



FELIX SCHADECK FOR SPECTATOR

SONG CYCLE | Vaimoana Litia Makakaufaki Niumeitolu performs song and poetry at a Native American Heritage Month event.

## Native American History Month calls for education reform

BY EMMA GOSS  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

Higher education is still out of reach for many Native Americans, according to the students organizing Native American Heritage Month.

NAHM sponsored a panel discussion on Wednesday focused on the need for education

reform for Native Americans—just one part of what Lakota Pochedley, CC '13 and NAHM co-chair, called a more politically focused heritage month.

According to panelist Eve Tuck, assistant professor at the State University of New York at New Paltz, 36 percent of indigenous students in New York City reported that they

have been “explicitly encouraged to drop out of school by a teacher, a dean, a principal, or other school personnel.” Tuck referred to this as schools “pushing out” Native American students.

As a result, low numbers of Native American students graduate from high school, and even fewer conceive of

pursuing college degrees, she said.

“In a lot of Native communities, I think students are not made aware of college as an option in any way, shape, or form early enough,” said Steven Abbott, the coordinator of recruitment and student

SEE NAHM, page 2

## Group looks to quicken 125th bus travel

BY EMMA GOSS  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

A group of Northern Manhattan residents is campaigning to make life a little easier for uptown commuters.

The Transit Riders Action Committee, a nonprofit dedicated to environmental justice, is lobbying the city to make changes to 125th Street’s bus travel to speed up the street’s notoriously slow lines, including the M60.

“If you’re trying to cross 125th Street, especially in rush hour, you’re better off walking. It’s so congested right there,” Jake

Carlson, transportation equity coordinator of TRAC, said.

The changes that TRAC is proposing would designate one of 125th Street’s lanes as buses-only, and would change the bus lines that travel 125th to rapid-transit, increasing the frequency and speed of the buses. Rapid-transit buses arrive every five to 10 minutes and have extended green lights at intersections.

A representative for the MTA said that the experience of bus transit in northern Manhattan is no different from other parts of the city. But bus riders on 125th Street say otherwise, with many

claiming that buses on 125th Street are the slowest in the area.

High school student Dayna Enriquez, 17, waits for a bus on 125th Street and Broadway every day for up to 25 minutes.

“It’s very slow. In the morning, it’s not as slow, but when you come home from school, it’s always packed,” she said.

Carlson said that the 125th Street bus rapid transit idea is not yet at the top of the city Department of Transportation’s priority list—but he wants to get it there.

SEE BUS, page 6

## Inwood benefits bring mixed reviews

BY JEREMY BUDD  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

As construction moves forward on the Campbell Sports Center, Columbia is working to balance its expansion plans and its neighborly promises to Inwood residents.

Before breaking ground at Baker Field, Columbia composed a set of benefits—including free tickets, lights on automatic timers, and alternative parking sites—to make up for the inconveniences the construction would cause.

Some of the benefits include extending tennis court hours, funding 13 new scholarships for local sports camps, and pledging \$100,000 a year for the next three years to Isham and Inwood Hill parks.

But as residents begin to feel the effects of construction, they are asking for more of Columbia’s attention in resolving traffic and sidewalk disruption.

“The community was aware that this construction would begin around this time of the year, and people theoretically understand what’s involved and what’s expected of them,” said Pamela Palanque-North, chair of Community Board 12, which represents Washington Heights and Inwood. “But when the construction begins, people are going through that real-life experience and feel put upon.”

In April, University President Lee Bollinger signed an agreement outlining a series of benefits for Inwood residents and community programs. A tie vote by community board members in October 2010 left them without a say in the Baker review process and the community without a representative organization to sign the

## JTS students won’t get swipe access

### Admins reject proposal over accountability, financial issues

BY ABBY ABRAMS  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

Students from the General Studies-Jewish Theological Seminary joint program will not get swipe access to Columbia residence halls, despite a student petition pushing for the change.

Natalie Telson, GS/JTS ’15, started a Change.org petition to generate student interest in October, and by the end of the month she had gathered 30 signatures. But the idea hit a dead end last Thursday when the Student Advisory Housing Board decided that swipe access for JTS students was not going to happen.

“During NSOP, I made a lot of friends in CC and whenever I’d go over to their dorms ... they would have to come down to sign me in. This just doesn’t seem right—we’re the same age as everyone in CC, we’re friends with a lot of them, we’re in all the same clubs,” Telson said.

Telson joined the General Studies Student Council as its JTS representative, and then approached Ryan Cho, CC ’13 and vice president for policy on the Columbia College Student Council, to ask for CCSC’s support.

Cho said that the issue of cross-school swipe access has been brought up often in his time on CCSC, but this was the first time he has seen it come from a purely JTS perspective.

“For us, it is hard to feel like we’re part of the greater

Columbia community when kids living in John Jay can swipe into Carman with no hesitation if they want to visit with friends,” Arielle Goldstein, GS/JTS ’15, said.

Hannah Goodman, BC/JTS ’12 and List College Student Council president, agreed, calling the lack of swipe access “an unnecessary and frankly annoying hindrance to completely integrating into Columbia culture.”

“It is hard to feel like we’re part of the greater Columbia community.”

—Arielle Goldstein,

GS/JTS ’15

“The administration was actually very understanding about the issue of community, about accommodating these students who are in kind of a unique position,” Cho said. “But the same issues that apply to the whole situation apply to these students.”

Scott Wright, vice president of campus services, said that administrators’ main concerns were about who should be eligible to use spaces designed for and paid

SEE JTS, page 2



DOUGLAS KESSEL FOR SPECTATOR

MATCHSTICKS | Construction continues at the future site of the Campbell Sports Center at Baker Field in Inwood.

agreement.

Although Columbia is the only signatory, “we obligated ourselves and published it,” Joe Ienuso, executive vice president of facilities, told Spectator in an October interview.

Last weekend, Inwood residents gathered on the sidewalk of 218th Street to watch construction workers piece together a crane to be used at the site. Two blocks of the street were closed from 10 p.m. Friday to 10 p.m. Sunday to allow workers to assemble the crane.

Theresa Weinheimer, who has lived in Inwood since 1981, said that while she understood that construction is inevitably divisive, the arrival of the crane was more significant than most

of the construction-related disruptions.

