



LUKE HENDERSON / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SENATOR-ELECT | Cleo Abram, CC '15, was elected to fill the USenate seat vacated earlier this semester by Eduardo Santana, CC '13.

In M'ville, CU exceeds minority hiring goals

BY THEA RAYMOND-SIDEL
Spectator Staff Writer

During the first three years of construction on Columbia's Manhattanville expansion, more than two-thirds of the work was done by minority-, women-, and locally owned firms, exceeding goals for the project.

Fifty-one percent of non-specialty contracting dollars

were spent on MWL firms, and 67 percent of trade hours were completed by MWL workers, Joe Ienuso, executive vice president of facilities, told Spectator on Friday.

The release of the numbers came after the Empire State Development Corporation announced last week that it would investigate Columbia's hiring practices and its compliance with the Community

Benefits Agreement, which the University signed in May 2009. The CBA states that the goal for MWL firms would be 35 percent of contracting dollars and 40 percent of trade hours.

The numbers Ienuso released, however, cover only a fraction of the jobs on the site. They exclude projects like construction of the slurry wall and the central energy plant—work, Ienuso said, that requires

specialty contractors. The non-specialty statistics, which measure hiring from when construction began in 2009 until the end of the last fiscal year in June 2012, exclude “a big bulk of the work,” he said.

“For these specialty construction services, there are not many, if any, minority or local firms that do that work,” Ienuso

SEE M'VILLE, page 3

Doll company was longtime local fixture

BY HALLIE NELL SWANSON
AND KIMBERLY SHEN
Columbia Daily Spectator

On an upper floor of a Columbia building in Manhattanville, a factory put out a steady stream of life-like, detailed dolls for decades.

Founded in 1923, the Madame Alexander Doll Company moved to Columbia's Studebaker Building, on 131st Street between Broadway and 12th Avenue, in the '50s.

But while the 131st Street factory put out its final doll last year, the Madame Alexander brand is still well-known around the country. The company relocated to 34th Street in October, a move motivated by a merger with the Kahn Lucas Lancaster children's clothing company.

“We wanted to be closer to Kahn Lucas,” Alexander Doll Company President Gale Jarvis said. “We have adjusted just fine. We like where we were then and we like where we are now.”

Before its relocation, the company had deep ties to Harlem. In the mid-1950s, the company moved to Harlem's manufacturing neighborhood in pursuit of cheaper rents. It found a home in the Studebaker Building, the only building on Columbia's Manhattanville campus that the University is preserving during its current expansion.

During difficult times in the late '80s and early '90s, the company stayed in the area largely out of loyalty to its employees, many of whom lived within two miles of the factory.

Madame Alexander had a strong community connection in an area of high unemployment.

The skill set the factory required was most easily found in the inner city, with many employees from the Dominican Republic having learned to sew before coming to New York.

Increasing popularity made the company one of the largest private employers in Harlem during the 1990s, when it had about 600 employees, according to the New York State Urban Development Corporation. The site also included a Heritage Gallery of old dolls and a doll hospital for dolls under repair.

However, the factory became increasingly isolated as the Manhattanville manufacturing district declined and nearby buildings were vacated.

The company was sold in 1988 to two New York businessmen after founder Beatrice Alexander suffered a serious heart attack. In 1991 the company planned to move the factory to 155th Street, but the plan fell through because it failed to attract the financial backing needed. Madame Alexander finally merged with Kahn Lucas in 2012.

The iconic dolls were known for their elaborate detail, including hair that could be styled, detailed eyelashes and knuckles, and eyes that opened and closed. In 1963, the franchise expanded to include designer clothes for the dolls, created by Alexander herself.

Judy Ishayik, the manager of the city's oldest continuously operating toy store (Mary Arnold Toys, on Lexington Avenue between 72nd and 73rd streets), said that “the detail that Madame Alexander puts into their dolls is really amazing.”

“They are really sweet—you can tell just by looking at them that they're great quality. They have such pretty faces, the accessories

are really appealing,” Ishayik said. “Sometimes little girls come in looking at the display cases we have Madame Alexander in and start their own collections that day, the dolls are just so beautiful.”

Alexander, the late founder of the company, was the daughter of a Russian émigré. She grew up playing in her father's Manhattan doll hospital—the first in America.

Alexander's forceful personality left a lasting legacy on the company, which prided itself on quality and exclusivity. According to a 1994 New York Times article, when asked her opinion of Cabbage Patch Dolls, Alexander had responded, “If you spend a million dollars on advertising, you can sell manure.”

In keeping with Alexander's emphasis on quality, her dolls have increasingly become collectors' items rather than playthings. A new doll costs on average \$85, though at auctions, buyers pay as much as \$10,000.

There is a strong community of Madame Alexander enthusiasts, connected by the Internet and the Madame Alexander Doll Club, based in Manhattan. The collectors are primarily middle-aged women.

Ishayik said that what she has come to expect from the dolls hasn't changed since the company moved downtown.

“They haven't changed anything. It's just that the company has changed hands. The quality is still the same, the service is getting better after initial changeover adjustments,” Ishayik said.

“We have customers who come in specifically looking for Madame Alexander,” she said. “Either they have collections, or had them when they were younger, or are starting one for their children.”

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CCSC elects new University Senator

Cleo Abram, CC '15, chosen at Sunday's meeting to fill vacancy

BY RAKHI AGRAWAL AND TRACEY WANG
Spectator Staff Writers

Columbia College Student Council elected Cleo Abram, CC '15, the new University senator for Columbia College on Sunday night.

Abram, who is taking the seat vacated this semester by Eduardo Santana, CC '13, was one of three finalists who presented at the meeting, along with Benjamin Spener, CC '14, and Daniel Bonner, CC '13.

