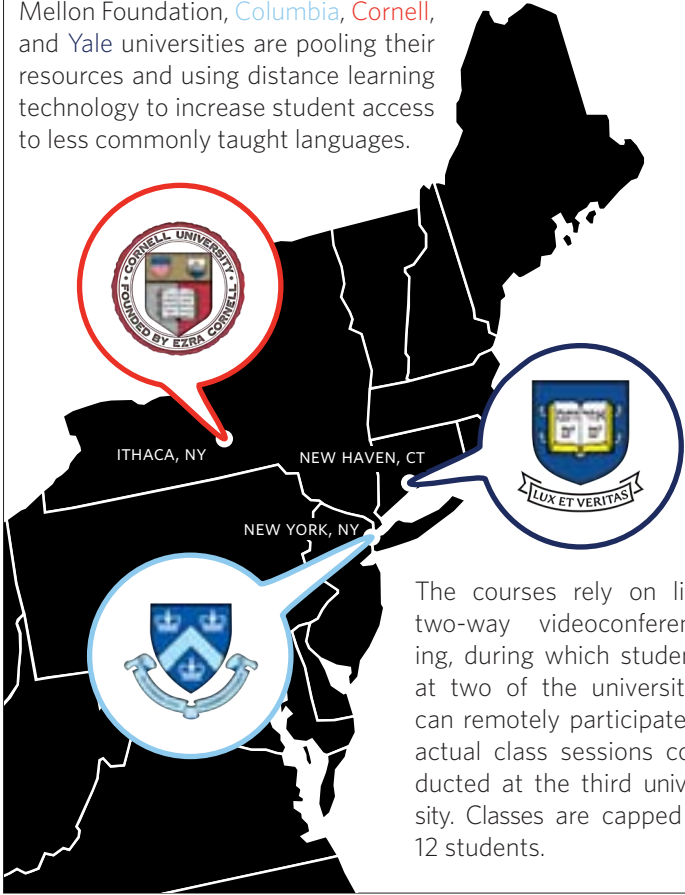


THE PARTICIPANTS

With the help of a \$1.2 million, two-year grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Columbia, Cornell, and Yale universities are pooling their resources and using distance learning technology to increase student access to less commonly taught languages.



CONNECTING CLASSROOMS

THE LANGUAGES

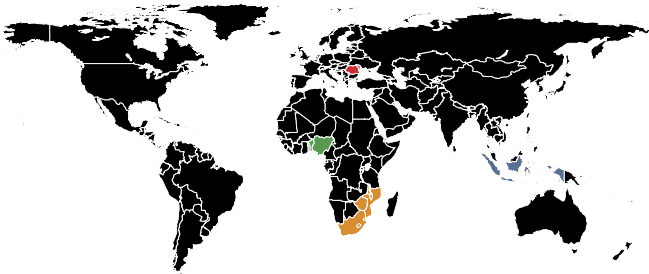
Next fall, the three universities are planning to offer courses in Khmer, Polish, Sinhala, and Vietnamese. Four languages are already being offered:

ROMANIAN

Spoken natively in Romania and Moldova.

INDONESIAN

Spoken natively in Indonesia.



YORUBA

Spoken natively in Benin, Nigeria, and Togo.

ZULU

Spoken natively in Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Swaziland, and Zimbabwe.

SOURCE: COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY / GRAPHIC BY YUMA SHINOHARA

Mellon Grant to fund new language classes

Students will learn Khmer, Polish in online video classes

BY JEREMY BUDD  
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

A partnership between Columbia, Cornell, and Yale to bring less commonly taught languages to more students has been boosted by a \$1.2 million grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

The universities are working to increase student access to languages like Khmer and Sinhala through videoconferencing. This is the second grant that the Mellon Foundation has given Columbia this year, following a September grant for Columbia and Ursinus College to work together to improve their core curricula.

The new grant, which Columbia announced earlier this month, will support an effort that the three universities started this semester, each of them offering language classes in which students at the other two schools can enroll via videoconferencing. They're already offering weekly lessons in Zulu, Yoruba, Indonesian and Romanian, and next fall Vietnamese, Sinhala, Polish, and Khmer will be added.

Stéphane Charitos, director of the language resource center at Columbia, said in an email that "Columbia, Cornell, and Yale University are among the few academic centers in the United States that can boast to have a genuinely global reach in their research and teaching activities."

"Having a genuinely global reach means being able to offer instruction in a very broad range of language and cultures," he said.

"Among the notable academic strengths of Columbia, Cornell, and Yale, is the depth and breadth of language offerings made available to students, with annual course offerings in well over 100 languages across the three campuses including many of the so-called less commonly taught languages."

Charitos added that Columbia, Cornell, and Yale discussed the challenges that each institution faces in maintaining infrequently taught language courses in their curricula, and decided that the traditional, face-to-face model of language instruction should be supplemented with other models.

"We'll have to see how it goes and what the response is, but I'm optimistic."

—Sree Sreenivasan,  
chief digital officer

"We concluded that the most realistic option available was to use videoconferencing and other distance learning technology, which would link our three campuses together in order to create a synchronous, interactive and learner-centered environment intended to closely emulate a regular language classroom," he said.

SEE LANGUAGES, page 2

Native American students say admins not meeting needs

BY TRACEY WANG  
Columbia Daily Spectator

As Native American Heritage Month comes to an end, members of the Native American Council are voicing concerns that the administration doesn't do enough to support Native students—a contention that administrators dispute.

Council members said that the group's needs have been largely been ignored and that administrators should do

more to recruit Native students. NAC President Lakota Pochedley, CC '13, said that while the group has a \$1,500 budget, it needs more advising support.

"We don't have anyone specifically working for our needs," she said. "We need at least one person that works specifically for our group and with our group."

All of the council's events, including those for Native American Heritage Month, are planned by students, according

to Pochedley.

"It gets to the point where it's exhausting," she said.

Administrators, though, say that the University is fully supportive of Native students and has done outreach in an effort to accommodate their needs.

Melinda Aquino, associate dean for the Office of Multicultural Affairs, said in an email that her office has helped organize several events for Native students, including the council's annual Pow

Wow and the Native graduation ceremony, which began last year. Aquino added that OMA facilitated a meeting between administrators and Native students last spring to identify and address their concerns, although Noisecat said there's been no follow-up on this meeting.

Council members have also said that the University is not doing enough to recruit Native students. Columbia College

SEE NATIVE, page 3

Sandy delays subway station Internet until next year

BY CHRISTIAN ZHANG  
Columbia Daily Spectator

Subway riders will have to wait a little longer to use their smartphones and tablets underground after Hurricane Sandy delayed the installation of wireless networks in Upper West Side stations.

The 96th Street and Columbus Circle stations were originally scheduled to receive wireless service by the end of the year, along with 28 other stations. But last month's hurricane "diverted resources for installation, support and MTA protection for several weeks," Transit Wireless, the company in charge of the project, said in a statement.

Installation of the wireless infrastructure in the stations, part of a citywide project to extend

wireless services underground, is now set to be completed early next year.

Retail worker Brian Smith said he would use the mobile wireless "probably every time" he's in the subway, although he added that he understands the reason for the delay.

"I would love to have service. It just drives me crazy to come down and lose service," he said.

Judith Sampson, a marketing manager, said that being able to communicate underground would make subway stations safer.

"It's just nice to be accessible while ... stuck at a station," she said.

When the project is finished, subway riders will be able to use Wi-Fi and make calls on AT&T

SEE SUBWAY, page 2



HANNAH MONTTOYA / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

YOU HAVE NOT GOT MAIL | Subway passengers gather to wait for the 1 train at 96th Street while using their smartphones.

Mariam Said brings mother's story to life on stage

BY LESLEY THULIN  
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The personal meets political in Mariam Said's and Vanessa Redgrave's new collaboration, "A World I Loved: The Story of an Arab Woman." The Miller and Public theaters are bringing the production to the stage for only two performances, starting this Wednesday.