“This is big today, a little more major,” Weinheimer said. “It looked very dangerous with Columbia students running to activities.”

Susan Russell, former chief of staff to City Council member Robert Jackson and Inwood resident for over 30 years, said that the construction has caused even more spatial issues for her neighborhood.

“We’re so overcrowded,” she said. “With the dearth of public space, we’re competing for every square inch. We’re all on top of each other.”

218th Street had been

SEE INWOOD, page 2

#### A&E, PAGE 3

### Marena y Sol presents a sun-soaked collection

Columbia alum takes on the world of fashion after stints with teaching and non-profit work.



#### OPINION, PAGE 4

### The last minute

Jeremy Liss encourages our collective practice of procrastination.

### A new home

As we grow to embrace Columbia, we should learn to appreciate the view.

#### SPORTS, PAGE 8

### Senior capitalizes on first chance to start

Senior forward Blaise Staab has not seen much playing time in his career as a Lion, but his effort thus far in 2011 makes the case for future starts.

#### EVENTS

### Sexhibition

Take Back the Night will host a health fair, followed by workshops from the feminist sex shop Babeland.

Lerner ramps, 11-3 p.m., Diana Event Oval, 7-9 p.m.

#### WEATHER

### Today



47°/33°

### Tomorrow



46°/34°







# Alum Miriam Rahali sews beads of charity into resort-wear

BY ALLISON MALECHA  
*Spectator Senior Staff Writer*

This is the first interview Miriam Rahali, CC '05, has given for the Columbia Daily Spectator without a tennis racket in hand. Since her college days, she has been a teacher, nonprofit ambassador, and now, fashion designer. Her first official collection of Marena y Sol—a resort-wear line—debuted at Miami Swim Week in July 2011 and is hitting stores now as the holiday season approaches. In December, Gilt Groupe is planning to offer the line at 60 to 70 percent off in one of its online sales.

Currently living between Newport Beach, California and Dubai, India and always on the go to many places in between, Rahali designed a line to fit her own traveling lifestyle. Revealing her Spanish roots, she chose to combine the Spanish words for “sea,” “sand,” and “sun” to form Marena y Sol. The line features colorful and embellished swimsuits, sarongs, tunics, and, most especially, caftans. “My family members always wore them when I was a child, so I have this very fond memory of women just gliding about effortlessly in caftans,” Rahali said.

How Rahali ended up giving an interview about fashion from a phone line in Dubai is a bit of a whirlwind story. She grew up in Kentucky and intended to be a professional tennis player. But by the end of high school, she was burnt out and, choosing education over sports, came to Columbia, where she still played tennis. This was at the age of 15. Her next stop was Harlem, where she taught for Teach For America for three years—while getting a master’s in teaching and a degree in fashion design at Parsons. “My favorite was beadwork and embroidery,” Rahali said. “I knew right then when I was taking that appliqué class that I would somehow, in some shape or form, be tied to beading when I started.”

Rahali then left New York to work in Paris for the Victor Pineda Foundation, which promotes disability awareness. Through the organization, she traveled to Dubai and returned to Newport with a suitcase full of bright and beaded caftans. The positive response from her friends propelled her fully into the fashion realm.

Rahali has a conscience, though, about being in what some would call a superficial business. She said, “I’ve always struggled with, having gone to

Columbia and done Teach for America and all these things. How can I just put all that aside to focus on fashion, which at the end of the day, you know, I’m not shaping or changing lives? But it’s a total passion.” Rahali donates a portion of Marena y Sol’s proceeds to the organizations she’s worked for.

And while Rahali said her favorite part of her new job is choosing colors for the collection, the process has been far from pure whimsy. “I had to file all my LLC paperwork and everything ... I’ve spent probably 97% of my time focusing on the business side,” she said.

Rahali sources fabrics for the line from all over the world and then works with craftsmen in Dubai to design the often elaborately beaded necklines for her pieces. “When you look at it, it’s like jewelry. It’s stunning,” she said. The clothes are manufactured in India.

Though jet-setting may be a few years off most Columbians’ radar, Rahali said she designed the clothes “for all the independent and free-spirited women...the woman who wants to look good, but doesn’t want to devote all her time spending and preparing and matching my necklace to my dress to what belt.”

The price point for the line ranges from \$78 to \$298, which is expensive on a student budget but moderate compared to some other high-end, resort-wear designers. At Miami Swim Week, she showed near designer Matthew Williamson. “We both loved the cobalt blue this season,” she said. “Mine retails at \$298. His retailed for 899 pounds [\$1418].”

So far, Rahali has found the response to be fairly positive. She said, “I’ve been very fortunate to have both Paris [Hilton] and Kim [Kardashian] wear the brand, so the exposure from people like US [Weekly] magazine...has been big.”

Though she is taking baby steps for now, Rahali ultimately wants to “create a brand that’s your one-stop shopping for your destination and holiday travel.” This includes adding sandals, bags, and hats.

Wearing different hats seems to be Rahali’s specialty, and it’s something she encourages more Columbia students to do. “I think the biggest mistake—and especially...when I see my students now when they’re in college—it’s going in and just focusing on one thing and just doing it, doing it, doing it,” she said. “You just never know where life will take you, but you just have to be open for it.”

Wherever she is taken next, Rahali will at least have a well-prepared wardrobe.



COURTESY OF MIRIAM RAHALI  
**SEA AND SUN** | Miriam Rahali, CC '05 and designer of Marena y Sol, wears the Amazonia caftan from her collection, which comes in hot fuschia and has gold appliqué around the neckline.

## First-ever CU Culinary Society contest proves that deliciousness is easy as pie



DAVID BRANN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
**NOT-SO-HUMBLE PIE** | Students cut into a myriad of pies, including chocolate cream, for the CU Culinary Society’s pie competition on Tuesday, Nov. 15.

BY KIMBERLY TOPILOW  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

In the decadent spirit of Thanksgiving, the CU Culinary Society’s first-ever pie competition, which took place on Nov. 15, featured a fabulous array of sinful sweets. Approximately 14 teams of one-to-four bakers submitted pies to be judged by the hungry hoards of students. The spread would have made the most discerning sweet tooth go wild with joy.