During her presentation to the council, Abram focused primarily on her research and experience in online education—including founding TEDxColumbiaCollege as a first-year—and emphasized Columbia's role in the emerging market for online courses.

“I care a lot about this community,” she said. “That's foundationally why I wanted to run for Senate.”

CCSC President Karishma Habbu, CC '13, said that Abram impressed her and the council with her presentation.

“I think that Cleo presented herself as a very capable, very efficient candidate who would bring a real energy and real vision for the Senate,” she said.

Habbu said that online education would become a vital issue of discussion in the next year, and that CCSC members felt that the Senate would benefit from Abram's expertise.

Abram said that she would love to have a dialogue about the future of online education at the Senate and what it means for the Columbia brand.

“I envision Columbia getting

involved in the growing online education movement in the same way that Harvard, MIT, and Yale have,” she said, “but in a way that suits its students' needs.”

The council members reached a two-thirds majority with a paper ballot, but a group discussion after the initial vote resulted in a unanimous decision to elect Abram.

Jared Odessky, CC '15 and vice president of communications for CCSC, said, “I think that Cleo has proven herself to be very competent and able, and she demonstrated a very strong knowledge of both senate issues as well as CC-specific issues. I think that that's what we need in a senator that will be representing both Columbia College students as well as the University as a whole.”

Bonner, the president of Hillel, said that he was happy for Abram. “I think Cleo will be great. I thought I'd give it a shot and have another chance to do something interesting and impactful on campus, but I'm really excited for her,” he said.

Spener said that while he has not decided whether to run for the position again in May, he still wants to make a difference on campus.

“I'm not going to run for the sake of running,” he said. “If I run, it'll be because I want to make a difference in the issues.”

According to Habbu, the council received over 100 applicants, and applicants were interviewed by herself; Will Hughes, CC '13 and CCSC vice president for policy; and the two other CC senators, Richard Sun, CC '13, and Matthew

SEE ABRAM, page 3



ORTAL ISAAC FOR SPECTATOR

SIGN HERE | Mercedes Pritchett, BC '13, right, signs Josh Warshavsky, GS/JTS '13, and Alex Ng, CC '14, into her dorm, 620 W. 116th Street. Barnard's guest policy only allows two guests per resident.

Students criticize BC guest policy

BY EMMA GOSS
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

On weekend nights at Columbia, residents bringing friends to their dorms is a regular sight, with students signing in as many guests as they want.

But across Broadway, Barnard students are only allowed to sign two guests at a time into their rooms—a 10-year-old policy that has come under increasing scrutiny this semester.

Barnard's more restrictive guest policy states that “each bedroom has a maximum occupancy equal to the number of assigned residents times three.” In other words, students can sign in only two guests each.

Associate Dean of Campus and Residential Life Annie Aversa said the policy exists to prevent overcrowding and disruptive noise levels.

“Most importantly, in the event of an emergency, first responders need immediate and easy access

to students and rooms, so the guest limit helps to keep crowds in residence halls at a reasonable level,” Aversa said.

Columbia does not specify a limit in its Guide to Living, although “front desk guards generally limit visitors to no more than five persons at time,” Assistant Dean for Community Development and Residential Programs Cristen Kromm said. “Guards use judgment on a case-by-case basis to be more flexible or restrictive depending on circumstances in the residence hall.”

Barnard has not always restricted the number of guests students could sign in. In the fall of 2000, an incident prompted Barnard's Student Government Association and Housing Advisory Committee to implement a guest limitation policy. A student became ill at a crowded party, and first responders were unable to enter the room quickly because so many students were trying to leave to avoid being written up, Aversa said.

However, some Barnard students find the limit too strict.

“I agree that there should be some sort of limit because it can be excessive, but I think two can be bordering on ridiculous,” Melanie Shapiro, BC '15, said. “It's just really unfortunate—when you want to go to your room, you can't, because it would be rude to leave someone downstairs.”

Sandy Bennett, a weekday and night desk attendant at Barnard's 600 building on 116th Street, said she supports increasing the guest limit, as the restriction causes crowds to build while multiple students sign in large groups of guests.

Crowd control can get “really frustrating,” Bennett said. She “can't watch the door or the elevator and the stairs at the same time,” adding that she occasionally calls a security guard to help out with crowds.

Logan Donovan, SEAS '13 and former vice president of policy for

SEE GUESTS, page 3

A&E, BACK PAGE

Lerner to host another Battle of the Bands

Four student bands will compete to open for the Columbia Music Festival at Thursday's Glass House Rocks.



OPINION, PAGE 4

Lessons in Pedagogy

Andrew Godinich explores the drawbacks of Teach for America.

Let's Talk

Ayelet Pearl takes a break from her technological relationship.

SPORTS, PAGE 2

Women's basketball struggles within paint

Though Columbia shot well from three-point range in last weekend's matchup against Dartmouth, the Lions continue to miss layups and perform poorly within the paint.

EVENTS

Varsity Valentine's Day

A Valentine's-themed information session. Meet members of the Varsity Show cast and production team and learn more about the annual event.

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WEATHER

Today



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Tomorrow



39° / 31°

Once a dark horse, now a spoiler

Columbia's 78-63 win over Harvard at Levien on Sunday afternoon was a glimpse at what could have been. The Lions were well-equipped to compete for an Ivy title this season, and on Sunday they played to their strengths, with great three-point and free throw shooting plus smothering defense on the perimeter and the post. This was the team we huddled around our computers to watch as they throttled Villanova on Nov. 20, and this was the team that gave us hope that this year could be special. Instead, after four consecutive heartbreaking losses (that could easily have been four exhilarating victories), it was Columbia basketball playing its new role of spoiler for the first time.

