

INSIDE

Opinion, page 4

Race to the future

Rajat Roy urges the campus community to endow clubs with fiscal fortitude.



A&E, page 6

East Rock'n'Roll's fro-yo shakes up

A new frozen yogurt shop, which opened on Wednesday across the street from industry giant Pinkberry, prides itself on its relatively low prices and hot drink selection.



Sports, page 8

Wong primed to make Columbia tennis history

This season, one of the best mens' tennis players Columbia has ever seen, senior co-captain Jon Wong, will attempt to capture his third Ivy title.

EVENTS

Asian Americans in Public Service

The Korean Graduate Students Association will be sponsoring an event on Asian Americans in Public Service, with New York City Comptroller candidate John Liu as the invited keynote speaker.

Altschul Auditorium, IAB, 6 p.m.

Sleepless Tonight

The West Coast Connection and Ferris Reel will be hosting a movie night featuring "Sleepless in Seattle." Admission is \$3 and the event will include a raffle for prizes.

Roone Arledge Auditorium, 8 p.m.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

*"On the scale from one to Facebook, Super Smash Bros. is probably around a seven."*

—Dylan Liu, SEAS '13

ONLINE

columbiaspectator.com

News around the clock

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



Will Brown / Staff Photographer

**SEEKING SALVATION** | A violation notice was issued to the Baptist Temple Church on 116th Street, citing the crumbling facade and unstable roof.

## Barnard seeks reaccreditation, gains self-reflection

BY MADINA TOURE  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

For the first time in ten years, Barnard is gearing up for some soul-searching. Reaccreditation—also known as the Self-Study—is a process Barnard must undergo each decade, as required by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. Barnard has been working on its Self-Study

since early spring 2009, and intends to finish by 2011.

The process is overseen by the Steering Committee, which is co-chaired by Assistant Provost and Dean for International Programs Hilary Link and biology professor Paul Hertz.

"The Self-Study is meant to be a reflection on where Barnard stands at this point in history," Link said, adding that it will "form the basis of a strategic

plan of where Barnard will be in the next ten years."

The Steering Committee will be coordinating five Working Groups, each working on some of the 14 Standards of Excellence ascertained by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. According to Hertz, the committee will merge each group's individual analysis into one document. These groups have been sharpening their questions

and have just begun the research process that will lead to their reports.

"Working groups are doing the heavy-lifting," Hertz said. They will "come up with big themes that are emerging that are Barnard-specific" and "suggestions and priorities for where Barnard will be going in the future."

Anna Ehrlich, BC '11 and a member of the Working Group for Mission and Goals,

Administration, Leadership and Governance, and Integrity, and Sarah Belfer, BC '12 and a member of the Working Group for Faculty, Curriculum, and Educational Offerings, cited the process as beneficial for understanding Barnard's needs and reassessing its priorities.

"When they asked me to do it, I was unsure of what the point

SEE BARNARD, page 2

## Harlem-based site leans right

BY PAUL HSIAO  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

"Hip-hop" and "Republican" might seem a mismatched pair. But a Harlem-based Web site, "Hip-Hop Republican," is dedicated to dispelling that assumption.

In the vein of Republican National Committee Chair Michael Steele's "off the hook" party re-branding "to urban-surburban hip-hop settings," the site aims to give New Yorkers a fresh perspective.

Hip-Hop Republican is an independent, conservative-leaning blog founded in 2004 by Richard Ivory. At first, with the motto "better government, not bigger government," it focused on the foreign policy issues surrounding the war in Iraq.

Since then, it has expanded into an initiative targeted at the politically conscious "urban conservative," though Ivory noted, "Conservatism and republicanism is not necessarily the same thing."

"The problem is that the Democrats have moved to urban areas to campaign," said Brandon Brice, a member of Community Board 9 and an administrator on the board, adding that the Republican Party "needs to show up in these areas in order to progress."

SEE HIP HOP, page 3



Embry Owens for Spectator

**MAKE WAY FOR BIKING** | The Upper West Side might see a change on the road. In order to accommodate cyclists, Community Board 7 passed a resolution to recommend that the city's Department of Transportation create protected bike lanes on Amsterdam and Columbus.

## Community proposal helps Morningside bike

BY SAM LEVIN  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

It might be time to give the streets of Morningside Heights a serious makeover.

Last week, the Upper West Side Community Board 7 passed a resolution requesting that New York City's Department of Transportation prepare a proposal for protected bike lanes on Amsterdam and Columbus Avenues—a major victory for several neighborhood organizations that have been fighting for two years to make these avenues safer and greener.

Groups that advocate urban cycling, including Transportation Alternatives and the Upper West Side Streets Renaissance Campaign,

have banded together to overhaul the traditional set-up of a Manhattan avenue: speeding vehicles sandwiched in-between parked cars bordered by sidewalks.

These activists argue that cyclists don't have a clear, protected space in this car-centric infrastructure, and biking through traffic too often becomes a battle for survival.

Tila Duhaime, a community organizer for UWSSRC who regularly rides her bike in Manhattan, said that instead of this chaotic war zone, the group envisions protected bike lanes in which cyclists ride through a lane directly adjacent to the sidewalk and protected from traffic by physical buffer zones. Cars would be parked on the other side of the buffers.



Photo illustration by Daniel Lasry

A similar proposal died in the CB7 transportation committee two years ago, but this time it got to a full board vote and passed with a 28 to 7 approval.

Protected bike lanes have recently transformed 8th and 9th Avenues into thoroughways south of 59th Street. The new CB7 resolution prompts the city to investigate the Upper West Side further and will ultimately produce a comprehensive report. The neighborhood could see these lanes as early as spring of 2010, Lisa Sladkus, community organizer for Transportation Alternatives, said.

According to Nicole Garcia, a Department of Transportation spokesperson, the DOT will be partnering with CB7, working with local

business improvement districts, and launching a study to collect and analyze traffic data for the neighborhood. It is too early to offer a timeframe for the project, she added.

"This benefits everyone who lives and works and plays here. I am confident that this is not just for bikers," Duhaime said, adding that the buffer zones create shorter crossing distances for pedestrians, which could be particularly useful for elderly or disabled residents.

Nancy Lipsey, the director of outdoor Jewish adventures and advocacy for Hazon, came out to the recent CB7 meeting to offer an endorsement from her

SEE BIKE LANES, page 3

WEATHER

Today

45 / 41

Tomorrow

45 / 40

INDEX

News 2  
A&E 6

Opinion 4  
Sports 7, 8

Classifieds 5  
Contact Info 5





James Rathmell for Spectator

**MAD MONEY** | The Committee on Global Thought hosted a roundtable discussion with Columbia professors Joseph Stiglitz and Alan Brinkley, along with professors Harold James of Princeton and Lord Robert Skidelsky of the University of Warwick. The economists compared the current recession to the Great Depression.

# Nationalize or bank-bust? Scholars debate crisis, Depression

BY POOJA REDDY  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

Distinguished economic scholars hashed out a history of economic crisis Wednesday night.

The Committee on Global Thought hosted over 150 students for a roundtable discussion featuring Columbia professors Joseph Stiglitz and Alan Brinkley, along with professors Harold James of Princeton and Lord Robert Skidelsky of the University of Warwick. The group talked about lessons learned from the Great Depression, especially with respect to current regulatory policies, analyzed the importance of directing a concerted global effort to tackle the recession, and considered the recession's impact on the future of economic policy theory.

Alan Brinkley, former provost and professor of history, critiqued the failure of government over two administrations and 12 years to end the Great Depression. Harkening to President Franklin Roosevelt's premature attempt in 1937 to balance the budget by cutting back on spending, the economists unanimously warned that the Obama administration could cause the economy to contract further if the stimulus plan were to be curtailed.

Harold James, professor of history and international affairs at Princeton University, took a contrasting position, saying that "there have been an awful lot of crises in the past and they're nothing like one another." Still, he went on to note that the Federal Reserve's

stimulative fiscal policy has had positive effects on the economy.

Stiglitz remarked, "we learned a lot from the Great Depression, but we forgot it all after Reagan came along." He added that, although most point to low interest rates under former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan as the cause of the current recession, inefficient financial markets are just as culpable. In this regard, the current recession and the Great Depression both have credit institutions to blame for their failure to ably allocate capital. He urged the government to fix credit rating agencies to restore trust in them and reiterated the need for stimulus spending by the Obama administration. According to Stiglitz, the role of government is essential as markets take time to adjust their competitive equilibria.

The scholars disentangled the debate on banking institutions and outlined the only solutions: nationalization or "trust-busting" to break up big banks into smaller, less concentrated units.

Assessing the varied perspectives, Lord Skidelsky remarked on the "interminable nature of debates in economics" and commented that the field often crosses the seemingly fine line between science and ideology. "Debates go on in the same way as in the 1930s but are done so today with more mathematical elegance, and in that way at least, one can say that economics is progressing."