Said, a Columbia Business School alumna and the widow of former Columbia English professor Edward Said, combines music with storytelling and video to narrate the story of her mother's life in Lebanon in the early 20th century amid famine and political upheaval. The production is based on the eponymous memoir of Said's mother, Wadad Makdisi Cortas, which her daughter published in 2009.

In an exclusive interview with Spectator, Said discusses her mother's legacy, her collaboration with Vanessa Redgrave, and her retirement from the financial industry.

Lesley Thulin: I understand that it [the production] covers your mother's experience in Lebanon. Can you describe the sort of turmoil she experienced?

Mariam Said: My mother's memoir, which she herself wrote in English—she had written it in Arabic before—but during the

SEE SAID, page 6



KEVIN ROARK / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DIANA DECISIONS | Gail Beltrone, vice president for campus services (center), discusses the Diana's new late-night study spaces. Starting today, two classrooms will be open for group study until 2 a.m.

Diana getting more late-night study space

BY EMMA GOSS  
Spectator Staff Writer

A pilot program to keep Diana Center classrooms unlocked for late-night group study space is beginning today, a Barnard administrator said at Monday night's Student Government Association meeting.

Vice President for Campus Services Gail Beltrone announced the pilot program, which follows a pilot program last spring that extended the hours of Wollman Library. The library returned to its normal hours this semester after an average of nine students took advantage of the extended hours.

"Our library as it stands is for individual studying," Aliza Hassine, BC '14 and junior class president, said. "That's really why students have been

looking for—more group project study spaces."

"We're looking at how should it be used—how do the occupants actually want to use it?"

—Gail Beltrone,  
vice president for  
campus services

Starting today and continuing for the rest of the semester, rooms LL103 and LL104 in the Diana will remain unlocked until 2 a.m., and students will use sign-in sheets to reserve the rooms.

"We need a space that is devoted for groups so you can talk and communicate and it's comfortable," Elizabeth Dalchand, BC '15, said, adding that the reading room on the third floor of the Diana is a popular study space for students working on their own.

Beltrone is also working on opening rooms on the fourth floor of Barnard Hall and the Diana's second floor café. She's in talks with Aramark, Barnard's food provider, to let students study in Hewitt Dining Hall when it's not in use.

Eventually, Beltrone said, she'd like to assemble a "cheat sheet" of student study spaces. "That's the missing link. Not everyone is aware of all the places they can study," she said.

Barnard's student life office

SEE DIANA, page 2

A&E, PAGE 6

Miller Theatre presents Mariam Said

In a new collaboration with Vanessa Redgrave, alum Mariam Said combines video, music, and storytelling to narrate the life of her mother in early 20th-century Lebanon.



OPINION, PAGE 4

What's the value added?

Caitlin Brown asserts that a liberal arts education is not pointless.

Is this real life?

Salonee Bhaman explains how we express social connections virtually.

SPORTS, BACK PAGE

Sophomore applies vet lessons to rowing

Nick Hesselgrave decided after his second tour of duty that he needed to continue challenging himself. He found a goal with the crew team.

EVENTS

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The Latin American studies institute hosts a lecture on affirmative action in Brazil.  
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41°/29°



## Language classes an experiment in online education

### LANGUAGES from front page

“I don’t foresee students experiencing difficulties in learning languages through videoconferencing,” Charitos added. “What we are trying to create is a form of blended instruction that closely emulates the experience a student has in a traditional classroom.”

Courses that use videoconferencing are capped at 12 students, in an effort to make distance

learning technology as effective as possible.

This summer, University President Lee Bollinger appointed Sree Sreenivasan as Columbia’s first chief digital officer, and he’s been working since then to study Columbia’s online education offerings.

“We’ll have to see how it goes and what the response is, but I’m optimistic,” Sreenivasan said. “I think that it’s a good example of a

new approach.”

Sreenivasan said that many universities are still going through an “experimentation” phase of online education, and that its future trajectory is difficult to predict.

“In some ways, we’ve been doing this for a long time,” he said. “But there’s a lot of new energy around online education.”

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@columbiaspectator.com

## Wireless should eventually expand to all stations

### SUBWAY from front page

and T-Mobile’s networks while in stations. There are no plans to extend wireless coverage into tunnels or onto trains.

Currently, only six stations in Chelsea have wireless service. Although power was lost at those stations following Sandy, there was no reported damage.

Transit Wireless Chief Executive Officer William Bayne Jr. said in the statement that a “crisis such as Hurricane Sandy reemphasizes how vital telecommunications and mass transit are to our society and reaffirm our efforts to build much needed infrastructure throughout the New York City subway system.”

Transit Wireless and the

MTA hope to extend wireless service to all 277 underground stations in New York City. In the meantime, most riders are just happy that service is coming eventually.

“I don’t mind as long as it’s happening,” Sampson said. “There are bigger fish to fry other than subway Wi-Fi delays after Sandy.”

news@columbiaspectator.com



HANNAH MONTOYA / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**I CAN HEAR YOU NOW** | A woman talks on her smartphone as she exits the 96th Street subway station. Wireless access within the station was delayed until early next year by Hurricane Sandy.

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**AROUND THE TABLE** | Members of Barnard’s Student Government Association talk to Gail Beltrone, vice president for campus services, about changes to the Diana at Monday night’s SGA meeting.

## Admins working to improve student space in Diana

### DIANA from front page

has been working to make the Diana more of a hangout space this semester, posting signs that say, “This is not a study zone,” encouraging students to talk to each other. Leah Metcalf, BC ’14 and SGA’s representative for information and technology, said that the new group study spaces don’t undermine that goal because they support Student Life’s effort to “make space more responsive to community need.”

The Diana “should not just be for studying at the exclusion of fun spaces. It is multiple things,” Metcalf said. “The question that leaves us with is how do we integrate both of

those things in ways that do not favor one over the other, or making students feel they can’t do either effectively.”

The new study spaces are part of a concerted effort to do more to cater the Diana Center to students’ needs. Beltrone said she is also working on creating music practice rooms in the Diana, adding electrical outlets throughout the building, and putting more student artwork on the walls.

“We’re looking at how should it be used—how do the occupants actually want to use it?” she said. “Those two things have to marry.”

She’s also considering having the red walls painted a lighter color.

“The problem with heavily

saturated colors is it’s very difficult to maintain,” Beltrone said, noting that touching up the paint is easier when the walls are a paler, less saturated color. The board of trustees will discuss a potential color change next week.

Beltrone is also working on improving the lighting in the Diana Event Oval, adding a paper towel dispenser in the Diana bathroom, and experimenting with ways to replace the white paint on the handrails.

“They’re not very apparent changes, but they are changes that will really help students use the building more productively,” Hassine said.

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Admins say they’ve worked with Native students on events, recruitment

**NATIVE** from front page

Communications Director Sydney Gross, however, said in an email that there are currently two admissions officers who oversee Native recruitment and outreach.

One of the admissions officers, Gross said, serves as the native outreach coordinator, working closely with the council on outreach initiatives.

“The increased presence of the Native community at Columbia over the last several years is due, in large part, to our collaborative

efforts with the Native American Council and current Native students, and we look forward to continuing our partnerships with them,” Gross said.

According to the Office of Planning and Institutional Research, 50 students from Columbia College, the School of Engineering and Applied Science, and the School of General Studies were identified as American Indian or Alaskan Native last fall. A Student Affairs profile of the CC and SEAS class of 2016 shows that 41 students

self-identified as Native American, Alaskan Native, or Native Hawaiian.

Still, Tristin Moone, SEAS ’14, said that the University has not delivered on a promises to support Native students.

“It was sold to me that there was a strong Native community here that would support me,” she said. “From that point to matriculation to now, I can definitely see where Columbia can improve.”