The Harvard win was simultaneously thrilling and a bit of a letdown. Columbia's performance was outstanding against such a talented team, and the main question on my mind as I walked out of the gym (after snapping a picture of the scoreboard, obviously) was, "Where has this been the last two weeks?" Columbia shot an outstanding 52.9 percent from beyond the arc on Sunday, making nine triples to help blow the game open. Contrast that with the Lions' 3-20 long-distance shooting just two days earlier in a three-point loss against lowly Dartmouth, 4-13 in the six-point loss to Princeton, 3-17 in a four-point loss to Penn, and an 8-26 effort in a three-point loss to Cornell.

The win over Harvard moved the Lions to 2-4 in the Ivy season. A title is almost certainly out of the question, but the former dark horse to win the league has many opportunities over the next four weekends to play spoiler to the Ivy contenders. On Saturday evening, Yale went into Princeton's Jadwin Gym—where the Lions had come up just short a week earlier—and stunned the Tigers. The loss snapped Princeton's 21-game win streak at Jadwin in Ivy play. As a result, Harvard took the court on Sunday in sole possession of first place. After the barrage of Columbia three-pointers, however, the Crimson drove back up to Cambridge tied with Princeton in the loss column. The Lions are obviously talented enough to compete with the Ivy elite, even if their record doesn't show it.

But Sunday's game was a message to the rest of the league that although they have already accumulated four losses in Ivy play, the Lions have not packed it in for the season. While the "competing for an Ivy title" portion of the season is over, a sweep this weekend could get Columbia back to .500 in Ivy play while simultaneously crushing Yale's slim hopes of competing with Harvard and Princeton at the top of the Ivy table. As it stands, the Bulldogs are two games behind. One week later, Columbia can avenge its six-point loss at Jadwin and play spoiler once again. Of course, Columbia's final road trip of the season begins in Cambridge, where the Lions could put a dagger in Harvard's hopes for a title by finishing off a rare sweep of the Crimson. It is unlikely that the Lions will come away with wins in all of these contests, but a few more wins in high-profile games can help salvage a season that has been torpedoed by poor late-game execution and streaky shooting.

Lions head coach Kyle Smith's offense has been able to generate wide open looks from down the arc in every single Ivy game. The only difference between the wins against Harvard and Cornell and the four losses is that the Light Blue actually found the bottom of the net in the wins. Columbia has put forth strong defensive efforts

SEE TYDINGS, page 3

Tigers win 29th straight, Crimson in second place

BY GISELLE APPEL
Columbia Daily Spectator

Even as Nemo's snowfall forced location changes and shifted tip-off times, the Ivy League once again bore witness to Princeton's unmatched prowess as the Tigers notched two blowout wins against Yale and Brown at home. Harvard held off Cornell in an overtime win to sneak into second in the Ivy standings, just behind Princeton. Penn and Yale both went 1-1, while Dartmouth topped Columbia in what would be each team's lone contest over the weekend. The game between Cornell and Dartmouth, scheduled for Sunday, was postponed due to the storm.

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|------|----|
| PENN | 56 |
| YALE | 65 |

Three starters for the Bulldogs hit double-digits, giving Yale (7-13, 2-4 Ivy) the strong push it needed to clench the victory over Penn (10-9, 3-2 Ivy). A 17-2 run midway through the first half gave Yale a comfortable lead going into halftime. Led by guard Kathleen Roche, the Quakers began to chip away at Yale's lead, inching back from an 11-point deficit to come within three points late in the game. Yale guard Megan Vasquez responded by going 10-for-10 from the line to give her team

breathing room and ultimately secure its win against the Quakers.

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|-----------|----|
| PRINCETON | 68 |
| BROWN | 37 |

Princeton (14-5, 5-0 Ivy) earned its 28th consecutive Ivy League win with a comfortable victory against Brown (7-13, 1-5 Ivy). Although Princeton consistently had the lead, Brown stayed within striking distance throughout the first half due to numerous turnovers and a poor offensive start by the Tigers. Despite the shaky first half, Princeton's Michelle Miller, coming off the bench, added seven points to lift her team to a 35-21 lead at halftime. The Tigers' bench performance reigned supreme as it outscored Brown's bench 31-7, offering an added threat against the Bears. Brown guard Sheila Dixon mounted seven rebounds and notched 17 points as the Bears fell to the Tigers on Saturday evening.

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| CORNELL | 60 |
| HARVARD | 69 |

Cornell (10-9, 2-3 Ivy) fell short to the Crimson (13-6, 4-1 Ivy) in an overtime loss on Sunday afternoon. Harvard's Victoria Lippert led the Crimson with 19 points and six rebounds. The Big Red came back from a 10-point deficit to force overtime, but the Crimson took control at the overtime tip and outscored Cornell 17-6 in the extra minutes. With just under six minutes left in regulation, the two squads were within three points of each other and field goals were exchanged until the score equalized at 53 with just 25 seconds remaining in the second half. Both starting lineups were key to the game's progression into overtime as Harvard and Cornell's starters contributed 61 out of 69 and 57 out of 60 points, respectively. The Crimson came out of the gates in overtime with a 5-0 run, then capitalized on its free throws and kept its lead until the buzzer sounded a 69-60 victory.

| | |
|-------|----|
| PENN | 65 |
| BROWN | 48 |

Despite less-than-ideal travel conditions and game play, the Quakers ended their weekend with a strong victory over the Bears. Although Brown's bench outscored Penn's 18-5, the Bears were unable to take a lead throughout the game and were overpowered by the four Quakers who reached double-digits. Even with a strong performance by Lauren Clarke, who dropped 13 points, the Bears could not achieve enough momentum to propel them to a lead. Penn, led by Keiera Ray, began to pull away toward the end of the second half as the Quakers went on an unanswered 10-point run, extending the lead to 61-40. Alyssa Baron notched a team-high 19 points and nine rebounds for the Quakers as Penn went 1-1 over the weekend.

| | |
|-----------|----|
| PRINCETON | 99 |
| YALE | 53 |

Princeton had the opportunity to reach triple figures in Saturday's match up against Yale, but had to settle for 99 points as the Tigers clenched their 29th straight conference win and went 2-0 over the snowy weekend. Niveen Rasheed, Princeton's starting guard, led her team with a career-high 29 points and 12 rebounds as the Tigers toppled the Bulldogs. The Tigers began the game in absolute control with an unanswered 20-point run, preventing Yale from scoring a bucket until 6:31 into the first half. Yale struggled with its rebounding through both halves, allowing Princeton to dominate the possession game and beat the Bulldogs on the boards 47-31.