*news@columbiaspectator.com*

## Barnard seeks reaccreditation, self-evaluates

BARNARD from front page

of this was. Why did they need this to be perfected? What was this going to do to help Barnard?" Ehrlich said.

But in the end, she explained, "What was particularly appealing to me was that they are using the information to improve the school."

Barnard affiliates will have an opportunity to see the document before the final version is sent out, but Link stressed that the committee is looking for ways to better reach out to students.

"We have a student voice in each of the working groups but one person cannot speak for everyone," Link said. "It might be in different smaller forms—we might take it to SGA, we might take it to different clubs. We will undoubtedly do at least one big town hall thing where all students can be there."

Hertz agreed, adding that student groups would help publicize these activities to all students on campus. "We're not telling them how to do it. We will rely on them to expand it even farther."

Belfer affirmed that the mere presence of a student in the Working Group helps provide input on things that may not catch others' attention. "To be there and bringing in that voice and saying 'this really works' or 'this really doesn't work'... Hopefully we will have more students involved in order to better represent students."

The committee will present the document comprised of all the working groups' reports to the community and put together a complete document by December 2010. That final version will be shown in March 2011 to the Middle States Commission and to a visiting external team of administrators from peer institutions.

Ultimately, Ehrlich stressed that there is value in having a diverse set of perspectives on the process, since it's necessary to foster dialogue and make changes wherever necessary.

"The student experience at this school is different than the faculty perspective. It is really helpful to have a dialogue from different departments and perspectives," she said. "It's pretty amazing how different the perspectives are and how much everyone is able to contribute."

*news@columbiaspectator.com*

<b>ADDRESS &amp; EMAIL</b> Columbia Spectator 2875 Broadway, 3rd Floor New York, NY 10025 info@columbiaspectator.com	<b>PHONE &amp; FAX</b> <b>Daily Spectator</b> (212) 854-9555 <b>Editorial Fax</b> (212) 854-9611 <b>Business</b> (212) 854-9550 <b>Business Fax</b> (212) 854-9553	<b>EDITORIAL POLICY</b> For more information about the Columbia Daily Spectator and editorial policies, visit <a href="http://www.columbiaspectator.com/about">http://www.columbiaspectator.com/about</a> .	<b>ADVERTISING</b> For more information about advertising visit <a href="http://spc.columbiaspectator.com/">http://spc.columbiaspectator.com/</a> .	<b>CORRECTIONS</b> The Spectator is committed to fair and accurate reporting. If you know of an error please inform us at <a href="mailto:copy@columbiaspectator.com">copy@columbiaspectator.com</a> .	<b>COMMENTS &amp; QUESTIONS</b> For general comments or questions about the newspaper, please write to the editor in chief and managing editor at <a href="mailto:editor@columbiaspectator.com">editor@columbiaspectator.com</a> .
--	--	--	--	---	---

Columbia University School of the Arts and  
Mailman School of Public Health  
present

Anna Deavere Smith

in conversation with School of the Arts  
Theatre Program Assistant Professor  
Gideon Lester  
about Smith's new play, *Let Me Down Easy*

Sunday, October 18, 7 pm  
Miller Theatre: Broadway & 116th Street

FREE and open to the public. For more  
information, visit: [arts.columbia.edu](http://arts.columbia.edu)

Fairway Uptown 2328 12th Ave, NY | 212.234.3883 | 8am-11pm  
Entrance across from waterfront park at 125th St.

**FAIRWAY**  
LIKE NO OTHER MARKET®

Feeling lost?  
Long way from home?  
No worries!  
Find comfort at your local Fairway.

With home-made soups and stews, succulent fall-off-the-bone ribs and mashed potatoes; roasted chicken and herbed potatoes ... Just like Mom's!

Annie's Mac 'N Cheese? Vitamin Water? Yep! It's all here. An entire Organic department, fresh fruits, home-made meals, sandwiches, sushi, pizza, snacks, miles of chips, beverages, premises roasted coffee, fresh-baked breads and pastries, vitamins and health and beauty aids, too.

1/2 Rotisserie Chicken + 2 Sides

All Natural, all flavors. Excludes Murray's and Organic.

\$4.99

Good through Oct. 23, 2009

Take Columbia University Shuttle, Blue Line to Stop #10

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

PLATINUM SPONSOR OF COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

follow US...

**FREE PARKING WHILE YOU SHOP!**  
Savor us online @ [www.FairwayMarket.com](http://www.FairwayMarket.com)



# Community Board 7 proposes new bike lanes on the Upper West Side

BIKE LANES from front page

organization. “We want to take back the streets,” she said.

On a personal level, she said this would better her routine bike trips through Manhattan. When forced to weave through traffic, “I feel like I take my life into my own hands,” she said.

For some, this is actually an opportunity to change the dynamic of the neighborhood. “It makes people interact. You actually look people in the eye,” Sladkus said of a more bike-friendly community.

According to Garcia from the DOT, the protected bike lanes on 9th Avenue have

been very successful, with a 50 percent increase in the number of cyclists, and a 50 percent decrease in injuries to all street users since the lane was first installed.

Opponents of the resolution said that there were still many questions that need to be answered, and several dissenters raised concerns about lost parking spaces, congestion from business deliveries, and increased speeding cyclists.

“How did we pick these avenues? Did we look at alternatives?” Monica Blum, president of the Lincoln Square Business Improvement District, asked. Blum, a biker herself, said that she is interested in exploring the idea but that the proposal

was too much, too quickly.

“This is not the way to do careful decision-making that could affect everybody,” she added later, adding that she was concerned for the commercial deliveries in her district.

But George Beane, a landlord for several retail spaces on Columbus and Amsterdam, said that his commercial tenants would appreciate the lanes because more bikers would bring increased foot traffic and spending dollars to the Upper West Side.

Beane—a 65-year old local resident who has been biking on a daily basis in this neighborhood for 40 years—added, “Not everyone has to have a station wagon

to pick up their groceries.”

For Leonard Spisaky, a taxicab driver in the city for the last six years, the bike lanes have been a bit problematic.

“It’s different. It is not easy,” he said of his new maneuvers to pick up and drop off passengers on 9th Avenue. He said he wouldn’t mind bike lanes on Columbus and Amsterdam, as long as he can pick up riders without getting in trouble with the police. “If they are going to give me tickets, then I say no.”

Helen Rosenthal, chair of Community Board 7, acknowledged that more research is needed—which she said is exactly what the passed resolution mandates.

She added that she felt the board was motivated by the huge turnout at the CB7 meeting, including an 11-year old boy who bikes from the East Side to the West Side to get to school and a 90-year old woman who said that it was difficult to make it across the street.

“I think that there are people in our neighborhoods who want to see a safer biking experience, and safer in the 21st century,” she said, adding, “People believe that other cities, major cities, have been able to achieve this, so why not give New York a chance?”

news@columbiaspectator.com

# Harlem Web site ‘Hip-Hop Republicans’ look for urban conservatives

HIP HOP from front page

In addition to political news and editorials, Hip-Hop Republican features music, movies, television, and food sections. It is also affiliated with the John Langston Forum, HHR Radio, HHR TV, and a number of social networking sites.

“We’re not trying to convert,” Brice said. “We’re trying to inform and educate on the issues on the platform of the GOP, be it in Harlem or in any urban city in America.”

“We have people all across the United States—Democrats, independents, and

Republicans—contributing to our Web site,” he added, saying that the point of the blog “is to really get a voice out there, an independent voice, that accepts all forms of political affiliations. We try to cut through the politics and get directly to the issues, and present that to urban communities ... in a way many folks can understand.”

An urban perspective is often associated with minority issues, which many articles focus on.

“There’s a belief that has not been challenged ... that says that we [Republicans] shouldn’t focus on minorities because that would be ‘pandering,’”

Ivory said. “I believe that this ideology is damaging to the party and, in fact, anti-Republican. Credible outreach [to minorities] is necessary, and it’s proven to be a viable model to win elections.”

When asked about the impact President Barack Obama has had on African-Americans and the traditional allegiance of African-Americans to the Democratic Party, Ivory said, “We’re trying to bridge the gap between the Republican Party [and African-Americans], but don’t like to attend Republican events and don’t like the imagery of the Republican Party. I’ve been to Republican party gatherings,

and it oftentimes feels like a country club. Some people don’t feel too comfortable in an environment like that.”

Both he and Brice noted that a new generation of GOP leaders will make the party more relevant to urbanites.

“The new generation of Republicans will understand urban America,” Brice said.

“Republicans in the past tended to use a rural campaign in an urban environment, and that hasn’t necessarily been the best way of doing things,” Ivory added.

In particular, Brice emphasized the need for GOP candidates to address pressing issues like unemployment, which affect urban and rural areas.

“The GOP can’t begin to talk about values when people are losing their homes, don’t have access to affordable and quality health care, and unemployment is at a rapid high,” he said. “The party’s new message should not be just values, but priorities.”