### FOOD&DRINK REVIEW

One table featured a vinegar pie, the “Mad Foodie’s” chocolate-pecan pie, a sour cream apple pie, a Kabocha squash pie, and a butterscotch apple pie made by CU Culinary Society president Matt Powell, CC '12. The vinegar pie was so addicting that it was hard not to eat two slices. Made of no other ingredients than tried-and-true butter, sugar, flour, and vinegar, it would probably be much appreciated by those poor souls languishing in Butler at 1 a.m. The Mad Foodie made a chocolaty delight, and its crunch of pecans was a pleasant foil for the intense cocoa flavor. However, an entire piece would be heavy on some stomachs. The sour cream apple was a nice sugar-fix but could have used some crunchy element to offset the tender apple slices. The Kabocha squash pie was wonderfully different from its competitors. The earthy richness of the squash shone through, while its accompanying cinnamon-sugar whipped cream and gingerbread sauce respectively added sugar and spice to the squash-infused creaminess. Powell served up a tasty apple pie drizzled with a sweet, though not overwhelming, butterscotch sauce. The addition of butterscotch can turn into a cloying sugar-bath, but Powell demonstrated that his pastry skills are up to par by avoiding that pitfall.

A few other pleasing pies were to be had. The chocolate cream pie’s filling was rich but not heavy and would have satisfied any chocolate-lover. A nice crunch from the Oreo crust rounded it out. One team offered pieces of a pumpkin maple pie, which could hold its own on any Thanksgiving table. The “Procrastibakers” sliced up an apple-almond pie, topped with a cranberry cider sauce. While a refreshing break from the creamy excess of other pies at the table, the dessert did not stand out.

But that wasn’t the only clunker in the room. One chocolate Bavarian crème pie was surprisingly bland. The chocolate flavor was very subdued, almost imperceptible. Another team’s “fudge” pie was also not particularly fudge-y. It had the consistency of a light chocolate mousse rather than that of a dense piece of fudge. There was also a pumpkin nut pie whose bakers had not added enough spice to the filling. Consequently, their pie was crunchy and creamy, but not flavorful.

When it comes to pie, my tastes differed from those of the attendees. My three favorites were the vinegar, Kabocha, and the chocolate cream, none of which received any nominations. Voting was done via text and, once everyone had texted the number of their favorite sugar-bomb, the nominees were read. Third place went to the Procrastibaker’s apple-almond-cranberry pie. Second place was won by Mad Foodie’s chocolate-pecan pie. After a slight pause, it was announced that Team Rebekah and Emily’s chocolate-orange-pecan pie had won the competition. Unfortunately, I was hesitant to try it because the bakers touched every piece they served with their bare hands. They are, however, owed a hearty congratulations, as are the Culinary Society’s Executive Board members, whose events never fail to impress.





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# A view of one’s own

BY RAE BINSTOCK

I love the view from my window.  
Low Steps, College Walk, South Lawn, and every-thing between 114th Street and the squat dome of Low Library fits cozily into a square in my wall. The 11th floor of John Jay is high enough that the treetops appear as rounded whorls of twinkling leaves, and the roofs of buildings like Hamilton are as level as the horizon—the view across, clear and straight. It’s a perfect place from which to look without moving too close, the illusion of a Picasso-like collage surviving in the vast stretch of empty air between beauty and the beholder. As the face of Columbia changes with the seasons, I watch each expression appear outside my window and begin to recognize what brings them to the surface.  
When the sun is out, it’s the colors I notice: rich, green squares of grass edged by red pathways and gray limestone that glow with warmth, and all of it mirrored by the granite-brick walls and faded copper roofs of Morningside’s architecture. Overhead, blue sky wraps around the steely skyscrapers that hint at the New York right outside our walls.  
When it’s rainy, I notice the people. Professors in trench coats and windbreakers shuffle toward Low or Philosophy, bent low to shield papers from water stains. Students scurry around in packs, either grievously underdressed

## There’s always tomorrow

If you want to stop procrastinat-ing, this column isn’t for you. Keep reading, though, if you’d like to in-dulge your habit.  
This is the obligatory column about procrastination. Don’t worry—I won’t do that thing where I write about how I can’t think of anything to write. I’m putting that off until next week.  
If you’re anything like me, you’re probably experiencing the “third quarter slump” right now. It’s that special lull in the semester when you’ve finished midterms but haven’t quite reached finals yet. The vicious cycle begins. You stay up late, but you don’t study. You try to work the next day, but you’re too tired. You close your eyes, and suddenly you’re in a motel. The door is locked. The phone lines are dead. You scream for help, but... oh, thank god. It was just a dream.  
Even with a full night’s rest, you still can’t get ahead on your end-of-term papers. You re-watch every episode of “The Golden Girls.” You browse through Facebook photos of that girl who went to your middle school. Or maybe you write a comedy column because you’re desperate for attention. I’m speaking in gener-alities, of course.

## This is the obligatory column about procrastination.

The most common way not to get work done is to study in Butler. My typical trip goes something like this: First, I pack up all my things and walk across campus. Once I arrive, I delude myself into think-ing that I’ll be able to find a seat in one of the obvious places. After 20 minutes, I begin to panic. What floor am I on? Why aren’t there are any open desks? And is that the marching band I’m hearing? No, that’s just someone obnoxiously blasting music through their headphones. I start riding up and down the elevators in the stacks until I wind up in the library basement. Finally, I empty my backpack, only to realize I forgot the assignment I came to work on. I then repeat as necessary.  
And that’s just one way to procrastinate. There’s also Power Procrastination, Falling-Asleep Procrastination, I’m-Kinda-Hungry Procrastination, and Asking-Your-RA-The-Meaning-Of-The-Universe Procrastination. The possibilities are endless!  
Now, conventional wisdom holds that procrastina-tion is a waste of time. But, doesn’t it also hold that you shouldn’t eat cookies before dinner? Maybe there are pros to procrastination.  
Let’s approach this scientifically with an experi-ment. Leave off work on your 10-page essay until only an hour remains. In those final 60 minutes, I guar-antee your body’s productivity will shoot through the roof. You’ll fill pages in record time. You’ll sweat through three shirts. You’ll realize you can use a sta-pler and sprint to class at the same time. Behold: the Übermensch!  
Here’s another experiment. The next time you don’t feel like staying on task, pick a random, specific top-ic—celebrity nose jobs, let’s say. Read every relevant Wikipedia article you can on the subject: “Mammalian Nose,” “Rhinoplasty,” “Michael Jackson,” etc. Keep in mind that you shouldn’t actually research celebrity nose jobs—I’ve already called dibs.  
If the mood really strikes, leave your dorm and search for articles in serious publications. I rec-ommend the National Enquirer. Feel free to tear out any pages you find interesting. It’s not like anyone buys those tabloids. When you’re finished browsing—congratulations! In one short night, you’ve become a leading expert on something few of your friends care to know about. See how much you can accomplish when you’re not accomplishing something else?  
Sure, there are plenty of ways to fight it: procrast-ination workshops, life coaches, that weird guy who wants to exorcise you. All claim they can help you be more productive. But the more you search for a solu-tion, the more you put off the real task at hand.  
So, embrace your procrastination. Trim your toe-nails. Take a shower in a first-year dorm. Do your laundry, even though you did it last week.  
Oh, and don’t bother complaining I’ve wasted your time with this column. That was precisely the point.

