

INSIDE



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KCST brings “Othello” back to its classic roots

Kings Crown Shakespeare Troupe opts for a traditional interpretation of Shakespeare’s “Othello,” in contrast with The Public Theater’s radical spin earlier this season.

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Brain crack is wack

Akiva Bamberger explores the trials, tribulations, and triumphs of transforming itching ideas into action.



Sports, page 6

Women’s basketball set to battle Delaware

The Lions dropped two contests at the University of Nevada Nugget Classic over Thanksgiving break and will try to get back on track against Delaware at 7 p.m. tonight.

EVENTS

Columbia University Dance Marathon preview

So you think you can dance? The CUDM sneak peak includes Scott Fried discussing his battle against AIDS, and a dance party featuring DJ’s and lights. Lerner Hall Party Space, 8 p.m.

The Fair Trade

Delta GDP and Students for Environmental and Economic Justice present “The Fair Trade,” a documentary that explores issues of fair trade, human rights, despair, recovery, and the search for a meaningful life. 569 Lerner, 8:30-9:30 p.m.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“We need to flood YouTube and Facebook and all these other sites with a hundred thousand stories about individuals fighting with HIV/AIDS.”

—Bill Clinton

ONLINE

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News around the clock

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



Shelby Layne / Staff photographer

WORLD AIDS DAY | Bill Clinton spoke at a panel on HIV/AIDS accessibility organized by the Mailman School of Public Health, where his daughter is currently studying. “If you create an opportunity for treatment, people will show up,” he said.

Columbia to proceed with disputed demolition of 115th St. brownstones

BY SAM LEVIN
Spectator Staff Writer

Columbia received the green light for demolition this Monday. Since 2008, the University has been planning to demolish three brownstones on 115th Street between Morningside and Amsterdam Avenues. Columbia has maintained that the buildings, 408, 410, and 412 115th Street, are in a state of disrepair.

On the eve of Thanksgiving last Wednesday, Columbia took the next step in this process, filing demolition papers with the New York City Department of Buildings. On Monday, the DOB

informed Morningside Heights Assemblyman Daniel O’Donnell, who has been a vocal opponent of the demolition, of the filing. Shane Seger, communications director for O’Donnell, shared a copy of the DOB job filing with Spectator, which shows the DOB’s Nov. 30 approval for the application to demolish the three Columbia-owned brownstones. O’Donnell expressed disappointment with the University for going through with the plans. “It is deplorable that an institution with so many resources and talented thinkers cannot find a way to preserve these historic structures,” O’Donnell wrote in a statement on Monday.

“Columbia has fallen back on its bad neighbor behaviors.” Last December, the New York State Historic Preservation Office—which lists building candidates for the National Register of Historic Places—deemed the brownstones historic, but the structures have not received acknowledgment from the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, which grants landmark recognition with legal authority. “There has been no attempt at all to evaluate the suitability of rehabilitating them,” Harry Schwartz, a representative from

SEE DEMOLITION, page 2



Jack Zietman for Spectator

CRUNCH TIME | On Monday, Columbia received the go-ahead from the Department of Buildings to demolish three 115th St. brownstones.



File photos

EMINENT DOMAIN? | Tuck-it-Away owner Nick Sprayregen and lawyer Norman Siegel claim that a recent pro-eminent domain ruling will not predict the outcome of their Manhattanville-related suit.

Eminent domain approval in Brooklyn revives questions about Manhattanville

BY MAGGIE ASTOR
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

A recent New York State Court of Appeals ruling upholding the use of eminent domain for the Atlantic Yards development in Brooklyn has sparked renewed interest in two similar cases concerning Columbia’s planned Manhattanville campus. But the plaintiffs who challenge the use of eminent domain in Manhattanville say their cases are different, and do not see the pro-eminent domain decision as indicative of their chances. Tuck-It-Away Self-Storage owner Nick Sprayregen and gas station owners Gurnam Singh and Parminder Kaur filed lawsuits in January with the Appellate Division of the New York State Supreme Court, one level below the Court of Appeals. Both suits challenge the Empire State

Development Corporation’s December 2008 approval of the state’s invocation of eminent domain for Manhattanville. ESDC would seize private properties in the 17-acre expansion zone and transfer ownership to the University, which would pay the current owners market-rate value. Columbia controls over 90 percent of land in the area, and Sprayregen and the Singhs are the only landowners who refuse to sell. The University promises not to seek eminent domain for residential buildings, though individual residential units in primarily nonresidential buildings could be vulnerable in 2018. It’s been six months since the cases were heard, and Sprayregen’s attorney, Norman Siegel, said, “Our sense was that perhaps the Appellate Division was waiting to see what the Court of Appeals did

[with Atlantic Yards], but that’s near speculation.” The court would not be alone in looking to the Nov. 25 Atlantic Yards decision for precedent. University officials have also seen it as a possible bellwether for the Manhattanville cases, but declined to comment specifically. Sprayregen and Siegel say their suit challenges eminent domain on different grounds and will be considered independently of Atlantic Yards. “Although both cases dealt with eminent domain, there is very little overlap beyond that,” Sprayregen wrote in an e-mail. University spokesperson Victoria Benitez declined to comment on the potential precedent of Atlantic Yards. Both Columbia and ESDC have policies against commenting on pending litigation. David Smith, attorney for

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Barnard uses science award money to revamp chem labs

BY ELLA QUITTNER
Columbia Daily Spectator

Four years after receiving a lucrative grant, Barnard scientists are cashing in with new digs. And the use of the award money was apparent on Nov. 13, when Barnard unveiled revamped labs in 804 and 809 Altschul Hall, which serve senior lecturer Alison Williams and Marisa Buzzeo, assistant professor and BC ’01. Barnard received the award from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in 2005. The award states that for every three dollars Barnard raises independently, the Mellon Foundation will match it with one dollar over a six-year period, ending in 2013, with the benefits manifesting before the grant’s end. According to Barnard Provost and Dean of Faculty Elizabeth

Boylan, Barnard was one of 15 schools invited to apply for this grant in the category of “excellent but under-endowed liberal arts colleges.” “It had to be a truly transformational project,” said Boylan of the criteria for winning the award. “It had to be long-lasting, positive, and educational.” The two laboratories are connected by an open passageway, an attempt to encourage the collaborative attitude that Williams and Buzzeo say is inherent in Barnard’s chemistry department. “We share information and talk about teaching and developing those teaching skills [amongst faculty],” said Williams, who is in her second year of teaching chemistry here. “It’s sort of like we’re family in the department, and that includes

SEE CHEM LABS, page 2

A LITTLE NIGHT LIGHT



Cathi Choi for Spectator

LET THERE BE LIGHT | Columbians indulged in free cookies and musical performances at Tuesday evening’s tree-lighting.