And despite the devastating effects of the economic crisis, Brice saw a silver lining: “The recession made people more conscious. People are learning about policies that affect their lives every day, and the great thing is that it [Hip-Hop Republican] gives those who may not have a voice, a voice, and refreshes the GOP.”

news@columbiaspectator.com



**Being  
NUMBER ONE  
is nothing to celebrate.**

This year, more than **172,000** people will be diagnosed with lung cancer, and more than **163,000** will die from it — making it America's **NUMBER ONE** cancer killer.

But new treatments offer hope. **Lung Cancer Alliance** is shining a light on lung cancer and focusing more attention on this disease.

**lungcanceralliance.org**

**NO MORE EXCUSES. NO MORE LUNG CANCER.**





**WHEN:**  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH  
10am-5pm

**WHERE:**  
THE TOWN TAVERN  
GREENWICH VILLAGE  
134 W. 3rd St.  
New York, NY 10012

**BRING:**  
A VALID I.D. AND RECENT PHOTO

FOR MORE INFO VISIT **WWW.BUNIM-MURRAY.COM** 

**Dizzy's Club** *Coca-Cola*

**LIVE JAZZ NIGHTLY**

**Student Rates**  
\$5 After Hours  
\$10 Mondays  
\$15 Artist sets

**RESERVATIONS**  
212-258-9595/9795  
jalc.org/dccc



**OCT 14-18**  
**CHARLES MCPHERSON**  
70TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION  
w/Tom Harrell, Jeb Patton, Ray Drummond & Willie Jones III  
After Hours: Luca Santaniello Trio & Special Guests

**OCT 19**  
**RONI BEN-HUR QUINTET**  
w/Mulgrew Miller, Santi Debriano, Lewis Nash & Steve Kroon

**OCT 20-21**  
**ALI JACKSON BAND**  
w/Ryan Kisor, Craig Handy, Aaron Goldberg & Reuben Rogers  
After Hours: E. J. Strickland Quintet  
(Wed, Oct 21: Sold out; No After Hours)

**OCT 22-25**  
**STEFON HARRIS & BLACKOUT**  
w/Sullivan Fortner, Ben Williams, Terreon Gulley & Casey Benjamin  
After Hours: E. J. Strickland Quintet

**jazz/**  
Frederick R. Rose Hall  
Columbus Circle, NYC

**ADVERTISE IN THE SPECTATOR**

**854-9552**

Union Theological Seminary's




**LANDMARK  
GUEST ROOMS**

**3041 Broadway  
at 121<sup>st</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10027**

**UNION** Comfortable guest rooms within the Seminary's walls blend the best of old and new. Our peaceful garden is an ideal spot for strolling, reading, and meditation.

Union is just a short bus or cab ride away from all the excitement that New York City has to offer.

**Tel: (212) 280-1313 • Fax: (212) 280-1488**  
**Visit us at: [www.utsnyc.edu](http://www.utsnyc.edu)**



**WHAT TOOK YOU A LIFETIME  
TO LEARN CAN BE LOST IN MINUTES.**

**WITH A STROKE, TIME LOST IS BRAIN LOST.**

Learn the warning signs at  
**StrokeAssociation.org** or **1-888-4-STROKE**

**Ad Council**

**American Stroke Association.**  
A Division of American Heart Association

©2004 American Heart Association  
Made possible in part by a generous grant from The Bugher Foundation



news school updates prezbo  
sports weekends college blog politics  
columbiaspectator.com  
arts opinions photos editorials  
entertainment life freebies fun  
faculty new york columns



Letters to the editor

COLUMBIA SPECTATOR

FOUNDED 1877 • INDEPENDENT SINCE 1962

The 133rd year of publication  
Independent since 1962

Staff editorials represent the views of the editorial board

MANAGING BOARD

MELISSA REPKO <i>Editor in Chief</i>	ELIZABETH SIMINS <i>Managing Editor</i>	JULIA FELDBERG <i>Publisher</i>
JOY RESMOVITS <i>News Editor</i>	BETSY MORAIS <i>News Editor</i>	AMIN GHADIMI <i>Editorial Page Editor</i>
JACOB LEVENFELD <i>Sports Editor</i>	BART LOPEZ <i>Sports Editor</i>	CHRISTINE JORDAN <i>Arts &amp; Entertainment Editor</i>
BEN COTTON <i>Design Editor</i>	YIPENG HUANG <i>Design Editor</i>	DINO GRANDONI <i>Head Copy Editor</i>
ANGELA RADULESCU <i>Photo Editor</i>		RYAN BUBINSKI <i>Online Editor</i>
GIZEM ORBEY <i>Sales Director</i>	AKHIL MEHTA <i>Finance Director</i>	COLIN SULLIVAN <i>Alumni Director</i>

DEPUTY BOARD: **News Editors** Maggie Astor, Aleca Davis, Sam Levin, Alex Pianin **La Página Editor** Ana Bobadilla **Editorial Page Editor** Emily Tamkin **Editorial Board Editor** Mason Fitch **Photo Editors** Jenny Hsu, Mira John, Lila Neiswanger, Joey Shemuel, Lauren Weiss **Design Editors** Jin Chen, Daniel Leary **Online Editors** Zack Sheppard, Zachary Sims, Cindy Zhang **Multimedia Editor** Nilkanth Patel **Finance** Aditya Mukerjee **Staff Training Editors** Miriam Krule, Jacob Schneider

ASSOCIATE BOARD: **News Editors** Jessica Hills, Tabitha Peyton Wood, Madina Toure, Liza Weingarten **News Broadcast Editor** Simone Foxman **La Página Editor** Carolina Martes **Sports Editors** Michele Cleary, Kanak Gupta, Sara Salzbank, Michael Shapiro, Sabine Schulz **Art Editor** Hannah Yudkin **Books Editor** Yin Yin Lu **Dance Editor** Catherine Rice **Film Editor** Peter Labuzza **Food & Drink Editor** Devin Briski **Music Editor** Rebecca Putitz **Spectacle Editor** Kevin Ciolek **Style Editor** Helen Werke **Theater Editor** Ruthie Fierberg **TV Editor** Joe Daly **Editorial Page Editors** Shira Borsak, Cornelius FitzPatrick, Daryl Seitchik, Elaine Wang, Briana Wong **Editorial Board Writers** Josefina Aguila, Joe Banakat, Caitlin Brown, Sarah Camicoli, Amanda Guterman, Shamsa Mangalji, Ted Nigro, Sheri Pan, Amanda Parsons, Michael Rain **Commentariat Editors** Noah Baron, Mary Kohlmann **Copy Editors** Anna Arons, Marissa Barbaro, Emily Handsman, Emma Manson, Katrin Nussbold, Raquel Villagra, Lusia Zaitseva **Photo Editors** Jasper Clyatt, Michael D'Egidio, Sarah Lipman, Aaron Rosales, Rachel Valinsky, Mary Ye **Design Editors** Samantha Ainsley, Rachel Allen, Hannah D'Apice, Rebecca Eis, Yufei Liu, Joanna Wang, Steven Wong **Alumni** Ding Ding, Julia Kantor, Emily Lampert, Shenjun Xu, Danfeng Wu, Yu Xiao **Finance** Andrew Colvin, Gregory Cox, Erica Dorfman, Benjamin Kurland, **Sales** Cristina Arizgarraga **Copy Staff** Maggie Astor, Maggie Alden, Nimra Azmi, Jennifer Bai, Michaela Chung, Alex Collazo, Sarah Darville, Katherine Dub, Elizabeth Gemdjan, Kate Haley, Aarti Iyer, Chelsea Johnson, Christopher Johnson, Rebekah Kim, Ali Krimmer, Sierra Kusara, Frannie Laughner, Cindy Lau, Hannah Laymon, Sasha Levine, Katie Mas, Christina McCandless, Laura Oakland, Tzipora Quino, Ella Quinter, Raphael Pope-Sussman, Leonore Waldrip, Maddie Wollberg **Design Staff** Lily Cedarbaum, Betsy Feldman, Lesedi Mbatsha, Jennifer Oh, Kylie Rogers, Khalil Romain, Emily Sharrand, Felix Vo

Staff Editorial

RetroSpec: the student life fee

In “Our fees need a freeze,” Wednesday’s staff editorial, the editorial board expressed its concern over the soaring student life fee, which hit \$621 this semester. Today, as part of a feature, we turn to the words of a previous Spectator staff editorial. On Nov. 19, 1998, Spectator’s 122nd editorial board wrote “Controlling Student Fees,” a staff editorial that contained many of the concerns we expressed yesterday—though perhaps their criticism is harsher than ours. Below, we reproduced it from our archives to shed new light on the issue and to offer a point of comparison to the views we presented.

