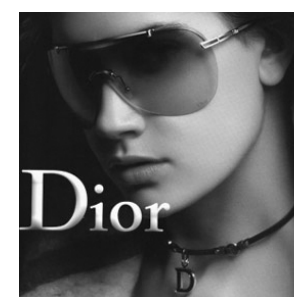


What, you don't like it? You wouldn't.  
But we do. Because we're better. Philistine.

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John Jay changes its menu.  
Haute cuisine? Or hate crime?

OFF MEDS, PAGE 15



Want an affordable gift for Mother's Day?  
From \$200 and up!

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# COLOMBIA SPECTADOR

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## KRISHNA VS. CHRISTIANITY

Student Gives Up Hindu Beliefs for Lenten Season

BY MAX SHUTRAN  
*Spectator Staff Queen Bee*

The Christian holiday of Lent has been practiced for thousands of years. Those who observe it must choose some habit or vice of theirs and forgo it for a period of 40 days. This is meant to recall the 40-day period for which Jesus fasted in the desert. Typically, observers of Lent will choose to "give up" some sort of staple in their lives, such as a certain beloved food or beverage. Bread, chocolate, soda, and alcohol are all commonly given up for this somber holiday.

However, Raj Patel, CC '09, did not choose typically. He shocked his friends and family by choosing to give up his Hindu religion for Lent.

"I have to say that I was pretty surprised by his decision," said one of his friends, "I had always known him as a Hindu. And then he came up to me and said, 'I'm giving up Hinduism for Lent.' I thought he was joking, because obviously that's not possible, since you have to be Christian to be observing Lent in the first place. But he's really serious about it. Although he said he's definitely going back after 40 days."

"It's been difficult," admitted Patel, "It's hard to figure out what exactly giving up Hin-

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### BARNARD SUCKS

Freshman columnist uses original insight to provide a solution to Barnard and Columbia's tense relationship in 500 words or less.

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### PISTOLS AT DUSK

Columbia new Dueling Club explains how they hope to beat Princeton in their upcoming meet. Our advice: don't shoot into the trees.

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### A SHOW GOES ON

K.C.S.T.'s new production had some good parts and some not good parts. We explain them to you.

