

CCSC seeks calendar change

BY ALISA LU
Spectator Staff Writer

Students stressed about busy crowds and expensive airfares on Christmas Eve may have little reason to cheer next holiday season.

Despite the Columbia College Student Council's recent proposal to change the academic calendar to end the semester earlier, adjusting the schedule may prove to be a bureaucratic challenge.

New York State law requires that any accredited institution must hold 14 weeks of class a semester, and Columbia's current policy is to start the fall term the day after Labor Day. Because of this, the University has often been forced to finish exams very close to Christmas—especially when Labor Day is late.

In 2009, the calendar ended on Dec. 23, and according to the current academic calendars, the semester will also end on the same date in 2010 and 2011.

Since December, different student groups have protested the schedule, and now the CCSC and the Engineering Student Council are proposing alternative schedules—though it seems now they may not have much luck for the upcoming calendar year.

The University Senate Education Committee is currently reviewing the academic calendar, which it does every decade, with input from CCSC and ESC.

Any changes to the calendar must be proposed by the committee and voted on by the full University Senate, according to University Senator and Education Committee member Alex Frouman, CC '12.

Members of CCSC and ESC crafted and passed a proposal unanimously on Sunday to change the schedule so that classes start on the first Monday of September. According to the proposal, "The rationale for a change in the academic calendaring revolves around two central tenants: the difficulty of travel so close to Christmas Eve and the lack of study days that can ensue when Labor Day falls later in the year."

Though students would be starting school a week early, they would have Labor Day off, three study

SEE CALENDAR, page 2



MATTHEW SHERMAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FOOD FOR THOUGHT | Barnard students showed up to a forum at the Diana on the controversial meal plan the administration announced in December. Students questioned administrators on the financial motivation of the new plan, which would be required for all enrolled students.

M'ville artist collective negotiates with University landlord

BY KIM KIRSCHENBAUM
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

For some longtime West Harlem tenants, 131st Street in Manhattanville is just a shadow of its former self.

With several auto mechanics surrounded by post-industrial buildings, the street sports but a few remaining relics of its past. Now, one of the block's persistent tenants may soon be permanently saying its goodbyes to 131st.

The Hint House Artist Collective, located in the footprint of the University's campus expansion plan in Manhattanville on 131st, west of Broadway, could soon be relocated by the University to another location in the Manhattanville neighborhood. But negotiations between the University and the Collective remain strained, as details surrounding the status of Hint House and its prospective future location remain unclear.

Hint House, a gallery that has provided performance and studio space for around 40 artists for the past 12 years, received a notice of termination from the University, its landlord, about two months ago. The notification ended the gallery's lease on Jan. 31—a move which visual artist Tamara Gayer, one of the Hint House's organizers and a Community Board 9 member, said came as a shock.

Despite the notice, Gayer said they have not officially moved out yet, because the University has not taken any actions to take over the space.

"I actually totally didn't expect it," Gayer said. "I think everyone in the area had relaxed a little bit ... and then all of a sudden this happens."

But given Hint House's contractual agreement with the University, some say this move should not have come as a surprise. Hint House is "on a month-to-month lease until the University requires the space,"

Columbia spokesperson Victoria Benitez said. This means that the three-story brownstone that houses the Collective is University-owned, and as the landlord, it can end the Hint House's lease at anytime, as long as it gives proper notification.

University officials said that they have been engaged in ongoing negotiations with Gayer for quite some time, and have been working to great lengths to assist her in relocation.

"We can confirm Hint House's statement that we have been working to achieve a win-win resolution that allows Hint House to relocate to other convenient University-owned space nearby, since the demolition process ... must move forward," the University said in a statement.

Gayer responded that as of this week, "The situation has been going downhill." She said that the University had presented her with an alternative location at one point, but then withdrew, and recently

suggested a different space that did not meet the Collective's needs.

Though the University declined to comment on specifics of the negotiation, spokespeople said the University will continue to work through negotiations with Gayer, pointing to Columbia's Manhattanville planning website, which says that it is, "committed to supporting and building on the historical and economically important arts and culture aspects of Harlem."

Meanwhile, Gayer is also facing some internal conflicts within CB9.

When Gayer received the notice of termination, she attempted to solicit support from fellow CB9 members, to mixed success. She and several other CB9 members sought to receive priority from the University when it allocates 5,000 gross square feet to local artists as part

SEE COLLECTIVE, page 2

Students question meal plan

President Spar explains motives

BY ELIZABETH SCOTT
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

After announcing a new required meal plan in December intended in part to foster community, Barnard President Debora Spar said at a forum on Thursday that the plan also has a large financial component.

Barnard students met with the administration on Thursday night to discuss a controversial new proposal that requires all enrolled Barnard students to purchase a meal plan, starting fall, 2010. Previously, only first-year residents and students living in the Quad were required to be on a meal plan.

Spar fielded questions from students in the new Diana Event Oval and emphasized that the Barnard administration has not yet reached a decision about the meal plan.

When first announced at the end of last fall semester, administrators said the decision was based on a desire to increase student interaction on a sometimes disparate campus. Some students criticized the lack of financial transparency in the announcement.

And on Thursday, Spar outlined a breakdown of the business side of running a small college.

"We lose money on the meal plan by design—we take in money from you and pass all of it to Aramark [the food services provider]," she said. Spar added that because Barnard is such a small college, it is difficult to negotiate deals with the company, which typically caters to much larger collegiate populations. On bigger campuses, costs are spread out across a larger student body, but with a smaller population at Barnard, the dining plan is more of a burden on each individual student, she said.

"We are a very small player in this market," Spar said.

Spar said the college has stayed

SEE MEAL PLAN, page 2

NEWS BRIEF

Students from China connect with Columbia

11 students from Tsinghua University in China traveled across the world to visit Barnard President Debora Spar in 109 Milbank on Thursday.

These student delegates are currently touring the East Coast in conjunction with Global China Connection, a student-run non-profit that connects Chinese student leaders in an international network.

On Thursday, representatives from GCC's Columbia chapter invited these students to meet with Spar, who said in the meeting that she visits China about once a year as part of a partnership with some of the universities in Beijing, as well as for personal research.

There are a number of Chinese students studying at Barnard, she told the students, adding that she did some research in China a couple of

years ago on the development of stem cell science.

"Asia is really becoming a hub" for this kind of research, Spar said, showing the students a copy of her book translated into Chinese.

Because there's only one all-female University in China, Spar said that women's colleges in America are particularly relevant. "In this country there's still a large number of female-only schools," she said.

Spar also spoke about common gender inequities, telling the students that women earn only about 78 cents to every dollar earned by men.

"There is current data that suggests that you get a slightly different experience by going to an all-women's college. Even though there are men in most of our classes, women are the majority," Spar said. One hope, she

explained, is that with a large female academic network, more women will have an easier time in the workforce.

Some of the visiting students said that spending time overseas is a good networking opportunity, and also a chance to learn about U.S. professional and academic life.

Echo Gao, a student from Tsinghua University, said, "I am here to learn the merits of the future leaders of America."

GCC's Associate Director of Communications Jeff Cao, CC '13, said that these kinds of interactions help students learn about each other's cultures. "Our goal is to bring students back and forth from China and the U.S. to try and help them understand each other," he said, adding, "They got a pretty broad idea of what academia is like in the U.S."

-Gila Schwarzschild

Activists, politicians oppose CU demolition

BY NICHOLAS BLOOM
Spectator Staff Writer

Though Columbia already has the permit to demolish three brownstones deemed historic by the state, neighborhood preservationists said on Thursday they are not giving up without a fight.

Community groups and local politicians met Thursday night to discuss ways to halt the impending demolition of three Columbia-owned brownstones on 115th Street, between Amsterdam and Morningside Drive.

Around 50 people, including representatives from Congressman Charles Rangel, Council member Inez Dickens, and Assembly member Daniel O'Donnell, attended the meeting at 54 Morningside Dr. The event was sponsored by the Committee to Preserve the Morningside Brownstones, which formed in opposition to the demolition of the brownstones located at 408, 410, and 412 115th Street.

Columbia obtained a demolition permit from the New York City Department of Buildings on Nov. 30, 2009.



JACK ZIETMAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DEMOLISHER | The University is preparing to demolish three brownstones on 115th. Preservationists say it will be a major historic loss.

Shane Seger, communications director for O'Donnell, who represents Morningside Heights, said, "Because Columbia has the permit for demolition, the only thing we can really do right now is appeal

to the Landmarks Preservation Commission and request a hearing. Morningside Heights is not a historically protected neighborhood,

SEE DEMOLITION, page 2

INSIDE

A&E, page 5

Barnard students take part in 'Progress'

"This Progress," a new installation from Tino Seghal at the Guggenheim Museum, allows visitors to interact with a live exhibit—a variety of people, including a few Barnard students, talk to visitors as they walk through the building.



Sports, page 12

Does Columbia basketball have what it takes?

This weekend, the men's basketball team invites Brown and Yale into Levien Gymnasium. The Lions have forward momentum heading into these games following last weekend's solid victory over Dartmouth.

Opinion, page 4

How the other half learns

Assistant professor Shamus Khan examines class disparities in the classroom.

Baby one more time

Aarti Iyer realizes that she can never do childhood again—oops.

Today's Events

World's water crisis

Care about human and ecosystem health? Learn about freshwater management.

833 Mudd, 3 p.m.

Wine appreciation course

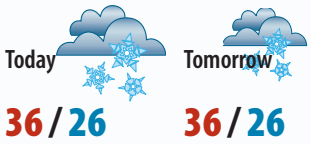
Try reds, whites, roses, and bubbly wines.

312 Math, 8 p.m.

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WEATHER



Artist collective faces uncertain future in campus expansion zone

COLLECTIVE from front page

of its Community Benefits Agreement, a memorandum signed by the West Harlem Local Development Corporation and the University which details how funds for the neighborhood will be allocated.

Gayer wanted to pass two resolutions—CB recommendations of action—granting the Hint House priority to arts space: one to go to the University and one to the LDC. A resolution to the LDC passed at the January full board meeting, but amid strong opposition—strong enough that she decided not to even bring up the second resolution to the University.

