subject and variation of technique, there is a disjointed and scattered feel.**

**Doug Rickard**

Using Google’s Street View, Rickard combines his degree in urban sociology with a passion for photography to create a sequence of images of economically deprived parts of America in an entirely novel way. The absence of a physical photographer on site often gives his images an authentic sense of these inner-city scenes as the subject’s self-consciousness.

While the slight pixilation in the images seem to add a certain jagged touch to the stills (the images are untouched minus the removing of the Google watermark), the viewer is often left slightly unsatisfied, wanting a deeper focus and detail.

**Deana Lawson**

Lawson draws upon the social diversity of New York to tell clipped but meaningful stories. The art to her photographs, however, is not the diverse range of characters that she chooses to portray—although they are interesting in themselves. Rather, the art comes from her ability to create a tangible relationship between the subject, their surrounding environment, and the viewer. Yet, her most curious and persuasive photograph titled “Altar,” seemingly detached from her more dramatic character images, engages the onlooker in a game of I Spy. Viewers can pluck hand cream, Kosher salt, and erasers from the melee at the foot of the altar.

While “New Photography” thrives in depth of subject and variation of technique, there is a disjointed and scattered feel to the exhibition. With each photographer so immersed in his or her own decisions, the photographs fail to relate to the surrounding works.

# The One Syndrome: a plague for girls and their Facebook statuses

Oh no. You just posted “Best Thing I Never Had” by Beyoncé on your Facebook page. And then you commented on it with something like, “heart-break is the path to the one xx I shall overcome.”

Hold up. You’re no Rosa Parks here, honey. You shall overcome? Damn right you will—and not on Facebook.

Let’s take a moment and evaluate the issue. Jeopardy moment: what is, heartbreak? Ding ding ding, we have a winner. Okay, so some dude totally ripped you a new one. It happens to the best of us. I don’t care if “[Your] heart’s a stereo/It beats for [him] so listen close/Hear your thoughts in every note/Oh oh oh” (Stereo Hearts, by Gym Class Heroes ft. Adam Levine). Guess what, it’s over. Therefore, there is no need to share your feelings via song lyrics and angsty vibratos to every single one of your 1000 friends, 950 of whom you haven’t spoken to since middle school. Unnecessary.

And no, dear, the heartbreaker in question will not be scouring your Facebook profile for your feelings, nor will he click on the link you posted. Even if it shows up on his News Feed, chances are, he doesn’t care. Neither do we.

Now, what we care about here is going beyond the issue to the “heart” of the problem. I’m guessing that you thought this guy was the one. Everyone has had The One Syndrome.

A friend of mine, Sarah\*, has this adorable habit when, on the night she meets a guy and they hook up, she’s convinced that he’s different, and they’re going to live happily ever after in each other’s arms and in the arms of their three children, Brandon, Brad, and Bonnie. See a trend? The children’s names all start with B. You know what also starts with B? Bitch—don’t be his.



ELLE ROCHE  
**Rallying the Knickerbockers**

**Jeopardy moment: what is, heartbreak? Ding ding ding, we have a winner. Okay, so some dude totally ripped you a new one. There is no need to share your feelings via song lyrics and angsty-vibratos to every single one of your 1000 friends, 950 of whom you haven’t spoken to since middle school.**

This idea that some guy is The One, and that the extent of your relationship with this fool will make or break you, is plain stupid. I know it’s easier said than done. It’s easier to say that you should dismiss that fuzzy feeling and those pesky butterflies in your stomach that totally mess with your flow. But for the love of God, try. A thick skin is a safe skin.

I’m not saying don’t feel, or don’t take the leap, but take a second and step back. Take some time with it and don’t jump right into it—unlike Sarah. If, like Sarah, you find yourself in an “official” relationship with some rando a week after meeting him, then I’d say you’ve got yourself a bit of a problem. If, like Sarah, you end up binge-eating yourself into an incapacitating coma because three weeks into it your “boy-friend” hasn’t texted you all night, then I’d say you’ve got a problem. And, if you find yourself communicating with your friends solely on plausible topics that concern your boyfriend—remind me to throw a drink in your face. That’ll be my attempt to bring you back from the twilight zone.