*Jeremy Liss is a junior in Columbia College majoring in English and comparative literature. He is the Creative Editor of The Current. Liss is More runs alternate Thursdays.*



JEREMY LISS  
**Liss is More**

or amusingly overdressed, clutching thermoses of coffee and praying for their hair. A colony of umbrellas spring up like button mushrooms, miraculously possessing legs that let them parade across College Walk, bobbing along in an overbalanced waddle through the haze of raindrops.

## Somewhere along the way, maybe when I was working on an overdue paper, Columbia became my home.

But my favorite time to look out of my window is at night. No colors—only tints and tones whispering about what they might be in the morning. No people—just the occasional wild shout from Low Steps and a burst of singing that fades with the stamina or the interest of the singer. Instead, Columbia is made of light. The heads of lamps on South Lawn and College Walk spell out a Morse code message through the darkness that cannot be translated into words or thoughts, but into a simple feeling of protection and goodwill. The night-lights that greeted Peter Pan in the Darling household were never so comforting as the lampposts that shine across our

## Structural justice

Any Columbia student who has ever taken Contemporary Civilization (and even someone who has not) knows that one of philosophy’s ma-jor questions concerns the nature of justice. Seeing as even the world’s greatest thinkers struggle to compre-hend this concept, I in no way claim to understand the “form” of justice. However, I would like to take a stab at describing some of my own views on the matter.  
Imagine a 20-mile race in which two people compete for a \$1 million prize. (For convenience’s sake I will name the contestants Calvin and Hobbes.) Calvin wins the race, so he gets the money. This is surely a just sys-tem, right? Shouldn’t the first one past the finish line go home with the check?  
But let’s examine the structure of the race with a more critical eye. It turns out that Calvin had a few advantages. He began the race with a two-mile lead and had access to water and energy bars whenever he grew tired. Hobbes, on the other hand, not only had to start at the very beginning, but also did not receive a con-stant supply of fuel. On top of that, there were hurdles placed at 400-meter intervals on his side of the track. Like I said, Calvin won. Hobbes lost. Is it still “just” for Calvin to take home the prize?  
I use this theoretical race as a metaphor for the idea of structural violence. More tangibly, structural violence describes the political, social, and economic institutions that restrict the agency of individuals and limit the options available to them (the hurdles). For example, let’s say Hobbes is a boy born into an inner-city neighborhood in New York City. When he was younger, his family was not considered impover-ish enough by the government for them to qualify for Medicaid, but they also did not have the money to purchase health insurance. As a result, when his father became sick with cancer, he was unable to af-ford the highest quality medical care. Hobbes’ father died, leaving Hobbes to live with his mom and young-er sister. His mother could not afford to send him to private school. As a result, Hobbes attends the under-funded local public school, where a culture of gang violence and teacher apathy results in his acquiring a substandard education. And because his mom only makes minimum wage, he has to work every day after school instead of focusing on his homework or joining