Even though the number of Native students at Columbia is increasing, council members

said that the University should do more to recruit them. Students do a lot of recruitment themselves, organizing phone-a-thons and letter writing campaigns.

“It’s too much for it to fall on the students,” Pochedley said.

“The bottom line is that Columbia is patting itself on the back for the first time in 200 years for having Native students on campus,” council treasurer Julian Noisecat, CC ’15, said. “But that’s where their initiative stops—with the numbers.”

*news@columbiaspectator.com*



COURTESY OF “EX-GIRLFRIENDS”

**LOVE FOOL** | Alexander Poe, SoA ’10, wrote and directed “Ex-Girlfriends,” a comedy that features scenes filmed at Columbia.

New flick from SoA alum chronicles romantic woes

**EXES** from page 6

Poe more than holds his own against these established stars on-screen. His self-pitying conclusion that his girlfriend is no longer into him after she offers to get him coffee, rather than a drink, lands him somewhere between Woody Allen and Tobey Maguire on the quirkiness spectrum.

But acting alongside these two stars was easy for Poe, he said.

“They give you so much,” he said. “They’re so on the spot the whole time that I think they raise everybody else’s game.”

The film also features a distinctly New York flavor, as B-roll of the George Washington Bridge and the High Line provide backdrops for the characters’ relationship woes. But the film sticks to two primary NYC settings—the West Village and Columbia—rather than following the characters all around the city.

“I hate movies where someone leaves a bar on the West Side and in the next scene shows up in SoHo,” Poe said. “We just sought out places nearby that could capture the iconic New York feel to give the film some grounding.”

With an SoA-centric creative team—the film’s producer-editor, Jennifer Gerber, and its cinematographer, Gregory Kershaw, are both current students—Poe hopes to screen the film at Columbia as it makes its rounds on the festival circuit. The film has already found some critical success, winning Best Film at the Big Apple Film Festival held at Tribeca cinemas, as well as being accepted to the Austin Film Festival.

“Ex-Girlfriends” begins its theatrical run on Nov. 28 in the Cinema Village on 22 E. 12th St. It will be available on the same day for purchase on iTunes and on-demand movie programs.

*arts@columbiaspectator.com*



MEGHAN TUTTLE FOR SPECTATOR

**NATIVE CULTURE** | Native students take part in the Cultural Showcase, which was part of Native American Heritage Month, on Nov. 9.



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# Grounding the virtual

Online interactions and spaces are useful when thinking about the way campus community functions. While we all interact with our friends offline, the common spaces we share online as members of a student body become an interesting gauge for how we see and deal with each other more generally. It's intuitive to our technologically literate generation that online interactions are often candid and intimate between people who may be strangers enabled by the security of distance and anonymity.

In the past few weeks, Columbia Compliments has tried to harness this propensity to share for good. Incidentally, the emergence of Columbia Compliments coincided with an interesting campus happening: a “love story” on Bwog, which elicited hundreds of comments and a physical event many came out to witness.

Placing both events together reveals an interesting point about what may be most important in these virtual community interactions. The bizarre love note that Bwog published was winding and obviously embellished. But in addition to references to public urination and the requisite resulting debasement and obtuse mentions of David Foster Wallace, there was the distinct possibility that we really knew the characters involved: The story took place in a setting that we're all intimately familiar with—Morningside Heights.

Lots of (much better) fiction features an unreliable



**SALONEE BHAMAN**

## Points of Connection

# Judge less, enjoy more

BY SAMANTHA HENDERSON

Recently, my friend recounted an irritating interaction, a sort of interaction I've found too frequent at Columbia. When casually discussing weekend plans, she mentioned how excited she was to open a sparkling peach wine that she had purchased for \$4.99. “Oohs” and “aahs” emanated around the table with one exception—the pesky Columbia taste police, an unnamed acquaintance who had the gump-tion to opine, “Oh, well I think I would pass on that.”

As a single event, this could just be chalked up to a genuinely annoying person, and what does one person's opinion really matter? That's the thing—it does matter because these seemingly trivial instances happen again and again. They exemplifying a widespread and unfortunate attitude among people on this campus—an excessively judgmental attitude that espouses a certain cultural and intellectual elitism that insists anything less than highbrow is tacky and in poor taste.

All of the people that we meet at Columbia and the conversations we have with them serve as the foundations for our opinion of the school and how we personally feel toward the student body—as well as how comfortable we feel with our individual choices and opinions, the foundation for self-worth.

We may feel at home in our respective clubs and organizations with like-minded peers, but what about the rest of the time? What about those people who think it is acceptable to remark on our decisions to drink sparkling peach wine? What about the people who simply need to make it clear that they not only have an opinion different from yours but also that yours is wrong and lesser?

These critics aren't only at social gatherings commenting on our beverages or extolling the supposed virtues of going to bars in Brooklyn instead of ones in Manhattan, let alone near campus. They're in Music Hum classes, scoffing when we admit that we recognize a Miley Cyrus song. They're in Lit Hum, insisting that someone who prefers the Keira Knightley version of “Pride and Prejudice” to the Colin Firth one simply cannot speak about the book properly. And they're in CC, feigning total philosophical omniscience because they already knew about Plato's cave. It is in no way unreasonable or weak of us to feel self-conscious after suffering through judgments like these. In fact, it is completely normal to take into account what acquaintances say and think—that's just basic human interaction.

## Being completely open about our preferences usually just yields criticism and a sense of self-doubt.

But, in my experience, there are many people at Columbia who turn these interactions into opportunities to project some false sense of superiority based on rather arbitrary designations of what is “classy” and what isn't. Maybe it's a product of hipsterdom. Maybe it's a product of living in New York. Maybe it's a product of going to an Ivy League school. Whatever it is, there is a fire under many students, heating up their self-assurance until it boils over into judgment of students who haven't conformed to a specific brand of Columbia classiness and taste.

Where does this brand come from, and why does it exist? It's not that difficult to venture a guess—most students here have been considered “the best” for most of their lives, and all of the sudden, they are surrounded by others who are just as talented. This, indeed, is somewhat terrifying and leads to a collective scramble to become the classiest and most cultured. But just as it's virtually impossible to be the “smartest” or “best” student at Columbia, it is also not feasible to be the classiest or have the best taste. After all, these are completely subjective notions and vary from person to person, as they should.

Nonetheless, many students try to “better” themselves, but only a self-denying disingenuousness and a judgmental attitude result from this assertion. Because of it, few people at this school, myself included, would want to own up to all of their favorite TV shows, movies, books, etc., simply because it's not acceptable for a Columbian to enjoy watching “Jersey Shore” or eating Taco Bell. Being completely open about our preferences usually just yields criticism and a sense of self-doubt. What's even worse is that we are denied the opportunity to hear our peers' true opinions, which are invaluable.

Then what remains? An unfortunate spread of carbon copy Columbians who are all better than you. This can't be and isn't true. One of the greatest outlets for us to learn during our time at Columbia is the student body, and we simply aren't capitalizing on its diversity by allowing for a predominant conception of taste and class. It's not the easiest task to combat an underlying campus attitude, but it's a necessary one, especially if we want to create a community where all students feel comfortable expressing and developing their own opinions—and we can bring about a change by doing precisely that.

The author is a Columbia College junior majoring in English. She is a Spectrum daily editor.

narrator, and we as readers are forced to let these Humbert Humberts define our settings for us. The realities of this case, however, were instead immediately and painfully clear because we, as readers, know well the types of interactions that happen at 1020 on a Saturday night. There is no distance to soften the author's representations of reality, because it is a reality we share.

Bwog comment boards are never a particularly kind place, but they reflect a type of Columbia community that isn't subject to the boundaries we typically impose upon our friend groups. The hundreds of comments left on the story reinforced the fact that Bwog often becomes our de facto gathering place as a campus community, across the spectrum of opinions. Some sympathized. Far more simply noted how bizarre the story was. Several planned to meet up to watch the event unfold. There were lots of jokes, long angry statements about sexism and a culture that finds placing women in uncomfortable romantic situations acceptable, offers to talk, and references to CPS and Nightline.