“I couldn’t believe how belligerent and nasty they were,” Co-Chair of the Arts and Culture Committee Diane Wilson said, referring to community board members who vocally opposed the resolutions. “I think there was a prejudice against Tamara because she’s been outspoken throughout the Columbia battle, and I also think that arts and culture issues are always historically relegated to the backburner.”

Arts and Culture Committee member Christa Giesecke , agreed, saying, “These questions were clearly personal because none of these types of questions have ever been asked by anyone else.”

But other members said such opposition was warranted in light of

Gayer not fully disclosing critical details about the Hint House.

“There are certain standards that community boards have to follow, one of which is that we cannot support an individual who’s a member of our community board—that’s a conflict of interest,” CB9 member Savona Bailey-McClain said.

Bailey-McClain and others also asserted that the Hint House is not a legitimate organization in the sense that it is not a 501(c)(3) or a registered business, and that Gayer failed to disclose details such as the number of members in the Collective and its types of projects.

“Some of the questions resulted from a lack of familiarity with the subject, as voiced at the CB9 meeting,” CB9 chair Pat Jones said. “Members had various issues—some related to the lack of familiarity with the group, the legal standing of the collective, and its visibility in the West Harlem community.”

Ultimately, it could be a long time before the University even allocates arts space. The University said in its recent statement, “It is premature to speculate on the artists’ space provisions in the General Project Plan and Community Benefits Agreement.”

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SAM LEVIN FOR SPECTATOR

ARTIST’S BLOCK | The Hint House Artist Collective, on 131st west of Broadway, received a notice of termination from its landlord, the University, which has the tenant on a month-to-month lease. Still in negotiation, it is uncertain when and where it will be relocated.

Local preservationists, politicians protest CU demolition of historic brownstones

DEMOLITION from front page

so unless the LPC can step in, there is nothing we can do to stop the demolition.”

The brownstones are currently shrouded in scaffolding and black netting, and local preservationists argue that their destruction would be a huge loss to the neighborhood.

The New York State Historic Preservation Office—which lists building candidates for the National Register of Historic

Places—deemed the buildings historic in December 2008, but the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, which has legal authority, has not acknowledged the structures.

Currently, the CPMB is engaged in a letter-writing campaign to the city’s Landmarks Preservation Commission.

“They’re not just any old buildings. They’re part of the historic fabric of this community,” said O’Donnell, a longtime opponent of the demolition. “They predate

Columbia, they have been deemed historic by the state, and they are solid and well-built. They should be revitalized and reused,” he added. O’Donnell has also for years lobbied for Morningside Heights to gain status as a landmark district.

Rod Richardson, CC ’84, who lives close to the brownstones, said, “The buildings are beautiful, if you could just see them under the tarp.”

“If Columbia gave us an agreement that said they wouldn’t go higher than six stories, they would

match the architecture of the neighborhood, and they would keep the facade, I might be okay with that. However, they haven’t given us that agreement, so right now God knows what will replace it,” he added.

In December 2009, Director of Communications for Columbia Facilities Daniel Held wrote in an e-mail, “The University has had meetings with the local community, including the 116th Street Block Association, and local elected officials to discuss our plans.” The University has also

maintained that the buildings are in a state of disrepair.

Held said in an e-mail on Thursday that the University has no new comment in response to the meeting. In December, he also said, “We do not have a firm schedule for demolition or specific development plans for the site at this time.”

Even though members of the CPMB recognize that Columbia has permits in hand, they said that they were not willing to concede to the demolitions just yet.

“We want to make sure the community knows that we want to save those brownstones,” said CPMB leader Harry Schwartz, who is also a representative from the 116th Street Block Association “We know that Columbia could show up with a wrecking ball and bulldozers tomorrow, but until that happens we will not stop fighting for the preservation and renovation of these buildings.”

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Students question Spar on meal plan

MEAL PLAN from front page

with Aramark over the years because they provide a variety of options to students, from halal and kosher items, to vegan and vegetarian choices. Spar also said that the college’s commitment to environmentally sustainable dining service pushes up costs.

Some students expressed frustration that the plan had been sold as a community-builder without any mention of the financial implications.

One Barnard student at the forum said she thought “forcing people to pay to be part of a community is perverse.”

Another, Hannah Goldstein, BC ’13, said she thinks “a lot of the resentment is from the fact that the financial situation wasn’t expressed in the original letter. Students feel like they were led on by the pretense of community.”

“Point well-taken,” Spar responded. “Especially in such tough economic times, we could probably do a much better job of showing you all what

the broader landscape looks like in the future,” she said.

Spar said she still stands by her goal to encourage community-building through the meal plan.

But some students insisted that events like the Diana Center Workout are better venues for social interaction than eating food—especially food that many believe is overpriced and of poor quality. One student at the forum also expressed concerns with overcrowding in the dining facilities, but Spar said that this is something the college will monitor in the months to come.

There is also ongoing confusion surrounding the certainty of the plan.

Despite an e-mail sent to Barnard students on Dec. 9 that announced the plan, Spar maintained at the meeting that nothing was set in stone.

In the December e-mail, Barnard Dean Dorothy Denburg announced that “upper-class students will be required to participate in a limited meal plan, the specifics of which are laid

out below.” The breakdown of the meal plan was outlined in the e-mail, though Spar insisted on Thursday that the details of the plan are not finalized.

Members of the Facebook group “Protect Your Right To Be Off the Meal Plan,” launched after the plan was announced, attended the meeting and distributed manifestos that they had sent to the administration and the Student Government Association.

The group, which has attracted 645 Barnard student members as of Feb. 4, criticizes the plan for not yet addressing students with severe food allergies. The members instead advocate a plan that is not mandatory for students with allergies.

Connie Wang, BC’10, said in an interview after the forum she was satisfied with the discussion. “I think Spar handled it well, she managed to keep it light and still mostly provide answers that were very satisfactory,” she said.

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Council proposes new academic calendar

CALENDAR from front page

days, and end on Dec. 19 at the latest. Although the council conceded that it is highly unlikely that changes will be made to the calendar for the upcoming fall semester, the proposal would eliminate the same problem in future years.

But because the proposal supports starting school before Labor Day, it will most likely be opposed by faculty with children in New York City schools, which start after Labor Day, Frouman said.

“You’re tied to the K-12 schedule, all of which assumes that you are on vacation the last two weeks of August,” University Senate Education Committee Co-Chair James Applegate said.

Other possible solutions are having exams in January after break, compressing the various holidays in the fall into an extended Thanksgiving break, or keeping the current schedule.

“Starting in August is generally popular among students,”

Applegate said, but added, “Among faculty, it tends to be not a very popular option.”

Applegate said that this is also not a new debate. “We’ve done this before, we’ll do it again. ... This is something that probably has been dealt with ten times,” he said.

He predicted the proposal might not go very far: “I promise you the students will be heard and be taken seriously but I can’t promise you that they’ll get what you want.”

Frouman said he thought the current problem may stem from a lack of communication. “People on the committee have heard it [the debate] but a lot of faculty don’t understand necessarily where all the students are coming from,” he said.

In the past, students have tended to favor starting school earlier while faculty have favored having final exams after Winter Break, Applegate said. “What we currently do is nobody’s first choice and everybody’s second choice and that’s sort of why we did it,” he added.

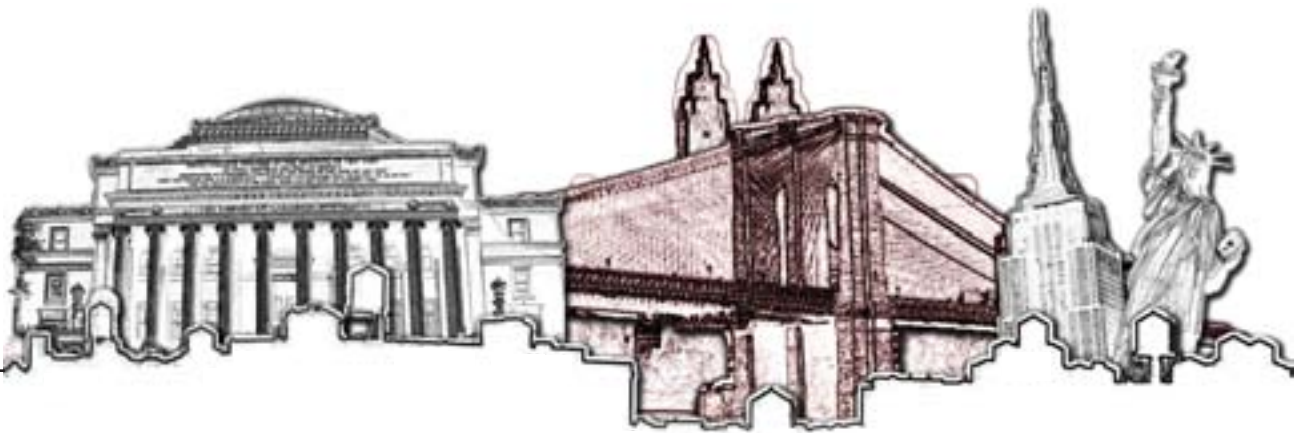
CCSC Vice President of Policy Sarah Weiss, CC ’10, said that they are working to better communication. “We’re reaching out to individuals who sit on the education committee, faculty members, especially female faculty members with children who might be impacted by this,” she said.

Students in December also created a Facebook group called, “Petition to Change Columbia University Winter Break Calendar,” which has 2,417 students, almost a quarter of all undergraduates, as of Feb. 4.

“It just makes for a difficult and more stressful exam period,” Austin Lawrence CC’10, said.

Sophie Hyson BC ’12, added, “I’m sure it really sucks for the foreign students and the people who want to go home for break and they end up getting home on Christmas, because it takes a while to travel and the airports this late are crazy.”

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A SPIRAL OF PROGRESS

Guggenheim show exhibits art of human interaction

BY MIRIAM ROSEN
Columbia Daily Spectator

ART

As I navigated the winding ramps of the Guggenheim for Tino Seghal's new exhibit—"This Progress," I found myself repeatedly marveling: "This is progress." Seghal's convention-defying work emphasizes the experience of art as both individual and communal.