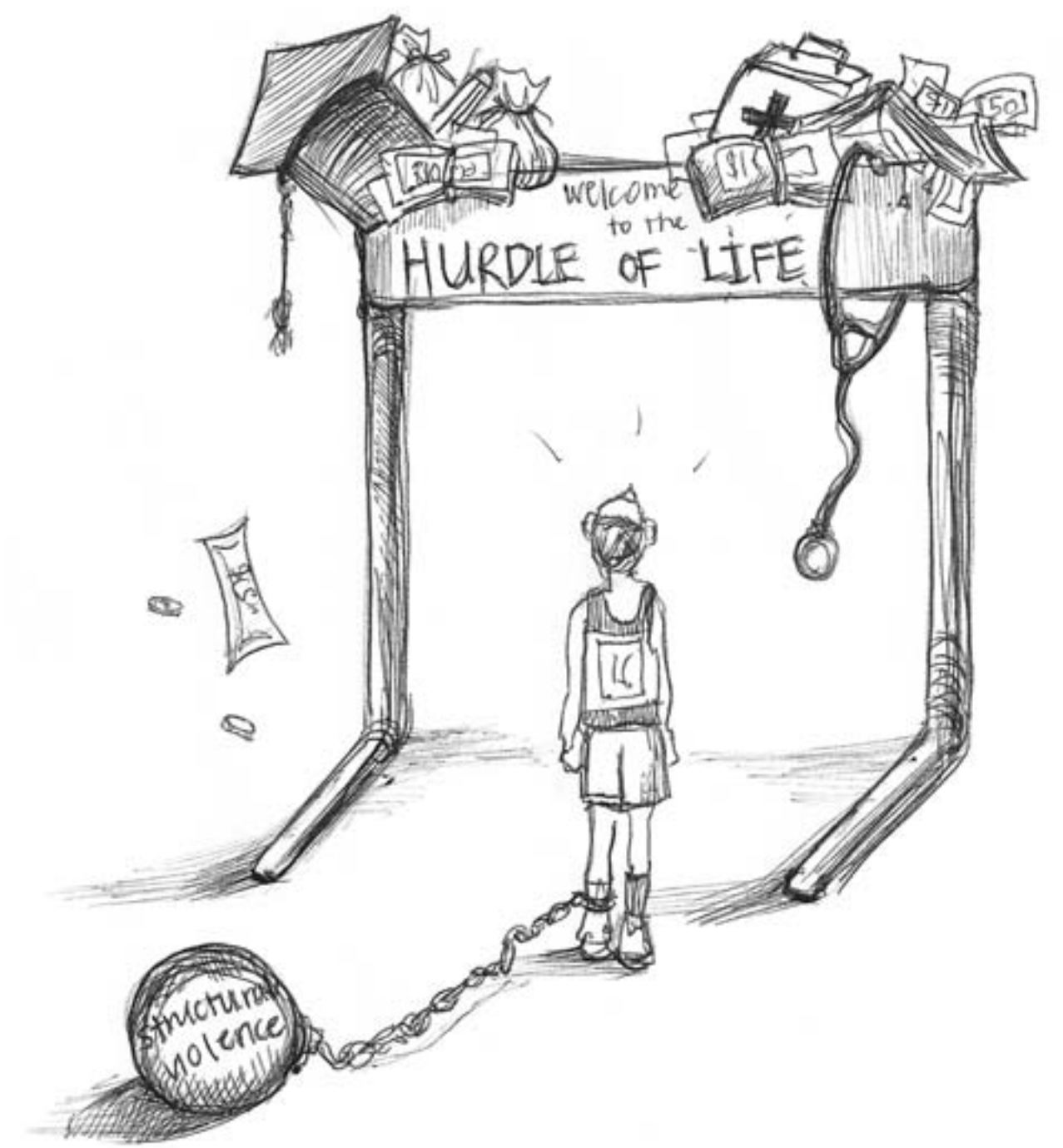
NICOLE DUSSAULT  
**The Mirror Effect**

Morningside campus deep in the night.  
Somewhere along the way, maybe when I was work-ing on an overdue paper, or eating at JJ’s Place, or com-ing out of the subway with blisters on my heels and tingling fingertips, Columbia became my home. I live here, eat here, sleep here, and do everything else here that I have spent my entire life doing primarily with my family. Having given up the blinds of privacy that keep us so far apart and letting Columbia University see me at my worst and my best, I have no choice but to call it a part of my family—something that is easier to return to than to leave. And if it has become so close to me, I must return the favor by moving closer to it, paying respect by paying attention. The little secrets of this campus, from the ways in which people navigate Low Steps to the different games of Frisbee played in front of Butler, are mine to glimpse and gather into an understanding.  
I watch, I learn, I know. Columbia is made up of so many parts that I can never hope to finish the puzzle and see it as a whole, with every twist and turn justified by those around it. It’s bigger than I am, bigger than the matrix of nighttime lamps, or the soft green of aged copper, or a paisley umbrella spinning in the rain. But seeing these things—and remembering them—is my way of expressing my love for my new home.

*The author is a Columbia College first-year.*

clubs. And since all of his friends start doing drugs, he begins to try them as well. Due to his poor academic performance, Hobbes does not earn any scholarships. Since he can’t afford to pay for college himself, he does not attend. Unable to secure a high-salary job, he remains in the same neighborhood, where his own children face the same circumstances.  
Is this a just outcome? Depends on how you look at it. If you only take into consideration Hobbes’ own life decisions, then yes, you may very well say it is just—after all, he is only reaping the consequences of his choices. But if you consider the larger forces that influ-ence his ability to make choices, then it may not be so just after all.  
I am not saying that structural violence explains or is an excuse for every occurrence in someone’s life. We are responsible for the choices we make. However, I firmly believe that structural violence affects lives by limiting the choices individuals can make. Because Hobbes’ father did not qualify for Medicaid, he could not choose to pay for what could have been life-saving treatment. Because Hobbes’ mother earned minimum wage, Hobbes was not able to choose whether to go to private or public school. Because he had to work after school to help support his family, he was not able to choose to devote all of his time to studying in order to receive a better education. I will not say that he was not able to choose whether or not to do drugs, but he was surrounded by a gang culture full of violence and drugs—I challenge anyone to deny the incredible force that peer pressure has on our decisions.  
Structural violence makes it The choices we make determine who we are, but structural violence limits what choices are even available to us.  
One form of justice would involve eliminating the hurdles in people’s lives that inequitably disadvantage their ability to reach their full potential. In a just world, everyone would have an equitable chance to thrive. Our level of success would only be determined by our own choices and actions, not by systems of power that may hinder our opportunities.  
I am not saying that such a world is attainable. But as we learn in CC, even some of the greatest philoso-phers in the world doubt that true justice will ever be achieved. But the question remains—would it be unjust not to try?

*Nicole Dussault is a sophomore in Columbia College majoring in economics-political science. The Mirror Effect runs alternate Thursdays.*



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© Puzzles by Pappocom

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## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

### ACROSS

1 Big picture  
6 Title holder?  
10 Bean used in Asian sauces  
14 Protective layer  
15 "Salome" solo  
16 Piece of mind?  
17 Pirates' home  
19 Complete, in Carnies  
20 Committed to  
21 "Divine Comedy" poet  
22 High-tech printer capability  
26 Group working on tips?  
28 Playwright Pinter  
30 Six-pack muscles  
31 Laundry room brand  
32 About half a million square miles of Asia  
35 Dept. of Labor arm  
39 Bugs, or what's literally found in 17-, 26-, 48- and 59-Across  
42 Caesarean incision  
43 It parallels the radius  
44 John Barleycorn  
45 "... Sera, Sera"  
47 One with goals  
48 Jersey Shore city popularized by Springsteen  
54 Pol. convention attendees  
55 Swing vigorously  
56 Flexible wood  
58 Down the drain  
59 Trudeau comic  
64 Largest of the Near Islands  
65 Ornamental vases  
66 Aqua ... alcohol  
67 Singer who said, "Men should be like Kleenex—soft, strong and disposable"  
68 Enlightened response  
69 Frost and others

### DOWN

2 Israeli gun designer \_\_\_\_ Gai  
3 Turn bad  
4 Exterminator's target  
5 Diminished state  
6 Brown  
7 Robin's weapon  
8 Traces  
9 "That's rich!"  
10 "Everything's fine for now"  
11 Write a 16-Across  
12 Gossipmonger  
13 Final word at Only  
18 Give a little  
21 Add (in), as music to a film  
22 Piece of the pie  
23 "The Stranger" writer  
24 Most Egyptians  
25 Conclusion that doesn't follow  
27 Scott of "Happy Days"  
29 Back muscle, for short  
32 Hair goop  
33 Have  
34 Uplifting garb  
36 Cursed