The depth of feeling elicited by the note was remarkable but not necessarily unique. As a community, we tend to engage deeply with subject matter we find objectionable on Bwog. The degree of engagement displayed in these comments is indicative of the investment we have in our community. We are committed to setting the record straight or inserting our two cents because of the immediate relevance of these stories to our lives.

Quite differently, Columbia Compliments offers a perspective on who we are as a group that is kinder and more supportive—proof that we value each other as individuals and notice the little things, though the amount of praise and support the Columbia Compliments initiative has gained over the past few weeks made me question again



ILANA SCHULDER

# Lost in translation

“Hi, I'm a freshman thinking about taking your English class this semester, but I heard English is basically just a dialect of Spanish and not very useful at all, so I was hoping you could defend its inherent relevance to me or I might just take French? Best ...”

Substitute “Catalan” for “English,” and you have the approximation of one of many emails received by at least one professor in the Spanish department.

Beyond sheer cultural insensitivity, such a question—challenge, really—highlights the growing concern over practicality that plagues higher education in general, and Columbia in particular. Canon contributors recently debated the merits of including preprofessional training in the Columbia curriculum, generally arguing in favor of maintaining the liberal arts emphasis (“Professional preparation,” Nov. 14). I agree. I agree that Columbia should work to actively uphold its integrity as a liberal arts institution in the face of pressure, both internal and external, to the contrary.

But framing the issue of professional training as one of degree is an oversimplification and to deal with it we must look beyond the “more” or “less” arguments. Students face seemingly contradictory directives coming from different branches of the institution. The Core, one of Columbia's defining features and one that sets us apart from peer institutions, aims to ground students with general abilities for critical thought. From the Core website: “The habits of mind developed in the Core cultivate a critical and creative intellectual capacity that students employ long after college, in the pursuit and the fulfillment of meaningful lives.” In short, we read the Iliad, laugh at the sex jokes in Lysistrata, and forget most of what we read but retain the fundamental skills of analysis that we have gained in the process. No news there.

While “meaningful lives” do not necessarily equate to employment, it seems quite reasonable to assume that the critical skills formed in this otherwise idealistic pursuit of the intellectual are intended to play some role in making us smarter humans—or at least ones who would be able to adapt to the curveballs of job training for which little classroom experience can be of direct use. This is a basic idea behind an education in the liberal arts. It may seem like the opposite of preprofessionalism, but it is, in the strictest sense, a “preprofessional” endeavor, a sort of intellectual training that prepares us in a comprehensive way for the rigors of adapting to adult life and work. We tend to compartmentalize the Core as something fanciful and flighty, overlooking the inherent practicality of a cultivated, well-rounded intellectual foundation or regarding the liberal arts as one side of a dialectical antithesis between the practical and impractical, between career training and pure intellectual pursuit.

What's lacking is an explicit recognition of the value of a Core education in the formation of candidates for competitive jobs—both in the messages projected to Columbia students and in the qualities we emphasize externally. Rather, in order to compensate for the seeming impracticality of knowing the “lioness on the cheese grater”



**CAITLIN BROWN**

## Pick My Brain

what it is that makes a community vibrant and connected.

While the compliments are touching reminders that people appreciate each other and surely bring an incredibly important happiness to many on this campus, I think that they are only part of the solution. Ultimately, they underscore the strength of relationships and interactions we have already had—perhaps, even, highlight those who are unexpectedly important to us.

## There is no distance to soften the author's representations of reality, because it is a reality we share.

The 1020 story, with the whirlwind of discussion it caused and the subsequent spectacle it created, gave me more of a sense of being connected to a campus I may not normally have felt connected to. For five minutes on a Tuesday, many of us got together to watch something silly happen, and I have a sneaking suspicion that it may be one of the anecdotes of college life that we will tell in many years—the kind of absurdist event that could only occur on a college campus. Personally, I hope we have many more of those types of points of connection with our peers, for they are memorable in a visceral, tangible way, even if they are less pleasant to behold.

Salonee Bhaman is a Columbia College junior majoring in history. She is a member of Alpha Delta Phi. Points of Connection runs alternate Tuesdays.

position, Columbia presents a plethora of traditionally preprofessional resources as practical, concrete, and unrelated to the cerebral idealism of the Core. The Center for Career Education does an excellent job of preparing students for lucrative careers in finance and consulting, of instructing the idealists who choose history or English over financial economics that even they can acquire the practical skills to succeed in banking and related fields.

In other words, CCE makes it clear to us that we liberal arts students can, with the right experience outside the classroom, still get a job doing a practical thing like banking. The issue, then, is not one of resources but of translation. There is a definite disjunction between the purported goal of Columbia as a champion of the liberal arts and the means by which we translate the intellectual generality of the Core Curriculum and the humanities into professional skills. Getting a job after Columbia should not merely be a matter of compensatory activity, of internships and things that “excuse” the impracticality of the liberal arts. Our academic and career advisers should work to better teach us just how to employ those “habits of mind” in order to, well, get employed, while emphasizing to potential employers the Core skills that make Columbia candidates adaptable to learning any number of new tasks.

## Columbia should work to actively uphold its integrity as a liberal arts institution.

I am one Columbia student who could have benefited from a preprofessional push: I'll have two “useless” majors, scattered semesters of four different foreign languages, and more credits than I know what to do with. A real job is but a rosy-fingered dawn. There's no question that I could have made things a lot easier for myself had I chosen a more straightforward path. But I can safely say that four years ago, I would not have imagined that I'd be spending a Sunday watching the Catalan elections at the Casa Hispánica, straining to understand commentators in a language I didn't even know existed until I arrived at college. I'm not sure what the practical value of that is—in fact, I think searching for some immediately applicable role of a working knowledge of Catalan would mean taking a rather reductive position as to the telos of education. I do know, however, that the privilege of attending a university like Columbia is the chance to explore for four years before committing to a professional field, a luxury we share with a select few in the U.S. and almost no one outside of it.

If we compartmentalize the liberal arts as something at odds with the skills that make us practical job candidates, if we focus too much on the immediate practical benefits of our education—to the point that we're questioning teachers about the utilitarian value of classes that Columbia has endorsed—we are neglecting that privilege and losing our identity as a liberal arts institution.

Caitlin Brown is a Columbia College junior majoring in psychology and comparative literature and society. Pick my Brain runs alternate Tuesdays.

The Columbia Daily Spectator accepts op-eds on any topic relevant to the Columbia University and Morningside Heights community. Op-eds should be roughly 650 words in length. We require that op-eds be sent exclusively to Spectator and will not consider articles that have already been published elsewhere. Letters to the Editor should be no longer than 350 words and must refer to an article from Spectator or The Eye, or a Spectrum post. Submissions should be sent to [opinion@columbiaspectator.com](mailto:opinion@columbiaspectator.com). Please paste all submissions into the body of the email. Should we decide to publish your submission we will contact you via email.