For the first time in Guggenheim history, all art objects have been cleared from the museum. In their place is Seghal's work, which has a new and uniquely Columbian flair. A Barnard course titled "Museum Prospectus," led by art history professor Anne Higonnet, allowed the artist to work in conjunction with Barnard to find young people for the exhibit.

Entering the overwhelmingly bare museum, the first and only feature on which to focus is a couple engaged in what might be recognized, by the college viewer, as sock-on-the knob behavior. Yet instead of blushing and closing the door, viewers like myself are drawn in—perhaps by the lack of material surrounding the pair in the cavernous rotunda,

perhaps by the uncomfortably exciting feeling of intruding on something private, perhaps by the grace and fluidity of the lovers' movements.

Which of these reasons grabs the individual onlooker more is a mere technicality. Of far greater significance is the fact that this is the first time the viewer is extracted from the conventionally private museum-going experience and pulled into a far more social medium, where he or she faces personal interaction in a new, shared environment.

After loading up on vicarious thrill, the "participant," as Seghal labels each visitor, works his or her way up the first ramp, only to be greeted by a skipping, meditative, or intimidatingly precocious child, who introduces himself, the artist, and a rather grown-up question.

The little "tour guide," Aidan is a quiet, but nonetheless daunting eight-year-old. Suddenly, he asks a question: "What is progress?" Replaying the query in my head, I hear an eerily adult voice emerging from his miniature mouth. I was struck by the thought-provoking question at a relatively unexpected time and place.

Halfway through my somewhat uninspired answer about "moving forward," I thought to myself, "I am having a conversation about progress with an eight-year-old." The shock factor was there, and yet it felt oddly stimulating and comfortable.

Soon, after Aidan and I had walked and talked up and around the breathtakingly empty space for some time, we came to a stop and met up with a teenager named Bob.

Aidan and Bob were nearly identical, so I immediately speculated that the children would "grow up" throughout the process, lending an added layer to the concept of progress. The exhibition prompted me to engage in such hyperactive, analytical thinking from the very beginning of, at the risk of sounding cliché, my journey.

Two Columbia students involved in the teenage group and enrolled in Higonnet's class say that many visitors are initially uncertain. Rachel Solomon, CC '12, described some participants as "disoriented" or "confused," while

SEE GUGGENHEIM, page 7

GRAPHIC BY JOANNA WANG

Weekend spots, from sweet to freaky, make for offbeat V-Day plans



NNEKA MCGUIRE
The Fun, the Fantastical, and the Freakish

It's that time again. Heart-shaped chocolates crop up near the Morton Williams checkout counters, foot traffic increases near Card-o-Mat, and anticipation grows among lovers, but not their single friends. V-Day. Whether you're coupled up and guaranteed a bouquet of flowers and a batch of confectionery, or single and cursing Hallmark for catapulting the damned day into recognition, I've got something for you. Valentine's Day: The Fun, Fantastical, and Freakish edition. From a Chelsea art gallery to the Museum of Sex, below you'll find fun, fantastical, and freakish sights (and tastes, too) to enjoy on or around Valentine's Day—or, for some of us, the day when singleness is brutally obvious.

Fantastical

On an quiet street near the westernmost edge of the island, lies 303 Gallery (547 W. 21st Street). Inside the small, stark space paintings from Inka Essenhigh's spellbinding new exhibit, "The Old New Age", adorn the walls.

From serene green goddesses to tree-laden woods amidst mountains of thick mists, Essenhigh's paintings represent worlds that seem so complex and textured they are almost tangible. In "Lower East Side", Essenhigh depicts a mystical interpretation of the New York City neighborhood. A young woman walks down the trash-littered street while revelers drink, laugh, and engage in various shenanigans from inside a nearby circular pub emanating a strong pink glow. Look at the canvas closer and you'll notice a

man with a white electric guitar popping out of a manhole in the lower left-hand corner.

Essenhigh's "Lower East Side" portrays a rich world, replete with alleys and surprises. It almost seems as if one could reach out, enter this world and turn around one of the bends, but I'm not sure if I'd want to. Despite the light greens and pale pink color palette, the scene seems ominous and simultaneously delicate.

Fun

While you're in the Chelsea neighborhood, visit Printed Matter, Inc. (195 10th Ave.), an offbeat, infinitely fun bookshop. Browsing around, I saw a draft of a never-produced but thoroughly planned TV show, a novel by Seth Price entitled "How To Disappear in America," and "Flowers," a picture book featuring alternating pictures of psychedelic flowers... and photos of drag queens.

After sating your appetite for quirky art literature, head to Chelsea Market and visit Eleni's cookie store (75 9th Ave.). I'm no fan of cookies—bring me cupcakes, or (god forbid) a brownie, and I'm apt to eat myself silly—but I was pleasantly surprised by Eleni's sweet treats. I taste-tested a heart-shaped frosted sugar cookie, as well as a red velvet mini-cupcake (I had to ensure that the cupcake sector was solid, and, let me tell you, it was).

If you're looking for more than a humdrum container of chocolates to present your significant other (or yourself) on Valentine's Day, order a box of Eleni's love letter cookies. I kid you not, these cookies have an elaborate candy coating that contains a love letter; the other side of the cookie resembles an envelope sealed with a kiss. Not into epistles? Try the "Prince Charming" cookies, "Love Birds," or "Sweet Messages" cupcakes.

SEE MCGUIRE, page 6

Across the bridge, 'As You Like It' disappoints

BY STEVEN STRAUSS
Spectator Staff Writer

THEATER

Love, marriage, humor, and plain old happiness are words rarely associated with that infamously seedy borough of New York City known as Brooklyn. Yet this month, Sam Mendes—by way of William Shakespeare—hopes to infuse Manhattan's southern cousin with some of these frothy sentiments in The Bridge Project's production of one of the bard's most-produced comedies, "As You Like It."

In light of that last modifier, I must make a potentially embarrassing confession—I simply don't like "As You Like It." Yes, I researched and appreciate all

the thinly veiled commentary on fortune and fate, but such insights do not excuse the play's unfunny absurdity and general lack of excitement. Yet as with all reviews concerning modern Shakespeare productions, one must forgo the subjective flaws of the text and focus on the merits of the production.

Such merits are few and far between in this particular rendition—surprising for a production directed by the man who brought the modern classic "American Beauty" to the big screen. The play's highlights are mainly technical, specifically the set design's separation of life in the court from life in the forest. The initial set of the play looks more apt for a production of "Macbeth," with its stark lighting and bare stage. Yet upon

the play's shift to the forest, the back wall rises and reveals the expected and desired lush landscape.

Once the grandeur of the set wears off—and it does so fairly quickly—all that remains is the subpar production. The reason for this lifelessness rests on the shoulders of Mendes, who took a darker approach to the material and grounded the play in emotional realism. He even cuts the one supernatural character in the piece, Hymen, and gives her happily-ever-after-inducing speech to another character.

The play's purposefully contrived resolution feels even more ridiculous in the somber world in which Mendes wraps

SEE 'AS YOU LIKE IT', page 7



COURTESY OF BONEAU/BRYAN BROWN

BROOKLYN BARD | Members of the Bridge Project have brought their production of "As You Like It" from London's Old Vic to the Brooklyn Academy of Music. Starting on February 14th, the cast will present "The Tempest" in repertory with this production.

WEEKEND PICKS

THE EDITORS’ BEST BETS FOR THE WEEKEND AHEAD

THEATER

Off-Broadway 2-For-1 Tickets, various off-Broadway theaters. Feb. 8-28, various prices.

See a pair of off-Broadway’s most promising shows for the price of one in this month-long, citywide discount. Offerings include “The Pride,” a startlingly impressive theatrical debut by playwright Alexi Kaye Campbell. Although the sale is advertised as two-for-one, the discount code actually provides buyers with half-price tickets, which means picking two shows isn’t actually necessary. Just type in discount code “HOUSE” when ordering online tickets to any show to receive the half-price deal.

FOOD

La Maison du Chocolat tasting, 350 Fifth Avenue (at W. 34th Street). Friday, Feb. 5, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., free.

Taste incomparable chocolate ganache from La Maison du Chocolat in the Empire State Building. The journey to this temporary shop may seem arduous in the cold weather, but free dessert samples are hard to beat.

FILM

Andy Warhol’s “Kiss” and “Blow Job,” Film Society of Lincoln Center, 70 Lincoln Plaza (at Columbus Avenue and W. 64th Street). Friday, Feb. 5, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m., \$25.

Two of Andy Warhol’s most notorious films, “Kiss” and “Blow Job,” are being combined with the sounds of Detroit techno star Carl Craig for one night only. Commissioned by the Unsound Festival in Poland, Unsound Festival New York joins the project to bring the ultimate 1960’s experience back to the streets of New York. If the psychedelic vibe is not enough to entice students, the film titles are certainly intriguing on their own.

STYLE

Kisan sample sale, 125 Greene Street (near Prince Street). Friday-Saturday, Feb. 5-6, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., free.

Get in the FashionWeek spirit early with a new pièce de resistance—or two. Pieces from top-level designers like Sonia Rykiel, Vanessa Bruno, and Numero 10 are 50 to 70 percent off for one weekend only.

DANCE

Parsons Dance Company, Joyce Theater, 175 Eighth Avenue, Tuesday-Sunday, now through Feb. 21, various times, \$10-59.

This dance ensemble will perform a new version of its rock dance opera “Remember Me.” The dancers are backed by the lead vocalists of Grammy-nominated band East Village Opera Company.

ART

Outsider Art Fair, 7 W. 34th Street (at Fifth Avenue). Friday-Sunday, Feb. 5-7, various times, \$20.

Visit this indoor art fair to peruse a labyrinth of stands, where folk and abstract artists will be showing their work all weekend. The fair may also be a good place to pick up unique dorm room decorations.

MUSIC

Chromeo, Guggenheim Museum, 1071 Fifth Ave. (at E. 89th Street). Friday, Feb. 5, 9 p.m.-3 a.m., \$25.