37 Not brown or blue, perhaps  
38 Australia's \_\_\_\_ Rock  
40 One of three duck brothers  
41 Letters after C or MS  
46 www address  
47 Arcade game starter  
48 Company with a spokeduck  
49 A deadly sin  
50 Moisture while cooking  
51 Standard partner  
52 In cahoots  
53 Light wash  
57 Invitation letters  
59 SADO focus  
60 Theater program item  
61 Colorado native  
62 Informer  
63 Celebratory cry

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

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By Gary Cee  
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Barnard joins political mentors program

TRAC members say 125th needs bus lane

**BY OLIVIA AYLMER**  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

Barnard is partnering with the U.S. State Department to offer even more opportunities for women to take on public leadership roles.

The Women in Public Service Project unites Barnard with four other women's schools in a mentorship program that aims to help young women overcome obstacles that prevent them from entering into public service and politics. A delegation of Barnard students and faculty plans to attend a colloquium in Washington D.C. next month, at which Secretary of State Hillary Clinton will deliver the keynote address.

The project, announced last spring, will particularly benefit students studying political science, said Hilary Link, Barnard's associate provost and dean for international programs.

Link said that "by offering them opportunities to network with leaders, more clearly demonstrating paths and opportunities for careers in public service, and opening new pathways by helping to remove hurdles to their success," the program will open doors to women looking to pursue careers in government.

Barnard is joining Bryn Mawr, Mount Holyoke, Smith,

and Wellesley Colleges—all members of the original Seven Sisters colleges—in the program.

On campus, students said they consider it a step in the right direction.

Rachel Ferrari, BC '13 and SGA vice president for student government, will be attending the colloquium in Washington in December. "It's important for Barnard to be there because we are a premier school for female leaders and we should be at the forefront of these conversations," she said.

"Women in the domestic and international leadership world are extremely hardworking, and while they have been rewarded for their efforts to an extent, I think society still has a long way to go," Samantha Gilbert, BC '15, said. "This program may just be the answer to not only improving their current standing, but also to bettering the statuses of future female leaders."

The program will also establish summer institutes for women seeking to advance their careers in politics, government, and public service. Wellesley will host the pilot institute in summer 2012.

"By building an institute and an ongoing network of mentorship to link women in public service, the program will give young leaders the tools they

need to reach their potential," Link said.

Barnard students said they find the new initiative crucial to further defining a key to the college's mission: advancing women's leadership.

Sabrina Singer, BC '15, interned for Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz and said she looks up to women in politics. "One of the characteristics I most admire about her is her ability to juggle her congressional and political responsibilities with a very happy home life," she said.

"Women represent 50 percent of the U.S. population, but only 17.2 percent of the current U.S. Congress. Why wouldn't I want to be part of an organization that's working to equalize that percentage with intelligent and dedicated women?" Gilbert said. "The fact that Barnard is showing an increased awareness of this subject only increases my curiosity."

While the partnership may be new to the college, its values ring true to those that Barnard and its fellow sister schools have promoted since their foundings.

As Link put it, "The Women in Public Service Project focuses on three things that Barnard and our sister colleges do well—educating, mentoring and networking."

*news@columbiaspectator.com*

BUS from front page

“Not that DOT is necessarily opposed, but not as supportive of it as we would like. We want this thing soon,” he said.

But TRAC faces an uphill battle with the city before it can get that plan in place. TRAC members acknowledge that their plan would reduce curb-side parking, which could upset businesses along 125th Street, and that the bus-only lane would reduce space on the road for cars.

Transportation is also a justice issue for TRAC, which is a new branch of WE ACT for Environmental Justice, a Northern Manhattan community group that proposes sustainable alternatives for transit, land use, and pesticides. TRAC was created last August in response to the latest MTA fare hikes.

“I grew up not too far from 141st,” Julien Terrell, a TRAC member and former employee of WE ACT, said. “For as long as I can remember, a lot of my time spent in Harlem has always been linked to public transportation—watching my mom or older people in my building taking the M18, which was cut, and Access-A-Ride, which was also scaled

125TH ST BUSES

The Transit Riders Action Committee (TRAC) is looking to make one of the lanes on 125th Street buses-only.

TO DO THAT:

M6

Already serves 125th street; TRAC would reform to improve traffic

Bx15

Already serves 125th street; TRAC would convert into a Bus Rapid Transit line to improve traffic

M100

Currently serves East Harlem; TRAC would reroute to serve 125th Street as a BRT line

M101

Currently serves Washington Heights; TRAC would reroute to serve 125th Street as a BRT line

GRAPHIC BY YUMA SHINOHARA

down a bit.”

Carlson said that the power to make transit better for local residents comes from making sure elected officials hear their concerns.

“We’re trying to put power for Northern Manhattan transit

riders,” Carlson said. “We’re educating transit riders about state and federal policy and giving them the tools so that they’re able to be active participants in the political process and really advocate for their needs.”

*news@columbiaspectator.com*

WATER POLO

Fourteenth-seeded Light Blue upsets Michigan, places fourth in Men’s National Collegiate Club Championships

This past weekend, the Columbia men’s water polo team placed fourth in the 2011 Men’s National Collegiate Club Championship. The tournament was held at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Ga., running from Friday, Nov. 11 to Sunday, Nov. 13.

The Lions, who are part of the New York Division, were seeded No. 14 entering the competition. Seeds for the tournament were based on the order of finish at the 2010 National Collegiate Club Championship, in

which Columbia placed 11th.

The Light Blue’s first matchup on Friday was against No. 3 Michigan of the Big Ten. The Lions pulled off the upset, beating the Wolverines 11-8.

Columbia competed in a doubleheader on Saturday, facing the University of Illinois-Chicago (Great Lakes Division) in the afternoon and Ivy League foe No. 7 Yale in the nightcap. The Lions beat the Flames 16-11, but fell to the Bulldogs 10-9 in a closely contested match that went into overtime.