WEATHER

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Columbia to tear down historic 115th St. brownstones

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the 116th Street Block Association, said, adding, “These brownstones have been found to be historically significant by the state, and Columbia has ignored that.” Daniel Held, Director of Communications for Columbia Facilities wrote in e-mail on Tuesday, “The University has had meetings with the local community, including the 116th Street Block Association, and local elected officials to discuss our plans.” But Brad Taylor, treasurer for Friends of Morningside Park, said, “They need to tell us what the plan is for the site. The biggest concern is that there will be something quite tall there.” Community Board 9 Landmarks Committee chair Walter South agreed, saying, “Columbia needs to learn to respect the neighborhood.” Held responded, “We do not have a firm

schedule for demolition or specific development plans for the site at this time.” Dan Keefe, spokesperson for the New York State Historic Preservation Office, said that because the brownstones were private property, they are not going to be taking any action. “We are not involved,” he said. Elisabeth de Bourbon, spokesperson for the Landmarks Preservation Commission, said the Commission also had no relation to the properties, which she said were never considered for designation. But in 1996, O’Donnell submitted a request to the LPC for the evaluation of a comprehensive historic district, bordered by Riverside Park and Morningside Park, from 110th to 125th Street. De Bourbon said that the commission is in the early stages of reviewing a historical district that would run from 119th to 116th

between Claremont and Riverside and 116th to Cathedral Parkway, between Broadway and Riverside. This covers around 60 buildings, she said, but does not include the 115th Street brownstones soon to be demolished. Joseph Nigai, the super for 403 W. 115th, across the street from the brownstones, said he was glad to hear the news of demolition. “It’s a good thing to take them down,” he said, pointing to the boarded up buildings. “They’re just sitting there.” But Barbara Griffiths, GS ’56 and neighborhood resident for 50 years, said that though the demolition would be a true loss, she expected nothing more from the University. “It’s sort of déjà vu,” said Griffiths, who has seen Columbia buy properties and redevelop them for many decades. She added of the University’s real estate, “It is pure business.” *news@columbiaspectator.com*

Award money gives Barnard chemistry updated labs

CHEM LABS from front page

the students. We take their development, not just as scientists but as people, too, very seriously.” Since picking up after a hiatus in her research prompted by the construction, Williams has had one student aiding her and hopes to work with several more. “This is a remarkably supportive and friendly place that truly provides the best that they can for the students,” said Buzzeo, who is in her first year teaching in the Barnard chemistry department. She currently has three students working with her. She also highlighted her dual Barnard chemistry career as both student and faculty member. “I’m thrilled to be back at Barnard,” she said. “I’m glad to be building my own research program here and to be working with students now.” Boylan added that the Altschul renovations were compelling as the first of these series of projects both because “newly-hired faculty in ... [chemistry] needed space” and because the “amount of funding allowed this project to be completed in one semester.” But with the Altschul renovations costing about \$800,000 combining independently-raised funds with the matching Mellon money, Barnard still has a long way to go in generating enough funds to fulfill the total grant three-to-one. “We’ve had a wonderful track

record of women who have gone into the sciences and medicine fields, and I hope some of those alumnae will give back to the college,” she said referring to the likelihood of completion. She named potential donors as “anyone who’s interested in whether we educate the women 10 to 20 years from now to be excellent in science.” She added, “We need good laboratories and facilities and good teachers of science so that we can be proud of all of our graduating students.” Barnard’s science departments hope to use the next installments of the award to hire new faculty, develop curricula, and begin more renovations. These future projects will also incorporate the biological sciences and environmental science departments. “The new space would include three modern labs for the Introductory Biology Lab courses to replace those that currently exist, improved preparation areas for these labs, and a new Introductory Biology Lab Office that is close to the elevators,” Chair of the Biological Sciences Department Brian Morton said of projects he would like to see. “The new floor would also contain a new ‘smart’ classroom to replace 903. The benefit is obvious: the spaces are now very old and replacing them with modern, efficient labs and classrooms would be wonderful.” *news@columbiaspectator.com*

Atlantic Yards sparks Manhattanville speculation

ATLANTIC YARDS from front page

the Singhs, did not respond to a request for comment. The Sprayregen and Singh cases allege that ESDC’s designation of the area as “blighted”—a requirement for eminent domain indicating economic disrepair beyond what can be alleviated by normal market forces—was made “in bad faith.” They also argue that the state’s definition of blight is unconstitutional vague, and that the expansion of a private university is not a “civic project,” as required for eminent domain. Sprayregen also alleges his due process rights were violated when ESDC denied certain Freedom of Information Law requests, and when the court closed the case record before these requests were fulfilled. “We documented particular properties to show that within two years of when Columbia purchased the property, the property then became vacant,” Siegel said. “We argue that that whole methodology of using vacancy to show the neighborhood is run-down, blighted, under-utilized, was all manipulation of what that standard [blight] historically meant, and therefore there’s bad faith.” At a May hearing, ESDC attorney John Casolaro countered, “There is no evidence of bad faith here. Bad faith means corruption.” Sprayregen has a separate case

pending in the Court of Appeals on the FOIL issue. Siegel argued, “Since we’re not going to get the documents until the appeal is over, it’s unfair to close the record, because there could be something in those documents that’s important to our case.” The Appellate Division, First Judicial Department heard the cases on May 21. The ruling—expected last July—has yet to be released, but Sprayregen and Siegel say it should come soon. Whichever side loses can appeal to the Court of Appeals, and Sprayregen said they will ask the U.S. Supreme Court to hear the case if they lose there. He and Siegel are hinging their hopes on the volume of their supporting evidence. “Most of the arguments made by the plaintiffs in that case [Atlantic Yards] were, in the eyes of the court, merely allegations,” Sprayregen wrote. “We submitted into the record over 10,000 documents that we collected through 13 different FOIL requests that, in our opinion, move our arguments from mere allegations to actual facts.” Ultimately, Siegel said, “It’s incorrect and exceedingly simplistic to just say, ‘Well, since the Atlantic Yards case dealt with eminent domain and the Columbia case deals with eminent domain, therefore if the Atlantic Yards case didn’t prevail, Columbia is going to succeed.’” *news@columbiaspectator.com*

Clinton speaks on World AIDS Day at Columbia

WORLD AIDS DAY from front page

on the rise of HIV/AIDS programs and global health systems, especially in developing nations with weak health care infrastructures. The panel discussion assessed the current state of the AIDS epidemic in the United States and abroad. “For a battle that takes place 365 days a year, we know that World AIDS Day is really just a symbol, an opportunity to raise awareness,” Bollinger added, noting that Clinton was the first to denote Dec. 1 as World AIDS Day in 1995. “Today is a chance to gather and reflect on both what works and what doesn’t work.” Panelists discussed the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the domestic incarcerated population, women and children, and minority populations throughout the world. The Clinton foundation has provided 2 million people with HIV/AIDS medication. And ICAP, which trains peer educators in Africa, has provided more than 750 thousand dollars to support access to HIV care. Along those lines, panelists were asked, is too much money being spent on AIDS at the cost of other diseases? Absolutely not, El-Sadr said. “It’s not a useful argument—there’s more potential for synergies and complements,” she said. Clinton addressed the ongoing problem of mother-to-child infections, stressing that “you have to empower them [the mothers] to take this medicine by building elemental health care networks in very poor areas where they don’t exist. If

you create an opportunity for treatment, people will show up.” Clinton also stated that universal health care would help alleviate the domestic HIV/AIDS situation. All panelists agreed that more should be done to cut the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS through direct and open discussion. “We need to flood YouTube and Facebook and all these other sites with a hundred thousand stories about individuals fighting with HIV/AIDS,” Clinton said. But audience member Suchi Bansal, MPH ’10, said she was disappointed with the panel. “I was expecting a more detailed, focused conversation,” she said. “How are we going to implement better health systems going forward? What exactly is the future of more effective health-care delivery systems?” Still, she said she was heartened to hear Clinton’s pledge to talk to the White House about proposals concerning governmental health care spending cuts. In her closing remarks, Linda Fried, DeLamar Professor of Public Health and Epidemiology and Dean of the Mailman School of Public Health, stated that the “momentous afternoon” served to summarize the day-long symposium that sought to explore the needs of people infected with HIV/AIDS. “The problems are complex and the solutions are not always simple, although they may seem clear,” she said. “HIV/AIDS is a public health problem, but the discussion we just had exemplified that the solutions are with all of us.” *news@columbiaspectator.com*

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Music Performance Program

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Tue, Dec 1, 8pm

Beyond Bach: Early Music, Andre Laurent O'Neil, baroque cello
St. Paul's Chapel, CU Morningside Campus

Wed, Dec 2, 8pm

Winter Garden Gala Featuring Student, Faculty, and Alumni
Faculty House Garden Room 2, CU East Campus