Following an agreement it made with the University Senate, the administration announced recently that the University’s improved library and computing services will come at a direct cost to students in the form of a new \$30 per term Morningside student fee. While the improvements at Butler Library and increased funding for AcIS [the now defunct Academic Information Systems—now Columbia University Information Technology] have been long awaited, it is unfair to force students to directly bear the burden of their cost. It is wrong for students to be automatically taxed for services that should have been available to them in the first place, especially when many students now paying the fee will never see many of the improvements.

The administration claims that the fees are an “investment in students,” but it is the students who are footing the bill for their “investment.” Furthermore, students are paying for improvements which benefit faculty and staff as well. At \$160 per term, the mandatory Columbia Student Life Fee, which is separate from the new \$30 fee, is already high enough as it is. But instead of attempting to lower the Student Life Fee, the administration is rumored to be considering increasing it. Raising and introducing new fees is especially unfair to students because they are already struggling to cover soaring tuition costs. Most of all, the new few is inconsequential in comparison to other funding sources. With only about 11,000 students paying the fee, the money it raises will ultimately amount to only a small percentage of the total budget for the library improvements, which poses the question: Why did the administration choose to introduce the fee in the first place? While the direct funding for these projects is important, how fair and effective is it to force students to underwrite them directly? Since this new fee has already been added to student tuition, however, there is also the question of how much representation students receive for their taxation. Ultimately, it is the students who must answer these questions.

Guest lecturer on Israeli-Palestinian conflict got the wrong three states

To the editor:  
On Tuesday, Oct. 6, Columbia University hosted Lev Luis Grinberg, a professor at Ben-Gurion University, to discuss his new book and his perception on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which was reported in Spectator in “Grinberg visits Columbia to discuss Israel and Palestine” (Oct. 7, 2009). Recently, the debate on how best to solve the Palestinian-Israeli “dispute,” as Professor Grinberg refers to it, has been popular across this campus. However, Professor Grinberg’s proposal, a type of “three-state solution,” is highly flawed.

Professor Grinberg argued that the two proposed solutions to the current Israeli-Palestinian dispute are impossible to reconcile. Instead, he merged the weaknesses of each so as to reach an ultimately deficient conclusion. His proposed “three-state solution” is broken down into regions: Israel, Palestine, and a Union State.

Yet a Union State proposal fails to address the biggest concern of the one-state solution—proportion in government representation. If governmental positions are proportional to population, one nation will assume control and drive out the other. Alternatively, similar to the situation in Lebanon, dividing the representation into arbitrary numbered percentages will also fail. If such a state were administered by tertiary actors, such as the U.N. or the U.S., a vacuum of autonomy would exist with no self-governance for Israelis or Palestinians.

An alternative perspective is dividing the current Disputed Territories and allowing for separated Palestinian sovereignty between Hamas and Fatah. Since Gaza and the West Bank are socially and politically different, it is more effective to reframe professor Grinberg’s solution of three states to a proposal for an Israeli state and two separate Palestinian states. In dividing each group into respective regions, all three would enjoy full and equal independence and hopefully a lasting peace.  
Ron Shapiro, GS/JTS ’13  
Oct. 7, 2009

Spec disregards candidate with passionate campus activists

To the editor:  
In “City elections spark campus activism,” (Oct. 9, 2009) the Spectator ignored the existence of Green Party candidate the Reverend Billy Talen, for whom I have been working for nearly a year now. Though I’m a registered Democrat, I found that both his campaign and his platform spoke to me in a way those of the other candidates didn’t—though Bloomberg and Thompson will claim they stand for “progress,” the reality is that both candidates are deeply beholden to corporate interests. By contrast, the Reverend promises real change: his campaign emphasizes a commitment to crack down on illegal sweatshops operating within the city, the protection of the First Amendment rights of New Yorkers, and a focus on the economic health of local economies. Not sure you want real change? Let’s take a look at what we’ve had for the past seven years. Bloomberg vetoed and then challenged in court a law which would require all corporations doing business with New York to provide equal benefits to same-sex couples; he has focused his economic policy almost entirely on Wall Street; when it came time to deal with the budget shortfall of the MTA, Bloomberg approved major service cuts and a fare hike which disproportionately affects those who can least afford it. Thompson probably wouldn’t be much different: his platform boasts of his campaign to end “taxes, fines, and fees that unfairly hamper the growth of businesses.” What about helping out the people who need help the most, instead of focusing on bubble economies which burst, leaving the city in debt? If Thompson wins—though he almost

certainly won’t—we’ll probably wind up with yet another mayor whose solution to homelessness is to ship them off to someplace else. I’ve been told that if I vote for the Reverend Billy, I’ll just be wasting my vote. My response? As Eugene V. Debs once said, “I’d rather vote for something I want, and not get it than vote for something I don’t want, and get it.” And, really, why should I waste a vote on any other candidate, when they just promise more of the same?  
Noah Baron, CC ’11  
Student coordinator, Rev. Billy Campaign  
Commentariat editor  
Oct. 14, 2009

While campus health care debate is a good start, groups need to see gender issues

To the editor:  
I am pleased to see students debating health care reform principles as reported in “Students groups clash on health care” (Oct. 8, 2009). I further urge them to consider how such conversation needs to include attention to gender issues.

Providing affordable health care plans is particularly important to women. Except in ten states where laws restrict such gender rating (New York included), insurance companies are still allowed to charge women more for health care coverage. The National Women’s Law Center conducted a study comparing premiums of identical plans purchased by women and men. They found that at age 25, “women were charged between 6 percent and 45 percent more than men.” This is highly disconcerting, considering that as of 2007, women were still making 78 cents for every dollar men received. Wage gaps for women of color are even more alarming, with women making as low as 53 and 62 cents for every dollar white, non-Hispanic men earned.

Gender issues go far beyond affordability, however, and extend into the services health care plans cover. According to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, women are more likely to have breast cancer, osteoporosis, diabetes, asthma, arthritis, and depression. Along with these illnesses, women have specific reproductive health issues that need to be covered by their insurance. Some senators believe that if you don’t have a uterus, you shouldn’t have to pay for maternity care. These issues, however, affect everyone—not just women—and if we are to work towards a healthy, productive society, we need to make sure that adequate coverage is provided to all, not just those who use the least care. To learn more about the current health care reform debate, visit <http://www.phanyc.org> for more information.  
Maryanne Tomazic, Public Health ’11  
Oct. 9, 2009

Even in the heart of NYC, Pupin roof is still necessary for astronomy

To the editor:  
We appreciate the attention The Spectator has given recently to the issue of the Northwest Corner science building interfering with normal functions of the astronomy department and the astrophysics lab on the roof of Pupin Hall, and we take this opportunity to state our point of view on the issue. People often think that astronomy is impossible from the heart of Manhattan, but we have found many worthwhile things to do that require access to the Pupin roof. Astronomers need the sky:  
1) We educate about 200 tuition-paying Columbia undergraduates per year on a regular basis with observing sessions, and many more occasionally.  
2) We have an extensive public outreach program centered on the Pupin rooftop observation with some 6,000 guests per year. This is a unique resource for New York City.  
3) There are at least four federally funded research programs on the Pupin roof requiring

unfettered access to the sky.  
4) Our funding from NASA requires that we tie our research to public programs, like those on the Pupin roof. Rooftop programs are also a central part of our fundraising activities. To these rooftop programs, astronomy/astrophysics staff, student, and faculty devote about 1,000 person-hours per year. The new building next door has the unfortunate impact of blocking our view of the western horizon, where, among other objects, the evening planets are best viewed by the public using our telescopes. The lights from the building interfere with our instruments and ruin the night vision of observers. Furthermore, the building interferes with radio from GPS and other sources for our experiments. We need a dark site nearby to replace the compromised roof of Pupin. We sincerely hope that this can be found, either on the new building, or some tall, relatively dark site next to Pupin, to which the public can be given access without problem. We invite the relevant parties at the University to work with us towards an optimal solution for all on a timely basis.  
Dr. Arlin Crofts  
Professor of astronomy  
Cameron Hummels  
Ph.D. candidate and public outreach director  
Oct. 14, 2009

Group numbers, diversity, and activities speak for themselves

To the editor:  
The issues discussed in Rajat Roy’s “Spreading the culture around,” (Oct. 1, 2009) and the response, “Letter to the editor: Columnist misses mark on Columbia culture critique,” (Oct. 8, 2009) both highlighted key issues and concerns. The clubs on campus do try to make an effort for more inter-group involvement. For instance, under the leadership of Club Zamana about two years ago, the South Asian Intergroup was started, with the primary focus of increasing communication among South Asian clubs and related religious groups, and putting on an event all together that goes beyond the clubs themselves. That’s initiative towards more inter-club involvement. Similarly, the Muslim Students Association has continuously strived to work with Hillel and other groups on campus by hosting events throughout the year to promote awareness and an exchange of ideas and thoughts. The column ignored this completely and stated that these two organizations essentially failed to have any communication. The cultural club I am currently active in, Club Bangla, is also shifting some of its events towards the larger South Asian community. For instance, we are holding an event called; “Malnutrition in South Asia,” which will involve groups beyond South Asian clubs, and includes organizations on campus that we do not traditionally work with—including the Earth Institute and Mailman School of Public Health. This social issue validates that these clubs go beyond their ethnic targets and aim to include a larger audience. It also shows that clubs are trying to increase the events they hold together, and learn from each other’s respective, and irrespective of cultures and faiths when dealing with larger issues. These clubs, whether they are cultural or not, want YOU to be a part of them. There will always be room for improvements within and even between these clubs—that’s a given. But without involving yourself in them, and immersing yourself with the various events these clubs hold, you won’t be able to see it. That’s my point, and hopefully you yourself will be able to see what these clubs have to offer by attending one of their many colorful events. *This letter has been edited for length. A complete version is available at <http://www.columbiaspectator.com>*  
Idrisul Somi, SEAS ’10  
2009-2010 co-president, Club Bangla  
Member, Muslim Students Association  
Oct. 11, 2009