This whole heartbreak outlet (inherent to Facebook statuses worldwide) and The One Syndrome results from allowing others to have power over you. If you’re a socially functioning human being, you’ll like something called companionship and want it sometime soon, dammit. But don’t shortchange yourself and pull an Aristotle and think that you (the sun) revolve around him (the Earth). You’re better than that. Exchange the “Skyscraper” by Demi Lovato for some old school “Respect” by Aretha Franklin or “Fighter” by Christina Aguilera. But remember: Keep it to your personal playlist. We, victimized Facebookers, don’t need to witness the defiant change-of-heart-YouTube-video followed by a comment along the lines of “I’m an independent woman and don’t need no man to make me” —because that just sounds silly on Facebook. Quiet confidence is the best confidence.

*\*Name changed*

Elle is a Columbia College sophomore who intends to major in English and Comparative Literature. Rallying the Knickerbockers runs alternate Fridays.

# ‘The Last Picture Show,’ innovative in 1971, still feels modern in 2011

BY JOHN COLELLA  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

A landmark film at the cusp of a revolutionary movement in American cinema, “The Last Picture Show,” directed by Peter Bogdanovich, is as pertinent today as it was when it was released back in 1971. Appealing to a mainly young and college-educated audience, Bogdanovich did away with classical Hollywood traditions of intricate sets and complex camera work, in favor of a simple, emotional story that captured the tensions among 20-somethings in the late ’60s and ’70s. A new 35mm print version of the film will play at Film Forum (209 W. Houston St., between Varick Street and Sixth Avenue) from Friday, Sept. 30 to Thursday, Oct. 6.

Before this film and a few others at the time, Hollywood was dominated by big studios that relied on extravagant sets and impressive camera work to convey a story and keep an audience entertained. But with the advent of other forms of media, namely television, audience numbers sharply dwindled in the late ’50s and ’60s. Studios did their best to recapture the spectacle of cinema

that defined the early days of Hollywood, but these efforts fell short.

Instead, a younger, more educated audience began to emerge with a great interest in the foreign art house films of the time. These films contained striking reproductions of reality and were story driven, forsaking fancy camera work and elaborate sets to communicate with the audience. Hollywood took notice of this trend and, in the late ’60s, began employing younger directors, who were themselves college-educated, hoping that they could reach out to this new audience more effectively. These new directors were successful—they made movies that were shot on site, used relatively unknown actors, and allowed the story to be the centerpiece of the film. This marked the beginning of one of the most groundbreaking eras in film: New American Cinema.

“The Last Picture Show” was one of the first of these films, and it demonstrates the characteristics that typified this era. Bogdanovich shoots entirely on location, giving the film a sense of realism that younger audience thrived on. Instead of employing intricate camera movements (as

many classical Hollywood directors did, namely Hitchcock), Bogdanovich’s camera takes a passive role, forsaking technicality for story. This ironically makes the camera even more powerful. When he does employ dynamic shots, such as a close-up or a push-in, the effect is tenfold, eliciting a greater emotional reaction from the viewer. Even the editing is a bit helter-skelter, at times slightly emulating the French director Jean-Luc Goddard. This gives the film a gritty feel, which in turn both adds to its realism and emotional impact.

Clearly, the technical aspects take a back seat to the story, which is an arguably poetic and timeless piece of work. Centering on Sonny Crawford, the film delves into the troubles all teenagers go through in their late high school and early college years, regardless of the time period. Sonny struggles with sexual and societal pressures as he navigates through relationships with his peers and the older generation. With a great cast including Jeff Bridges, Timothy Bottoms, Cybill Sheppard, and Cloris Leachman, this work stands up to the most modern of films and could still garner the audience and response it received when it was first shown 30 years ago.

