

COLUMBIA SPECTATOR

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ROVING

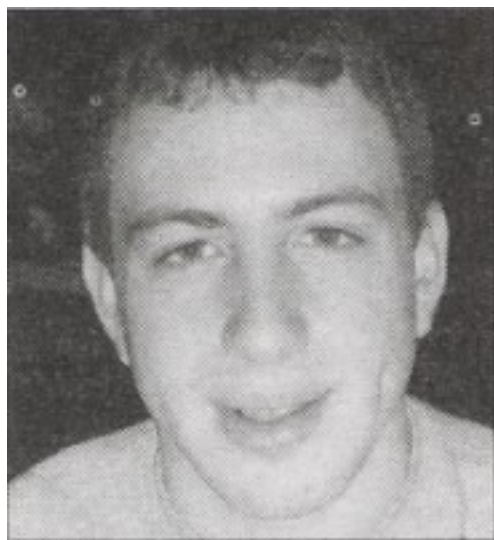
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DEC. 1, 2003: *To most people, it is just another ordinary day, but the importance of this particular day is that it is World AIDS Day. Roving Reporter combs the campus to find what people know about this special day and its special symbol: the red ribbon.*



ADAM SPUNBERG, CC '04

Do you know what Dec. 1 is? I don't know. What is it?

It's World AIDS Day! Do you know anything about it? I wasn't familiar with the day necessarily, but I am very committed to the cause against AIDS.

Have you seen people around campus wearing the red ribbons? I saw a few people, and I was wondering about that.

What do you think about that? I think it's great that people would. My father's a doctor and I'm familiar with AIDS and the

problems caused by it. I think it's wonderful that people would dedicate their efforts to fight such a deadly disease.

What will you do the rest of the week to show your support? My mind will be with those people wearing the red ribbons.

How do you think they came up with the red ribbon idea? Maybe they were tired of bureaucracy, so they figured instead of red tape, let's get red ribbon.

ELI MATHER, CC '04

Do you know what Dec. 1 is? It's World AIDS Day!

What can you tell me about it? Well, I've been involved with Columbia Global Justice for all semester planning for the whole week and this is the biggest day for me, it seems like, of all semester.

I see people around wearing the red ribbon. What does it signify? To remember the fact that there are 43 million people that are living with HIV/AIDS.

Do you know how the ribbon came to be? No, I don't, but ribbons are just a really easy way for people to show some sort of support for something, like that pink breast cancer ribbon and that yellow "Support the Troops" ribbon. It's very visual and when people see it, they want to ask you why you are wearing that ribbon and it gives you an opportunity to tell them.

So what's going to be happening this week? We've got all sorts of events planned this whole week: a party and panels focussing on politics in America, AIDS policies, stigma and discrimination. and activism.