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Light Blue struggles in the paint

BY CAROLINE BOWMAN
Spectator Senior Staff Writer

The women's basketball team (2-17, 0-5 Ivy) has put up some big numbers from beyond the arc in recent games, but it has struggled to capitalize on must-have scoring opportunities in the paint.

In last weekend's matchup against Dartmouth, the Lions tallied seven three-pointers, three of which came from junior guard Taylor Ward. Sophomore guard Miwa Tachibana also went 2-5 from three-point range, placing the Lions within striking distance of the Big Green. But ultimately, stellar three-point shooting was not enough to counterbalance the Light Blue's lackluster performance from inside the arc, and the Lions fell 62-52 to Dartmouth.

The Lions missed nine layups over the course of the game. Head coach Paul Nixon said that while the Lions are getting into scoring positions inside the paint, the team needs to emphasize stronger finishing technique.

"I feel like we need to do a better job of consistently making sure we're taking on-balance shots in the paint and using the backboard whenever possible, so that we're making sure we're taking as high-percentage shots as possible," Nixon said.

And once the ball gets worked into the paint, Nixon said, pulling back isn't an option.

"I think whenever you have a tendency to fade on your shot and not use the backboard, you really reduce your chances of making the shot," he said. "Regardless of who it is taking the shot, whether it's a guard on a drive or a post player making a post move, or a player getting a rebound, you need to be on balance, going up strong and using the backboard."

The Lions' layup woes started prior to their matchup against Dartmouth. The Light Blue missed six layups in their 52-40 loss against Penn on Feb. 1 and missed eight layups against Princeton the next day. And in the Lions'



KIERA WOOD / SENIOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

FOR THREE | As the Lions struggle within the paint, Miwa Tachibana and others continue to shoot well from beyond the arc.

double-overtime loss to Cornell in late January, they missed three layups in the last minute of regulation, any of which would have broken the 53-53 tie and given the Lions the advantage going into the game's final seconds.

Considering the team's recent trouble in the paint, coupled with enduring issues from the free-throw line, it is missing too many opportunities to score.

"We still have to get better free throws. When you have opportunities at the line, and it's either the front end of a 1-1 and you miss it or you go for two shots and you miss them both, it's like a turnover. It becomes an empty possession, and we just can't afford that many empty possessions," Nixon said.

Despite the recent paint trouble for the Lions, Tachibana and Ward's poise from the outside demonstrate the potential to turn

around the team's shooting in all areas.

Asked about Tachibana and Ward's shooting contributions in recent games, Nixon said he is extremely pleased with their recent production.

"Knocking down three-point shots is going to be critical for us as we head down the stretch of these remaining Ivy League games, that we have good production from them and they continue to knock down the open attempts," Nixon said.

And with dribble penetration from experienced guards, such as senior guard Tyler Simpson, and strong post play by junior forward Courtney Bradford, the Lions have the necessary tools to see more production in the paint in upcoming games.

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Abram ‘honored to be part’ of USenate

ABRAM from front page

Chou, CC '14. After the initial interview process, three finalists were chosen to present to the council. Abram said that she was still absorbing the news. “I’m really excited and honored to be a part of it,” she said. “I hope I can do my part.” Also at the meeting, Jessica Marinaccio, dean of undergraduate admissions and financial aid, reviewed the recent changes in the financial aid office and the feedback the office has since received from students and parents. Before the changes, she said, most students were frustrated with having to wait a long time to meet with a financial aid officer about a simple question. Now, with the new walk-in hours, students can stop by the office and have their questions answered readily. She said, “It was not to remove personalization but to service students better.” Marinaccio also mentioned the need for more communication and educational outreach. She said that there was often confusion among students about whether an issue they have pertains to the financial aid office or to another department. The office is in the process of developing financial aid workshops for current students, and Marinaccio said that she hopes the workshops will educate students about the process of applying for financial aid.

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Tuck-it-Away, gas station properties conveyed to CU

M’VILLE from front page

said. “So we carved out the specialty construction from those percentage goals” detailed in the CBA, he said. Ienuso added that Columbia is working to hire as many minority, women, and local firms as possible for the specialty jobs as well. “We said, look, let’s do the best we can on a subcontractor basis for women, minority, local firms, and we’re doing that,” Ienuso said. “We really believe that we have the opportunity to help drive economics in real ways for underrepresented communities in the construction field in New York.” The ESDC will continue to monitor Columbia’s compliance with the commitments outlined in the CBA, even though the percentages detailed by Ienuso are accurate, an ESDC spokesperson said Monday. Columbia will work with the ESDC to decide whether or not the current hiring practices are sufficient, and to determine how to count MWL numbers for specialty contractors fairly, Ienuso said. The West Harlem Local Development Corporation is responsible for monitoring Columbia’s adherence to the targets outlined for the CBA. “In the Community Benefits Agreement, Columbia University said it would make a good faith effort to exceed those numbers,” WHLDC executive director Kofi A. Boateng said in a statement, adding that his organization will continue to urge the University