Endowing financial freedom



RAJAT ROY  
CUTTING THE BLUE TAPE

Two weeks ago I seem to have caused a “scandal” of sorts. Student council presidents, group leaders, some administrators and many students were hijacked from discussing relevant issues into talking about a fictitious “race war,” as one student put it, started by a “bigot.” Several multicultural groups went so far as to invite the Engineering Student Council and the Columbia College Student Council to moderate an “emergency planning meeting” Wednesday night. Hold the phone. It is suddenly an “emergency” when an American of Indian descent decides to highlight concrete numbers available to the public? It’s dangerous when someone shows that the average member of a Multicultural Greek group receives 30 times more money than a student in a non-cultural fraternity? Or that nearly half of student life group money disappears into a black hole of “culture” where the vast majority of the student body can never see where the money went? My numbers are finally on my article Web sites if you want to check them out. Furthermore, I do wish to apologize for my “hookup/spouses” line in my last op-ed. I was going for a laugh to break up the tension in my article, but apparently I was not adept at making a joke. I apologize if my humor, which in retrospect I realize was not humorous, offended anyone. But the reality is this—I’ve talked with several members of the opposition. Everyone I’ve spoken with has agreed that there are cultural groups that underperform. Club Zamana, Hillel, and Muslim Students Association are not any of those groups. Our opinions only differ because the opposition

wants the onus of seeking out cultures to be on the students while I want it to be on the established institutions, the clubs. Now that I have your attention, I’m not going to talk about race anymore. It is not constructive. I want to propose a solution to the problem we’ve been talking about—club endowments. In the long run, by using this proposal, clubs can get free rein to do any and all kinds of activities that they want to do without funding limitations. The idea is simple—large student groups like Columbia University College Democrats, Club Zamana, the Black Students Organization, the Asian American Alliance, the Chinese Students Club, etc. reach out to their alumni to contribute money to establish an endowment. They all keep getting student life money with no penalty until they can operate by themselves using just the payout (3 percent) from their endowment. At that point the governing boards will wean these successful groups off of student life money over the course of three years. If club alumni gave only \$2,500 in total per year, by the end of 20 years, virtually any major group would be able to fund itself on the 3 percent interest alone (over \$7,000 even accounting for inflation)! But let’s be realistic. Most of these groups have more than 25 alumni. If any club raised on average \$5,000 a year (50 gifts of only \$100 from the hundreds of club alumni out there), in 50 years each group will get over \$1,000,000—that’s right, a million dollars—to fund their operations. This is the power of compound interest that you’ve learned about for the past 20 years. Even this number is low. \$5,000 in 40 years is equivalent to only \$1,500 in present value. And as alumni bases grow, more and more money will be donated. My projections indicate that at the end of 20 years each club will be getting nearly \$75,000 per year in interest alone. Using those funds these groups can

truly make a difference on campus and can even co-sponsor other groups. Of course the results of this project won’t even be seen by the time your younger siblings come to Columbia. But if we set the framework now, we will be able to promote a truly diverse culture on campus. Yes, we will be inconvenienced for the immediate present. But since we love our clubs, we want them to be better off when we leave than when we joined them. By raising money for the long term we can make sure that our clubs do well in the future. If multicultural groups really want to make a difference on this campus they should start these endowments. The problem is that Columbia won’t let us do this. Why not? By increasing the interactions between students and graduates, alumni will actually see the people in whose lives their contributions will be making a difference. Wouldn’t that help giving rates? Regardless of your position on race on this campus, shouldn’t we all be working to make sure that our groups are on financially better footing in the future? Shouldn’t we all want to give our clubs the foothold to get over a million dollars a year? E-mail the vice presidents of finance for your student councils and tell them very simply, “We want club endowments.” You may disagree with me on my politics. You may take issue with what I say in writing. Despite that, I encourage you to join me in achieving financial freedom for our groups. Club endowments are the only sure-fire way of saving Columbia’s student-group community in the long run.

Rajat Roy is a School of Engineering and Applied Science senior majoring in industrial engineering and operations research with a minor in environmental engineering. He is a university senator from SEAS. Cutting the Blue Tape runs alternate Thursdays. [opinion@columbiaspectator.com](mailto:opinion@columbiaspectator.com)

POLITICS ON STILTS



SHAINA RUBIN







FILM

“The Piano” finds strength in silence



MORGAN DAVIES  
A FILM OF HER OWN

There is something deeply unsettling about Ada McGrath, the heroine of Jane Campion’s 1993 film “The Piano.” It is not so much her voluntary silence that unnerves us—Holly Hunter’s performance is so effortless and convincing that she makes speech seem superfluous. Rather, the eerie element comes from the malnourished, traumatized curve that her body makes as she shrinks away from nearly all human contact. At the outset, having been deposited unceremoniously with her daughter on an empty beach in 19th-century New Zealand, she can only communicate through sign language.

Today, Ada would be considered forceful, powerful, and independent. But in her age of bonnets and corsets, she is merely oppressed as an oddity in a society that prizes conformity above all else. She has not spoken since the age of six, intuiting early that nobody really wants to hear what she might have to say. Even her physical presence on-screen—that tense, unrelenting pose—betrays a history of containment.

Her relationship with the man to whom her father has sold her in marriage is strained and uncomfortable from the beginning. Complicating matters is the agreement that she develops with her husband’s friend, George Baines, who acquires her only cherished possession, her piano, and negotiates for its return in exchange for a series of escalating sexual favors.

George, the audience comes to see, is neither amoral nor violent, but simply emotionally deficient—he can only express affection physically. After he realizes that what he has forced Ada to do is deeply wrong, he returns her piano prematurely. She returns to his ramshackle cabin to, perhaps for the first time in her life, initiate sexual contact.

Most directors would not have the courage to make their heroines fall in love with men who have abused them. But that is exactly what Campion does, and what makes “The Piano” unique. If we approach the story with the expectation that what Ada wants above all else is love, then her relationship with George is both disturbing and unsatisfying. But the relationship, and the power structure that previously defines it, transforms before the viewers’ eyes.

Ada, whether or not she realizes it, is only superficially interested in love. She is interested, rather, in independence. She subconsciously identifies the only man within her grasp who will allow her to have even a modicum of control over her fate. George himself does not matter, really. What matters is the freedom he will allow her.

“The Piano” is an intensely, cerebrally feminine film not only because of its female protagonist, but also as a result of Campion’s nontraditional approach to romance. If there exist films that could only have been made by women, “The Piano” is one.

Campion’s male characters are not one-dimensional or psychologically shallow, but they are certainly pathetic: Ada’s husband is defined by his literal and metaphorical impotence, and her lover suffers from a severe case of arrested sexual development. They in no way represent the traditional ideal of masculinity.

Ada, on the other hand, possesses a powerful will that personifies her intense desire for freedom. Her husband views this will as an uncontrollable, alien power—he cannot comprehend that a woman could have desires of her own. Ada, too, refers to her will as an autonomous entity, but she trusts it—it never leads her astray and indeed ultimately saves her. In the world of “The Piano,” feminine intuition trounces physical male power, rendering brute force ineffectual.

So while it is theoretically possible that a man could have made this film, it seems extremely unlikely that any man would even attempt it. It is Campion’s female perspective that gives the movie its extraordinary power. Despite our modern bias, Campion makes us believe that Ada, at the end of the film, has not settled for a second-rate life. She has overcome.

Morgan Davies is a sophomore at Barnard College majoring in English. [dailyarts.spec@gmail.com](mailto:dailyarts.spec@gmail.com)

FOOD & DRINK

New fro-yo spot aims to rock and roll B’way

BY ALLISON MALECHA  
Columbia Daily Spectator

Katy Perry’s hit summer song “Hot N Cold” might as well be the theme song for Broadway’s newest fro-yo outpost.

East Rock’n’Rolls, which opened Wednesday on Broadway, merges two Columbia student favorites—steaming caffeine and frozen yogurt—into one laid-back deli experience. East Rock’n’Rolls is under the same management as Café East in Lerner Hall and East Dumpling House on 106th Street, and their manager, Milton Mao, said he caters specifically to the Columbia crowd: “I want to keep things young and energetic.”