Fri, Dec 4, 6pm

CU Guitar Ensemble, Dir. M. Cappelli and A. Kampela 301 Philosophy Hall

Fri, Dec 4, 7pm

Jazz Vocal Ensemble in Concert, Dir. C. Correa 112 Dodge Hall

Fri, Dec 4, 8pm

Voice Recital by students of P. Calleo and S. Wolfson 301 Philosophy Hall

Sat, Dec 5, 7pm

CU Big Band & Jazz Ensembles with Jimmy Heath, sax Miller Theatre

Sun, Dec 6, 2pm

CU Wind Ensemble: Sing Me A Song Roone Arledge Auditorium, Lerner Hall

Sun, Dec 6, 5pm

World Music Triple-Header: Gagaku, Klezmer, and Bluegrass
301 Philosophy Hall, CU Morningside Campus

Mon, Dec 7, 8pm

Columbia Univ. Orchestra in Concert Roone Arledge Auditorium, Lerner Hall

Tue, Dec 8, 8pm

Columbia University Orchestra in Concert Miller Theatre, 116th and Broadway

Thu, Dec 10, 8pm

MPP Faculty Series: Columbia Sounds Miller Theatre, 116th and Broadway

Fri, Dec 11, 7pm

CU Jazz Ensembles directed by Victor Lin & Ben Waltzer 112 Dodge Hall

Sat, Dec 12, 8pm

MPP End-of-Semester Chamber Music Concert #1 301 Philosophy Hall

Sat, Dec 12, 5:30

Piano Recital by Students of Michael Skelly 301 Philosophy Hall

Sun, Dec 13, 2pm

CU Brazilian Ensemble, Dir. A. Santos & Jazz Ensembles Dir. B. Waltzer
Teatro Casa Italiana (Italian Academy), 1161 Amsterdam Ave betw. 116th & 118th

Sun, Dec 13, 7pm

MPP End-of-Semester Chamber Music Concert #2 301 Philosophy Hall

Mon, Dec 14

CU Jazz Ensembles directed by Ole Mathisen & Don Sickler
Teatro Casa Italiana (Italian Academy), 1161 Amsterdam Ave betw. 116th & 118th

Tue, Dec 15, 7pm

CU Jazz Ensembles Directed by Victor Lin 112 Dodge Hall

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Music Performance Program

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

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Solo and
Chamber Music

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THEATER



Victoria Ugarte for Spectator

STAGING SHAKESPEARE | James Underwood, GS '11, as Iago and Kendale Winbush, CC '11, as Othello in KCST's interpretation of the Shakespearean classic.

KCST challenges Public's eye with its 'Othello'

BY MARICELA GONZALEZ
Columbia Daily Spectator

King's Crown Shakespeare Troupe is bringing the most famous black man whose name begins with 'O' to campus—no, not that famous black man. KCST presents "Othello" from Dec. 3 to 5 in Lerner Black Box. Don't get it confused with Peter Sellars' recent production of "Othello" at The Public Theater, featuring Philip Seymour Hoffman as the villain Iago, which included a few changes from the original work. KCST's "Othello," directed by Mikhaela Mahoney, BC '11, and produced by Allie Lalonde, CC '10, sticks closer to the source material. "It's a challenge to put on a story that's been performed eight million times," Lalonde said. Veteran performers of Shakespeare like Tamara Geisler, CC '10, who plays Bianca, can offer advice for understanding and performing the works of the Bard, which are known for the myriad of ways in which they could be interpreted. "At first, the language can be a little daunting, but once you get used to the rhythm and the language, it's not as hard as you once thought," Geisler

said. "Sometimes you just need to sit down with the dictionary and go through the text." Nonetheless, the payoff of analyzing the text seems worth the while. Geisler added, "If you come to expect certain things within his plays, you'll be able to find the humor in what he's saying." James Underwood, a student in GS who plays Iago, said, "With other plays you look at lines and build the character from there, but with Shakespeare, it's much more textual. Everything needed is what's on the page. It can be overwhelming so you have to choose what to take from it." While the KCST version of "Othello" may be vastly different from the Public's production, the troupe by no means discredits its artistic merit and value. Of Sellar's "Othello," Lalonde said, "I'm not sure if we disliked or liked it, but it was definitely interesting." Underwood said, "Even though it [Sellars' production] took out the element of race, there's still so much more in the play that the show still worked." KCST now has the challenge to choose what and how they will be presenting the over 400-year-old drama. Instead of focusing solely on Othello's

distinction as a Moorish general in the Venetian army, the show will highlight the relationships between all of the characters. "The most obvious difference is Othello's race," Underwood of the show's characters. "But it's like a red herring. The play is more than just about race." Geisler said that the performance "is trying to encompass the intimacy of 'Othello,' the closeness of the characters and story, and how it eventually becomes a larger issue." And by emphasizing the emotional connections of the characters, KCST's "Othello" hopes to illustrate just how much modern audiences can relate to Shakespeare's words.

WHERE IT'S AT

Time: Thursday & Friday at 8 p.m. and Saturday at 2 p.m. & 8 p.m.
Place: Lerner Black Box
Cost: Free, reserve your tickets at the TIC or email kcstothello@gmail.com to be put on the waitlist

FOOD & DRINK

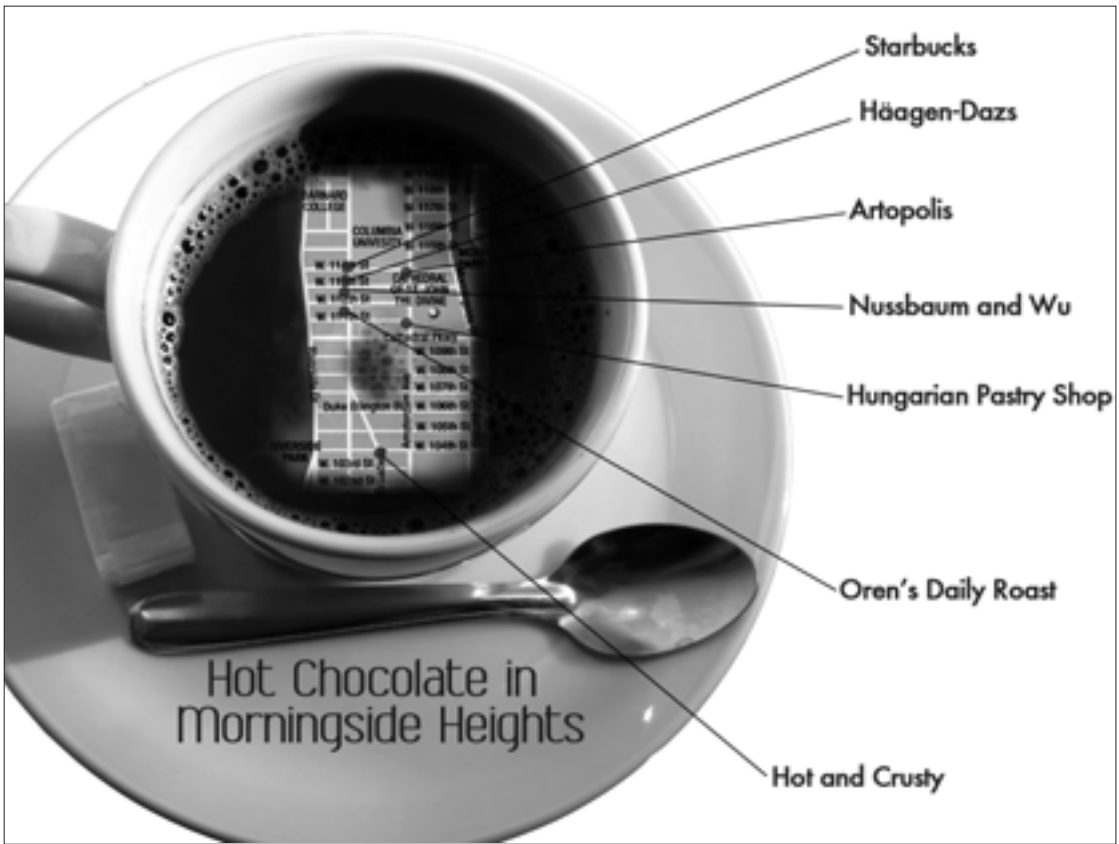
Students go cuckoo for Morningside Heights hot cocoa