to improve its hiring practices beyond the goals outlined in the CBA. City Council candidate Vince Morgan, SIPA '06, said that Columbia has not done enough to encourage confidence in their hiring practices. Calling the new statistics a “good first step,” Morgan urged the University to release more information on its contractors to make sure it is providing jobs to women-, minority-, and Harlem-owned firms. “If everything is skewed towards local, well, what is local?” Morgan said. “Is it NYC? Is it Community Board 9? Is it Upper Manhattan? Is it Manhattan?” Meanwhile, construction at the Manhattanville site is progressing. The steel deck that will be the foundation for the campus’ first two buildings, the Jerome L. Greene Science Center and the Lenfest Center for the Arts, is almost complete, Ienuso said. Both buildings are now on track to be completed by 2016, while the conference center one block to the south probably will not be finished until at least 2017. The state has also conveyed ownership of the remaining buildings on site to Columbia, including the Tuck-it-Away Storage warehouses and two gas stations, setting the stage for their eventual demolition. “This is full-bore construction,” Ienuso said. “By spring we’re going to see steel rising above the construction fencing.”

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Limits on Barnard guests seen as overly restrictive

GUESTS from front page

the Engineering Student Council, said that the current policy doesn’t help disperse large crowds. “I think they should limit how many are in the building at one time,” Donovan said. Serena Board , BC '15, said that she finds the policy unenforceable and therefore unnecessary. “If we want to invite people over for dinner or celebrate someone’s birthday, it’s a lot of trouble to go through,” Board said. “You have to enlist other people’s help to sign people in, so it’s not really limiting how many people you’re signing in. People will find a way around it.” In Barnard’s apartment building on 110th Street, students say that security guards rarely even require students to sign their guests in. “Pretty much you just walk in and nobody is going to stop you,” Michelle McPhillips, BC '15, said. She said large groups of girls walk in without signing, but a group

with three or more guys will often be stopped by the desk guard. McPhillips said that overcrowding and noise aren’t major issues, and neither is safety. “I’ve never felt unsafe. They’re aware enough of the people coming in that if there was someone sketchy enough they would be able to stop them,” McPhillips said, adding that Columbia’s policy “makes more sense.” Aversa said she does not foresee changes to the policy any time soon. “Barnard does not automatically mirror policies adopted by CU or other colleges,” she said in an email. “Instead, we take care in drafting policies that meet the specific needs and requirements of our student populations and residence halls, which are different than CU. We believe the current guest policy is fair to our students while also meeting important safety standards, which is our top priority.”

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With Ivy title hopes gone, Lions upset Harvard

TYDINGS from page 2

in every game, especially after halftime. It is obvious that the coaches put their players in a position to succeed on a consistent basis, and when the Lions play like they were expected to in pre-season (as they did on Sunday), they are a juggernaut that can beat any team in the league. The constant threat that the Lions will play to their true talent level has to scare Ivy contenders going forward, lest they walk off the court in the same manner the Crimson did on Sunday afternoon.

Sam Tydings is a Columbia College senior majoring in history. Booth Review runs biweekly.

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BY RACHEL SUSSER

I and other Barnard students are continuing our work toward making this campus more music-friendly, and I hope the article “More music spaces open for students,” (Jan. 28), was a premonitory prediction of our future success. However, this success has yet to be achieved.

The article provided an inaccurate report on the situation at Barnard. As a flutist who participates in the exchange with the Manhattan School of Music, and in chamber music and orchestra through Columbia’s Music Performance Program, this is an issue that directly affects me and many of my friends and colleagues. For the past two and a half years, I have wasted hours each week in search of adequate practice and rehearsal spaces. During the fall 2012 semester, I was part of a coalition of students that wrote letters to and met with Dean Avis Hinkson and President Debora Spar to address the practice room issue, as well as other concerns that we have as music students at Barnard. The primary focus of the letters and meetings was rehearsal space, but the discussion also included performance space, piano upkeep, and faculty/administrative support. The members of this campaign had not form ally spoken or negotiated with the Student Government Association before your article’s publication, nor had we been approached by SGA. However, we have since been in touch and spoke at the Representative

Council meeting last week.

The practice rooms in the Quad have existed as long as I have been at Barnard, and they have always been accessible 24 hours a day to BC students who sign up with Residential Life. These rooms could theoretically be a great resource. However, since they are in a Barnard dorm, it is impossible to hold rehearsals with Columbia College, the School of General Studies, and/or the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences students there unless the Barnard student lives in the Quad. The rooms are also poorly ventilated, the pianos are often out of tune, and the general atmosphere makes for a rather depressing place to spend two to four hours of one’s day, every day. Public Safety said that a pipe burst in the basement last week, flooding the rooms, which explains why the normally stuffy rooms have taken on a sweet, moldy scent. These rooms have also historically been closed at the beginning and end of each semester for RA storage, which is just the time when students often need to prepare for auditions, concerts, and exams.

The other pianos on Barnard’s campus are located in Sulzberger Parlor and the James Room in Barnard Hall, the dance studios, lobbies of most of the dormitories, and two classrooms and a lecture hall in Milbank. Twenty or 30 years ago, there was an entire hall of practice rooms on the top floor of Milbank, but when an update to the corporate agreement with Columbia led to our partner across the street absorbing Barnard’s music department, those rooms were converted to be

used for other purposes. Though the Barnard Hall pianos are beautiful Steinway grands in excellent condition, Dean Hinkson has stated that music students cannot be given access to those spaces because the rooms’ furnishings and other equipment are too expensive. A similar response was given about access to the dance studios: The floors would risk damage. Since practicing and rehearsing in the dormitory lounges often disturbs students who are using the spaces for other purposes, negotiating access to the Milbank rooms and the relocation of two specific dorm pianos were cited as the most realistic possibilities for improving the situation. The relocation of the Elliot Hall piano to the Altschul Atrium is an excellent first step; even though the instrument is painfully out of tune, the Atrium is relatively accessible to all Columbia students (as long as nobody else is studying in the space, of course).

