

COLUMBIA SPECTATOR ARCHIVE

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New campus magazine covers City life

By Elizabeth Berke

The first issue of Mode, a new campus magazine about New York, fashion, entertainment, and night-life, was released yesterday according to Mode Editor-in-chief Jack Chen, CC'93.

The first issue of Mode included an interview with Marc Jacobs, vice president of women's design at Perry Ellis, and a first-person account by a Columbia student with

AIDS. In addition, there were three short fiction stories and an article about the National Abortion Rights League (NARAL).

"The magazine is geared toward student life in New York city. We want people to get involved in the city. We don't see ourselves as politically geared. We want to produce a high quality, stylish magazine," Hellen Hom, CC '91, art editor of Mode said.

Chen said the magazine provides a break from the academic environment of Columbia. "Once in a while it is nice to do something not academic," he said.

The magazine, which is funded by Polity and advertising, will be released twice a semester, Chen said.

Mode received \$2,400 from Polity, which Chen estimates will allow them to publish four issues.

The Mode business staff cur-

rently has a list of about 800 companies, stores and designers that they plan to solicit for advertising, including Clinique, Saks Fifth Avenue, Macys, Donna Karan, and Ralph Lauren, Chen said.

About 35 students are already working on the next issue of Mode.

Most of the Mode staff members were on the staff of Pride of Lions last year, a magazine sponsored by the Lesbian Bisexual Gay Coalition (LBGC), Chen said.

However, many staff members left the Pride of Lions after a disagreement over the focus of the magazine, Chen said, adding that he wanted to do something different.

Chen said he gave back the name Pride of Lions to the LBGC, and started Mode.

LBGC board member Mark Scheible, CC '91, said that LBGC did not have time or the staff to run Pride of Lions.

“Pride of Lions is part of history as a gay and lesbian paper, but we had a hard time getting gay writers and maintaining the focus.”

Eliza Randall, BC '91, another LBGC board member, said the group would be willing to support someone who would direct Pride of Lions, but that the LBGC board does not have time to run the publication alone.

Three thousand copies of the magazine were distributed on Monday, and Chen said he and his staff do not plan to increase the paper's distribution.

“Every cent that comes in will go to making Mode better and thicker,” said Chen.

In upcoming issues of Mode, Chen plans to cover Donna Karan's spring fashion show, and hopes to interview designers Kenneth Cole and Isaac Mizrahi.

Students had mixed reactions to the new publication.

Mary Lee, a first-year student at the School of Library Service said, "It's (Mode) very fashionable, trendy, and open-minded. They're off to a good start. The article about AIDS was good because it's something that concerns both the community and school."

"Mode filled a gap in Columbia periodicals by covering certain issues that are otherwise overlooked, however these issues must be addressed with tact because they verge on tastelessness," said Adina Shoulson, CC '94.