BY JASON BELL
Columbia Daily Spectator

As winter casts a shadow over Morningside Heights, students turn to a beverage of childhood, one that delivers an overwhelming surge of sugar and caffeine: hot chocolate. Unfortunately, the perfect cup of cocoa seems increasingly difficult to pinpoint around campus—cheap imitations and half-hearted hot chocolate knockoffs are the norm. But sometimes delicious chocolate drinks hide in the most banal and predictable of places. One of the most discussed and venerable establishments near campus, the Hungarian Pastry Shop, prepares a traditional form of hot chocolate. Unsweetened, the cup of chocolate arrives super heated, unleashing clouds of heady steam. A frothy layer of milk floats gently on the drink's surface, making the first few sips cappuccino-esque. Underneath, a surprisingly thin liquid, near boiling, lies waiting to ambush unprepared tongues. The arrestingly bitter and earthy flavor of cocoa power coats the mouth immediately. The overall taste lacks a profound impression of chocolate. Instead, the predominate—and disappointing—cocoa powder notes make drinking more than a few sips unpleasant. Similarly to The Hungarian Pastry Shop, Starbucks offers a signature hot chocolate that delivers a powerful taste, albeit with a better balance of bitterness and dark fruits on the palate. Representative of an unfortunate trend towards corporate homogeny and overpriced products, Starbucks nevertheless prepares a surprisingly tasty brew. Ample steamed milk and a precisely calculated temperature let the chocolate shine. Occupying a spot of prime realty near The Hungarian Pastry Shop, Artopolis faces the opposite problem of its neighbor: not enough cocoa flavor. While the extremely sweet, creamy blend possesses an indulgently rich, almost custard-like texture, none of chocolate's characteristic earthy or fruity flavors make an appearance. Perhaps Artopolis's hot chocolate is

more aptly labeled hot cream with sugar—pleasant in its own right, but not the drink in question. Oren's Daily Roast boasts the best hot chocolate in Morningside Heights. Classic chocolate flavor meets flawlessly steamed milk in this winter fantasy of a drink. Although the actual chocolate used tastes suspiciously akin to Hershey's syrup, the end result fills the mouth with caramelized, buttery, luscious swirls of cocoa. Served hot but not scalding, the drink disappears quickly without threatening a trip to St. Luke's.

Options to avoid include the cloying "Godiva" version Haagen-Dazs offers and the woefully thin Nussbaum and Wu premade concoction. Worst of all, Hot and Crusty's hot chocolate tastes more like hot water. Stick to the similarly priced cup at Oren's. Never underestimate the capacity of a dining establishment to destroy a simple pleasure. In the end, it seems that there are more ways to mess up hot chocolate than previously imagined. Yet, at Oren's Daily Roast, the best hot chocolate in Morningside Heights warms wintry hearts every day.



Graphic by Jin Chen

FILM

Recounting Columbia's best cameos on the silver screen

BY EVE ROTMAN
Columbia Daily Spectator

Columbia should have its resume posted on the Internet Movie Database. Its grounds and classrooms have been popular filming locations for many Hollywood blockbusters, including "Casino Royale," "Ghost Busters," and "Hitch." It is often an undeniable thrill to recognize one's college campus on the silver screen. Columbia's metropolitan location is most likely one of the reasons why the University is such a popular film setting. Vishakha Seth, BC '11, and Samiha Rahman, CC '13, chose "Spider-Man" as their favorite Columbia movie moment. "It'd have to be 'Spider-Man,'" Rahman said. "The typical 'Spider-Man' scene is when he gets bit by the spider, and that's right in the library [Low Library]. It's pretty

cool." Columbia also has a cameo in the movie's sequel, as Peter Parker attends the University in the comics. Even Bollywood has taken a campus tour. "My favorite movie moment was from the Bollywood film 'Kabhi Alvida Naa Kehna' ['Never Say Goodbye']," said Narayan Subramanian, CC '13. Parts of a musical number in the movie take place in front of Low. "There's actually a song in the movie where they're literally dancing around the Alma Mater, and it's kind of dramatic and funny," added Sharmin Ferdaus, BC '12. "I watched the movie actually after I got into Columbia," she said, which made it all the more exciting. Columbia occasionally works as a stand-in for different schools, such as in "Mona Lisa Smile." The story actually takes place at Wellesley College in the 1950s. "When I was watching that movie, I hadn't

been in that classroom in Havemeyer Hall, so I didn't realize it was filmed on Columbia's campus," Zara Mogilevsky, BC '11, said. Mogilevsky later re-watched the movie with her mother and discovered that one of the scenes had been filmed in one room where she had a class. "I remember that classroom really well because they had the most uncomfortable wood seats ever," she said. "And that's why they used it in that movie probably, because it looked very old-school." In addition to playing the role of different schools, the University's buildings have been sometimes disguised by filmmakers and used as a variety of settings. Apparently, Columbia does not have to worry about typecasting. Whether due to its convenient location or impressive architecture, the University's film resume will continue to grow.

BOOKS

Old role models, new perspective



LUCY TANG

SENTIMENTAL EDUCATION

When I was 13, I surreptitiously rented "Almost Famous" from the local video store. I was so relieved when the video clerk didn't follow the store policy of not renting out R-rated films to anyone under 18. I watched

it three times in one sitting, idolizing Penny Lane and the ease with which she carried herself. She was everything my stringy-haired, brace-faced, scrawny, and awkward 13-year-old self wasn't but desperately wanted to be. I've watched "Almost Famous" at least once every year since then. Eight years later, I'm still in awe of Penny Lane. However, my favorite character is now William, writer and director Cameron Crowe's alter ego. Sometime last year, while watching the movie yet again, I suddenly became aware of my intense and visceral identification with him. But what could have pulled my loyalties away from Penny Lane, with her crop tops and fur coats? As I aged, I came to appreciate "Almost Famous" less as a visual spectacle and more as a Bildungsroman of sorts. One of the watershed moments of William's maturation is his realization that Russell—his rock star idol—is not quite the golden god he purports himself to be, but a person, and an extremely flawed one at that. Though the movie ends happily, by the end, the sparkle that once gleamed in William's eyes as he listened to records in his sister's bedroom is completely gone. Having witnessed Stillwater gamble away its groupies for \$50 and bad beer, I doubt he can ever appreciate the music in the same way. Although the collapse of my childhood idols was not so immediate or so exciting, it is still jarring to recognize that a childhood hero no longer holds the same significance that he once did. For me, these sad little epiphanies usually occur when I reread a book I once loved. In high school, I adored Charles Bukowski's novels. When I picked up "Women" last winter, however, I suddenly understood why people lambast Bukowski as a misogynist. The style that once engaged me now seemed sparse and unfulfilling. Obviously the book hadn't changed—I was the one who had changed. Granted, Columbia's core affected the way I read and other classes have introduced me to new writers. Yet a part of me is nostalgic for that time when I read, not with a critical eye for style and rhetorical devices, but earnestly, when I equally appreciated "The Perks of Being a Wallflower" and "Rabbit, Run."