Everyone’s second-favorite Butler celebrity, Dave 1, and his partner in crime P-Thugg will bring their smooth electro-funk stylings to the spacious atrium of the Guggenheim for the grand finale of the museum’s “Art After Dark” event series. Sense of irony is optional, but a willingness to get down is a must.

BOOKS

James Joyce’s Birthday Book Club, 52 Prince Street (between Lafayette and Mulberry streets). Saturday, Feb. 6, 4-5 p.m., free.

Celebrate literary master James Joyce’s 128th birthday, though a few days belated, with a special book club discussion of “Ulysses.” Join Robert Seidman, co-author of “Ulysses Annotated,” as he leads the discussion on this Western classic. Joyce will surely be present in spirit.

WILDCARD

“Edward Scissorhands,” The Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53rd Street (between Fifth and Sixth avenues). Friday, Feb. 5, 8 p.m., \$6 with CUID.

As a part of the MOMA’s ongoing retrospective on the life and career of Tim Burton, the museum is hosting an extensive exhibit on the director, and is screening all of his films. “Edward Scissorhands” is arguably his greatest film, marking the beginning of the career-spanning collaboration between Burton and Johnny Depp. Though the movie is available in Butler for free, Burton’s expressionist flourishes are at their best on the big screen.

SEARCH FOR THE BEST

FLEX MEALS



READY MADE | Though prepared food may punish the pocketbook and strain the waistline, it is accessible and tempting to the Flex-using Columbian. A Southern feast from Whole Foods, including fried chicken and baby back ribs, is one of the tastiest choices.

SARAH LIPMAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Students flex their gourmet muscles at local markets

BY DEVIN BRISKI

Spectator Senior Staff Writer

FOOD & DRINK

There’s something irresistibly lazy about buying prepared food. After all, it involves going to a supermarket where all necessary ingredients are available, but instead choosing to buy a meal prepared hours earlier and reheated in a plastic container for a large price increase.

While prepared food is economically and environmentally unjustifiable, it continues to hold a special place in the heart of culinarily challenged students. Luckily for said students, local markets not only sell such food, but many accept Flex too.

Milano’s lack of a microwave for reheating is simultaneously disappointing and respectable. Rather than stooping to reheating dishes that really shouldn’t be reheated, Milano offers

picnic style fare, pasta, chicken, and salad dishes galore. They also offer a meager attempt to appease any prepared-food guilt by prefacing all dishes with “home cooked.”

Their array of dishes is seasoned with a somewhat undiversified selection of basil, pesto, and marinara. But what they lack in variety, they make up with quality ingredients and expert recipes—tender chicken, fresh tortellini, and creamy potato salad tempt students looking for a Flex-friendly lunch.

Westside Market has earned its spot as many Columbians’ go-to prepared food destination. Buying meals there seems somewhat rational despite the market’s incomprehensibly high prices, and a friendly staff woos students with free samples.

They have a more diversified selection than Milano—with several kinds of fish, meat, and vegetarian dishes—but the quality isn’t quite up to par. Steer clear

of vegetable dishes—brussels sprouts and steamed broccoli lose their original spice with artificial heating. Their lemon chicken probably tastes amazing when they bake it early every morning, but a microwave doesn’t do the original gravy justice.

That being said, the meat is high-quality and touches like bay leaves in the chicken and a sweet glaze on the salmon remind hungry students that even if the dishes aren’t fresh, they’re still made by more talented chefs than they could ever hope to be.

If buying prepared food is an exercise in indolence, eating Southern cuisine at Whole Foods is a celebration of hypocrisy. All the same, students looking to start their kombucha-and-goji-berry diet the second they officially leave the market can guiltlessly feast in the in-store dining area one last time on buttermilk-fried chicken that rivals Amy Ruth’s. One bite of the crispy, tender (cruelty free,

of course) drumsticks is enough to make even the most ardent activist forget his responsibilities to the earth.

Their baked macaroni and cheese falls short of the creamy soul food standard, but what Whole Foods lacks in niche they make up for in variety. Where else can students feast on gourmet baby back ribs, sushi, chicken masala, and bread putting at once and have a weak claim to protecting the environment? Best of all, the brisk walk to 97th Street and Columbus helps justify plate-piling, giving students an excuse to flex their muscles and their Columbia IDs.

Whether necessitated by too much CC reading or an understandable aversion to shared kitchens, prepared food offers students the perfect middle ground between going out to eat and cooking for themselves. At these markets, no pots, 20% tips, or even real money are required.



RACE AND REBIRTH | Princeton professor Anthony Grafton hosted a discussion of racial politics in Renaissance-era scholarship. The audience gathered in the Heyman Center for the Humanities.

NAOMI ELLENSON FOR SPECTATOR

Lecture examines race in age of reason

BY PUYA GERAMI

Columbia Daily Spectator

BOOKS

The Renaissance, an age of colorful artistic development, also surprisingly involves issues of black and white.

On Thursday night, Anthony Grafton, history professor at Princeton University, gave a lecture at the Heyman Center for Humanities entitled “Race in the Renaissance”. Grafton contends that the question of race in renaissance discourse is serious and highly relevant, considering the startlingly racist notions underpinning the scholarship of the time.

Grafton framed the lecture around two particularly interesting figures of the English Renaissance: the famous philologist Isaac Casaubon and the Jewish scholar Jacob Barnett. Using the narrative of these two individuals, Grafton, both elegant and erudite, explained the enigmatic notion of race that was crucial in renaissance discourse.

Is it legitimate, Grafton asked, to speak of race in a world that lacked the vocabulary of the modern biological sciences? It seems unlikely at first glance that the humanists of the renaissance could have thought in racial terms.

“Learned men in the seventeenth century,” Grafton said, “imagined themselves as citizens of the Republic of Letters.” This rhetoric, Grafton recounted, made the bold claim that learned scholarship overcame borders of language, religion, and politics, establishing a community whose principles were, to borrow K.A. Appiah’s vocabulary, remarkably cosmopolitan.

Grafton then described the hypocrisy and racial consciousness underlying such humanistic rhetoric. Much like the Greek and Roman figures that they were so passionately concerned with, renaissance scholars lived in a time of globalizing movement and social conflict between worlds once completely alienated from each other.

And again, much like the thinkers of great antiquity, these

“men of letters” developed the use of racial stereotypes to demonize the newly discovered Other. European colonialism stimulated a deeper interest in ethnography, but as Grafton noted, “ethnography raises barriers of feeling and sentiment; and acquaintance does not breed affection.”

Although renaissance scholars obviously lacked the frightening language of modern-day eugenicists, they still managed to develop ideas powerfully charged with racist notions. For them, certain groups had fixed characteristics which could make them inferior to other groups—this was the justification that the Christian European used for his subjugation of the black African, the indigenous American, or the European Jew.

In this way, Grafton concluded that the idea of race played a complex role in scholars’ mental toolkits—the renaissance was at once a golden age of humanistic study and an era which developed the very racist stereotypes used today.

Weekend spots for offbeat V-Day plans

MCGUIRE from page 5

Freakish

For those looking for a more unconventional Valentine’s day, delve into some bizarre territory at the Museum of Sex (233 Fifth Ave.). On Thursday, a new exhibit entitled “Rubbers: The Life, History & Struggle of the Condom” opened.

In the space of 15 minutes and one fairly small gallery, I learned the entire history of prophylactics ranging from primitive condoms (read: animal intestine and linens) to the revolutionizing vulcanized rubber condoms, to trusty modern latex sheaths. The exhibit also includes the history of venereal disease, syphilis, and HIV/AIDS. Additionally, condom artwork peppers the gallery.

My personal favorites include “Condoment Set”—salt and pepper shakers shaped like condoms—and “Condoms from FIST” by Franko B., a piece composed of hundreds of used and discarded condoms collected from floors and trashcans in FIST, a London gay dance club.

Once you’ve learned a lifetime’s worth of knowledge about condoms, explore the rest of the museum. Among other treasures, you’ll find examples of antique vibrators, sex cartoons from the 1930s and 40s, and “The Sex Lives of Robots,” a mini-exhibit created by Michael Sullivan showcasing robots in (extremely) sexual situations. The mini-exhibit features a clip from the pornographic stop animation film of the same title, which Sullivan refers to as, “footage of every conceivable sperm transfer device that is performed by robot pornographers and their well-lubricated machines.”

Nneka McGuire is a Columbia College junior majoring in creative writing. The Fun, the Fantastical, and the Freakish runs alternate Fridays.

Harlem newcomer Frizzante has warm, welcoming atmosphere but food fizzles

BY VANESSA DEJESUS
Columbia Daily Spectator

FOOD
&
DRINK

Smooth music and warm décor could not save Frizzante Bistro and Bar's unimpressive food. Frederick Douglass Boulevard has recently welcomed Frizzante Bistro and Bar to its growing number of neighborhood eateries. Jazzy swing music and dim lights greet the few diners present on a cold winter night. The dining area looks beautiful, decorated with wooden tables, a faux brick wall, and a stylish bar area complete with an astonishing wall of wine bottles. Crown molding, hanging lights and plenty of windows make Frizzante both welcoming and chic. Prices are the highlight of the paper menu—most dishes are below \$10, always a plus for the college student on a budget. However, don't forget to visit the ATM before heading over—only cash is accepted. The waiters are attentive and friendly, swooping past at close intervals yet

never rushing. After taking orders, waiters dole out bread. Few dishes taste as simple and delicious as a warm Italian loaf with butter, and Frizzante's offering did not disappoint. Frizzante's steaming plate of spaghetti and meatballs smells and looks delicious. Served al dente, the spaghetti is bathed in a sweet tomato sauce. Unfortunately, the sauce tastes bland, devoid of any seasoning. After the addition of fresh parmesan and black pepper, the plate gains a measure of flavor. Still, the meatballs make for the spaghetti's real downfall. Just like the sauce, the meatballs taste like nothing—with no onion, no spice, and no texture other than unappetizingly soggy bread. Frizzante does not offer a dessert menu—but most diners are unlikely to express interest in more food following such a dismal entree. Customers might leave full, but not satisfied.

Frizzante Italian Bistro is located at 2168 Frederick Douglass Boulevard (at 117th Street).