Music and the arts are valuable not only to musicians and artists, but also to the entire community. Concerts, theater productions, and other special events make use of student musicians. Rehearsal spaces are absolutely essential to ensure that we musicians can feel like a welcome addition to the Barnard campus. These spaces enable us to pursue our studies and give us a tool we need in order to provide our unique contribution to student life at Barnard and Columbia.

The author is a Barnard College junior majoring in computer science and music technology.

The inadequacy of Teach for America

If you are a senior, you are all too familiar with the Teach for America email. It usually begins with a nice piece of flattery: YOU ARE A LEADER ON THIS CAMPUS and SHOULD THINK ABOUT THE TRANSFORMATIONAL EXPERIENCE OF TEACHING. If you are active in any sort of education or social advocacy group, God save you. At one point, I must have been receiving an email a day. I gave up on responding and began redirecting them to my spam folder.

I am not opposed to college students working to change the way our classrooms are managed—far from it. As a former board member of Students for Education Reform Columbia (we meet every Tuesday in Hamilton 313 at 8p.m!), I feel strongly that we need better classrooms for our students. The “education crisis” that we are facing is an overused cliché, but an apt one.

I experienced firsthand the ways in which our system fails those who need it most at my high school, which served primarily black and Hispanic students and boasted a state ranking in the bottom decile of Texas public schools. Our school suffered from a combination of misaligned incentives, low funding, and the hard-to-fix malaise of low expectations. Those who were not shuffled into vocational careers found themselves (like me) unprepared for the rigors of higher education. Let there be no mistake: my friends and I were robbed. The machinery of social mobility in this country is broken; securing an educational system that serves the needs of all students is a necessary step in re-establishing the American Dream of meritocracy.

It is for this reason that I cannot support TFA.

It is only through the extraordinary efforts of amazing teachers that I was able to reach Columbia in the first place. The names of those teachers I carry with me to this day: Mr. Howell, who instilled in me a lifelong love of languages and Spanish poetry; Ms. Williams, a healthy respect (if not understanding) of chemistry; and Ms. Krogg, my fearless guide through American history. Different subjects, different passions, different teachers. But for all their differences, these teachers had one thing in common: years of teaching experience under their belts. They majored in the subjects they taught, and more importantly, they saw education as a calling, a long-term commitment to passing on their knowledge to their students. Working in a school for two years does not a teacher make. To complete a five-week training program and call yourself a “teacher” is not only a misnomer: It cheapens the profession as a whole.

At the larger level, I find myself extremely uncomfortable with the message that TFA sends to students in “underperforming” schools. Many participants go to teach at networks of charter schools concentrated overwhelmingly in poor, black and Hispanic communities. A Harvard Graduate School of Education study found that 73 percent of teachers at these schools are white.

What signal does it send to students when we replace teachers of color with white teachers, largely drawn from top-tier colleges and upper-middle-class upbringings? Last weekend, I was lent a copy of Beverly Tatum’s “Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?” by a good friend, who also happens to be white and an education policy juggernaut. Tatum, a psychologist by trade, makes the convincing argument that by flooding our very segregated school districts with white teachers, we are sending a clear message that the educated professional class is the sole domain of whites.

To be sure, many of my friends doing TFA next year are people of color. Many are from less-than-privileged backgrounds. Many are white, and interested in careers in education. But stepping back from the realm of anecdote, is sending battalions of privileged, temporary, white teachers into “blighted” communities the solution to our present crisis? It undermines the notion of the community school. It sends the message that the culture of these schools has been put up for judgment, and found wanting.

Let’s call a spade a spade. Columbia students choose TFA for the same reason that people choose consulting and finance: It is a defined path. It eliminates the frustrating job search; it burnishes the law school application. But would you send your children to a school where the teachers have no formal training in the subject they are teaching? Where their “teaching experience” consists of a month-long summer camp? Are you comfortable with leaving them in charge of your child and his or her future? Would you send your children to a doctor who only had one month of medical school? Would you even call that person a doctor? Kids need good teachers. Well-qualified, trained teachers who understand them. Teachers are people who have devoted their professional lives to the art of pedagogy. It is not a phase. It is a calling. Columbia was made possible for me, and many of you as well, by the influence of a few fantastic teachers. Is it fair for you to deprive a child of the same?

Andrew Godinich is a Columbia College senior majoring in sociology and Portuguese studies. Too Be Frank runs alternate Tuesdays.

I’m yours

It’s not you, it’s me.

That’s actually not true—it’s you. I can’t breathe, babe, you’re suffocating me. I love curling up with you in bed at night, using you until I’m exhausted, but it’s getting old. You follow me to class and weigh me down wherever I go. You’re everywhere.

Phone, it’s time we cooled things off.

We tried this the summer after my freshman year, and I was fine without you, Phone. You broke and I wasn’t going to stick around and solve all your problems. And guess what? I didn’t need you. I made plans with friends in advance, agreed upon location times and meetings, and honored my commitments. With no opportunity for last minute changes, I had to keep my word. I arrived on time and left on time.



AYELET PEARL
PEARLS OF WISDOM

You were clingy; I was needy. I would go out to Mel’s with friends but my mind was on you.

I’ll admit, I experimented a bit, but who doesn’t like to have some fun with pay phones every once in a while? Sure, they charge, but they’re quick, easy, and free of commitment.

But once school started that year, I was lonely. I had work to do, and only you could help me. So we got back together and quickly fell into our old habits. You were clingy; I was needy. I would go out to Mel’s with friends but my mind was on you. I’m not one for PDA, but when we were at Morton Williams together, I just couldn’t keep my hands off you. There were times when I paid more attention to you than to my friends and my family, but there was nothing I could do—we were tied to each other.