Just as William's adoration of Russell waned after witnessing his fallacies, my respect for Malcolm Gladwell likewise dwindled as I came to realize that his conclusions are less than stringent. After "The Tipping Point," I was obsessed with Gladwell. His analysis of social epidemics appeared so innovative and groundbreaking. One afternoon, I even followed him for 15 minutes in lower Manhattan. However, his subsequent releases—"Blink" and "Outliers"—dismantled my adoration. Sure, I was still drawn in by the charm of his colloquial style, but his conclusions seemed less solid—and are almost fabricated, according to Steve Pinker. Needless to say, I've become much more suspicious of Gladwell's investigative findings. Though I could attribute to my lost faith to the fact that I read book reviews now, I can't help but ruefully remember my naïve openness. Life was much less complicated when I believed that Gladwell was a groundbreaking sociologist. Even today, people have difficulty distinguishing the artist from his art. Apart from the recent hubbub over Roman Polanski, Knut Hamsun and Martin Heidegger have frequently been discounted on the basis of their Nazi sympathies. A recent book by Emmanuel Faye has once again stirred up the Heidegger controversy, as Faye demands that Heidegger be reconsidered as a "dangerous" philosopher. Having known quite a few people who have read "Being and Time," I doubt the book plants fascist and racist ideas in reader's minds. Although I am on the "Free Roman Polanski!" team, I myself still struggle to look at the art in isolation. If Salman Rushdie had written only "Midnight's Children," his reputation as a literary genius would have been cemented. Yet I cannot deny that his penchant for tall and leggy beauties makes me respect him less. I truly want to like Rushdie, but since Padma, he's sometimes had questionable taste in arm candy.

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Eventually

BY ENA BRDJANOVIC

I moved into my (air conditioning-less) first-year dorm with a truckload of boxes and a plan. At 18, I knew everything.

Fast-forward two years and all that "knowledge" has been lost. The reality is a collection of sprawled limbs on a makeshift futon and turnabout conversations that no one can ever quite recall. But then again, I feel as if college is one big hole-I've-fallen-into-and-I-can't-get-back-up moment.

Sometimes when I'm walking down the street, I can hear the ticking of a timer, a timer that was set the moment I moved to New York. The ticking clock follows me, reminding me of the urgent need to do something, anything. Instead I loaf around Butler, drink too much sugared-down coffee, say stupid things, and take strange, this-is-not-at-all-relevant-to-my-major classes (hello, Mormonism). The city disillusiones you. Nothing makes you feel more human and more destructible than the skyscrapers of accomplishment that surround you.

I walked into Thanksgiving dinner last week and simultaneously into a banquet of loaded questions. What are your career



goals? Do you have a five-year plan? How's the job market for writers? Have you thought about grad school? Why do you wear so much flannel?

I'm going into finals with a half a mile long to-do list forming in the back of my mind, and now I have to think about what I'm going to be when I grow up?

Breaks from the city make you grateful for its anonymity. No one cares if you succeed or fall flat on your face. You fail and you move on, you succeed and you're yesterday's news. Except that all your high school friends are just waiting for you to become the local news anchor, marry, have babies, and start voting Republican.

I've put off thinking about the future for far too long. I've only got three more semesters left of college. And then what? I'm an English major: I like words and hate cubicles. But pretty words don't guarantee career stability.

This summer as I piddled around at a magazine internship, I decided to live by the mantra, "The purpose of life is to fight maturity." Big bold letters on poster board that hung over my futon, as if I needed a reminder, an essential excuse to liken stupidity to youth. After three months of too much cool and too little sleep, it turned out that the purpose of life wasn't to fight maturity. (Hint: there's no such thing as forever young.) But it's a fun distraction for a while.

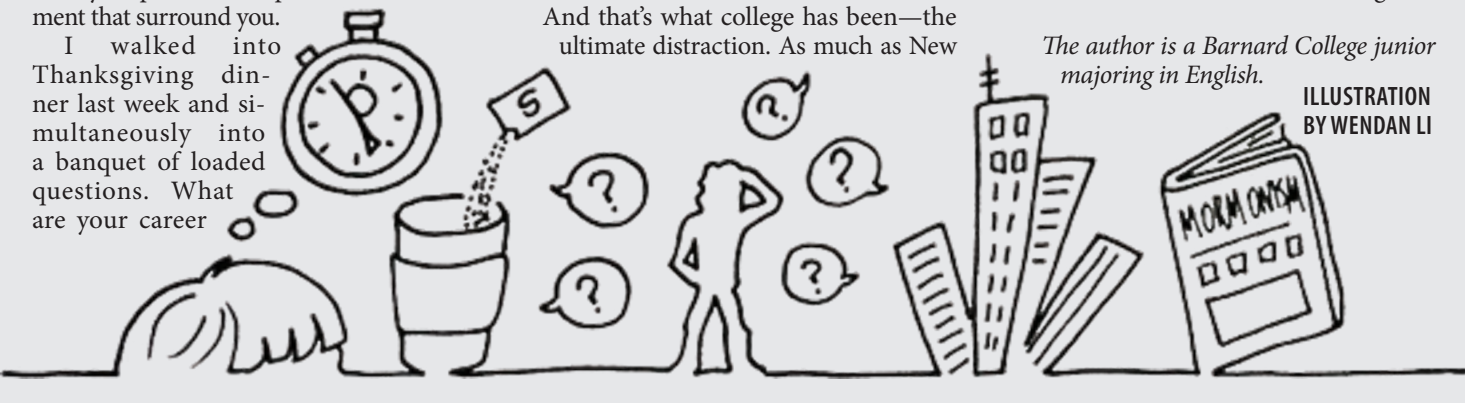
And that's what college has been—the ultimate distraction. As much as New

York is a manifestation of the survival of the fittest, the city is also a carnivalesque side-show of freaks, of pure unadulterated self-indulgence. Humans aren't programmed to merely survive. The search for pleasure trumps the survival instinct every time—if it didn't, we'd all be well-adjusted adults and Dunkin' Donuts would go out of business. Some are just better at resisting the distractions. And others find themselves at trivia night at 1020. Did I know that the Missouri and Mississippi rivers converged just north of St. Louis? Yes, I did. Did I make it to my classes the next morning? No, I did not.

Eventually I'll get there—when I was a first-year I thought I knew what "there" meant—my destination is less certain now, but for the better. I've enjoyed the world's-biggest-ball-of-yarn-type distractions along the way and I'm not necessarily ready to stop pulling over (and apparently, as a writer, I should use these distractions to work on my metaphors). At 18, everything you know is an absolute—today, I realize that absolute truth doesn't exist. I know I'll do something eventually. I'll get there eventually. But for now I just need to figure out what nouns to replace words like 'there' and 'something' with. The timer will run out or the ticking will drown out the distractions, I'll get a job and maybe even pull together a plan. Or I'll stumble around until I fall ass backwards into success—that's how life works, right?

The author is a Barnard College junior majoring in English.

ILLUSTRATION BY WENDAN LI



J Street, a road too narrow

BY ERIC J. SCHORR

"Those who learn nothing from history are bound to repeat it." So goes a saying invoked by many, in a variety of different forms.

On Tuesday, you, the readers, heard from a member of the student body about her "self-loathing" because of her fellow students' un-wavering "ideological purity" when it comes to the issues surrounding the State of Israel. She, we are told, believes that "spitting on basic human rights" is wrong and, by her own admission, believes that current Israeli activism groups are doing so in name of Jews everywhere, by "hat[ing] others." I must admit: I agree wholeheartedly with the author, at least on the fact that human rights are paramount. I contend, though, that the author's view about current Israeli activism, and the role that J Street has to play in it, are woefully underdeveloped and, as such, almost certainly are counterproductive to the overall goal of a safe and peaceful co-existence between Israelis and Palestinians.