# Immigration film ‘Le Havre’ surprises with its quirky poignancy

KAURISMAKI from page B4

film is inherently political. A free-spirited bohemian at his core, Marcel is determined to reunite Idrissa with his family. He befriends immigrants and refugees of all backgrounds as he learns of their journeys and struggles with identity in a foreign country.

A French film centering on the controversial topic of immigration, “Le Havre” may not seem an attractive option for moviegoers used to American films. But the film’s off beat, Flipside Guide Film reviews are evaluated for: originality, storyline, quality of acting, spectacle, ticket price, accessibility, and student interest.

# Opera ‘Nabucco’ garners a standing ovation

NABUCCO from page B4

she is actually the child of slaves rather than of Nabucco. This revelation removes any love she has for him and prompts her to help launch a coup in his absence, which is halted by the timely return of Nabucco from his wars abroad. Glutted with confidence, Nabucco decides that he is a god to be worshipped by all. However, this blasphemy is quickly punished—as he is struck by madness. Abigaille uses this as a pretense to take the throne, locking her father away in the process.

Both the roles of Abigaille and Nabucco require a range of talents, but Lucic and Guleghina fully deliver onstage. Abigaille’s performance places an enormous amount of strain on the voice—her repertoire demands wide leaps in vocal range, usually in quick succession, which Guleghina sings with precision and strength. Meanwhile,

Lucic exercises impressive restraint despite his powerful voice, drawing the audience into his helpless battle in muted quivering tunes and later praising Jehovah at full volume when his sanity is restored.

But the greatest praise was reserved for the most unlikely of roles. It is quite rare that the largest ovation of the evening goes to the chorus, but the honor was well-deserved for the passion the ensemble evoked during the “Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves,” Verdi’s most popular choral work.

Thanks to appealing performances by the orchestra and chorus and dynamic staging, “Nabucco” overcomes the barrier of an inferior storyline, leaving the audience with a memorable masterpiece of music and song.

Flipside Guide Theater reviews are evaluated for: originality, storyline, quality of acting, spectacle, ticket price, accessibility, and student interest.



# Flipside Guide

## ‘Daphne Guinness’

The idea of fashion as art clothes the walls of this new FIT Museum exhibit

BY MELISSA HANEY  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

At the Daphne Guinness exhibition at the Museum at FIT (227 27th St., at Seventh Avenue) everything but the conventional goes. On display until Jan. 7, the recently opened tribute to the couture collection of this beer heiress turned style icon allows viewers to escape into a world of fashion fantasy.

A gallery featuring some of Guinness’ most memorable and eccentric footwear—from a pair of ruby-red crystal-covered Noritaka Tatehana heels complete with gold metal-studded soles to Alexander McQueen brown leather and horn boots—welcomes guests into the fanciful main corridor. The exhibit is separated into six sections, each devoted to a different element of Guinness’ signature style.

Glamorous lighting and mirrored walls are juxtaposed against a tranquil soundtrack that lulls in the background, recreating what one could only dream how the inside of Guinness’ personal closet would be. Every turn through the gallery reveals another cutting-edge couture ensemble to epitomize the exhibit’s themes of dandyism, armor, chic, evening chic, exoticism, and sparkle.