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2	6	3	5	4	1	8	7	9
7	5	4	6	9	8	2	3	1
3	2	9	4	1	6	7	8	5
4	8	5	7	2	3	1	9	6
6	1	7	8	5	9	3	4	2
9	3	2	1	7	4	6	5	8
5	7	6	9	8	2	4	1	3
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**Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle**  
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

**ACROSS**

- 1 Pennsylvania city of about 100,000
- 5 Fabled blue ox
- 9 Tribe also called the Wyandot
- 14 TV warrior princess
- 15 LAX postings
- 16 Prefix with meter
- 17 Señorita's love
- 18 Modernists, for short
- 19 News anchor Connie
- 20 Motor City's state
- 22 Striped zoo creatures
- 23 Man, in Milan
- 24 Chili spice
- 26 Star footballer
- 28 Emergency levee component
- 32 Scottish hillside
- 33 To the point
- 35 Where Mandela was pros.
- 36 Tonallito-treating MD
- 37 London's province
- 39 Medit. land
- 40 "C'est la \_\_\_\_"
- 41 iPod button
- 42 Down Under greeting
- 43 Insistent words of affirmation
- 45 Deal with a bare spot, perhaps
- 48 Selfless sort
- 50 French cathedral city
- 51 Job listing of a sort
- 54 A cut above, with "to"
- 58 Two-time loser to like
- 59 Caesar's 107
- 60 K thru 12
- 61 Glowing signs
- 62 Letters on a phone button
- 63 Scads
- 64 With 66-Across, one of five found in this puzzle
- 65 Caesar's being
- 66 See 64-Across

**DOWN**

- 1 Midterm, e.g.
- 2 Do followers, scalewise
- 3 Protects from disease
- 4 Batting helmet opening
- 5 Orono, Maine, is a suburb of it
- 6 Surveyor's measure
- 7 Bucking horse
- 8 Start of summer?
- 9 Access illegally, as computer files
- 10 "... me, you villain!"
- 11 Agree to another tour
- 12 Former Atlanta arena
- 13 Christmas quaffs
- 21 Holy terror
- 22 Gulf State resident
- 25 Loan shark
- 26 Immortal PGA nickname
- 27 Thick
- 29 Control freak in a white dress
- 30 Syrian leader

31 "CSI: NY" actor Sinise

32 Bunch of beauties

34 Andalusian article

37 Rose-colored glasses wearer

38 Wet behind the ears

42 "Who are you kidding?"

44 Tropical lizard

46 Ewing Oil, e.g.

47 Notice

49 Sands regrets, perhaps

51 Peaked

52 River of central Germany

53 Gin flavoring

55 Direction reversals, in slang

56 "Yeah, what the heck?"

57 Communion, for one

59 Mier Sebastian

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**

ASNER	AHA	STAB
CHOSE	LOFT	LAGE
LITTLE	LULU	OGRE
UNVEIL	RANI	YET
EELS	MINEO	
ORL	FITNESS	SURU
GOERS	SOLO	PYRES
LONE	TOTER	FEET
ENDED	INACTIVE	
DESMOND	TUTU	TED
AERIE	FETE	
DOH	ACRO	DOLLUP
ORAL	HIKARU	SULU
LENO	EDEN	TILES
TODD	EDY	SELES

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

By Peter A. Collins  
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11/27/12



# SoA grad back on campus in new indie comedy

BY ANDY SEIFE  
*Columbia Daily Spectator*

The new indie comedy “Ex-Girlfriends” opens in a Columbia classroom with its protagonist, Graham, played by writer-director Alexander Poe, telling an original story to his creative writing class. But his students think the character in the story—based on Graham himself—does not know who he is and is clearly lonely.

These classroom scenes set the tone for the rest of the film, as the twenty-something struggling writer attempts to create a satisfactory narrative of his life with mixed results.

A 2010 graduate of the School of the Arts’ MFA program in film, Poe said much of the film is a comic adaptation of his experiences at the University. But the film’s main focus is Graham’s past romantic relationships.

“I hate movies where someone leaves a bar on the West Side and in the next scene shows up in SoHo.”

—Alexander Poe, SoA alum and director

Heartbroken, he enlists the help of his ex-girlfriend Kate (Jennifer Carpenter) to win back another ex, Laura (Kristen Connolly), after he discovers a man has been cheating on Laura with Kate. In a noteworthy scene, he and Kate list the number of partners they’ve had on napkins and the count reaches 25 for both.

Graham’s obsessive romanticization is his fatal flaw, Poe said. “He’s constantly looking for a relationship to solve his life problems,” he said.

Despite budget constraints, the film boasts two up-and-coming actresses as Graham’s former flames. Kristen Connolly, the scream queen in “The Cabin in The Woods,” plays Laura, and Jennifer Carpenter, of “Dexter” fame, plays Kate. While Poe knew Connolly from his days at Middlebury College, casting Carpenter was a happy accident. The actress originally set to play Kate dropped out a week before the shoot. When Poe saw the final list of available actresses, which included Carpenter, he was wowed.

“I saw the list and I was thinking, ‘I can’t even afford to rent some lights, and you’re telling me that these Hollywood actresses will be in my film?’” he said.

SEE EXES, page 3



DAVID BRANN / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SPOOKY SCARY | “American Ghosts,” is a collection of five original student plays curated by Alex Katz, CC ’13, and Lorenzo Landini, CC ’13.

## Student playwrights explain what haunts them

BY ALEXIS NELSON  
*Spectator Staff Writer*

While researching ghost stories he could use to inspire his writers, Alex Katz, CC ’13, managed to thoroughly terrify himself.

“I lost some sleep,” Katz said.

From that promising beginning, Katz and fellow co-creator Lorenzo Landini, CC ’13, wove together five new stories of American haunting. The final product is “American Ghosts,” the semester’s first production from New and Original Material Authored and Directed by Students. NOMADS’ show, which opens this Thursday, consists of five individual plays, each responding in different ways to the question, “What haunts you?”

Directed by Katey Howitt, CC ’13, “American Ghosts” includes Katz and Landini’s own plays, “Distant” and “Possession,” in addition to “Ward Seven,” by Krista White, CC ’14, “Edge of the Cradle,” by Kyle Radler, CC ’13, and “Cletus and the Magic Joint,” by Bijan Samareh, CC ’15.

Last spring, NOMADS presented “SPEARS: The Gospel According to Britney,” a reinterpretation of Jesus’ life through the music of Britney Spears. This semester, the group wanted to try

something different.

“NOMADS has done the traditional three-act drama for the past few seasons,” Landini said. “This time, we wanted to give the writers something smaller, something they could get all the way around.”

Before asking for submissions, Katz and Landini sent questionnaires to writers who had expressed interest in the project. The co-creators posed questions relating to the project’s theme, such as “What’s your favorite ghost story?” After receiving responses, they sent back “inspiration packets” to the writers.

“They were Google docs with pictures, songs, quotes, ghost stories, images, anything we thought would resonate with that particular playwright,” Landini said.

Katz and Landini arrived at their prompt, they said, because it would be open-ended enough to allow writers room for interpretation and personalization.

“We didn’t want plays about internment camps or Abe Lincoln’s ghosts, necessarily,” Katz said. “We didn’t want the writers to prioritize an idea or message over their own voice or interpretation of haunting.”

The show has a cast of 11, with most actors playing multiple roles. During the workshop process, plays were rewritten and perfected with the input and influence of the actors and creative team.

“I wanted the actors to feel open enough to give me their feedback—about characters and about what was or wasn’t working,” Howitt said.

Howitt and the co-creators said they enjoyed the intimacy of working with such a small group.

“With a smaller cast, the audience can develop a relationship with each individual character,” Landini said.

The creative team also aimed to create a cohesive relationship among the plays, by stringing them together with music and minimalist sets. With locations ranging from a dining room to an abandoned Walmart—and detours in hell and a graveyard along the way—“American Ghosts” promises to cover a lot of haunted territory.

“American Ghosts” runs from Thursday, Nov. 29 through Saturday, Dec. 1. Performances begin at 8 p.m. in the Glicker-Milstein Theatre. Tickets are \$5 for general admission and \$2 for CUID holders.

arts@columbiaspectator.com

# Said remembers mother in ‘A World I Loved: The Story of an Arab Woman’

SAID from front page

civil war in Lebanon in 1976, she felt that the Western world does not know our story in the Middle East. She rewrote it in English for a Western audience, and it took me 30 years to have it published, partly because it needed editing, partly because I didn’t have much time to work on it.