Columbia played No. 4

University of Florida on Sunday to battle it out for third place in the championships. Once again, the Lions were defeated by one goal despite appearing evenly matched with their opponents. The Gators beat the Light Blue 8-7, pushing Columbia into fourth place and out of medal contention.

The Lions may have suffered two heartbreaking losses, but their two wins against higher-ranked teams will certainly earn them a higher seed in next year’s tournament.

—Molly Tow

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HENRY WILLSON / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**BIG BAD BRAD** | Sophomore forward Courtney Bradford helped keep Columbia in the game with six boards.

## Light Blue falls behind late, drops third straight

BY HAHN CHANG  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

Kelly Clark started the game with a layup for Wagner College (1-1) and never stopped scoring in the Seahawks' victory over the Columbia Lions (0-3) on Wednesday night.

Wagner's star senior led the charge, putting up a double-double with 18 points and 11 rebounds. She went 7-8 from the field to help Wagner to shoot 55 percent from the field.

"We tried to really limit her near the basket. Once she gets the ball near the basket, she is near automatic," head coach Paul Nixon said of Clark.

While the Lions had both fewer turnovers and more rebounds than the Seahawks, they only shot 33 percent from the field in the game and were unable to match Wagner's offensive production.

"I thought that we did make some strides offensively. There were some points in the game we looked more fluid on offense, but we didn't convert opportunities consistently enough," Nixon said. "However, the shooting percentage and score doesn't tell the whole story—the offense was better tonight, but the result wasn't what it needed to be."

The Lions played evenly with the Seahawks in the first half. Freshman

guard Miwa Tachibana scored her first collegiate basket for Columbia to tie the game at 13 points with 13 minutes to go in the first half.

"We are pleased that she had an opportunity to step up and have more playing time. We are happy she found a way to be productive with those minutes," Nixon said.

**"During that run, we allowed them to get too many touches right around the basket."**

—Paul Nixon,  
*head women's basketball coach*

Columbia took a five-point lead over Wagner with 11 minutes remaining in the half when senior guard Melissa Shafer sunk a three-pointer, the 118th in her collegiate career, tying her for fourth place on the Columbia women's basketball all-time triple list.

Wagner brought it back even, and the teams went into halftime tied at 26. Coming back from the break, the Lions

struck first as junior guard Brittany Simmons hit a jumper. Wagner took the lead right back, though, starting an 8-3 run that put the Seahawks up 46-39.

Tachibana, who led the Light Blue with 11 points, sank two free throws to reduce Wagner's lead to five points with 12 minutes remaining in regulation. However, the Seahawks went on a 14-4 run over the next five minutes to go up 57-42 with six minutes left to put the game out of reach.

"During that run, we allowed them to get too many touches right around the basket," Nixon said. "They brought Kelly Clark out to the perimeter, and we allowed them to get her the ball in some very prime scoring areas. We actually got some decent looks on our offensive end, but we didn't put them down."

Columbia finished with a three-pointer from sophomore guard Taylor Ward in the final seconds to close the game at 66-54.

"I thought that we did a better job of taking care of the ball. We cut down on our turnovers, and we have been getting the shots," Nixon said. "So now we got to take better shots in order to have a higher percentage."

The Lions will look to rebound and secure their first win of the season when they head to Brooklyn to take on St. Francis next Wednesday.



HENRY WILLSON / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**MIWACLE** | Freshman guard Miwa Tachibana scored her first points as a Lion against Wagner. She scored 11 total.

## Any showing of school spirit good for Columbia athletics

SHAPIRO from back page

players' need to focus on the game." Here is where Spener, not heckling, crosses the proverbial line.

I agree with Spener's claim that "Officials should do whatever it takes to stop intolerant behavior—sports should not be a mechanism for promoting hate." Racism, bigotry, xenophobia, homophobia and any other variety of hate speech may be acceptable under free speech in many settings, but they have no place in the stands and should and must be policed. The same goes for excessive vulgarity. Sitting in a sports arena is a privilege, not a right. But short of these extreme forms of heckling, we, the fans and pundits, have a responsibility to preserve the sanctity of fandom.

Meet Robert S. Szasz, also known as the "Happy Heckler." From 2000 to 2008, Szasz was a real estate developer by day, but a professional heckler for the Tampa Bay Rays by night. Szasz is said to have made Johnny Damon go 1-for-15 in a series and annoy Jose Guillen to the point where Guillen bribed him to shut up with an autographed bat. By Spener's parameters, Szasz would likely be considered a heckling transgressor, as his attacks were targeted, audible, and recurring. However, Szasz refrained from the common heckling vices—profanity, name calling, and, of course, making fun of players' socks. Instead, he researched players on the opposing team in order to arm himself with heckling fodder. Simply stated, Szasz's unsanctioned commentary was clean, articulate, and effective. No line was crossed.

Sports are the culmination of a deep-seated human desire for competition, entertainment, and glory. Similar to cheering, heckling is part of mankind's age-old need to satiate its appetite for sports rivalries. To the casual fan or nonchalant observer, heckling may appear to be little more than tossing out derisive insults at certain players on the opposing team. I've watched enough sports to wholeheartedly understand the rationale behind this interpretation, but I also know that it does little justice to the motive and spirit behind the seemingly casual heckle. You see, heckling, while occasionally inappropriate, is among the purest and most natural manifestations of school spirit.

Take a step back. We have little to cheer about as Columbia fans. We have fundamental problems with the success of our marquee sports and attendance numbers. Our football team is winless this season. Our campus suffers from what many have described as immutable, widespread sports apathy. Therefore, we

cannot afford to demonize, or even criticize, the last remaining morsels of hope and optimism that exist at Columbia—even if they occasionally come in the form of petty insults about attire. So with school spirit teetering on the precipice of extinction, does it really make sense to lambaste the innocent insults of a few rowdy, yet appreciatively enthusiastic Lions fans? I think not.

This brings me back to the very essence—the core—of heckling. It goes hand-in-hand with perhaps the most obvious and uncontested intrinsic edge given to any team—home field advantage. Empirical evidence shows rather undeniably that teams tend to perform better on their home turf. So what actually is the advantage of playing at home? With a few exceptions, playing terrain and rules are virtually the same at all regulation-standard sporting arenas. The "advantage" comes primarily from the adrenaline and comfort of competing in front of your fans—it pumps up the home team and psyches out the visitors. Discouraging harmless jeers is like Albert Pujols calling time before a pitch to ask a fan to shut up so he can concentrate, or someone requesting that fans be quiet while a player from the opposing team shoots a free throw.