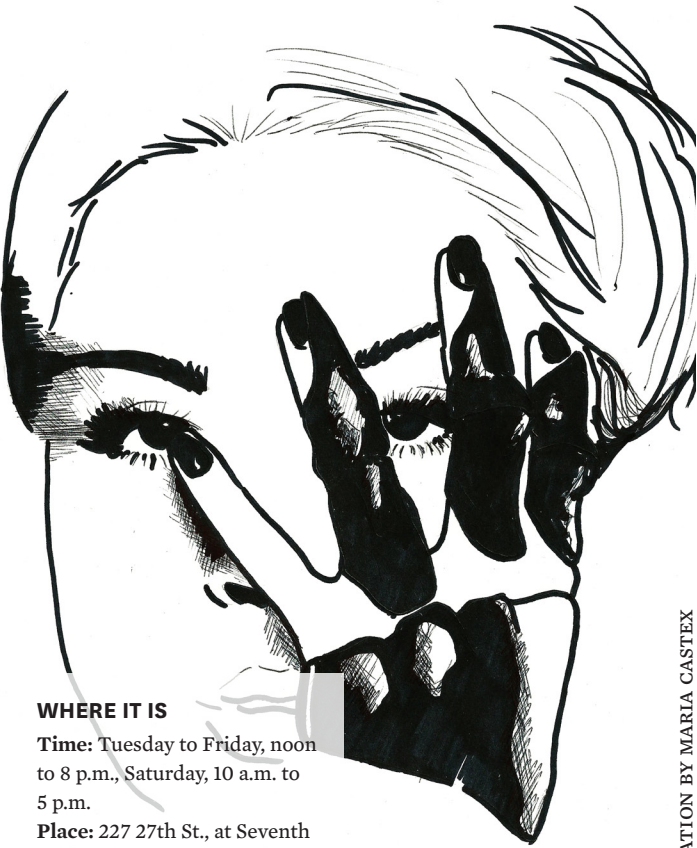
The works of Alexander McQueen (a personal friend of Guinness), Karl Lagerfeld, Valentino, and Gareth Pugh dominate the room. Guinness’ mantra of viewing fashion as art, and not purely materialistic vanity, is effortlessly conveyed. Each piece is given the respect its craftsmanship deserves: from the hand-sewn fuchsia Alexander McQueen leggings paired with an expertly tailored ivory, emerald, and ruby-embellished Lagerfeld for Chanel jacket in the evening chic wing, to the astonishingly constructed Gareth Pugh sliced silver metallic dress and hooded coat amongst the ensembles of armor.

Much smaller than the immensely popular and extraordinarily assembled “Alexander McQueen: Savage Beauty” exhibition held at the Metropolitan Museum of Art (1000 Fifth Ave., at 82nd Street) this past summer, “Daphne Guinness” nonetheless inspires a similar reverence for design and all of its boundary-pushing possibilities.

A plaque on the wall of the exhibit contains a quote from Guinness that states, “What draws me to fashion is art ... and certainly not fashion as a status symbol.” An entire exposition that highlights the undoubtedly expensive collection of designer garments custom made for a popular heiress may seem a bit off-putting. Yet the exhibit is not so much celebrating Guinness’ immense wealth as it is honoring and sharing the fearless, unique, and inspiring personal style that this privilege has allowed.