NAOMI ELLENSON FOR SPECTATOR

BUDGET BISTRO | Frizzante Bistro and Bar, a new addition to the Harlem restaurant scene, has low prices but also low-quality food. The decor is the one standout attribute, with a welcoming, casual vibe perfect for meals on cold winter days.

UWS symphonies for student cinephiles

SYMPHONY from page 8

the opportune time to orient oneself with this West Side institution and its variety of alluring cinema prospects. In the next month, Symphony Space will offer a range of productions encompassing film, literature, and music. Notably, Thalia Film Sundays, whose namesake is the art house Thalia cinema, aims to showcase the latest masterpieces and documentaries. “Séraphine” and “Elect the Dead Symphony” are among its current offerings. Alternatively, Monteverdi’s “L’Orfeo Baroque” and Bizet’s “Carmen” are among the current choices in the “Opera in HD” series, which brings to the New York big screen recently recorded performances from renowned opera houses around the world.

Students with combined film and music interests will find something as well—classical music highlights include the American Symphony Orchestra in “Classics Declassified: Beethoven Symphonies 3-5” beginning Feb. 7 and the New Amsterdam Symphony Orchestra in “American Salute!” on Feb. 12. Literature in Performance will continue throughout the spring, in the form of Selected Shorts, which features short stories by established and emerging writers read by film or theater stars. If neither Verdi nor Beethoven are enticing, Symphony Space might satisfy the urge for yellow muscat or an artisan macaroon. The Unwined Bar, a snug little boîte with candlelight, couches, and chocolate fondue, is well-suited for discussion of the films playing upstairs. Columbia students have even more incentive to utilize Symphony Space, because of the discounted tickets available. All students

have access to “member-priced” (read: cheaper) tickets, as well as assorted regular student discounts. But even with the student discount, prices can be daunting. “I went, but didn’t go in,” says Gaby Graham, BC ’12, citing the \$20 cover charge as exorbitant for cheap, spur-of-the-moment entertainment. While ticket prices vary depending on the event, Symphony Space is no nickelodeon. Since the cold often keeps students from venturing downtown, now is a particularly opportune time for the short journey to 95th and Broadway. As dense coursework looms, head to Symphony Space for a showing of “Sita Sings the Blues.” Although geared toward ages three to eight, bringing a kid sibling along is not necessary. This film is both lively and beautifully animated—and a good supplement to any required reading of the “Ramayana.”

Amber makes for Asian-inspired evening in casual environment

AMBER from page 8

different vegetables to create textures mimicking meat and fish rolls. Even on a Friday night, not the best time for sushi freshness, the vegetables are crisp and the fish is tender. Amber’s specialty rolls aren’t anything new, but familiarity provides some comfort. Most of the specialty rolls feature tempura and spicy mayonnaise. Amber also seeks to incorporate spices, but overall the sushi felt predictable. The presentation and portions, however, made it memorable. For those who do not enjoy sushi, an entire side of the menu lists rice and noodle dishes. These grill specials

come either vegetarian or with different meats, allowing the diner to customize his or her meal. The Pad Thai is moist and has a delicious peanut flavor. Entrees feature large amounts of meat and vegetables, satisfying even the most voracious eaters. Amber also makes a creative variety of cocktails. Try any of their fruity drinks, but beware of the steep cost. Though the restaurant is busy, the tables never seem crowded—dim lighting makes conversation with old acquaintances completely comfortable. With fast and helpful service, Amber makes for an enjoyable evening in a venue that never intimidates the customer.



JACK ZIETMAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

MALAYSIAN INVASION | Fatty Crab’s dining room is a step up from that of the typical ethnic hole-in-the-wall eatery, and the food does not disappoint either. The restaurant offers exotic Malaysian fare.

Malaysia on the mind, plate, and palate at popular nearby restaurant Fatty Crab

BY NATASSIA MILLER
Spectator Staff Writer



While the quintessential ethnic restaurant conjures up an image of a hole-in-the-wall joint run by a humble family in a back alley, Fatty Crab simply can’t escape the public eye. When Zak Pelaccio opened Fatty Crab last year, the news spread quickly. Known primarily for his Meatpacking District spot 5Ninth, New Yorkers wondered how his New American specialties would translate into Fatty Crab’s Malaysian fare. Apparently, the concept worked so well that he extended his West Village location (Hudson Street between Horatio and Gansevoort Streets) to the Upper West Side (76th Street and Broadway). Both are a short walk from the 1 train, but only the uptown location takes reservations. Fatty Crab’s authenticity may seem questionable, but Malaysia’s long history of colonial occupation and close proximity to neighboring countries make Malaysian cuisine itself a fusion. Incorporating an amalgam of Southeast Asian flavors, Malaysian cuisine includes a strong focus on chili spices and coconut milk. A warning to trendy, nouveau vegans: pork, duck, and shellfish abound, yet stopping by for the distinctly downtown ambience is worth it. Red lights reveal crowded tables and black booths along with a spacious bar. There, visitors can enjoy creative concoctions like a Fatty Sling, made with rum, pineapple juice, ginger ale, and Pernod (\$12), as Bob Marley remixes and electronic lounge beats play.

At Fatty Crab, embrace sharing—portions are small and the menu offers too many intriguing dishes to pick just one. Start with the famed steamed pork buns and slices of green mango dipped in a lip-puckering blend of chili, sugar and salt. Or make a bold move by jumping straight into the Fatty’s Specialties section of the menu, which features a melodious ode to pork—watermelon pickle tossed with juicy chunks of crispy, fried pork and, inevitably, lard—but who’s complaining? And then there is the fatty duck, whose golden skin protects delicate meat lathered with a sweet sauce. Beneath the duck, toasted tamaki, or rice kernels, add a foreign element to the white rice’s sticky texture. As the restaurant’s namesake suggests, there is an incredibly messy chili crab dish. A red, hot chili sauce steps in for melted butter, which is so tasty that it can make even the most hardened students forget about pending papers and finals. If the crab’s market price seems unsettling, the menu’s best bargains lie in the noodle and rice bowls. Nasi goreng, or house special fried rice, arrives as a generous bowl of brown rice, chicken, shrimp, pork, and fried egg. Make no mistake: this dish is only reserved for those who can handle some serious spice. For a more traditional Malaysian approach, look to nasi lemak, or rice soaked in coconut milk mixed with chicken curry and a slow poached egg. After an intensely flavorful meal, the pitiful dessert menu that consists solely of two different chocolate bars will surely disappoint. Yet, complimentary desserts like the mochi cake slices with a subtle hint of dulce de leche are a delicious surprise that will end any sweet qualms. So, leave intellectual skepticism at the door, because there is no time for that in this relentless encounter with unexpected, fiery flavors. It’s an experience reserved only for the open-minded, the uninhibited, and the curious.

Guggenheim exhibits art of human interaction

GUGGENHEIM from page 5

Danielle Dillon, BC ’12, characterized them as “nervous.” I undeniably fell in that category, as I was grasping for ideas to reconcile what was happening with what I expected of art. I soon learned, however, to expel all preconceived notions and just enjoy the invigoration that comes with talking to various intelligent, open, and unique people. Solomon encouraged this sentiment, saying that one of the goals of the exhibit is to “bring something new out of the visitor,” and Dillon expressed that “This Progress” is “all about human interaction.” The work is a “once-in-a-lifetime opportunity,” Higonnet said, and “such a tribute to Barnard that they would think out of the box.” She was pleased that administrators for allowing the course to count for credit. Higonnet also said that she is “committed as a teacher to having Columbia and Barnard students get as much as they can out of the New York museums,” all of which she considers to hold great potential for budding, inquisitive minds. Over the course of my meanderings in the Guggenheim, I discussed the potentially negative attributes of progress with a teenager, the hyperfunctionality of New York City with a thirty-something, and the possibly futile attempts of scholars to rework the classics with an older man. The different perspectives were enlightening and refreshing, and a surprising shake-up to routine college interaction. After all, the chance to meet new, exciting individuals who openly express their diverse and challenging outlooks only comes by once in a while—and rarely past NSOP week.

The Tino Sehgal exhibition is currently at the Guggenheim Museum on Fifth Avenue and 89th Street, and runs Jan. 29 to March 10. Admission is free with CUID.

Across the bridge, ‘As You Like It’ disappoints

‘AS YOU LIKE IT’ from page 5

the play. The tonal tug-of-war Mendes plays with Shakespeare ultimately results in dissonant confusion, and finally, boredom. Granted, if one is a fan of the text, these criticisms may be a moot point. The technical aspects are top-notch, so maybe my initial problems with the text simply clouded my better judgment. However, for most audience members, the long trek down to Brooklyn is not worth such a mediocre introduction.

BAM Harvey Theater, 651 Fulton Street (at Ashland Place), Brooklyn. Various days, now through March 13, \$35.

Past and president come together at Historical Society

EHIBIT from page 8

all these great minds in the same place led to an explosion of intellectual ferment. FDR’s famous “We have nothing to fear but fear itself” speech was the product of extensive collaboration within the Brain Trust. In addition, and perhaps most notably, the New Deal was conceived and eventually executed by these men. At first glance, the exhibit does not seem large enough to hold all the information it provides. The background section presents a collage of passionate newspaper articles and posters about the state of the economy and the political events at the time. In the foreground are photos of the members of the Brain Trust, with a note detailing their involvement in FDR’s election and tenure. There are many maps and etchings—one detailing Hooverville, which could be seen from Columbia office windows. Though the exhibition is small, it is still applicable today. “It touches on issues that people are fighting and thinking about,” Ashton said.

Tomorrow’s musical virtuosos play for free at Juilliard students’ conservatory recitals

VIRTUOSOS from page 8

schools—the opportunity to perform holds as prominent a role in music education as instruction and practice. Still, sitting in the audience in Juilliard’s Paul Hall is nothing like it is at Carnegie Hall. The audience wears casual clothing and the performance sheds many of the typical formalities. The focus is on the music, and people seem to know it as

students eagerly listen to their classmates. Just a short distance from the quad, Columbia students can access some of the best music in the city at no cost. Not long ago, today’s classical stars such as Yo-Yo Ma and Itzhak Perlman were performing at the same free recitals for the public. The next Sonatenabend will be held on February 18th, and the experience definitely merits the trip. It’s free, and the performers ask for nothing more than an audience.