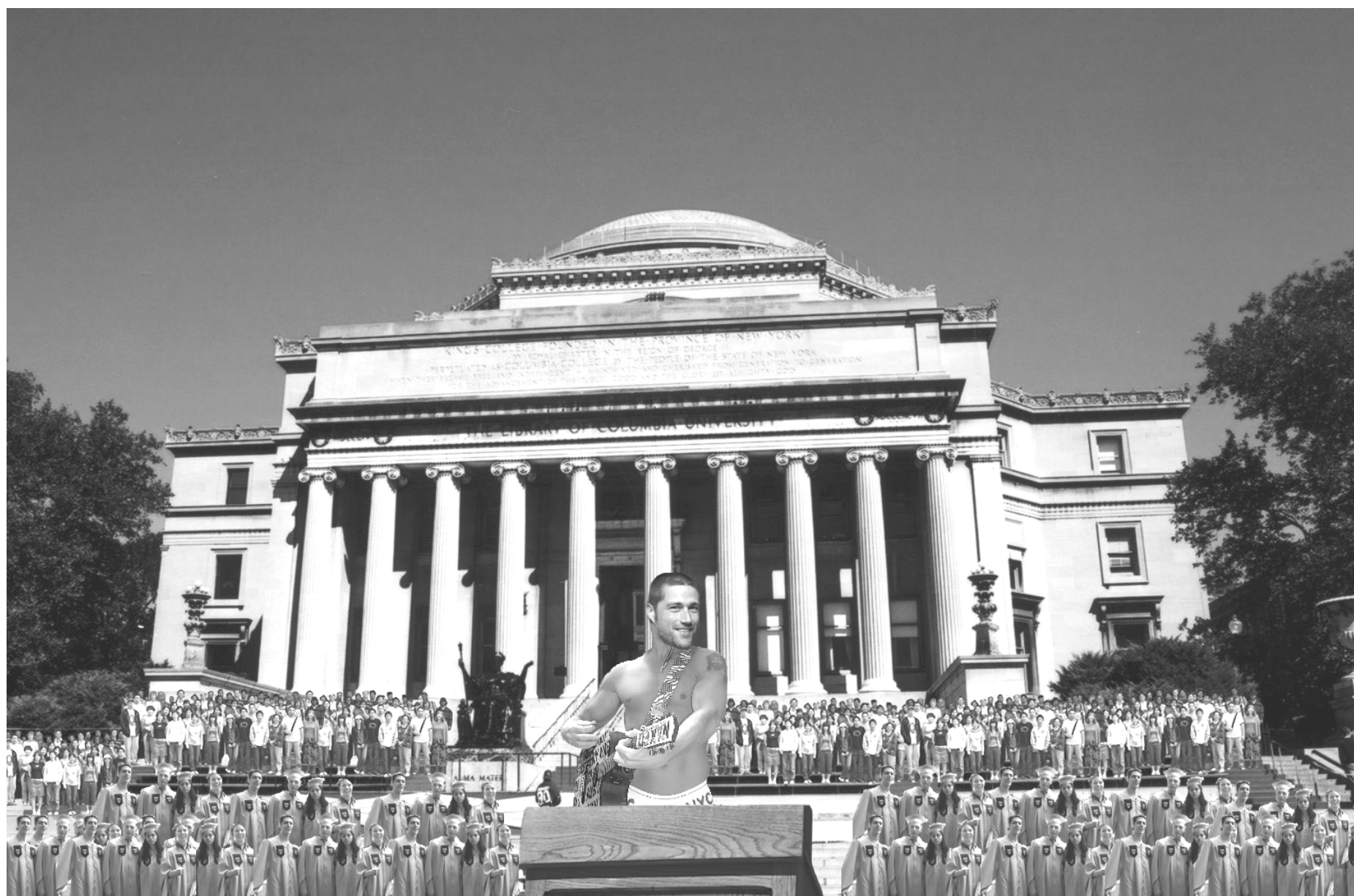
A &amp; E, PAGE 3

## WEATHER

This is pitiful. A thousand people freezing their butts off, waiting to worship a rat that's always wrong. Groundhog Day used to mean something in this town—they used to pull the thing out and eat it. You're all hypocrites. You want a weather prediction? You're asking the wrong Phil and doing it way too early. I'll give you a winter prediction. It's gonna be cold, it's gonna be gray, and it's gonna last the rest of your life.

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GENESIS 19:4-8  
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PRAISE JESUS, HALLELUJAH!



ANDRES VEDOVA—STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**TOO HOT FOR TV** | Fresh off the third season finale of the hugely popular *Lost*, Matthew Fox uses Class Day to respond to his critics.

## Matthew Fox Strips Naked, Insults Graduates

Dean Katherine Yatrakis Breathlessly Recalls Class Day Speaker's "Rippling Pectoral Muscles"

BY MICHAEL BREDIN  
*Spectator Staff Tool*

"This is for YOU, Columbia! Fuck YEAH, Wooooo!" came the distorted roar from Matthew Fox CC'89 through the microphone on Class Day 2007, shortly before he chugged a Miller Lite on the steps of Low Library. "But seriously, the best part about slammin' Barnard chicks," he continued, in front of students and parents alike, "is walking down the hallway butt naked the next day. Flashing that junk for the ladies—CC REPRESENT!"

Fox, the star of ABC's drama *Lost*, former Lions wide receiver and Phi Gamma Delta member, was invited as Class Day speaker with much controversy, as many felt he could not live up to the standard of past speakers like John McCain. "I have something to say to all the haters," he growled, visibly inebriated as he started to remove his tie. "The dorks in SEAS that never got

tail, the squirts that stayed in Butler all night: you wasted your fucking life, y'all. College is about bitches, booze, and doing whatever the FUCK YOU WANT!" he snarled, ripping off his shirt and cocking his head to the sky.

After a seemingly interminable period of nakedness, Fox went further. "By and large, I'd have to say ..." his mouth widened to a grin as he unfastened his belt, continuing, "Barnard girls are bi and large."

"Personally I found it kinda hot," said Jenni Weiner, CC '07. "I mean, yeah, I can understand why the fatcats weren't too happy, but did you see those abs?" Indeed, the whoops and cheers from the crowd as Fox groped his chest—his tongue hanging out the side of his mouth with his pelvis engaged in steady orbit—were enough to suggest the move was not altogether unpopular.

"I'd like to read out a list," continued Fox, swaying as he clung to the podium, now pull-

ing off his underwear as public safety officers approached, "of all the fuckers that gave me a hard time, and made me feel totally oppressed at this school." A sharp yelp could be heard through the P.A. system as he was restrained by three guards before he could start, though, and following a brief entanglement and scuffle, his pink body could be seen breaking free and dashing across Low Plaza to nowhere in particular.

Although Fox's agents have thus far declined to comment, response to the speech has been mixed. "It had more butts than McCain, which I liked," said security guard Maria Williams, "but the last season of *Lost* really blew." Thomas Jameson, CC'07, had a different outlook. "If there's one thing I've learned, it's to prioritize your time here," he said. "If Fox can be a role model, it's pretty clear grades at Columbia aren't important for success in life. So why the fuck did I just waste my time?"