Israeli activism has, for years, been a heated discussion in and out of the Jewish community, especially here at Columbia. Many Jews believe that we as a people must support Israel simply because it is Israel. Many others, on the other hand, believe that to support Israel is wrong, as it engages in behavior that they

find "reprehensible." As with most issues, the reality must lie somewhere in the middle. We are fundamentally engaged in a discussion of Columbia University's capacity to facilitate or detract from Jews' abilities to identify with Judaism, in both its religious ideology and political identity. Opinions that might be considered more radical have "lamented" the fact that political influences from student groups, as well as national organizations, push political ideologies that they would consider broad or at least unbalanced. Yet much of what defines Judaism, nationally and globally, is how Jews connect to the State of Israel as a modern home for Jews, and as an intrinsically significant place. At a glance, the following would appear to be the previous author's main argument: Let us widen the discussion and take a more pragmatic approach to the problem, "pressur[ing] both sides." Unfortunately, the author, like many who have joined the J Street fold, misapply the concept of "pragmatism" because of their own view of the world. Israel activism, is, at its core, not about unwavering support for the government of Israel, not justifying every mistake and error made, and not about "blind obedience." It is, instead, the recognition that Israel, as a country and as a people, must have the same rights as any other sovereign nation.

The quintessential duty of a state is to protect the rights of its citizenry. Failing to do so makes all other functions of the state moot. The fundamental problem with J Street is not its goal of peace, one which I and most other Jews and Israelis desperately wish for, but rather their ignorance of history toward achieving that goal. History has shown that,

unfortunately, force is a necessary evil at times. History has shown that one cannot negotiate from a position of weakness, and most importantly: History has shown that to be "pressured" (as per the words of the author and J Street's official position) by allies will not be worth a damn if one of the parties is not ready to compromise, and can in fact push both parties farther apart from reaching a resolution. The sad reality is the Palestinian people are too fragmented politically, socially, and geographically for any two-state solution to be viable in the near future. Not recognizing this and instead unilaterally pressuring and blaming Israel when the majority of obstacles are a lack of strong Palestinian leadership, increased government corruption, and the rise of Islamic fundamentalism, are not only a drain of precious time and resources, but, are in fact a detriment to finding solutions to the more important problems facing the Israeli and Palestinian peoples. Simply put: We do not discount the suffering of the Palestinians, we do not discount the goal of peace, and we are certainly not ideologically pure about supporting Israel. We, the unwashed masses, are realistic. We wish for a unified front on the goal of peace, not a fork in a road to it. It is the author and others at J Street who are banking on a narrow solution that is not viable, grasping hold of a reality which does not exist.

So I ask, who, in fact, is being ideologically pure?

The author is a School of General Studies and List College sophomore. He is the director of public relations for LionPAC.

Seward's Folly goes digital



AKIVA BAMBERGER
BITS AND PIECES

Once fell victim to delicious "brain crack" after dreaming up a pen that would record everything I wrote digitally. "Brain crack," a term coined by Internet comedian Ze Frank, describes an idea that makes one feel good despite a lack of time or effort invested. My addition

to this idea only ended after I found the same pen in real life (minus the awesome fire decals my imaginary pen had) for sale by the company Livescribe ten minutes later.

"Brain crack" aside, there are thousands of reasons for a developer not to make a dream into a reality. Maybe a solution lacks perfection or could be improved by smarter folk. Innovation isn't all about coming up with the best idea, or about competing with the biggest dogs, though. Most great ideas seem even stupid from the outset but become great ideas later, like Seward's Folly.

In the past two weeks, the founders of startups Peek, a mobile device manufacturer, and SpeakerText, both the brainchildren of Columbia alums, came to speak about how they got around these problems. They helped show that even schemes following unconventional wisdom can become great with the proper time and effort invested.

In the crowded Computer Science lounge of Mudd one Friday evening at an Association for Computing Machinery talk, there was a look of hard-earned satisfaction in the face of Peek CEO Amol Sarva, CC '98. There he stood shuffling two Peek devices in one hand like two Bellagio poker chips, the key to Peek's future success or failure as a major mobile device company.

Sarva, no newcomer to the world of technological entrepreneurship, had served already as part of the founding team of Virgin Mobile when he started Peek in 2007. In November 2009, Peek released the TwitterPeek, a mobile device that served the singular purpose of sending and receiving Tweets, or short, 140-character messages, from the popular social networking site, Twitter. Initially, the TwitterPeek met harsh criticism, such as one review by Gizmodo titled "The TwitterPeek Is So Dumb It Makes My Brain Hurt" for risking being different than smartphones. But Sarva didn't seem to mind. With only 15 percent of the U.S. handset market owning smartphones, and more than 80 percent of Twitter users struggling to make Twitter a major form of communication, Sarva found a market that could ostensibly benefit greatly from a cheap, Twitter-only alternative to the smartphone.

At the end of his presentation, Sarva took a question from the crowd regarding the difficulties facing new innovators. Aside from a fear of letting good ideas out, or becoming addicted to "brain crack," members of the audience were worried about the "Microsoft Problem": if an idea was really good enough to produce on a large scale, why wouldn't a company like Microsoft, with seemingly infinite resources, produce it first or produce it better? Sarva found a solution to the Microsoft Problem by tackling problems in unconventional ways and staying away from the sandbox of corporate giants like Microsoft and Google.

Matt Mireles, CC '08, CEO of SpeakerText and former writer for the Spectator, spoke earlier in the month about the nascent company that he helped co-found. Unlike Sarva, he followed a strategy that flew in the face of the "Microsoft Problem." Rather than seeking out untapped areas of development, Mireles went up against major companies head-on,

developing a product for video and audio transcription to allow for text-based indexing. Like Sarva, Mireles challenged what many would call conventional wisdom. Earlier this November, Google announced automatic captions in YouTube. Dragon NaturallySpeaking has, for a long while, offered software that can transcribe with a fair level of accuracy. Because of this, SpeakerText has had to grow in an area of focus by giant competitors. The risks were great, but Mireles seemed hopeful that the end result would pay off. Given enough time to develop, SpeakerText hoped to transform video indexing as YouTube did video sharing.

Both Peek and SpeakerText demonstrate that, aside from just an initial good idea, a great idea requires some disregard for criticism and conventional wisdom. Undergraduates should tempt their fate by working on new projects while still in college. One new course being offered in the spring for interested students with a taste for entrepreneurship or technology is Principles of Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Students whose interests may have been piqued by the stories of Sarva or Mireles would benefit greatly from such a course, and the community of developers that might come along with it.

It might be tough to turn goals into reality, but any scheme is better attempted than kept as "brain crack." As for me, I'm still recovering from my addiction to my imaginary digital pen. Next time, I'll be sure to invest some energy into designing an idea before getting too attached to it.

Akiva Bamberger is a Columbia College junior majoring in computer science and mathematics with a pre-medical concentration. He is president of the Association for Computing Machinery. Bits and Pieces runs alternate Wednesdays. opinion@columbiaspectator.com

Staff Editorial

Don't let composting efforts go to waste

The Barnard College EcoReps have recently made an important stride toward going green by making a compost bin on Lehman Lawn available to students at Barnard and Columbia. The EcoReps should increase their efforts to get students involved in the composting program so that the initiative can be expanded into every residence hall—and interested students should do their part by participating.

By turning organic waste into nutrient-rich gardening soil, composting seeks to mimic the natural process of decomposition. Composting reduces the amount of waste dumped into landfills, which pollutes the environment and takes up large areas of space. Recognizing these benefits, Barnard EcoReps made preparations to launch its composting program earlier this semester. But due to the limited size of the bin on Lehman Lawn, composting was only open to the 40 suites that signed up for the program at the beginning of the school year. After noting that some suites were not participating, the EcoReps have now opened composting to everyone on both Barnard's and Columbia's campuses.

EcoReps should be commended for launching a composting program and making the right decision to open it to every student. But their efforts will go in vain without enough student participation and greater availability at other

locations. Currently, not every residence hall has a bin, which makes composting too inconvenient for almost all except the most ardent environmentalists. Students must collect their food scraps after meals and wait until they can find time to go to the bin on Lehman Lawn. This may be difficult, given that dorms are scattered throughout Morningside Heights and winter is approaching. Still, students should try to participate in composting, and EcoReps should try to advertise their composting efforts—these actions will reinforce each other and may encourage Columbia to purchase more bins for more residence halls. By reaching out to students and collaborating with resident advisers, EcoReps can better inform more students on campus of the new program. In addition, they should continue working with their Columbia counterparts to put a bin on Columbia's campus as well, and Columbia should take steps to support EcoReps in making composting available to all.