COURTESY OF THE NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BRAINY BUNCH | A recently opened exhibit the New York Historical Society profiles Franklin D. Roosevelt's advisors, known collectively as the Brain Trust.

Past and president come together at Historical Society exhibit

BY KATE WELSH
Columbia Daily Spectator

BOOKS The old adage is true: history repeats itself. Few things prove this better than “FDR’s Brain Trust and the Beginning of the New Deal.” Running through March 25, 2010, the new exhibit at the New York Historical Society highlights former President

Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s assembly of advisors—many of whom were professors at Columbia—and the part they played in the creation of the New Deal. The primary inspiration for the exhibit was drawn from the similarities between the 2008 election and FDR’s election in 1932. Jean Ashton, Curator, Executive Vice President and Director of Library at the New York Historical Society, said that “there was a good deal of speculation

among our constituents who were worried about the parallels between Obama and FDR’s situation, the state of the country, and the depression.” In the years leading up to 1932, FDR accumulated a group of people to help him create his campaign and establish his role as president. This group included the agricultural economist Rexford G. Tugwell, law professor Raymond Moley, political theorist Adolf Berle, and lawyer Samuel Irving, all of

whom were on the Columbia University faculty. “Brain Trust,” Ashton said, “was a term coined by a reporter and it sort of caught on. At the time, there was a really profound distrust of intellectuals.” The Brain Trust made waves. Bringing together

SEE EXHIBIT, page 7

Tomorrow’s virtuosos play for free at conservatory recitals

BY DAN WEINSTEIN
Columbia Daily Spectator

MUSIC The next generation of renowned soloists and symphonies is within walking distance, and asking for listeners. With major venues so close to campus, it is easy to overlook some of the less-advertised concert halls. Just outside Morningside Heights, though, Columbia students have the chance to hear a program a bit more eccentric than most of the music performed in the nearby Avery Fisher Hall.

Last week, Juilliard students performed part of an ongoing concert series, *Sonatenabend*. True to its name, “sonata evening” in German, the program invites Juilliard students, their professors, and the community to a casual performance by young musicians in the newly renovated Juilliard building on 66th Street and Broadway. For most New York students enjoying the classical music scene, Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center Rush Tickets

are an obvious choice. But with a lineup of students emerging from some of the world’s most intensive music programs, conservatory student recitals offer the perfect solution for students on a budget looking for an engaging show. In addition to boasting some of the nation’s best young musicians, the series offers works by more obscure composers. While Schumann and Liszt provided a familiar sound at last week’s recital, Ned Rorem’s “Night Music,” a suite composed for violin and piano, brought eerie and dissonant melodies to the audience’s ears. Though perhaps a bit less accessible, bizarre musical dialogues such as this are compelling. With a surprising deviation from the Romantic composers on the program, Rorem’s haunting depictions such as “Mosquitoes and Earthworms” added an interesting balance to the repertoire. Student recitals happen on a regular basis at music

SEE VIRTUOSO, page 7



FILE PHOTO

ART HOUSE | Upper West Side landmark Symphony Space shows eclectic flicks from a variety of genres.

Symphonies for student cinephiles

BY CAROLINE CASEY
Columbia Daily Spectator

FILM For anyone who lives in the Upper West Side and listens to NPR, Symphony Space is easily

recognizable by its bright, colorful façade. This lesser-known film venue has plenty of options for not only locals, but students as well. It can feed the craving for a high definition film of an opera, or perhaps a striking production of Massenet’s

SEE SYMPHONY, page 7



COURTESY OF JENNA SOLEO

AUDIENCE FOR AUDIO | Juilliard frequently offers free concerts, given by music students at Paul Hall on the school’s campus.

Amber makes for Asian-inspired evening

BY ERIN FLYNN
Columbia Daily Spectator

FOOD & DRINK When students want to impress their friends or a hot date, it can be hard to find a place that doesn’t make them feel out of their league. Some intimate restaurants convert themselves into singles bars for middle-aged adults who enjoy turtlenecks and salsa dance by 7 p.m., others charge over \$50 for five courses. But down between 71st and 70th streets on Columbus Avenue, a restaurant called Amber provides a sexy and hip vibe that still retains its college cool. Dimly lit in a red hue, the space features Asian plants bordering the tables. Although the atmosphere exudes youth, Amber still feels mature—even for a meet-up with friends. Moderate prices lead to generous portions here, with a variety of Asian dishes on the menu. Amber specializes in Japanese cuisine—nothing too experimental. Amber’s maki, or sushi rolls, taste flavorful, made with fresh



JACK ZIETMAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

EAST MEETS WEST | Amber’s decor includes lanterns and exotic statues.

ingredients. Almost exclusively, Amber prepares inside-out rolls with a high stuffing-to-rice ratio. Individual flavors

come through, even with veggie sushi—Amber uses many

SEE AMBER, page 7



Lions to challenge Tigers in Ancient Eight swimming meet

BY JULIA GARRISON
Spectator Staff Writer

COLUMBIA AT PRINCETON

Princeton, N.J., Friday, 4 p.m.

The women's swimming and diving team will face its toughest Ivy League competition of the season when it challenges Princeton today in New Jersey at 4 p.m. The Lions are currently 5-2 (3-2 Ivy) in dual-meet competitions and will be entering the battle propelled by a five-meet winning streak. The Tigers, however, are undefeated this season, boasting a 6-0 overall record (6-0 Ivy). This will be Princeton's final meet of regular season competition, and it will be up to Columbia to break the Tigers' perfect record.

When these two teams dove into Uris Pool last season, Princeton defeated Columbia 156-123. The competition began in favor of the Lions when the team of Dorothy Baker, Mariele Dunn, Allison Hobbs, and Hannah Galey took first place in the 200 medley relay. Princeton responded by winning the following two races, but Dunn and Galey teamed up again to raise the score in Columbia's favor—taking the top spot in the 50 breast-stroke and 50 free, respectively.

On the diving board, then-senior captain Shannon Hosey shone for the Lions, placing 2nd in 3-meter diving

and first in the 1-meter competition. With a score of 290.70 in the 1-meter event, Hosey achieved her highest score of the season on both boards.

Although then-freshman Baker was able to capture first in the 200 back, the Tigers ran away with the win after claiming first place in the four events that followed. Winning the 200 IM was Princeton's Alicia Aemisegger, who broke the 1999 pool record by finishing in 2:02.68.

The Lions did not give up, answering the Tigers by setting a new pool record in the 200 freestyle relay. The squad of Lauren Fraley, Christina Hughes, Hobbs and Galey finished the event in 1:36.89, breaking the 2006 record of 1:37.41.

With its triumph over the Lions last year, Princeton finished 7-0 in the league, winning the title of Ivy League Champion in regular season competition. This year, the Lions will strive to maintain their winning streak and improve to 4-2 in the Ancient Eight. The Columbia-Princeton match will begin at 4 p.m. today in Princeton, N.J.



JOSE GIRALT FOR SPECTATOR
FREESTYLE | The women's swimming and diving team faces Princeton this afternoon in its toughest conference meet of the season.



SHIVINA HARJANI FOR SPECTATOR
BIG SWING | Women's tennis is all geared up to avenge last weekend's disappointing loss with upcoming bouts against nonconference Stony Brook and Fairleigh Dickinson teams.

CU to square off in back-to-back matches

BY LAUREN SEAMAN
Columbia Daily Spectator

COLUMBIA VS. STONY BROOK

Dick Savitt Tennis Center, Friday, 2 p.m.

COLUMBIA VS. FARLEIGH DICKINSON

Dick Savitt Tennis Center, Saturday, 12 p.m.

Still early in the season, the Columbia women's tennis team is looking to salvage its record after a heartbreaking loss to St. John's last Sunday. This weekend, the Light Blue will play back-to-back home matches against Stony Brook and Fairleigh Dickinson. Head coach Ilene Weintraub has been motivating the team for the tough upcoming matches.

"I've just been telling the team not to underestimate any opponents," Weintraub said.

In addition to maintaining that mindset, the Lions are also shifting the focus of their play. Weintraub was pleased with the level of doubles play on Sunday, and has since been able to work on other aspects of the game with the team to prepare for the weekend matches.

"Going into the St. John's match, I was emphasizing doubles," she said. "This past week, I have been focusing the team on singles. We have been working on patterns, consistency, and defense."

One player in particular has proven herself ready for the tough two matches to come. Junior captain and No. 2 singles player Natasha Makarova had an inspiring win last weekend against St. John's. She was able to recover from an early loss of 2-6 to defeat her opponent in the second and third sets, 6-3, 6-2.

"Natasha is one of the hardest-working players I've ever coached," Weintraub said. "She's a really strong leader and sets a tremendous example for the younger girls."

The team must also prepare to avoid the types of losses that occurred last week. In the match against St. John's, sophomore No. 4 singles player Eliza Matache suffered a disheartening loss. She won the first set 6-3, but was unfortunately unable to seal the win, and lost the second and third sets, 1-6, 1-6.

"Eliza's loss was really disappointing," Weintraub said.

But the disappointing loss will not stop Matache from fighting to recover this weekend. She has been working on her game during practice this week and is hoping to bounce back during these next two matches. Weintraub has been helping her along the way.

"In the last match, she got tired," Weintraub said. "I told her that she needs to use the momentum for her teammates to win in the future."

Teamwork will be the biggest asset to the Lions in these upcoming matches. The team is a close and motivated one that is prepared to reverse the early record. This weekend the Lions are on their home turf in the tennis bubble at Baker Field.

First up is Stony Brook, which hasn't yet opened its spring season. Stony Brook is led by sophomore Katherine Hanson, who ranked as high as No. 70 in the nation and went 11-10 overall in her 2009 spring season. Weintraub is confident that the No. 1 singles matchup, freshman Nicole Bartnik, will perform well, and has been helping her prepare for the match.

"It will be a close match," Weintraub said.