The shabby-chic red sign outside is not at all indicative of the clean white and espresso interior that matches the stark, mod fro-yo joint status quo. This aesthetic seems appropriate, since the frozen yogurt is really all that separates East Rock’n’Rolls’ selection from that of its other East counterparts. The fat-free yogurt is provided by the company YoCream, which is based out of Oregon, and comes in four comforting flavors: original, chocolate, cookies & cream, and raspberry.

“I don’t believe in an \$8 cup of yogurt,” said Mao, clearly alluding to the Pinkberry situated directly across the street. Was this placement intentional? “No, I wasn’t even looking to open this place. But in my seven years in the area, I’ve had my eye out for property close to 116th Street. This was an opportunity I couldn’t pass up.” Meanwhile, Mao’s prices—\$3 for a small and \$4 for a large, plus \$1.25-\$1.65 for additional toppings—don’t pass for dirt cheap, but they do shave a dollar or two off Pinkberry’s.

East Rock’n’Rolls’ frozen yogurt has a distinctly different flavor from Pinkberry as well. The taste of the original strikes a nice medium between Pinkberry’s yogurt-y sour signature flavor and John Jay’s uber-sweet ice cream imitation. East Rock’n’Rolls’ other flavors tend further still toward the creamier side. And although they offer expected toppings, like fruit and M&M’s, they’ve also thrown in some unexpected ones, such as dark-chocolate-pomegranate nuggets and blueberry cran-almond clusters.



Shelby Layne for Spectator

**HOT ICE** | Broadway’s newest frozen yogurt shop, East Rock’n’Rolls, offers four flavors of fro-yo as well as a selection of hot drinks. East Rock’n’Rolls is under the same management as Lerner’s Café East and East Dumpling House on 106th Street.

As for the “hot” counterpart to the frozen yogurt, expect the same “tea with milk” flavors offered at Café East. The most popular is likely to be the classic, smooth French Vanilla Tea Latté (\$3.85), especially as some of the more nontraditional infusions could use a little work. For example, the Ginger Tea Latté had a nice creamy spice aftertaste, but was a

little too watery. East Rock’n’Rolls’ also sells sushi, which mostly consists of the same pre-packaged selection found in Lerner, with fresh custom rolls available upon request.

Will the “hot ‘n’ cold” concept sink or swim? The crowd was looking sparse for opening day, but Noelle Martinez, CC ’13, is optimistic. “If you have

tastebuds, you’ll like it,” she said. As soon as they get the credit card machine up and running, that is.

WHERE IT’S AT

Place: Broadway and 112th Street  
Cost: Yogurt ranges from \$3-\$5.65

THEATER

Barnard’s “Tartuffe” adds new dimensions to a classic comedy

BY SHIRA LAUCHAROEN  
Columbia Daily Spectator

Deception, seduction, and gender play abound in Moliere’s farcical “Tartuffe,” Barnard College’s first departmental production of the season. Directed by guest director Will MacAdams, the production will be performed Oct. 15-17 in the Minor Latham Playhouse by an entirely female cast.

The story follows the machinations of the conniving Tartuffe, a guest in the household of the wealthy Orgon. Under the pretense of being devoutly religious, Tartuffe manipulates his host, much to the aggravation of Orgon’s family. As Tartuffe coerces Orgon to renounce both his wealth and daughter, the family attempts to trick the clever fraudster themselves.

The decision to stage the play with an all-female cast is meant to raise questions about gender roles and to reinvent

this classic play, which is so focused on seduction and sexuality.

Actors explored the concept that gender is an illusion and that all humans may be perceived as androgynous beings. “Drag King” Diyaa Mildred Gerestant led one theatrical workshop, which exposed actors in the department to the possibilities of gender fluidity while identifying the performative mannerisms that distinguish male behavior from female behavior.

“The masculine and feminine exist in all of us. We can embrace whatever characteristics are attributed to one or the other as a means of finding power within ourselves,” said Miriam Pensack, CC ’13, who plays Orgon’s son, Damis. According to Tara Pacheco, CC ’13, who plays Elmire, in gender workshops held during rehearsals actors examined the ways in which society grooms the subconscious tendencies of men and women. Pacheco cited the feminine habit of frequently and

unnecessarily apologizing as a product of societal conditioning.

“Within society, a woman has to exert herself,” said Pensack. “On the subway, women try to take up as little space as possible, while men are sprawled. Women are asked to put on make-up and wear heels.”

Actors also discussed the gender-based associations or presumptions they might hold, including “feeling feminine after saying something stupid or feeling masculine after saying something insensitive,” said Pacheco. Performers studied the gender-based norms of social interactions, such as the masculine tendency to avoid standing within very close physical proximity to other men.

“They [men] have to assert themselves by saying something very ‘frat-boy’ if the hug is too long,” said Pensack. Bettina Weiner, GS ’10, observed women she called “Park Avenue ladies” to develop

the mannerisms of her character, Orgon’s conservative mother Pernelle.

Pacheco, in radical contrast to the structured Orgon, saw her own character as a progressive bohemian, “the powerful woman who is hard to accept.” She worked to highlight the femininity of her role by identifying and distinguishing certain elements of female seduction.

“There is a difference between expressing sexual desire in an overtly lustful way or a coquettish way,” said Pacheco. “To be a coquette, you are expressing an interest and then pulling it back, rather than succumbing to your desires.” The character of Tartuffe is portrayed as being an androgynous seducer who identifies targets for his trickery according to their weaknesses.

“The androgyny is appealing,” said Pensack. “You can’t help but be attracted to someone who is internally liberated.”

VIDEO GAMES

CU gamers work to smash competition in tournament

BY PAUL HSIAO  
Columbia Daily Spectator

Colorful flashes, exaggerated sound effects, and the rapid tussle of controllers are a typical sight in a college dorm. But for Dan Lee, SEAS ’11, and Amir Mazaheripour, SEAS ’11, gaming isn’t just a source of entertainment, but rather an art waiting to be mastered.

On Nov. 13 and 14, Princeton University will host an invitational Super Smash Bros. Melee tournament. After happening upon the invitation online, Lee and Mazaheripour formed the Columbia Smash Club to begin getting Columbia gamers into shape.

“Princeton, NYU, Rutgers, Drexel are all competing so we need to show them what we got,” Mazaheripour said. “There’s a lot of good people” out there, Lee said. “We needed to find good people here, too, to represent Columbia.”

After putting up flyers around campus, the duo was surprised by the student interest in their effort. “There were a lot of responses, about 25 to 30 people,” Lee said. Though they were not expecting much, if any, female interest in the club, one female gamer did try out. “Unfortunately, she wasn’t at the level we were looking for,” Mazaheripour said.

Even with many interested students, piecing together a talented and trainable team of recruits wasn’t easy. “Not all of them were tournament caliber,” Mazaheripour said. “Most of them just wanted to get together and play some Smash.” Since training has started, selected players are committing about four to six hours a week to preparation, according to captains Lee and Mazaheripour.

The original Super Smash Bros. was released for Nintendo GameCube in 2001. It is a multiplayer fighting game featuring characters from the Nintendo franchise. Ever since its release, the video game has gained something of a cult following. “On the scale from one to Facebook, Super Smash Bros. is probably around a seven,” said Dylan Liu, SEAS ’13. “It’s really fun, the characters are pretty famous, and it’s simple enough for anyone to understand and play,” said Richard Sun, CC ’12.

Even though it is a simple game, Smash has inspired an obsession among some players. “It started off as just entertainment,” Mazaheripour said, “then you start beating a lot of people, then you become really good at it.”

The game’s popularity is especially evident on YouTube, where most videos featuring tournament players garner six-digit view counts. There is even a

Web site, smashboards.com, devoted to Smash gatherings—the next local meeting will be at New York University in December.

“There is an entire New York community dedicated to Smash,” Mazaheripour said. “We might just form a Smash club later, but right now we’re really focusing on the tournament.”

A sequel to the game, Super Smash Bros. Brawl, came out for the Nintendo Wii in 2008, but hasn’t yet achieved the popularity of Melee. “Melee is a competitive game while Brawl is a party game,” Lee said. “Most of the subtle advanced techniques are gone and the developers chose to make the game more equal by having lots of elements of chance. It’s not a tournament game.”

Still, Lee and Mazaheripour don’t consider themselves hardcore gamers. “Freshman year,

I played way more than I should have,” Mazaheripour admitted. “I don’t really want to flunk out of school,” added Lee.

When asked about the addictive nature of video games, Lee responded, “[Smash] is addictive—it’s an addiction we embrace.”