Composting can be a simple way for students to help the environment without taking too much time out of their busy schedules. An expanded green waste disposal program at Columbia, one that makes composting the preferred method of getting rid of organic waste on campus, is an essential step in keeping Columbia and Barnard ahead of the curve in environmental stewardship.

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Square after Connecticut Avenue

5 "Take a hike!"

10 Wax remover

14 Jessica of "Sin City"

15 Israeli seaport

16 Choice in a booth

17 "Nightly news" show segment

20 Match starter

21 Danger

22 Add color to

23 Veiled consent?

25 "___ Abner"

27 "Big Apple" show

36 Houston Aeros' org.

37 Brass or pewter

38 Overlay a part

39 Breakfast corner

41 Long Island ___

43 Poker flat

chancellor Harle

44 To the point, in law

46 Author Nin

48 Ewan, par example

49 "1955 Disney animated film featuring Darling Dear

52 ___-come

53 Show about Capote

54 Candy in 12-piece dispensers

57 Plus place

61 Two-time opponent of Ike

65 Come down in buckets; also, when applied in sequence to the answers to starred clues, this puzzle's theme

68 Willy Bornbeck

69 Light refrain

70 Equally divided

71 Ginger cookie

72 Gobbled up

73 Doctor's advice

DOWN

1 ___ of Life

2 Not windward

3 Construction beam

4 Baltic country

5 One who'll be comin' round the mountain, in song

6 Bellyache

7 Teeming (with)

8 Get an ___ effort

9 Henner of "Taxi"

10 Home shopping channel

11 Small hopper

12 ___bitsy

13 Folk icon Seeger

18 Itsen's "___ Gable"

19 Beethoven's "Für ___"

24 Mice catchers

26 Arm, e.g.

27 Clashed

28 Neighbor of Mary

29 Prayer starter

30 Tons

31 Hall of Famer

Robin of the Milwaukee Brewers

32 Mimicking bird

33 Check of jazz

34 First-stringers

35 Ease off

40 Piano's 88

42 Reduction plan

45 Frenzied

47 Valuable violin, for short

50 Write, as music

51 Steering device

54 Co. VIP

55 Merit

56 Coors malt beverage

58 Razor brand

59 Exam for an aspiring D.A.

60 It's a lock

62 Tennis score

63 Important periods

64 "This just ___ my day"

66 Afternoon break

67 One of the Bobsey twins

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

H	A	S	A	T	F	R	E	T	Q	U	I	T
A	M	O	C	O	R	A	R	A	U	N	D	O
R	O	U	T	S	O	D	I	C	I	C	E	D
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C	H	A	S	E	S	E	R	D	E	S	K	
G	A	S	H	E	W	E	R	T	E	R	M	I
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P	S	Y	C	H	I	C	S	P	O	K	E	R
K	E	N	T	T	O	U	S	E	D			
C	L	I	F	F	S	S	A	L	T			
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S	A	C	K	E	D	D	A		R	O	S	E

wordeditor@aol.com 12/2/09

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By Ed Sessa
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This past weekend of noncon-ference play ended in mixed re-sults for most Ivy League teams. Cornell, however, managed to win all three of its games.

TOMORROW



SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2009 • PAGE 6



Check back tomorrow for full coverage of the women basket-ball team's evening matchup against Delaware that will take place this evening at 7 p.m.

TOMORROW

Acknowledging our flaws: If I can then you can too



HOLLY
MACDONALD
THE EYES
OF TEXAS

As Matthew Velazquez recently pointed out in his pix box victory column, I've come to accept my many flaws. I'm self-ish, I'm vain, I'm demanding, I complain a lot, the list goes on and on.

My casual acceptance of my flaws puzzles some people. I don't broadcast them, but most people find that when they try and insult me or make fun of me for them, I don't argue with them. You're calling me high maintenance? Why, yes, I am high maintenance. Can I complain some more? Yeah, I could. You should've seen me when Collegeboxes made me wait eight days to get my stuff. One very pointed e-mail to the CEO and voila! Boxes delivered that day.

Here's the thing about flaws: They're only flaws if you let them be. See, I know that all of those things are not looked on favorably by our society. I know that. At the same time, I can tell you that usually I get what I want. And if I like you and you tell me something that you want, odds are I can get that for you, too.

So instead of trying to change all of those things about me, I've just come to embrace them. (With the exception of complaining, I'm really trying to work on that. Seriously.) And frankly, it's made my life a lot easier. Some football teams have done the same, and some football teams are just making life more difficult for themselves by trying to work around their flaws.

For example, as much as it pains me, if the Dallas Cowboys would just make Miles Austin their number one receiver over Roy Williams, and really commit to Austin, their offense might not be as inconsistent as it has been over the last month. They might actually win a game in December. Imagine that.

Roy's great, he's my boy, and I love that he throws the hook 'em after every touchdown, but Austin has established himself as Dallas' biggest threat at wide receiver and the Cowboys are only starting to realize that six games after he broke the franchise's single game receiving record against Kansas City. You can't be worried about what it looks like to have one of the highest paid players on your team in a secondary role. Don't try to be something you're not.

I would never try to convince anyone that I don't have the makings of a major diva. It's a good thing I have absolutely no singing talent and can't act worth a damn because I would be a major headache if I did. The errors in this column are my own because after three years of phone calls after grievous copy errors that make it into print, the editors at Spec tend to use kid gloves when changing my stories.

When it comes to my personality, I'm very up-front about things. No use beating around the bush. As Matt or any of my friends will tell you, I'm an open book. Just like Texas Tech.

Everyone knows Texas Tech is going to throw the ball. Mike Leach, that crazy pirate, knows what he is and what he isn't. The Red Raiders do run the ball well. They run the ball decently well because on average whoever is at quarterback throws for close to 300 yards a game. At no point in the foreseeable future will Texas Tech become a run-first team. Baron Batch, the running back in Lubbock, knows this. It's just not in the cards. And it's not going to be in the cards because Leach has his pass happy team winning despite the fact that everyone knows they're going to pass on first down, and second down, and third down and maybe even fourth down.

Bill Parcells and Tony Sparano down in Miami know what I'm talking about. They're dealing with a situation where they don't have a consistent quarterback—that might change with Chad Henne, eventually, but he's a work in progress—so what do they do? They take the Wildcat and they make it work. In the NFL. That's embracing some flaws, right there.

Looking over this column, it doesn't paint my character in the best light. I do have some redeeming qualities, I promise. So do the Cleveland Browns and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Holly MacDonald is a Barnard College senior majoring in history and English. sports@columbiaspectator.com



Jasper L. Clyatt / Staff photographer

HOME SWEET HOME | The Lions return to the friendly confines of Levien Gym to play Delaware after a Thanksgiving weekend on the road.

CU to host Delaware after weekend losses

The Lions look to get back on track in evening matchup against Delaware

BY SARAH SOMMER
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The Columbia women's basketball team will seek its fourth win of the year when it hosts Delaware on Wednesday night. After winning three of their first four matchups, the Lions (3-3) accrued two losses in as many games at the University of Nevada Nugget Classic over the weekend.

On Nov. 27, Columbia dropped a 64-47 decision to Nevada. While the Lions built an early 10-2 lead against the Wolf Pack, Nevada proved to be the superior squad with a dominant second-half performance. Columbia played a closer game against Iowa on Nov. 28, but the Lions ultimately lost to the Hawkeyes 72-69. Iowa drilled a 3-pointer with 16 seconds to play that Columbia could not answer.

"Against Nevada, we were able to kind of hang with them for a half," Columbia head coach Paul Nixon said. "We talked [after the game] about the adjustments that we needed to make in order to be competitive for two halves, and we were able to do that [against Iowa]. ... We took a Big Ten team, and we played with them for the full forty minutes."