At any rate, when we published it, it seemed the time was right. My mother was born in 1909, I believe, and at that time, Lebanon and Syria and the whole Middle East—Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Jordan, and Palestine—were all under the Ottoman Empire. My mother was born in the city of Beirut, which was part of Syria at the time. Lebanon was an autonomous region within greater Syria. ...

She lived through famine because there was famine in Lebanon-Syria during the First World War. She was educated in the school that she later on became its principal. She witnessed all the turmoil from the Ottoman Empire to having the Allied States over that area after the First World War, how they divided the area according to their whims and where she lived became Lebanon. She



COURTESY OF MARIAM SAID

EAST MEETS WEST | Mariam Said has adapted her mother’s memoir of life in Lebanon in the early 1900s for the stage.

witnessed the creation of Israel and the erasing—or disappearance—of Palestine, and she taught in Iraq, so she talks about all this experience.

This is what the memoir is about. It’s her life and how she lived it, but through how she lived it, it tells the story of colonialism and the Middle East.

**Q: What do you hope this work of art will accomplish in terms of your mother’s legacy?**

A: I think it would accomplish what she really wanted—to tell the story from our side, to the Western world, and from a personal side. And the way the play has been written by Vanessa, with me, was a way to show that history. For me, it seems very relevant now, after the Arab Spring and after what’s still going on in the Middle East.

**Q: How did you and Vanessa Redgrave meet, and what was the process of collaboration like?**

A: I have known Vanessa through my late husband, Edward Said. We met her many years ago. We have kept in contact, and I sent her the book when it was published.

When she read that book, she really liked it and actually fell in love with my mother’s personality. A year later, she came to me and said, in 2010, “I’d like to do a reading performance of this play.” And I said, “Wonderful.” And I thought she would do it, you know, in a simple way. Then she said, “But I need your input, and we have to work together.” So we worked together, and as we were trying to do this—to decide which sections of the memoir—which sequence and how—the Arab Spring took place and that made us focus on the colonial aspect of the memoir and on the history of that part of the world. ...

It premiered this year at the Brighton Festival in England. It was very well-received, and the audience there resonated with it very much because, I guess, it is part of their history, too—because Britain figures out strongly there. ...

But that’s how, you know, Vanessa loved the story. She called me and said, “We have to work on it.” It took a long time—it took months and months to get it to what it is now.

**Q: I understand that the play features music. How does it combine music with storytelling and choral singing and video?**

A: Vanessa is my mother in this reading.

## A new play integrates music and video to retell memoir

As she reads what my mother has written, whatever she’s reading is video-projected on the screen. If she’s talking about, say, from her trip from Beirut to Baghdad when she went to teach there, and my mother says, “And we passed Nineveh, and we got to Kirkuk, where we saw flames coming out of the ground and we were told they found oil here.” This was the beginning of finding oil in Iraq. And we have a picture of how it looked. ...

At the same time, male voices are read by Nadim Sawalha, who is a very well-known Jordanian actor and playwright in England. My daughter [Najla Said] reads my mother as a young child and all the other female voices in this. I introduce the play in the beginning—I read from my introduction.

My mother was involved in a musical academy, and music was very important to her. ... At the girls’ school she was headmistress of, they had a very good choir. In her narration, she talks about the choir ... and that music is taken from her book. So we have a choir—it’s the Spence School choir, here—and there is also a trio that plays and a cello solo.

**Q: You talked a bit about the importance of your mother’s story being told. What does this mean for the Columbia community in particular?**

A: The Columbia community is part of this Western audience—most of it. But some people in that Columbia community come from all over the world and that would be important for them, too. It would be important for people from the Far East, for people from Latin America, and even for people from the Middle East. Because for those from the Middle East, they are of a younger generation, and to them, this is probably a story that they didn’t know. ...

At the same time, my late husband, Edward Said, taught for 40 years at this institution. He taught literature and literary criticism, but he also wrote and spoke a lot about the Middle East. So for me, that is a double-whammy, so to speak. It is connecting his past at the University with this production at Columbia.

**Q: You worked for 20 years in the financial services industry. How did you sort of cross over into the arts?**

A: I grew up in an intellectual household where art was very important. I married my husband, who was very much involved in the arts. ... So it was part of my life. I was in the financial industry because, you know, sometimes you need to work for a living. ... I worked in that field, but it didn’t negate the fact that I liked the arts. When I retired, I started devoting my time and energy to that.

Actually, I am very much involved with a project that my late husband and Daniel Barenboim created together, and that is music education in Palestine and Israel and an orchestra called the West-Eastern Divan. Most of my work now is involved with that.

**Q: Can you describe the orchestra and your work with it?**

A: We have a project of teaching music in the occupied territories. ... The original government of Andalusia sponsored this project for a long time, and they helped us grow. ... Usually the workshop takes place near Seville in Andalusia, Spain, and then they go on tour. We have been on tour to Europe several times, to certain places in the Middle East. ... We have a foundation here in New York, and I run that part of the project.

We have future plans to build an academy called the Barenboim-Said Academy in Berlin. They are renovating the part of the building where Maestro Barenboim is director, and the German government has just approved a big sum of money for us to run this academy, and it will give a diploma in music and humanities education. ... The orchestra is coming to New York this year in February—to Carnegie Hall. They’re playing the whole Beethoven symphony cycle, and they will be performing also a concert at Columbia on Feb. 1 at the Miller Theatre.

Performances of “A World I Loved: The Story of an Arab Woman” are on Wednesday, Nov. 28, and Thursday, Nov. 29, at 8 p.m. in Miller Theatre. At this point, both performances of “A World I Loved” are sold out. A standby line will form in the Miller Theatre lobby starting at 6 p.m. on the night of each performance. Any tickets that become available will be sold at full price on a first-come, first-served basis to those waiting on standby.

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COURTESY OF BRIANNE BOWEN / YALE DAILY NEWS

**SAM I AM** | Yale guard Sam Martin drilled a three with 32 seconds left in double overtime to put the Bulldogs in front for good.

## Sports experience same for all athletes

**QUAN** from back page

parents were not very enthusiastic when it came to driving to away swim meets. They probably wouldn’t have been able to stand the commitment of a travel soccer team. Or perhaps, as immigrants, they didn’t understand the popularity of recreational soccer and basketball. I never really complained about it, but was I missing out on something? Do team sports have a particular edge over individual sports?

Gatorade took a recent poll on Facebook, asking its followers, “Individual Sports vs. Team Sports: which do you like better?” An overwhelming majority of the comments answered individual sports. The main, recurring reason was the sense of self-control the people had in the outcome when they competed individually. There was no one to blame but themselves if they lost and no one to praise but themselves if they succeeded. They only had to account for their own efforts and depend on their own skills.

But there were also a couple of comments that

spoke of the merits of a team sport. On a team you learn to work with a collective group towards one goal. You gain the support of your teammates, who “always have your back” and “become like family.” Some comments even suggested that success is more rewarding when you have a group of teammates to celebrate with.

Although I’ve only competed in individual sports, I feel like I’ve experienced many of the merits that the supporters of team sports have touched upon. Even though I stepped on the court alone whenever I played a tennis or squash match, I too felt the backing of my teammates and coaches on the sidelines. They helped me through tough losses and celebrated my success with me. And as I supported them, we all became a family.

Perhaps I wasn’t missing out on anything special. Competing as an individual on a school team probably gave me a dual experience. However, several comments on this Gatorade poll aptly pointed out that all sports are actually team sports.

The person who wins the

New York City Marathon, that one individual, is part of a team: a team of coaches, trainers, physical therapists, and supporters. Even Roger Federer (arguably the greatest tennis player in history), who has played without a coach for many years, finds a team in his training partners and his family. Every sport is a team sport.

Every sport tests your physical and mental limits and forces you to overcome difficulties. Every sport teaches you how to work with different people and find support in followers. Athletics enables you to dust off losses and appreciate successes. The way sports bring together a group of strangers, into a team or a fan base, is why they are some of the most popular pastimes. There is no debate to be had: sports are sports. No qualifier is needed. Every type of experience shares in the same greatness.