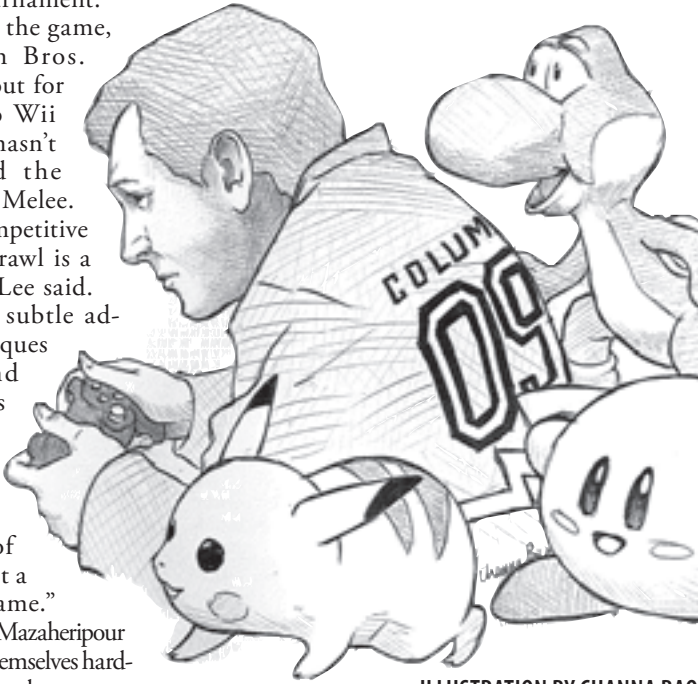


ILLUSTRATION BY CHANNA BAO



# Field hockey win streak snapped at two with 4-2 loss to Hofstra

BY MICHELE CLEARY  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

The Columbia field hockey team had its two-game winning streak snapped as it fell to Hofstra in a nonconference matchup on Wednesday. The Light Blue (5-6, 1-2 Ivy) fell to the Pride (9-6, 3-2 CAA) by a score of 4-2.

In just the third minute of action, Hofstra took the lead and never relinquished it. Senior midfielder/defender Ashleigh Daniels hit a hard shot straight at the goal off an assist from sophomore midfielder/forward Genna Kovar, giving the Pride a 1-0 advantage.

Less than 12 minutes later, Hofstra scored again on a goal by junior

midfielder Amy-Lee Levey. Shortly after its second goal, the Pride netted its third at 19:30. Both of these goals were scored off corners.

Despite the early three-goal deficit, the Lions still put up a fight. Unexpectedly, two freshmen led the Light Blue comeback effort as forward Gabby Kozlowski and midfielder/forward Katie DeSandis scored back-to-back goals.

At just over 21 minutes into the game, Kozlowski picked up her first collegiate goal when she deflected junior back Caitlin Mullin's shot off a corner, cutting the Pride's lead to two.

Just three minutes later Columbia scored again when DeSandis netted one

	COLUMBIA	2	
	HOFSTRA	4	

off an assist from freshman midfielder Paige Simmons. This brought the Light Blue within one goal of tying the game, but they would not get any closer.

Compared to the five-goal first half, the second half was an intense defensive battle. The score remained 3-2 until the last five minutes of the game.

At 65:30 Kovar scored an unassisted insurance goal, clinching the Pride's victory.

The Lions will try to bounce back when they take on Ivy foe Penn on Sunday.



Jasper Clyatt / Staff photographer

**OFF A CORNER** | Freshman Gabby Kozlowski picked up the first goal of her collegiate career in Columbia's failed rally against Hofstra.

## Senior co-captain Wong aims to be first Lion with three Ivy titles

WONG from back page

Wong, an economics major, first began playing tennis seriously at the age of 10. Before that, he dabbled in a number of sports, including soccer and basketball.

"I chose tennis because it was more individual, you had to depend on yourself," Wong said. "I wanted to take all the glory for the win. I really liked the feeling that I got when I won."

Wong, a tremendous athlete with the ability and quickness to excel at a number of sports, found himself highly ranked early on as a youngster.

"I was ranked in the top 20 in the nation in the [under] 12's," Wong said, "and that motivated me to work harder. I kept building on that in the 14's, 16's, and 18's."

Ranked so highly at such a young age, there was simply not that much that Wong could improve upon in his hometown of Melville, N.Y. It was then, as a 14-year-old eighth grader, that Wong made one of the most difficult choices a child can make. At an age when most boys are more preoccupied with chasing girls, Wong decided to leave his parents and home behind to move to a tennis academy, where he could receive, full-time, the best training and coaching in the world.

"My coaches [in New York] told me that I had to train at a higher level, more practice" Wong said, "so my parents looked at all of the top academies: Bolletieri, some places in Texas where I was getting scholarships, and at all of the known

ones. I chose Saddlebrook because my parents felt comfortable sending me there; they knew I would be safe there."

Wong left behind everything that he knew—his friends, family and lifestyle—and began four years at Saddlebrook Tennis Academy, where it was all tennis, all the time. At that age, Wong had one goal in mind for his tennis future.

"I wanted to turn pro," Wong said. "I was ranked in the top 15 in the nation, I was competing in world tournaments. I made the finals of two of the tournaments also."

Not only did Wong make the finals, but along the way he also beat some of the best players in college tennis today, including Devin Britton, who won the NCAA singles title last spring and is now a professional player, and Ryan Harrison, who is considered to be one of the top U.S. prospects for the future. Wong beat both in two routine sets. He achieved a career high ranking of no. 496 in the world as a junior.

It was at this point, however, that Wong's parents forced his sights off the professional game and onto collegiate tennis.

"My parents said to get an education," Wong said, "so I started looking at some schools. Ohio State, Virginia, and some of the other scholarship schools really wanted me. But my parents wanted me to look at Ivy League schools, so I started looking at Harvard, Yale, and Columbia. The reason I came to Columbia was simple; it was Bid."

Wong passed up full scholarship offers from of the top tennis schools in the nation to play at Columbia under Goswami. Today, Ohio State and Virginia are no. 2 and 3 in the team rankings, respectively, and each is a breeding ground for some of the top players in the entire world. Both are also perennial contenders for the NCAA team championships.

"When we got Jon to come to play at Columbia, that was one of my good days," said Goswami, whom Wong and his teammates simply call Bid. "I was ecstatic when we pulled him away from Virginia, which was no. 1 in the country at that time. I knew that if he played to his potential he could be the best player in our league."

During the recruitment process, various coaches made many offers and promises to Wong, but it was Goswami's kindness that stood out.

"From the minute I met him, I knew," Wong said. "He is such a nice guy. All the guys on the team were great, and I knew out of all the Ivies that I would fit in here."

"Bid first saw me play when I was just a kid, and I used to play at Columbia [tennis center]," Wong said, "and he just came across as a great guy. All the other guys [head coaches] seemed really fake, like they were just trying to get you there. But Bid told me, 'I'll always be there for you,' and he didn't try to make me any promises he couldn't keep."

Wong then perhaps described Goswami in the most accurate way possible.

"He's a straight up guy," Wong said of his head coach.

Once he came to Columbia, Wong found his niche right away. He went 7-0 in Ivy play at no. 3 singles, helped lead his team to the Ivy title, and won Ivy League Rookie of the Year, becoming the first Lion ever to win the award. Wong continued his stellar play as a sophomore, and he was named to the all-Ivy first team for his singles play that spring. As a junior, Wong once again led the Lions to the Ivy title, playing predominantly at the no. 1 singles spot, where he went 10-5 against the opposing teams' best players. Wong was named to second team all-Ivy as a junior for his play in both singles and doubles.

He has accomplished almost everything that an Ivy League tennis player can—winning singles, doubles, and team titles, and establishing himself as a force to be reckoned with on the court.

Wong, whose lack of towering height or obvious strength belies the pace and accuracy that he can attain, attacks his opponents aggressively from the baseline with big ground strokes and a tremendous serve, especially for someone of his size.

So what does Jon Wong, a player who has accomplished so much on the court, still have left to achieve?

"Regionals," Wong said, referring to the Wilson/ITA Regional Championships. "It's been the big thing since last year. I lost in the semifinals last year and I want to make it to Nationals. Its my main target right now."

To achieve his goal, Wong will have to either win or compete in the finals of the Regional Championships, which begin on Friday, Oct. 16.

"I think his best tennis is ahead of him, in the next six months," Goswami said. "I think he should go to National Indoor Championships from our region, that's how highly I think of his game."

Wong, who plans to train in Florida again after graduation before playing a couple months on the professional tour, has grown and matured a lot since he first burst onto the scene as a freshman.


"As a member of our team, you cannot ask for anything more," said Goswami, who has been the head coach for 28 years at Columbia. "He is a great leader now, people really look up to him. I remember when he was a freshman, people had to call him to wake him up for morning matches. He has been unbelievable with recruits; he really believes in our program."

Wong's accomplishments place him in an elite category of tennis players, and this year, he has a chance to separate himself from anyone who has donned the Columbia uniform for the men's tennis team in its illustrious history.