The Lions will try to maintain their competitiveness on Wednesday, when they look to avenge last season's loss to Delaware. In that game, the Blue Hens built a double-digit advantage late in the second period and eventually overtook Columbia by 14 points. No one scored in double figures for the Lions in the 62-48 loss.

To be successful this year, Nixon believes that the Lions must improve their team rebounding. While junior forward Judie Lomax was the nation's top rebounder last year and currently leads Columbia with 12.8 boards

COLUMBIA VS. DELAWARE

Levien Gym, 7 p.m.



per game, no one else averages more than 5.8 boards for the Lions. Nixon wants Columbia's rebounding to be more balanced.

"I thought we'd taken some strides in the rebounding department, but that's definitely an area that was exposed this weekend," he said. "We have to really step up our rebounding effort as a team."

Delaware (2-2) most recently split a pair of games at the Coors Rocky Mountain Invitational at Colorado State. The Blue Hens achieved a 72-43 win over Houston on Nov. 27 but suffered a 67-44 defeat by Colorado State the following night.

This season, Delaware boasts one of the nation's most talented players in redshirt, freshman Elena Delle Donne. As a high school senior, Delle Donne earned 2007-08 National Player of the Year honors from the Naismith, McDonald's, and Gatorade foundations. The forward/guard is averaging 25 points and nine boards per contest after only three games for Delaware.

Delle Donne leads the Blue Hens in scoring and rebounding, but she did not play against Colorado State due to an ankle injury sustained late in Delaware's victory over Houston. According to an e-mail from a Sports Information Intern at Delaware, "her return date is uncertain and will be determined on a day-to-day basis."

Regardless of Delle Donne's status, Nixon expects the Blue Hens to pose a challenge.

"They beat us [last year], and she [Delle Donne] wasn't on the roster," he said. "So we're going to have to come out and really be ready to play, whether she suits up or not." Tip-off is set for 7 p.m.

Freshman Gaughn, sophomore Roberts earn All-Ivy honors

BY MICHAEL SHAPIRO
Spectator Staff Writer



Hailey Vecchiarelli / Senior staff photographer

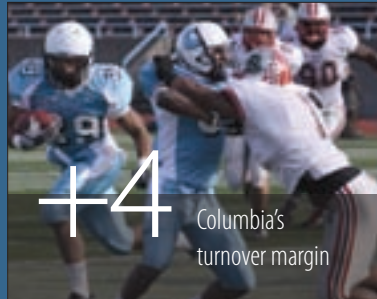
The Columbia women's volleyball team had its best season since 2002, ending the season with a 12-15 overall record and 3-11 in the Ivy League. In particular, freshman outside hitter Megan Gaughn and sophomore middle blocker Monique Roberts were two keys to success for the Lions this season. In her first collegiate season, Gaughn made the second-team All-Ivy with a kill per set average of 4.00 and 384 kills overall. Of the seven second-team All-Ivy recipients, Gaughn was the only freshman to earn the honor. Gaughn also ranked first

in the division in total points with 422 and second in points per set scored with 4.40. Gaughn also earned Ivy League Rookie of the Week honors twice. 2009 was a breakout season for Roberts as she led the Ivy League in solo blocks with 31 and total blocks with 105. Her efforts earned her honorable mention All-Ivy League honors. In her second season with the Light Blue, Roberts totaled 209 kills—good enough for second place on the team. Both Gaughn and Roberts played crucial roles in pushing Columbia to sixth place in the Ivy League. The two rising stars will undoubtedly continue to take on more leadership roles in the coming years.



Hailey Vecchiarelli / Senior staff photographer

COLUMBIA FALL 2009 SPORTS RECAP

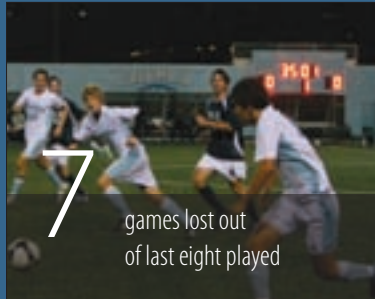


+4

Columbia's turnover margin

Football

After their 40-28 victory to open the season against Fordham and a 38-0 shutout of Princeton in game three, the Lions were optimistic about their chances in 2009. However, injuries and sloppy play plagued the Light Blue as the squad lost five straight games in the middle of the season to finish with a 4-6 overall record (3-4 Ivy).



7

games lost out of last eight played

Men's Soccer

The men's soccer team struggled in 2009 and finished the season with an overall record of 4-12-1 (2-4 Ivy), tied with Yale for last place in the Ivy League. The Lions saw mixed results in the first half of their 2009 campaign but proceeded to drop seven of their last eight games.

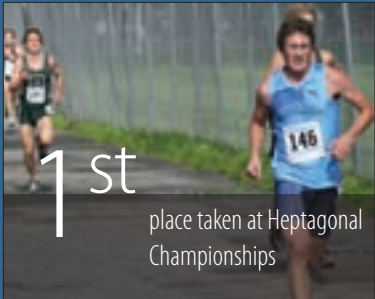


5

players honored with Ivy League Postseason Awards

Women's Soccer

With a conference record of 3-3-1 and an overall record of 7-7-3, the women's soccer team finished tied for fifth in the Ivy League. While the Lions overall had a successful season, their inability to win more than two games in a row the entire season prevented them from transcending the .500 mark.



1st

place taken at Heptagonal Championships

Cross Country

The cross country team started the season on the right foot, with both the men and women winning the Binghamton Invitational. The men's team also won the Ivy League Heptagonal Cross Country Championships. The women's team placed third in the Ivy League. At NCAA Regionals, both teams finished fourth and eighth, respectively.

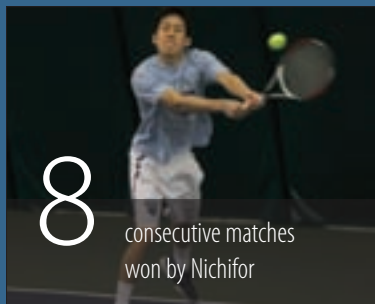


2

All-Ivy Recipients

Volleyball

It was an exciting year for the women's volleyball team, which closed out the 2009 season with a 12-15 overall record (3-11 Ivy). With a sixth-place finish in the Ivy League, the Lions achieved their best league record since 2002 and their most wins since 2001. Sophomore Monique Roberts and freshman Megan Gaughn both earned All-Ivy honors for their outstanding seasons.

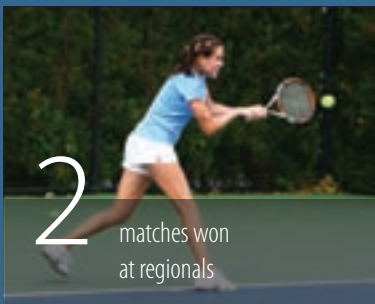


8

consecutive matches won by Nichifor

Men's Tennis

The men's team had another successful fall season, capped off by a run to the Wilson/ITA Regional Championships semifinals by sophomore Haig Schneiderman. In addition, senior Mihai Nichifor, No. 78 in the nation, notched a win over the No. 17 player in the nation in the backdraw of the ITA All-American Championships.



2

matches won at regionals

Women's Tennis

The women's team had an up and down season, highlighted by freshman Nicole Bartnik's outstanding play. Bartnik reached the finals of the Cissie Leary Invitational in her first college tournament and was selected to play in the Riviera All-American Championships. Junior Natasha Makarova was the only Lion to reach round two of the Regional Championships.



3

consecutive years with over .500 records

Field Hockey

The Columbia field hockey team finished above .500 for the third consecutive year with a 9-8 overall record. However, the Light Blue didn't fare as well in Ivy play, finishing 3-4, good for a fifth-place finish. The Lions were led by junior midfielder Julia Garrison, who totaled 14 points with six goals and two assists.