On Saturday, Columbia is scheduled to play Fairleigh Dickinson, a currently undefeated team that had a huge 7-0 win last week. When asked if the Lions are going into the FDU match differently due to FDU's current record, Weintraub seemed confident in her strategy.

"We take one match at a time," she said. "We're motivated to break their winning streak."

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Richard Weissbourd
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“Raising Happy—
and Moral—
Children”

Richard is the author of
*The Parents We Mean To Be: How Well-Intentioned Adults
Undermine Children’s Moral and Emotional Development*

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ELAINE BURCHMAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
TAKEDOWN | The Light Blue travels upstate tomorrow to take on one Ivy foe and one nonconference challenger.

Wrestlers prep to pin Cornell, Binghamton

BY BART LOPEZ
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

COLUMBIA AT CORNELL

Ithaca, New York, Saturday, 2 p.m.

COLUMBIA AT BINGHAMTON

Binghamton, New York, Saturday, 6 p.m.

This weekend, the Columbia men's wrestling team will face two New York rivals in Cornell and Binghamton. The Lions are coming off last week's successful three-match stretch where they went 2-1.

Columbia's first match will be against Ivy rival Cornell at 2 p.m. on Saturday. Cornell will enter this weekend's match with a 4-3-1 record, but don't let the record fool you: the Big Red will be a tough opponent. Junior Mack Lewnes leads Cornell with an impressive 25-0 record on the season in the 174-pound weight class. Most likely to face Lewnes will be Columbia's Jonathan Weibel, who also sports a solid record at 13-4. Another Columbia wrestler to keep an eye out for is sophomore Kyle Gilchrist in the 125-pound weight class. Gilchrist, currently resting on a 20-7 overall record, was named Student-Athlete of the month for January. Last month, Gilchrist went 8-1 in competition, including a big upset over Anthony Zanetta of the University of Pittsburgh, who was then ranked 19th in the country. In order to beat the Big Red, the Lions are going to need everyone to step up as Cornell has five wrestlers with a winning percentage over 80. A win against Cornell will be a season-defining moment for the Light Blue.

Just four hours after facing Cornell, Columbia will travel to face Binghamton at 6 p.m. The Bearcats enter the weekend with an 11-6-1 overall record and recent victories over Boston University and Ithaca. Binghamton will be lead by junior Anwar Goeres, who leads the team with a 27-7 record. Goeres, a New York native, competes in the 141-pound class and leads the team with eight pins on the season. In addition to Goeres, Binghamton will bring several top-notch wrestlers including freshman Donnie Vinson, 24-10 overall at 149 pounds, and freshman Nate Schiedel, 20-6 overall at 184 pounds.

This weekend will be a good test for the Columbia wrestling team, as both Cornell and Binghamton have solid wrestlers in nearly every weight class. A good showing this weekend will provide some much-needed momentum heading into Ivy League competition.



BY THE NUMBERS

POINTS FOR

COLUMBIA

BROWN

62.4

66.7

POINTS AGAINST

COLUMBIA

BROWN

67.2

72.2

FIELD GOAL PCT.

COLUMBIA

BROWN

.419

.437

REBOUNDS

COLUMBIA

BROWN

33.9

33.2

ASSISTS

COLUMBIA

BROWN

10.4

14.0

COURTESY OF RUTH MONTEIL OF THE YALE DAILY NEWS

JUMP SHOT | Both Alex Zampier's offensive skills and leadership capabilities shine for Yale hoops.

Zampier brings offensive prowess, leadership to Bulldogs

BY SPENCER GYORY
Spectator Staff Writer

Alex Zampier, a 6-3 senior guard for Yale University, is playing himself onto the all-Ivy team. His phenomenal performance this season has him ranked first in points per game (17.8) and free-throw percentage (.869), second in steals per game (2.6) and tied for fourth in three-point FG's made (39). In addition, Zampier has already been named Ivy League Player of the Week twice this season.

Zampier's play in high school was no different. While at Columbia High School in East Greenbush, N.Y., he was a four year starter, second all-time leading scorer in school history (with 1,381 points), and a New York all-state selection as both a junior and senior. Though he chose to play basketball in college, Zampier's athletic ability extended to the baseball field as well. In fact, he hit three grand slams in his senior year to claim a New York state single season record.

Coming out of high school, Zampier says, "I was recruited by a lot of big schools. I was actually going to go to Indiana but when Mike Davis got fired I was out of a scholarship. Luckily, Yale head coach James Jones came into the picture."

It would be fair to say that both Yale and Zampier have benefited from the relationship.

Regarding the transition into college play, Zampier said, "The talent is just much higher. Everyone knows the game a lot better and they know what they have to do. The style of play is a lot more physical so I had to be more physical. I had to learn to make quicker decisions as well."

Zampier's segue was eased thanks to his pure

Opponent Profile

athleticism. His coach said, "He has a great quickness. He has very good footwork. He also has the quickest hands I've ever seen."

Zampier's role and level of play has improved dramatically throughout his four years at Yale. Jones says, "He started in freshman year as our backup point guard. Now, he's our leading wing."

Since his first year, Zampier's minutes and points have increased from 12.0 minutes and 2.8 points per game to 30.4 minutes and 17.8 points per game.

Zampier is an integral part of Yale's style of play. "We are a physical inside basketball team," Jones said.

His top player agrees: Zampier defines Yale basketball as "physical". "We focus on defense a lot and on offense we try to go inside out," Zampier said. As Jones pointed out, "He complements what we do at the basket."

Zampier said of his role on the team, "Leadership is the biggest thing. I'm the leader. I'm the captain. I'm also the guy who can put the ball in the hoop when we need somebody to."

In addition to leading by example, Zampier also said, "When people are down, [leadership] is about keeping their spirits up. It's about keeping people together during the bad times."

Because of his production this year, Zampier has found that "there are usually two guys on me." To overcome the extra attention defenses give him, Zampier said he has to "move hard without the ball and use his teammates to get open."

Looking forward, Zampier thinks that this Yale squad, currently 8-13 (2-2 Ivy) has a lot of potential. Although he admits that the team has been "very inconsistent," Zampier said, "Once we get more consistent I like our chances a lot." Yale could be a team to watch out for if Zampier's prolific play continues.

BY THE NUMBERS

POINTS FOR

COLUMBIA

YALE

62.4

66.9

POINTS AGAINST

COLUMBIA

YALE

67.2

69.1

FIELD GOAL PCT.

COLUMBIA

YALE

.419

.425

REBOUNDS

COLUMBIA

YALE

33.9

34.7

ASSISTS

COLUMBIA

YALE

10.4

13.3

LAST TIME THEY MET

70

Feb. 20

AT

Providence, R.I.

57

KEY MATCHUP

Mullery vs. Crimmins

Brown senior forward Matt Mullery is the Bears' biggest threat, currently leading the team in both points (14.9) and rebounds (6.0). Foul-prone junior center Zack Crimmins will have to figure out a way to shut Mullery down without getting into foul trouble.

MATT MULLERY

ZACK CRIMMINS

COURTESY OF BROWN ATHLETICS AND COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

KEY MATCHUP

Zampier vs. Agho

Yale's senior guard Alex Zampier is currently leading the Ivy League in scoring with 17.8 points per game, slightly more than Light Blue sophomore guard Noruwa Agho's 17. But if Agho can remain hot from long range, he could repeat last Saturday's 25-point performance.

ALEX ZAMPIER

NORUWA AGHO

COURTESY OF YALE ATHLETICS AND COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

WEEK 3									
	Tom Di Benedetto (11-5)	Jelani Johnson (10-6)	Bartolo Lopez (10-6)	Lucas Shaw (10-6)	Lisa Lewis (9-7)	Jacob Shapiro (9-7)	Holly MacDonald (8-8)	Matt Velazquez (7-9)	Kunal Gupta (6-10)
	Brown at Columbia (-3.5)	Lions	Columbia	Columbia	Lions	Columbia	Columbia	Columbia	Columbia
	Yale at Cornell (-22.5)	Still Big Red	Cornell	Cornell	Ithaca	Cornell	#25	Cornell	Top 25
	Princeton at Harvard (-7.5)	Tigers	Harvard	Harvard	P-town	Harvard	Harvard	Jeremy Lin	Harvard
	Penn at Dartmouth (+5.5)	Penn	Penn	Penn	Quaker Power	Dartmouth	Penn	Penn	Penn
	Villanova at Georgetown (6.5)	Hoyas	Georgetown	Georgetown	Hoyas	Hoyas	Georgetown	Georgetown	Nova
	Nuggets at Lakers (-3.5)	Lakers	Lakers	Lakers	Lake Show	Billups	Lakers	Lakers	Nuggz
	Magic at Celtics (pick)	Celts	Magic	Celtics	Stan the man	Celtics	Celts	Celtics	Magic
	Saints vs. Colts (-4.5)	Saints	Saints	Colts	Saints	Who Dat?	Colts	WHO DAT?	Who Dat?
THE BEST PART	Yes, that was a Bring It On reference.	"Spaceships don't come equipped with rearview mirrors"	I'm starting to understand what it's like to be an NFL quarterback on Monday, thanks Lucas.	The Dodgers biggest off-season acquisition has a weight clause in his contract. Unless you think Reed Johnson is more important...	This week's football pick is dedicated to Lillian...and dedicated to Casey's buffalo chicken dip. Mmmmm...	This weekend I'm going to see that...uh...new Sci-Fi program that Biden saw...	"It was just in my heart." Jordan Hicks on why he chose Texas.	Happy 75th birthday Professor Holloway!	Lucas, wasn't your last column about Brett Favre and didn't it not have quotes?

GAMEDAY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2010 • PAGE 12

What athletic feat does it take to root for Ithaca?



MATT VELAZQUEZ
The X-Factor

I love Super Bowl Sunday. I've gone on record in this paper saying that both Super Bowl Sunday and Hangover Monday should be considered national holidays. It's not only about loving football—I love the food, the commercials, the camaraderie, the passion, everything. This year, though, there is one thing I hate about the Super Bowl: the Indianapolis Colts.