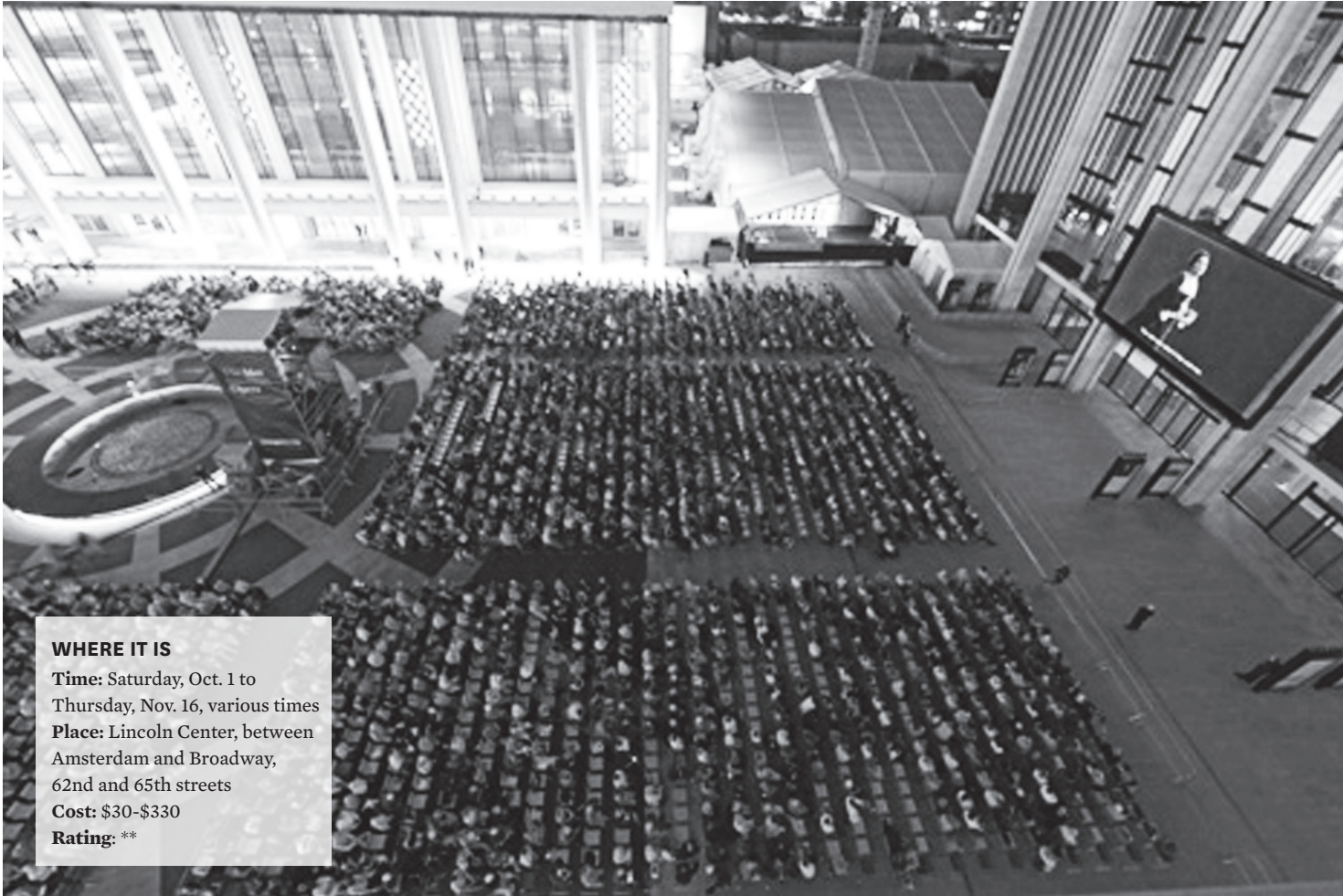
Some may not accept fashion as a true art form, but just one step into “Daphne Guinness,” and the realization that expertly designed, constructed and styled evening gowns, overcoats and even gold-beaded cat suits are more than just disposable frivolities is inescapable.

Flipside Guide exhibition reviews are evaluated for: concept, originality, execution, curation, student relatability to the artwork, exhibition price, and accessibility.



**WHERE IT IS**  
**Time:** Tuesday to Friday, noon to 8 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
**Place:** 227 27th St., at Seventh Avenue  
**Cost:** Free  
**Rating:** \*\*\*

ILLUSTRATION BY MARIA CASTEX



COURTESY OF KEN HOWARD FOR THE MET OPERA

**VERDI VERDICT** | While crowds anticipated the new season on Opening Night (above), they may not enjoy the muddled plot of “Nabucco.”