We tried to have an open relationship. At first, it was nice. Facebook was popular and cool, even though he was kind of a know-it-all. I got a thrill from hearing him tell me the latest gossip and updating



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| 8 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 3 | 5 |
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212-854-9550

su | do | ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 grid contains the digits 1 through 9. That means that no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

ACROSS

1 Employment agency listings

5 Fried Cajun veggie

9 WWII conference site

14 Billion extension

15 Steady guy

16 He hurtled with a club in the "Odyssey"

17 Club used as a weapon, say

20 Nonagenarian actress White

21 Yeasts or Keats

22 Color, as Easter eggs

23 Summer quencher

24 Dorm VIPs

27 Where Lux is

29 Kid-friendly comfort food

36 Soothing additive

38 River through Sudan

39 Country rocker Steve

40 Sable maker, briefly

41 Turn ___ ear

43 Pub projectile

44 Former Portuguese territory in China

46 Prefix with -pus

47 Abolish

48 Tests during which checking notes is allowed

51 Gymnast's goal

52 Deli bread

53 Art on skin, slangily

56 Draw upon

59 Not as much

62 Call-roping gear

64 Candi sort

66 Street toughs

69 Diamond Head's island

70 Aromatic drinks

71 Go on tiptoe

72 Small songbird

73 Wine area near Turin

DOWN

1 "Star Wars" gangster

2 No longer squeaky

3 Xbox battle game

4 Told to go

5 Asian tie

6 Barbie's guy

7 Grating voice

8 One might get stuck in a jam

9 Video-sharing website

10 Radius's limb

11 Committed perjury

12 Randal who played Felix Unger

13 Chip in a chip

18 Supermodel Banks

19 Marsh stalk

25 Tolstoy's Karenina

26 Snowmobile brand

28 "___ and weep!" poker winner's cry

30 Take back

31 Smart guy?

32 More like Felix Unger

33 African countries on the Mediterranean, e.g.

34 Meditation agcy

35 Congeals

36 Target practice supply

37 "___ one giant ___ for mankind"

42 Cuning

45 Washington Monument, for one

49 Universal blood type, for short

54 Had lunch in

55 Foot bones

56 Letter carrier's org.

57 Leave speechless

58 Marine eagle

60 Vegas event

61 Kindergartner's reward

63 Tiny bit

65 Wanted-poster letters

66 Sailor's pronoun

67 Adila, notably

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

| | | |
|------------|------------|-------|
| DOFF | GAPS | WANES |
| EROO | OWEN | ALAMO |
| LIAR | FALA | RIPUP |
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| MOSEY | SLED | DEED |

wordeditor@aol.com 02/12/13

By Melanie Miller
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02/12/13

Former GS student debuts new ballet at Lincoln Center

BY JESSICA GRISCHKAN
Columbia Daily Spectator

Justin Peck, a choreographer who took classes at GS, is making his mark in “Paz de la Jolla,” a whirlwind of effortless pirouettes, soaring jumps, and stunning technique.

The show, which premiered at the New York City Ballet on Jan. 31, was part of the ballet’s annual New Combinations Evening. The evening honors legendary choreographer George Balanchine, who famously declared that “There are no new steps, only new combinations.” Peck, who choreographed for the Columbia Ballet Collaborative as a student, had the privilege of premiering his ballet on this special occasion.

After the success of his first two pieces for the New York City Ballet, “In Creases” and “Year of the Rabbit,” Peck showed with “Paz de la Jolla” that he has rightfully earned every ounce of praise he’s received. At just 25, this master choreographer and dancer—who is also a member of the company’s corps de ballet, and who even performed in another work the same night of his premiere—has proven himself a star whose ingenuity shines through in each new masterpiece he creates.

Peck has firmly established himself as a visionary choreographer and dancer, and he is now, without a doubt, someone to watch in the world of dance.

Inspired by Czech composer Bohuslav Martinu’s “Sinfonietta la Jolla” and the choreographer’s childhood in Southern California, Peck set “Paz de la Jolla” at a beach. The ballet opens with the electrifying Tiler Peck (no relation) bursting on to the stage in an astonishing display of speed and skilled footwork. She exudes vivacious energy throughout the ballet as she sharply executes every move.

The costumes, 1950s-inspired bathing suits by Reid Bartelme and Harriet Jung, are magnificent and perfectly complement the setting. The first number is an exhilarating start that paves the way for the more tranquil and romantic scene that follows.

Part of the brilliance of Peck’s ballet lies in this balance between fast-paced, invigorating segments and calmer, breathtaking moments. After the opening, Amar Ramasar and Sterling Hyltin dance exquisitely together, their partnership so strong that they move as a single individual. One of the best scenes finds the graceful couple asleep on the beach, only to be separated when Hyltin is engulfed by the ocean waves, which are danced by willowy ballerinas in sheer blue shifts.

“Paz de la Jolla” finishes on an exciting note. All 18 dancers appear together, and at one point everyone dances in unison. It’s the perfect finish to a fabulous ballet that strikes the ideal balance between action and tender romanticism.

Peck has firmly established himself as a visionary choreographer and dancer, and he is now, without a doubt, someone to watch in the world of dance.

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FILE PHOTO

HEART OF GLASS | A Battle of the Bands will take place at this Thursday’s Glass House Rocks. Video and audio will be broadcast throughout Lerner.

Glass House Rocks to host Battle of the Bands

BY DAVID SALAZAR AND JENNY PAYNE
Spectator Senior Staff Writers

Disappointed that your favorite band won’t get to open for Bacchanal? Head to Lerner Black Box this Thursday during Glass House Rocks for another Battle of the Bands, this time hosted by the Columbia College Student Council.