"I am hoping that he becomes the first guy to win three Ivy [team] titles," Goswami said. "Never before has one guy won more than two. That would be an unbelievable cap in his feather. It would be fitting if he wins three Ivy titles."

# HOME COMING

# COLUMBIA





## Columbia vs. Penn

Saturday, October 17, 2009

1:30 p.m. kickoff on Robert K. Kraft Field at Lawrence A. Wien Stadium


Pre-Game Picnic Area beverage service begins at 12 p.m.




**FREE Student (undergraduate and graduate) admission with Barnard/Columbia ID**

**FREE Beverage service in Pre-Game Picnic Area (21 and older to drink beer - ID required)**


**FREE Transportation to the Baker Athletics Complex**  
Buses depart from 116th Street and Broadway beginning at 11 a.m.



Fairway Uptown 2328 12th Ave, NY | 212.234.3883 | 8am-11pm  
Entrance across from waterfront park at 125th St.





**Fuel-Up Here!**  
at your local Fairway!



Take Columbia University Shuttle, Blue Line to Stop #10

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

**PLATINUM SPONSOR OF COLUMBIA ATHLETICS**



**FREE PARKING WHILE YOU SHOP!**  
Savor us online @ [www.FairwayMarket.com](http://www.FairwayMarket.com)

# gocolumbialions.com



Following victories over Penn and Marist, the women's soccer team will look to defeat Princeton.

TOMORROW



# SPORTS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2009 • PAGE 8



On Saturday, the Columbia football team will host Ivy rival Penn in its 2009 Homecoming game.

TOMORROW

## ‘I’m goin’ in...’



JELANI JOHNSON  
CAN'T KNOCK THE HUSTLE

If you read the Spectator's sports section then you're probably familiar with the weekly PixBox segment and its accompanying "shout-outs." Last week my shout-out read, "I'm an unoriginal douche..." I DID NOT WRITE THOSE WORDS. In fact,

the word "douche" has never been a part of my vocabulary. Apparently annoyed by my decision to use the same shout-out for four weeks in a row, someone decided it would be funny to jokingly insert a faux shout-out under my name. Unfortunately, they forgot to change the text back to my original request and their distastefully slanderous joke was published and distributed all across Morningside Heights. Although the responsible party has since apologized, I feel the need to speak about the thoughtless, inconsiderate, and highly unprofessional slandering of my character.

As a columnist, my entire craft is based on my personal opinion. I cannot think of a worse journalistic transgression than writing vulgar untruths and publishing them under someone else's identity. Imagine that your professors, deans, colleagues, and anyone else who happened to pick up a newspaper could all see a picture of your face above a caption that described you as an "unoriginal douche." It's not hard to understand why I'm angry. Although the Columbia Daily Spectator is far from perfect, the reputation and credibility of the publication is seriously compromised when screw-ups like this occur. The people responsible for what happened should be ashamed of themselves.

Although it's nobody's business but my own, I figured I would share the reason why I continue to use the same shout-out week after week. In his article "Baseball Magic," anthropologist George Gmelch discusses the rituals, routines, and superstitions that baseball players often use in an attempt to preserve their luck. As a man who grew up playing sports, I have definitely adopted my fair share of rituals and superstitions throughout the years. My repeated use of the shout-out "I'm Goin' In..." this semester is an example of one of those superstitions. In a competition among 10 columnists I have yet to fall below second place. As most columnists can attest, picking games against the spread is often predicated more on luck than skill. I attribute part of my luck to sticking with the same shout-out and I plan to continue using that shout-out until I start losing.

The irony is that no one really cares about the columnist's shout-outs. Ninety-eight percent of our campus could care less about the corny inside jokes that many sports columnists provide in their weekly PixBox. The purpose of a shoutout is to say whatever you want to say. Who cares if I use the same quote all semester? It's my prerogative. I can write whatever the hell I want.

Honestly, I was planning on using this column to discuss Columbia football. Working for WKCR 89.9 FM I traveled to Lafayette College and watched last weekend's game. It was a close football game and I definitely have a lot to say about what happened to our boys down in Pennsylvania. However, I felt that I needed to use this space to speak about the gross misrepresentation of my character. As I stated earlier, the people responsible for publishing vulgar remarks under the guise of my identity have since apologized to me. That really changes nothing. Their breach of journalistic ethics remains, and what's done is done. Nevertheless, at least now I've gotten a chance to share my own words with this campus.

Jelani Johnson is a Columbia College senior majoring in history.  
sports@columbiaspectator.com

# King of the Court

BY KUNAL GUPTA

Spectator Senior Staff Writer

Men's head tennis coach Bid Goswami doesn't need to search for words to describe his senior co-captain: "Jon Wong is, pound for pound, the best player in the Ivy League, and I believe one of the best players in the country."

Wong, the longest-tenured member of the defending-Ivy-League-champion Lions, is one of the best tennis players to ever play for Columbia University. He has played singles and doubles on two Ivy League championship teams as a freshman and junior, won singles titles at the Princeton Invitational in 2008 and at the USTA Collegiate Invitational in 2009, and won the doubles title at the Princeton Invitational in 2008. He also played in two All-American Invitionals in both singles and doubles, and has been ranked and beaten players in the top 100 in the country.

SEE WONG, page 7

Senior  
Jon Wong  
eyes Columbia  
record books



Photo illustration by Daniel Lasry

## Men's tennis prepares for key fall tournament with six entrants

BY KUNAL GUPTA

Spectator Senior Staff Writer

All fall, the Columbia men's tennis team has been gearing up for the Wilson/ITA Regional Championships, the most important tournament of the fall season. The singles finalists and the doubles winners all advance to play in the ITA National Indoor Championships, one of the nation's most prestigious college tournaments. The Lions have entered the maximum six singles players and three doubles teams into the main draws for both singles and doubles, and are ready to build on yet another stellar fall season.

"Every school in our region has to have at least one player in the draw," head coach Bid Goswami said. "They play the tournament in the fall and then the winners go to National Indoors. Last year, Bogdan [Borta] went in singles, and the year before Bogdan and Justin Chow won the doubles."

The Lions avoided the perilous journey of having to qualify singles players for the event, as all of their entrants were awarded direct entry into the main draw due to the strength of their ranking and fall play.

"It's the biggest fall tournament," continued Goswami. "It's an indoor tournament, so that gives us a little bit of help since we play mostly indoors, and the last few years it has been good for us. Last year, we had five of our players reach the round of 16, and doubles did well too. Two reached the semis and one reached the finals. If you tell me we'll have that again, I will take that any day."

Indeed, the Lions had an outstanding regional tournament last fall, as they were the only school to put five players in the round of 16, and the only school with two semifinalists.

Last year's two finalists, Borta Harvard's and Chris Clayton, have both graduated, so it is guaranteed that the Northeast Region will be sending two new players to the Indoor National Championships.

"There are some old people and some new faces," Goswami said. "Mihai [Nichifor] and Jon [Wong] are both coming off the All-American, and Mihai had a great win [over the No. 17 player] and both are fit and ready to go."

Sophomore Ekin Sezgen did well last season, reaching the round of 16 as a freshman, and continuing his stellar play into the spring where he

played no. 4 singles. This fall, Sezgen struggled to find his form until the past weekend.

"Ekin started playing well at our event," Goswami said, "and I think he is also ready, after not playing well earlier."

Fellow sophomore Haig Schneiderman has had mixed results this fall, losing some very close matches, including one in the prequalifying draw at the All-American Invitational.

"Haig has had some tough breaks," Goswami said. "He wanted to play the Columbia Classic after playing in the All-American Invitational. He is a bit under the weather, but he should be fine by Friday."

Rajeev Deb-Sen, also a sophomore, did not play in the Regional Championships last fall, but has played his way into the top six after a strong spring season.

"For Rajeev, it's his first Regional," Goswami said. "This time last year he was not in the top six, but he came on strong in January and spring season, so now he is definitely going to play."

The final singles entrant for the Lions is freshman Cyril Bucher from Switzerland. Bucher was a finalist in the "B" draw at the Columbia Classic.

"Cyril Bucher played well in our tournament

### COLUMBIA AT WILSON/ITA REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Thursday, Oct. 15-Tuesday, Oct. 20

and got the sixth spot," the head coach said. "He is a good indoors player and I am looking forward to seeing him play. For the freshmen it's been a hectic fall. We haven't really had a chance to rest. Sometimes it takes them one semester to really get their feet wet."

The Lions will also be sending three doubles teams. Last year's no. 2 team of Wong and Schneiderman will play in the doubles draw, as will Nichifor and freshman Nathaniel Gery, and the Lions' final duo of Deb-Sen and junior Kevin Kung.

The Lions and Goswami have lofty goals for the tournament, which will also feature all of the other Ivy League schools, including top rivals Harvard and Yale.

"I hope we have good results," Goswami said. "I hope one wins singles and we win the doubles, also."

The Wilson/ITA Regional Championships get underway on Thursday with the qualifying draw and will last until Tuesday, Oct. 20.