The Harvard-Columbia soccer game in which Innocenzi was heckled was a decisive match, as the Lions needed a win to keep hopes of a well-deserved Ivy title alive. In the midst of the excitement, a few fans decided to aim their enthusiasm at Innocenzi's socks. An annoyance? Sure. A breach of heckling etiquette? Not a chance. It's rather farfetched to imply, as Spener does, that these comments impacted Innocenzi's play, much less the outcome of the game. Either way, all players endure heckling to some extent throughout their careers. The smart ones ignore it while others may be irritated. In any case, the fan reserves the right to heckle.

I'll admit that heckling is usually not my forte. When I do heckle, it's usually an involuntary reaction to an upsetting call (if you were at the Columbia men's basketball home opener then you know what I mean). But I support heckling in its most trivial, immature, and facetious forms because it's an inextricable part of being a fan of any sport. Interfering with inoffensive heckling is a slippery slope down the path towards obstruction of school spirit, fandom, and good old-fashioned fun.

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## Dedication and opportunity put Staab in the starting lineup

STAAB from back page

highs of six points and eight rebounds.

As a junior, Staab did not play any games because he was forced to leave the team for a period of time due to a scheduling conflict between his engineering classes and the team's practices.

This wasn't the first—or last—time that Staab's classes interfered with basketball. A similar conflict occurred during the spring semester of his sophomore year, and even this year Staab has been unable to make every practice.

"I've been lucky enough that the coaches are working with me this time," Staab said. "I still have a couple conflicts, but they're definitely working with me and being really accommodating."

When he is unable to attend practice, Staab will often make up the missed workout by coming in at a different time to work individually with the coaches.

"He's been good that way as far as having a good attitude about that and making it work," Smith said.

Even during the summer, other commitments drew Staab away from the court. Though he stayed in New York City to work a summer job, his hours at the office made it difficult to attend all the workouts and shoot-arounds with his teammates.

Over the last four years, Staab has learned to accept the conflicts that exist between basketball and the other parts of his life.

"That shouldn't take away from anything else, that's just how it is," he said. "It just hasn't always been cookie-cutter perfect."

The chemistry between Staab and his teammates has not been lessened by his imperfect schedule. Junior center Mark Cisco does not think Staab's absence last year had any significant effect.

"First of all, even though he missed a little bit because of his classes, he made up for it by coming to the spring workouts and spending time over summer,"

Cisco said. "And secondly, he's one of our best friends."

Despite juggling his engineering classes with his practice schedule, the SEAS senior's current playing form is the best it has been in his four years with the Light Blue.

In the team's second game against Furman on Monday, Staab put up another eight points and led the Lions again with eight boards.

**"If Blaise keeps doing well, I'm not one to upset the apple cart,"**

—Kyle Smith,  
*head men's basketball coach*

"He's a fantastic rebounder," Cisco said. "Especially with us missing John in the first two games, he's done great to fill that number four spot."

Though only 6-foot-5, the forward is accustomed to being a force on the glass. In his senior year at Memorial High School in Oklahoma, he averaged 17 points and 11 boards per game, earning him recognition as conference player of the year.

Now in his final year as a Lion, Staab is looking to continue his success. Although Daniels is expected to be healthy and back on the court in the near future, Staab will likely continue to play an integral role in the front court.

"Whether he plays 31 minutes or 10 minutes, you're getting the same effort out of him," Smith said. "If Blaise keeps doing well, I'm not one to upset the apple cart."

For Staab, the main concern is just to perform to the best of his abilities.

"I'd just like to get as many double-doubles as I can."



Heckling acceptable from sports fans

S ticks and stones may break my bones but words can never hurt me—right? Wrong, at least according to my colleague Benjamin Spener, who took issue with a few extreme examples of heckling at sporting events in his column last week. Spener sympathized with Michael Innocenzi, a forward on Harvard’s soccer team, who was subjected to extended mockery by Columbia fans at a recent Lions home game, primarily for not wearing socks that matched those of his Crimson teammates. I agree that heckling can cross a line, but wardrobe-related taunting and similarly harmless jeers fall well within the realm of acceptable fan behavior, however frivolous it may be.



MICHAEL SHAPIRO  
Turn Up the Mike

Heckling, while occasionally inappropriate, is among the purest and most natural manifestations of school spirit.

Spener attributes the Ivy League with a certain particularism in the sense that small competitive settings accentuate heckles from the stands. He adduces the Innocenzi example to assert that such heckling can adversely affect gameplay on both sides, and that fans “should also respect all

SEE SHAPIRO, page 7



AMAZING BLAISE | Senior forward Blaise Staab, who hadn’t played for over a year, started and excelled at UConn.

Staab makes splash after long hiatus

BY STEVEN LAU  
Spectator Staff Writer

It’s unusual that a basketball player who has never started in a collegiate game gets the opportunity to be the starting forward against the defending NCAA champions. It’s even more unusual that the player earns a double-double.

But that is exactly what Columbia senior Blaise Staab did last Friday when the Lions took on the Connecticut Huskies in their season opener.

“It was really exciting going into UConn—getting your name called out in the beginning—but I just approached it like any other game,” Staab said.

Staab’s approach may have been the same as usual, but his results were not. In his 31 minutes on the court, he tallied 11 points and a team-high 12 rebounds for his first career double-double, against a Huskies backcourt that had an average four-inch height advantage on him.

Originally, junior forward John Daniels was supposed to start against the Huskies on Friday. But an ankle injury suffered by Daniels in the week leading up to the game left head coach Kyle Smith with few other options for the number-four spot.

“Blaise isn’t huge, but he’s really a presence on the boards and just gets you loose balls,” Smith said. “12 rebounds and 11 points—no, I wasn’t expecting that, but I knew he’d compete.”

Staab’s performance was surprising not just because it was his first start, but also because Friday was his first appearance for the Lions in nearly a year and a half.

The last time he took the court for Columbia was at the end of the 2009-2010 season against Brown, a match in which he posted his previous career

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