## Secret Society No Longer Secret to Sniffer-Outers of Secrecy

Spectator Headline Writer Fired, Told Not to Return Before Losing "Penchant for Alliteration and Word Repetition"

BY MAX SHUTRAN  
*Spectator Staff Queen Bee*

The Columbia community has long been aware of its own prestige but until recently had been made to feel somewhat inadequate by the fact that it is seemingly unworthy of the famous secret societies of other schools. Yale's Skull and Bones club, so legendary that some refer to it simply as the Skulls, has been the subject of countless novels and films, not to mention the speculation of idle, conspiracy-seeking minds. At Columbia, the only entity even approaching the lofty status of a secret society was the Living and Learning center, with its headquarters in the Hartley and Wallach dorm buildings.

Until now, that is. Spectator informant Paul N. Eumatic has revealed that such a society does in fact exist on campus. His investigation led to a list of names—members of the society—which he called "... so secret that [the members] don't even know it exists." In an exclusive interview, he explained, "I was quite surprised, really. Here was this preponderance of evidence all pointing towards the existence of this group, this cabal, yet no one in the society knew they were in it. In most cases, they didn't even know each other. It wasn't like they were trying to hide anything—I had an airtight case against all of them. They

were genuinely puzzled." Group member Xavier LeMonde (name changed to preserve anonymity) contributed the following: "Yeah, I'm still not quite sure what this is all about. This guy, Paul, kept showing me this list of names and pointed to my name right on it, like I couldn't see it or something. I've never even heard of any of these [people]. I think one of them is in my Music Hum[anities] class, but that's it." He added, "I guess it's not like a frat or anything, because I never consciously did anything to join, but members get some kind of benefit later in life, right? Like with the Skulls, they all help each other out in getting jobs and stuff."

The implications are not so clear cut, however. The logistical issues inherent in the nature of the society have confused some of Columbia's finest thinkers. Economist Jeffrey Sachs of Columbia's Earth Institute admitted to being completely stumped by the situation. "I'm really not sure how that would work," he said, "where no one in the society actually knows about the society. Who's the leader? Does he know who the other members are? How do they communicate? How does your informant know that this group exists if the members don't even know it exists? Can it even be said to exist if its members aren't aware of it? I don't really know, you might want to talk to Brian [Greene, notable Columbia physicist] about it, he deals with this kind

of stuff a lot." The *Spectator* confronted Eumatic about his evidence, whereupon he became inexplicably agitated. "Look," he replied, "don't turn this around on me. You got the list, and I have evidence to back up every single name on that list. There might even be more, for all I know. Why are you asking an economist, anyway? There's no supply here, there's no demand here, just this group, no one even knows what it's called, and they're at Columbia. Okay?" Upon further questioning of his evidence, he shouted, "Don't worry about it!" The *Spectator* thus concludes that whatever evidence is in Eumatic's possession fully supports the existence of the society. "To sum it up," Eumatic said, "we have to be very careful that they don't start taking over Columbia's administration or something like that. Because we definitely won't know what's happening. I mean, they probably won't even know what's happening. But it will happen. And we have to be ready."

But will this society attempt to gain control of the administration? A member of the faculty speculated that the administration may have in fact created the society in order to gain prestige and recognition. Upon learning of the society, he said, "It sounds to me like something this strange couldn't have just formed itself—I wouldn't be surprised if the administration cooked it up to get on the same footing as Harvard and Yale."

## LAST BOOK OF POTTER PILFERED, ROWLING "SHOCKED"

"Deathly Hallows" Manuscript Seized From Rowling's Own Deathly Hallow

BY ADAM VALEN LEVINSON  
*Spectator Staff Peon*

Yesterday, March 31, 2007, a day that will live in infamy, the as-yet unpublished manuscript of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* was stolen. The sole copy of the final installment in the legendary septet was lifted from authoress J.K. Rowling's luxurious 19th century estate in Scotland, reportedly by two 14-year-old boys.

Rowling, who has refused to leave her bedroom since the heist, is only available for comment via owl. As owls have a difficult time crossing the Atlantic, the one message received so far by American sources read simply, "Accio money." While readers might recognize this as the common summoning spell from the series, others detect Rowling's true terror. The stolen manuscript was the only copy of the work in existence—at the time of yesterday's robbery, no one had been willing to type up the three thousand handwritten pages. Without this last book, the Harry Potter franchise will supernova.

In 2002, when Rowling, the richest woman in England, became a publicly-traded stock, she invested every penny to her name in herself. When the release date of the seventh book was revealed, Amazon.com sold over 38 billion copies, six for every man, woman, and child on the planet. The royalties brought Rowling's net worth to \$1.9 trillion, as she surpassed Germany as the world's third biggest economy. But without a finale, the stock traded under ticker symbol JKRW will drop faster than Harry in *Prisoner of*

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