It's not my fault that I hate the Colts—as a Patriots fan, I don't have a choice. There is no doubt in my mind that Peyton Manning is one of the top five quarterbacks of all time right now—I'll refute anyone who is senseless enough to believe otherwise—and I think his commercials are hilarious, but do I root against him and the Colts in just about every game they play. Sure do.

Probably the one exception was the AFC Championship, when I decided I would rather see the Colts go to the Super Bowl (and lose) than see the Jets move on and give their annoying fans any hope of there being a parade through the dreaded Canyon of Heroes.

Ask anyone who knows me, and they'll tell you that I'm not a hateful person. There's just something about sports that inspires extreme passion in me and allows me to unleash my frustrations on people who I'll probably never meet. And you know what? That's another thing I love about sports. No matter what teams are playing, there's almost always someone or something to root for or against. My team may not be in the Super Bowl this weekend, but I have to watch. Not just because it is my duty as an American citizen, but because I have to root against the Colts.

When it comes to Ivy League Sports, any player or fan here at Columbia has teams that they despise in certain sports, schools they despise in general, and schools that don't bother them at all. After covering the football team for three years and going to countless other Columbia sporting events over my time here, the team that I found I loathed the most was Cornell.

Why the Big Red? What did anyone there ever do to me? I'm not really sure how to answer that question. It's not that Cornell did anything to make me hate it—I'm pretty sure I just can't stand Ithaca. I've been there three times to cover games (football and basketball), and looking back, I think it was three times too many. Ithaca itself is a quaint little town nestled in the hills of upstate New York, and while I can see why it might appeal to other people, it's just not for me.

Based on this reasoning, you might think that I have something against Dartmouth too, but actually, I don't. Maybe it's because the trip there is filled with scenic views of autumnal New England. Maybe it's because both times I went there on Spectator business, we split the trip over two days. Maybe it's because Buddy Teevens has a soothing voice and—win or lose—might just be the nicest coach in the Ivy League. I have no idea, but Dartmouth has tended to be the team that bothers me least in the Ancient Eight.

Over this basketball season, though, something has changed in me. I've stopped hating Cornell and have found myself rooting for the Big Red. Not when they come to Levien, of course—but when they took Kansas to the brink at Phog Allen Fieldhouse, I excitedly tuned in on ESPN2 to watch what I was hoping would be the biggest upset by an Ivy League basketball team since the Harvard women's team beat Stanford in the NCAA tournament in 1998.

On Monday, Cornell became the first Ancient Eight team since Princeton in 1998 to break into the top 25 of a national poll by being ranked No. 25 in the ESPN/USA Today Poll. It was the first national ranking for the Big Red in 59 years, and it was well deserved. Cornell has beaten major conference foes such as Alabama and St. John's, played tough games against Kansas and Syracuse on the road, and absolutely dismantled Harvard—the only team people thought could challenge the Big Red—this past weekend. Currently, the Big Red's RPI (Relative Power Index) is 33rd in the nation, which means that Cornell has played some of the toughest competition in the nation and won on many occasions.

Why, then, is Cornell's success—which has come at the detriment of Columbia—so exciting for me? I gave that question some thought, and it ultimately came down to this: A strong team in the Ivy League, even if it's one that I generally do not like, gives recognition and credibility to the rest of the league. It shows the rest of the country that the Ivy League isn't just a two-bit conference full of subpar talent. Rather, there are athletes at these eight schools that can compete with the best of the best.

When it comes to Columbia, having a strong opponent in the league might hurt its ability to recruit against those teams. However, if the league as a whole has a higher level of credibility and prestige as a result of there being a great team in the mix, better players might be more likely to consider playing in the Ivy League rather than going to a different school in a mid-major conference. Thus, it follows that if one team wins, the league as a whole could benefit.

While I would still rank Cornell as one of the Ivy schools I dislike the most, I can't help but root for the Big Red basketball team this season. That sounds a little surprising, even to me, but that's another thing that I love about sports—they can always surprise you. Happy Super Bowl weekend, everybody!

Matt Velazquez is a Columbia College senior majoring in history.
sportseditors@columbiaspectator.com

COLUMBIA (7-11, 1-3 Ivy) vs.
BROWN (7-14, 1-3 Ivy)
FRIDAY, 7 P.M., LEVIEN GYM



RADIO:
WKCR 89.9 FM
WVDJ 97.0 AM
WWW:
GOCOLUMBIA
LIONS.COM



COLUMBIA (7-11, 1-3 Ivy) vs.
YALE (8-13, 2-2 Ivy)
SATURDAY, 7 P.M., LEVIEN GYM



JASPER CLYATT / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DRIVE TO THE HOOP | Basketball faces two Ivy rivals this weekend in search of a .500 Ivy record.

Women's hoops looks to drain Ivy foes Brown, Yale

BY MICHAEL ZHONG
Spectator Staff Writer

Before next weekend's blockbuster matchup against the league-leading Princeton Tigers, women's basketball will play at Brown and Yale and try to improve its 3-1 conference record.

Brown—who most consider an improved team from last year—has a 5-13 (2-2 Ivy) record so far this season. Against the Bears, Columbia will have to try and contain guards Hannah Passafiume and Lindsay Nickel. The duo forms a backcourt that has provided scoring options that the Bears lacked last year in their 1-13 Ivy League season.

Passafiume comes off the bench but leads the team in scoring with an average of 9.4 points per game. In her last outing, she altered the complexion of the game, scoring 21 points in 23 minutes to lead Brown to a 61-47 victory over Penn.

Freshman Nickel has also been a steady contributor for the Bears. She won the Ivy League Rookie of the Week award recently and is a bright spot in Brown's future.

Columbia head coach Paul Nixon said of Nickel, "I think she's a big part of the reason that their team is performing a little better this year. She is certainly someone we'll need to pay attention to on Friday night."

COLUMBIA AT BROWN

Providence, R.I., Friday, 7 p.m.

COLUMBIA AT YALE

New Haven, Conn., Saturday, 7 p.m.

The last time these two teams played—a game in which the Light Blue flattened the Bears 88-57—neither guard was active. Nickel was not on the Bears' roster yet and Passafiume missed the entire Ivy season last year with an injury.

Their presence will help Brown, but the Bears still need to find a way to contain Lions' forward Judie Lomax. In the matchup last year, Judie Lomax had a dominant performance, scoring 16 points and securing 17 rebounds. Since then, Lomax's game has only improved, and as of now she leads the league in both scoring and rebounding with averages of 18.8 points and 14.4 rebounds per game. Brown's defense also failed to stop senior guard Danielle Browne last time, as she scored 10 points and dished out 11 assists.

After Brown, Columbia faces Yale (7-11, 2-2 Ivy). Yale is coming off a 58-51 win over Penn and a 69-48 loss to

SEE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL, page 3



JENNY HSU / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

STROKE RACE | The Lions travel to Annapolis this afternoon in hopes of becoming the first team in the Ancient Eight to defeat the Midshipmen this season.

CU readies for weekend matchups

Lions slotted to take on Bears, Bulldogs in Levien

BY ZACH GLUBIAK
Spectator Staff Writer

January was a harsh month for the Light Blue. But it's over.

Now that it is, the Lions are looking to build on the momentum of their first Ivy League win and string together several more. All of that starts this weekend, when Brown and Yale come to town for Columbia's first weekend of Ancient Eight matchups in the all-important month of February.

On Saturday, Jan. 30, the Light Blue regained momentum by putting together a complete performance to down Dartmouth. The win came at just the right time for the Lions.

In a conference without a tournament, every game is important, but this weekend may be a particularly critical one for the hosts. Columbia is tied with Brown in the league standings and one game behind Yale. All three figure to finish very close to one another at the end of the year, meaning Friday's and Saturday's results may resonate for the rest of the season.

Columbia's first two Ivy opponents, Cornell and Harvard, have gone a collective 7-1 in league play, with the only loss dealt by the Big Red to the Crimson last weekend. The 3-5 Ivy record that

COLUMBIA VS. BROWN

Levien Gymnasium, Friday, 7 p.m.

COLUMBIA VS. YALE

Levien Gymnasium, Saturday, 7 p.m.

Brown and Yale will bring to Morningside Heights this weekend could make Columbia's next two games vital to the Lions' hopes of rebounding from a 1-3 league start.

In that contest, it was hugely important for head coach Joe Jones' squad to find its rhythm as a team, particularly on the offensive end. Just as vital was the resurgence of the Light Blue's leading scorer, Noruwa Agho. Facing stifling defenses and increased attention from opposing teams, Agho—who was averaging over 17 points per game going into the Ivy season—was held to an average of nine points per game in his first three conference outings.

Against Dartmouth, the 6-foot-3 sophomore guard found his rhythm early and turned in a big-time performance for Columbia, connecting from long range and finding lanes to attack the basket aggressively. When the night was over, Agho

SEE BASKETBALL, page 3



ELAINE BURCHMAN / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

BOUNCE PASS | Sara Yee and the rest of the Lions will have to work together this weekend in an effort to boost their record and defeat the Bulldogs and the Bears.

Light Blue to face off against strong Navy swimming team

BY VICTORIA JONES
Spectator Staff Writer

This afternoon, Columbia's men's swimming and diving team will compete in its last nonconference dual meet of the season. The Lions, who are 4-4 (1-4 Ivy) on the season, are taking on Navy in Annapolis, Md. in a meet that could either lift them above or force them below a .500 record.

Columbia is currently on a two-meet losing streak after dropping matches to Ivy foes Cornell and Brown, although the Light Blue's last three nonconference meets have been very successful. Army and Fordham posted significant scores to challenge the Lions, while Bucknell fell decisively, 158-83, when the teams met three weeks ago.

COLUMBIA AT NAVY

Annapolis, Md., Friday, 2 p.m.

Navy, however, has had an overwhelmingly successful season so far. Aside from dropping a meet last weekend to Virginia, the Midshipmen are otherwise undefeated, taking down much of the Ivy League as well as their own conference competitors. In terms of the Ancient Eight, Navy has already beaten Brown, Dartmouth, and most recently Yale.

The last time the two teams met, the Midshipmen triumphed 162-133. Navy took an early lead, stayed ahead of the score, and eventually competed mostly

SEE MEN'S SWIMMING, page 3