*Katie Quan is a Columbia College senior majoring in financial economics. She is a member of the women’s varsity squash team. In the Zone runs biweekly.*

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## Hesselgrave fitting in with crew team

**VET** from back page

and Ramsey’s friend, Susan Francia, a two-time Olympic gold medal winner.

“She [Francia] told me that she walked onto her rowing team as a sophomore at UPenn, and suddenly I was inspired,” Hesselgrave said, “I had been missing the physicality of the Marine Corps since I got out, so I had been thinking about trying out for a sport anyway. Rowing was a chance to experience a whole new world. I decided to go for it, and it just so happened to be a good fit.”

So Hesselgrave walked on, and he fit in. While the training facilities at Dodge Fitness Center are halfway around the world from Fallujah, where Hesselgrave served one of his two combat tours in Iraq, the School of General Studies sophomore attributes his success in rowing to skills he learned as a Marine.

“When it comes to focus under stress, rowers train to maintain strict stroke form and develop awareness of each other’s movements in the boat,” Hesselgrave said. “Similarly, Marines learn to maintain

correct firing posture and develop awareness of each other’s positions and actions in a fire and maneuver situation.”

Hesselgrave added that although more is obviously on the line during a firefight, the ability to perform well in either task is from the same foundation of training.

Hesselgrave continued training and got his first chance to row competitively at the Princeton 3-Mile Chase the day before Hurricane Sandy hit the Eastern seaboard. During the regatta, Hesselgrave entered into his military mindset and tried to summon enough intensity to keep his boat competitive. Despite his all-out effort in his first race, Hesselgrave and his boat finished last in the four-man varsity heavyweight race.

“In the end, everything that could’ve gone wrong in that race did, and I felt like it was all my fault since I am the least experienced man on the team,” Hesselgrave said.

Even with the discouraging showing—although other Columbia boats performed well at the regatta—Hesselgrave grew closer to

rowing and his teammates.

“My boat-mates were so encouraging even though they were upset about losing. Connor Murphy was seated behind me, and the first thing he did was pat me on the back and said, ‘You have to start somewhere, buddy, and you did a great job for your first race.’ They recognized that I would be insecure about it, and they made a point to be extra supportive,” Hesselgrave said. “That’s when I realized these men truly are of superior character, and I felt a new sense of satisfaction in being one of them.”

As the season progresses, Hesselgrave still continues with his philosophy of making life extraordinary. While the former Marine didn’t expect to row, he strives to become an integral part of Columbia’s rowing team and to continue to excel.

“My goals for rowing are to get as strong and skilled as fast as I can,” Hesselgrave said. “Like the rest of the team, I am really anxious to move up in the lineup and these guys are really good. I want to be competitive for a seat in the top two boats by next year.”

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## No clear-cut leader in men’s basketball 4 weeks into year

**MEN’S BASKETBALL** from back page

Mitola each posted 13 points in the second half, sparking promising runs, but the Big Green was unable to sustain the comeback long enough to garner a win.

**HARVARD**

The Crimson (2-2) was bested by St. Joseph’s 75-56 last Tuesday evening. Harvard received stellar individual performances by sophomore guard/forward Wesley Saunders, who matched his career-high 18 points and scooped nine rebounds, and junior guard Laurent Rivard, who drained four treys and three free throws for a total of 15 points. But as a team, the Crimson struggled offensively, with a shooting percentage of only 38 percent, going only 29 percent from beyond the arc. With poor shooting percentages coupled with 18 turnovers, Harvard was no match for St. Joseph’s ability to convert and capitalize off the Crimson’s mistakes.

**PENN**

The Quakers (1-5) have struggled coming out of the gate, following up their first win with five consecutive losses. Penn continued its streak last Tuesday with a loss to Lehigh 73-66 in the Dick’s Sporting Goods NIT Season Tip-Off. The Mountain Hawks barely gave the visiting Quakers time to settle in before running up a lead of eight points. Penn junior forward Fran Dougherty found

his bearings in time to fire back, racking up a double-double with 17 points and 10 boards. Along with sophomore forward Henry Brooks, freshman guard Tony Hicks, and junior guard Miles Cartwright, Dougherty managed to temporarily turn the tide before the Quakers lost the lead for good in the second half.

**PRINCETON**

The Tigers (2-3) snapped their three-game losing streak with a 72-53 victory over Lafayette last Saturday. Princeton was relentless, crashing the boards with a season-high 39 rebounds, and shot 58 percent overall. Two Tigers posed season-high point totals, with senior forward Ian Hummer scoring 28 and junior guard T.J. Bray totaling 17. The Tigers never faltered, reaching a lead of 22 points during the second half in the win.

**YALE**

The Bulldogs’ home opener against Army on Saturday had fans holding their breath as it went into double overtime, but the Black Knights ultimately ceded the victory to Yale (2-5). At the end of the second overtime, following multiple lead changes, senior guard Sam Martin hit a trey with 32 seconds on the clock to put Yale up 84-83. Classmate Austin Morgan followed suit, cementing the win by draining two free throws with eight seconds remaining. The Bulldogs scraped by with a narrow 86-83 victory.

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## Crimson, Tigers ahead after one month

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL** from back page

Wildcats for much of the second half, but Cornell could not stop a driving layup and two free throws from UNH with only seconds left on the clock.

**DARTMOUTH**

On Saturday, Dartmouth (1-2) committed 26 turnovers in its 62-49 loss against Albany, which capitalized on Dartmouth’s mistakes, scoring 30 points on Big Green turnovers. With 15 points, senior guard Faziah Steen scored in the double digits for the second consecutive game. Sophomore forward Abbey Schmitt, who was injured for the entirety of her freshman year, continued to make up for lost time with 10 rebounds. Despite shooting poorly from the field—26.1 percent in the first half, 31.3 percent for the whole game—Dartmouth shot well from the charity stripe, going 16-for-25.

**HARVARD**

On Tuesday, Harvard (4-2) handily defeated Holy Cross 80-63 on the road. For the second game in a row, the Crimson shot 50 percent from the field. Junior guard Christine Clark led the Crimson in scoring with 25 points and also tallied six rebounds, three assists, and three steals. On Friday, Harvard held a 46-43 lead against Michigan with only 12 minutes remaining only the clock.

Unfortunately for fans of the Crimson, Michigan topped Harvard for the rest of the game on the way to a 72-61 victory. Harvard challenged Michigan for much of the contest, but a 7-0 run in the second half gave the Wolverines the lead for good. Clark led the way again for the Crimson on Saturday, as Harvard defeated Eastern Michigan 67-63. With 16 points, Clark led the Crimson in scoring for the sixth consecutive game and earned Ivy Player of the Week honors.

**PENN**

The Quakers (0-3) are in the middle of an 11-day break. They played last Sunday at Army, falling 58-53. Junior guard Alyssa Baron led the way with 11 points and 11 rebounds despite a poor 3-11 shooting night. Penn opens up its Big 5 slate on Friday, hosting La Salle.

**PRINCETON**

In its home opener, Princeton (3-2) crushed Rider in an 88-42 blowout. The Broncos struggled to keep up with the Tigers on both sides of the court. Senior guard Niveen Rasheed contributed 17 points and 11 rebounds for the Tigers in her first double-double of the season. The freshman duo of guard/forward Annie Tarakchian and forward Taylor Williams combined for 26 of Princeton’s 47 points off the bench. Rasheed also led Princeton in its second consecutive victory, a tough 72-68 road win over UC Riverside. Rasheed scored a team-high 19 points grabbed 12 rebounds, earning her second consecutive double-double.