## ‘Nabucco’

Stellar choir vocals help compensate for a lacking storyline in this Verdi opera

BY REUBEN BERMAN  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

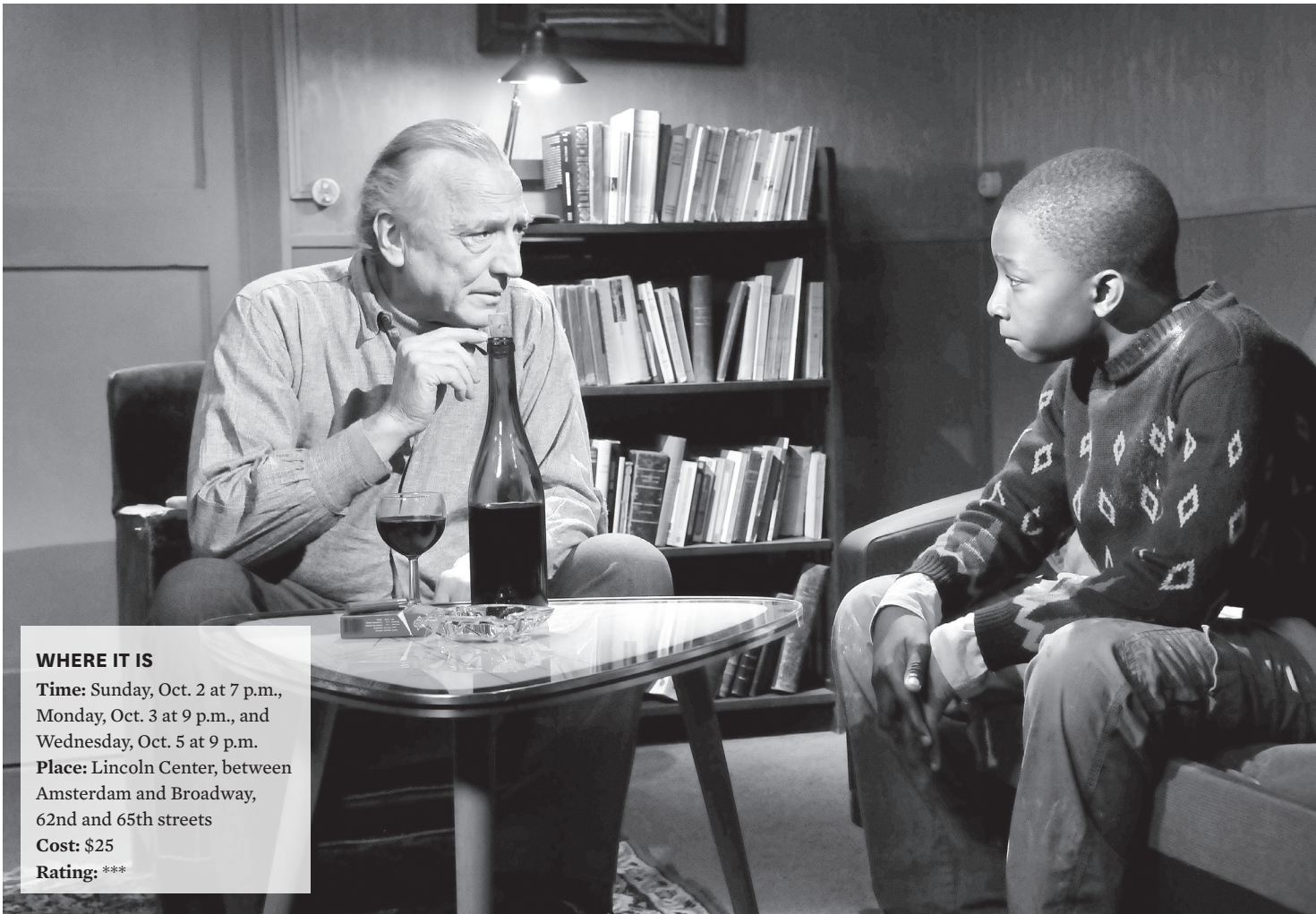
Some might puzzle over an ending in which all of Babylon converts to Judaism, Hebrews rebuild the temple, and everyone lives happily ever after. “Nabucco,” an opera composed by Giuseppe Verdi, which opened at the Metropolitan Opera on Tuesday, Sept. 27, does not seek to instill the viewer with any sense of historical accuracy. Instead, Verdi uses Hebrews exiled from Jerusalem in 586 BCE to innovate the drama of a dysfunctional family.

This opera is a hodgepodge of relationships and storylines—as if Verdi could not decide exactly what he wanted to keep in or

cut out, so he threw in a pinch of everything. Act I unravels a love story between Fenena, the eldest daughter of the Babylonian king Nabucco, and Ismaele, a member of the Judean nobility, but the plot is quickly monopolized by the two dominant characters, Abigaille, second daughter to Nabucco—portrayed by a superb soprano Maria Guleghina—and Nabucco himself, played by baritone Željko Lucić.