The contest will feature four bands and the crowd will choose two to open for (SIN) Esthesia, a concert on April 9 that will feature a surprise performer. Like Bacchanal, the name of the performer at (SIN)Esthesia is being kept under wraps.

However, Ben Kornick, Class of 2016 representative, noted that the artist and the free concert are expected to fill Boone Arledge Auditorium to capacity. The concert will kick off the first annual Columbia Music Festival, which is replacing College Days, culminating with Bacchanal on April 13 and a Postcrypt concert the next day.

Part of putting on (SIN)Esthesia, like Bacchanal, is giving student musicians a wider audience—but with (SIN)Esthesia, CCSC is giving more than one band an opportunity.

“Bacchanal is amazing and very generous to let one student band open their show, but there are so many student bands who aren’t getting those opportunities to perform, so we’re offering

two more student artists the opportunity to perform at the kick-off concert,” Kornick said.

In addition, the organizers see the festival as an opportunity to get more student groups involved in the spirit of Bacchanal week.

“Bacchanal is amazing and very generous to let one student band open their show, but there are so many student bands who aren’t getting those opportunities to perform.”

—Ben Kornick
Class of 2016 representative

We feel like Bacchanal is one day when everyone has fun and has a great time, so why not expand that to a whole week?” Class of 2016 President Ramis Wadood, said.

Adding a big name concert to the beginning of the week is expected to draw in more

attendance at subsequent concerts.

“We wanted to have a big artist first so people would be excited to come later on in the week,” Wadood said.

“The goal is to feature the various student groups on campus that are involved in bringing great music on to campus, and merging them all together so students can be exposed to music that they might not normally be exposed to,” Kornick said. “By making this festival, students will be able to hear different types of music from different groups and expand their reach,” he added.

Each day leading up to Bacchanal will feature a different concert put together by a different student group, including WBAR, WKCR, and Live at Lerner.

In the end, the music leading up to Bacchanal, including the kickoff concert, is aimed at improving student life and campus spirit as finals get closer.

“We’re looking for student happiness and student stress relief, so we’re turning to music, which is in my opinion the greatest form of stress relief,” Wadood said.

The Battle of the Bands will take place from 8 p.m. to 11:15 p.m. during Glass House Rocks in Lerner Black Box. The Battle of the Bands will be broadcast throughout the building.

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Harlem’s Fashion Row celebrates designers of color in show at Apollo Theater

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If fashion is traditionally described by styles, colors, shapes, and “it” pieces, Harlem’s Fashion Row redefined it as a celebration of identity on Thursday night. HFR presented its fall/winter Fashion Week show at the iconic Apollo Theater, celebrating seven emerging designers of color in the company’s sixth annual competition, “The Reawakening.”

The red carpet in the lobby was graced by fashion’s most prominent figures, including model Tyson Beckford and BULLETT magazine editor in chief Idil Tabanca, who served as judges for the show. In addition to showcasing capsule collections, each designer competed for the chance to present their full collections at the spring/summer 2014 show taking place this September. The four finalists—Kimberly Goldson, Modahnik, Sando Romans, and Espion—were announced Feb. 8, and the winners will be determined by a combination of judge and audience votes, with the judges’ decisions weighed more heavily.

In its short life, HFR has jump-started the careers of several designers of color, and it now has sponsors including Essence Magazine and the Huffington Post, which featured a preview video of the designers and the show. This year’s move from the Apollo Theater to Lincoln Center spoke to the company’s desire to advance creative voices of color.

“With five years under our belt, we are making an amazing history [and] ... reawakening the traditions of fashion with creative diversity,” HFR chief executive officer Brandice Henderson said. “This is not a show for entertainment. This is a movement with a purpose ... after all, we are in

the world-famous Apollo Theater.”

Evelyn Lambert, one of the designers in the show, said that being in the theater and showcasing at HFR “awoke everything inside me.”

“After showcasing in the Apollo Theater, I’m so fired up and ready to continue growing and doing what I love to do,” Lambert said.

The collections in the show were inspired by varying themes. Shauntele’s collection, which the designer called “The Psychology of Fashion,” was inspired by an image of an ink blot.

“The idea of people always judging and interpreting your clothes really hit home for me as a designer,” Shauntele said, “With this collection, I posed the questions, ‘What do you see?’ and ‘Who are you?’”

In the vein of finding one’s identity, Chantell Walters, another featured designer who said she’s “always inspired by the future,” noted the difficulties of being labeled as a designer of color, rather than a talented designer.

“What Brandice [Henderson] is doing is great not only for designers of color, but also for New York fashion,” Walters said.

She added that she hopes the show “will not only be about being black, but more so about being a great designer.”

Lambert said HFR serves as a platform for designers of color.

“I was just happy to have the opportunity to be on that platform,” she said. “This company creates a way for our brands to be brought to people that may not have even known about them had it not been for HFR.”

Even though Walters wasn’t named a finalist, she appreciated that the show helped her make connections.

“I know that I’ll keep on doing my own thing,



HENRY MURPHY FOR SPECTATOR

BLUE STEEL | Harlem’s Fashion Row held a runway show and competition at the Apollo Theater.

but I like that I can keep in touch with the people I’ve met,” she said. “Even though I’m not a major designer, a lot of girls seem to be inspired by me, and it’s my goal in life to continue making them believe in themselves as I do.”

Henderson closed the night by lauding the designers’ hard work.

“Every one of these designers has what I call a ‘designer’s heart,’” she said. “Being an emerging designer is very difficult. What you saw tonight came from everything they had, and we’re

so excited that we are in the Apollo with these amazing judges to showcase their work.”

Lambert added that Henderson is not only a figurehead of the organization, but strives to cultivate relationships.

“The great thing about HFR is that once you are selected, you are part of the family,” she said. “I get to sit down with Brandice and figure out how to move forward. You just don’t get that anywhere else.”

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