But on Sunday, Princeton fell 65-52 on the road against No. 19 UCLA. The Tigers kicked off the game with an 8-0 run and maintained the lead for the whole first half. With a bit more than six minutes left, UCLA was able to pull ahead, putting the score at 50-41. The Bruins maintained a lead of at least six points for the remainder of the game. With 17 points, Rasheed scored in double digits for the fifth straight game. The Tigers’ biggest problem against the Bruins was turnovers—they committed 25, leading to 34 points for the Bruins.

**YALE**

On Monday, Yale (1-4) opened the week with a 95-80 loss against DePaul. In the first of its two games in Chicago, Yale fell behind early, and DePaul maintained its comfortable lead for the remainder of the game. The Bulldogs committed 25 turnovers, leading to 37 points for the home team. In its second Windy City contest, Yale lost an 83-75 heartbreaker to Northwestern on Wednesday. The Bulldogs—led by senior guard Megan Vasquez, who scored 21 points and tallied four assists—kept up with the Wildcats in the first half. But Northwestern pulled ahead with a 17-0 run in the second half, despite Yale’s threats to ruin its lead by coming within nine of the Wildcats, but the Bulldogs could not catch their opponents. Yale was weak in the paint, tallying only 20 points to the Wildcats’ 54.

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FILE PHOTO

**SUPERWOMAN** | With 64 points in her last three games, Harvard guard Christine Clark has emerged as the Crimson’s go-to scorer.



Solo athletes also get team experience

I've been competing athletically ever since I was five years old. However, unlike most of my friends and classmates who were playing on soccer, basketball, and softball teams, I swam. On the weekends, instead of running around a soccer field or up and down a basketball court, I competed in individual swimming events. As I look back on my overall athletic experience, it's obvious that I've only ever participated in individual sports.

In middle school, my friends joined the soccer and basketball teams. Having no prior experience playing either of those sports, I felt at a disadvantage and decided to try out for the cross-country team instead. Running was something anybody could do, and my swimming background had endowed me with an exceptionally long-lasting endurance. During these middle school years, I also followed my older sister's footsteps and took up tennis.

Later, when I went to high school, I continued to run on the cross-country team and play on the tennis team. But, by that time, I had stopped swimming. In search for a winter sport to keep me occupied, an upperclassmen suggested that I try out for squash. I had never played before, but I decided to go for it and joined the freshman team. After learning how to play, I quickly became obsessed with squash. Today, I'm lucky to be a part of the Columbia women's varsity squash team.

So why only individual sports? Maybe it was a coincidence. My



KATIE QUAN  
In the Zone

SEE QUAN, page 7



COURTESY OF ANDREW BARTHOLOMEW

CAUSING A ROW | Nick Hesselgrave (third from front) decided to continue "making his life extraordinary" after his tour of duty.

Post-Iraq, vet focuses on school, rowing

BY HAHN CHANG  
Spectator Staff Writer

Nick Hesselgrave, GS '15, didn't expect to be an Ivy League rower. Instead, he wanted to be a Marine.

"Joining the Marine Corps was always something that I just knew I had to do: an undeniable call of duty," Hesselgrave said. "I knew it wasn't going to be easy, but I knew I had no other option. When you feel that strongly about doing something and you don't see it through, you risk life-long regret."

Hesselgrave served on in a diplomatic mission to the Republic of Georgia in 2009 and on two combat tours between 2006 and 2008 in Iraq, where he served on the front lines and manned the turret of a humvee on vehicle-mounted patrols.

"Day-to-day life was pretty miserable," Hesselgrave said. "One hundred-forty-degree heat during the summer and sub-freezing temperatures during the winter. We got to shower about once a week. We would only sleep for a few hours at a time. Our toilet was an ammo crate lined with plastic bags, and we ate MREs [Meal Ready to Eat] for the majority of our meals. I interacted with local Iraqis everyday, and I really liked playing with the kids."

After leaving the Marines in 2010 as a corporal, Hesselgrave adopted a mantra of "make your life extraordinary" and sought another challenge by attending school at Columbia.

When he arrived at school for the New Student Orientation Program, he said, he didn't think he would be rowing for the Lions. But during orientation week, he ran into women's rowing head coach, Scott Ramsey,

SEE VET, page 7

Ivy men's basketball teams still searching for groove

BY THERESA BABENDREIER  
Columbia Daily Spectator

Although conference play has yet to begin for men's basketball, the Ivies have geared up for their seasons with intense nonconference competition. While Penn suffered its fifth consecutive loss, Yale had an exciting home opener with a double-overtime win over Army.



BROWN

The Bears (2-3), currently in fourth place, lost to St. Francis 76-72 on Saturday. Brown struggled to find a rhythm on the court in the first half, giving its opponent a lead as high as 18

points. After digging themselves into a 14-point deficit, the Bears scrambled to make up for their lagging first half with a second-half comeback. Brown freshman forward Cedric Kuakumensah scored a critical layup with 33 seconds remaining to put the game into overtime. Despite junior guard Sean McGonagill posting the first points of overtime, the Bears were unable to pull off the victory.

CORNELL

The Big Red (3-4) had a rough start to last week's competition with a 64-53 loss to Arizona State but composed itself for the Continental Tire Las Vegas Invitational. After clobbering Presbyterian College 89-55, Cornell moved on to beat Longwood 84-78. This second win was thanks to the efforts of senior forward Eitan Chemerinski

and the current Ivy League Player of the Week, sophomore forward Shonn Miller. Chemerinski led the Big Red in scoring, with a career-high 19 points and six rebounds, while Miller had a solid 14 points and seven rebounds. Their successes on the boards helped offset the dismal 20 turnovers recorded by Cornell and won it the tournament title.

DARTMOUTH

Dartmouth (1-2) fell to the visiting IPFW 70-66 after digging itself into a hole. The Big Green was in for a battle as it fought to close the Mastodons' 13-point lead in the second half. Dartmouth sophomore forward John Golden and freshman guard Alex

SEE MEN'S BASKETBALL, page 7



FILE PHOTO

FOR FREE | Guard Austin Morgan led Yale to a win, overcoming otherwise bad shooting by going 11-11 from the line.



FILE PHOTO

AHEAD OF THE PLAY | Princeton guard and reigning Ivy Player of the Year Niveen Rasheed scored 53 points and 30 rebounds in just three games.

Harvard, Princeton strong early in season in women's basketball

BY IKE CLEMENTE KITMAN  
Spectator Staff Writer

In the fourth week of Ivy women's basketball, Harvard and Princeton both won two of their three contests while Cornell and Brown both split their two games. Dartmouth lost its only match and Yale dropped both of its road games.



BROWN

Led by senior captain Sheila Dixon, Brown (2-3) defeated the University of Rhode Island 55-51, on Wednesday. Dixon earned her first double-double of the season, scoring 22 points and grabbing 13 rebounds. For most of the game, the two teams traded the lead, but the Bears outscored their opponents 6-2 in the final two-and-a-half minutes of the game to earn the win. On the road, Brown dropped a 58-57 heartbreaker to Pittsburgh on Saturday. Junior guard Lauren Clarke led the Bears' offense with 20 points, and senior forward and team captain

Caroline King added a career-high 10 rebounds. The Bears led for most of the game, and even had a 12-point advantage at one point in the first half. With only nine seconds on the clock, Pittsburgh junior guard Abby Dowd, who scored nine points, hit a clutch three-pointer to give the Panthers the 58-57 victory.

CORNELL

The Big Red (3-3) defeated Manhattan 70-60 on Tuesday to give Cornell head coach Dayna Smith her 100th career victory. The Big Red backcourt played a key role in the victory. Senior guard Taylor Flynn recorded a career-high 26 points, junior guard Allyson DiMagno tallied her third double-double, and junior guard Stephanie Long contributed 16 points, five rebounds, three assists, and two blocks. On Sunday, Cornell dropped a close 59-56 game to the University of New Hampshire. Led by Taylor Flynn, who scored 15 points, the Big Red traded the lead with the

SEE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL, page 7