Verdi awkwardly juxtaposes two storylines: that of the Hebrews in exile who are forced to serve Babylon and of the dynastic struggle between father and daughter. Abigaille, an insecure, overcompensating, and militant woman, discovers that

SEE NABUCCO, page B3



COURTESY OF JANUS FILMS

**LIFE LESSONS** | Marcel Marx (André Wilms, left) helps out a young African refugee, Idrissa (Blondin Miguel, right), in “Le Havre.”

## ‘Le Havre’

Festival darling Aki Kaurismäki makes issues of French immigration accessible

BY MARICELA GONZALEZ  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

A woman in a hospital asks her doctor, “Is there no hope?” The doctor replies, “Miracles do happen,” to which she rebukes, “Not in my neighborhood.” An ominous statement for a soberly optimistic work—“Le Havre.”

This film is the latest from Finnish writer-director Aki Kaurismäki. As one of the 27 selected films at the 49th annual New York Film Festival, “Le Havre” is scheduled to screen on Sunday, Oct. 2, Monday, Oct. 3, and Wednesday, Oct. 5 at the festival before it opens on Friday, Oct. 21 at Lincoln Plaza Cinemas and the IFC Center.

Hope and compassion serve as central themes in “Le Havre,” named for the French port city in which the film takes place. French actor André Wilms reprises his role from Kaurismäki’s first French-language film, “La Vie de Bohème,” as Marcel Marx. The former bohemian now lives a quiet, married life as a shoe shiner in the quaint port town. But his routine is rocked when his wife, Arletty (Kati Outinen) starts receiving treatment for what he thinks is a benign tumor, and at the same time, he meets a young African refugee Idrissa (Blondin Miguel) hoping to reach London.

Kaurismäki notably employs a diverse range of music. Real-life classic rocker and Le Havre native Little Bob (Roberto Piazza) plays a full song straight to the camera during a scene at a benefit concert. Music playing both on and off camera suggests emotion that the characters often find difficult to express.

Nonetheless, the characters’ rigid mannerisms lighten the film’s oft-serious situations. Idrissa bonds with Marcel’s dog Laïka, along the lines of cutesy comedy archetypes. The film noir-esque criminal investigator, Monet (Jean-Pierre Darroussin), is clad in all black—an amusing juxtaposition to the colorful, bright town.

In what could be a somber scene where Marcel demands to see Idrissa’s grandfather in a refugee center (which is more like a prison), Marcel proclaims he is a family member of the old man. When the warden gives him an incredulous look, Marcel states he is the family albino. Straight-faced comedic elements add a quirky tone to each scene, some of which are filled with tragic consequences.

Yet the film is no slapstick comedy. Musing on issues surrounding immigration into France and Europe in general, the

SEE KAURISMAKI, page B3

### events

BOOKS  
**The New Yorker Festival**  
—multiple locations, Friday, Sept. 30 to Sunday, Oct. 2, times and prices vary

Take in what The New Yorker has to offer off the page. The 47 events include “Writing about America” with Junot Díaz and “Owen Wilson talks with Michael Specter.”

MISC  
**‘Eject!’**  
—Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum, Twelfth Avenue and 46th Street, Saturday, Oct. 1 and Sunday, Oct. 2, 10 a.m to 6 p.m., \$24

Ever been given the figurative “eject button?” This weekend learn what really happens when pilots have to use their ejection seats.

ART  
**Bring to Light Festival**  
—India Street, at West Street, Saturday, Oct. 1, sunset to midnight, free

Outdoor art installations will illuminate unexpected corners (like those of a handball court) of Brooklyn this weekend as part of a global event.

FOOD&DRINK  
**Fatty Crew Pullcart**  
—Central Park, Bethesda Terrace at 72nd Street, Saturday, Oct. 1, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., \$29

Last weekend, Spectator reviewed Fatty ‘Cue’s Manhattan-side outpost. This weekend, as part of “Oktoberfest at Pullcart,” experience ‘Cue’s famous pork even closer to campus.